

April 2, 2014

Dear member,



As I begin my presidency of FLENJ, I would first like to **thank you** for being a member of our learning community. Our mission is to help you stay current and to assist you so that you may continue to be an active professional. We value your feedback and we hope, as you do, to learn and improve.

The feedback we have received so far from the **FLENJ March 2014 Spring Conference** is encouraging. We met your professional development needs and gave you the opportunity to renew your love of teaching and learning.

The FLENJ Executive Board has worked all year long to provide you with new ways of engaging professionally:

- Board member **Liliana López** and her committee initiated the [Education Abroad Scholarship Program](#). **Ashley Warren** is our first winner and she will be going to Chile!
- Board member **Shannon Lorenzo** and her committee created a program for [New Teacher Mentoring](#).
- **Christopher Gwin**, our President-Elect (2016-2018), in collaboration with our Immediate Past President, **Jean Modig**, have assembled a slate of webinar presentations that are too important to miss. If you did not have a chance to attend these webinars, they are still available to you on demand through our website, both for [last year](#) and [this academic year](#).

If you were at the FLENJ Spring Conference, you experienced the thrill of those teachers whose students won awards for their [Videocasts](#) and those [senior high school students](#) who each won \$1,000. Their language skills are proof positive that our teachers are some of the best in the country.

For future contests, please encourage your students to participate! Furthermore, be an active participant yourself! With a [FLENJ Mini Grant](#), you can pursue a project in your school. This year, **Christine Berg** and **Michelle Schreiner** each won \$3,000—congratulations! Next year it could be any one of you.

At the FLENJ Spring Conference, we had **two raffle winners** who will be able to attend—for free!—either the Friday or the Saturday of our next year's conference. Congratulations to **Rebecca Bodajilo** and to **Tania Trinidad**.

The [Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages](#) just held in Boston was an exiting experience. Teacher of Chinese and Best of New Jersey winner, **Liam O'Neill**, presented "Acquisition through Comprehensible Input - Gaining Micro-Fluency," and **Nathan Lutz** presented "The Language and Culture Wiki Project," for which he was recognized at the conference as a Mead Fellow.

Congratulations to **Aracelli GilPedreschi** and **Katherine Stotler** for winning FLENJ's NECTFL Raffle. Aracelli, as a first time NECTFL attendee, will get registration costs and Katherine will receive \$350 toward her expenses at the NECTFL conference. We hope that you will look for these NECTFL contests and apply to win next year.

All FLENJ award opportunities will be advertised through President's messages as well as through FLENJ [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and our [website](#). Be vigilant and don't lose out!

For next academic year, several exciting professional workshops are already being scheduled. Coming to FLENJ this fall and early next year are **Greg Duncan**, **Kevin Gaugler**, **Liliana López**, **Fernando Rubio**, and **Lauren Scheller**. I hope to see you at NJPSA, where all our PD workshops will be held. You can visit our website for details. If you are ready to give your own workshop, you can [fill out the proposal form on our website](#).

Please know that FLENJ IS YOUR ORGANIZATION. Become more active, stay informed, share your ideas, and don't hesitate to contact me with any questions or suggestions.

Best wishes,  
*Phyllis Pizzolato*  
FLENJ President  
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