

FLAGS POLE

WINTER, 2017

FLAGS is a membership organization whose purpose is to provide networking, resources and professional development to world language teachers in the greater Sacramento area. We are an affiliate of the California Language Teachers' Association.

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO



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Published by the Foreign
Language Association of Greater
Sacramento

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Spanish Teacher, Retired

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Katherine Thornburgh
Spanish Teacher, El Dorado HS

**Board Members can all be
reached at
flagsteacher@gmail.com.**

II PAUSE...

**AND MARK YOUR
CALENDARS! :)**

**Winter/Spring
Workshop @
Sac State: Sat.,
Jan. 21, 2017 -
More details on
Page 5!**

**CLTA
conference:
Monterey, CA -
February 16-19,
2017 - More
details on Page
6!**

**Student Awards
Breakfast: Sat.,
April 29, 2017,
8:30 - 10:30
a.m., @ Dad's
Kitchen in Fair
Oaks, CA.
More details to
come on page 5
of this Issue of
the FLAGS Pole!**

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The President's Perch

Happy New Year, FLAGS Members!

As I write this, I'm sure most of you, like me, are at home, enjoying well-deserved time off with family and friends. Of course, that doesn't necessarily mean that we aren't doing some work during our winter breaks, but hopefully, all of you are taking time to renew and rejuvenate and allowing work to take somewhat of a backseat. I gave myself time and permission to practice my photography hobby, taking the time I never feel I have to really learn more about my camera and to spend an hour crafting one shot if I want to. It was amazing to truly disconnect from everything--literally, since one of my photo destinations had no Internet or phone service--and just learn, observe, practice, and enjoy the results. And my experiences reminded me of how important it is to provide students with time and space to pursue language in ways that resonate with them. Maybe that happens by having students explore some vocabulary that connects to an area of personal interest. Maybe you want to try a "genius time" project (<http://www.geniushour.com/what-is-genius-hour/>) with your students. Maybe you--or your students--have other ideas.

Perhaps our FLAGS winter workshop will provide some inspiration. Our topic, "Bringing the World to the Classroom" through the use of virtual reality viewers is fairly new and leaves a lot of ground to be explored (no pun intended...or maybe it was) by teachers and students regarding how to really maximize the potential of virtual reality viewers in the classroom to not only "travel" with students from the comfort and safety of the classroom, but to provide students with new, immersive opportunities to use the language. And who knows...a well-designed lesson with the VR viewers could spark interest in language, culture and travel in students who perhaps hadn't yet found their passion for their new language. There are only a couple of spaces left and all teachers will receive a free Google Cardboard Virtual Reality Viewer when they attend, so register now at <http://www.flagsteacher.com/events>.

Of course, there is even more inspiration to be had at this year's CLTA conference. This year's theme is "The Linguistic Growth Mindset: Cultivating a Future of Global Innovators" and promises many sessions that will help us foster students' desire to learn and nurture their skills in language, interculturality, and global readiness. Get registration, lodging information and more at <http://clta.net/conference/>. We hope to see many FLAGS members there...Monterey is just a short, beautiful drive away!

Welcome to 2017!

Nicole

ACTFL 2016 (BOSTON)

Celebrating ACTFL 2016!

As I reflect on my experience attending ACTFL 2016 in Boston, one special memory stands out: celebrating with colleagues and friends at ACTFL's 50th Anniversary Dinner. It was fascinating and inspiring to hear about the 50 years of advocacy and leadership provided by the ACTFL pioneers and recent leaders. Nicole Naditz and I also had the pleasure of sharing a table with Rebecca and Jean-Paul Valette, authors of the "Discovering French" textbook series, as well as other ACTFL Charter members.

In honor of ACTFL's 50th Anniversary, I decided to give you an acronym-inspired glimpse into the exciting conference experience.

- ★ Attending in droves! A record-breaking number of more than 8,000 world language educators from around the country and across the globe descended on Boston to attend ACTFL 2016.
- ★ Convention & Exhibition Center (Boston). A great, new facility, most notably the wonderful exhibit center with fly-over walkways that gave you a bird's-eye view of the action below.
- ★ Top-notch presenters: ACTFL Teachers of the Year, Thomas Sauer (CLTA 2017 Keynote speaker), Paul Sandrock (ACTFL), many presentations with a "Social Justice" theme. Lots of "standing-room only" sessions, including Nicole Naditz' workshop!
- ★ Futurist Mike Walsh's Keynote address at the Opening General Session. A really thought-provoking presentation that ACTFL members can view at this URL: <https://www.actfl.org/convention-expo/2016-annual-convention-and-world-languages-expo>
- ★ Loving the chance to see so many friends and colleagues and also connecting with a former student who now teaches Spanish in Washington D.C.!

I highly recommend that you put ACTFL 2017 (Nashville, November 17-19) on your professional calendar today.

See you there!

~ Christine Lanphere

Honoring Excellence...

Honor a Student @ the 2017 Student Awards Breakfast!!!

Held each spring, the Student Awards Breakfast is a free event for FLAGS members. Twelve FLAGS Members may honor one student deserving of special recognition during the current academic year. FLAGS treats the student, two guests and the teacher to breakfast. In addition, students receive a certificate and a small award. Teachers designate the name of the award and must be present at the breakfast to introduce their student and speak about why the student is receiving the award.

This year's Student Awards Breakfast will be held at Dad's Kitchen in Fair Oaks, CA on Saturday, April 29, 2017, from 9:00-11:00AM. For more information, and to nominate a student, contact Inga Templeton at ingatempleton@hotmail.com. Remember, this event is limited to 12 FLAGS members (and their guests), so be sure to get your nominations in early!

Best to you,
~ Inga Templeton

Teacher Awards!!!

We all know that one special teacher. The one that is organized, creative and just simply an amazing world language teacher. Why not honor this special teacher with a FLAGS Teacher Award? As a bonus the teacher will receive \$200 and the award will be presented at the faculty meeting in front of the whole staff.

It is really easy to nominate a teacher. All we need is the name of the teacher and three letters recommendation, why the teacher should receive the FLAGS Teacher Award. The letters have to be from a principal, a colleague and a parent or a student. Only teachers who are current FLAGS members can be nominated for this award. Once you have collected all the letters you can email them to the awards chair Inga Templeton at ingatempleton@hotmail.com.

Best to you,
~ Inga Templeton

Winter Professional Development Opportunities...

FLAGS WINTER CONFERENCE

FLAGS Winter Workshop: Bring your students to the world with Google Cardboard

Learn how Google Cardboard and other Virtual Reality viewers can take students on a 3D and 360-degree tour almost anywhere in the world. This exciting workshop will probably sell out, so register NOW.

Presenter: Nicole Naditz

Date & Time: January 21, 2017, Time: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Location: CSUS (room information coming in late fall 2016).

Campus map: <http://www.csus.edu/campusmap/>

Cost: **FREE** registration for FLAGS members. \$20 for non/expired members (includes 2016-2017 membership)

IMPORTANT NOTE: *all attendees are responsible for paying for their parking at CSUS.*

Registration link: <https://goo.gl/forms/ovrGrH5kCuJJAvz72>

Special notes:

- The early bird gets the worm!
- The first 30 teachers to arrive at workshop will receive a free Google Cardboard Virtual Reality Viewer, compatible with most smartphones.
- **IMPORTANT:** Please be sure your phone can download and install the free Google Cardboard App BEFORE registering. You may also want to download the Google Street View app, which works with Cardboard.

The 2017 CLTA Conference!

The Linguistic Growth Mindset: Cultivating a Future of Global Innovators

Coming February 16-19, 2017 in Monterey!

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN! Visit: <http://clta.net/registration/>

TO VIEW THE FLAMCO VIDEO, AND LEARN MORE ABOUT REGISTRATION AND THIS AMAZING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY, KEEP WATCHING

WWW.CLTA.NET!

Membership Matters!

Membership Matters...to more than just individuals!!!

The fall issue included an article about the impact of membership in Language Associations like ACTFL, CLTA and FLAGS. While there are lots of benefits to membership for us as individuals, the call to be part of a broader membership group is more important than independent members benefits. Please keep in mind the benefits available to us as members when you join, but also take some time to read about the importance of the power of membership. We have included the article from the fall issue of the FLAGS Pole in case you didn't get a chance to read it in the Fall Issue.

FLAGS Membership Benefits:

- You are part of an advocacy group for language acquisition everywhere.
- You get reduced rates for FLAGS workshops.
- You can nominate colleagues for awards recognizing them for their outstanding teaching.
- You can honor a student at the annual Student Awards Breakfast for FREE.
- You can apply for small grants to fund special Advocacy/ outreach events with your students.
- And you get instant updates on matters of importance to the profession.

So, **how** do YOU take advantage of FLAGS this year? Fortunately, this is simple!!! **By renewing your professional memberships, you get all these benefits and participate in an organization that is driving change in World Languages.**

When is your membership up for renewal? NOW! The membership year is from September 1, 2016 to August 31, 2017. If your label on this newsletter has 2016 (or earlier year) in the upper right corner, then your membership has expired and you need to renew. **Membership Dues are only \$20 (regular), \$10 (student), \$5 (retiree).**

AND, whether you're renewing or joining FLAGS for the first time, think about renewing or becoming a member of our mother Association – CLTA. **Furthermore, while you renew, think about inviting that new teacher at your school/district to become a member or give them a gift of membership. They'll thank you later.**

To renew or join FLAGS, print and send in the membership form on page 8 of this newsletter or visit <http://www.flagsteacher.com/membership.html>. To renew or join CLTA, visit <https://www.tfaforms.com/368575>.

Happy Winter!

Sincerely,
Evelyn

Membership & Advocacy...

Our Fall Festa (see Page 6 for more info) - our first time back together after each summer, is always a great time to talk about Language Association Membership. and the benefits of Membership. And, while individual benefits are drivers to join organizations, benefits do not show the entire picture. Tanya Zaccone, Executive Director of the CLTA, and FLAGS Member-at-large, eloquently reminded us that Membership means numbers, and numbers are key to... **ADVOCACY!**

So, using Tanya's logic, let's talk about advocacy. When legislators and government officials think about the influence of groups of people, numbers speak volumes! World Languages are in constant competition with other forces, inside and outside the field of education, and World Language Leaders wage battles for legitimacy every year that we never see from our classrooms. And while these World Language Leaders are enthusiastic advocates for us, they need support - from us! One of the most impactful tools for these advocates is their ability to show a following for World Language Development. There is no group like the World Language teachers to provide that following, and we do this by becoming members and maintaining membership in organizations like FLAGS, CLTA and ACTFL.

So, when you are thinking about membership, it is a personal investment, but a low-cost, high-yield investment. Membership is not just about free workshops and collaboration time. It is also about making sure that students today have the opportunity to develop into effective, well-versed 21st Century Global Citizens. Our students need us to advocate for them, and we do this through our membership.
#strengthennumbers

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION OF GREATER SACRAMENTO

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

Membership Application or Renewal

September 1, 2016 - August 31, 2017

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 (\$45 Regular; \$10 Student; \$35 Retiree) \$_____ (B)

TOTAL (A + B) \$_____

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

FLAGS Membership
9400 Trenholm Dr.
Elk Grove, CA 95758

(A+B) If paying both FLAGS & CLTA dues, please make check payable to **CLTA** and send it with this form to: (or go to clta.net/membership to pay w/a credit card and/or join other affiliates)

CLTA Membership
425 Twain
Fresno, CA 93704

