



# Nebraska Department of Education

301 Centennial Mall South ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68509

## World Language Review

April 2018



### THE POWER OF LANGUAGES

to make you college, career, and civic ready

WORLD LANGUAGE WEEK • APRIL 1-7, 2018

#### World Language Week 2018

This is the first annual World Language Week in Nebraska. World Language Week 2018 celebrates the power of languages to make students college, career, and civic ready. Speaking another language allows us to communicate our message exponentially. This power is applicable to any career in any setting. This year, help your students to recognize the power of languages. Materials and resources are available on the NDE World Language Website.

<https://www.education.ne.gov/worldlanguage/>

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[education.ne.gov/worldlanguage](https://www.education.ne.gov/worldlanguage)

## Charlamos: *From a Tiger Alum*



This honors the first World Language Week in Nebraska. My first celebration of World Language Week was at Hastings High School in Hastings, Nebraska. World Language teachers Mrs. Lamski, Mr. Ochsner, and Mrs. Yost created a World Language Week that was legendary. Students joined the classes simply to participate in the annual event. Spanish, French, and German students plastered the school with signs labeling common-use items. The language groups competed at a trivia night and at an end-of-the-week soccer game. The amount of time and work put in by these teachers was staggering. However, the excitement level of the students was also staggering. The energy and enthusiasm carried several of us into careers in world languages. Although these events can make a teacher question one's sanity, they do have a strong impact on language learning. This week, I hope you too celebrate the power of languages.

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## Distinguished Scholar Award

The World Language Advisory Committee began meeting in December to choose initiatives for World Language Week. It was the strong desire of the group to create an activity or event that would recognize students for work in World Language learning. The Distinguished Scholar Award was created to reward students for their leadership in language learning, commitment to language study, appreciation for cultural diversity, and communicative competence.

The committee developed a questionnaire for teachers. The short form asks each teacher to explain why s/he chose to nominate the student. Students were sent a link to an online form that asked questions in English and the target language. Students also had to complete a two-minute video description in the target language.

The committee reviewed all applicants. Not all nominated students chose to complete the "portfolio" form. For those that did submit materials, a rubric was used to evaluate if the student work was indeed at the appropriate level of performance and proficiency. Then, submissions were compared against other similar submissions based on the teacher evaluation, the student's work in the target language, and the student response to questions in English.

The committee evaluators enjoyed reading through the submissions and watching the student videos. The high level of commitment, care, and interest in world language learning was evident. It was fulfilling to see the results of the work of world language teachers and students from across the state.



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## Omaha Schools Honored by Spanish Embassy

Two Omaha schools were finalists in the national School of the Year award presented by the Spanish Embassy Ministry of Education. The award honors schools that are public or private elementary, middle, and high schools with Spanish immersion programs that follow the Content and Language Integrated Learning methodology. Omaha's dual language immersion program now includes six elementary schools, three middle schools, and one high school. Dual Enrollment Coordinators Susana Lara and Maria Perez Mozaz completed the in-depth application process for their schools. Castelar Elementary School was selected as a national finalist. Omaha South High Magnet School was awarded High School of the Year. South will receive an open license to the Instituto Cervantes Spanish Virtual Classroom, three teacher training scholarships of three weeks, a set of Santillana textbooks, a set of Anaya ELE y Edelsa books, six student scholarships to the El Camino del Espanol, one teacher scholarship to Tia Tula, access codes to Difusion, and two scholarships to online courses at the Universidad de Salamanca. Winners travel to Washington D.C. to receive their awards from the Spanish Ambassador.

## NILA Accepting Conference Session Proposals

The Nebraska International Language Association is accepting proposals for 50-minute sessions on topics related to "Coming Together: Collaborating to Improve Outcomes" and other areas related to language learning. Proposals will be accepted until June 1<sup>st</sup>. Notifications will be made by June 15. All presenters must still register for the NILA conference.

Session presenters generally attend the conference. NILA membership is free. The regular registration cost to attend the conference is approximately \$80. Lead presenters will qualify for reduced registration rates. The 2018 Fall Conference will be held October 5 and 6 at Schoo Middle School in Lincoln. After a keynote workshop on Friday, language focus groups known as "NATs" meet. The "NATs" are the Nebraska Association of Teachers of German, the Nebraska Association of Teachers of French, and the Nebraska Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese. Friday usually concludes with a social event. On Saturday, the keynote speaker addresses the participants. Then, breakout sessions offer hands-on workshops, presentations, and discussion groups. There is always an awards luncheon with door prizes.

If you are interested in attending NILA's fall conference or presenting a breakout session, visit the NILA website at: <http://www.nebraskalanguages.com/>

### World Language Week April 1-7, 2018

◆  
Language Fair  
UNL  
April 5

◆  
La Convention Français  
Millard South High  
School  
April 7

◆  
German Students'  
Convention  
Skutt Catholic High  
School  
April 7

◆  
Die Fledermaus  
Nebraska Wesleyan  
University  
April 8  
3:00 pm-5:30 pm

◆  
International Film  
Series Japanese Drama  
"Your Name"  
Nebraska Wesleyan  
University  
April 10  
7:30-10:00 pm

◆  
NATG & NAATF @  
The Zoo  
Henry Doorly Zoo  
April 14

◆  
Día del Niño  
Day of Music, Dance,  
Games  
Museo Latino Omaha  
April 28

Please email event  
information to  
[stephanie.call@nebraska.gov](mailto:stephanie.call@nebraska.gov)



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## Ávila Wins Distinction at Central States

Sidney teacher Brett Ávila presented the "Best of Nebraska: Transitioning to a CI Classroom: It's Not That Scary!" at the Central States Conference on Teaching of Foreign Languages. CSCTFL is a divisional region of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. CSCTFL's regional conference was held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The annual conference is held in spring around the Central States region

and typically attracts 1200 participants to 250 workshops in three days.

Ávila's presentation was selected as the Best of CSCTFL. The organization would like Ávila to present his session at the ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo in New Orleans, Louisiana in November.

## Report from the Consulate: Distance Learning

The Mexican Consulate in Omaha recently released information about university distance learning opportunities for Mexican nationals living outside of Mexico. High school graduates can enroll online to the National Autonomous University of Mexico under a full scholarship program for migrants living outside of Mexico. For more information, visit the "Bachillerato a Distancia B@UNAM". Mexico's Institute of Mexicans Abroad (IME) also offers assistance in finding online programs in both Mexican and US schools. The Colegio de Bachilleres offers online high school courses for students wishing to

graduate from high school in Mexico. Courses are also aligned to US requirements and should equate with a US high school diploma. For more information, visit their website.

Mexican Consulate in Omaha:

<https://consulmex.sre.gob.mx/omaha/>

B@UNAM:

<http://www.bunam.unam.mx/>

Colegio de Bachilleres:

<http://colbachenlinea.mx/>

Instituto de Mexicanos en el Exterior:

<https://www.gob.mx/ime>

## Malaika Grants Help Nebraska to Reach the World

Reach the World's curriculum-aligned virtual exchange journeys connect you and your students with volunteer travelers to explore the world without ever leaving the classroom. In matching your classroom of students with your own volunteer traveler abroad, you can harness authentic experiences in real time to enhance your lessons while inspiring your students to become curious, confident global citizens. Travelers are researchers or students with an interest in sharing their experiences with U.S. students.

Thanks to the generous support of the Malaika Foundation, you can take your students on one of these journeys this spring for free! Our programs are highly customizable, both in length and in curricular alignment. Whatever you want to teach and wherever you want to go, Reach the World wants to create that journey for you.

Spaces are limited, so e-mail Christopher Ahearn ([chris@reachtheworld.org](mailto:chris@reachtheworld.org)) to connect with your volunteer traveler today!



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## LRC Resources for World Language Teachers

Language Resource Centers based at colleges around the United States offer support for world language teachers. Here are some offerings from some of the LRCs.

### COERLL

Deutsch im Blick: Multimedia first year  
German language program  
Cost: Free

Foreign Language Teaching Methods  
Professional Development modules  
Cost: Free

Gateway to Chinese  
Interactive resources for beginning  
Mandarin  
Cost: Free

<http://www.coerll.utexas.edu/coerll/>

### CALPER

Language Teaching and Learning Materials  
PDF downloads for Chinese, Spanish,  
Russian, Korean  
Cost: Free

<http://calper.la.psu.edu>

### CLEAR

A Guide to Creating a World Languages  
Day Event  
PDF Download  
Cost: Free

<https://clear.msu.edu/>

## Distinguished Scholars Award Winners

Below is the list of World Language Distinguished Scholars. Visit the NDE Website to see more information about each winner.

### ESU 2

#### Level I/II:

Tessa Gatewood  
Spanish  
Wahoo High School  
Teacher: Allie Munch

#### Level III/IV:

Leigh Jahnke  
Spanish  
West Point-Beemer  
Teacher: Meghan Schneider

### ESU 3

#### Level I/II:

Vy Tran  
Japanese  
Elkhorn High School  
Teacher: Mariko Anderson

### ESU 3 (Cont.)

#### Level III/IV:

Emily Gress  
French  
Bennington High School  
Teacher: Amy Nguyen

#### Level 5+:

Sonia Garcia Martinez  
Spanish HS  
Ralston High School  
Teacher: Jamie Honke

#### Level 5+:

Ethan McDermott  
Spanish  
Millard North High School  
Teacher: Theresa Jensen

### ESU 4

#### Level I/II:

Danielle Schutz  
Spanish  
Syracuse High School  
Teacher: Jacqueline Mohr

#### Level III/IV:

Sage Beers  
Spanish  
Syracuse High School  
Teacher: Jacqueline Mohr

### ESU 6

#### Level I/II:

Stephanie Elder  
Spanish  
Waverly High School  
Teacher: Cass Didier



**ESU 6 (Cont)**Level III/IV:

Emily Binder  
German  
Crete High School  
Teacher: Julie Schumacher

**ESU 7**Level I/II:

Kaitlyn Brandl  
German  
Columbus High School  
Teacher: Rae Fahrlander

**ESU 8**Level III/IV:

Clayton Spray  
French  
Norfolk High School  
Teacher: Martha Thompson

**ESU 9**Level I/II:

Victoria Hofmann  
Spanish  
Sutton High School  
Teacher: Ana Baquedano Sarrionandia

Level III/IV:

Spencer Tessman  
German  
Hastings High School  
Teacher: Eric Garchow

**ESU 10**Level III/IV:

Brayan Martinez  
Spanish  
Lexington High School  
Teacher: Diego Gamero

**ESU 11**Level I/II:

Sadie Ritter  
French  
Alma Public Schools  
Teacher: Shennon Helms

**ESU 13**Level I/II:

Elsianne Cron  
Chinese  
Scottsbluff High School  
Teacher: Jin Ni

Level 5+:

Yoselin Parra  
Spanish  
Sidney High School  
Teacher: Brett Avila

**ESU 16**Level I/II:

Madison Jones  
Spanish  
Mullen Jr./Sr. High School  
Teacher: Kelly Garcia

**ESU 17**Level III/IV:

Raven Stewart  
Spanish  
Ainsworth High School  
Teacher: Jessiah Owen

**ESU 18**Level I/II:

A.J. Richerson  
Spanish  
Culler Middle School (LPS)  
Teacher: Jessica Nickum

Level 5+:

Annika Bjorkman  
Spanish  
Lincoln High School  
Teacher: Dr. Janet Eckerson

Level 5+:

Priscilla Lebesse  
French HS  
Lincoln Southwest High School  
Teacher: Alexandra Van Zandt

**ESU 19**Level I/II:

Myo Ka Zin Soe  
Chinese  
Omaha Northwest High Magnet School  
Teacher: Chunhua Kong

Level 5+:

Barbara Barrientos  
Spanish AP  
Omaha South High Magnet School  
Teacher: A. Laura Chambers

Level 5+:

Sara Curtis  
Spanish  
Omaha Burke High School  
Teacher: Tasha R. Horn





# THE POWER OF LANGUAGES

to make you college, career, and civic ready



*The power to communicate with cultural understanding*

*The power to better understand one's self, language, and culture*

*The power to become global leaders in an international market place*

*The power to think beyond the box, outside of borders, and from another's viewpoint*

*The power to communicate ideas to an audience beyond or without boundaries*

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NEBRASKA



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