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NYSAFLT

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News

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The President’s Corner



Marie Campanaro

Another school year is drawing to a close. This is a perfect time to reflect on the past nine months – what needs to be renewed, revamped or recycled in your lessons? Bring those thoughts to the **Summer Institute** at SUNY Oneonta from **August 8–11**, and enjoy the time to develop your ideas with hands-on activities, computer lab lessons and more with the collaboration of WL colleagues. The theme is *World Languages: Adventure Awaits*, and **Leslie Kudlack** is the conference chair.

There are many vital world language issues on the table at NYSED at this time. The Board of Regents voted to reinstate Regents Exams in Spanish, French, Italian and Chinese (the top four in total numbers of students studying these languages). In its recommendation, the Board noted the importance of the study of world languages and their cultures. Many of you participated in legislative visits and letters to encourage our Senate and House members to support funding the Board of Regent’s recommendation. Although NYS has passed its budget, at the time of this writing no details have been revealed and we do not know for sure if the LOTE exams will be reinstated. Ricardo Constantino, NYSED’s OBE-WL Associate, did tell me that, if approved, the exams could take up to 3 years to develop.

The Seal of Bilingualism is finally a reality. Approximately 70 school districts with 125 schools have developed programs in New York State to pave the way for their graduates to receive this distinction in June. More have begun the process to ensure the acknowledgement for 2018 graduates. This award is a critical piece of our advocacy efforts and needs to be explored fully. Learn more [here](#).



NYSED is seeking applications to be used for the Pathway (4+1) Assessments in LOTE. NYSED is looking for consortiums or groups (like BOCES) to apply. Perhaps your group's assessment can be used as an alternate to one of the Regents exams required for graduation. If you are interested, check out this [link](#).

It's not too early to look ahead to our **Annual Conference, *Harnessing the Power of Languages for the Next 100 Years*** to be held in Niagara Falls, on **October 21 and 22**. Save the dates! *This is NYSAFLT's 100th Anniversary and promises to be extraordinary with special events, activities and guests.* **Beth Slocum** is the conference chair and has been working tirelessly to make the conference and weekend a special one. Stay an extra day and see the Falls and many area attractions! On Thursday evening, **October 19**, there will be a gala reunion banquet to benefit the 100K fund - come see all of your NYSAFLT friends and reconnect with those from years gone by!

Part of our 100th Anniversary is our **100K for 100 Years Fund**. Our goal is to create a sustaining fund that will ensure the continuation (and possible expansion) of our scholarships and grants, teacher incentive and professional development opportunities, as well as continue critical advocacy efforts for world languages. Learn more [here](#). If you have not yet donated, please check out the site and donate what you can.

Special thanks go out to our regional organizations across the state that have helped the cause with their fund-raising efforts. **COLT** and **WNYFLEC** made generous donations to the fund. In addition, **WNYFLEC** included a special gift basket raffle at its regional conference and **PoWeRFuL** held a 50-50 raffle at its recent conference. The Rochester Regional Conference brought in over \$600 with a silent auction and an "All for a \$1" sale of gently used classroom items.

On behalf of NYSAFLT, I wish everyone an inspiring and rewarding end to this school year. I look forward to seeing you at all of our upcoming NYSAFLT events.

Marie J. Campanaro

2017 NYSAFLT President

NYS AFLT Spring Conference



Michelle Shenton

NYS AFLT and **ALOUD** collaborated on the 2017 NYSAFLT **Spring Conference** on **Saturday, May 6** at Marist College in Poughkeepsie. The theme of the conference was ***World Languages: "S.T.E.A.M."ing Ahead***. The conference kicked off with a general session by keynote speaker **Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez**, director of world and classical languages and global language initiatives at the Dalton School in New York City. She showed participants many techniques and examples to develop thematic S.T.E.A.M. units that include experimentation and project-based learning in the target language.



There were four breakout sessions which included teaching science in Spanish, movie-making, digital authentic content, interdisciplinary service learning projects, song and dance, embedded reading, digital glossing, and intercultural communication. A big thank you to our presenters **Lori Langer de Ramirez, Tracy Brady, Patricia Moller**, NYSAFLT past president **Mary Holmes, Jenny Delfini, Dr. Kevin Gaugler**, Noura Ahmad Hajjaj, Jacqueline Ihnacik, Virgil Procaccini, and Laura Gardner.

Marist College's campus was a lovely venue with beautiful views of the Hudson and the hills beyond. **Kevin Gaugler**, associate professor of Spanish and director of the Weiss Language center at the college, and his staff were efficient and accommodating, which contributed to the success of the conference.

If you have never been to an **ALoud** conference, get there! Besides their local talent, they know how to do raffle gift baskets! **ALoud** President **Leslie Kudlack** (and NYSAFLT 2nd VP) and the **ALoud** Planning Committee are to be commended on an excellent regional conference.

NYSAFLT Summer Institute



Leslie Kudlack

Adventure awaits at NYSAFLT's **Summer Institute!** Join world language colleagues **August 8–11** in Oneonta, NY for “summer camp for language teachers.” We have a great line up of your favorite presenter as well as some new ones. Caleb Howard, NECTFL's Teacher of the year, will be there! If you can't come for the full time, come for a day. You can check out the schedule and program and register on the [Summer Institute](#) page of the NYSAFLT website.

**World Languages
Adventure Awaits**

NYSAFLT SUMMER INSTITUTE
SUMMER CAMP FOR LANGUAGE TEACHERS
AUGUST 8–11, 2017
ONEONTA, NY

REGISTER TODAY AT WWW.NYSAFLT.ORG



NYSAFLT 100th Annual Conference



Beth Slocum

Mark your calendars for the NYSAFLT Centennial Celebration:

Harnessing the Power of World Languages

October 20–21 in Niagara Falls, New York

Summer is right around the corner and our 100th anniversary NYSA-celebration will be here before you know it! **Registration is now open** for the [Annual Conference](#). This is an historic milestone for language teaching and learning. You won't want to miss this exciting opportunity to join in the celebration of our rich history while looking ahead to a very bright future. **NYSAFLT** proudly leads New York State with languages for the next 100 years!

The 100th **Annual Conference** offers world-class professional development in a spectacular venue. Our keynote speaker **Greta Lundgaard**, is the ACTFL 2016 Florence Steiner Award Winner for Leadership in Foreign Language Education. Greta is a leader in our field. She brings a fresh perspective on language teaching and learning. Check out her [article](#) from the *Language Educator* (Jan/Feb 2015).

The Conference & Event Center at Niagara Falls offers incredible spaces with **free Wi-Fi** throughout for both large and small group experiences. The pre-conference workshop lineup features an incredible team of all-star presenters including: **Tracy Brady, Marissa Coulehan, Harriett Barnett, Abi Cleary, Dr. Bryan Drost, Dr. Jennifer Eddy, Erin Johnson, Greta Lundgaard, Dr. Patricia Martinez de la Vega Mansilla, Patricia Moller** and **Meredith White**. Sessions will have limited seating, so be sure to select your choices at the time of registration.

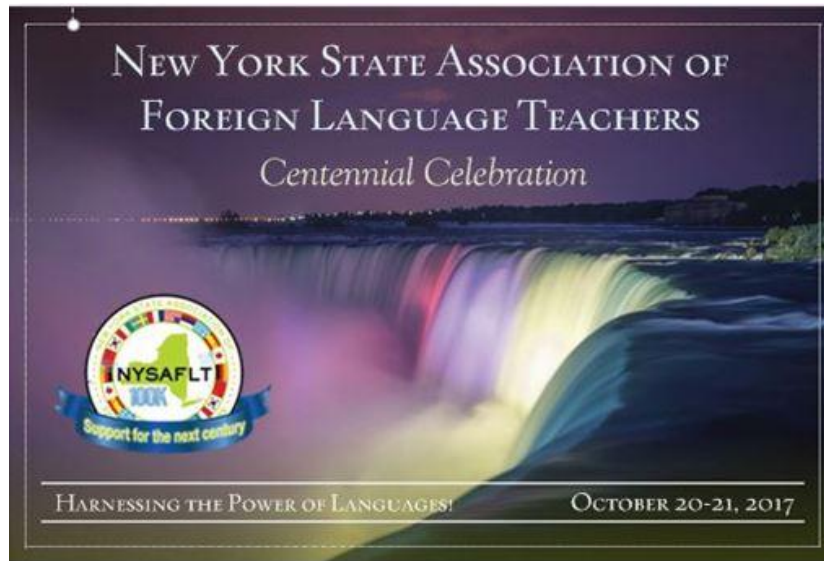
This is the must attend event of the century! Don't miss out on the celebration.

- 🕒 Separate ticketed 100K Fundraiser on **Thursday, October 19** – celebrating NYSAFLT history and raising funds to sustain our organization for the next 100 years!
- 🕒 NYSAFLT's *1st Un-Con* (the unconference) moderated by **Jenny Delfini**
- 🕒 Fireside chats with NYSA-notables – small group discussion opportunities
- 🕒 NYSA-fun challenges, games, prizes and dancing!

Have you already visited Niagara Falls? Has it been awhile? Why not make a weekend of it and bring the family? Our hotel accommodations are adjacent to the conference center and just a short walk from Niagara Falls. For your convenience, *complimentary* premium wireless high speed internet is available throughout the hotel and event center. For complete information, visit <http://www.sheratonatthefalls.com/>.



Have you or your colleagues considered presenting? It's not too late to submit a session proposal. Visit www.nysaflt.org to submit your proposal or contact conference coordinator [Beth Slocum](#) for further information. Looking forward to seeing you in October!



Regional News

Capital-East

Bill Heller put on a full day of training for foreign language teachers on **May 15**. The day was sponsored by the New York State Department of Education. Since State Ed is proposing a change in the titles of our assessments from Checkpoints A and B (and C) to define our students' skills and align with the ACTFL can-do statements to, Bill gave us a full day of thinking about how we assess our students, what each level should look like, and the new language we can use to describe achievements. This was a truly useful session and we hope to see more sessions like this coming our way in the future.

COLT did not hold a final gathering for the year, but we will be making a donation to the 100K for 100 Years fund in lieu of the meeting.

Melinda Barnes' tenure on the Board of Directors is up this year. If you are interested in representing the Capital-East region on the NYS AFLT Board of Directors, please consider throwing your hat in! Watch the NYS AFLT website for details regarding the nomination process. Thank you for your support and involvement in NYS AFLT.



Central

LECNY was pleased to have held its annual **May Celebration** on **Tuesday, May 16** at the Dewitt Free Library. LECNY was honored to celebrate the achievements of the following recipients from this year's awards: **Colleen Pierce** from the West Genesee Central SD and **Cindy Elliott** from the Rome City SD received the Teacher Grant awards. Klya Madonna from the East Syracuse-Minoa Central SD (nominated by **Rosanne Perla**), Danielle Meyers and Lauryn Long, both from the Rome City SD (nominated by **Cindy Elliott**), were the Student Scholarship Winners and Maison Lamanna and Dakota Pickreign, both from West Genesee Central SD, were the Poster Contest Winners. La Casita Cultural also received the Friends of Foreign Language award. Congratulations to all winners!

In addition LECNY is planning the **LECNY/NYSAFLT Regional Conference** on **Saturday, September 23**. More details will be shared concerning this wonderful event and can be found at the [LECNY website](#).

Mid-Hudson/Westchester

The year began with many of our members attending the **NECTFL Conference** in New York, held on **February 9–11**. Some of our members who braved a winter snowstorm to experience the wonderful workshops that were offered were President **Alexis Thornton**, Vice-President, **Roxanne Franquelli-Beras**, **Sally Barnes**, and Qi Song. **Marissa Coulehan** led a *"NNELL Networking Session"* and conducted the workshop *"Let's Play! Fun and Games in the World Language Classroom."* **Charlene Sirlin** presented the workshop: *"Inspiring Novice Language Learners to Speak and Write."* All regional members agreed that this was a wonderful professional experience and we look forward to attending next year.

Our **PWRFL Conference**, co-sponsored by NYSAFLT, was held on **Saturday, March 25**. We had approximately 35 attendees and added new teachers to the NYSAFLT membership. We would like to extend our appreciation to NYSAFLT Secretary-Treasurer **Maureen Geagan** for providing an update from NYSAFLT! *"Making Connections,"* presented by **Tracy Brady**, provided teachers with technology tools that will enable students to make connections with target language cultures. **Maureen Duffy** highlighted projects and a virtual field trip in *"Making FLACS Fun! Projects to Prepare for the Exam."* These projects prepare students for the FLACS A exam with ideas for adaptation for other exams. Session C offered a choice of two workshops. *"Culture from a Student Perspective: Easy and quick ideas for cultural integration in the Spanish classroom"* was provided by **Christine Salm**. Ideas ranged from hands-on experiences to Hispanic cultural nuances and immigration topics. *"!Hola Mundo! Simple Ideas to Connect Beyond the Classroom"* was introduced by **Monica Lluch**. This workshop focused on making connections with the use of Google Drive, additional Apps, and websites to facilitate



communication, collaboration, and connections outside the classroom. Suggestions included writing a collaborative book, creating a movie, or sharing different points of view since student entries could be made from different time zones.

<p>Leslie Kudlack, Maureen Geagan, Eleanor Dana and Charlene Sirlin – attend the PWRFL Conference</p>	<p>Tracy Brady presents her workshop <i>Making Connections</i></p>	<p>Maureen Duffy presents <i>Making FLACS Fun! Projects to Prepare for the Exam</i></p>

During our regional meeting, we held a 50/50 raffle for the 100th Anniversary of NYS AFLT. **PWRFL** said good-bye to our treasurer **Julie Bianchi** who has been an active part of our board for many years. We wish Julie the best in retirement! Our new treasurer is **Stephanie Albanese**. Our meeting ended with the winners of our student contests. All teachers and students who entered received a letter of recognition for their entries. The winners are as follows: Senior: Haseeb Azhar from Westlake (teacher: **Maria Mittelmann**); Middle School: Emily Pesce from Valhalla (teacher: **Stephanie Albanese**); FLES: Adya Tiwari from Pocantico Hills (teacher: **Marilyn Sable**).

NYC-Long Island

The 2017 **FLACS World Language Conference** was held on **Friday, March 24** at Hofstra University. There were over 300 teachers and administrators in attendance. This year’s theme was: *The World Language Toolkit: The Nuts & Bolts of Teaching & Learning*. The conference opened with an inspiring keynote speech by **Joshua Cabral**. He discussed the importance of problem solving in the foreign language and teaching in context. There were many workshops that covered a variety of topics, from FLES to Checkpoint C. This year FLACS decided to take an “unconference” approach so that educators could choose workshops that would meet their professional needs. Thank you to the following presenters: **Joan Anderson, William Anderson, Lillian Carey, Deena Christophorou, Rosemary Haigh, Janice Kincaid, Dr. Patricia Lennon-Murphy, Dr. Elaine Margarita, Elyse Patti-McDonald, and Dr. JeanMarie Perrella** for sharing their fantastic ideas.

Congratulations to **Valérie Greer**, French teacher at Bay Shore Middle School, and **Wendy Mercado**, Spanish teacher at Bay Shore Middle School, for winning the Best of



NECTFL 2017 award for their session entitled “*Top Ten Activities to Liven Up Your Language Class.*” Valérie and Wendy have presented at various state and regional conferences over the years and are looking forward to presenting at the 2017 NYSAFLT **Annual Conference** in Niagara Falls as well as the 2017 **ACTFL Convention** in Nashville, TN.

German Honor Society students from Massapequa High School, together with their teacher **Brigitte Kahn**, recently visited the Plattduetsche retirement home in Franklin Square, NY. This home opened in 1922 as a retirement home for poor immigrants from Germany. It is now open to all, but most residents have some German background. Prior to the visit, during several meetings of the German Honor Society, students created greeting cards, pictures with German sayings, and goodie bags for the residents. In addition, they practiced German folk songs, such as “Hoch auf dem gelben Wagen” and “Der Jäger aus Kurpfalz” for the seniors’ enjoyment. Three of the students in attendance (Ally Kanapes, Angelica Radomski, and Maggie Smith) are also quite accomplished musicians. They brought along their violins and cello and performed several classical pieces. To round off the musical performances, Maggie Smith accompanied her classmates on the piano as they sang “Komm’ gib mir deine Hand” by the Beatles.

For the remainder of the visit, the students mingled and chatted with the residents in German. The seniors were delighted to find young people so enthusiastically sharing their knowledge of the German language and culture with them. Some were moved to tears to be able to speak their native language with the students. They shared many memories from their childhoods in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, and Romania. The students also appreciated learning from the seniors about their interesting, and sometimes challenging, experiences. According to **William Anderson**, Curriculum Associate for World Languages, “this real world opportunity not only strengthens the students’ proficiency but leads them on their journey to intercultural competence.” The residents were overwhelmed and thankful for the time spent with these students. Everybody is looking forward to another visit in the very near future.

On **April 1** one hundred and thirty LOTE educators attended the **Spring Professional Development Workshops** sponsored by the **New York City Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYCAFLT/UFT)**. This annual event, held at the UFT Headquarters in Manhattan, began with a brief orientation by the conference coordinators, **Irma Evangelista** and **Gary Milgrom**. Each participant was provided with a choice of four workshops in each of two sessions from which he/she selected one in each. The eight workshops offered by the enthusiastic and knowledgeable LOTE presenters received an overwhelmingly positive response from both new and experienced teachers. One could not fail to be impressed by the number of participants who not only submitted their written evaluations, but also expressed their gratitude with a verbal “Thank You Very Much” upon leaving for home. The **NYCAFLT/UFT** Committee takes pride in its mission to meet the professional development needs of so many NYC foreign language educators.

Following the **Spring Professional Development Workshops**, the **NYCAFLT/UFT** Planning Committee met to begin planning for the NYCAFLT Annual Professional



Development Conference, co-sponsored by NYS AFLT, to be held on Saturday, November 4. We will celebrate our 20th Anniversary on this occasion in special ways.

Please contact [Valérie Greer](#) if your school, world language students, or teachers are doing something special, or exciting, that you would like highlighted in a future newsletter. This can include contests, awards, special activities/projects etc.

Western New York

After taking last year off, **WNYFLEC** held its regional conference on **Saturday, March 4** at Hamburg High School. Participating **WNYFLEC** and NYS AFLT members were able to attend workshops on new technology tools in the classroom like EdPuzzle, discuss traveling with students, and so much more!

<p>WNYFLEC conference attendees learn about the culture of Peru</p>	<p>Sheri Green presents on using EDpuzzle in the classroom</p>	<p>Bill Heller presents at the WNYFLEC conference</p>

WNYFLEC is now gearing up for its annual Student, Teacher and Recognition (STAR) Ceremony on **Wednesday, June 7**. Teachers have nominated outstanding students and will be recognizing them at this awards dinner and banquet. **WNYFLEC** will also be presenting awards to the winners of its annual Language Week Poster Contest, and announcing this year’s recipients of several professional awards. Stay tuned to our next newsletter, where we’ll officially announce all winners!

Despite the windstorms, massive power outages, and record snow fall, more than 150 area LOTE teachers attended the Rochester regional conference *Learn a World Language Grow your Global Mindset*, which was held at Nazareth College on **Saturday March 11**. The conference featured 40 workshops focusing on cultural update and innovative technologies and techniques to enhance the learning environment in every level LOTE classroom. Please take a moment to think of all the inspiring techniques you use in the classroom and consider submitting a proposal for the Rochester regional conference in 2018. In addition to the amazing professional development and networking, the Rochester Regional committee also awarded the Friends of Foreign Language Award to the Little Theater for their community contributions and support of foreign language and culture. **Melanie Thomas** was awarded the “Vito Marcello Fund an Idea” grant. We also offered a silent auction and an all for \$1 classroom clean out sale which raised more than \$600 for NYS AFLT’s 100K for 100 Years fund. It was a great day! We are always



excited to see so many of our LOTE teachers at this event. If you were not able to join us in March, we hope to see you next year!

<p>Members of the Rochester Regional Planning Committee.</p>	<p>The Little Theater receives the Friend of Foreign Language Award</p>	<p>Birgit Deir discusses issues facing the European Union</p>

What are some of the great things happening in your district? Do you have some innovative activities that you can share with your colleagues? Do you offer LOTE- inspired community events to enhance and grow your programs? If so, please share these ideas with us. We would like to include this information in our regional updates.

AATF of WNY



AATF of WNY has the pleasure of announcing our first **FRENCH IMMERSION WEEK** the last week of June. Yes, that's right! A week-long camp where we will only be speaking, thinking, singing, cooking, eating, sleeping, etc. in French with fellow French teachers and college faculty.

The camp will be held **June 25–30** at Buffalo State's Camp Whispering Pines in Franklinville, NY. We will check into camp on Sunday at 2 p.m. and prepare and enjoy our first French dinner together. The weeklong experience will end on Friday around 2 p.m. Every day we will have three francophone meals together. There will be three 80 minute classes each day on a variety of topics from film to paintings to music to current events to phonetics to poetry to grammar.... These classes will be run by college faculty and longtime French teachers. The ultimate goals of the IMMERSION are for everyone to use the French language as much as possible in order to practice our speaking and pronunciation as well as learn new vocabulary and phrases and to come away with concrete activities to use in your classes starting in fall.

We will be offering workshops on topics that include Impressionism; using film in the classroom; francophone culture and literature; Molière theatre and scene practice; voodoo literature of Haïti; la Francophonie à travers le monde, aux États-Unis, en Amérique, en Afrique; Paris à travers la chanson; l'Acadie; la Louisiane; French origins; les Cajuns; la banlieue;



phonetics and language awareness; using technology in class; New York's French heritage; francophone songs, cooking, and folkdance; and other cultural and conversational topics.

Participants can earn 20 hours of professional development in-service credit usable in your district. The cost for the experience is \$250 for the week and includes classes, food and overnight accommodations. In order to reserve your place for this immersive experience, please send the full amount (\$250) payable to AATF-WNY to **Michèle Roberts**, 6981 Deborah Lane, Niagara Falls NY 14304. Please do not hesitate to contact us if it is after the deadline (June 1) to see if you can still reserve a spot and join us! For more information, please e-mail our WNY-Chapter President **Michèle Roberts** or see our Facebook event at AATF Western New York.

Public Advocacy



Lead with Languages Campaign

ACTFL released their *Lead with Languages* campaign that is aimed at reversing the nation's language skills gap and making language learning a national priority. The campaign seeks to build awareness across the U.S. about the growing importance of language skills to a wide array of careers – and to our nation's economy, national security, and international standing – with the ultimate goal of supporting a new generation of Americans competent in other languages and cultures and equipped to compete and succeed in a global economy. Show your support of this campaign by downloading the Lead with Languages [badge](#) and adding it to your social media sites. To learn about this campaign visit: <http://www.leadwithlanguages.org/>

Commission on Language Learning

The American Academy of Arts and Sciences released the final report and recommendations of the Commission on Language Learning, a national effort established to examine the current state of U.S. language education, to project what the nation's education needs will be in the future, and to offer recommendations for ways to meet those needs. The Commission's five recommendations are:

1. Increase the number of language teachers at all levels of education so that every child in every state has the opportunity to learn a language in addition to English.
2. Supplement language instruction across the education system through public-private partnerships among schools, government, philanthropies, businesses, and local community members.
3. Support heritage languages already spoken in the United States, and help these languages persist from one generation to the next.
4. Provide targeted attention to Native American languages as defined in NALA.
5. Promote opportunities for students to learn languages in other countries by experiencing other cultures and immersing themselves in multilingual environments.



The full report, entitled *America's Languages: Investing in Language Education in the 21st Century*, is available at <http://www.amacad.org/language>.

World Language Bills

At the state level, write to Assembly members and NYS Senators regarding bills A00329 and S00554 respectively to establish FLES programs in high-needs districts and funding for college students matriculated in world language education programs. Write to your members of Congress and US Senators regarding funding for bill HR 3096, Fulbright-Hays, Title VI and earmarked funding for world language programs in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). For letter writing guidance, refer to the PA packet.

NYSUT LOTE Subject Area Committee

Barbara Patterson and **Diana Zuckerman** will be representing World Languages on NYSUT's LOTE Subject Area Committee (SAC) for the 2017-2020 three-year term. Committee members are charged with providing NYSUT a practitioner's perspective on the impact of proposed or current state and national issues and to suggest positions and NYSUT actions related to these issues.



Congratulations to **Diana Zuckerman** (second from right) on receiving NYSUT's 2017 inaugural Political Action Volunteer Recognition Award! This award recognizes NYSUT members who go above and beyond to assist in effective and successful campaigns around New York State. You can also get more involved with NYSUT to be a stronger voice for world languages.

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](#) or [Diana Zuckerman](#).

National Network for Early Language Learning / FLES News

The annual **Dalton FLES Fest** took place on **Saturday, May 20** at the Dalton School in New York City. The event was organized by **Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez**. Participants had the opportunity to network and share with other FLES teachers, as well as get inspired by keynote speaker Ana Lomba. We hope you can join us next year!

NNELL is excited to share that our **Summer Institute** is close to home this year! Join us in Summit, New Jersey from **July 7–9** for *STEAM-ing Ahead: Critical Thinking and Problem-*



Solving for Early Language Learners. NYSAFLT members **Marissa Coulehan** and **Dr. Lori Langer de Ramírez** will be presenting. Come check it out!

FLES teachers – don't forget about the Hahn FLES teacher scholarships and teacher incentive grants! NYSAFLT offers up to \$3000 annually to attend a conference or support projects to enhance your FLES program. More information can be found on the NYSAFLT [awards](#) page. Remember you have to log in to the NYSAFLT website to see all the awards, grants, and scholarships.

Announcements

“Before you are a leader, success is about growing yourself.

When you become a leader, success is all about growing others.” (Welch, 2005)

NYSAFLT is proud to announce the participants of the Leaders of Tomorrow Project. This project is designed to develop participant leadership skills through a three part leadership training seminar. Participants will be educated about NYSAFLT's mission, goals, and programs. Upon completion of the project, participants are encouraged to step forward into positions of leadership in NYSAFLT and/or other professional organizations at the local, state, or national level. This year's participants are: **Melanie Thomas**, Spencerport CSD; **Patricia Moller**, Pine Bush High School; **Kristina Strauss**, Hamburg Middle School; **Wendy Mercado**, Bay Shore Middle School; and **Erin Johnson**, Penn Yan Middle School.

Congratulations to the following NYSAFLT members who have won a NYSAFLT award, grant or scholarship for 2017! There are more awards, grants and scholarships to be given out this year. Will you be the next NYSAFLT winner? Check the awards page of the NYSAFLT website for more information and upcoming deadlines.

Jennifer Fuller of Homer CSD was awarded the “Best of Conference” for her workshop at the 2016 Annual Conference.

The James E. Allen Distinguished Foreign Language Program Award recognizes and honors outstanding foreign language programs throughout NYS. One school district or school as well as one post-secondary institution within each of NYSAFLT's ten regions can be selected annually for the award. This year's recipient is the Massapequa Public Schools World Language Department.

The Charles Zimmerman Memorial Travel Award is awarded to the student of a NYSAFLT. The recipient receives a stipend of \$500 for student travel with a school sponsored group. This award memorializes Chuck Zimmerman, past NYS French and Spanish teacher and NYSAFLT member, who believed that traveling abroad with students is a wonderful way to enhance students' language skills and to broaden their cultural horizons so they can enhance their language acquisition and/or cultural knowledge in the target language. Christian Finnerty, student of **Tara Pitts**, received this year's Zimmerman Travel Award.



NYS AFLT is pleased to announce that \$125 will be awarded to a NYS AFLT Rochester area member to support projects and teacher efforts that are related to the improvement and/or expansion of the instructional or extra-curricular program of a class, school or school district. Vito Marcello, for whom the award is named, always took great professional satisfaction in bringing together teachers from the Rochester area to learn and to share with each other. For decades he was a member of the Rochester Regional Conference Planning Committee. He served as treasurer and promoted a quality program of enrichment and information for the LOTE teachers of western New York. As a teacher of French and Italian at McQuaid Jesuit High School, he was engaging, personable, and eager to help his students find joy in studying languages. This year's award recipient is **Melanie Thomas** from Spencerport CSD.

The Hahn FLES Teacher Scholarship is designed to help a New York State FLES or FLEX teacher (grades K – 6) attend a professional conference in order to enhance quality language instruction and promote networking among FLES teachers. This year's award is given to **Claire-Louise Meng** of Northern Parkway School UFSD.

The NYS AFLT Cultural Scholarship in South America-Peru is awarded to a NYS AFLT member to study for two weeks at the Academia Latinoamericana de Español in Cusco, Peru. This scholarship was generously donated by the Academia. For more details on the program and its offerings, please visit their [website](#). **Tracy Brady** has been awarded this scholarship.

The NYS AFLT Cultural Scholarship in Costa Rica was generously donated by Academia Tica Spanish School. For complete details on Academia Tica and their program offerings, please visit the school's [website](#). The recipient of this scholarship, **Joy Cumming**, will receive a free two-week Intensive Spanish course, 20 group hours per week and a week of Spanish teachers course comprised of 10 mini-group lessons. The courses can be taken at Academia Tica Coronado in San José during the regular class year of 2017.

The NYS AFLT Cultural Scholarship in Italy is awarded to an outstanding teacher of Italian whose greatest qualification is excellence in the classroom. He/she must have also distinguished himself/herself as a promoter of Italian studies both in school and in the community at large. This teacher should be prepared to share the benefits of the award with the students in the classroom and also to disseminate among his/her colleagues what he/she has learned from the time spent attending the Università per Stranieri di Perugia and traveling in Italy. **Marisa Vattana** has been awarded this scholarship.

The NYS AFLT Cultural Scholarship in Mexico includes registration for two weeks of study (one 4-hour class Monday - Friday) in a small class, Spanish language study program at the Cemanahuac Institute in Cuernavaca, Mexico. This scholarship was generously donated by the Cemanahuac Educational Community. For complete details on their program offerings, please visit the school's [website](#). The recipient of this scholarship is **Michelle Walpole**.

The NYS AFLT Cultural Scholarship in Spain includes registration for a two week Spanish for Spanish Teachers course at the Don Quijote School in Salamanca. The recipient of this scholarship is **Robin Birnbaum**.



NYS AFLT awards funds to support world language teachers' efforts to improve and expand programs or initiate a project with cultural impact! This year three Teacher Incentive Grants were awarded to the following teachers:

Barbara Patterson's students will learn about the history and origins of the Spanish festival, La Tomatina, including staging their own tomato "fight." They will also prepare and sample gazpacho, a soup that is native to Spain. This experience will enable the students to appreciate and experience the culture and traditions of another country.

Colleen Pierce will use the funds to purchase a class set of novels and supplemental materials. Because of this reading opportunity, students will gain confidence and enjoy reading independently in Spanish.

The French Club at **Cynthia Elliot**'s school has been particularly active and motivated this year, resulting in a larger group than usual. They will travel to Québec City in May, to be immersed in French language and culture. This cultural and linguistic immersion offers these students an opportunity to sample French outside of the classroom and create memories which will last a lifetime.

Fulvi Awards

The Philip A. Fulvi Student Scholarship Award for Excellence in Foreign Language Study is given to a high school senior in each NYSAFLT region with a foreign language average of 90% or better. The Philip A. Fulvi Student Recognition Award is given to one high school senior in each NYSAFLT region with a strong interest in and love of languages. The Philip A. Fulvi Love of Language Award is given to an outstanding 8th grade student in each NYSAFLT region. Congratulations to the following FULVI Award recipients:

Region	Award	Student Name	Teacher
Capital-East	Love of Language	Nina Tuxbury	Corina Baugh
Capital-East	Student Scholarship	Luke Ely	Meghan Chance
Central NY	Love of Language	Kayleigh Przytula	Barbara Patterson
Central NY	Student Scholarship	Julia Palotta	Stevi Wilson
MidHudson/Westchester	Love of Language	Dominic Florian	Marcia Heffler
MidHudson/Westchester	Student Scholarship	Caila McCaghey	Alexis Thornton
NYC-LI	Love of Language	Joanne Li	Lilin Guo
Western NY	Love of Language	Emily Nava	Jennifer Colbert
Western NY	Student Scholarship	Joshua Saye	Allie Saye



NYSAFLT Cards

<p>Are there people whom you would like to recognize or honor? You can now send greetings, words of comfort, or any other sentiment with a NYSAFLT card. For a minimum of \$5.00 per card, we will print your message to indicate that a donation has been made. These will be published in the <i>NYSAFLT News</i> and will benefit the teacher travel scholarship. Cards may be obtained by going to the donations page or by sending a check (made payable to NYSAFLT) to:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NYSAFLT Headquarters 2400 Main Street Buffalo, NY 14214-2364</p>	<p>~~~~~</p> <p>Condolences to</p> <p style="color: #e67e22; font-weight: bold; font-size: 1.2em;">NANCY KETZ</p> <p>on the loss of her mother, Helen. Our thoughts and prayers have been with you.</p> <p>Sincerely, Your NYSA-family</p> <p>~~~~~</p>
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Mark Your Calendars

June

- 12-13 Board of Regents Meeting
- 17 **Deadline:** Summer Institute Scholarship Applications

July

- 6-9 AATSP Annual Conference (Chicago, IL)
- 16-19 AATF Annual Conference (St. Louis, MO)
- 17-18 Board of Regents Meeting

August

- 1 **Deadline:** September *Newsletter* Submissions
- 8-11 **Summer Institute** (Oneonta, NY)
- 15 **Deadline:** Annual Conference Scholarship Applications

