



# The FLAGS Pole

Volume 8, Issue 2  
February, 2007

## National Recognition for Another FLAGS Member

By Junko Ito, Japanese Professor, CSUS

Dr. Kazue Masuyama, the Japanese professor at CSU Sacramento, received the 2006 Outstanding Teacher Award from the National Council of Japanese Language Teachers (NCJLT) for her excellence in teaching, innovative teaching styles, inspiration to students and colleagues, advocacy and leadership in Japanese language and culture education, and contribution to the community. NCJLT is the national organization dedicated to the promotion and development of Japanese language teaching at the elementary, secondary, and higher education levels across the United States.

Dr. Masuyama has improved and expanded Japanese education in the greater Sacramento area. She came to Sacramento in the fall of 1999 as the assistant director at former Mary Tsukamoto California Language Academy, Elk Grove, CA, and edu-



(Continued on page 7)

## Blossoming Artists: Mural Making at FLAGS Winter Conference

by Kristina Jenkins, Awards Chair

*"But I can't draw! I'm not an artist."*

A small group of FLAGS members joined together Saturday January 20th for the Winter Conference at Natomas High School, led by Cindy Peiper, Spanish teacher. Cindy taught us a new way to involve art in the classroom. After discussing the life of Diego Rivera, everyone

(Continued on page 6)

## Outstanding Teacher Awards Dinner March 2nd

Join us and celebrate!

Send in your invite and join us at Oasis in Citrus Heights on Friday March 2nd at 6PM to honor this year's award winners, Naoko Sugano McHale and José Oseguera. **See the website for directions.** Any questions, contact Kristina Jenkins: [awardschair@flagsteacher.com](mailto:awardschair@flagsteacher.com)

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## The FLAGS Pole

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

Hi Everyone,

Happy spring or at least it sure seems like it! I hope you have been enjoying the sunshine while you can.

By the time you receive this edition of the FLAGS Pole, we will already be well into February, which has been designated *DISCOVER LANGUAGES MONTH* by ACTFL and recognized as such by President Bush. CLTA and FLAGS have some very exciting events planned, so I encourage you to participate: a Language Ambush on San Francisco's Market Street on February 19<sup>th</sup>, and a rally in support of world language study on the steps of the Capitol on February 22<sup>nd</sup>. Please check the calendar and advocacy article in this edition for details. Your participation could not be more crucial than it is now.



Why should you participate? Well, in 2003 SB5, a measure calling for K-12 content standards in foreign language was signed into law by the Governor. Unfortunately, it requires money to complete the process, and the State funding for the creation of these standards may be seriously at risk, making it impossible to meet the 2009 deadline. Having standards means receiving our fair share of the funding pie, something we have never seen before. We need everyone's help if we hope to see world language study assume its place among the core disciplines. Please add your voice to the cause. **Plan on attending the rally on the 22<sup>nd</sup>!** Bring your colleagues from ALL disciplines. Encourage your students and their parents to come along. We will be discussing the *DISCOVER LANGUAGES* campaign, the importance of language study, and the standards dilemma. Please lend your voice so that our message can be heard loud and clear!

The other events closing out the FLAGS calendar for '06-'07 are also very important. Please join us on March 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Oasis Restaurant on Madison Avenue for the Teacher Awards Banquet. Once again FLAGS will be honoring outstanding teaching, so come out and support your colleagues. Dinner is only \$20.00 per person, and the evening is always inspiring. You can

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SECOND FRIDAY OF EACH MONTH

### FLAGS Board meeting

All members are welcome

Contact: Carol Eberhart

(916) 481-1940

March 29-April 1, 2007

### CLTA 2007 Conference in Santa Clara

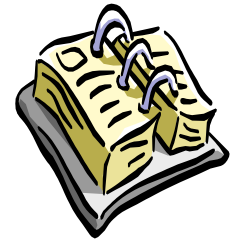
We look forward to seeing you there! Check for registration information on-line at [www.clta.net](http://www.clta.net)

April 12-14, 2007

### SWCOLT 2007 Conference in Las Vegas

The annual Southwest Region conference offers a variety of workshops and interest sessions. The regional Teacher of the Year will also be announced. Check for registration information on-

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



line at [www.swcolt.org](http://www.swcolt.org).

June 18-22, 2007

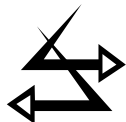
**CaPFLP Summer Institute** at CSU Sacramento Curriculum Enhancements: Differentiating Instruction to Meet all Learners.

Contact Carol Eberhart.

February 22, 2007

**Rally on the north steps of the Capitol in support of world language study**

## CLTA CORNER



Check the web!  
[www.clta.net](http://www.clta.net)

Here's what's new with CLTA...

**The Annual Conference** takes place at the end of March (3/29-4/1) in Santa Clara, CA. The theme is *Come Ride the Communication Coaster*. There is still time to register for this great event, so go to [www.clta.net](http://www.clta.net) for all the details!

**The Futures Academy** is still in the works. CLTA is looking for funding for the project, so they have extended the application deadline. If you are interested in applying, you will find everything you need on the CLTA web site (see above.)

The final report is in on **Summer Seminar** at UC Santa Barbara, and the news is not good. Despite the new format and the enthusiasm of participants, the venture did not make enough money to support itself. CLTA has chosen to cancel SS 2007 and is investigating possible alternatives for offering similar types of professional development opportunities. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please direct them to your CLTA representative, Carol Eberhart, at [transwiz@comcast.net](mailto:transwiz@comcast.net).

### CapFLP News - Your Foreign Language Project at Work!

The Capital Foreign Language Project will present a half-day workshop at the Region 6 Educators' Faire at the San Joaquin County Office of Education on March 10, 2007, from 8:30 am-1:00 pm. *Cultural Kaleidoscope* will offer three mini-sessions on 1) using theater techniques to promote communication and vocabulary development (all languages); 2) French songs that assist with grammar and structure (French focus, some Spanish); and 3) the San Francisco Mission Mural Walk (focus on Spanish, but application to other languages.) It's a real deal at only \$15.00. For more details call Carol Eberhart at 916/278-5784.

CapFLP also will offer a **Summer Institute on Curriculum Enhancements: Differentiating Instruction to Reach All Learners**. In this 40-hour seminar, June 18 - 22, 2007, participants will focus on using and creating games, music, movement and other strategies to advance student proficiency and invigorate learning. Afternoons will also include language-specific breakout sessions that will provide authentic examples from the target culture as well as a great opportunity to "immerse" yourself linguistically. Look for specific details at: <https://tepd.ucop.edu/csmp/calendar.php>. This is the main Subject Matter Project calendar. Just use the navigation tool on the right to lead you to the CapFLP calendar. Then click on June, and you will see links to a complete description of the seminar and other important details.

# Student Awards Breakfast

By Kristina Jenkins, Awards Chair

I know it's tough to get up Saturday mornings. But do you have an incredible student? Maybe one that just makes you laugh? Or who tries really hard? Someone who is always helping out or a great leader in your language club? Recognize them this year!! Each teacher can nominate one student for our Awards Breakfast. It can be you're A+ student or that one who always brightens your day. It is up to you! What do you have to do? Email me at [awardschair@flagsteacher.com](mailto:awardschair@flagsteacher.com) with the name of your student, the language they study, the title of the award you would like to give, and the number of people attending up to four (including you and your student). Then, go to the FLAGS website to print out the invitation for your student and join us for breakfast! The honoring teacher must attend because only you know your student! Students may bring up to two guests and the whole meal is free to all. But hurry because space is limited to 15 awardees!

*When in Rome...*

well, maybe when in Sacramento!

Do your part to create a fabulous regional affiliate, FLAGS!

**Attend a Board meeting:** find out what is in the works and let us know what you'd like to see planned in future.

If you get inspired, join us on a regular basis. **We have open positions!** We want your input!

## Check out the FLAGS website for...

- links to teacher resources
- the latest newsletter
- information about FLAGS events
- and more!

## SPAM blockers!

Do you use one?

Make sure to put FLAGS on your safe list:

**[email@flagsteacher.com](mailto:email@flagsteacher.com)**

Get all the great announcements we send you!

(“President’s Perch”, continued from page 2)

find the details in this edition or on [www.flagsteacher.com](http://www.flagsteacher.com).

We hope to see you at CLTA conference in Santa Clara at the end of March (3/29-4/1.) There is still time to register for California’s Number 1 professional development opportunity for world language teachers. There are great workshops on Thursday and Friday, and engaging interest sessions on Saturday and Sunday. And don’t forget the FLAGS social on Saturday evening before everyone takes off for their night on the town! Look for the announcement of where and when on the information board at conference.

FLAGS’ closing activity of the year is the Student Recognition Breakfast on Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. See this edition for more details.

I am sad to say that two events on our calendar will not take place this year. The very popular **World Language Day** at CSUS has been cancelled due to a lack of funding. We hope to revive it with the help of grant money next year, so if any of you know of money out there that can be used for multicultural events, please let me know. Also, the **Capital Foreign Language Project** has decided to eliminate our **Immersion Day Program** as a separate event. Instead, it will offer a wonderful Summer Institute called *Curriculum Enhancements: Differentiating Instruction to Reach All Learners*. It will consist of ideas for games, music, movement and other activities to perk up your curriculum, with afternoons dedicated to language-specific break out sessions. Planned for the week of June 18-22, it will take place at CSUS. For more information, you can contact me, Carol Eberhart, at 916-278-5784.

I think that’s all for now. Take care, and we’ll see you soon!

Con cariño,

*Carol*

## Discover Languages Month brings opportunities

By Nicole Naditz, Advocacy Chair

February is Discover Languages Month nationwide and that means you have a wonderful opportunity to publicize the successes of your students and the benefits of language study.

At school, you have many opportunities to spread our important message.

You can put announcements in your school’s daily bulletin about the benefits of language study.

You can host a poster contest in which students create posters advertising the benefits of language study (and including the slogan “Discover Languages . . . Discover the World”). Display the posters around campus, bring them to events, such as our upcoming “Languages Make a Difference” rally at the state capitol, or enter them in the county fair later this spring.

Spread the word to your larger school community by sending information home to parents through the school or district newsletter.

If you’re interested in taking an even more active role, we have two outstanding opportunities for you: the language ambush in San Francisco and the Languages Make a Difference rally in Sacramento.

The language ambush will take place on Feb. 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in front of the San Francisco Westfield Centre at 865 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103. We will be asking passersby the time in as many languages as possible and tallying their responses. Our 2005 language ambush in Sacramento generated significant media interest and we expect the same in San Francisco. This is a really fun way to attract public attention regarding the benefits of language study.

The rally at the capitol will take place on the north steps of the state capitol building on Feb. 22 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. We need everyone—you, your colleagues throughout the educational system, your family, friends, business contacts, and others—to join us at this event designed to both highlight the benefits of language study and multilingualism and to draw attention to the fact that the California Department of Education is refusing to implement the law legislators passed a couple of years ago authorizing work on standards for world language programs in California. Please see and share the attached letter (page 8) for more information. We hope to see you there!

# Membership Corner



Congratulations! In the past month, we have doubled the number of FLAGS members who have renewed with CLTA and FLAGS for 2007 to a total of 50! There are still many members from 2006 who have not yet renewed their membership for the new year, as well as a number of members from 2005! Some of you have no doubt sent your renewal along with your CLTA conference registration. Thank you!

If you are not sure whether your membership is up to date, check your mailing label: your membership year is printed beside your name. If it says "2007", you're current. Thank you! If it has another year printed, it's not too late! Please send in your renewal today. If you have any questions about your membership, please contact me at [membership@flagsteacher.com](mailto:membership@flagsteacher.com).

FLAGS is one of the most active affiliates in the state and offers many exciting activities and opportunities to get involved in advocacy, such as the upcoming "Rally for Languages" on the steps of the Capitol on February 19, 2007. I look forward to sharing my message on the importance of language learning and hope to see you there as advocates and members.

The FLAGS Board counts on your renewal to meet our plans for professional development programs, maintaining communication, and offering services for students and teachers in the area. Please help us to achieve our goals.

Also, as advocates for the language teaching profession, 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, [www.flagsteacher.com](http://www.flagsteacher.com), and let them know how important it is to network with other professionals and receive the support that membership brings.

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 today. We certainly appreciate your support.

Christine

("Murals", continued from page 1)

sketched and then colored a small piece of a Rivera painting. When all the pieces were put together, we had quite a masterpiece. We tried our hands at four mediums—crayon, marker, colored pencil, and paint. Even for the non-artist in some of us, it was a fun project and a great way to bring art into the classroom. The students will be thrilled by the project.

## Welcome new **FLAGS** members!

We are thrilled to welcome the following new members:

Jacquelin Cory

Vanessa Arnaud, CSUS

We want to fill this space with many names!  
Please help us make it a reality!

*Encourage your new colleagues to join us!*

## FLAGS Social at CLTA!!



**Join us Saturday evening in Santa Clara for drinks, snacks and conversation from 5:30-6:30. Look for the room location to be posted.**

("Recognition", continued from page 1)

cated prospective teachers of Japanese. At that time only 8 high schools offered Japanese. Today, however, 20 middle schools and high schools offer Japanese, and many of the Japanese teachers are her former students at the Mary Tsukamoto California Language Academy.

Dr. Masuyama has done more than educate Japanese teachers. Since 2003, when Dr. Masuyama became an assistant professor at CSUS, she has spurred the growth of professional collaboration among teachers. She is not only excellent in teaching but also skilled at using technology in education, and she has willingly shared her talent and ideas. Dr. Masuyama has been a mentor and inspiration to Japanese teachers and she is well-respected by fellow Japanese teachers, colleagues, and students.

増山先生、おめでとう！(Congratulations to Masuyama-sensei!)



## Take the **FLAGS Poll** on-line today!



### Culture for a Cause 2007 Discover Languages...Discover the World

by Kristina Jenkins, Editor/Awards Chair

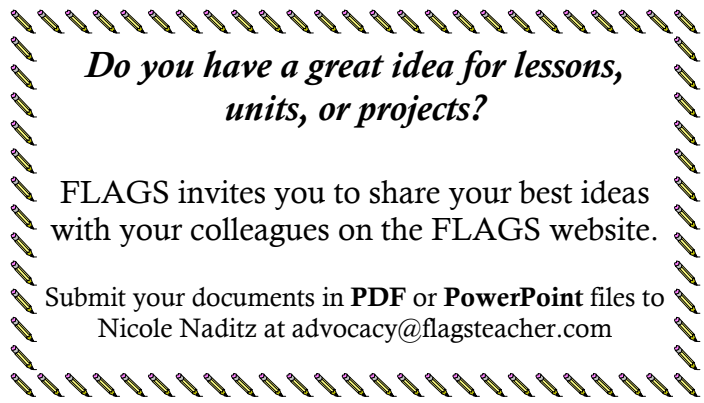
February 6th, Nicole Naditz and I joined together for a quick rehearsal after school with 27 performers and a bunch of student helpers. The students, all from Bella Vista High School, put on a great show this year filled with music and dance from several cultures. We had pianists, songs in German, Italian, French, Spanish, and Vietnamese, belly dancing, flamenco and salsa. One group even presented a skit showing two people trying to communicate in different languages before realizing they have a language in common that they've studied.



## Don't miss out!

FLAGS is now using email and our website to communicate in a timely manner with you. But if we don't have your current email address, you could be missing critical messages about activities and news for language educators. Please contact Christine Lanphere, Membership Chair, at [membership@flagsteacher.com](mailto:membership@flagsteacher.com) to update your email address.

Why did we have this event? Two reasons. I had some students approach me this year about starting a club to help raise awareness about the genocide in Darfur. Well, they did that and more. We decided to put on a cultural event to raise money through donations. Then, we collaborated with Nicole Naditz to make this a Discover Languages...Discover the World event as well. The event was a huge success with standing room only. In addition, we raised about \$1,200 for relief efforts in Darfur.



### *Do you have a great idea for lessons, units, or projects?*

FLAGS invites you to share your best ideas with your colleagues on the FLAGS website.

Submit your documents in **PDF** or **PowerPoint** files to Nicole Naditz at [advocacy@flagsteacher.com](mailto:advocacy@flagsteacher.com)

Dear Educator:

Language education is a core subject under No Child Left Behind. Language education and increasing the multi-lingual proficiency of our population are indicated as areas of key importance in both national economic and national security reports. Language education improves students' standardized test scores in math, English, and social studies, regardless of the students' ethnic background or socio-economic status. Language proficiency improves job prospects and can enhance earnings. Language proficiency improves mental flexibility, leading to enhanced problem solving and critical thinking skills.

Language education needs your help!

As you know, content and grade-level standards are very important to the educational process of every student in the state. Standards drive the curriculum taught in English, math, social studies, science, physical education and visual and performing arts. Standards provide a common language for teachers across schools and districts to use when discussing their classes, lessons, and curriculum. Standards provide a framework within which to thoughtfully consider text book adoptions. And standards provide benchmarks by which teachers can define student achievement.

Standards are also tied to funding. The existence of standards allows schools, programs, and sometimes individual teachers to apply for pockets of funding for "standards-based educational programs." The existence of standards is an important consideration when the University of California Office of the President determines which subject matter projects will receive funding and how much they will receive.

What you may not know is that in California, there are no student content standards for world language study. In fact, world languages are the only subject that lacks standards. Senate Bill 5 authorized the formation of the committee necessary to begin standards development and mandated that they be developed by 2010. Although the California Department of Education had at one time allocated funds for this purpose, the funds can no longer be found. No funds for this purpose were included in the governor's budget either.

As a result, thousands of world language teachers around the state and all of their students face a future in which world language education has even less of a place in the curriculum of our schools. They face a situation in which funding for their programs is even further diminished. They face a situation in which they will adopt textbooks without standards to guide the discussion. They face a situation in which their subject matter project (the California Foreign Language Project) and its sites around the state no longer provide desperately needed (and well-attended) professional development to language teachers because the funding may be removed due to a lack of standards.

No one will advocate for us. If we want language education to have a prominent place in our students' courses of study, WE have to be willing to take a stand. WE have to take the time and energy necessary to draw public attention to the benefits of language education. WE have to invest our time and energy to let the public and our elected officials know that language education is important for all students.

We are asking you, your colleagues, friends, students, parents and business contacts to join us in a show of support for world language education at a rally on the north steps of the capitol on Feb. 22, 2007 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. During the rally, we will highlight the cognitive, academic, social and economic benefits and language study and we will call for the implementation of Senate Bill 5 to begin the standards writing process. In order for the rally to be successful, your presence, and the presence of other stakeholders who are concerned about the quality of education of all students, is crucial. Please contact me at the e-mail address or phone number below to let me know if you will be attending.

If you would like to do even more, please write your elected assembly people and senators and ask them to demand that the California Department of Education implement Senate Bill 5. Letters will also be available at the rally for you to sign.

Sincerely,

Nicole Naditz  
Chair, California Language Teachers' Association Advocacy and Discover Languages Committees



**FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF  
GREATER SACRAMENTO**

c/o Kristina Jenkins  
120 Sierra Woods Circle  
Folsom, CA 95630

**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? You can tell by looking at the mailing label on this newsletter. The membership year that you have paid through is printed beside your name!

**Please renew today!**

The “Year of languages” is not finished....  
it's moving into  
the future!

Keep the momentum of  
“Year of Languages” going in your school  
and community.

Discover more today on the ACTFL web-  
site at **[www.discoverlanguages.org](http://www.discoverlanguages.org)**!

The logo for Discover Languages features a red, stylized arch or wave above the words "Discover Languages" in a bold, sans-serif font. The word "Discover" is on the top line and "Languages" is on the bottom line.

Discover the World!  
[www.discoverlanguages.org](http://www.discoverlanguages.org)

American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages