



# The *FLAGS* Pole

Volume 14, Issue 1  
September, 2011

## FLAGS Fall Workshop Ties World Languages to 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills

*By Nicole Naditz*

Since the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills was formed in 2002, this task-force of educational, community, and business leaders has been working to define and support the proficiencies K-12 students need in order to be successful employees and global citizens post-high school. The primary result of their work has been the Framework for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills, which identifies first the core subjects (world languages is listed second, right after English language arts) and then the broader 21<sup>st</sup> century themes that put the core content into meaningful contexts, thus preparing students for creative, ethical and collaborative participation in work and society. The themes are:

- Global awareness
- Learning and innovation skills, including communication and collaboration; critical thinking and problem solving; and creativity and innovation

*(Continued on page 7)*

**Inside this issue:**

Fall Workshop	1
Teacher Awards	1
President's Perch	2
Calendar	3
Norcal Jamboree	3
Membership corner	4
FLAGS Student Award Breakfast	4
Sacramento Co. Junior Art Fair	5
Articles continued.	6-7
Membership Renewal	8

## *It's new and it's easy!*      **How to Honor Your Favorite World Language Teacher** *by Tanya Zaccone*

Like you, we want to make sure the best language teachers receive the awards and honors they deserve – so we've made it easier for you to nominate someone – and to make sure that more people can participate in their honor.

Your board recognized that it was cumbersome and costly for nominators and attendees to fulfill the requirements of the Teacher Awards system that we used in the past. In response, we will now ask for a letter of nomination from you, the nominator, and one other letter of recommendation

from another person. We will provide a simple rubric and a couple of suggestions for descriptors, and then we will choose up to three teachers, other educators, or even friends of the profession, to be honored each year.

It is the intention of the FLAGS Board that each teacher will receive their surprise award at their school, in the presence of their school-wide colleagues. So be thinking of someone you would like to honor, and look for more detailed information to be posted soon, on how you can make it happen for that deserving teacher.

## The FLAGS Pole

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## The President's Perch: A letter from Ruth

Hello Everyone,

Welcome back to a new school year! We at FLAGS hope you are off to a fantastic start and are ready to participate in this year's exciting FLAGS events. First of all, on Friday, September 9th, from 4:30 to 6:00 PM, we will hold our Fall Festa at Buca di Beppo in Sacramento. World Language teachers will gather to enjoy the delicious Italian fare and to talk about teaching – of all things – World Languages. The event is free to FLAGS members who are current in their membership dues, and one deserving instructor will be the lucky winner of a \$50 gift certificate from Teachers' Discovery. Nice!

Our Fall Workshop, which will take place on Saturday, October 22nd, from 8:30 AM to noon, will address with the World Languages 21st Century Skills Map. For a minimal cost of \$5 for FLAGS members and \$25 for non-members, which includes 2011 membership in FLAGS, attending teachers will enjoy a light breakfast, a complete introduction to the World Languages 21st Century Skills Map, and another opportunity to win a \$50 gift card to Teachers' Discovery.

On Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup> of 2012, we will hold our Winter Workshop on Reading Strategies for World Language Teachers. Again, there will be breakfast, very practical information and, who knows, another gift certificate? Please go to the FLAGS website at <http://www.flagsteacher.com> to pre-register for these enjoyable and enlightening events.

As to next spring's happenings, we are looking forward to seeing old and new members at the 2011 California Language Teachers' Association Conference, to be held in Los Angeles from March 14th–18th. In addition to attending, you might consider presenting a one-hour interest session or even a three-hour workshop. To fill out an online application to attend or to present, go to <http://www.clta.net/conference/>. This will be an event you won't want to miss!

Back in Sacramento, FLAGS will be hosting our annual Student Awards Breakfast on Saturday, April

(continued page 6)



**Get involved!**

## DATES & EVENTS

### FLAGS Board Meeting 2011-2012

@ Ettore's 4:30-6:00 PM

September	30
November	4
January	20
February	(Jamboree preparations)
March	2
March	30

All members are welcome

Contact: Ruth Ward  
(530) 661-4117

### FLAGS Social

Friday, September 9

4:30-6 PM @ Buca di Beppo

Free for FLAGS members current on dues (p.2)

### FLAGS Skyped Jamboree meeting with Paula

Friday, September 23, exact time TBA

### FLAGS Fall Workshop

Saturday, October 22

Twenty-first Century Skills map

8:30-12 noon @ Bella Vista, room B15; \$5 for members and \$25 for non-members (p.2)

### FLAGS Winter Workshop

Saturday, January 28<sup>th</sup>

Reading Strategies @TBA (p.6)

### FLAGS Student Awards Breakfast

Saturday, April 28<sup>th</sup>,

8:30 - 10: 30 AM @ Denny's in Orangevale (pp.2, 6)

Free!

### FLAGS participation in Norcal Jamboree

All day Saturday May 5, UC Davis

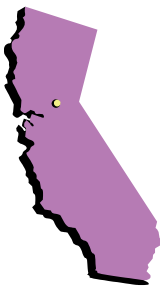
\$50 all day (p.3)

## NorCal Jamboree

*by Tanya Zaccone*

If you have enjoyed California Language Teachers Association conferences, or have been meaning to go to one but just haven't been able to get together the time or the funds, we are pleased to announce that Northern California CLTA affiliates will host the first ever northern all-day Jamboree on May 5, 2012 at the University of California at Davis.

The event is very similar to Saturday at a CLTA conference, with five time slots of one-hour presentations. Southern California affiliates have



hosted a Jamboree three times, with much positive feedback from participants. Thanks to Dr. Robert Blake, Director of the UC Consortium, for arranging a lovely venue at Davis, and for his unwavering help and support in creating this event.

Participants must be members of CLTA and their local affiliate (FLAGS), but if you are not yet a member by May 5, you may pay your dues at registration. Cost is expected to be about \$50 for the entire day and includes both a continental breakfast and lunch. If you are interested in presenting, you may download a proposal form at <http://www.clta.net.Jamboree> and send it to [phirsch@windwardschool.org](mailto:phirsch@windwardschool.org). Presenters will receive free registration.

We look forward to seeing you on May 5 in Davis!

Marie Robb and her student  
Chloe Countryman (Center)



## FLAGS Student Awards Breakfast

By Marie Robb

On Saturday, April 30, 2011, eight members of FLAGS gathered at the Denny's Restaurant in Orangevale to recognize and pay tribute to their students. The room was spacious, and the teachers, students, and family members had plenty of room. After a delicious breakfast, compliments of FLAGS, each teacher stood to recognize her special student with an accolade like "Most Creative," "Most Enthusiastic," "Outstanding Student," "Outstanding Achievement," "Most Dedicated," and "Student of the Year." It was a very special opportunity to acknowledge the hard work of our language students, and to show our appreciation for their commitment.

*(More pictures from this event on page 7)*



Christine Lanphere and her  
student, Rosella Moreno  
(Natomas)



Susan Gibbs and her student Beckett  
Lee (Partnerships for Student-  
Centered Learning Horizon Charter)

It's amazing that  
the 2011-2012  
school year is  
already here!

We hope you all  
enjoyed a fantastic summer break. As we begin  
classes, it's time to think about renewing lots of  
things, especially your professional member-  
ships - local, state, and national.

We need you to renew your membership each  
year so that we can continue to provide you with  
professional development opportunities, chances  
to recognize your peers and students, and up-  
dated information about advocacy and topics of  
interest to the profession..

We currently have nearly 50 members who have  
renewed for 2011, and the new membership  
year starts on January 1, 2012. If you are not  
sure whether your membership is up to date, you  
can either check the mailing label on this news-  
letter or contact me and I'll let you know: [membership@flagsteacher.com](mailto:membership@flagsteacher.com). The FLAGS Board  
really counts on your membership to meet our  
plans for professional development programs,  
maintaining communication, and offering ser-  
vices for students and teachers in the area.



### MEMBERSHIP CORNER

Please help us to  
achieve our goals by  
renewing your mem-  
bership.

Also, as advocates for  
the language teaching profession, as school starts  
up again, please take a moment to encourage your  
colleagues who are new to the profession (or new to  
your school) to become involved with professional  
organizations such as FLAGS & CLTA. Tell them to  
check out our website to find information about train-  
ing opportunities and resources for their classroom  
(<http://www.flagsteacher.com>), and let them know  
how important it is to network with other profession-  
als and receive the support that membership brings.  
As an added bonus, any **new** members who pay  
their FLAGS & CLTA membership from now until the  
end of the calendar year will receive those 4 months  
as a bonus and will be registered as members for  
the entire 2012 calendar year as well.

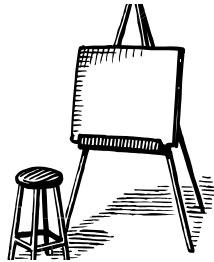
FLAGS and CLTA deserve to be at the top of your  
"To Do" list. Please take a moment to complete the  
form on the next page and send your check in to-  
day. We certainly appreciate your support. Wishing  
you an extremely successful year,

**Christine**

## Where Art, Culture and Community Collide: Judging the Sacramento County Fair Art Show

by Sherida Hendrix

May 26-30, 2011 marked the annual return of the Sacramento County Fair, the return of the Junior Art Competition, and my debut as a judge. For just \$2.00, students could enter the Junior Art Competition for a shot at earning first, second, or third place, as well as Best in Show. Even better yet, teachers who are FLAGS members could sponsor up to ten students and be reimbursed by FLAGS for the entry fees.



How does one choose a “winner” or the “best” work of art? Thankfully, the Fair provided a rubric to help with judging. Armed with a cup of coffee and a background in art and foreign language, I made my way out to the fair grounds on a spring Saturday morning to get started. Once there, I met up with Ruth Ward, who was also a judge for this event. Dozens of entries sat before me, all waiting to share a unique story about a student’s meaningful journey through learning and culture. Ruth and I divided up the works of art by language and dove in. The art ranged from simple, beginning-level language to a much more intri-

cate dialogue between major characters from well-known literary works. Many of the entries were lovingly crafted and the amount of effort put forth by the student artists was evident both in the outward appearance of the intricate art work and the carefully revised written pieces. Every piece was a true work of art. Many hours and many awarded prizes later, I sat in a big exposition hall on a half-constructed stage surrounded by student art. As I sat there, I felt inspired by all of the young artists who bravely submitted their cultural creations for judging. I thought of how important it is to provide opportunities like these to my own students so that they can shine. After all, what good is a special talent without a venue with which to showcase it?

If you would like more information on how you can provide such an opportunity for your own students to mix learning, language, art and culture, visit the Sacramento County Fair website at

<http://www.sacfair.com/html/competitions.asp> or get in contact with a member of your FLAGS board. Through art, you too can move culture and foreign language from the classroom to the community.



Last year's Best in Show winner student, Erin McKey and her teacher, Tanya Zaccaro

### Stay connected:

Remember, the FLAGS Ning website has been replaced by the [www.flagsteacher.com](http://www.flagsteacher.com) website.

Please reset your bookmarks!

### Where are the new 2009 California World Language Standards?

<http://www.clta.net/standards>

## CLTA CORNER

### CLTA Conference 2012

March 15-18, 2012

Hilton Hotel

Los Angeles Airport



*(The President's Perch, continued from page 2)*

28th, from 8:30 to 10:30 AM. Each participating teacher may honor one student. The breakfast is free for the teacher, the student, and two guests of the student's choosing. FLAGS will provide breakfast for everyone present, as well as a certificate and a small prize for each student awardee. There will be online registration and a printable invitation as we get closer to the event.

But wait! There's more! On Saturday, May 5th, FLAGS and several other California Language Teachers Association (CLTA) affiliates will be hosting the Norcal Jamboree on the UC Davis campus. At this all-day happening, World Language teachers will be able to attend a series of one-hour interest sessions on a wide variety of topics. Again, you are invited to consider presenting an interest session as well as enjoying the wealth of knowledge our colleagues will be sharing with us. Contact Paula Hirsch at [phirsch@windwardschool.org](mailto:phirsch@windwardschool.org) if you would like to present.

Later in May, the Sacramento County Fair will again be welcoming World Language Projects. FLAGS will be giving mini-grants to participating FLAGS teachers to pay the \$2.00 fee for up to ten student entries, for a total of \$20. As the date approaches, look for information on the "small grants" page of the FLAGS Web site regarding the deadline to submit forms and payment to enter student projects, as well as the date to drop off and pick up student work.

Finally, in July, on a date yet to be announced, FLAGS will be hosting our fourth annual International Interactive Games Exhibit created by Nicole Naditz for the State Fair. Families, as well as students and teachers, will visit our booth to play games, talk about language learning, take the "Are you smarter than a language teacher?" quiz, and spin the wheel for Discover Languages merchandise. Please consider volunteering or asking your students to join us for a volunteer shift. You'll be glad you got involved!

Remember, to get more information and to sign

up for all these happenings, go to the FLAGS website at <http://www.flagsteacher.com>. There you will find the FLAGS activities calendar, as well detailed information and online registration forms for the Fall and Winter Workshops. You will also see announcements on advocacy issues, links for specific languages, and opportunities for you to tell us what you would like to see FLAGS do for you in our periodic "FLAGS Polls." There is even a link to the electronic version of the *FLAGS Pole publication*. Lastly, look for a message from FLAGS later this year regarding our new, streamlined process for honoring a deserving teacher. Does it get any better than that?

Actually, it does. Our FLAGS Board has grown, so check out our updated "Meet the Board" page. If you would like to send an email to a specific board member, go to <http://www.flagsteacher.com/board> to get their individual email address. We would love to hear from you. Members should also send our Membership Chair, Christine Lanphere, a working **personal** email address at [clanphere@comcast.net](mailto:clanphere@comcast.net), since many of the local school districts block all outside mail.

Whew! I'm out of breath! We're looking forward to seeing you at our FLAGS reception on September 9th at Bucca di Beppo. It's free for current FLAGS members, the food is awesome, and we can all get to know each other better. Stay well and continue the wonderful work you do that makes us all proud of our profession!

Un gran abrazo,  
Ruth Ward



*(21st Century Continued from page 1)*

- Information, media and technology skills
- Life and career skills, including flexibility and adaptability; initiative and self-direction; social and cross-cultural skills; productivity and accountability; and leadership and responsibility.

In 2010, the Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills worked with professional organizations in each of the content areas to design a “map” that would make the 21<sup>st</sup> century skills easier to plan for, teach, and assess in each of the core subjects. For world languages, the organization worked with the American Council for the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), which presented the initial draft of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Map for World Languages at their 2010 conference.

FLAGS is pleased to invite you to come to our FLAGS Fall Workshop to discover the map, discuss the exciting world language student activities included as examples and collaborate with your colleagues to share how your activities fit into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills Framework or create new activities. You’ll leave excited about the prominent role world language education plays in supporting students’ development of 21<sup>st</sup> century skills, and eager to try the new activities described in the map or created in collaboration with your colleagues.

The workshop is on October 22, 2011 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (registration and light continental breakfast begin at 8:30). We’ll once again meet in room B-15 at Bella Vista High School in Fair Oaks. More detailed information and online registration are available on the “events” page of the FLAGS Web site: <http://www.flagsteacher.com>.

*(Student Awards Breakfast Pictures Continued from p.3)*

Inga Templeton and her student, Tessaundra Sidden (Mira Loma)



Nicole Naditz and her student, Whitney Mabbutt (Bella Vista)



Ruth Ward and her student, Ashley Pineda (Natomas)



Tanya Zaccone and her student, Jothika Tamizharasu (Center)

# FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

(A regional affiliate of the **California Language Teachers Association**)

## Membership Application or Renewal

January 1, 2011 - December 31, 2011

Circle One

Name (please print) .....

New Renewal

Title (circle one) Miss Ms. Mrs. Sister Dr. Mr. Rev. Brother

Home Address .....CA .....

number street city zip

Home Phone (.....)..... School Phone (.....).....

School ..... Language(s).....

School Address .....CA .....

number street city zip

E-mail ..... Fax .....

(New members) I was encouraged to join by .....

**FLAGS dues** (\$20 Regular; \$10 Student; \$5 Retiree) \$\_\_\_\_\_ (A)

**CLTA dues** (\$50 Regular; \$40 Student or Retiree) \$\_\_\_\_\_ (B)

**TOTAL (A + B) \$\_\_\_\_\_**

If paying **FLAGS & CLTA dues**, please make check payable to **CLTA** and send it with this form to:

**MARGE SOTOMAYOR**, CLTA Membership  
PO Box 123  
Ferndale, CA 95536

If paying **FLAGS dues only**, please make check payable to **FLAGS** and send it with this form to:

**CHRISTINE LANPHERE**, FLAGS Membership  
9400 Trenholm Dr.  
Elk Grove, CA 95758



**FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF  
GREATER SACRAMENTO**

c/o Christine Lanphere  
9400 Trenholm Drive  
Elk Grove, CA 95758

**Check out the FLAGS  
website!**

[www.flagsteacher.com/](http://www.flagsteacher.com/)



**What's your  
membership status?**

Have you been wondering if you'd renewed your FLAGS & CLTA membership? If you're not sure, email Christine at [membership@flagsteacher.com](mailto:membership@flagsteacher.com) to find out.

**Please renew today!**

**Stay connected:**

Remember, the FLAGS Ning website has been replaced by the [www.flagsteacher.com](http://www.flagsteacher.com) website.

Please reset your  
bookmarks!