



Nebraska Department of Education

300 Centennial Mall South ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68508

World Language Review

November 2017



J1 International Teachers in Nebraska Annual Fall Retreat

Nebraska's J1 International Teachers gathered for their annual fall retreat in Lincoln on October 21. Nebraska currently has 39 international teachers teaching in Dual Language Immersion programs and in World Language classrooms. The retreat focused on the creation of cultural units designed to meet the reporting requirements of the US State Department and to share with Nebraska teachers. As native experts, these teachers can explain and illustrate the nuances of target cultures in a way textbooks can not.

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Charlamos

World Language Week



2018 will be a big year for world languages in Nebraska. In April, we will celebrate our first state-wide World Language Week. As announced at NILA this week, I am currently looking for an advisory board to assist in guiding and planning this event. I am also seeking individuals willing to participate in the ongoing discussion of world language standards development. How do you think World Languages should be defined in Nebraska? What is our role in career and college readiness? If you would like to participate in any of these discussions, please let me know. Fill out the contact form found here:

<https://goo.gl/forms/FTioFP6OWRMx5TY13>

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NILA Award Winning Teachers



On October 28, 2017 the Nebraska International Language Association announced the World Language Teacher of the Year at the Annual Conference. Millard South High School French Teacher Terri Wright accepted the award. Ms. Wright presented at NILA on using video games in the world language classroom. NAATF President Cara Heminger noted that Ms. Wright has consistently found innovative approaches.

Other award winners include: New World Language Teacher of the Year Brett Ávila (Sidney High School), Nebraska Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese Teacher of the Year Cathy Scurlock (Davis Middle School), Nebraska Association of Teachers of French Teacher of the Year Lisa Maupin (Lincoln East High School), and the Nebraska Association of Teachers of German Teacher of the Year Marissa Wanamaker (Lincoln High School).

Interculturality: Where Language Meets Culture

Dr. Ali Moeller, University of Nebraska Edith S Greer Professor, spoke to the Nebraska International Language Association gathering October 27, 2017 about defining intercultural communicative competence. Cultural understanding is defined in the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language standards as being prepared to know how, when and why to say what to whom. Dr. Moeller led the audience through the process of integrating intercultural communication activities by setting language targets, creating opportunities for learners to investigate and interact, involving learners in the process, and assessing their skills. Workshop attendees sampled the process by participating in several mock activities regarding schultütes, Día de los Muertos, and the Fourth of July.

Dr. Moeller is well respected in Nebraska for her work with the World Language methods programs for undergraduate and graduate students. Her research has earned her national notice as well and she has been voted the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Language President beginning in 2018.

World Languages in the Job Market

World Language study is critical to the U.S. job market. A study by the New American Economy using the job research of Burning Glass Technologies showed that bilingual ability is a valuable commodity in today's job market. Since 2010, employers have been adding jobs for bilingual employees at a faster rate than for US workers overall. The fields of highest demand all share the common skill of human interaction. Customer service representatives account for the largest share of bilingual job listings. While it may not seem surprising that retail, sales, and healthcare employers all focus on hiring bilingual employees, it is staggering to look at the depth of employment within these professions. For example, health care organizations seek bilingual registered nurses, medical assistants, medical and health service managers, licensed practical and vocational nurses, financial consultants and office personnel. Of special note, many of these bilingual careers do not require a bachelor's degree. Potentially, this could involve academic repercussions at the secondary level as we guide students into planning for career readiness with World Languages.

Events

◆
Day of the Dead
Display
El Museo Latino
Through November 18

◆
Website Workhorse:
Building an All in One
Website for your
Classroom
ESU 8
November 6

◆
EN Thompson Forum
on World Issues: British
National Debate v.
Nebraska Speech and
Debate Team
Lied Center
November 7
7:00 pm

◆
Dual Language
Programs
Panel Discussion
UNL
Henlik Hall Room 45
November 16
6:30pm- 7:30 pm

◆
ACTFL Convention
Nashville, Tennessee
November 17-19

◆
Moscow Ballet
Nutcracker
Merryman Center
November 21
7:00 pm

◆
Arturo Sandoval
Lied Center
November 29

Please email event
information to
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