



Nebraska Department of Education

500 S 84th St. Second Floor ♦ Lincoln, Nebraska ♦ 68510

World Language Review

April 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 Kelly Garcia for spending the time editing and reviewing the newsletter.



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NeSoBL Updates: April Awardees & New Form Ready

In April, 101 Nebraska Seals of Bilingualism have been awarded to 98 High School Language learners, one Chinese seal, one Filipino seal, one French seal, 95 Spanish seals, and two Tamil seals. Three students got two Seals in different languages. It is the first time that the Nebraska Seal of Bilingualism is awarded in Filipino and Korean. For details, please check the NDE News Release here:

<https://tinyurl.com/AprilNDENewsNeSoBL>.

NDE World Language would like to express a heartfelt gratefulness to the Nebraska International Language Association (NILA) for all of their contributions to establishment of Seal of Bilingualism and constant support in the past years. Per NDE request, NDE World Language will be in charge of processing the Nebraska Seal of Bilingualism. The NILA board will be invited to join the advisory board to work with NDE World Language to review seal applications. The new application form is:

<https://tinyurl.com/NeSoBL-Application>. Please encourage your students to apply.



Opportunities and Resources for Language Teachers

2023 NILA Conference Calls for Proposals

The Nebraska International Languages Association is calling for proposals for our 2023 Fall Conference. The theme is "Building, Growing, Sustaining."

The 2023 Nebraska International Language Association Conference invites proposals for 50-minute sessions on a variety of topics. All sessions will be delivered in person.

The NILA Fall Conference will take place on Saturday, Nov 4, 2023 in Omaha Nebraska. Specific venue is pending approval.



Presentation proposals can be submitted [here](#) through June 3rd, 2023. Presenters will be notified over the summer if the proposal is accepted by July 15th, 2023 .

All presenters must still register for the NILA conference: the proposal submission form does not serve as conference registration. Lead presenters of accepted proposals qualify for reduced registration rates. Group presentations will only receive one reduced registration.

[STARTALK for Less Commonly Taught Languages](#)

STARALK is a federal grant managed and funded by the National Security Agency, supporting programs offered in the following critical need languages: Arabic, Korean, Persian, and Russian. STARTALK offers [Language Resources](#), teaching tools, and [Professional Experience for teachers](#) in the summer. [This website](#) lists all of the summer STARTALK Institutes for teachers in the 2023 summer.



Most of those professional learning experiences are free for teachers.

[Teaching Foreign Languages K-12: A Library of Classroom Practices](#)

[Annenberg Learner](#) offers a video library, which illustrates effective instruction and assessment strategies for teaching foreign languages in grades K-12. The language classrooms shown in this library include Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Italian, Latin, Russian, and Spanish. The library recorded teachers from schools across the country modeling interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes of communication throughout a range of grade and competency levels. Concepts of culture, comparisons, connections to students' lives, and the importance of



Events

- ◆
[Webinar 13 Indigenous Language Education by Dr. Buttes](#)
April 29th
- ◆
[2023 State Board April Business Meeting](#)
May 5th
- ◆
[CLTA-NE Network](#)
May 6th
- ◆
[NDE World Language Advisory Meeting](#)
May 20th
- ◆
[Dr. Moeller's Retirement Reception](#)
June 2nd
- ◆
[State Board of Education Meeting](#)
June 2nd
- ◆
[NDE WL Hub Development Cohort 2](#)
June 27th – 30th
- ◆
[CSCFLA Proposal Dues](#)
June 30th
- ◆
[ACTFL Conference Early Bird Registration](#)
July 12th
- ◆
[NDE Day](#)
July 26th
- ◆
[Education Forum](#)
August 7th
- ◆

Please email your event information to
chrystal.liu@nebraska.gov



community are also integrated into the lessons. This video library serves as great resources for self-paced professional development and reference for daily teaching practice.

[Teach World Language with Technology – Collaboration with UNL Tech Edge](#)

NDE World Language has worked with Dr. Guy Trainin in the Department of Teaching, Learning, & Teacher Education at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and created a series of Vodcast, namely, Teach World Language with Technology. [The introduction episode](#) has been published on YouTube. More episodes will be available [here](#). Please subscribe and follow us on YouTube.



Reviving Chinese Programs with J1 Projects

On March 1st, Phoenix Tree Publishing officially endorsed the Seal of Biliteracy with NDE World Language. Phoenix Tree International Education Center (PTIEC) is a wholly owned subsidiary of BLCUP (Beijing Language and Culture University Press). Established in 2016 in Chicago. It worked closely with 1,300 schools and universities across North America and helped more than 300,000 people learn authentic Chinese culture. Phoenix Tree shared its non-profit J1 project, supporting Chinese Language programs. Phoenix Tree works with Beijing Foreign Studies University, one of the best universities with Chinese as Foreign Language Teacher Preparation program, recruiting J1 teachers for school districts that are interested in starting or expanding Chinese programs. World Language teachers, please share [this flyer](#) with your school or district if there is an interest in bringing Chinese or expand a Chinese program in your school or district.



Teacher Stories – Ana Peterson

Name: Ana Peterson

School: South Sioux City High School

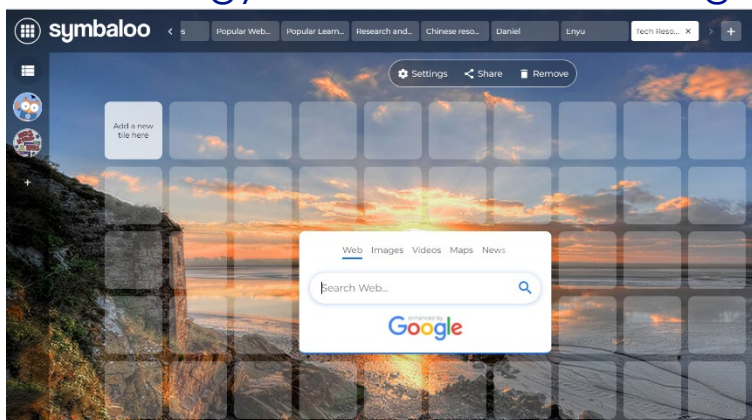
Language: Spanish

¡Hola! My teacher's story truly begins when I was a young child. Being a product of immigrant parents, I had many roles to fulfill, as well as stigmas that challenged me. My first role was to find my way in society as a first-generation American. Another was to become a college



graduate. Together, these two roles were my motivation for becoming a Spanish Teacher. Let me explain further. My first language is Spanish and through the CA education system, I was taught English. Therefore, becoming a bilingual individual was one of the many ways I embraced being a first-generation American. Next, I wanted to obtain a college degree, to fulfill the ultimate American dream my parents hoped for and because I wanted to dedicate my career to supporting young adults in their language learning. Now, as my 8th year of teaching Spanish is coming to end, having led two different Central American student tours, taught different Spanish levels, and soon introducing Spanish dual-credit courses at South Sioux City High School. I find myself in a new role. This one involves demonstrating to students that share a similar path of life, like mine, that their heritage language is one of the most beautiful assets they possess, and we must continue to support bilingualism/multilingualism.

Technology of the Month: Get Organized with [Symbaloo](#)



Have you ever had problems finding any websites in your bookmark folder? I do. That's why I was very excited when I was introduced to [Symbaloo](#). As an online bookmark manager for educators, Symbaloo can be used as a homepage on any browser, allowing you to save, share, and organize your favorite

websites.

The free account is enough if it is used for personal use without a lot of traffic on the webpage. The "+" sign towards the top right corner of the screen allows users to add a "webmix", which means a "new page". It is recommended to build each page with a theme to keep your websites organized. For example, "entertainment", "teaching resources", "technology tools", and "professional learning" are popular themes for webmixes. The squares on the webmix are called "tiles", which are space holders for your resources, such as websites, calculators, videos, online activities, and any other things you need to save on the webmix. This [short tutorial](#) is about how to create a tile. Once tiles are created, they can be dragged and dropped to different spaces if needed.

The "setting" button above the tiles allows users to make changes to the webmix, such as changing the wallpaper (background), grouping tiles, changing color, etc. The "share" button next the "setting" button allows users to share the webmix via different venues. The Webmix gallery also allows users to access all the webmixes shared by other users.

There are also advanced functions, like learning paths, which allows teachers to create learning paths, or escape room activities to engage learners. Please check [this webpage](#) for details if you are interested.



Besides helping teachers get bookmarks organized, Symbaloo can also be used to enhance world language teaching and learning. The following ideas are for your reference:

1. Leveled-reading library: create a webmix for each level and link all the readings or eBooks that you want to assign to your students.
2. Resource Page: make tiles for all the resources you used group them in units so that students can easily access all materials or resources in one place.

Please feel free to reach out to chrystal.liu@nebraska.gov if you have any questions or want to share more ideas about how to effectively use technology in your teaching practice.

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 or contributing to any section of the newsletter, please contact chrystal.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 chrystal.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](#).

