

*A collection of information and links to
websites concerning
Early Language Learning*

December, 2008

Subscribe to NCLRC Newsletter

Every year, the National Capitol Language Resource Center (NCLRC) writes newsletters (around a set of) based upon specific themes. Because the NCLRC is hosting the Language Teacher Educators Conference in May 2009, the themes of the conference are incorporated in this year's newsletters.

Each issue of the newsletter includes:

- Feature article
- Teacher Diary from Anita
- Classroom Solutions YANA (You are Not Alone)
- Tech for Teachers
- Culture Club
- Professional Development
- Grant's page
- Reader's Corner
- Ask Dora
- Testing Tips
- For Your Classroom

Click here to subscribe to the [NCLRC newsletter](#).

Click here to read [past issues](#) of the newsletter.

Present to Your School Board

Now is the perfect time to remind your school board of the importance of your early language program. Before presenting, visit the NNELL website.

Click on "Membership" to log in and then "Summer Institutes" to find Ginny Staugaitis' PowerPoint© presentation, "*Foreign Language in the Elementary School: An Overview of the Shepaug Valley Regional School District FLES Spanish Program.*" Use this resource as a guide when creating your own presentation. Other resources include the new NNELL Power Point, which includes a bibliography.

Click here to visit the [NNELL website](#).

ACTFL Talk Radio – Promoting Quality Language Education**

NNELL President Paula Patrick and 2008 ACTFL teacher of the year Janet Glass have both been asked by ACTFL to provide members with valuable insight on key issues in language education.

*Reflections on Being the ACTFL
National Language Teacher of the Year*

Join Janet Glass, 2008 ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year, as she reflects on her year and how she became the ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year. Anyone who thinks they might apply or just wonders what being the ACTFL National Language Teacher of the Year means or why we should have one is invited to join this discussion.

*Keys to the Classroom: Helping New
Teachers Get Off to a Great Start!*

This first in a 3-part series will focus on helping new teachers get off to a great start in the classroom. Hosted by Paula

Patrick, Fairfax County Foreign Language Coordinator and Marty Abbott, ACTFL's Education Director. This show will feature a wealth of information for new teachers and for those trying to help new teachers.

Keys to the Classroom: Let's Talk About What Works!

This second of a 3-part series will look at how new language teachers can start off their school year on the right foot.

Keys to the Classroom: Navigating Your Way Through Challenging Moments

This third in a 3-part series focuses on the fact that every teacher faces challenging moments and that how one handles them can make a big difference in his/her success.

Click here to play, download or share these [programs by ACTFL](#).

Languages in the News

*Finding Our Way with Words***

In October 2008 the National Education Association published an article on American schools' attempts to improve foreign language learning.

“What does it say about America that we are the only industrialized nation that routinely graduates high school students who speak only one language? Frankly, it says that if you want to talk to us—to do business with us, negotiate peace with us, learn from or teach us, or even just pal around with us—you'd better speak English. The fact that we're

woefully behind in world language skills has long registered somewhere between "Hmmm," and "Yeah, so?" on the national priority gauge. (Compare that to our panicky responses to indicators that we're not on top in math and science.)”

Click here to read the rest of [***Finding Our Way with Words***](#). Below the article is a list of resources related to language learning.

*A Cure for Monolingualism:
Elementary-level foreign language
instruction helps create global citizens.*

By Myriam Met

“Globalization has led to unprecedented interest in expanding foreign language instruction in U.S. schools, particularly at grade levels where traditionally it has not been an option. Languages that previously have been rarely taught, such as Chinese, are frequently the choice of new programs at every level in the K12 range. As No Child Left Behind has become a familiar refrain in our schools, few have noticed that the United States is already far behind the rest of the world in preparing our students for their responsibilities as global citizens. In fact, bilingualism and multilingualism are more the norm than the exception throughout the rest of the world.”

Click here to read the rest of [***A Cure for Monolingualism***](#)

**Links submitted by Stephanie Anderson.

Send any information, comments, or questions for *Newsworthy* to Tammy Dann at trdann@juno.com

