

# UFLA

The Utah Foreign Language Association Newsletter

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**Jo Carmiol**  
**UFLA President**

“Weniger aber besser”  
- Less but better. I’ve always considered myself a borderline ‘minimalist’. I strive (ongoing process) to simplify my life by limiting distractions, decluttering my space and cutting back on things that aren’t needed. This mindset focuses on intentionally pursuing the tasks we value most. So how does this relate to our World Language classrooms?

When we rush from one thing to another, student learning is stretched too thin, and the quality of our work goes down.

Over the past several years, I’ve connected with Greg McKeown’s “Essentialism” strategy and the disciplined pursuit of less. The basis of this strategy is about getting the right things done, instead of doing more in less time. Three components of McKeown’s core mind set include explore, eliminate, and execute. As this current school year comes to an end and you think about the new beginnings in the fall, I challenge you to apply this concept in your own pursuit to be a better world language teacher.

**Explore.** Pause and define your language proficiency targets. For most of us, we should be focusing on the intermediate range: either guiding learners into intermediate-low, supporting them through intermediate-mid or pushing them into intermediate-high. Once we’ve identified where we want to go, we can select the top instructional strategies associated with high functioning world language classrooms that support proficiency. These best practices include comprehensible input, modeling, language support, frequent checks for understanding, and student opportunities to produce the target language.

**Eliminate.** Secondly, eliminate the non-essentials that don’t promote intermediate language proficiency. By identifying your top priority (language acquisition) you can easily filter through the eternal list of activities and select learning tasks that support your desired proficiency targets and outcomes. I challenge you to eliminate time-wasters and time-fillers and create language rich tasks that focus on proficiency.

**Execute.** Now is the time to act. Commit to saying yes only to the learning tasks that support your linguistic priority: language acquisition.

I’m excited to serve as UFLA president this year. As a Utah native, locally grown language learner, international traveler, and public-school educator, I value our professional organizations that support and validate our never-ending efforts. The title of our recent locally sponsored SWCOLT conference was “Life & Language Elevated”. Utah’s language programs truly are an elevated example to other states. Let’s continue the upward trajectory as we become more successful in our teaching. Our students will be happier, we will be happier, and our programs will continue to thrive.

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# UEN MEDIA HUB



**Karl Bowman**

**USBE World Language  
and Immersion Specialist**

## Utah World Languages UEN eMedia Hub: A Step Forward for Education

The world is becoming a melting pot of cultures, and with technological advances it is crucial for millions of people to understand and communicate with each other in different languages. As

the world becomes more globalized, learning a new language is an essential aspect of education. In recognition of this, the Utah Education Network (UEN), in partnership with the Utah State Board of Education, recently launched [Utah World Languages UEN eMedia Hub](#).

The hub is a centralized digital resource designed to facilitate and enhance Utah students' access to foreign language learning. It is an online destination for diverse resources, educational material, and interactive media from language instructors, professional associations, and other educational institutions worldwide.

The [Utah World Languages UEN eMedia Hub](#) includes many digital items like videos, audio files, games, curriculum maps, lesson plans, and more. It focuses on languages such as Chinese, French, German, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Navajo, Ute, Goshute, and Italian. As you explore the Hub you will see other language resources as well. The resource provides comprehensive instruction, teaching materials, and additional support for K-12 foreign language educators in Utah.

The World Languages UEN eMedia Hub is an invaluable resource for classrooms and language

teachers, providing ample opportunities for creative lesson planning and innovative ideas. It features curated content drawing upon the latest research in language acquisition and education. The resource provides language instructors with helpful tools for both novice and experienced teachers, including online lesson planners, grading rubrics, and instructional strategies.

The hub consolidates resources, including digital textbooks, multimedia, and online learning experiences. It enables students to have a gamified learning experience that fosters continuous interaction, engagement, and active participation. Additionally, the breadth of media offered promotes authentic language usage and cultural exchange in real-world situations. I invite all Utah World Languages and DLI educators to contribute to this UEN eMedia Hub. In order to do so, please submit your request to Katie Garret or Katie Blunt at UEN through this link: [eMedia Hub or Content Update Request](#). They will get back with you to begin the process of uploading your contribution to this wonderful resource for other educators to access.

Overall, the addition of the Utah World Languages UEN eMedia Hub is a fantastic development for educators and students in Utah, providing accessible and varied resources to support foreign language acquisition. It is a commendable effort to harness the learning potential of digital technologies, broaden Utah's educational community, and foster communication plus understanding among people worldwide. It is undoubtedly a step forward in the development and growth of language education. Karl Bowman – World Languages and Dual Language Immersion Specialist, Utah State Board of Education. [Karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov](mailto:Karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov)

# Seal of Biliteracy and Getting Involved

## The Seal of Biliteracy: Recognizing Student Efforts

The Seal of Biliteracy is an award given to graduating high school students who have demonstrated proficiency in two or more languages. It was first introduced in California in 2012 and has since spread to over 30 other states, including Utah.

The history of the Seal of Biliteracy in Utah dates back to 2015 when State Representative Steve Eliason sponsored a bill to establish the award in the state. The bill received bipartisan support and was signed into law by Governor Gary Herbert in March of that year.

The Seal of Biliteracy is seen as a way to recognize the growing diversity of Utah's population and the importance of being able to communicate in multiple languages in today's global economy. It also aimed to encourage students to pursue language learning and proficiency beyond their high school years.

In order to receive the Seal of Biliteracy, students must demonstrate proficiency in a language other than English through a variety of assessments, including AP exams, IB exams, and language proficiency tests administered by the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. You can view or download the [Utah Seal of Biliteracy Acceptable Evidence of Proficiency](#) hereby clicking the link.

Since its introduction, the Seal of Biliteracy has been embraced by many Utah schools and districts. By high school graduation in 2022 over 3,800 Utah students have been awarded the Seal of Biliteracy.

Overall, the Seal of Biliteracy has become an important recognition of language proficiency and cultural competency in Utah, reflecting the state's commitment to preparing students for success in the global world. I invite you to work towards helping more students receive this wonderful recognition of their efforts in receiving the Seal of Biliteracy. Karl Bowman – World Languages and Dual Language Immersion Specialist, Utah State Board of Education. [Karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov](mailto:Karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov)

## GET INVOLVED IN YOUR PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATION

### Attend the annual conference

Every year, UFLA sponsors a local professional conference. This is an opportunity to connect with World Language teaching professionals.

### Present at a conference

Inspire others by sharing your expertise and experience with your state WL colleagues. UFLA is the perfect place to present your first session.

### Apply for a grant

Improve your instructional practices and language classrooms through funded projects. The Teacher Vitality Grants and Pat Buckner Collaboration Grant are awarded to support local teacher efforts.

### Nominate a colleague for an award

Highlight Utah's amazing World Language teachers and programs by submitting nominations for the Lifetime Achievement, Friend of the Profession, and Teacher of the Year awards.

### Serve in a leadership position

Actively participate in your state language teaching association or AAT. Membership benefits include instructional supports, language maintenance suggestions, and leadership opportunities. Or identify ways to serve on the UFLA board as a professional representative.





# UFLA Awards

## Lifetime Achievement Award Winners

UFLA presented three Lifetime Achievement Awards at the SWCOLT Conference in February. These three long-time members of UFLA have been examples and mentors to us in the world-language-teaching community. Just like with all good teaching, it would be impossible to fully describe the impact that these three colleagues have had on our profession. They are shining lights who have inspired us through their excellence, commitment, and ability to lift others. Here is a short description of some of their distinctive work.

### Blair Bateman

Blair has served our profession as a former UFLA President and member of the UFLA Board. His work on the Board led to the success of many of our annual conferences. Blair has spent his career preparing pre-service teachers and advocating for public schools. He has been instrumental in building the Portuguese DLI program and is now teaching Portuguese Bridge classes.



### Shauna Winegar

Shauna has also served as UFLA President and as the Newsletter Editor for many years. She built strong secondary German programs at Springville and Mountain Crest high schools.

She served as AATG President and Treasurer. She is currently the District World Language and DLI Specialist in the Cache County School District and is the State German and Russian DLI Coordinator.



### Gregg Roberts

It is hard not to use superlatives to describe Gregg and his impact on our profession. Nearly every world language teacher in Utah has their own personal experience where Gregg has improved their instructional context. Gregg has been involved with literally everything over the last several decades, and so much of what our profession in Utah is today is directly connected with his work and vision. His big vision and ability to bring colleagues together to build it leaves an enduring legacy.

## 2023 Elementary and Secondary Teacher of the Year

Lily Bueno is originally from Brazil, but she completed her university studies here in Utah. She has a master's degree in Portuguese Pedagogy, an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education with minors in DLI, Portuguese and TESOL. She



has taught both elementary and secondary classes, including the Portuguese Bridge course. Lily has written Portuguese language curriculum that has been implemented in schools across Utah, California, Massachusetts and Rhode Island. She also works with the DLI state team to consult, redesign, improve and develop Portuguese immersion program supports. Lily Bueno's work has been recognized in the McKay magazine, through national awards and academic publications.

# UFLA/SWCOLT Awards

## Best of UFLA

### Cherice Montgomery

Cherice Montgomery, Ph.D., coordinates the Spanish Teaching Major Program at Brigham Young University, where she is currently conducting grant-supported research on immersive language learning environments, including: (1) Project-based Language Learning (PBL), (2) online, Playable Case Study simulations (PCS), and (3) Dual Language Immersion (DLI). Her research explores the potential of design-based pedagogies, 21st century skills, and social technologies for affecting change in world language teacher education and professional development. She has also been honored with several awards for excellence in teaching, including the Utah Foreign Language Association Higher Education Teacher of the Year, BYU's Douglas K. Christensen Teaching & Learning Faculty Fellowship, and the ACT-FL-NYSAFLT Anthony Papalia Award for Excellence in Teacher Education, the Brigham Young University Faculty Women's Association Teaching Award, and the Kansas Foreign Language Teacher of the Year Award.



## Friend of the Profession Award

### Utah State Superintendent Sydnee Dickson



The development and promotion of the study of second lan-

The Friend of the Profession Award recognizes an individual not directly involved in the teaching of second languages that has made a significant contribution to the profession. The recipient must have provided notable support for the de-

guages in his or her community or region.

Dr. Sydnee Dickson's interest in language education stems from the conviction that bilingualism and multiculturalism are assets to Utah. Recently, she attended the 2022 International Dual Language Immersion Conference hosted in Salt Lake City, Utah. During this conference, she attended sessions and interacted with presenters. She spoke to local, national and international educators about her pride in Utah's language programming and its service to students to promote excellence in education.

## SWCOLT/VISTA HIGHER LEARNING FUTURE LANGUAGE EDUCATOR SCHOLARSHIP for High School Seniors

**Ashley Driggs:** Olympus H.S.: Granite School District

Vista Higher Learning has generously offered to sponsor two \$1000 scholarships for exemplary language students in the SWCOLT region who are interested in pursuing a career in language teaching--any language and any level. These scholarships are awarded to one outstanding high school senior and one outstanding college/university student who demonstrate a strong commitment to pursuing a career in language teaching.

Ashley Driggs is always engaged, and seeks the most understanding possible in both practice and theory. Ashley asks questions. She listens. She learns. She brings context to conversation. Ashley thirsts for knowledge and improvement, and takes her work seriously, yet finds joy in it. She is humble, not seeking recognition, but always doing the right thing and lifting up others. She is very inclusive of involving everyone around her, whether she knows them well or not, and any background they come from. As a scholarship committee and as an admissions officer, I would want Ashley Driggs in any incoming class simply to watch as she elevates those around her with her infectious spirit and intellectual curiosity.

# UFLA Conference

UFLA FALL 2023  
WORKSHOP

OCTOBER 7  
8AM-1PM

UTAH TECH UNIVERSITY  
ST. GEORGE, UTAH

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

## UFLA FALL 2023 WORKSHOP

We are excited to bring back our UFLA Fall Workshop to Southern Utah on October 7, 2023. Plan to join us from 8AM to 1PM for a short, but impactful event that will help equip you with new teaching tools and motivation.

**UFLA**

UTAH FOREIGN  
LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

## UFLA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Our Annual Spring UFLA Conference will be returning in February 2024. We look forward to hosting you at Utah Valley University for a day full of sessions. If you are interested in presenting, be on the lookout for a call for presenters on our website soon!

UFLA ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE

FEBRUARY  
2024

UTAH VALLEY UNIVERSITY  
OREM, UTAH

SAVE  
THE  
DATE

**UFLA**

UTAH FOREIGN  
LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

# Language News

## INTERMOUNTAIN

AP Summer Institute | Davis School District, Utah

### SESSIONS

- ☐ ART AND DESIGN
- ☐ BIOLOGY
- ☐ CALCULUS AB
- ☐ CALCULUS BC
- ☐ CHINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ COMPUTER SCIENCE PRINCIPLES
- ☐ ENGLISH LANGUAGE AND COMPOSITION
- ☐ ENGLISH LITERATURE AND COMPOSITION
- ☐ ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE
- ☐ FRENCH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ GERMAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ GOVERNMENT AND POLITICS-US
- ☐ HUMAN GEOGRAPHY
- ☐ PHYSICS 1
- ☐ PSYCHOLOGY
- ☐ SPANISH LANGUAGE AND CULTURE
- ☐ STATISTICS

### CREDIT

2 semester hours Masters credit through Weber State University, \$30

2 hours of USBE credit, no cost



Tuesday-Friday  
July 11-July 15, 2023  
8:00am-4:00pm

Farmington High School  
548 W Glovers Lane,  
Farmington, UT 84025

### WEBSITE REGISTRATION & DETAILS

[tinyurl.com/intermountainapsi2023](https://tinyurl.com/intermountainapsi2023)

### CONTACT

Julie Sargent, Institute Registrar  
[intermountainapsi@dsdmail.net](mailto:intermountainapsi@dsdmail.net)  
801-402-5145

### TUITION

All sessions . . . . . \$700.00  
Art and Design materials fee . . . . . \$50  
Science Courses lab fee . . . . . \$50

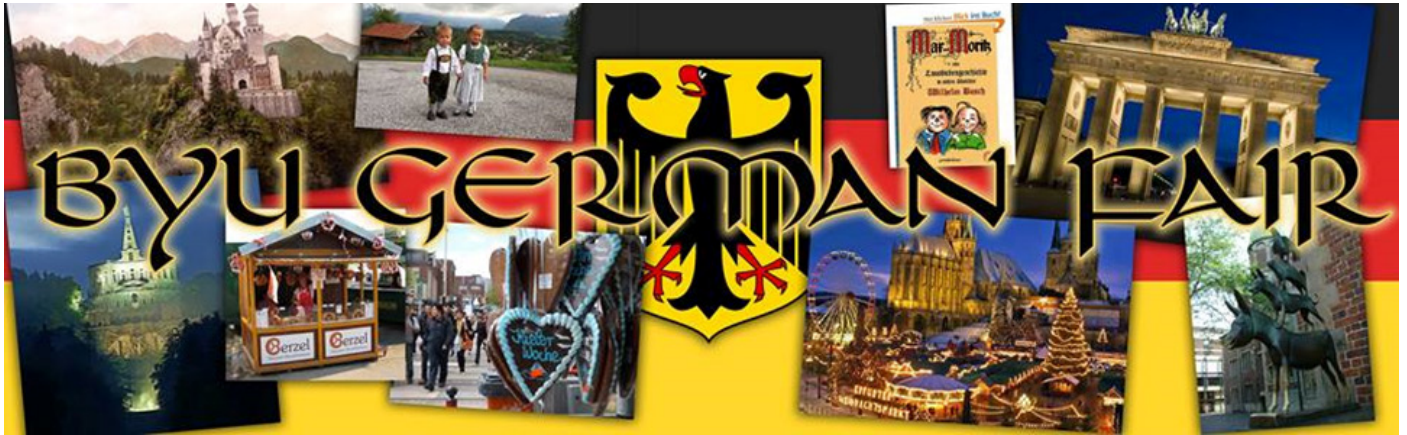
(Tuition increases if registering after May 30, 2023.)

This AP Summer Institute  
has been endorsed by





# Language News



The BYU German Fair was held April 20th this year, and 420 students and their teachers attended. Individual students and small groups competed in poetry reading, skits, scenes from plays, visual arts, solo vocal music performance, choral performance, conversational German via interview, student-produced films, even soccer and baked goods! Judges from the university gave rankings and ribbons for the highest achievements.

The baking competition gave students an opportunity to try their hand at baking authentic recipes, and it helped them compare products, practices, and perspectives of in the US and Germany. Bakery favorites such as Pflaumenkuchen, Apfelkuchen, Schaumtorte, Nusstore, and Käsekuchen were all properly represented. One judge commented that the Nusstore she tasted was just like what she buys at a favorite bakery in Germany!

The fairer part of the Fair and more immersive Kleindeutschland had booths with games, food, and souvenirs. The whole area was marked “German only” so when students greeted booth members or had to ask ques-

tions, all of their responses had to be in German. Instructions for activities were also given strictly auf Deutsch, and although it was difficult for some, many students commented about how cool it was that they were able to understand. However, if anyone happened to be caught speaking English, he or she was taken by the police, thrown in “jail,” and asked to sing a German song or recite a difficult Zungenbrecher to be released.

## *German Teachers Institute*

The BYU German Teachers Institute will take place May-June 2024. Starting in May next summer, two graduate classes will be held online—one on teaching German culture and one on teaching for proficiency. These two courses can be applied to the BYU MA program in Second Language Teaching. In June, we’ll spend three weeks in Vienna! Applications will open in the fall. Please contact Teresa Bell ([tbell@byu.edu](mailto:tbell@byu.edu)) for more information.



# Language News

## L2TReC 2023 Summer Teacher Workshops

### **Webinar: Creating Pedagogical Materials Using Learner Corpora**

*Friday, May 19, 2023*

### **DLI Secondary Summer Institute**

*Monday-Friday, June 5-9, 2023*

### **French Teacher Workshop**

*Monday-Thursday, June 12-15, 2023*

### **Creating Corpus-Informed Materials for the DLI Classroom**

*Thursday-Friday, July 13-14, 2023*

### **Spanish Teacher Workshop**

*Tuesday-Friday, July 25-28, 2023*



L2TReC  
**SECOND LANGUAGE  
TEACHING & RESEARCH CENTER**  
THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

## 2023 French Language Teacher Workshop

June 12-15, 2023

**Where:** University of Utah Campus

**Faculty:** Dr. Anne V. Lair (University of Utah) and Mme Michèle Harward (Canyons School District).

**Description:** Venez nous rejoindre pour (re)travailler les standards ACTFL, les descripteurs de la proficiency, les standards culturels NCSSFL-ACTFL pour mieux les adapter à vos leçons. Egalement, nous décortiquerons les différentes tâches des domaines langagiers qui posent problèmes aux apprenants pour voir là où incorporer de l'étayage. De plus, nous lirons des extraits littéraires en tant que textes culturels, et verrons comment les adapter aux niveaux des apprenants. N'oubliez pas d'apporter vos manuels ou des leçons que vous aimeriez améliorer.

Adapter  
Culture  
Niveaux  
Standards  
ACTFL  
Etayage  
NCSSFL  
Culture  
Domaines langagiers  
Leçon  
Littérature  
Améliorer  
Apprenants



# Language News



Jacqueline Sheean ; Gary L. Atwood-Méndez - Assistant Professors, Department of World Languages and Cultures

## Day 1-2: Teaching Film in the Language Classroom

This two-day workshop will focus on teaching film in Spanish language classrooms. The goals of our workshop are two-fold: we will consider how cinema may support learning objectives related to cultural competency and language learning at the intermediate level while also working to advance students' multimedia literacy. We will review the basics of cinematic form in order to develop frameworks of analysis that incorporate an understanding of film as a visual language.

Day 3-4: The Use of Poetry and Short Fiction in the Spanish L2 classroom: In this workshop we will consider the benefits and difficulties of using poetry and short stories in the Spanish language classroom. We will examine how the incorporation of these literary genres can help to create project-oriented tasks in which students expand both their active and incidental vocabularies, learn to recognize and use new grammatical structures and, most importantly, begin to use and play with the language in creative ways—including writing their own short creative texts.



# UFLA INFO

## UFLA needs YOU

*To find out more about how to become more involved in our UFLA organization, complete this survey. (click here)*



Would you like to nominate a Teacher of the Year? As a reminder, applications are accepted on our website at [ufla.net](http://ufla.net).

In addition to [Teacher of the Year](#), UFLA also awards the following grants:

[Teacher Vitality Grant](#)

[Pat Buckner Collaboration Grant](#)

Thank you for the many nominations for the UFLA Teacher of the Year Award. Our state is blessed with an abundance of exceptional world language educators. We will announce this year's Teacher of the Year winners and other award recipients during the upcoming SWCOLT conference.

## UFLA Mission

The Utah Foreign Language Association exists to promote the learning of world languages and cultures in the state of Utah and beyond. Specifically, the mission of UFLA is to:

- Support world language teaching and acquisition at all academic levels, including traditional instruction and dual language immersion programs
- Disseminate information and provide opportunities for the exchange of ideas and resources to support language teaching and learning
- Offer professional development opportunities for language teachers
- Recognize excellence in language teaching and learning
- Collaborate with regional and national language teaching organizations
- Advocate for public policy that promotes language learning and supports the needs of language teachers and students

## UFLA WEBSITE

The UFLA Website has now moved to <http://ufla.net>

It's a new name, but with all the content we have always had on the site. If you only visit once a year to register for the conference, come see what else we have on [ufla.net](http://ufla.net) (including copies of the newsletters going back over twenty years.) We will also post handouts from presentations at our upcoming conference on the new UFLA website.

We also hope you will join [UFLA on Facebook](#) and on our new Instagram account ([@ufla\\_utah](#)). Come participate in the conversation!



## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President	Jo Carmiol	jcarmiol@dsdmail.net
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SWCOLT	Stephen Van Orden	stephenv@provo.edu
JNCL-NCLIS	Danielle Asay	dtasay@gmail.com
LILL (Leadership Initiative for Language Learning)	Branden Lansing	blansing@dsdmail.net

## Advertising Information

The UFLA Newsletter is published three times each year in September, January and May. All issues are distributed via e-mail to UFLA members as well as posted on the UFLA website.

Advertising rates are available at:  
[UFLA Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

Contact Branden Lansing at [blansing@dsdmail.net](mailto:blansing@dsdmail.net) with any questions or to place an ad.