

# UFLA

The Utah Foreign Language Association Newsletter

Volume 109, Issue 2

May, 2024



**Teresa Bell**  
**UFLA President**

Dear UFLA Friends,

I want to express my deep gratitude to each of you for your invaluable contributions as language teachers in the wonderful state of Utah. I am truly thankful for everyone who participated in our annual conference this past February at UVU.

We saw a record number of attendees, enjoyed numerous excellent sessions, were inspired by an outstanding keynote address from the legendary Blair Bateman, and celebrated during a wonderful awards ceremony. It was heartening to witness the presence of many university students in language teaching programs and to welcome so many first-time attendees!

As we look ahead to the coming year, my primary focus is on ensuring that all language teachers feel included in UFLA. Our organization represents teachers of all languages, across all contexts and levels of instruction. This means that every language educator in Utah is a member of UFLA, including university professors, students, dual language immersion elementary teachers, part-time instructors, full-time educators, private tutors, and more. If someone teaches a language, they belong with us at UFLA. In order to uphold and strengthen language teaching and learning in

Utah, we need the participation of every language teacher. I encourage you to invite your friends and colleagues to join us!

In keeping with our commitment to inclusion, I am excited to announce that our 2025 annual conference will be held on Friday, February 21st, in St. George at Utah Tech University! This will mark the first time UFLA has ventured to St. George, and it's important for us to reach out to language teachers in the southern part of the state. I understand that asking teachers from the northern regions to travel a considerable distance may be a challenge, but I urge you to mark your calendars and plan to attend. We will provide more information about accommodations and activities soon. Whether you make it a weekend getaway or opt for a long day trip, whether you carpool with colleagues or take a shuttle, we want to see you there!

*(message continued on page 2...)*

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## President's message (continued) / UFLA Conference

This promises to be an extraordinary conference, and we want YOU to be a part of it.

Furthermore, I would like to address the issue of inclusivity regarding the term “foreign” in the name of UFLA. Since 1915, our association has been known as the Utah Foreign Language Association. There has been discussion about potentially dropping “foreign” (becoming the Utah Language Association), renaming the association entirely, adopting UFLA as a word without any acronym, or using UFLA with a tagline (similar to ACTFL’s approach). Your input on this matter would be greatly appreciated! Please feel free to email me your thoughts at [tbell@byu.edu](mailto:tbell@byu.edu).

I am eagerly anticipating an incredible year ahead with each of you!

Warm regards, Teresa Bell

### ***UFLA Conference - Save the date!***

*February 21, 2025, for the upcoming UFLA Conference in St. George, Utah. Hosted at Utah Tech University, this event promises to be a dynamic gathering of language educators, and scholars eager to share their knowledge and experiences with languages and cultures.*

*As we anticipate the conference, keep a lookout for future communications detailing our call for papers. Whether you're a seasoned language educator, a graduate student conducting research, or simply passionate about languages and cultures, we invite you to contribute your insights and expertise to our vibrant community.*

*The UFLA Conference will offer a diverse array of sessions, including both 50-minute presentations and concise 15-minute talks. This format ensures that presenters can delve into a variety of topics, ranging from language acquisition and pedagogy to intercultural communication and translation studies.*

*Plan to take advantage of the weather and outdoor experiences that southern Utah has to offer. From hiking scenic trails to discovering ancient archaeological sites, there's something for everyone to enjoy amidst the natural splendor of the region.*

*Join us in St. George for a celebration of linguistic diversity, cultural exchange, and professional development. Stay tuned for updates on registration, accommodations, and program highlights. We look forward to welcoming you to the UFLA Conference.*

*Lucia Taylor  
History, Humanities and Modern Languages Dept.  
Utah Tech University*

# UFLA Conference

# UFLA

UTAH FOREIGN  
LANGUAGE ASSOCIATION

## We're hitting the road for 2025!

SAVE



FEBRUARY 21  
**2025**

THE

DATE



# NTPRS Conference

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TO TEACH WITH TPRS®,  
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**[TPRSBOOKS.COM/NTPRS2024](https://TPRSBOOKS.COM/NTPRS2024)**

# SWCOLT

## Greetings from SWCOLT!

Hi everyone, I am currently serving on the SWCOLT Board as the representative from UFLA. I would like to share some SWCOLT news with you. First, Utah was very well represented at the SWCOLT conference in Hawaii back in March. Our Teacher of the Year, Cherice Montgomery (BYU Spanish faculty), made us look good in every way; Heidi Hawkins (BYU German student) won a Vista scholarship for future world language educators; Emily Edman (Salem Junior High faculty) won a Centro Mundolengua scholarship for summer study in Spain; many UFLA members gave great presentations; and finally, 47 UFLA members were in attendance. We had the third highest attendance from the SWCOLT states just behind California with 51 and Hawaii with 180+. We had more than Texas, Colorado, New Mexico, Arizona, Oklahoma, and Nevada. I can tell you that our reputation precedes us. Whenever I would share anything about how things are going in Utah, I would get a response back like, “Well that’s just Utah,” or “We can’t all be Utah.” It is true that we are doing great things in Utah, and we can be leaders in SWCOLT.

### SWCOLT/AZLA 2025 - Jan. 23-25

Chandler, Arizona - Gila River Resort & Casino at Wild Horse Pass





# SWCOLT

SWCOLT also offers us some great opportunities going forward. Next year, the conference will be in Arizona. Visit the SWCOLT website for more information ([www.swcolt.org](http://www.swcolt.org)). Because it is in Arizona, this SWCOLT conference will be more affordable for us in Utah. Let's start planning now to secure funding, submit proposals to present, nominate Utahns for awards and scholarships, and most of all attend the conference. We have some great Utah momentum going. Let's go large to SWCOLT Arizona!!

SWCOLT is also putting together professional development webinars. The webinar presenters have been chosen from the best presenters at SWCOLT. These webinars can be a great impetus for professional growth. The dates for the Fall have not yet been released, but you can go to the website and see the webinars that were held this year. These are free to members of SWCOLT. Otherwise the cost is \$25.

## SWCOLT Webinars

<https://www.swcolt.org/affiliated-events>

## Nominate a Utahn for an award or scholarship:

<https://www.swcolt.org/awards>

<https://www.swcolt.org/scholarships>

Stephen Van Orden

## Avalanche Sessions

At our Utah SWCOLT Conference last year, some of the sessions were full 60-minute sessions and some were short 15-minute Avalanche Sessions. For the avalanche session, presenters explained and gave examples for a short idea, method, research project, lesson, game, activity, etc. These sessions were held in one large room. Attendees could visit four different Avalanche Sessions during an hour. Many conferences have these kinds of short sessions. In Hawaii, they were called Wiki Wiki Sessions. We would like to start having these kinds of sessions at our annual UFLA Conference. This coming year, our conference will be in St. George instead of Northern Utah. Presenting an Avalanche Session (we might change the name) is a great first step into presenting at professional conferences. Getting involved in presenting at a conference takes your conference experience to a whole new level. You gain confidence, make professional connections, and feel like more of a core member of the organization. Best of all, going through the reflective process of deciding what idea to present and then polishing your idea so that you are putting your best foot forward makes you a better teacher. We all know that reflecting on our practice, setting goals, collaborating, and then implementing changes is how we get better at our craft. Present at a conference gives you a nudge or even a strong push to go through that process. So, be looking for the 15-minute sessions as one of the options to present at UFLA next year. The form for submission is not yet up on our website ([www.ufla.net](http://www.ufla.net)), but look for an email or a Newsletter announcement when the time comes.

In addition to inviting you to present a 15-minute session, I would also like to invite you to do any of the following:

- Come as an entire department to St. George for the conference.
- Present a full 45-minute session.
- Talk to a colleague about coming to UFLA.
- Talk to your admin about funds, subs, and such.
- Prioritize UFLA in your budget for next year.
- Help us make UFLA better each and every year.

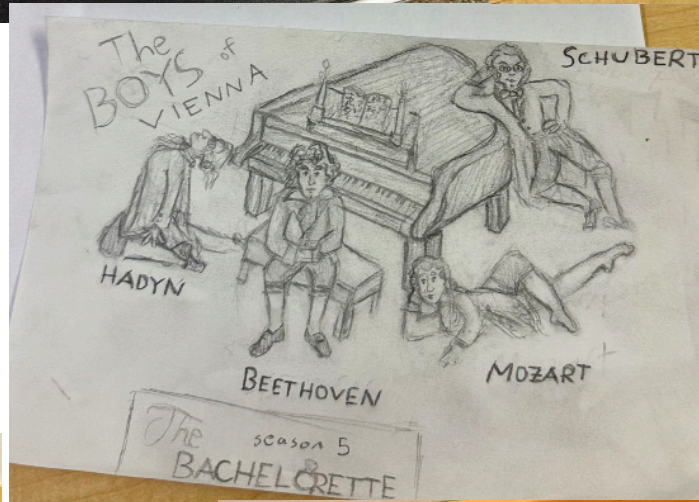
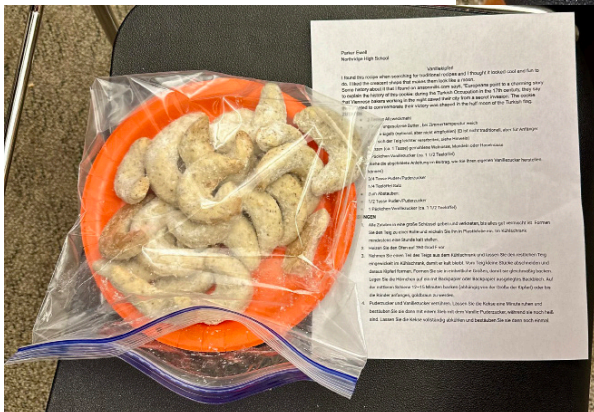
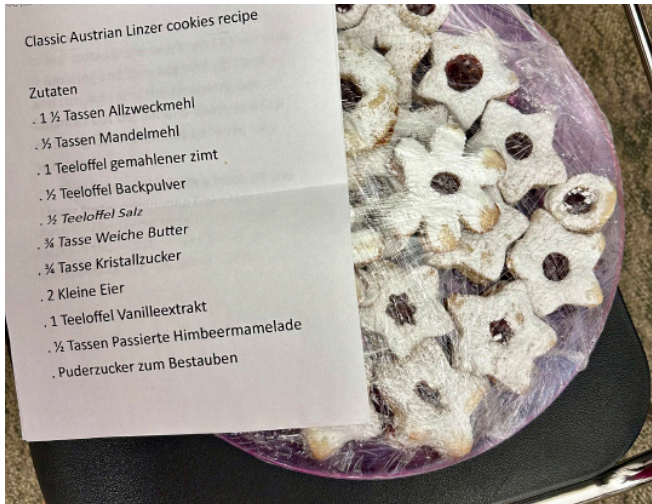
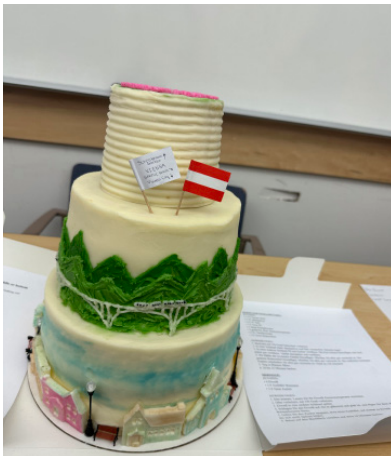
We have so many good things happening in our Utah world language classrooms. Let's lift each other up through our shared professional engagement.

Stephen Van Orden



# AATG

Nearly 700 German students from Utah, Colorado, and Wyoming attended the annual German Fair at BYU on April 18th. Students competed in categories (poetry, vocal, visual arts, baked goods, conversation, interview, speech, show and tell, films, and soccer) and learned about Viennese culture at booths in Kleinwien (Viennese art, dancing, Apfelschorle, pretzels and pastries, jewelry, storytelling, Sisi and Kaiser Franz Joseph, Silent Night, The Sound of Music, and sites and landmarks in Vienna). 70 BYU students, faculty, and community members helped put on the event.





# AATSP

In April, BYU's Spanish Dept. hosted the 2024 edition of the Spanish Fair. Roughly 2,000 middle, jr, and high school students participated, along with close to 300 volunteers. Events included a singing competition, the Spanish Idol, proficiency-based speaking and reading activities, and Españolandia, an immersion experience modeled after a trip to a Spanish speaking country. Winning schools received trophies, and everyone made great memories. Mark your calendars and check our website, [spanishfair.byu.edu](https://spanishfair.byu.edu)



## AATSP UTAH CHAPTER

**AMERICAN ASSOCIATION  
OF TEACHERS OF  
SPANISH & PORTUGUESE**



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- AWARDS & STIPENDS** ✓

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AATSP.ORG](mailto:AATSPOFFICE@AATSP.ORG)

[WWW.AATSP.ORG](https://WWW.AATSP.ORG)

[AATSP BENEFITS](#)

# AATSP

Join us at the National TPRS conference for an AATSP evening outing on July 15th.

Local Spanish teacher recognition.

## Teachers of the Year 2024

					
<b>Marjorie Keane</b> Dunsmuir Canyon Elementary (Wasatch District)	<b>Andrés Cáceres</b> Timpanogos Middle (Wasatch District)	<b>Ana Vinuesa</b> Altara Elementary (Canyons District)	<b>Jace Reber</b> Hillcrest High (Canyons District)	<b>Silvia Iglesias</b> Alta View Elementary (Canyons District)	<b>Daniel Aguilera</b> Mt. Jordan Middle (Canyons District)

 **SPANISH**



Lake View Elementary in Box Elder School District  
5<sup>th</sup> grade Spanish immersion classes – Hispanic Countries  
Museum.



# UFLA Awards



## Best of Utah

UFLA is pleased to announce the Best of Utah 2024. Congratulations to Lina Figueiredo who teaches at Majestic Fields Elementary School. Her presentation “Oral Assessment: Providing A Powerful Data-Based Assessment for Successful Interventions in DLI Classrooms” was well received and well attended. She will present at SWCOLT 2025 as Best of Utah. Join us in congratulating her and attending her presentation at SWCOLT in Chandler, Arizona.

### Lina Figueiredo

#### 5th Grade DLI Portuguese Teacher

Lina Figueiredo has been an educator for 16 years, and for six of them, she has served students in the DLI program for the Washington County School District in Utah. With a passion for languages and music, she finds joy in combining both to help students get engaged and excited about learning and excelling in Portuguese. She graduated from Western University of Paraná, Brazil, where she earned a degree in English and Portuguese Language Arts and Literature. She also earned an endorsement in Gifted and Talented Education in the US.

Outside of school, Lina enjoys spending time with her husband and son, going on Disneyland trips, musical concerts, and long Summer days in beautiful Southern Utah.



## Teacher of the Year - Secondary

Gwen Cannell – Junior High Spanish teacher, Davis School District

## Teacher of the Year – Post-secondary

Jeff Peterson – Assistant Professor of Japanese, BYU

## Friend of the Profession

Allyson Chard – Founder of the Christkindlmarkt

Candice Pierucci – Utah legislator

## Lifetime Achievement

Carolyn Sandstrom- German teacher, Weber School District

Dr. Bryan Eldredge – Chair of the Department of Languages and Cultures, Professor of Deaf Studies, UVU

Dr. Fernando Rubio – current director of the Yale Center for Language Study and former director of the Second Language Teaching and Research Center at the University of Utah



# Language News

## JNCL-NCLIS CELEBRATES RE-LAUNCH OF AMERICA'S LANGUAGES CAUCUS AND NEW BIPARTISAN CO-CHAIRS



Representative Jen Kiggans  
(R-VA)



Representative Jimmy Panetta  
(D-CA)



## Re-Launch of America's Languages Caucus and New Bipartisan Co-Chairs

JNCL-NCLIS is pleased to announce the re-launch of the America's Languages Caucus with the addition of new House Co-Chair, Representative Jen Kiggans (R-VA-2). Congresswoman Kiggans joins Congressman Jimmy Panetta (D-CA-20) in this important leadership role to support multilingualism in the United States.

# Language News

## INTERMOUNTAIN

AP Summer Institute | Davis School District, Utah

**TUESDAY-FRIDAY**  
**JULY 9 - JULY 12, 2024**  
**8:00 AM - 4:00 PM**

### SESSIONS

- Art and Design
- Biology
- Calculus AB
- Calculus BC
- Chemistry
- Chinese Language and Culture
- Computer Science Principles
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature and Composition
- Environmental Science
- Human Geography
- Physics 1
- Precalculus
- Psychology
- Spanish Language and Culture
- Statistics
- US History
- World History

**FARMINGTON HIGH SCHOOL**  
**548 W GLOVERS LANE**  
**FARMINGTON, UT 84025**

#### WEBSITE REGISTRATION & DETAILS

[tinyurl.com/intermountain-apsi-2024](https://tinyurl.com/intermountain-apsi-2024)



### Tuition

All Sessions.....\$750.00  
Art and Design Materials Fee.....\$50.00  
Science Courses Lab Fee.....\$50.00

Includes: Materials, Breakfast, Snacks, and Lunch Daily

#### CONTACT

EMILY PEARSON  
[epearson@dsdmail.net](mailto:epearson@dsdmail.net)  
801.402.5128

### CREDIT

2 semester hours Master's  
credit through Weber State  
University, \$30



2 hours of USBE credit, no cost

This *AP Summer Institute*  
has been endorsed by

AP<sup>®</sup>

CollegeBoard

## Language News

# INTERMOUNTAIN

AP Summer Institute | Davis School District, Utah

# ONLINE

MONDAY-THURSDAY

JUNE 10-JUNE 13, 2024

8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

## SESSIONS

- Art and Design
- Art History
- Calculus AB
- Comparative Government (June 11-14)
- Computer Science Principles
- English Language and Composition
- English Literature
- German Language and Culture
- Human Geography
- US Government (June 11-14)
- US History
- Music Theory
- World History - Modern

## REGISTRATION AND DETAILS



[tinyurl.com/intermountain-APSI-2024-online](https://tinyurl.com/intermountain-APSI-2024-online)

## TUITION

All Sessions.....\$600.00

This *AP Summer Institute*  
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2 semester hours Master's credit through  
Weber State University, \$30

2 hours of USBE credit, no cost

Contact  
Emily Pearson  
epearson@dsdmail.net  
801.402.5128





# Foundations of Immersion Education

DLI Endorsement  
methods course  
sponsored by  
Davis School District



## EDUC3375 (OR 6375)

- Tuesday, Aug 20th, 4:30pm
- First class is Face-to-Face
- Then online/asynchronous

REGISTER  
**GET STARTED**

Weber State University  
[https://continue.weber.edu/  
professional/TeacherTrainin  
g.aspx](https://continue.weber.edu/professional/TeacherTraining.aspx)

# Language News

## Summer French Language Teacher Workshop June 10 - 13, 2024

**Location:** University of Utah Campus, LNCO 1945  
**Time:** 9:00 am to 4:00 pm daily  
**Registration:** \$95 (registration required)  
**Faculty:** Dr. Anne V Lair (University of Utah)  
Mme Michèle Harward (Canyons School District)



**Venez passer quatre jours en français avec nous!**

**Nous reverrons les standards culturels ACTFL-NCSSFL pour que vous les appliquiez à vos leçons. On verra comment utiliser l'Intelligence Artificielle pour rédiger des leçons et des textes. Et puis on mettra un peu de grammaire, d'écriture et de culture dans notre répertoire. Pourquoi pas les Jeux Olympiques de Paris 2024. Comme d'habitude nous répondrons à vos questions. N'oubliez pas d'apporter vos manuels et les leçons que vous aimeriez retoucher.**



# Language News



## *Utah Association of Teachers of Japanese*

*We had over 150 students participate in the Japanese Language Fair in 2024. Participants learned how to share snacks, make okonomiyaki (Japanese savory pancake), draw comic strips, practice tadoku (extensive reading), study Japanese haiku and practice shodo (calligraphy), and enjoy shopping at kawaii shop. A great thanks to Japanese House residents who made and served curry for the event!*





# Language News



## Why Fluency Matters!

Wayside Publishing's Fluency Matters conference is coming to Denver! This July 8-11, hundreds of like-minded World Language educators will arrive at North High school in Denver to build upon their skills in Acquisition Driven Instruction (ADI). The Fluency Matters conference specializes in training and preparing teachers to implement ADI, especially through the use of Comprehension-based Readers™. Learn the what, why and how of ADI from over 20 expert teachers, trainers and coaches. Discover how to confidently facilitate joyful language acquisition for all learners. Cultivate your skills as an acquisition-driven instructor. Fall in love with teaching again!

### Get Graduate Credit for Your Conference Attendance!

Fluency Matters 2024, in partnership with the University of the Pacific – Benerd College, offers the opportunity to earn graduate-level semester credit (non-degree) at an affordable cost. The Fluency Matters conference specializes in training and preparing teachers to implement Acquisition-driven Instruction (ADI), especially through the use of Comprehension-based Readers™. Learn the what, why and how of ADI from over 20 expert teachers, trainers and coaches. Discover how to confidently facilitate joyful language acquisition for all learners. For only \$62 per semester credit, you have a cost-effective opportunity to meet your professional development goals.

[Visit our Webpage](#)

# Language News

## Utah Constituents Care about Languages!

Please support the World LEAP and BEST Acts, as well as other legislation to grow vital language education opportunities.

### What Foreign Languages Mean for U.S. Employers

-ACTFL, 2019

**9 out of 10**  
rely on employees with  
language skills other than English

**56%**  
say their foreign language demand  
will increase in the next five years

**Top 5**  
Departments  
with greatest foreign language skills need

1. Customer service
2. Sales
3. Marketing
4. Management
5. IT

#### Most In-Demand Foreign Languages Reported by U.S. Employers



**The Foreign Language Skills Gap\***

**1 in 3**  
foreign language-dependent U.S.  
employers reports a language skills gap

**1 in 4**  
U.S. employers lost business due to  
a lack of foreign language skills

\*A foreign language skills gap occurs when an employer has foreign language needs that are not currently met by its employees.



The Utah State Seal of Biliteracy is a recognition on the rise! Utah awarded 3855 seals in 33 different languages to high school seniors throughout the state, 2016-2022!

### Utah's DLI, Bridge, ESL/ELD, & World Language Programs:

- develop literacy skills
- improve academic success measures
- build a global-ready workforce

- We need to teach languages to build up our national defense, economy & diplomacy!
- Tradeshows feature Utah DLI programs, a draw for Utah's businesses (*Le Monde*).

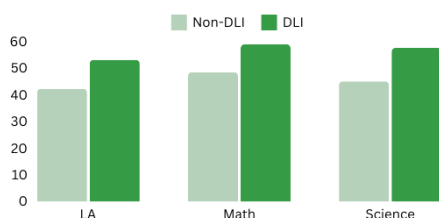
Utah Dual Language Immersion Programs

Utah DLI Program	Elementary	Middle	High
Spanish	65	56	40
Chinese	31	37	30
French	14	20	11
Portuguese	9	13	7
German	2	2	2
Russian	1	1	0
<b>TOTAL Utah Programs 2023-2024</b>			<b>341</b>

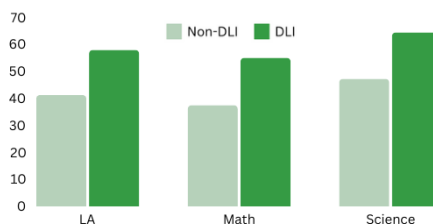
Utah Bridge Program Counts (High School - University)

	# High Schools	Fall Enrollment	# University Upper Division Sections
Spanish	41	2044	88
Chinese	29	1035	50
French	11	518	23
Portuguese	7	335	15
German	2	20	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>3952</b>	<b>178</b>

Grade 4 RISE Proficiency



Grade 8 RISE Proficiency



In light of decreasing university language enrollment nationally, Utah is unique in this number of additional sections to be funded, paid for, and full of students.

State JNCL-NCLIS Leader: Danielle Asay  
danielleasay@alpinedistrict.org

# 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	Teresa Bell	Teresa_Bell@byu.edu
Past President	Jo Carmiol	jcarmiol@dsdmail.net
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USBE Liaison	Karl Bowman	karl.bowman@schools.utah.gov
UFLA Historian	Rebecca Marks	rebecca@marksfam.net
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Utah Tech University	Lucia Taylor	lucia.taylor@dixie.edu
Utah Valley University	Jeff Packer	packerje@uvu.edu
Weber State University	Craig Bergeson	cbergeson@weber.edu

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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.