



NYS AFLT

www.nysaflft.org

News

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The President's Corner



Candace Black

Welcome to the 2016-17 school year! I always relish this time of year. Fresh off vacation, I am eager to catch up with friends and colleagues, to walk the freshly waxed hallways, and to see the students who seem to have grown several inches over the summer. The teaching profession, while one of the hardest, is also one of the most rewarding. To be able to see the progress my students have made over the last four years has become a yearly highlight that I cherish. This year is quite special to me, not only because I have had the honor and pleasure of serving as NYS AFLT's president, but also because I am entering my 20th year in education. The differences in materials, activities, and access to technology are amazing, but much remains the same. Good teaching is good teaching. We must hold firm to our strengths as world language teachers: 90% target language use, instruction that targets the diverse learners that we teach, and authentic experiences for our students. Equally as important, we must continue to support and advocate for our profession within and among our districts and with the state education department.

Reflecting back on my 20 years in education, I credit much of what I have learned and the teacher that I have become to my peers, who have shared their time and talents. On a larger scale, this collegiality has been made possible through my affiliation with NYS AFLT and other language organizations such as NECTFL and ACTFL. It never ceases to amaze me how energized I feel after attending a professional conference and I am extremely grateful to those teachers who have taken the next step in their careers to enhance the skills of others through professional development. In August, I had the pleasure of attending an extremely engaging and well-organized **Summer Institute** at SUNY Oneonta put together by **Beth Slocum** and her team.



I often say to my colleagues that if you come away with just one good idea from a workshop, it was worth it. The 2016 **Summer Institute** didn't disappoint and I have a plethora of teaching ideas to develop for this year, from Mindfulness in the World Language Classroom to Quizlet Live and EdPuzzle, to the Tell Project. October's 99th **Annual Conference** to be held in Liverpool has a stellar lineup of presenters and promises to be an enriching event that I would encourage you all to consider attending.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful school year!
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 100th 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.



NYSAFLT Summer Institute

The Summer Institute was an exciting week of *Strengthening our Core Practices* for effective language teaching and learning. Our week was framed by research-based practices - beginning with an introduction to the *TELL Project* with **Bill Heller**, digging into the *CORE Practices* with **Beth Slocum**, exploring *Literacy Strategies* with **Dr. Joanne O'Toole** and concluding with the *Turnaround to Transfer* with **Dr. Jennifer Eddy**.

There were so many amazing moments that helped us connect the dots from theory to practice. There is no better place for summer PD than with your NYSA-family and friends at the **#NYSAFLTSI**. We've got you covered from A to Z... literally! Thank you to the amazing presenters and participants who shared their talents in *advocacy, biliteracy, cooking, FLES connections, immersion experiences, #langchat, mindfulness training, movie night, nature sketching, social media networking, tech-connections and world dance* too! There was so much to share!



If you want to know more about the Summer Institute, check out the video [here](#). Thanks to **Jenny Delfini** for putting this video together for us! Mark your calendars for **#NYSAFLTSI: August 8-11, 2017 at SUNY Oneonta**. Fun things are already in the planning!



CORE PRACTICES

For World Language Learning



Facilitate Target Language Comprehensibility
Students and teachers speak, listen, read, write, view, and create in the target language 90% or more during classroom time: comprehensible input, contexts, and interactions.

Guide Learners through Interpreting Authentic Resources
Present interactive reading and listening comprehension tasks using authentic cultural texts with appropriate scaffolding while promoting interpretation.




Design Oral Interpersonal Communication Tasks
Teachers design and carry out interpersonal communication tasks for pairs, small groups, and whole class instruction.

Plan with Backward Design Model
Instructors identify desired results THEN determine acceptable evidence THEN plan learning experiences and instruction.




Teach Grammar as Concept and Use in Context
Teach grammar as concept and use in context. Students focus on meaning BEFORE form.



Provide Appropriate Oral Feedback
Oral corrective feedback is a tool for mediating learning and language development.



NYS AFLT 99th Annual Conference



Michelle Shenton-Mong

The start of a new school year is a time to inspire our students with the excitement of world language (WL) learning. The *NYS AFLT Annual Conference* is an opportunity for us to do the same! Who can beat professional development for WL educators by WL teachers?

The *99th Annual Conference* is **Friday** and **Saturday, October 21-22**, at the Holiday Inn Liverpool, in Syracuse and is co-sponsored by the Language Educators of Central New York (**LECN**Y). Please register by **October 7**. By the way, first time attendees are eligible to apply for a scholarship that covers the conference registration fee. Click [HERE](#) for details.

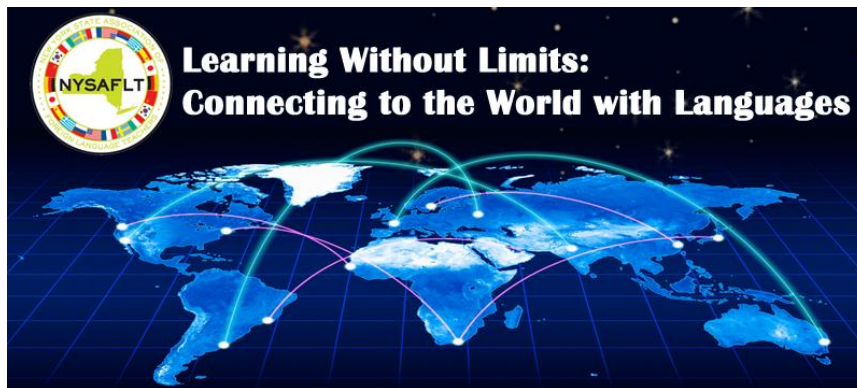
The conference theme is *Learning without Limits: Connecting to the World with Languages*. Our keynote speaker is Joshua Cabral. A twenty-year teacher of French and Spanish, Joshua is also passionate about access to education in developing countries and works closely with schools in Haiti and Nicaragua where he often travels to work with teachers and students.



We have over ninety (90) workshops and sessions, including the following presenters who will be offering three-hour workshops: **Tracy Brady**, Joshua Cabral, **Laurie Clarcq**, **Abbe Guillet**, **Bill Heller**, **Mary Holmes**, **Toni Johnson**, and **Erin Johnson**. You can find descriptions for their workshops on the [Annual Conference webpage](#). Our one-hour sessions include a FLES strand, as well as professional development on methodology, technology, culture, and more!

Please visit the [Annual Conference webpage](#) for registration, conference, and hotel information. The Holiday Inn Liverpool is right off the Thruway and close to the airport, bus, and train stations, from which they offer free shuttles. The hotel also has free Wi-Fi in all areas.

Enjoy networking with like-minded people, learning new techniques, and finding new resources. Please, join us and *Connect to the World with Languages!*



Regional News

Capital-East

On **Thursday, July 21**, The Greater Capital Region Teacher Center offered a one-day workshop entitled “*Apps in the World Language Classroom*,” led by **Tiffany Phelps**, Teacher Center Program Specialist and German Teacher. Participants were treated to an interesting array of tools that foster engagement and learning in the classroom. Attendees included NYSAFLT Directors **Leslie Kudlack** (Mid-Hudson/Westchester), **Susan Frost** (Capital-East), and COTL President **Anna Collie**.



Several area teachers and districts have recently benefited from the incredible generosity of the Adirondack Foreign Language Enrichment Fund, awarded by The Adirondack Foundation, a philanthropic community foundation based in Lake Placid. Each year, grants typically ranging from \$500-\$2500 are bestowed on projects that enrich and increase foreign language instruction. The annual awards and enthusiasm for projects are a testament to the



Adirondack Foundation's commitment and desire to support and inspire foreign language teachers. More information and application materials can be found on their [website](#).

Capital-East Regional Director **Susan Frost** was the author of a recent commentary that was published in The Times Union newspaper. Susan's letter was a rebuttal to a column that equated computer coding with learning a foreign language. The commentary can be found [here](#).

AATF of CNY

The leadership of the AATF of CNY is changing! Congratulations to **Robin Brown**, outgoing president, on serving two full terms and continuing to be a source of creativity and ideas for the board. Vice President and National French Contest Administrator **Jennifer Kostolecki** is running unopposed for president. Academic Projects Coordinator **Denise Mahns** is running unopposed for the Vice President and National French Contest Administrator position.

Look for an exhibit booth and the workshop "*It Takes a Village*" presented by the AATF of CNY Board at the NYSAFLT Annual Conference on **Saturday, October 22**. Other autumnal events include another French Hockey Night at the Syracuse Crunch and the Fall Workshop in November.

We welcome back our very own **Abbe Guillet** as Region II Representative to the national AATF organization and congratulate her on her new role overseeing La Société Honoraire de Français at the national level! Lastly, don't forget that registration for the on-line National French Contest will begin in December for March testing.

Central

The LECNY/NYSAFLT Regional Conference took place on **Thursday, August 25** at the Red Mill Inn in Baldwinsville. In attendance were many LECNY past presidents including Barbara Gordon, **Joanne O'Toole**, **Rosanne Perla**, **Laura Rouse**, **Tracy Brady**, and **Diane Tyminiski**. The keynote speaker was **Karen Martín-Sánchez** from South Seneca Central School District. Karen discussed strategies to teach LOTE at the middle school and beginning high school levels. Her workshop, entitled "*Kids Are Like Puppies*," provided a lighthearted look at how middle school students, like puppies, can be trained to follow directions when given directions, structure and routine. It was meaningful, humorous, motivational, and provided a refreshing start for the new school year. The keynote speaker was followed by two sessions and lunch was provided. Session one was an "*Edcamp*" where teachers chose a group and shared ideas on how to motivate students. The second session was broken up into several immersion sessions. **Denise Mahns** led a session on France, Susana Senties-Nevin led a session on her trip to Cuba, **Sarah Woodward Jones** led a session on foreign language honor societies, and **Rosanne Perla** led a session on Italian and Italy. The conference provided a motivational jumpstart to the new school year.



After hosting the 2016 NYSAFLT Southern Tier Conference, the central region is starting the planning process for our next conference. Because we want to offer relevant professional development to all LOTE teachers in our region, we invite you to join the organizing committee. If you live or work in the central region and are willing to volunteer time to ensure high quality professional development, please contact regional director [Marisol Marcin](#). In addition, we invite all members in the region to participate in a short [survey](#) to help determine the priorities of our next conference.

Denise Mahns successfully defended her dissertation in Québécois theater at Middlebury College to earn a Doctor of Modern Languages degree in French and Spanish. Congratulations Dr. Mahns!

Library Media Specialist Tina Laramie and French Teacher **Laura Rouse** put a central New York school world languages program on the map by earning an ISTE Project ReimaginEd Exemplar badge for a French Regions project that has been published in their resources library. Just recently, ISTE sent out a [link](#) to their Twitter followers reminding them of the resources that are available. The link brings you to the website where you can browse the resources library. In doing so, you will find the French Regions project listed under “OTHER Subjects.”

Laura Rouse is pursuing a Certificate of Advanced Study Degree in Educational Leadership at Syracuse University. This upcoming school year, Laura will be completing her internship in educational administration and supervision at both the district and building levels. She feels very fortunate to have a world language background, as this will become an integral part of her new journey of serving students and the community in a different capacity.

Mid-Hudson/Westchester

Another summer has flown by! **PWRFL** and NYSAFLT members have been busy enjoying some well-deserved vacation time as well as preparing for another enriching and engaging academic year!



*Mid-Hudson/Westchester members attending the Summer Institute included: **Teresa Schirmer, Renee Borio-Roman, Ana Gatta, Diana Zuckerman, Eleanor Dana, Tracy Brady, Jenny Delfini, Alexis Thornton, Marissa Coulehan, Mary Holmes, and Leslie Kudlack.***



At this year's Regional Conference **Alexis Thornton** was re-elected as President of **PWRFL**. We said "Merci" to our outgoing secretary, **Charlene Sirlin**, and welcomed **Vivian Lynch**.

In 2016/2017 **PWRFL** will again publicize middle and high school contests for students. Check your **PWRFL** newsletter or the [website](#) for more information. Keep a lookout for **PWRFL**'s upcoming events! Enjoy the rest of the summer – looking forward to a great year!

Please mark your calendars for upcoming **PWRFL** Workshops on **October 18**, **November 14**, **December 6** and the Regional Conference co-sponsored with NYSAFLT in March, 2017. Once again we will be changing venue for every meeting so please watch for your **PWRFL** newsletter for individual information!

ALoud Workshops will be held on **November 5**, **December 10**, and **February 4**. The NYSAFLT/**ALoud** conference will be held on **April 1**. More details will follow.

NYC-Long Island

The **New York City Foreign Language Teachers Association (NYCAFLT)** will hold its Annual Professional Conference on **Saturday, November 12**, at the UFT Headquarters in Manhattan. The theme of our conference is *World Languages: Passport to Proficiency in our Global Community*. It will be an all day event, offering workshops on the elementary, junior high, middle school, and high school levels. We will have language-specific workshop sessions sponsored by AATSP (Spanish), AATF (French), ATI (Italian) and the Chinese Language Teacher Association. Participants will be able to choose from 23 wonderful, relevant, and exciting workshops in three sessions. Each workshop will 90 minutes long. Early registration (\$45) closes on October 24. On-site registration will be \$60. Please register [online](#) beginning September 16. Distribution of certificates of participation will conclude the conference.

Western New York

On **Wednesday, June 1**, WNYFLEC members along with more than 110 nominated students and their families joined together to celebrate their dedication, hard work, and excitement when it comes to learning a foreign language at their annual Student, Teacher And Recognition (S.T.A.R.) Awards Dinner and Ceremony. Also at the ceremony, WNYFLEC recognized in a special way Jordan Schneeberger, a local recipient of the NYSAFLT Fulvi Student Scholarship Award, as well as the winners of the Annual Foreign Language Week Poster Contest. Finally, time was also spent recognizing several outstanding colleagues for their contributions to the world languages profession. **Julie Aguglia** from West Seneca Central Schools received the WNYFLEC Service Award. **Lendra Kress** from Orchard Park Schools received the honor of being named the Maryalice Seagrave Outstanding Foreign Language Teacher. We also took a few moments to recognize **John Carlino**'s retirement from Kenmore



Schools, as he looks to focus on his roles and responsibilities as Executive Director for both NYSAFLT and NECTFL.

Looking forward to the upcoming school year, WNYFLEC is planning a return of its successful event from last year: Painting with a Twist. On **Wednesday, October 5** members will be able to choose between a French (Mardi Gras)- or a Spanish (Flamenco Dancer)-themed painting to create, hang up in their classrooms, and incorporate into a future lesson! Visit the WNYFLEC [website](#) for more information.

Public Advocacy

Mahatma Gandhi once said, “You may never know what results come of your actions, but if you do nothing, there will be no result.” Join our Public Advocacy (PA) letter writing campaign and you never know what kind of results you may get. At NYSAFLT's *Summer Institute*, world language campers wrote letters to policy makers and decision-makers to promote world language learning. **Laura Waterstripe** received an unexpected response. Laura emailed us with this story. “Write a letter, get a house call... My Assemblyman Mark Johns, to whom I wrote a letter during the advocacy session, just showed up at my front door to talk to me about my letter. That’s more hands-on than I was expecting! He sounds supportive, and his wife is an ELL herself, so that may help.” It is critical to let our voices be known. Thanks to Laura for sharing her story and thanks to everyone who wrote letters.

<p><i>Advocacy Co-Chairs Diana Zuckerman and Barbara Patterson present at the Summer Institute.</i></p>	<p><i>Summer Institute attendees write letters in support of world languages.</i></p>	<p><i>Advocacy letters are ready for the mail!</i></p>

You can write letters to the NYS Board of Regents thanking them for approving the NYS Seal of Biliteracy (NYSSB). In addition, express the need for expanding World Language programs from lower grades through post-secondary, and the need for incentives to recruit new world language teachers. 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](#) on the Advocacy website.

We invite you to attend our PA committee meeting at NYSAFLT's *Annual Conference* in Syracuse on **Saturday, October 22** from 12:45-1:30. We also will be holding a session "*Building a World Language Empire*" where you can learn how to boost recruitment at the lower and upper levels, get parents on your side, expand your program into lower and higher grades, and promote World Languages within your school and community. Stop by the PA booth in the exhibitor hall to write letters and to become informed on the current advocacy talking points.

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

National Network for Early Language Learning / FLES News

NNELL hosted its annual *Summer Institute* in Louisville, KY on **July 15-17**. We are looking forward to our "*NNELL Networking Breakfast*" at the **2016 ACTFL Convention and World Languages Expo** in Boston, MA. Stop by and say hi!

The FLES Committee is thrilled to award a Hahn FLES Teacher Scholarship to **Maureen Duffy** to help send her to a TPRS conference hosted by Blaine Ray. Maureen has been hired to establish a sequential FLES program in the Tarrytown Public Schools in the Mid-Hudson/Westchester region. This training will assist her in adding some instructional methods to her FLES toolbox, as well as to work with her secondary colleagues to modify and align the middle and high school programs with FLES.

The FLES Committee is excited to award a Hahn FLES Teacher Incentive Grant to **Kennedy Schultz**. She will be conducting a long-term research project at the Park School of Buffalo that will evaluate the cognitive benefits of language learning in a more traditional FLES environment. We look forward to the results of this important study.



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. Congratulations to the following NYS AFLT members who were awarded a grant or scholarship this year.

- **Jane Hinkley** was awarded a scholarship to the Summer Institute
- **Susan Frost** was awarded a Teacher Incentive Grant
- **Maureen Duffy** was awarded a \$500 Hahn Teacher Scholarship
- **Kennedy Schultz** was awarded a \$500 Hahn FLES Teacher Incentive Grant
- **John Schepisi** is the recipient of the Mexico Cemanahuac scholarship
- Congratulations to the following NYS AFLT members whose students were named division winners in the videocast contest: **Francesca McAuliffe** (High School Division Winner for “Una mente llena de lenguas”), **Barbara Wasil-Espinoza** (Middle School Division winner for “vivir la vido”), and **Tara Tasani** (Elementary Division Winner for “magia de primavera”). Check out their [videos](#) in which they promote language learning and teaching and share their vision of why learning other languages is so important in our world today.

Congratulations to NYS AFLT member **MaryAnn Niemczura** whose memoir, *A Past Worth Telling*, has been recently published. The book contains a section on the adventures and challenges of teaching in another country. Read more about it [here](#).

La Renaissance Française, a non-profit organization founded in France in 1916 by French president Raymond Poincaré, is pleased to announce the selection of the 2016 American recipients of its medals for the promotion of French language or culture: Spencer Hays of Nashville, Tennessee, **David Graham** of Morrisonville, New York, Rebecca Brodarick of Louisville, Kentucky, and Daniel Brondel of New York, New York.

France's consul to the United States in New York, Bertrand Lortholary, presented the medals at an awards ceremony at the Consulate of France in New York on June 27 in the presence of members of the United States Delegation of La Renaissance Française. La Renaissance Française operates under the patronage of France's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of the Interior, Ministry of Defense and Ministry of Education.

A gold medal for promotion of French linguistic or other cultural ties was awarded to **David Graham**. Mr. Graham has been a foreign language teacher and supervisor for more than fifty years, and has presented lectures and workshops on Quebec culture, history, cinema, the Acadian diaspora, and Franco-American migration. He is internationally known, having participated in seminars and symposiums nationally and internationally.



ACTFL IS COMING TO BOSTON 2016

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT WWW.ACTFL.ORG

ACTFL BOSTON 2016
ANNUAL CONVENTION & WORLD LANGUAGES EXPO
NOVEMBER 18-20

IMPACT ACTFL

The **ACTFL** Convention and World Languages Expo is the major professional development event of the year that will have the greatest **IMPACT** on your career as a language educator and ultimately, your students.

More than **7,000** attendees

OVER **250** EXHIBITING COMPANIES

Participate in our global community

Explore innovative teaching strategies

Discover the latest learning technologies

700+ educational sessions

March
Registration and Housing

July
Early Bird Registration

Nov 17
Pre-Convention Workshops

ACT now November 18-20, 2016
SAVE THE DATE!

NORTHEAST CONFERENCE
on the Teaching of Foreign Languages



#nectfl17

Strengthening World Language Education: Standards for Success



The 63rd Annual Northeast Conference February 9-11, 2017 at the New York Hilton Midtown
Carole Smart, Chair
Newmarket Jr./Sr. HS (NH)

All conference registration information available at:
www.nectfl.org.



Mark Your Calendars

September

12-13 Board of Regents Meeting

October

17-18 Board of Regents Meeting

21-22 **Annual Conference** (Syracuse, NY)

22 Annual Business Meeting (Syracuse, NY)

November

1 **Deadline:** December *Newsletter* Submissions

1 **Deadline:** NECTFL Mead Scholar Award Applications (to NYSAFLT)

14-15 Board of Regents Meeting

15 **Deadline:** online application for Charles Zimmerman Memorial Travel Award

18-20 ACTFL Annual Convention and WL Expo (Boston, MA)

The *NYS AFLT News* is published by the New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers, Inc.

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