



NYSAFLT

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News

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The President's Corner



Happy 2014! I am thrilled to offer you greetings as this year's NYSAFLT President and I am very excited for what this year has in store for language teachers in New York State. If you have not yet read my [welcome message](#) on the website, I encourage you to do so. In October, the Board of Directors approved a new 5-year Strategic Plan. Under this new plan, we are working hard to strengthen our relationship with the State Education Department. We also have plans to develop a position statement on LOTE and the Common Core Standards. My personal goal for this year is to increase our membership. I am reaching out to you, as members, to ask you to find 2 or 3 teachers to join or to renew their NYSAFLT membership prior to June 30. Every new or renewed membership adds to our ranks. There is strength in numbers.

In this issue of the *NYSAFLT News*, we are excited to introduce two new features. In this edition, you will find the "Where are they now?" column. This feature will spotlight a past president, update us on his/her life and tell us a little bit more about his/her experience as NYSAFLT President. Turn to page 4 to find out more about [Sue Barnes](#).

We are also including a "Member Spotlight" in our Newsletter. This feature will highlight the work and accomplishments of one of NYSAFLT's members. In this issue you will read about [Brigitte Kahn](#), a German teacher from Long Island. If you are interested in recommending a friend or colleague for this feature, please email the [Newsletter Editor](#).



I encourage you to take advantage of the professional development opportunities that NYS AFLT provides its membership. Our webinar series includes top-notch experts in the field of language education. Join us in Albany in May, where our *Colloquium* will feature outstanding panelists and presenters from around the state. Consider attending our *Summer Institute* in August. If you have never participated, it is like “summer camp for LOTE teachers.”

I wish you all a successful second-half of your school year. If I can be of any assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me at wanderson@nysaflt.org.

Best regards,
Bill Anderson

NYS AFLT Colloquium



Francesco Fratto

The 2014 *Colloquium*, to be held **May 3** at the Best Western Sovereign Hotel in Albany, will provide attendees with an opportunity to discuss and learn more about the Common Core. This NYS AFLT event, co-sponsored by **COLT**, will be held at a time in which politicians, educators, and parents are embroiled in a passionate discussion about the future of Common Core. With the theme, “*Bringing the Common Core to Life: Building Communication through Literacy*,” the conference will feature a Panel Discussion by **Lillian Carey, Laurie Clarcq, Nancy Ketz**, and Marina Moran, as well as workshops covering an array of topics such as Common Core

standards and assessments, close reading, alignment, speaking, graphic novels, and journaling. Please join us in Albany to exchange ideas on how CCSS should inform LOTE educators to think deeply about rigor across our Checkpoints. If you would like to register or would like more information, please visit the [Colloquium website](#). We are looking forward to seeing you in Albany!

NYS AFLT Summer Institute



Marie Campanaro

Save the date! The *NYS AFLT Summer Institute* will be held on the SUNY Oneonta campus from **August 5-8**. If you have never experienced the *Institute*, make this your summer to do so! Enjoy the ability to learn and explore without the stress of a busy school schedule. Take advantage of in-depth workshops which enable you to fully develop an idea and make it classroom ready. Equally as important, revel in the time available to exchange ideas with your colleagues from all over New York and nearby states. Sign up for the week, or for single days. To track

workshops, presenters, and other details as they develop, visit our [Summer Institute webpage](#) or contact [Marie Campanaro](#), chair of this year’s *Summer Institute*.





NYSAFLT 97th Annual Conference



Candace Black

The 2014 *NYSAFLT Annual Conference* will be held in Rochester on **October 10-11**. This year's Conference theme is "*Getting to the Common Core of It: Let NYSAFLT Rock Your World.*" And rock your world we will! Come to Western New York this October and see how we do things in Roch-cha-cha! Two days of amazing and enlightening professional development await you, including sessions on the Common Core, Assessment, Methodologies, Technology Integration, and Cultural Updates. Our keynote speaker is the 2012 ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year, Yo Azama. Currently a teacher of Japanese, Mr. Azama is a team leader of the Monterey Bay Foreign Language Project, serves as a College Board Advisor for the AP Japanese Language and Culture Development Committee, and has conducted numerous presentations regionally and nationally. We look forward to welcoming Mr. Azama, as well as all of our LOTE colleagues across the state, to Rochester!

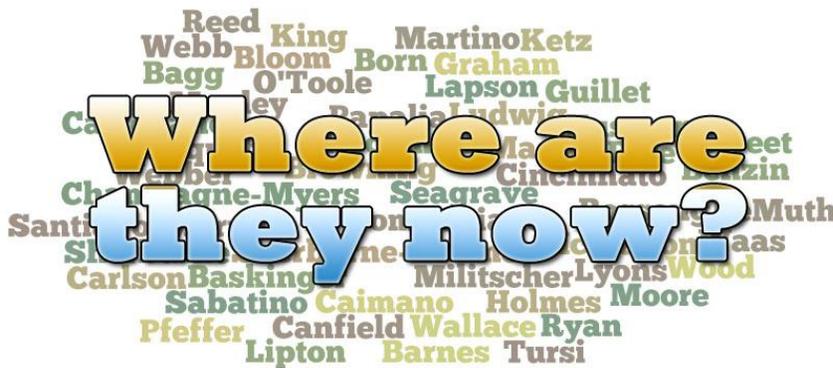
Although we have a great starting lineup for this event, workshop proposals are still being accepted! Click [here](#) to submit a proposal. For more information, visit our [Conference website](#) or contact [Candace Black](#) We hope to see you there!



Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment

How exciting! Having collaborated more than ten years ago, advocating for LOTE issues at the Central NY LOTE Network, NYSAFLT past presidents **Lou Baskinger** and **Nancy Ketz** are once again working together as co-chairs of the new Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment (CIA) committee. Check the [NYSAFLT website](#) and *Journal* for the most recent and thorough resources, explanations, and samples of Common Core alignment and assessment.

Where are they now??



NYSAFLT is excited to introduce this new column to *NYSAFLT News*. In each edition of the Newsletter, we will spotlight one of our past presidents to find out what he/she is doing now and to hear about the experience as NYSAFLT President.



Sue Barnes
NYSAFLT President
2009

I remember the incident well....me, the NYSAFLT Rochester Regional Director at a Board of Directors meeting in some hotel, and then NYSAFLT President **Lou Baskinger**. During a meeting break, Lou pulled me aside (cornered me!) in the hotel fitness room. Leaning against a piece of equipment, Lou proceeded to share with me all the reasons I should accept a nomination to run for NYSAFLT Second Vice President. And if you know Lou, you can imagine the length of the conversation! I came up with every excuse/reason not to do so. But after some time passed and careful thought, I bowed to Lou's skills of persuasion and decided to go for it. Heaven knew, *I* wouldn't win. Well, I did and that decision forever changed my life.

My time spent as part of the Executive Committee of NYSAFLT enriched my life in more ways than I could possibly share here. Everyone who has ever been a member of that group can attest to the wonderful experiences shared during their tenure on the committee: the opportunity to build relationships with wonderful people, to learn about and participate in the development of a fantastic professional organization, to grow as a person and leader, to meet foreign language colleagues from across the state and country, to work hard and love every minute of it ...well, almost every minute of it!

One of my goals as president was to make sure every member realized that s/he was a valued part of NYSAFLT. I have heard that many members feel like the Executive Committee is an exclusive clique. I understand how someone might perceive that to be true. However, when people work together on so many projects and are together for many days in the course of a year working together towards a common goal, a special camaraderie and close friendships are likely to develop. The bond they share could definitely be perceived as cliquish. However, every



member of NYSAFLT is a valued part of the organization. Every member has something to contribute to its growth. Every member is needed to advance the cause of foreign language instruction across our state.

In reality, I don't know how successful I was in achieving my goal. When asked what my major accomplishment was during my presidency, my first thought was "surviving quintuple bypass surgery!" In July of 2009, **Suzanne Hochmuth** stepped up to the plate, and with the Executive Committee and Executive Director **John Carlino**, continued to direct NYSAFLT during my recovery time. The support of my NYSAfriends and colleagues helped me focus on my recovery. It was yet another example of the team stepping up to accomplish the task at hand. I will be forever grateful for all my NYSAexperiences and all the NYSAfriends I have gotten to know and the love and support they have shared with me.

So what am I doing now? I retired from public school teaching in June 2010. Don't believe it if anyone tells you differently.....retirement is fantastic!! I continue to attend NYSAFLT conferences as often as I can and am involved in a variety of community and church activities. In addition to frequently visiting my two children and their families in Maryland and Massachusetts, I supervise language and ESL student teachers for SUNY Cortland and Hobart William Smith Colleges as needed. I have enjoyed working with pre-service teachers tremendously. My hope is to be able to give back even a small percent of what I gained through my association with NYSAFLT and its members. One of my gifts to pre-service teachers is a student NYSAFLT membership. Please join me in encouraging language teachers to become members of NYSAFLT. I promise them, it will be a life changing experience!

Member Spotlight



The "Member Spotlight" is a new feature in our efforts to restructure the Newsletter and keep you updated on the activities of our members. This column will highlight the work and accomplishments of one of NYSAFLT's members.



This edition's Member Spotlight focuses on **Brigitte Kahn**, German and French Teacher at Massapequa School District.

Growing up in Austria, a popular tourist destination, knowing a second and third language was essential for me to be able to communicate with people from all over the world.



From an early age, I appreciated the enormous benefit of being able to interact with individuals in their own language.

After finishing my studies in Austria, I worked as a Foreign Correspondent for the German Olympic Committee and in the International Trade Finance Department of a major Austrian bank. From 1996 to 2003, I was a stay-at-home mother, raising two young boys. When our children were finally old enough to attend school full-time, I decided to return to college to obtain a second degree.

At the suggestion of my husband, a science teacher, I decided to pursue foreign language and teaching degrees. I wished to share my love of foreign language with others and I believed that teaching was the best vocation for doing so. People often choose a profession without necessarily understanding the nature of the job. However, teaching actually was the right choice for me as I have never felt more fulfilled in any other profession.

This is now my 6th year of teaching, with the last five spent in the Massapequa School District. As a new teacher, I have been open to various ideas and methodologies of pedagogy. Fortunately, three years ago, I had the opportunity to attend a workshop on comprehensible input strategies, which introduced me to TPRS. This method of instruction intrigued me as a means to help students acquire a second language. Since then, I have dived in head-first and adopted TPRS as the foundation of my instruction. One of my goals as a teacher is to use the target language exclusively while making it 100% comprehensible to my students. TPRS allows me to do that.

I have been a member of NYSAFLT since I began my teaching career. This organization has provided me with many wonderful opportunities. I was able to attend the Annual Conference in Saratoga Springs in October 2012 on a scholarship. This allowed me to connect with other TPRS teachers and gain further insight into best teaching practices. My association with NYSAFLT has led to my becoming a member of both the Planning Committee for the Annual Conference, as well as the Teacher Recognition Committee. My involvement with both working groups fosters additional opportunities for professional collaboration and the exchange of ideas.

Regional News

Capital-East

Volunteers are needed to help at the NYSAFLT 2014 Colloquium, "*Bringing the Common Core to Life: Building Communication through Literacy.*" The Colloquium will be held on **Saturday, May 3** in Albany. Contact [Maureen Geagan](#) for more information about volunteering.

Save the date! **COLT** will host a "*Swap Shop and Pot Luck Dinner*" on **Thursday, March 20**. Check the [COLT Events page](#) for details.



Congratulations to **Colleen Sheehan**, former Capital Region Director and **COLT** Past President, on achieving National Board Certification. Colleen is a high school Spanish teacher and LOTE Department Chair at Cobleskill-Richmondville Central Schools.



COLT held its *“Beat the Winter Blues”* meeting on **Thursday, January 30** at Mohonasen High School in Rotterdam. Attendees enjoyed some networking time and viewed an archived webinar.



Diana Byron and Jill Dugan at the COLT meeting



Melinda Hammond, Leslie Kudlack, Machteld De Poortere, and Karen Day enjoy some networking time at the COLT meeting.



I am extremely pleased to introduce myself as the newly elected Capital-East Director, working alongside **Maureen Geagan** to represent our region. My name is **Susan Frost** and I am a French teacher and Department Chairperson at Lake George Jr./Sr. High School. I have been teaching there since 1980 and have had the privilege of witnessing fabulous growth and change in the teaching of LOTE.

NYS AFLT has always been an integral part of my career and I look forward to assisting Capital-East members make the most of all that NYS AFLT has to offer. For starters, I encourage all members to research the many scholarships, grants, and awards that



NYS AFLT so generously provides every year. There is sure to be one that fits your program needs!

Outside of teaching I enjoy many activities including travel. My husband and I recently returned from a trip to Dakar, Sénégal where we visited our daughter who is currently living and working in the capital city. From there we continued on to Paris for a week. What an incredible adventure and, as you can imagine, I am delighted to share this experience with my students.

I look forward to being a contact and liaison for you and I am excited to have this opportunity to serve as your Director. Please do not hesitate to contact me!

The Capital-East Plattsburgh area is hosting a regional conference on **Saturday, April 5**. The theme of the conference is “*Motivate LOTE Learners at All Levels*” and will feature Dr. Margaret Quéguiner, Professor of French at SUNY Plattsburgh, as the keynote speaker. Please plan to join us from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Contact [Susan Frost](#) for more information.

AATF of CNY

The New Year has brought new energy, new ideas and a wealth of planned activities for our members as well as non-member French teachers in our area. At our *Fall Workshop* the membership approved the addition of a Social Media Manager with the goal of expanding our ability to communicate with members via Facebook and Twitter. [Clayton Callahan](#), a French teacher in the Sherburne-Earlville School District, accepted the position and will soon contact members via our newsletter, *Le Cocorico*, with information on how to access and participate in these new ventures.

To celebrate National Foreign Language Month in March, plans are being made to organize an area-wide night with the Syracuse Crunch on **March 14**. Members will be able to offer students and teachers specially priced tickets, and French-Canadian hockey team members may meet with the participants before or after the event.

April 5 has been reserved once again at the Onondaga Free Library for our *Annual Spring Workshop*, where two main themes will be offered. Veronique Bennett, OASIS instructor and native of Belgium, will offer an immersion session on la Belgique. Area teachers who are actively employing the AIM methodology of learning languages will also present, explaining the technique and demonstrating actual use in the classroom. More details with regard to times and registration procedures will be forthcoming in emails and newsletters to our members.

Information on all of our activities can always be accessed on our website, www.aatfcny.org. French teachers from other areas of New York State are always welcome to join in our events and student activities.

Central



I would like to introduce myself as one of your new NYSAFLT directors. My name is **Rosanne Perla**. I teach Italian at East Syracuse Minoa High School and Italian and Spanish at Pine Grove Middle School in East Syracuse. I am a graduate of Nazareth College and SUNY Binghamton. In 2008, I was a NYSAFLT Leader of Tomorrow recipient. As a leader I have held several positions on the **LECN** board including membership specialist, treasurer, vice-president and president. I look forward to serving the Central region.



My name is **Molly Drum** and I would like to introduce myself as your newly-elected regional director for NYSAFLT. I served as a regional director of the Southern Tier from 2009-2012. I am excited to continue to serve our region. I am currently teaching 8th grade French and Spanish at Maine-Endwell Middle School in Endwell, NY. I received my bachelors degree in French and Secondary Education at SUNY Potsdam. I pursued an MS Ed. in Literacy at Binghamton University. In addition, I completed a degree in Educational Leadership in 2012 at SUNY Cortland. Please contact me about any questions you have regarding NYSAFLT awards, webinars, or conferences. I look forward to the next two years and am eager to serve as your liaison to NYSAFLT and other area language teachers.

On **Saturday, February 1**, **LECN** held its annual SUPER LECNY Workshop, *“Give and Take: A Collaboration of Best Practices,”* at the Goldstein Student Center on the Syracuse University campus. This event always attracts many **LECN** members, non-members and pre-service teachers. There were nine different presentations on a variety of LOTE topics such as twitter ideas, immersion, Common Core and differentiated instruction. Within a few hours, teachers left with nine different ideas to use in the classroom the following week.

Mid-Hudson/Westchester

The Association of Language Teachers of Orange, Ulster, Dutchess, and surrounding counties (ALOD), provides over fifteen hours of professional development throughout the school year. **ALOD** held a *“LOTE Cultural Exchange and International Potluck”* on **Tuesday, December 3**. This event included a delightful combination of delicious international food and sharing of different cultural activities to be used in LOTE classroom. On **Tuesday, February 4** **ALOD** held the workshop *“Update your Technology Toolbox”* presented by guest speaker **Fabien Rivière** from Goshen CSD and NYSAFLT Board of Director for the Mid-Hudson Region. **ALOD** is grateful to Fabien for sharing his expertise with the members of our organization.

Mark your calendars for these upcoming **ALOD** events. The *Annual ALOD/NYSAFLT Conference* will be held on **Saturday, April 5** at Marist College. **Al Martino** and Dr. Kevin Gaugler from Marist College will be presenting. We are looking forward to having both Al and Kevin with us to share their expertise. This year **ALOD** is expanding our conference to create a choice of breakout workshops after the main speakers.



The deadline for the **ALOUD** Senior Essay Contest is **May 1**. We encourage **ALOUD** members to submit up to five original essays from their senior students addressing the topic: “What Foreign Language Means to Me and How I Plan to Use It in the Future.” Please contact [Ana Gatta](#) or [Jennifer Hunt](#) for specific essay guidelines.

The annual **ALOUD** Dinner will be held on **Tuesday, May 20**. Come and celebrate the end of the school year, our Senior Essay Contest winners and our retirees. Please make your reservations and payment early with [Ana Gatta](#) since there is limited seating.

In other news **ALOUD**'s website is in the final stages of construction. Many thanks to our webmaster **John Schepisi**. Don't forget that it is registration time again for **ALOUD**. If you would like more information about **ALOUD** and become a member, please contact [Ana Gatta](#) or [Jennifer Hunt](#).

NYS AFLT member **Gaby Ackert** recently received the 2013 "Innovative Teacher Award" from NYS Teacher Center. She won an iPad by submitting a video about using innovative technology in the classroom. You can see the video [here](#). Congratulations to Ms. Ackert.



Sally Barnes is the new Director for the Westchester region. She has been teaching French and Spanish at Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School for nine years to grades five through eight. She has been a member of NYS AFLT since 2006 and has served on the local board for **PoWeRFul**. She is excited to be NYS AFLT's voice to the Westchester region and thanks our outgoing Director **Roxanne Franquelli-Beras** for all she has done these past three years.

LOTE Educators were treated to an informative and engaging workshop on **December 3** on “*Heritage Language Learners*.” Gala Handler and Iris Molina from Sleepy Hollow Middle and High School shared their expertise and methods with us, conducting the workshop in Spanish.

On **Saturday, February 8**, **PoWeRFul** hosted another workshop featuring Cristina Conciatori, who presented on the use of technology in the World Language Classroom. This workshop was an opportunity for educators to get a hands-on experience of best practices using technology and languages in the classroom.



The “**PoWeRFul Spring Regional Conference**,” co-sponsored by NYS AFLT, will take place on **Saturday, March 22** at Putnam Valley Middle/High School from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m.



NYS AFLT Past President **Mary Holmes** will be moderating a Roundtable and there will also be several workshops relevant to World Languages, APPR and the Common Core. NYS AFLT Directors **Robin Thompson** from New York City and **Fabien Rivière** from the Mid-Hudson region will also present.

PoWeRFul is offering its yearly scholarship to a high school graduating senior to tell us in the target language of his/her choice “*Why learning a language is important.*” The sponsoring teacher must be a member of **PoWeRFul** for the 2013/2014 year. The winner will receive a check for \$100 towards expenses for the college of their choice.

New this year is a middle school scholarship on the topic of “*Promoting studying a world language.*” Students may work in groups of up to four to create an engaging visual arts presentation (video, skit, poster, etc.). The sponsoring teacher must be a member of **PoWeRFul** for the 2013/2014 year. If working in a group, the group will split the \$100 prize.

Throughout the spring there are several BOCES workshops, led by **Harriet Barnett**, for World Language educators. Please be sure to sign up to keep up with the latest developments for teachers of LOTE.

For more information on any of the above, please go to our [website](#) or check out our [Regional news](#) on the NYS AFLT webpage.

NYC-Long Island

The **NYC Spring Professional Development Workshops** will be held on **Saturday, April 26** at the UFT in Manhattan. The day will begin with breakfast at 9 a.m. and participants will attend 2 sessions. Workshops for Session I include “*Building Literacy in the LOTE Classroom,*” “*Communicative Tasks to Enliven the Middle School LOTE Classroom,*” “*Engaging Students through TPRS (Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling),*” “*All in a Day’s Work: Effective Lesson Planning, Effective Teaching and Outstanding Artifacts,*” and “*Creating a Student-Centered Learning Environment to Promote Target Language Learning.*”

Session II Workshops include “*Data Doesn’t have to be a Four-Letter Word: Using Data to Build Classroom Community,*” “*Integrando otras disciplinas (historia e inglés) en la clase de español,*” “*Sample of Artifacts Applying Danielson’s Framework in the Foreign Language Classroom,*” “*Discipline Strategies for New Teachers and the Danielson Framework,*” and “*How is Highly Effective Engagement Achieved in LOTE Classroom?*”

Participants can choose one workshop from each session. For more information on registering for this event please check the [regional posting](#) online. Please note you must pre-register for this Professional Development by April 11. There will be no on-site registration. We look forward to seeing you there!

On **February 3**, NYC teachers and NYS AFLT Members attended the “*OELL’s LOTE Professional Development Session: Lead with Languages,*” sponsored by the Division of Students with Disabilities and English Language Learners and Office of English Language



Learners. Participants attended this city-wide professional development in Flushing Queens, from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Teachers attended two sessions by Laura Terril who presented on “*Connecting World Languages and Common Core Learning Standards.*” The day also consisted of a LOTE Assessment Debrief and State of the Measure of Student Learning (MOSL) for LOTE Teachers. It was a day of valuable learning and reflection.

The 2013 Annual Long Island Language Teachers (LILT) Conference took place on **Saturday, November 2** at Comsewogue High School in Port Jefferson Station on Long Island. Over 400 World Language educators were in attendance and there was something for everyone at their 22 workshops, all of which embraced the conference theme, “*Tools of the Trade – Enhancing Professional Practices.*” NYSAFLT members **Dr. Carmen Campos, Valerie Greer, Brigitte Kahn, Janice Kincaid, Dr. Patricia Lennon-Murphy, Claire-Louise Meng** and **Jennifer Nesfield** all generously shared their expertise as workshop presenters. Bravo to LILT on a successful and fun-filled event! LILT Professional Development Winter Workshops will begin **February 27**. For more information about this workshop series, please visit www.liltfl.org.

NNELL is pleased to offer the following regional professional development workshop on **Saturday, April 5** in Summit, New Jersey. Regional workshops are offered in an effort to provide increased professional learning experiences to early language educators in our network. The theme of the workshop is “*Early Language Learning: Planting Seeds for Tomorrow.*” Visit www.nnell.org for information and registration.



Tara Tassani is the newly appointed member of the Board of Directors representing the NYC-Long Island region. She is excited to be working alongside co-director, **Robin Thompson** to help support NYSAFLT members in the NYC-LI region. Tara presently teaches FLES in Cold Spring Harbor School District and is part of the team that received the 2012 NYSAFLT Sally G. Hahn Award for Outstanding FLES Programs. She has been teaching French and Spanish on Long Island for 18 years and is passionate about music and technology integration in the LOTE classroom. Tara will be presenting the NYSAFLT webinar “*FLES Success in the 21st Century*” on **April 15**.

Western New York

Mark your calendars for the Rochester Regional Conference to be held on the Nazareth College campus on **Saturday, March 8**. Our keynote speaker for the general session will be none other than **Mary Holmes**, giving a presentation entitled “*Creativity and the Common Core.*” A main stay at many a conference, Mary has shared her talents in the field of language instruction with audiences throughout the state and beyond. In addition to our keynote, this year’s conference will offer over 20 different workshops including Cultural Updates in French, German, Italian and Spanish as well as sessions on methods and technology integration. To register online, click on the following link to our registration form:



https://nysaflt.org/forms/secure/misc/regional_conferences.shtml. For more information, please contact nysaflt.rochester@gmail.com! We hope to see there!



My name is **Beth Slocum** and I am thrilled to be starting my term as a member of the NYSAFLT Board of Directors. Along with **Mark Critelli**, I am representing the Western New York Region. I am currently an instructor of French and Spanish at Genesee Community College in Batavia. In addition, I am a methods instructor and Field Supervisor for LOTE and ESOL at the Warner School of Education in Rochester. I am a native of Western New York and have been a member of NYSAFLT for 25 years. My husband Stacy and I reside in Pavilion (Genesee County) with our two children, Harrison and Grace.

You most likely know that the WNY region includes the beautiful cities of Rochester and Buffalo. But have you ever visited Chimney Bluffs in Wayne County? Have you watched the sailboat races on Chautauqua Lake in the summertime? Have you ever had to alter your commute because the Alleghany River has made a springtime detour for you? In our region, there are amazing things to experience and yet sometimes those things just pass as part of the daily routine. What I know is that in every corner of our region, incredible LOTE teachers like **you** are working harder than ever to inspire and encourage both your students and your colleagues.

As **YOUR** representatives on the Board of Directors, it is our goal to bring your stories to light! Let's share our successes and create our own PR. As you are aware, you can stay informed on all things NYSAFLT through Facebook and Twitter. Now, NYSAFLT WNY region has its own twitter account as well. Share your news & notes with us at @NYSAFLTW.

In the meantime, send me a tweet! My French students are working on a unit reading *Persepolis* by Marjane Satrapi. This is an exciting new topic for me. What's happening in LOTE in your neck of the woods?

Public Advocacy



2014 will bring many exciting and important changes to the Public Advocacy Committee. Long time committee member **Diana Zuckerman** has agreed to co-chair with **Marie Campanaro**. Diana has been politically active for years on behalf of many teacher and language organizations and will bring new energy and expertise to our charges. In addition, the Parents as Language Partners Committee has been consolidated with Public Advocacy. This adds a new dimension to our efforts.

The goals of the Public Advocacy Committee are to support LOTE legislation, gain LOTE support outside of the teaching profession, maintain an informative and up-to-date web page, expand speaking points for specific audiences and to provide parents with information about



what they can do to help their child and things they should know about the study of a foreign language.

Our focus for 2014 will be to revitalize our efforts to communicate with our legislators and policy makers about the importance of foreign language programs and funding. We will also strive to reach the parents of our students in such a way that they will join with us in our efforts to maintain or strengthen our programs.

Our committee members are: **David Graham**, **Nancy Ketz**, **Roseann Lorefice** (Central New York Region); **Brandi Lasnick**, **Erica Ragan** (Western New York Region); **Roxanne Franquelli-Beras**, **Marissa Coulehan** (Mid-Hudson/Westchester); **Mike Mitchell** (Capital East); and **Rosa Riccio Pietanza** (NYC/Long Island). **Judy Martialay**, former Public Advocacy Chair, has faithfully helped our committee as a consultant.

We are continually seeking new members from all areas of the state, from different levels of the educational system and with unique personal perspectives. If you are interested in joining us, please contact [Marie Campanaro](#) and [Diana Zuckerman](#).

National Network for Early Language Learning

NNELL is pleased to announce the Northeast Regional Workshop "*Early Language Learning: Planting Seeds for Tomorrow*," to be held on **Saturday, April 5** in Summit, NJ. Regional workshops are offered in an effort to provide increased professional learning experiences to early language educators in our network. The registration form and information can be found at <http://www.nnell.org/events/>. Highlights of our great day include breakfast, a fantastic keynote given by Janet Glass, 12 different breakout sessions, lunch, and raffle prizes galore! Members can register with a credit card through the [online Members Only area](#). Members and non-members can use the paper registration form on the Events page.

Announcements

NYS AFLT offers many professional opportunities for teachers and professors to travel abroad, attend conferences, have ideas or projects funded, and be lauded for their website or departmental work. Below are upcoming deadlines:

March:

15 – NOMINATE a student for a *Fulvi Award*. \$150 is awarded to a high school senior for excellence in foreign language study, \$100 is awarded to a high school senior with a strong interest in and love of languages, and \$50 is awarded to an outstanding 8th grader in foreign language study. These three awards are given out in each of the five NYS AFLT regions.

April:



1 – **APPLY** for a *James E. Allen Award*. This award recognizes and honors outstanding foreign language programs in each of the five NYSAFLT regions.

1 – **APPLY** for a *Hahn Outstanding FLES Program Award*. \$1,000 is awarded to an outstanding school-based FLES program. The monies are to be used to support and promote the expansion of this outstanding FLES program.

15 – **APPLY** for a *Hahn FLES Teacher Scholarship*. Up to \$500 is awarded to a FLEX or FLES teacher to attend a professional conference in order to enhance quality language instruction and promote networking among FLES teachers.

15 – **APPLY** for a *NYS LOTE Website of the Year Award*. Presented to an outstanding member's and department's web page that contains information on current, past and future LOTE activities relevant to a student or parent of a student in a professional and exceptional manner.

15 – **APPLY** for a *Teacher Incentive/Gertrude Rossin Cultural Grant*. Up to \$200 is awarded to support teacher efforts that improve instruction, expand extracurricular programs of a class, school or school district, or create a school and/or community project that is cultural in nature.

May:

1 – **NOMINATE** a teacher for the *Dorothy S. Lugwig Memorial Award*. Awarded to a foreign language teacher for outstanding service to the profession.

1 – **NOMINATE** a person for the *National Culture Through the Arts Award*, awarded to a person in the performing arts for whom knowledge and appreciation of foreign languages and cultures are important.

1 – **NOMINATE** a person for the *Outstanding Journalist/Media Presenter Award*. Awarded to a NYS publication, TV/radio station, or film/video writer or producer which promotes foreign language education.

1 – **NOMINATE** a supervisor for the *Remunda Cadoux Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Supervision*. Awarded to a NYSAFLT member who has demonstrated excellence, service, and leadership in a supervisory position.

1 – **NOMINATE** a teacher for the *Ruth E. Wasley Distinguished Teacher Award*. Awarded to a K-12 and/or post-secondary teacher who has demonstrated excellence.

1 – **NOMINATE** a person for the *Senator Paul Simon Friend of Foreign Languages Award*. Awarded to an individual and/or organization outside of the foreign language profession who has demonstrated support for FL education and/or FL teachers.

1 – **NOMINATE** a person for the *Sister Rose Aquin Caimano Distinguished Administrator Award*. Awarded to a non-language specialist who is supportive of the teaching of foreign languages.

1 – **APPLY** for a *France Scholarship* which consists of a \$350 stipend for the winner of the French Embassy scholarship to study in France.



1 – NOMINATE an article for a *Papalia Award* which is awarded to an outstanding professional article on second language education from the preceding year.

Submitting an application or nominating someone for a grant, scholarship and/or award enhances your curriculum vitae and the professional domain of your APPR. Winning allows you to showcase the talent within the LOTE department in your district or university (think advocacy). Most importantly, we grow as individuals in the profession that we love! Visit <http://www.nysaflt.org/awards/> for more information and **APPLY!**

NYS AFLT Call for Papers

The *Language Association Journal* needs you! Submissions for the next issue are due **March 1**. Our next issue will revisit the Common Core. If you've had some successes, please consider submitting an article about them.

The *Language Association Journal* is the official peer-reviewed journal of NYS AFLT and is published two times per year. It has a thematic approach and welcomes a spectrum of submissions ranging from scholarly articles to teacher-to-teacher exchanges regarding language learning and acquisition, instruction, curriculum, assessment, policy, advocacy, teacher education, and other areas of professional interest to language educators. Please contact nysafltjournal@nysaflt.org for submission guidelines or to submit your manuscript.

NYS AFLT 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 NYS AFLT 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 *NYS AFLT News* and will benefit the teacher travel scholarships. Cards may be obtained by going to www.nysaflt.org and clicking on "Donate" or by sending a check (made payable to NYS AFLT) to:

NYS AFLT Headquarters
2400 Main Street
Buffalo, NY 14214-2364



Message from the Editor



It has been a year since I was first named editor of *NYS AFLT News* and I have to say I am definitely enjoying my position. It is great to see all of the exciting things happening in LOTE around New York State. We are proud to introduce a few new segments in this edition of the newsletter; thanks to President **Bill Anderson** for suggesting the “Where are they now?” and “Member Spotlight” segments.

NYS AFLT is happy to welcome the new members of our Board of Directors. It is great to see them all introduced in this edition. As you noticed they are all pictured in the newsletter to help you put faces to the names you read. As I don’t want our returning Directors to feel “left out” I’ve decided to add their photos here in case you aren’t quite sure who they are! Without further ado, many thanks to our returning Directors for their continued service:

			
<i>Maureen Geagan</i> Capital East	<i>Fabien Rivière</i> Mid- Hudson/Westchester	<i>Robin Thompson</i> NYC/LI	<i>Mark Critelli</i> Western

I am looking forward to (hopefully!!) attending my first *Colloquium* in May and hope to see many of you there. With so much discussion about the Common Core, there could not be a more relevant topic for this event. If you can’t make the *Colloquium*, why not consider the *Summer Institute* or *Annual Conference*? Make the most of all NYS AFLT has to offer! Have a great end-of-the-school year, and don’t forget to send names for the Member Spotlight to me at newsletter@nysaflt.org.

Mark Your Calendars

March

- 1** **Deadline:** Teacher Travel Award Applications (Except France; see application)
- 1** **Deadline:** *Journal* Submissions
- 1-31** National Foreign Language Month
- 4-10** NYS Foreign Language Week
- 10-11** Board of Regents Meeting
- 15** **Webinar:** “FLES Success in the 21st Century”



- 15 **Deadline:** Fulvi Student Awards Applications
27-29 Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Language (Boston, MA)

April

- 1 **Deadline:** James E. Allen Award Applications
1 **Deadline:** Hahn Outstanding FLES Program Applications
15 **Deadline:** Hahn Teacher Scholarship Applications
15 **Deadline:** NYS LOTE Website of the Year Award Applications
15 **Deadline:** Teacher Incentive/Gertrude Rossin Cultural Grant Applications
28-29 Board of Regents Meeting

May

- 1 **Deadline:** Annual Conference Awards Nominations
1 **Deadline:** France NYSAFLT Travel Stipend Applications
1 **Deadline:** June *Newsletter* Submissions
3 NYSAFLT Colloquium (Albany, NY)
3-4 Board of Directors Meeting
15 **Deadline:** Submission of Names of Retiring Teachers
19-20 Board of Regents Meeting

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