



# Nebraska Department of Education

500 S 84<sup>th</sup> St. Second Floor ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68510

## World Language Review

February 2023

### NDE World Language Mission Statement

Empower educators to engage students in the authentic use of world languages via standards-based instruction to fulfill a range of functions, from expressing personal needs to communicating in the workplace and establishing strategic relationships across cultures so that they may learn, earn, and live.



NDE World Language sincerely thanks Yinuo Daniel Wang from East High School for spending the time editing and reviewing the newsletter.

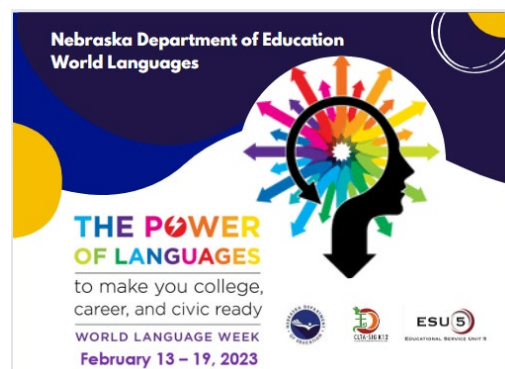
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### 2023 NE World Language Week Was A Great Success!

The 2023 Nebraska World Language week was a great success! Thanks to our co-sponsors, EUS 5 and CLTA SIG K12. Thanks to Dr. Nick Ziegler, the World language Coordinator and Technology Integration Specialist at ESU 5 for working on [the Event Website](#) and hosting the Spanish Day and the German Day!

NDE World Languages also would like to thank all three of the VIP presenters, Dr. Arthur Chou, Lea Kennedy, and Dr. Aleidine Moeller, for the informative and inspiring webinars. The recordings are posted on this [webpage](#). We would also like to thank all the teachers and parents who attended the webinars.

Lat but not least, a big thank you to the following teachers, universities, and community partners for dedicating their time and effort to provide online activities for Nebraska Language Learners:



<https://www.facebook.com/NDE.WL/>



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



[@NDE\\_WorldLang](#)

Feb 13<sup>th</sup> – Spanish Day: Alicia Shoemaker, Danielle Fulcher, Jan Coone, Dr. Nick Ziegler, and Dr. Kelly Brunetto.

Feb 14<sup>th</sup> – French Day: Dr. Christopher Jacobs

Feb 15<sup>th</sup> – German Day: Kelleen Browning, Trinia Perigo, and Yulia Evans

Feb 16<sup>th</sup> – Dan Song, Shunqin Li and Dr. Le Kang.

A special shoutout to University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Xi'an Jiaotong University, Yunan Agriculture University, and Asian Community and Culture Center for providing virtual cultural visits.

Please mark the date for the 2024 Nebraska World Language Week: February 19<sup>th</sup> to 25<sup>th</sup>.

## NeSoBL: Please Continue to Apply



Please continue to encourage your students to apply for the Nebraska Seal of Biliteracy. The application due date for the spring round is April 1<sup>st</sup>. Schools and teachers will not be notified of the results of their student applications. Please contact [chrysal.liu@nebraska.gov](mailto:chrysal.liu@nebraska.gov) if

school districts or teachers need their students' application results.

Please note, transcripts without names will not be accepted as valid proficiency evidence.

## Meet New NILA Board – Coral Su

Name: Chun-Yi Coral Su

School: North Star High School, Lincoln Public Schools

Position: Chinese teacher, interim President of CLTA-NE

Mrs. Su has been teaching Chinese at LPS for 12 years and currently serves the interim President for the Chinese Language Teachers Association (CLTA-NE) of Nebraska. She was also the recipient



of the Chinese teacher of the year by NILA. Mrs. Su got her master's degree in Curriculum & Instruction and Adult Education at UNL. Prior to entering LPS, she had taught in universities as well as many different educational settings, such as day care, community center, and local heritage school. Mrs. Su enjoys teaching Chinese and introducing the Chinese culture into the classroom. She brings many students to UNL Language Fair every year, and many of her students have won various awards at the Fair. Mrs. Su is grateful to be able to work at North Star with many capable and caring colleagues. She lives with her husband, Takahiro Sasaki and her son, Kai.

## Events

[Guest Speaker Series: Wb 8 3 Modes by Kelly Garcia and Christina Schroeder](#)

March 1<sup>st</sup>

[Guest Speaker Series: Wb 9 Task-based by Dr. Christopher Jacobs](#)

March 4<sup>th</sup>

[Guest Speaker Series: Wb 10 AAPL Assessment by Carlos Mercado](#)

March 8<sup>th</sup>

[2023 Central State Conference on Teaching Foreign Language](#)

March 9<sup>th</sup> – 11<sup>th</sup>

[Nebraska Education Technology Association Spring Conference](#)

March 16-17<sup>th</sup>

[ESU1 World Language Workshop](#)

March 22<sup>nd</sup>

[Guest Speaker Series: Wb 11 Formative Feedback by Yulia Evans & Chris Bornman](#)

March 22<sup>nd</sup>

[NATSP Charla Azteca Family Restaurant](#)

March 26<sup>th</sup>

[ESU16 World Language Workshop](#)

March 29<sup>th</sup>

[Nebraska Seal of Biliteracy Application dues](#)

April 1<sup>st</sup>

[Webinar 12 Indigenous Language Education by Dr. Buttes](#)

April 5<sup>th</sup>

Please email your event information to [chrysal.liu@nebraska.gov](mailto:chrysal.liu@nebraska.gov)



# Opportunities and Resources for Language Teachers

## Grant/ Scholarship Opportunities

There are many 2023 Grant/ Scholarship opportunities listed on ACTFL website, including [French in Normandy](#) (France), [Centro Linguistico Italiano Dante Alighieri Roma](#) (Roman, Italy), [Celas Maya Scholarship](#) (Guatemala), [Colegio Delibes](#) (Spain), [Expanish Scholarship](#) (Spain), [Intercultura Costa Rica](#) (Costa Rica), [Mundolengua Centro Int'l de Espanol S.L. \(Centro Mundolengua\)](#)(Spain), and [Tía Tula Colegio Scholarship](#) (Spain). For more details, please go to the website.

## 2023 Summer NDE OER World Language Hub Development

NDE World Language is recruiting 15 World Language teachers to work on the development of NDE OER World Language Hub from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm (June 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>) in the NDE office building. Your responsibilities include:

- OER training/ review
- Creating curriculum framework or (NOT and) self-assessment tools
- Importing documents into the NDE OER WL hub.
- Vet 3 materials aligned with NE WL standards and upload them to the NDE OER WL hub.

Participants will be paid \$175 per day. Lunch will not be provided. Please fill in the form at your earliest convenience: <https://forms.gle/ixgbjX6ipxvboYxJ7>. Please contact [crystal.liu@nebraska.gov](mailto:crystal.liu@nebraska.gov) if you have any questions.

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## Student Opportunities

### UNL 44th Annual Language Fair

The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is going to have its 44th Annual Language Fair on April 13th, 2023. The event will be held at City Campus Union, University of Nebraska-Lincoln. The theme of the 2023 UNL Language Fair is "Translation: Building Language Bridge."

The competitive events will fall in the following Categories: drama, music, poetry, creative option, poster session, folk dancing, or short film\*.



The following languages will be included in competition: Russian, French, German, Spanish, Chinese, and Japanese.

High school students from across the state studying Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Russian, and Spanish have the opportunity to demonstrate acquisition of language and cultural knowledge in competitive events.

\* New this year. Students/schools unable to attend in person will be able to submit an entry for short film. The tickets and registration will be available soon. For more details, please check the [website](#).

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## Earning Dual-Credit in Indigenous Languages

Written by: Dr. Kristine Sudbeck (Academic Dean, Nebraska Indian Community College)



[Nebraska Indian Community College \(NICC\)](#) is a tribal college that has three campus locations along the Missouri River in northeast Nebraska. Santee Campus is located rurally on the Santee Sioux Reservation, Macy Campus is located rurally on the Omaha Reservation, and South Sioux City is the urban campus located in the tri-state area where Nebraska meets South Dakota and Iowa.

Over the past five years, NICC has collaborated with several high schools to offer alternative world language offerings (Umó<sup>h</sup>o<sup>n</sup> lye/ Omaha Language and Dakhóta lápi/ Dakota Language) in the high schools for dual-credit (i.e., students continue to work towards their high school diploma while simultaneously earning college credits). So far, the participating high schools include: [Isanti Community School](#), [Umó<sup>h</sup>o<sup>n</sup> Nation Public School](#), [Niobrara Public Schools](#), and [Bancroft-Rosalie Public School](#). In the state of Nebraska, LB475 was passed in 1999 which outlines alternative path to teacher certification for those teaching Indigenous languages.

Section 1.

*(1) Teaching American Indian languages is essential to the proper education of American Indian children. School districts and postsecondary educational institutions may employ approved American Indian language teachers to teach their native language. For purposes of this section, approved American Indian language teacher means a teacher who has passed the tribe's written and oral approval test.*

*(2) Approved American Indian language teachers that do not also have a Nebraska teaching certificate shall not teach any subject other than the American Indian language they are approved to teach by the tribe.*

*(3) Each tribe shall develop both a written and an oral test that must be successfully completed in order to determine that a teacher is approved to teach the tribe's native language. When developing such approval tests, the tribe shall include, but not be limited to, which dialects will be used, whether it will standardize its writing system, and how the teaching methods will be evaluated in the classroom. The teacher approval tests shall be administered at a community college or state college.*

It is worth noting that as sovereign nations, each nation can determine their own process and procedure to determine qualified teachers. This is an expression of their own self-determination. For example, in 2001 the Omaha Tribal Council signed Resolution #11-90 which determined that their own process of certifying Omaha language teachers will include written and oral examinations which will then be reviewed by a panel of one tribal council member and four elders. This process can vary, however, as determined by each sovereign nation.

The college credits earned through NICC are recognized as meeting a general education requirement for all degree programs offered within our institution. These college credits are also transferable to other institutions of higher education, most notably those who already have native studies and/or language courses in place. For many of these high school students, this collaboration has provided the opportunity for them to learn their own heritage language.

NICC hopes this will continue to serve as a catalyst for future Indigenous language learning opportunities, for high school students and beyond. Are you interested in learning more? Check out our virtual language learning opportunities, and join us from anywhere you are able to connect with internet and technology!

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## Teacher Stories – Yi Ju Ting (Violet)

Hello, I am Violet Ting. I was inspired by my fifth-grade teacher to make teaching my career. She was a traveler and I loved to hear her stories about her adventures overseas. Seeing her example helped me understand what it takes to succeed in teaching - sharing and caring. Despite all the other jobs I've done, like cosmetics,



sales, lab research, and assisting in a university, being a teacher is the only job that I can see myself doing. .

Before I came to the USA to pursue my language teaching path, I was a science and English teacher in elementary school for 6 years. I edited textbooks and built up the bilingual curriculum for my school. However, during all that time I always dreamed about studying abroad. Several of my foreign friends told me that this was possible, I could try to start a career in Chinese teaching in the USA.

After a year of tutoring and saving my money, I applied for the master's program in Teaching Chinese as a second language in Michigan, and completed my degree in one year. After that I had opportunities to go to a few different states, but I chose to come to Nebraska because of the friendly people and how supportive the school administration was.

In the westside of Nebraska everything is very different from where I came from. I have a great school facility, supportive administration, students, and parents. This is already my second year here, but I still can learn something new every day. We do not have Asian markets or anything related to Asian culture, so in my class I try to bring a little of that culture here. We learn a lot of culture-based activities, like making dumplings and moon cakes, Chinese calligraphy, Chinese Han fu fashion show, porcelain art designing, Fulbright scholar speeches, and so on. I incorporate the culture into my teaching to make it more engaging and relevant to the students. I also encourage students to embrace the diversity of it.

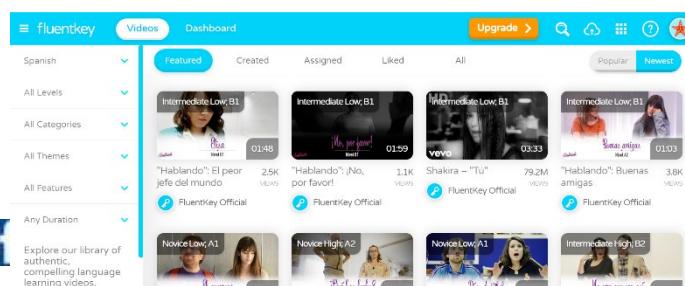
Like Aristotle said, the root of education is bitter but the fruit is sweet. The most difficult thing for me is to create genuine interest in the Chinese language for my students, and unfortunately there are no textbooks which are good enough to do this on their own. The teacher needs to create the curriculum and teaching material themselves if they want it to be the best it can be. Therefore, I actively seek out professional development opportunities to enhance my teaching skills. At the end of every semester, I value outgoing feedback from students, colleagues, and superiors to continuously improve. My goal is to provide the best possible education for all students and become a model for other teachers.

Now, I am enjoying the time with my partner to travel as much as we can. Our next trip will be in Taipei.



## Technology of the Month: Fluentkey

[Fluentkey](#) is a website created by World Language teachers. This website allows teachers to make listening practice into interactive games in class or for homework. There are many ready-to-use videos created in different languages, including Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Spanish, etc.. All the videos are marked with proficiency level and difficulty level.



If the videos provided do not work, teachers can also use YouTube videos or create their own videos. The system requires the teachers to specify language proficiency level

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when adding videos to the platform. Teachers can make the added videos/ assignments private or public. Teachers can also add several types of questions, including multiple choice, matching, put-in-order, scramble, fill-in-the-blank, short-answer, audio recording, and video recording.

Once the assignments are created, teachers can facilitate the game live just like kahoot or quizlet live. Another option is to assign the game to a class so that students can do it on their own in class or as homework.

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## Call for Contribution to Next Issues

World language teachers, your contribution is needed to build the Nebraskan world language community. If you are interested in sharing any information and contributing to any section of the newsletter, please contact [crystal.liu@nebraska.gov](mailto:crystal.liu@nebraska.gov). The purpose of the NDE monthly newsletter is to communicate NDE initiatives, advocate for programs, advertise cultural events, make connections, and build community.

Make sure you contact [crystal.liu@nebraska.gov](mailto:crystal.liu@nebraska.gov)

- When you have questions about NDE initiatives.
- When you have an initiative that needs support from NDE.
- When you want to increase the presence of your program.
- When you have resources to share.
- When there are exciting events going on locally.
- When you need help to get connected with other teachers and programs.
- When you have professional learning needs.
- And more!

If you are not on the email list and wish to subscribe to the newsletter, please put your contact information in this [Google Form](#).

