



NYSAFLT

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News

Since 1917

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The President’s Corner



Marie Campanaro

I still find it hard to believe that when I started on the executive track I would be THE lucky person to be president for NYSAFLT’s 100th Anniversary! What a serendipitous honor! I was fortunate to follow the leadership and tutelage of **Bill Anderson**, **Francesco Fratto**, and especially **Candace Black**. I have learned so much from them. The **Gala Centennial Banquet** was definitely a highlight of my NYSAFLT years as I was able to connect with so many past presidents and phenomenal NYSAFLT legends, as well as meet countless new enthusiastic future leaders.

What has become evident to me over the years is that our role as world language educators must always reach far beyond the classroom. Those of you who had a chance to look over the archived materials at the **Annual Conference** saw that we are struggling with many of the same issues now as we did 100 years ago. We must continually advocate for our programs and must endlessly work to educate those around us about the critical need for early world language instruction; instruction which must continue seamlessly throughout a person's lifetime. It was **Judith Martialay** who first invited me to be more than just a NYSAFLT observer many years ago. That invitation changed my professional career both inside and outside of the classroom. A huge thank you to **Diana Zuckerman** and **Barbara Patterson** who continue to lead this charge as our Public Advocacy Co-Chairs.

I am also forever in awe at the number of dedicated professionals who volunteer their time and expertise to make NYSAFLT the powerhouse that it is. Thank you! Whether you have just a little time or are at a point where you can devote a lot, we need you! Please consider reaching out to our many fine committee chairs and offer to help. Explore <http://nysaflt.org> to



see what being a regional director or NYSAFLT officer entails. Be sure to review our many scholarship and award opportunities. Apply for one yourself or nominate a worthy colleague. Don't hesitate to invite a colleague to join or participate more fully.

I wish you all a very happy and successful 2018. I leave you in the very capable, creative, and inspirational hands of an extraordinary executive team: **Michelle Shenton, Beth Slocum, Leslie Kudlack, Sally Barnes, and Maureen Geagan.** **John Carlino**, thankfully, remains at the helm as our incredible guide and point person. It has been such a pleasure to work with these fine professionals.

Thank you for your continued involvement in NYSAFLT. We need your involvement and energy as we begin our trek into the next 100 years.

Marie J. Campanaro

2017 NYSAFLT President

NYSAFLT CELEBRATES 100 YEARS

The **Gala Centennial Reunion Banquet**, held on **October 19** in conjunction with the **Annual Conference** in Niagara Falls, was a huge success. Eighteen past presidents were in attendance, along with many NYSAFLT past and current officers, directors, secretaries, treasurers and other hard working volunteers who have devoted their time and expertise to NYSAFLT over the years.

The evening began with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres with live music to set the mood. **John Carlino** started our program with a champagne toast which was followed by fond messages and memories by **Marcella DeMuth** (President 1978), **John Webb** (1990) and **Mary Champagne-Myers** (1992). **William Anderson** (2014) and **Francesco Fratto** (2015) added to the reminiscing. As dinner drew to a close, **Marie Campanaro**, current President, shared messages from those who were not able to attend the **Gala**, but were with us in spirit. **John Carlino** spoke next, reflecting on his years at the helm of NYSAFLT and paying tribute to his predecessor, Bob Ludwig.

Those in attendance were able to dance and visit late into the evening. It was such a triumph that there is talk of having a semi-formal event on regular basis in the future!

Thank you to photographer Mark Duggan for taking such beautiful pictures at the Gala. If you were unable to be there, check out the next page for a few of the great memories!





Thank you to photographer Mark Duggan for capturing the fun that was had at the Gala. To view the entire gala photo album, click [here](#).





NYSAFLT 100th Annual Conference

Harnessing the Power of World Languages

October 20–21 in Niagara Falls, New York



The NYSAFLT 100th Annual Conference was an incredible celebration of language teaching and learning in New York State. It was such a pleasure to see so many of our NYSAFLT family and friends from near and far! Niagara Falls provided a magnificent backdrop for the centennial celebration of our rich history. The Falls also serve as a reminder of the power of languages in today’s world. Many thanks to our president **Marie Campanaro**,

past-president **Mary Champagne-Myers** and Executive Director **John Carlino** for making the Gala a very special night to remember!

Our keynote speaker, **Greta Lundgaard** reminded us of the importance of motivation. Citing John Keller’s **ARCS Model** of Motivational Design, Greta challenged us to reflect on our professional practices. How do we know if our students are not motivated? What can we do to increase motivation? How can we develop confidence in our learners? The ARCS Model provides a framework for discussion. It can be summarized as follows: Attention • Relevance • Confidence • Success or Satisfaction



Figure 1 Retrieved from <https://www.shiftelearning.com/blog/motivation-arcs-elearning>

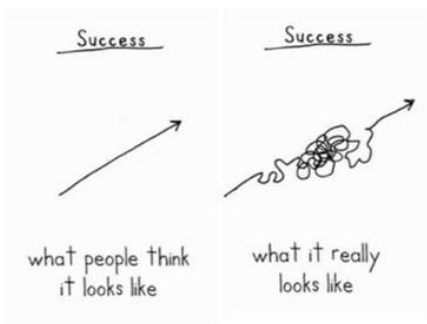


Figure 2 retrieved from www.gapingvoid.com

Greta reminded us that mistakes are a part of learning. By creating an environment that supports risk-taking and intentionally teaching peer and self-assessment, we connect success to cognitive effort. This can be a messy process! But as NYSAFLT members, we embrace the challenge! Together we model love of learning and we lead with languages. Consider sharing your expertise with us in Rochester for our 101st Annual Conference. You can submit a proposal online or contact **Beth Slocum** with questions or comments. For



more information about the conference, to submit a proposal for AC 2018, click [here](#). Thank you to all of the NYSAFLT members who attended the 100th **Annual Conference!** Let's get ready for the 101st – and don't forget to bring a colleague (or two) too!

Regional News

Capital-East

Please consider attending our upcoming professional development opportunities. Join fellow **COLT** members as we *Beat the Winter Blues* in January. Check the **COLT website** for more information. The **COLT/NYSAFLT** Conference will be held on **Saturday, March 24**. Our theme is *Cultivating the Next 100 Years*. Please make sure your memberships to **COLT** and NYSAFLT are up to date so that you will receive notices of all events.

Melinda Barnes' term as a Board member is coming to an end and the Capital Region will now be represented by **AJ Ferris** and **Mary Goetz**. Melinda feels that she has grown in many ways because of her tenure on the Board – it is both interesting and exciting to help shape policies and events that will benefit everyone in NYSAFLT. Her respect for the organization of NYSAFLT and its transparency is enormous because of all the information that is shared with us. NYSAFLT is a well-run organization that is set to exist for another 100 years.

Melinda's plans post-BOD are to teach and travel. For the past 6 years, she and her husband have hosted exchange students at many levels. Now that their son has graduated from college and is employed, they can travel as well. In December, they will go to a wedding in India where one of their graduate students is getting married in Poona (Pune). Melinda is bracing herself for the 30-hour trip but is really excited to experience an Indian wedding with 700 guests! In the summer, she and her husband will travel to Europe – Norway, France and Spain are their current destinations.

Thank you, Melinda, for your service to NYSAFLT and happy travels!!

Central

The **LECN**/NYSAFLT *Regional Workshop* was held on **Saturday, September 23** in North Syracuse. The "*Lights, Cameras ... Spotlight on InterACTION in the Language Classroom*" theme was a perfect way to kickoff the school year by focusing on teaching strategies communicated through immersion and teacher-choice sessions. In addition, the keynote speaker, **Katie Clinton** from Syracuse University, provided teachers with an array of strategies to help promote student success in world language classrooms. These activities



focused on communication and conversation through different types of games and situations that were all student-centered. Thank you to everyone at [LECNY](#) for hosting such a wonderful event.

As a reminder, please do not forget to join us at the **LLL-LECNY** (formerly known as **Super LECNY**) celebration on **February 3** at Syracuse University's Goldstein Student Center. This event features individual 15-minute presentations, which provide teachers with "Monday-morning ready" information, by presenters who are passionate about world languages. Please visit the [LECNY website](#) for further details.

AATF of CNY

AATF of CNY hopes that you've had a great start to the new school year! For us, we've been busy with our fall workshop, "*Teaching with Improv*," presented by Dr. Lauren Esposito and Phil Gross. It was not your ordinary workshop! In fact, for the first time, both French and German teachers got together and shared the stage. On **Saturday October 28**, two rooms full of actors were born in a collaborative workshop between the AATG and the **AATF CNY** Chapters at the Black Box Theater at Fayetteville-Manlius High School. Many activities including "Yes and...", "What is on your shirt?," and "Hey Fred Schneider, what are you doing?," were enjoyed by all in a judgment-free zone of positivity. If you were not able to attend the workshop, you missed out on a positive, invigorating, thought-provoking, energizing session. Hope to see you at the next one!

The group "Dieu Merci, C'est Vendredi" (DMCV) hosted a happy hour at Sweet Praxis on November 3. Fun was had by all who attended! Stay tuned for the following events in our region: We hope you were able to join us for our annual French hockey night with the Syracuse Crunch on **December 1**. And don't forget that Le Grand Concours is right around the corner; keep your eyes open for registration information.

Mid-Hudson/Westchester

Westchester launched the new school year with a workshop lead by Ardsley Middle School teacher, **Jason Tamez**, who coached members through the experience of "*Comprehensible Input*." meeting on **Tuesday, November 14** featured a session on "*Designing Articulated Performance Assessment Exemplars*" in the three modes of communication, presented by **Dr. Jennifer Eddy**. Our last meeting in 2017 was held on **Tuesday, November 28** at Valhalla Middle School. Our topic, of interest to all teachers, was "*Pinterest in the World Language Classroom*." **Lillian Carey** shared the many possibilities of using this web resource.

Meetings will resume in the new year on **Tuesday, January 9** with the featured topic of the "*Seal of Biliteracy*" followed by the **Tuesday, February 6**, meeting about "*Standards-Based Grading*." Our annual meeting has been approved for **Saturday, April 14** at Putnam Valley High School. Take a moment to mark your calendars with the above noted dates and consider presenting at our annual **Regional meeting** in April.



Many **PWRFL** and **ALoud** members attended the NYS AFLT centennial celebration and meeting in Niagara Falls. It definitely was a very memorable event that included a look back at all the dedicated educators and NYS AFLT members who have continued the vision inaugurated so long ago. Although only a few of the earlier leaders could attend, all were lauded by the officers and attendees. From our region, a round of applause was given for **Harriet Barnett** who was a trailblazer for the introduction of FLES programs in the State of New York.



PWRFL and ALoud members at the NYS AFLT Centennial Celebration

John Schepisi, Jenny Delfini, Sally Barnes, Eleanor Dana, Leslie Kudlack, Jennifer Hunt

Mary Holmes, Alexis Thornton, Diana Zuckerman, Charlene Sirlin, Patricia Moller, Marissa Coulehan

The Mid-Hudson / Westchester Region was represented by PWRFL president **Alexis Thornton** who also presented the session: “*Revitalize or Restart - A guide for French Teachers.*” **Sally Barnes**, NYS AFLT’s newly elected Second Vice-President, conducted two workshops: “*Québec-quoi? Tips on Planning a Successful Trip!*” and “*Simple Songs to Sing with Your Students*” with **Joy Cumming**. **Jennifer Delfini** hosted “*CI 101 - Acquisition with a Dash of MovieTalk*” and “*The NYS AFLT UnCon.*” **Marissa Coulehan** hosted a pre-conference workshop titled: “*Matching FLES Activities to Student Learning Styles.*” **Patricia Moller** presented a 3 hour workshop entitled, “*Comprehensible Input Circling and Coaching.*” **Sally Barnes** and **Leslie Kudlack** participated in the “*Mentor Scholarship Debrief.*” Regional Directors, **Charlene Sirlin** (Westchester) and **Eleanor Dana** (ALoud) represented the Westchester and Mid-Hudson Region, while **Diana Zuckerman** participated in the “*Public Advocacy Committee Meeting.*”

In the Mid-Hudson Region **ALoud** will host 2 professional development events. The **Best of NYS AFLT Summer Institute and Annual Conference** event will take place on **December 9** at Marist College from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. It features guest speakers **Dr. Kevin Gaugler** and his students, **Alexis Thornton**, **Maureen Geagan** and **A. J. Ferris**.

ALoud will co-host a **Regional Meeting** with NYS AFLT on **April 28**. It will be a full day of CI - Comprehensible Input - from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at SUNY New Paltz. Presenters include **Mary Holmes**, **Jenny Delfini**, **Patricia Moller** and more.

Just a reminder that registration and the preliminary program for the **NECTFL Conference** in New York City **February 8 - February 10** are available. The theme is **Unleashing the POWER of Proficiency**. Visit the NECTFL [website](#) for details

NYC-Long Island

The fourth annual *EdCamp LI* was held at Bay Shore Middle School on **Saturday, November 14**. Over 350 educators participated in this unconference. There was no set schedule of workshops and anyone who attended the conference was free to share information and ideas in his/her area of expertise. Attendees who wished to present simply posted their sessions on the presentation board.

Sessions included “*Rethinking homework*,” “*Student voice & choice: What’s working? What can we do better?*,” “*EdCamp World Language*” presented by **Wendy Mercado** and **Janine Bacarella**, and “*Flippity.net games in the Classroom*” by **Wendy Mercado**.



Participants posted sessions and shared information at EdCamp LI in November

EdCamp offered educators from Long Island an opportunity to gather and discuss practices taking place in the area. Follow EdCampLI on twitter to find out about next year’s events. (@EdCampLI) World Language teachers are encouraged to attend this free conference so there can be a forum for world language based sessions.

We would like to take this time to give a big thank you to **Nora Diaz-Guevara** whose term as regional director for NYC/LI is coming to an end. As co-director, Nora has served as a mentor to **Valérie Greer** and has made Valérie’s first year as director a seamless process. Thank you, Nora, for all you have done for NYS AFLT. You will be missed.

Western New York

SAVE THE DATE! The *WNYFLEC Regional Conference* will be held on **Saturday, March 3** and this year, we’re headed to the Northtowns! That’s right, this year’s conference will be hosted by Mount Saint Mary Academy in Kenmore, NY. Our theme this year is *The Power of Languages*, so if you have any artistic students this year, have them get started on their submissions for our poster contest! The **WNYFLEC** board is excited to announce that we will have a keynote speaker this year; none other than **Bill Heller**! Other highlights of the day include a variety of workshops, as well as a dedicated session where you’ll be able to begin working on some of the great ideas you receive throughout the day! Stay tuned for more details, included presentation proposals and registration information! We hope to see you in March!



How wonderful to have so many Western Region attendees at the Gala Banquet for the 100th Anniversary in Niagara Falls!

*Back Row: **Rose DiGennaro, Lucy Ferruzza, Jo Zimmerman, Mary Champagne-Myers, Joanne Hume-Nigro, Candace Black***

*Front Row: **Heidi Connell, Marie Campanaro, Ida Wilder, Melanie Thomas***

SAVE THE DATE! The **NYS AFLT Rochester Regional Conference** will be held on **Saturday, March 10**, at Nazareth College, Rochester, NY. Our 2018 theme is **World Languages: The Uniting Force for Cultural Understanding**. As always, we will have a full day's worth of workshop sessions, exhibitors, and plenty of time to network with colleagues. Back by popular demand is our All for \$1 Table where teachers can donate gently used classroom items to benefit our **100K for 100 Years Campaign**. If you are bringing items purchased by your school district, be sure to check before donating! Bring some extra cash to purchase items for your classrooms. Please contact **Erica Kortepeter-Ragan** for information about donating items. Registration is currently open for presenters, exhibitors, and attendees!

AATF of WNY

The **AATF-WNY** Chapter celebrated 2017 National French Week during the month of November with a variety of events in our region. Our French Week Committee consisted of dedicated members: **Michele Roberts, Brenda Benzin**, Bernard Kunz, and Marc Cousins. Ashley Feneziani, **Martha Horohoe**, Claudine Izydorczak, Joanne Doyle, **Kennedy Schultz**, Franck Désiré and Régine Marton. Our chapter-sponsored activities included our Grand Gala kick-off reception at Webster's Bistro as well as a Family French Film Matinée at The Park School and culminated with a fun-filled Franco-Festibal du Beau-Fleuve at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Elmwood Avenue in Buffalo! We were honored to have the Franco-American Chorus from Nazareth College, headed by Barbara Savage and **Dr. Mireille LeBreton**, lead in French song and dance at the festival. Entertainment also included other French musical groups such as French Conéxion and music of Haiti by Franck Désiré!

Students from Hamburg Middle School and Williamsville East High School participated in the annual "Weather Outside with Aaron Mentkowski." In addition our chapter sponsored new events for the community including an Educational Seminar/French wine tasting at Amherst Street Liquor, and "Yoga en français" led by our very own Ashley Feneziani at Love in Motion Yoga Studio! Thank you to all who joined us at these events as well as our traditional events such as our Soirée Poésie Musique at the Daily Planet Coffee Co. and visit to Old Fort Niagara for the French Heritage Days.

<p><i>Members of the Franco-American Chorus from Nazareth College join AATF's French Week committee members at the Franco-Festival du Beau Fleuve.</i></p>	<p><i>Anna and JoAnn Thomasson enjoyed the guillotine station at the Festival.</i></p>

We would like to thank our Sponsors for National French Week in WNY: Old Fort Niagara, Break'n Eggs Crêperie, and Travelogs International. We would also like to thank our supporters of these events: Webster's Bistro & Bar, Coco Bar & Bistro, Shango New Orleans Bistro Wine Bar, Lactalis Culinary, Horohoe Language Services, Albright-Knox Art Gallery, Alliance Française de Buffalo, Amherst Street Wine & Liquor, Buffalo-Lille Association, Love in Motion Yoga, Protocol Restaurant, The Park School of Buffalo, Tops Cooking School and WKBW Channel 7!

Public Advocacy

Together we can!

The Public Advocacy (PA) Committee held a productive meeting at NYSAFLT's *Annual Conference* in October. The topics of discussion were the world language teacher shortage, world language exams, districts not in compliance with NYSED's 100.2 d graduation regulations, and how to garner support from businesses and legislators. Thank you to each member for your input and welcome to the new committee members.



Diana Zuckerman and Barbara Patterson collecting letters for NYSED at the Annual Conference.

World Language Exams

The PA Committee agreed to make the reinstatement and funding of the Proficiency and Regents exams in all languages our number one priority. We are continuing our campaign to ensure that money is allocated in the 2018 NYS budget for the return of these exams. To help,



you can call, write, and/or visit your Senator and Assembly members about the importance of world language learning and of the need for valid benchmark exams. On NYSAFLT's PA webpage, there are templates, pre-written letters, and the names, addresses, and phone numbers of your elected officials. It only takes five minutes. If we make noise, we will be heard.

Stay up-to-date on World Language issues through our NYSAFLT [Advocacy Center](#). We have a wide range of articles and research documents, a listing of ways to contact your legislators and take action, and links to valuable resources. You can also contact your Public Advocacy Co-Chairs [Barbara Patterson](#) and [Diana Zuckerman](#).

Public Advocacy in Action

Judy Martialay recently contributed a guest post to the Multicultural Children's Book Day Website. Judy is a long-time member of the NYSAFLT Public Advocacy Committee. Her books, [¡Hola! Let's Learn Spanish](#) and the soon to be published [Bonjour! Let's Learn French](#), are written with the goal of getting parents and children excited about learning a language. Judy encourages parents and kids to request FLES programs in districts where such programs don't exist.

The "Day" event itself takes place in January, although the website is permanent. Since its beginning five years ago, the popularity of this group has grown so that there were 2.6 billion shares world-wide during the 2017 event.

The goal of MCBBD is to raise awareness for children's books which celebrate diversity. Books of diversity are defined as books which represent a minority group's point of view, books about other cultures, races, religions and languages, and books which connect children to the diversity of the world.

Judy's article, "World Languages for our Multicultural World" promotes the value of early foreign language learning. You can read it [here](#).

In all posts, Judy encourages parents and kids to request FLES programs in districts where such programs don't exist

Think globally, act locally

The mantra "think globally, act locally" became an inspiration to newly-appointed *Language Association Journal* editor **Mary Caitlin Wight**. She began attending her school district's Board of Education meetings and began to see the impact they have right here in the community. With a background in foreign language education and teacher preparation, Mary Caitlin felt she could be a positive addition to the board. After attending a few meetings, she asked the Vice President of the board, a former teacher herself, to have coffee and answer some questions. She was very supportive and encouraged Mary Caitlin to go to the district clerk's office and take out a petition to be on the ballot. The number of signatures of registered voters required varies based on the amount of people who voted the prior year in your district. Mary Caitlin had to get 88, so



she knew she had to get moving. She made up a flyer with information about herself to share and began walking door to door, meeting more neighbors than she had in the previous 5 years. She went to the mall and met with the early morning walkers. The majority of people were excited to talk with her and share their hopes for our children in the future. Once she had the signatures, she turned in her petition to the district clerk and was officially on the ballot. The work wasn't done yet. Mary Caitlin continued walking door to door each day, sometime with friends and family joining her, and she attended community events to meet more people. She began social media accounts on facebook and twitter to share more about herself. A few weeks before the election, the district held a "Meet the Candidates" evening where the six candidates were able to answer questions and introduce themselves to the community. Then before she knew it, May 16 (election day) arrived. It was pretty powerful heading to the ballot box with her daughter and husband to go vote when her very own name was on the ballot! That evening the candidates gathered together in one of the high school cafeterias to await the results. After an hour, during which Mary Caitlin says she is "certain time stood still," the district clerk came in to share the results. For the four open positions, Mary Caitlin had come in 4th among the six candidates! The top three finishers earned three-year terms and she earned a one-year term to finish a vacancy by someone who had left the board. She was thrilled and terrified all within the same moment, but with these first few months under her belt, she says it has been one of the best decisions she has ever made. Like Mary Caitlin, you can get involved with your local school board or local government so that you can be an advocate for students and your profession. Think globally, act locally!

National Network for Early Language Learning FLES News

The National Network for Early Language Learning has joined the growing trend for online professional collaboration worldwide. Join us for an #EarlyLang chat on Twitter the first and third Wednesdays of each month from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. EST during the academic year. Go to www.mnell.org to vote for upcoming topics and to check out summaries of past topics discussed on Twitter. Some past topics included Project-Based Learning in the Early Language Classroom, Classroom Management in the Early Language Classroom, and Handling Multiple Proficiency and Literacy Levels within the Same Classroom.

Announcements

Language Association Journal

Do you have an idea you'd love to share with your colleagues through the written word? Have you been working on a research project and want to share your findings with your field? Then it is time to think about submitting to the *Language Association Journal*, the official peer-reviewed journal of the New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYS AFLT). Your journal article would reach world language educators at all levels, teacher educators, administrators, and all those with a passion for world language education. We welcome a range of topics, generally following the formats of teacher to teacher articles,



scholarly research, and reports. While previously the journal was thematic, we now welcome submissions from a range of topics for each edition. The *Language Association Journal* is published two times per year with the next deadline being February 1. Submit your work through the NYS AFLT publications [webpage](#) and share all your best with your colleagues!

Mark Your Calendars

December

- 1** **Deadline:** NECTFL Mead Scholar Award Applications (to NYS AFLT)
- 11-12** Board of Regents Meeting
- 31** Membership Year Ends

January

- 1** Membership Year begins
- 9** **Webinar:** Using Green Screen Technology in the Language Classroom (Rita Oleksak and James Wildman)
- 13** Executive Committee Meeting, Financial Management Committee Meeting
- 15** **Deadline:** France Teacher Travel Award (see application)
- 15** **Deadline:** Post-Secondary Student Scholarship Applications
- 20** Board of Directors Meeting (online)
- 22-23** Board of Regents Meeting
- 31** **Deadline:** Vito Marcello Rochester-area Fund an Idea Grant

February

- 1** **Deadline:** March *Newsletter* submissions
- 1** **Deadline:** *Journal #1* submissions
- 8-10** NECTFL Annual Conference, New York City
- 12-13** Board of Regents Meeting
- 15-16** JNCL-NCLIS - Language Advocacy Day & Delegate Assembly in Washington

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