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In this issue of NYSAFLT News, you'll get to know Roxanne Franquelli-Beras and catch up with past president Dawn Santiago Marullo. You'll also find regional news along with updates from NNELL, the Public Advocacy committee and more!

If you don't see all of these important features, there's a possibility that the newsletter is being truncated by your email server. Be sure to scroll all the way to the bottom and to click on "view entire message" so that you don't miss a thing!

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The President's Corner



Welcome to the 20–21 school year! This is going to be a novel experience as we navigate the hybrid, synchronous and asynchronous world of teaching world languages. My email and social media are chock full of ideas and sites to get resources. It is overwhelming at times!

As always, I rely on NYSAFLT to help, and am not disappointed. Kudos to **Jenny Delfini**, 1st vice president for our first virtual Summer Institute. The presenters and flow of the Institute were incredible.

I am, as always, in awe of the generosity of the presenters and the variety of ideas shared. I gained many new tech ideas as well as ways to keep doing some of my favorite things with students in our "new normal."

Sally Barnes, president elect, is organizing the 103rd Annual Conference, which will also be virtual. The theme this year is ***Looking to the Future: Recruitment, Leadership and Advocacy for World Languages*** and it is going to be full of top-notch presenters including our keynote speaker, Rebecca Aubrey. Don't miss the update on the revised world language standards!

This year, more than any other, I am reminded of the importance of professional development and collaboration with colleagues. Without NYSAFLT and the resources and lectures created by so many talented, generous people, finding a way forward for the new school year would be a much harder (high insurmountable?) task. NYSAFLT continues to be a learning community where I can connect with others and share expertise, and I hope everyone has a chance to do so with our upcoming Annual Conference.

Annual Conference

NYSAFLT VIRTUAL ANNUAL CONFERENCE - OCTOBER 17-24

It had been our hope all summer to plan for a hybrid fall conference in Syracuse. Indications are that the general reopening in New York State is going smoothly, however the very mixed messages coming from school districts around the state, many of which are not ready to return to 100% face to face, coupled with the great success of our first-ever online Summer Institute, has led us to make the decision to go online only for our fall conference for this year.



Rebecca Aubrey, 2019 ACTFL Teacher of the Year from Connecticut, will be our keynote speaker. This year's theme is ***Looking to the Future: Recruitment, Leadership and Advocacy for World Languages***.

Given our current circumstances, world language teachers need to connect more than ever! And with the upcoming transition to the new standards for world languages, this is a conference that you do not want to miss! **Candace Black** from NYSED/OBEWL will be with us, along with the World Language Content Advisory Panel executive committee: **Bill Heller**, **Dr. Joanne O'Toole**, and **Dr. Lori Langer de Ramirez**. In workshops, updates and a panel discussion, they will help us understand the revisions and shifts in the new standards, and how we can implement them in our curricula, lesson planning, and classrooms - virtual or otherwise.

There will be four pre-conference workshops offered on **Saturday, October 17**.

Other session topics which will be offered during the week from **October 19-24** include:

- Stories: Robots and Coding
- Inspiring Proficiency in Novice Learners
- Mindfulness for more Productivity in the World Language Classroom
- Updating your Assessments with Proficiency Rubrics
- Teaching Culture in the Target Language
- Everyday Advocacy: Developing an Advocacy Plan for your Daily Routine
- 90% at all Levels
- Sustaining a Culturally Responsive Classroom

This is only a small sampling of the many workshops which will be offered live and pre-recorded! Check out our complete schedule at <https://nysaflt.org/annual-conference/>

Wishing everyone a productive start to their school year and I look forward to seeing you virtually in October!

Sally Barnes
Chair AC 2020



Summer Institute



"Wow." Such a simple word, but it packs a punch and can have so many different connotations.

Such as, "Wow. We cannot have a live Summer Institute this year." Followed by numerous phone calls, Zoom meetings, and digital document editing to adapt a ready-to-go conference into an online event.

Or, "Wow. We may be able to pull this off." Right before opening registration, I had time to sit back from the computer screen and really look at what the executive committee had put together. I was hopeful that teachers would want to attend. We had great presenters and topics, we had a good timeline. BUT it was so different from the usual week on the SUNY-Oneonta campus...

And then I heard, "Wow!" as in, "This is great, SI2020 exceeded my expectations!" I am so humbled by the reactions that were shared with me after the conference.

By moving online, NYSAFLT was able to reach almost four times the number of teachers that usually attend a Summer Institute! Many were no longer restricted by the travel distance or family challenges and could customize which sessions to attend. Those who have attended the on-campus event in the past were still able to connect with each other in chat and breakout rooms for sessions, as well as the social hours; but more importantly, they also met and bonded with first-time attendees, and shared in a truly unique professional development experience.

Candace Black of NYSED OBEWL, along with **Bill Heller**, and **Dr. Joanne O'Toole**, led us off with an in-depth look at the changes coming to our NYS World Language Standards, followed by practical tools to bring into our lessons and planning. They also fielded questions during their panel discussion. ACTFL friends and Connecticut neighbors, Rebecca Aubrey and Jessica Haxhi, brought applicable topics on moving to theme-based instruction and incorporating "MAGIC" into our teaching at all levels and ages. **Flor Berman** joined Jessica and Rebecca for a panel discussion on #earlylang learning and proficiency. **Brenda Buckley** and **Sarah Shainfeld** provided guidance on creating communities and rethinking mindset and growth in our classrooms, both physical and virtual. **Mary Holmes** and **Patricia Moller** were as giving as always in presenting their CI expertise, as well as answering questions during their panel discussion. **Mike La Paglia** shared so many great tips on all things YouTube, while **Wendy Mercado** and **Valérie Greer** had participants learning new ways to get students engaged with activities adapted to remote learning. ACTFL-LILL participants **Beth Slocum**, **Marissa Coulehan**, and **Melanie Thomas** joined me for a session to get teachers thinking about their own leadership and how they can best reach others in their spheres of influence.

While these sessions were all necessary topics, we still took a break for some social time - just like we do on campus - with NYSAFLT trivia, music and dancing, and immersion conversations as well.

I am thrilled that we were able to reach so many teachers during our nine days of professional development this summer. Each session referenced the others, and there was truly a common thread of growth, both personal and statewide, as we moved a step closer toward the reality of the new World Language Standards in New York State.

Wow!



Member Spotlight

In this issue, **Roxanne Franquelli-Beras** shares her NYSAFLT story!

I grew up in a very American, yet very culturally diverse family in Yonkers, NY. I've always been fortunate enough to be surrounded by languages and culture. My mom's family is of Greek descent and my late father is of Italian descent. I visited my grandparents every weekend and was exposed to both cultures and languages. When I was a little girl, I used to think some words that I used on a daily basis were English, but in fact, they were actually words from Neapolitan dialect and Greek.

I studied Spanish in middle and high school. I enjoyed it very much and was extremely excited to practice with my neighbors and Spanish-speaking friends.



I earned a B.A in Italian and another in Spanish at Queens College, where I was exposed to even more cultural experiences. The greatest of these experiences was studying abroad in Córdoba, Spain. It was truly a memorable experience and left such an impression on me. I earned my Master's in TESOL at Manhattanville College. Working with the ESL population

held a special place in my heart, since my mom did not speak English until she was 10 years old, as the language in her household was Greek.

This is my 20th year teaching at Valhalla Middle High School. I serve as the Instructional Liaison for the world language department and I currently teach Spanish to 7th, 8th and 9th graders. I have also taught Italian and loved sharing my heritage with my students. I have been blessed to work with a wonderful and supportive department. In addition, I am currently studying school administration at the College of St. Rose.

Travel has been a key component to my love for languages and culture. Every other year, I travel with Valhalla High School students to Spain. On my own, I have visited Nicaragua, Ecuador, Cuba, Peru, Mexico, and the Dominican Republic. It has been my pleasure to share my experiences with my students and colleagues.

I first learned about NYSAFLT through a former colleague, Dottie Edler. She was so excited to tell me all about the organization and what it has to offer. NYSAFLT has been an important part of my career. The conferences and grants have contributed to the success of the programs I conduct. I have received the Rossin Grant twice; with this grant money, we were able to hold a Pinocchio workshop and most recently, a cooking activity. At this past Annual Conference, I presented for the first time with one of my colleagues and that was a very rewarding experience.

Within NYSAFLT, I work on the Public Advocacy Committee and the Nominations Committee, two committees that embody the purpose of NYSAFLT. I served on the Board of Directors from 2011-2013. Additionally, during the NECTFL Annual Conference, I volunteer for the Hospitality Committee for NYSAFLT. I also serve as the vice-president of my regional organization, PoWeRFuL, where planning workshops and recruiting new members are my areas of interest.

Where Are They Now?



*In this issue, we check in with past president **Dawn Santiago-Marullo**.*

I joined NYSAFLT when I was a freshman at Nazareth College. The professors who taught Spanish (Dr. Edward Malinak and Dr. Tina Pereda) insisted that all students who planned to teach must join. It was our professional responsibility to be active members of the organization. I remember attending my first of many Rochester Regional Conferences in March 1977. Over the years, I met so many interesting people at these conferences.

My first teaching job was at the SUC at Brockport at the college's Elementary Campus School. I taught Spanish to K-3 students and staff members through a grant acquired by the school's administrators. I was given a verbal commitment to return to the Campus School in the fall but unfortunately, due to state budget cuts, the Campus School was closed in the summer of 1981.

In March of 1982, Victor Central Schools (VCS), hired me as a long-term substitute for a Spanish teacher who would be on maternity leave. The following school year, I was hired as a part-time Spanish teacher. In my third year, I was offered a probationary position. I had no idea at the time that I would devote my entire career to VCS. I retired in July 2019 after 37 years of service to the children of the VCS communities.

My active involvement in world language organizations was prompted by a series of "shoulder taps." Early in my career, Dr. Ed Malinak encouraged me to present at the NYSAFLT Rochester Regional Conference. My first workshop was about how to use your classroom bulletin boards as a teaching tool. At the time, I didn't think that what I was doing in the classroom was special but I submitted a proposal because I respected Dr. Malinak. This workshop was the first of many presentations I would do at state regionals, the state conference, the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL) and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL).

Another shoulder tap came from Dr. Laura Humphrey. She was a teacher of French and chairperson of the Pittsford School District's foreign language department at the time. She encouraged me to join the Rochester Regional Conference Planning Committee. I enjoyed this opportunity to work closely with foreign language teachers from area school districts. Around this time, I was also invited to serve as corresponding secretary of the Foreign Language Association of Teachers in the Rochester Area (FLATRA), a NYSAFLT affiliate.

In 1992, I was asked by then NYSAFLT president, **Mary Champagne Myers**, to serve as a member of the SUNY 2000 Task Force on College Entry-Level Knowledge and Skill Areas. I represented the K-12 perspective and Dr. Irmgard Taylor, a professor of German at SUC Cortland, represented the post-secondary perspective.

I ran for the NYSAFLT Board of Directors three times. The first and second time, I lost to two very well respected colleagues. While I was disappointed, I knew they would serve NYSAFLT and the Rochester Region well. I finally won the third election and served a full term on the board representing the Rochester Region. I later ran for second vice president which led to my being president in 2003. During my tenure as a NYSAFLT leader, I met many talented teachers and leaders from around the state, many of whom are current Facebook friends. I'm convinced that I was a better teacher and leader because of their friendship. They served as great role models and were/are among the best of the best in our profession.

After completing my term as NYSAFLT president, I served as a member of the NECTFL Board of Directors from 2004 until 2008. This was another opportunity to meet and get to know amazing world language educators.

Speaking of meeting interesting colleagues, I was invited by Peter Jones, a French teacher from Canada, to submit a proposal to the Ontario Modern Language Teachers' Association (OMLTA) in Toronto, Canada. I presented workshops at the OMLTA Conference for several years. My connection to Peter Jones came from my membership in the FLTEACH listserv which was a first-of-its-kind worldwide opportunity for teachers to share and learn from each other. Special thanks to Drs. Jean LeLoup and Robert Ponterio, the creative pioneers who engaged the world of LOTE from the SUC at Cortland campus through FLTEACH.

My connection to NYSAFLT and NECTFL led to my appointment to the NYS Professional Standards and Practices Board at NYSED. I left the classroom in the summer of 2000 to become a staff developer and coordinator of the new International Baccalaureate Diploma Program at VCS. I was a teacher on special assignment for five years. During this time I also served as the director of the VCS Teaching Center, a NYS Teacher Center.

In 2005, I became the Director of Special Projects and Programs at VCS. One of my five special programs was the LOTE Department. In March of 2009, I became the superintendent of schools at VCS. I held this position until my retirement in July 2019.

There are so many other educators who encouraged my participation in our professional organizations over the years. Because of their support, I presented workshops, served on committees, gave speeches, wrote articles and attended conferences. They were a community of professional educators who were also "professional learners."

Currently, I live in Victor, NY with my husband of 41 years. I have two adult children and a granddaughter. I'm enjoying retirement and serving part-time as an adjunct professor for the Warner School at the University of Rochester. I supervise interns who are pursuing NYS administrative certification.

Member Spotlight

Capital East

This past spring, **Kathryn Inhelder** and **Dr. Margaret Leone** hosted the 2nd Annual Célébration de la Culture Francophone. This event is a way for students and



Students and teachers from five area middle/high schools and SUNY Plattsburgh participated in the celebration (over 50 projects).

David Graham was able to connect with professional musicians: Zachary Richard, Jacques Surette, and Joséé Vachon. They each recorded messages and songs for our students to be shared in La Célébration de la Culture Francophone.

Due to COVID-19, the celebration was held virtually this year. You can watch La Célébration de la Culture Francophone 2020 [here](#).

teachers to showcase what is happening in the classroom with the larger community. Students from around the North Country were asked to take an interest of their own and link it to the Francophone world. Students created cartoons, performed musical pieces, prepared traditional foods, recited poetry, read a story, created informational presentations about landmarks, athletes, artists, and more!

Central New York

The Central Region NYSAFLT Directors hope that this newsletter finds you all safe and healthy. We also hope that you've taken some much needed time to rest and relax after a tumultuous end to the school year.

The annual LECNY/NYSAFLT Regional Workshop, normally held around the beginning of October, is waiting for additional guidance from schools and NYS before determining how this year's workshop will be held. For more information on the LECNY/NYSAFLT Regional Workshop, please visit the [LECNY website](#).

Stay well and we wish you a good return to school!



AATF of CNY

AATF of CNY wishes you all a "Bonne Rentrée" as another summer comes to an end and we say "bonjour" to another great school year!

We have some wonderful accomplishments to recognize here in Central New York! Christian Rogers-Romeo, a student in Carol Casey-Kelleher's SUNY French 5 class at East Syracuse Minoa Central High School, received the AATF Scholarship Award. Christian has taken French classes for five years, has taught French folk-dancing to members of the ESM community, made blankets for the Francophone refugee community in Syracuse, and earned first place for a culinary presentation in French for the French Faculty at SUNY Albany. He has also participated each summer in a Tim Hortons Leadership Camp in Canada where he met and interacted with French-speaking students from Quebec. Christian will attend Le Moyne College this Fall to pursue a career in nursing. He also intends to minor in French and to study abroad in Francophone Africa where he would like to volunteer with Médecins Sans Frontières. Félicitations Christian.

Despite the difficult circumstances this past spring, Central New York French students performed admirably in Grand Concours. Bravo et félicitations! In our chapter, over 600 students participated, from FLES to Level 5. 21 students earned gold medals, 37 earned silver medals, 57 earned bronze medals and 105 earned honorable mention certificates. A special congratulations to the platinum medal winner, with a perfect score on the level 2 exam!

Throughout the school year, AATF of CNY hosts many fun events, including French Night at the Syracuse Crunch, our spring movie night, as well as some very interesting conferences and workshops. We hope you will take advantage of the many opportunities to get together with fellow Francophiles during the 2020–21 school year. Stay up to date with our events by visiting our website, www.aatfcny.org and by liking us on Facebook.

Mid-Hudson Westchester

¡Hola colegas! My name is **Dan Edwards**. I was appointed to the NYSAFLT Board of Directors in July and would like to take this opportunity to introduce myself. I am a high school Spanish teacher at Pine Bush High School in Pine Bush, NY. As a teacher focusing on comprehensible input, I obtained my B.A. in Spanish Language from Marist College and an MA.Ed in Spanish Education from the University of Nebraska at Kearney. I am currently pursuing an Ed.D in Literacy, Culture, and Language Education through Indiana University.



I've been actively involved in NYSAFLT since 2016 and was part of the 2019 Leaders of Tomorrow cohort. As the vice president of ALOUD (Association of Language Teachers of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, and surrounding areas), I am looking forward to serving on the Board of Directors for NYSAFLT and becoming an active liaison between the Mid-Hudson/Westchester Region and NYSAFLT!



AATF of WNY

The AATF-WNY chapter helped publicize the successful WNYFLEC conference held on **February 29**. Collaboration and cross-publicity amongst local and state-wide organizations is a boon to all organizations involved.

Money raised at The Anderson's Scoop Up the Fund Fundraiser on **March 4** will enable our organization to put on future events.

Many local students overcame the current obstacles to place in the Grand Concours, which was held entirely online this year, with online supervising via Google Meet Conferencing and Zoom. Some platinum winners (ranked 1st) were a student of Sarah Bradley at Nardin Academy and two students of **Michèle Roberts** at Williamsville East.

We are getting ready for National French Week, officially **November 4–10**, with a virtual Soirée Musique Poésie Partage (**November 10**), a virtual Career Day (**October 22**), with speakers from all over the United States, promoting French heritage days at Old Fort Niagara (**November 7–8**), and a video to be released that week of local French teachers sharing how we, in this area, celebrate Francophone cultures. Subject to COVID-19 regulations and feasibility, we have planned La Rentrée for **September 21** at Coco and a **November 5** Gala at the Mansion on Delaware.

Public Advocacy

(New) World Language Standards

The NYSED Office of Bilingual Education and World Languages' presentation to the Board of Regents to request the name change from Languages Other Than English (LOTE) to World Languages (WL) has been postponed until the September BOR meetings.

The COVID-19 pandemic has greatly altered the focus of BOR agendas. It is our hope that this process is not delayed further. A 60 day public comment period will follow the BOR's approval of the name change. Presentation of the proposed World Language Standards to the BOR would occur following this period.

Postcard Campaign

The adoption of the world language name change and standards will determine the timeline for our campaign to reinstate state assessments for world languages.

However, with the cancellation of our many regional conferences across the state, our postcard campaign has been placed on hold. It is very likely that state and regional world language conferences and meetings, as well as actual classroom instruction will continue to be largely virtual. For this reason we will adjust our campaign from writing and collecting postcards to sending emails to Board of Regents members and eventually to Governor Cuomo.

Once the World Language Standards have been adopted, we will outline our new direction for email advocacy. Postcards collected thus far will be mailed at that time.

Federal Level

Due to the pandemic, there has been a devastating drop in states' revenue which would affect the money allocated for school funding. The two COVID-19 spending plans before Congress would stabilize education budgets.

The bill proposed in June would appropriate \$345 billion and the one in July \$105 billion to K-12 schools, higher education and governors. The money would provide for reopening priorities, such as providing masks, increasing cleaning services, adding more school buses, heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems, expanding high-speed broadband and other means of improving distance learning.

You can contact your federal legislators, urging them to pass these COVID relief bills for funds to preserve our public and higher education.

On the National Level

In February of this year, world language advocates from across our country converged upon our national legislators to ask that they include \$15 million for the World Language Advancement and Readiness Grant Program as part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA). NYSAFLT members made up half the team from NYS as delegates of the Joint National Committee on Languages (JNCL-NCLIS).

We are thrilled to learn that this bill has been passed in Congress. The grant program is part of the Department of Defense Education Activity and is slated to begin in the 2021–2022 academic year, with an expansion to public schools located in districts which host JROTC programs.

Congressmen David Price (D-N. Carolina) and Don Young (R- Arkansas) have promoted the bill for many years, citing the importance of world language proficient citizens for national security and economic competitiveness in our increasingly globalized society.

You can view the House Appropriations Committee report for the Fiscal Year 2021 Defense Appropriations Bill [here](#) on page 66. A copy of the language included in the final version of the FY20 NDAA can be found [here](#) in Section 1751, beginning on page 1659 of the report. The bill will now move to the Senate.

Help! They're Cutting our WL Program! Advocacy Steps for Saving Programs

Ever since the NYS Board of Regents eliminated the Proficiency and Regents examinations in world languages, districts across our state have begun to reduce, "restructure," or even eliminate world language strands, courses and programs. The current health crisis has exacerbated our programs further as districts seek to cut costs, reduce classes, struggle with online learning and face increasing teacher shortages (especially in the field of world languages).

What follows is a list of suggested actions that world language departments can pursue in attempt to retain their programs. There are many steps that you can take NOW to prepare for future threats to your world language programs. Keep in mind that districts begin the development of their budget in October and the Board of Education (BOE) adopts the final budget in April.

ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS

What will replace the eliminated courses or programs? Some districts have focused on additional ELA and math courses in an attempt to improve their scores. Others added study halls or reading support. The [academic benefits](#) of world language courses support these endeavors; furthermore, eliminating or delaying world languages negatively impacts student achievement. Besides, taxpayers, district administrators and board members would NOT be happy paying world language teachers to monitor study halls.

How will the current world language program be modified? Typically, when language study begins in 8th grade, the Level I course would be completed in 9th grade. A district may propose that Level I is to be completed in grade 8 and all students, upon successful completion of Level I, continue to Level II in grade 9. That district will not be in compliance with the [100.2d regulations](#), unless they can prove that every 8th grade student is an accelerated student.

Early and continued study of a language other than English has many significant [benefits](#) for our children. Research has overwhelmingly shown that learning a second language benefits basic skill development in the first language. Studies have also shown that these results are true regardless of race, gender or economic status and actually narrow achievement gaps among minority and low socioeconomic groups. Our FLES programs must be retained so that students acquire an appreciation of cultural diversity and develop proficiency in at least one additional language.

What will happen to upper level world language courses? If your district pushes the start of language study later, the upper level language classes will be affected. AP or other college credit-bearing courses, the [NYS Seal of Biliteracy](#) requirements and the [4+1 Biliteracy Pathway](#) to graduation criteria will be negatively impacted by the delay in starting your world language program. This could result in either students not being prepared for the required proficiency levels or having courses cut at the upper end of your language program (or both). There is a critical need by U.S. businesses for world language proficient graduates, as shown in [this report](#) from the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Denying graduates this skill is excluding them from many future opportunities.

CONTACT YOUR BOARD MEMBERS

We must educate each school board member on the current world language [regulations and teaching methodologies](#). BOE members need to understand proficiency levels, upper level opportunities for students (i.e., SSoB, Pathways, AP, etc.), and be made aware of all the "extras" that enrich and further our students' success in world language study (clubs, honor societies, trips, regional, state and national contests, etc.).

A well written letter to each school board member should include world language department data and stress the academic and cognitive benefits of a strong world language program. Follow-up phone calls to the board president and each board member ensures that your message is heard. Develop a packet for each BOE member as well as anyone involved in the budget process (union president, principals, superintendent, etc.). The packet should contain NYS 100.2 regulations, assessment and enrollment data, how the cuts would affect scheduling and the world language program. In addition, cite research and include letters of support for the program. Letters from graduates, parents of special education students, students, parents, teachers of other core classes, experts in the world language field as well as all district language teachers will further your cause.

TRACK YOUR DATA – NOW!

District administrators and the BOE analyze data to inform decisions. Provide administrators with data-driven evidence of the program's effectiveness. Cite student performance data on the Checkpoint A, Checkpoint B, and AP exams as well as any regional, state or national contests or exams. Specify the number of students that are successful at each checkpoint, continue to the next checkpoint, earn college or AP credit, earn the Seal of Biliteracy, pursue the 4 +1 Biliteracy pathway and complete a sequence in world language.

School leaders also need to understand that if they cut the program, they will have to pay world language teachers to revise curriculum. This costs money.

ENLIST SUPPORTERS

As mentioned earlier, support from many areas outside of the world language field is extremely important.

Enlist teachers of other disciplines to speak to the importance of world language proficiency and the role culture and language plays in interdisciplinary studies, as exemplified in [ACTFL's World Readiness Standards](#), specifically "Connections."

Stay in touch with your world language graduates by connecting with your district's alumni association and/or guidance office for their contact information. Survey them. Find out who has pursued a minor or major in a world language, and how many tested out of 100-200 level language courses based on a strong high school background. Include their travel experiences or other engagement with the language that would not have been possible without world language training. These accounts can be wonderful motivational tools for your current students as well as important tools for advocacy.

Supportive families, students, parent-teacher organizations, area business leaders and local politicians can be wonderful advocates. Don't be afraid to approach them.

These supporters may also use social media as a platform to inform their peers and voice their opposition to the cuts.

NYSAFLT HELP

The NYSAFLT Public Advocacy co-chairs will send a letter from NYSAFLT to support your language program. Let us know what changes your district is planning with regard to your world language program. Provide us with the names and email contacts of your district's superintendent, assistant superintendent for curriculum and instruction, and all board members.

Don't forget to review the [documents](#) on our NYSAFLT website for further advocacy points. Research describing the benefits of world language study, its impact on the global market, the importance of FLES as well as other major issues within our profession (such as the proposal to replace world languages with computer coding classes) are addressed within these documents.

You may also wish to review [NYSAFLT's position statements](#), which include "LOTE as a Core Subject" and "World Languages Alignment with Common Core State Standards."

IN CLOSING


Don't wait for your program to be threatened. Take action now to collect data and solicit support for your programs!

What other steps have you found successful?

Tell your Public Advocacy co-chairs, [Marie Campanaro \(mfontcamp@gmail.com\)](#) and [Barb Patterson \(lmsspanish32@gmail.com\)](#), of your experiences with world language advocacy and program preservation.

National Network for Early Language Learning

NNELL had a tremendously successful Summer Summit in July as over 300 educators joined us over the five days. If you missed any of the sessions, they are now available in the Members Only section of the NNELL website. NYSAFLT members [Marissa Coulehan](#) and [Samara Spielberg](#) were among the presenters during the dynamic week.



Round 1: A visual listening!

Which images do you think might appear as we watch a segment of the music video?

As we watch, we will play VOCAB BINGO! Create a 3x3 chart and then pick 9 words in the chart to fill in your own BINGO chart.

Can you guess the music video based off of the clues?

NO FREE SPACE!

A car

Desk

Paper

A dance team

A cell phone

A marching band

Instruments

A field

A watch

Friends helping

People dancing

A sad person

A piano


An orchestra

A couple

A coach

A teacher

A classroom



@SamaraSpielberg

Samara Spielberg (@SamaraSpielberg) of Allen-Stevenson School in Manhattan, modeling remote learning activities at the NNELL Summer Summit.

A warm welcome to NYSAFLT member [Flor Berman](#), the newly appointed New York State NNELL representative! We look forward to a strong early language partnership between NNELL and NYSAFLT.



Flor Berman (@BermanFlor), newly appointed New York NNELL state representative, is an early language Spanish teacher at Saint David's School in Manhattan .

Congratulations to all of the NYSAFLT Summer Institute presenters and fellow early language teacher **Jenny Delfini** for planning an amazing online conference. Special thanks to the FLES strand presenters and panelists Rebecca Aubrey, Jessica Haxhi, and **Flor Berman** as well as Checkpoint A presenters **Joanne O'Toole** and **Bill Heller**.

Flor Berman sharing how she sets goals with her early language students.

Jessica Haxhi wowing Summer Institute participants with her early language demo entirely in Japanese.

Rebecca Aubrey sharing strategies for staying in the target language with Summer Institute participants.

Announcements

Language Association Journal

Call for Reflections

During our 100 year celebration, one thing that struck many members was the conference summaries and the journal articles from our history in NYSAFLT. 2020 is a year that needs to be recorded, reflected on, and shared with our future selves and our future members. Our *Language Association Journal* is asking members to reflect on their experiences this spring as a world language educator in NYS. What aspects of this spring impacted you the most (the pandemic, digital learning, the role of schools in our society, the racism in our nation, etc.)? How have you grown as a person and a world language educator?

This reflection is very open to your interpretation and what you want to share. It should be between 1–2 pages single spaced. We are asking that you submit these reflections [here](#) by early September.

NYSAFLT Cards

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 *NYSAFLT News* 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:

NYSAFLT Headquarters
2400 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14214-2364

Mark Your Calendar

September

[Language Association Journal Submission](#), deadline **September 1**

Executive Meeting (online), [September 8](#)
Board of Regents Meeting, [September 14–15](#)

October

Executive Committee (online), [October 7](#)
[Annual Conference](#) (online), [October 17–24](#)
Board of Regents Meeting, [October 19–20](#)
Joint Board of Directors, [October 23](#)
Annual Business Meeting, [October 24](#)

November

[December Newsletter Submissions](#), deadline [November 1](#)
[NECTFL Mead Scholar Award Applications](#) (to NYSAFLT), deadline [November 2](#)
New Directors' Orientation (online), [November 10](#)
[Charles Zimmerman Memorial Travel Award](#), deadline [November 13](#)
Board of Regents Meeting, [November 16–17](#)
[ACTFL Annual Convention and WL Expo](#) (online), [November 19–22](#)

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