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# NYS AFLT

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## News

A quarterly publication of the New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers, Inc.  
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### **The President's Corner**



**Candace Black**

As 2016 comes to a close and I reflect upon those things for which I am most thankful, I think first of family, friends, and colleagues. But I have so much more to be thankful for, not the least of which is a rewarding career as a world language educator of students who challenge me every day. Those of us who are lucky enough to do what we love are truly blessed. I am grateful to have served as your president this year and as an officer for the last four years. I am grateful to have worked with my predecessors, my fellow officers, and the Board of Directors to continue NYS AFLT's mission. I am grateful for John Carlino for his outstanding leadership and unwavering commitment to our organization. I am grateful to all of the wonderful presenters who gave of their time, talent, and expertise to offer meaningful professional development at our three yearly conferences for teachers across our state. I often feel that I get more from this experience than I give and for this reason I encourage each of you to consider how you might answer a call to service in our organization. Most of all, I am grateful to you for being members of the New York State Association of Foreign Languages Teachers.

Best Wishes,

***Candace R. Black***



## 100K for 100 YEARS

### NYS AFLT will celebrate 100 YEARS in 2017!

1917 was a time of great turmoil and fear. As worldwide conflicts increased, so did xenophobia. World language teachers came together to create an organization whose purpose was, and remains, to serve the needs of the profession in New York dedicated to the development of second language skills and cultural awareness among students. That organization was NYS AFLT. The creation of NYS AFLT marked an important step in enabling schools to give their students an informed and sensitive global perspective in an era of international turmoil.

Sadly, worldwide conflicts and xenophobia have not disappeared. We continue to live in an era of international turmoil. NYS AFLT's role is more important than ever as we encourage our students and communities to embrace other cultures and to communicate in languages other than English. In order to do this we must advocate for our programs, our assessments, our graduation requirements, and more as we continue to support each other professionally.

We at NYS AFLT are counting on your support in order to redouble our efforts over the next 100 years as well as to celebrate NYS AFLT's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. We must safeguard our organization for the future. We intend to increase the number of scholarships and awards that we offer, build our endowment, and increase our grant opportunities. Our goal is lofty and yet very attainable: To raise \$100,000 to ensure a sustaining fund that will carry NYS AFLT through the next 100 years. We have already raised over \$40,000.00.

How can you help? Please consider giving back to an organization that has been working for our profession for the past 100 years. Kindly review the details [here](#) and consider making a donation within your means to help us ensure the future of NYS AFLT. We thank you in advance for your generosity.

CELEBRATING  
**100**  
YEARS *1917 - 2017*



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## WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT



## NYS AFLT 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference



**Michelle Shenton**

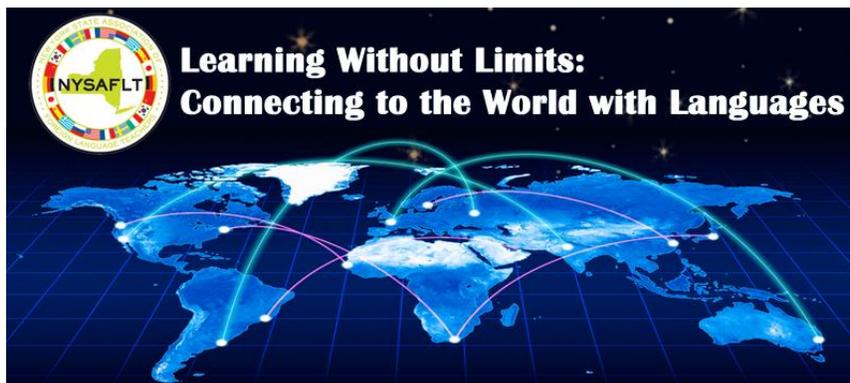
The *99th Annual Conference*, co-sponsored by **LECN**, was held **October 21-22** in Syracuse, NY. This was the first *Annual Conference* held in Syracuse and more than 300 participants attended the conference. Over 80 presenters addressed the theme of *Learning Without Limits: Connecting to the World with Languages*. **Joshua Cabral** delivered a thought-provoking keynote on Cultural Intelligence (“CQ, CQ, CQ!”) that was well received by attendees. His presentation is available on the conference [webpage](#).

There was also an excellent line-up of workshops and sessions in techniques, technology, issues in the profession, culture, FLES, advocacy, and more. Participants commented on the many ideas they acquired that they could use right away in their classrooms.

Once again, the Regional Bilingual Educational Resource Network at NYU sponsored a conference Mentor-Intern program. Ten new attendees applied for and received a scholarship to attend the *Annual Conference* and were mentored by ten veteran NYS AFLT members throughout the conference.

There were also several opportunities for the *Leaders of Tomorrow*, led by **Beth Slocum**, to meet and discuss the future of the profession and the organization.

The conference was a successful event full of learning and networking. We hope to see you next year for the *100<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference* in Niagara Falls.





## NYSAFLT Annual Conference Mentor/Mentee Program

This year's Mentor/Mentee Program, hosted by NYS Language Regional Bilingual Education Resource Network at NYU, was a big success! This year there were ten mentors working with ten mentees. The group met for the first time on Friday, October 21<sup>st</sup> for a private Kick-off breakfast. Attendees introduced themselves to the group and the mentors observed that it was nice to be able to work with first-time conference attendees to help them choose workshops and navigate the busy schedule. They also noted that a benefit for all attendees was the opportunity to take away one or two activities one could use immediately following the conference.

Mentors and mentees had time to meet one-on-one and saw each other informally throughout the conference at workshops and meals, where they touched base and shared impressions and thoughts.

All participants of the program met on Saturday afternoon to debrief. During the general discussion all agreed that the Mentor/Mentee Program offers an invaluable opportunity for all participants to share and plan together. Each participant brings passion, experience, dedication, and enthusiasm to the profession. This program offered mentors an opportunity to share their knowledge and experience with mentees, while the mentees were able to plan and discuss the various workshop offerings. Overall, it was wonderful for all to share, socialize, and discover commonalities. Mentors even commented that they learned as much from their mentees as the mentees learned from them!

NYSAFLT is grateful to the Language RBE-RN for offering this opportunity to participants in the *Annual Conference* and thanks all those who applied and participated!





## Regional News

### Capital-East

Save the Date! On **Saturday, March 18**, NYSAFLT and **COLT** will co-host another dynamic *NYSAFLT Spring Conference, Navigating the Five Cs*. We have experienced tremendous success in this joint endeavor and plans for the 2017 event are shaping up to provide you with invigorating, stimulating, and practical professional development. The keynote address will be presented by **Tracy Brady** and the event will feature a NYSED update by Ricardo Constantino. Contact **Mary Goetz, Anna Collie, or Melinda Barnes** for more information.

Congratulations to **Mary Goetz**, who was selected as a participant of the Leaders of Tomorrow initiative. Mary writes, “Thank you, NYSAFLT for choosing me as one of the Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship recipients! It was truly an extreme professional development year! I was able to participate in the *Spring Conference* in Rochester, the *Summer Institute* in Oneonta, NY, as well as the *Annual Conference* in Liverpool, NY. Through this experience, the six chosen participants honed our leadership skills. First, we each developed and implemented a plan to fill a need in the foreign language sphere. We also presented at the *Annual Conference*. NYSAFLT is looking for leaders at every turn. Do you have leadership potential? Do you have an idea for improving world language education in your area or in New York State? Be sure to apply and be a part of this wonderful, fulfilling and professional experience!”

A very fond farewell to Director of Social Media **Ken Hughes**, who is moving on to greener pastures at the end of 2016. Ken is a graduate of Lake George Jr./Sr. High School and taught French, first at Mayfield CSD and then at his alma mater, Lake George CSD, before becoming an administrator and continuing his career in education at Greenwich CSD and Elizabethtown CSD. We will miss his humor, positivity, willingness to help with anything and everything “techie,” and his kindness. Bonne chance, Monsieur!

About 25 new and returning **COLT** members attended our first meeting of the 2016-17 school year on **October 6**. New Executive Committee members were introduced: **Anna Collie**-President, **Cindy Yetto**-Vice-President, **Kira Vasconez**-Treasurer, and **Lisa Bourassa**-Secretary. Everyone enjoyed a spectacular dinner at Mallozzi’s Restaurant in Rotterdam. Teachers brought a planned lesson to share with others.

Two newsworthy items were presented at the meeting: **COLT** has been approved by State Ed as a CTLE provider for professional development hours and **COLT** has donated \$250.00 to the NYSAFLT 100K for 100 years fund.

As I write my final post as a director for the Capital-East region, I wish to thank everyone who supported, helped, and guided me during my term. It has truly been an honor to serve language teachers and NYSAFLT, as we continue to advocate for our students and our profession. I have enjoyed my involvement on the Board of Directors and am grateful for new friendships and the opportunity to reconnect with people from the past. I leave you in the very capable hands of your new Director, **Mary Goetz**. ---**Susan Frost**



## AATF of CNY

The AATF of CNY held its fall workshop on **Saturday, November 5**. Dr. Mahadevi Ramakrishnan of Colgate University presented on *Martinique, l'île aux fleurs*. Participants learned about the history, culture, and contemporary life of this Caribbean outpost of France and enjoyed a lunch of colombo, a traditional dish. Dr. Ramakrishnan also offered some tips on organizing student travel to Martinique. This presentation was particularly timely, given that the National Convention of the AATF will be in Martinique in 2018!

On **Saturday, November 19** hundreds of French students, French teachers, local Francophiles, and their families participated in the annual French Night at the Syracuse Crunch. French-speaking hockey players from the team made school visits ahead of the game to talk to students of French.

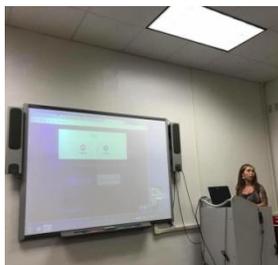
Don't forget to register your French students for the National French Contest! Testing is on-line again this year and will take place in March. Registration is open through December and January.

## Central

The Central Region has started the planning for our next regional conference. It will take place on **March 3** and it is expected to include great workshops on topics such as intercultural competence, relevant assessments, and current trends in WL education. Make sure to mark your calendar. For more information on the conference, or to submit workshop proposals, please contact our regional director, [Dr. Marisol Marcin](#).

## Mid-Hudson/Westchester

**PWRFL** started off the 2016 year with a *Round Robin Share out on Technology and Other Resources* workshop at Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School in Croton-on-Hudson on **October 18**. Presenters included **PWRFL** Vice-President **Roxanne Franquelli-Beras**, Secretary **Viviane Lynch** and NYS AFLT Regional Director **Sally Barnes**. There was lots of productive discussion between the participants and everyone left with new ideas for the classroom.



Some of the presentations at the **PWRFL** Round Robin Share out on Technology and Other Resources



Our second workshop, *Communicative Projects and Activities*, took place on **Tuesday, November 15** at Valhalla Middle School. It was presented by Richard O'Riley who teaches Spanish at Valhalla High School. In this workshop he talked about a few activities and projects which he uses in class to optimize Spanish speaking. Examples were given in Spanish; however the activities he discussed are applicable to any language and can be altered for any level.

The last meeting of 2016 is planned for **December 6** from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. Please check the **PWRFL** website or the NYSAFLT Regional page for further information.

**Sally Barnes** is finishing up her three year term as Regional Director for Mid-Hudson/Westchester but plans on continuing her involvement in both **PWRFL** and NYSAFLT. She is grateful for the opportunity to represent World Language educators in the Westchester area and wishes the best of luck to her successor **Eleanor Dana** from Pine Bush Central School District. **Leslie Kudlack** has been elected as Second Vice-President of NYSAFLT. Congrats to Leslie! And good luck to **Charlene Sirlin** from Pierre Van Cortlandt Middle School in Croton-on-Hudson, who will replace Leslie on the Board of Directors for the remainder of her term. Look for news and updates in 2017 from Eleanor and Charlene!

## NYC-Long Island

On **Saturday, November 12** 285 LOTE educators attended the **NYCAFLT Annual Professional Conference** co-sponsored by NYSAFLT at the United Federation of Teachers (UFT) Headquarters in Manhattan. Participants attended three workshop sessions of their choice during a full-day of activities which included breakfast and lunch.

Our opening plenary session included a welcome from **Irma Evangelista**, NYCAFLT President, and greetings from **Nunzia Manginelli**, our Conference Chairperson. The attendees were then treated to a presentation from NYSAFLT's Executive Director, **John Carlino**, who provided a helpful overview of the many professional development opportunities offered by NYSAFLT. George Altomare, the liaison to the Professional Committees of the UFT, also greeted us.

The many evaluation forms returned by participants in the 22 workshops expressed admiration for the quality and relevance of the topics addressed. Also evident were the expressions of appreciation for the knowledge and dedication of the presenters.

Many workshop presenters focused on the Conference theme: *World Languages: Passport to Proficiency in our Global Community*, including **Vivian Selenika's** "Daily Formative Feedback in Checkpoint A: How to Unlock the Keys to the Highly Effective First Year LOTE Classroom," **Lou Baskinger's** "Interpreting and Applying the Interpretive Mode in the World Language Classroom," and **Gabriela Altomarin** and Lised Vigil's "Building excellence for all students: how to make students' high order thinking visible in the LOTE Classroom."



Tena Cohen's "Art and Identity in the LOTE Classroom," Lonnie Dai Zovi's "Let Mexican and Spanish Artists Teach Your Students Culture and Language," and Elisa's Velasco's "Projects in the Foreign Language Classroom" helped teachers learn new ways to incorporate the arts into their classrooms to motivate and enhance the second language experience.

Foreign language teachers are enamored with their field and therefore attend conferences to keep abreast of the changes that are ever-present. **Nunzia Manginelli**'s workshop "New Changes to the SLP and LOTE Regents for June 2017" certainly fulfilled this need.

Although Spanish is the predominant second language offered, we always provide workshops for the other major languages of our region: French, Italian and Chinese. Worthy of mention is an example of each: Heidi Holst-Knudsen and Vania Sitruk's workshop: "Allons au cinéma! Using Film to Teach Social Issues;" Maura Garau's workshop: "Reflections of the AP Italian Language and Culture Course," skyped directly from Italy; and Pat Wen-Tsui Lo's workshop: "Application of Backward Design in Chinese Foreign Language Teaching."

Besides a raffling of gift certificates to four restaurants representing each of the languages of the conference, we were delighted to participate in a raffle whose proceeds will support NYSAFLT's 100K Sustaining Fund. We have to thank our NYC Director, **Nora Diaz Guevara**, who undertook the task during the Conference. **NYCAFLT**'s next event will be the *Spring Professional Development Conference* which will take place on in April.

## The American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese Long Island Chapter

The Long Island Chapter of the AATSP began the 2016-2017 school year in full force. At its initial meeting in September, the Executive Council set plans in motion for the many activities that they sponsor for school districts throughout Nassau and Suffolk counties. Under the auspices of the Chapter, students have the opportunity to demonstrate their talents and skills by participating in a number of different contests. For example, in January, students can express their creativity along with their grammatical knowledge by entering the Victor Baptiste Spanish Essay Contest. This year's topic is "Ahora que se puede visitar Cuba, la visitarás o no, y ¿por qué?" There are different entry levels, and winners receive both recognition and a monetary award at the annual Entrega Ceremony at the end of the school year.

For those students who are artistically inclined, the Chapter sponsors the Design-A-Card Contest in which participants are asked to create an original Hispanic design for the front of a blank note card. The winning entries are printed and sold as a fundraiser to support the chapter's Judy Abrams/Margaret Fernández NSE Scholarship Fund. This contest is open to any student of a member teacher, and awards are also presented at the Entrega Ceremony in June.

Another opportunity for recognition is the Judy Abrams/Margaret Fernández NSE Scholarship. The Long Island Chapter offers two scholarships in recognition of commitment and dedicated service that Judy Abrams and Margaret Fernández, two outstanding Long Island educators, provided to its chapter. These scholarships are offered to two graduating seniors who



are currently enrolled in Spanish or have completed the highest level of the Spanish courses offered in their schools.

Finally, to acknowledge student achievement on the National Spanish Examination, the members of the Executive Council host an annual Entrega Ceremony in which students scoring in the highest percentiles are awarded medals, certificates, and monetary prizes. Last year, more than 100 students were honored.

In addition to these many contests, the Chapter offers workshops, conferences, and other activities based on the general interest and educational needs of its membership.

## Western New York

Greetings from the Western Region Directors, **Heidi Connell** and **Megan Fleck**!

At the beginning of October, **WNYFLEC** held its **Fall Meeting** at Painting with a Twist, where members had the opportunity to paint either a French or Spanish-themed painting. Our instructors were great, as they led us through the steps for French teachers to paint a Mardi Gras mask, and Spanish teachers learned how to paint a Flamenco dancer. A great time was had by all, and we hope that everyone's masterpieces are hanging up in their classrooms!



**WNYFLEC** board members are now switching gears and focusing on our **Regional Conference** and Kick-Off to Foreign Language Week, which will be held on **Saturday, March 4** at Hamburg High School. Be sure to keep an eye on your inbox for information regarding workshop proposal submissions and registration information!

It was so wonderful to see so many familiar faces, as well as make some new NYSA-friends at the **NYS AFLT Annual Conference** in Syracuse, NY in October. The conference was jam-packed with excellent professional development opportunities, as well as free time to talk with teachers around the state to find out more about what is happening in area districts. There's nothing better than a **NYS AFLT** conference to get rejuvenated, share ideas to use in the classroom, or discuss ways build your program! If you haven't been to an **Annual Conference**, you should consider looking ahead to next year's conference and celebrating 100 years with **NYS AFLT**!





Speaking of opportunities for professional development, watch your email for an information regarding the ***Rochester Regional conference***, which will be held on **Saturday, March 11** at Nazareth College. The Rochester Regional committee is currently looking for area colleagues who are interested in presenting a workshop. Do you have some ideas to share? What do your students love about coming into your classroom? Submit a proposal and share what you do.

### Public Advocacy

Please sing this song with us... (music by Eric Clapton, lyrics by Diana Zuckerman)

♪If we could change the world

All kids would be learning lots of languages

Our programs build bridges as they break down walls

Language teachers change the world.♪

([youtube.com/watch?v=NPMdYHm-N0c&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NPMdYHm-N0c&feature=youtu.be))

### World Language Exams

Thank you for your letters to the NYS Board of Regents. One of the proposed items by the New York State Education Department (NYSED) and the NYS Regents in New York State's 2017 budget is a potential partial reinstatement of World Language exams at some point after 2020. Many details need to be discussed. In the meantime, you can write, call or email the Governor, the Regents, your Senator and Assembly member and impress upon them the importance of world language learning and of the need for valid benchmark exams. In addition, you can express the need for expanding world language programs into lower grades through post-secondary, and incentives to recruit new world language teachers. Remember to thank them for approving the Seal of Bilingualism.

### 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](#).



### Parent Teacher Associations

Now is the time to reach out to your local Parent Teacher Association (PTA). Thanks to **Judy Martialay**'s contacting of the New York State PTA (NYS PTA), **Diana Zuckerman** presented “*World Languages for All: Raising Our Children in a Global Community*” at the NYS PTA Annual Conference in Saratoga. Attendees included PTA representatives from Long Island and Rochester. They were enthusiastic and agreed that our students deserve long sequences of world languages starting early. Consider presenting to your elementary and middle school PTAs on the benefits of world language learning so that they can bring their voices to decision makers with the information they need. Let them know that world languages promote academic and professional achievement, have a positive impact on standardized test scores and prepare our students for success in our global community.

<p><i>Barbara Patterson and Diana Zuckerman, NYS AFLT Public Advocacy cheerleaders, updated Annual Conference attendees and cheered them on to take action.</i></p>	<p><i>The NYS PTA can be our voice. Consider presenting at your local PTA meetings to inform members of the benefits of World Language learning for all.</i></p>

### School Districts' Budgets

It's budget time in your school district. Your Board of Education has already adopted their budget calendar and budget development procedures for the 2017-18 budget. Between now and February the budget builders and finance committee will be meeting to create a preliminary budget. Educate your administrators and the budget developers on the importance of world languages to avoid cuts in world language programs and staff, stress the need for additional languages, promote upper level courses, and encourage expansion of the WL program into the lower grades. You can also attend any budget hearings to hear the discussions of each line item and the rationale for retaining or cutting it.

### Commission on Language Learning

The Commission on Language Learning has been working on a data report that will be released in 2017 that will document the current status of language enrollments and our critically low language capabilities in the U.S. At the same time, ACTFL will launch the Lead With



Languages campaign which will raise awareness about how the fastest growing economies are in non-English speaking countries and how being bilingual or multilingual is standard—not exceptional—in other parts of the world. These will be great advocacy tools.

Thanks to those of you who attended our PA committee meeting at NYSAFLT's *Annual Conference* in Syracuse. We discussed visiting legislators, presenting at the New York State School Counselor Association (NYSSCA) state-wide conference for guidance counselors and educating the New York State School Boards Association (NYSSBA) at their annual conference as well as continuing our connection with the NYS PTA.

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

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." ~ Margaret Mead

## National Network for Early Language Learning / FLES News

We are excited to share that there are several new or expanding early language programs popping up throughout New York State.

The Public Schools of the Tarrytowns in Westchester County has introduced a new FLES program in Spanish led by **Maureen Duffy**. Starting this year in K and 1st grades, the program is expected to grow over the next four years for instruction in grades K-5 with the goal of developing proficiency in Spanish. The new FLES program complements a well-established Spanish/English Dual Language program K-5. This historically diverse district is seeking to cultivate an enriching and stimulating language learning experience for all students.

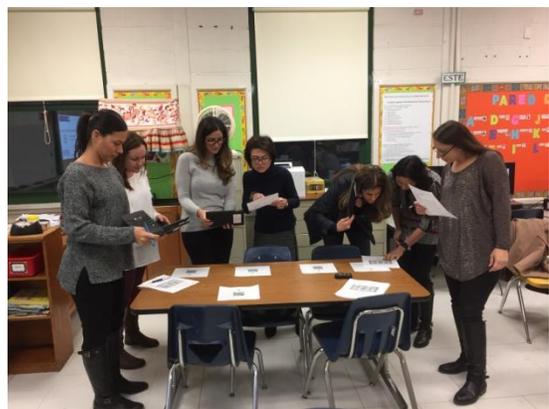
The Massapequa School District, on Long Island, New York, has expanded its World Language program to the six elementary schools this year, with a pilot program in third grade. Students are receiving 20 minutes of Spanish instruction twice a week in their classrooms. **Bill Anderson**, the Curriculum Associate for World Languages, said that the goal of the program is “to teach children how to learn another language and to learn about the people, geography and customs of the Spanish-speaking world.” The FLES classes are taught by two World Language teachers from Berner Middle School, **Luisa Marino** and **Lisa Silveri**. The teachers worked with 3rd grade teachers, and consultant **Tara Tassani**, during the summer to align their instruction with the third-grade social studies curriculum, which focuses on countries around the world.



Clarkstown Central School District in Rockland County has implemented a sequential Spanish FLES program in most of its elementary schools this year. The goal is to follow the model and curriculum from the district's Link IB World School. It is a "program in progress" and is still searching for two certified FLES teachers to be able to offer FLES to students in all of the schools in the district. **Danielle Bovel**, previous recipient of the Hahn Outstanding FLES Program Award for her program at Link, is serving as mentor to the new teachers in the program. The district is committed to the value and the beauty of world languages in the elementary school.

The Dalton School in New York City has an elementary Spanish program in grades K - 2 that began in September 2014 under the leadership of **Lori Langer de Ramirez**. It continues to expand as this year it has rolled up to the second grade with the addition of NYS AFLT/NNELL member **Marissa Coulehan** to the team. Next year the third graders will have Spanish, and in 2018 the program will connect with the Middle School (grade 4). The FLES curriculum at Dalton is STEAM-focused. Along with learning vocabulary, communicative structures, and cultures of the Spanish-speaking world, students do hands-on experiments, discuss science concepts, and create art - all in Spanish!

The NYC-LI FLES Collegial Circle met on **Monday, November 14** at the West Side School in Laurel Hollow on Long Island, New York. The theme of the meeting was *Memberships, Contests and Conferences*. The meeting was hosted by collegial circle facilitator and FLES teacher **Tara Tassani**. The meeting started out with an icebreaker activity involving iPads and videos of native speakers. Participants engaged in a fun hands-on mapping activity to determine the location of several stores on their maps. Collegial circle members enjoyed a lively discussion about all that our local, regional and national associations have to offer. "During this time of budget crunches, tax caps and high stakes testing, it is critical that we stay active members in our World Language Organizations at every level to keep up to date with practices, network with others in our field and share our resources with one another," stated Tara. The NYC-LI FLES Collegial circle is in its third school year. Members enjoy sharing best practices, advocating for early language learning programs and connecting with fellow FLES teachers.





On **November 18–20**, several NNELL members represented New York by presenting at the *ACTFL Convention and World Languages Expo* in Boston, Massachusetts. **Harriet Barnett**, **Marissa Coulehan** and **Nancy Kress** presented a workshop on multiple FLES levels in action. **Bill Anderson** moderated several sessions including a roundtable discussion. **Lori Langer de Ramirez** shared her own pathway to proficiency in an ImpACTFL voices session. **Carmen Campos** immersed attendees with 360° videos, inspiring virtual field trips and visual stories. **Victoria Gilbert** presented sessions about cultural realia during interpersonal exchanges and texting for family engagement.

## NYS 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 scholarship. Cards may be obtained by going to the donations [page](#) or by sending a check (made payable to **NYS AFLT**) to:

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



## Announcements

About 15 years ago, then NYS AFLT president Marie Guillet received an email out of the blue from member **Ken Hughes** saying, in essence, he thought he could help us out with our website. The rest is history!

Once Ken took over as webmaster, cool things didn't stop happening. Online forms soon made paying membership and registering for conferences a breeze. Up-to-date information about upcoming conferences and events was always at members' fingertips. Our Public Advocacy Committee got a major boost with a new webpage full of advocacy materials ready to download – as well as a plethora of links to helpful resources. Over the years, the website expanded to include scholarship, award and grant applications, Fulvi applications, our complete history, archived listserv messages, webinars, resources, our job placement service, and much, much more.

In those early years of working with a website, none of us realized that our organization was fundamentally changing how we do business from the inside out. We did know that we were ahead of the game with Ken at the helm of our website. Other state associations and even some national associations inquired regularly how we do what we do. Many of them even eventually hired Ken as their webmaster when his webmaster business started to take off. The 'look' Ken has given us, from the website to conference logos and program designs, says it all: NYS AFLT is modern, creative, innovative and resourceful. Our challenge ahead will be to keep up that Ken-look!

Annual Conferences were re-invented when Ken took over the raffle mic and signed on to DJ our now-annual dance parties.

We at NYS AFLT are so glad to have had the opportunity to work with Ken for 15+ years. The mark he has left on the organization is indelible. He helped us through what is - most likely - the biggest challenge of our 100 year history - the move into the internet age.

We wish Ken well in his future endeavors and certainly hope he won't be a stranger in the years to come. Ken, you're a friend of NYS AFLT forever, and we'll certainly miss you!





## Mark Your Calendars

### December

- 1**     **Deadline:** NECTFL Mead Scholar Award Applications (to NYSAFLT)
- 12-13** Board of Regents Meeting
- 15**     **Deadline:** Charles Zimmerman Memorial Travel Award
- 31**     Membership Year Ends

### January

- 1**     Membership Year begins
- 9-10** Board of Regents Meeting
- 9**     **Webinar:** “100% Target Language Use: Yes, We Can!” With Marissa Coulehan  
(**please note that this is a date change for this webinar**)
- 14-15** Executive Committee, Board of Directors, Financial Management Committee
- 15**     **Deadline:** France Teacher Travel Award (see application)
- 15**     **Deadline:** Post-Secondary Student Scholarship Applications
- 31**     **Deadline:** Vito Marcello Rochester-area Fund an Idea Grant

### February

- 1**     **Deadline:** March *Newsletter* submissions
- 1**     **Deadline:** *Journal #1* submissions
- 1**     **Deadline:** Annual Conference Workshop Proposals
- 1**     **Webinar:** “CORE Practices for the WL Classroom” with Beth Slocum
- 9-11** NECTFL Annual Conference, New York City
- 13-14** Board of Regents Meeting
- 16-17** JNCL-NCLIS - Language Advocacy Day & Delegate Assembly in Washington

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### *NYSAFLT Headquarters Staff*

Executive Director	Director of Technology	Administrative Assistants
<b>John Carlino</b>	<b>Kenneth Hughes</b>	Sean McDonough Christiana Palladino



## Message from the Editor



No, **Ken Hughes** hasn't taken over as editor of *NYSAFLT News*! But he is moving on from his position as Director of Technology at NYSAFLT. I have never known NYSAFLT without Ken. I will miss his DJ dance parties and his infectious smile at NYSAFLT events. I will even miss heckling him at conference raffles when I don't win! ☺ I and your entire NYSA-family wish you all the best in your future endeavors, Ken. You will be greatly missed, but I'm sure many of us will keep up with your hot air balloon adventures on Facebook!

I'd also like to say a special thank you to **Candace Black** as she finishes up her term as NYSAFLT president, and also to our outgoing regional directors, **Susan Frost**, **Rosanne Perla**, **Sally Barnes**, and **Tara Tassani**. Thank you for all your hard work. You will be missed! Finally, best wishes go out to **Kaetlin McGee**, NYSAFLT HQ Administrative Assistant, who will be starting an internship with an engineering firm. We welcome our new HQ Administrative Assistants, Sean McDonough and Christiana Palladino, to the NYSA-family! Until next year, here's wishing you a very happy holiday season and a great start to 2017!

