



## NNELL/IN-NELL Conference 2008

# Two Networks, One Conference: A Real Bargain!

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## IN-NELL Newsletter

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**Save these dates: Jan. 25 and 26!** This year NNELL joins IN-NELL to provide a TWO-DAY learning experience for world language educators! Plan on participating in this joint conference.

On Friday, Jan. 25, Terry Cacavalle, NNELL President, will facilitate a workshop entitled **Empowering Students Through Reading in World Languages** at Sycamore School. A multitude of strategies for vocabulary expansion and techniques for supporting the importance of reading in world languages will be included in this workshop. Terry is the founder of an immersion program and coordinator of World Language Education in Holliston District Schools, Holliston, Mass.

On Saturday, Jan. 26, IN-NELL will host its 8th annual conference at Park Tudor School. Our focus will be on psychological conferences and workshops with a theme titled **Language Learning: It's a No Brainer!** Featured speaker Dr. Scott Hamilton holds awards in his field from the American Psychological Association and Indiana State University.

In addition, you will enjoy special featured teacher presentations centered on student participation and classroom management, the traditional swap shop of ideas and door prizes. Do not miss this opportunity to connect with other colleagues, share ideas, be a part of the link between NNELL and IN-NELL, and depart refreshed and renewed when you return to the classroom! **COME** and discover why IN-NELL is the best kept secret for world language teachers in Indiana! See you there!

**Registration available soon on the website and at the IFLTA Conference.**

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Visit our new  
website:  
[www.in-nell.com](http://www.in-nell.com)

## Calendar of Events

- IFLTA Conference, Indianapolis, Nov. 8-10, 2007
- ACTFL Conference, San Antonio, Nov. 15-18, 2007
- International Festival, Indiana State Fairgrounds, Nov. 15-18, 2007
- NELL/IN-NELL Conference, Jan. 25 and 26, 2008
- State French Contest, March 8, 2008
- Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, Dearborn, MI, March 6-8, 2008
- Concurso Académico (State Spanish Contest) sponsored by IAATSP, Indianapolis, April 19, 2008



## Meet IN-NELL 2007 Teacher of the Year: Amy Malott

# Malott is Teacher of the Year

ZIONSVILLE — Spanish is a curriculum requirement for all Traders Point Christian Academy students in grades five through eight. What makes the class unique is its teacher, Amy Malott, and how she teaches Spanish.



MALOTT

Malott's dedication, teaching method and her ingenuity in using it have garnered her top honors from the Indiana Network for Early Language Learning (In-NELL) — its 2007 Teacher of the Year Award. In-NELL is one of several organizations under the umbrella of the Indiana Foreign Language Teachers Association (IFLTA).

Malott, an Indiana University graduate, has been teaching Spanish since 1989. TPCA's Spanish classes alternate days with physical education throughout the entire school year.

"We don't learn extensive vocabulary lists by rote. We don't learn systematic verb conjugation. Instead, we read stories," said Malott. "We also create stories; then we tell stories using gestures, motions and act them out. It's very fun. The kids love it."

"It's physical — the kids often are on their feet for much of the class," she continued. "We play a lot of games and do a lot of singing for learning comprehension. We use Spanish about 90 percent of the time in class."

The stories can incorporate themes of words to learn, such as colors.

"I'll teach colors several at a time through story: a mom goes in a blue car to the store in a red dress and buys yellow bananas. Then I ask questions like, 'Who has shoes this color?'" Malott said. "I like to have students learn their vocabulary in context. I also do a lot with their personal life: their birthdays, pets, favorite things to do. This also helps them learn more about their classmates."

This approach to language instruction is called TPRS: Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling.

Malott says her goal is to "teach children to fall in love with the language and to have an ear for it when they hear it."

Traders Point Christian Academy is located at 6600 S. Indianapolis Road, Zionsville. For more information, visit [www.tpcs.org](http://www.tpcs.org) or call (317) 769-2450.

## Get Connected!

Nicci Saari, IN-NELL Public Relations Chair



IN-NELL has a new website! Check it out at <http://in-nell.org>. Follow the links to register for our annual conference, see highlights from past conferences, meet our Board of Directors, and more.

To receive updates and important information from IN-NELL, be sure to click on the link [Join the Network](#) and then click on [Email distribution list](#). From there, you can sign up to join IN-NELL's online mailing list. Become a part of the network!

# IN-NELL at IFLTA

Nicci Saari, Public Relations Chair

## IN-NELL Wants You!

IN-NELL is once again hosting its annual swapshop for ideas and activities on Friday, Nov. 9 at 8 a.m. during the IFLTA Conference. Bring 100 copies of your favorite activity to share, and leave with a folder full of ideas and activities.

In addition, IN-NELL is looking for more Indiana world language teachers to join our network, especially outside of the greater Indianapolis area. There will be a meeting for those who may be interested in being a regional representative on Friday, Nov. 9 at 5:30 p.m. at the IFLTA Conference. Food and drink will be provided. Come and get more involved, meet and network with other World Language teachers, and share ideas. We will be looking for you!

## Highlights from 2007 IN-NELL Conference



### 2007 Featured Teachers

Molly Murphy, Joanne Jones, Amy Malott and Nicci Saari (pictured left to right)



### Distinguished Service

President Pamela Gemmer presents IN-NELL's Distinguished Service Award.



### The Art of the Matter

Workshop presenter Lonnie Dai Zovi showing tips on how to use art in the World Language classroom.



### Submitted items to:

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# IFLTA, ACTFL, IN-NELL, NNELL, - JUST JARGON?

Joanne Jones, Park Tudor

Many teachers new to their profession in all disciplines are often unaware of the existence of professional organizations, both in their specific discipline area and in pedagogy in general. Such organizations provide a plethora of professional benefits for both the novice and experienced educator. Membership in professional organizations via their meetings, conferences and publications offer practitioners assistance and information on topics like employment opportunities, trends in educational methodology, travel opportunities, educational opportunities, latest research, and textbook and curriculum information, in addition to others.

Professional isolation is one of the major contributors to early teacher attrition. Unless teaching in a large school system, one is often without peers with whom to talk, share and plan. Professional journals and organizations offer that support.

Professional organizations often provide speakers and workshops concerning the latest methodologies and trends in teaching. This can be especially important to those who have been out of college for several years. Attending conferences and workshops provides opportunities to network and meet peers. This in turn fosters communication and a feeling of camaraderie that benefits us all.

**IFLTA** (The Indiana Foreign Language Teachers' Association) provides Indiana practitioners advocacy, conference information, grant and scholarship opportunities, a newsletter, and student contests and opportunities.

**ACTFL** (The American Council on the Teacher of Foreign Languages) provides a national forum for learning, teaching, conferencing, professional development and networking. This is not to be missed.

**IN-NELL** (The Indiana Network for Early Language Learning) is a dynamic organization dedicated to promoting opportunities for young people to learn a second language. This organization provides a newsletter, workshops and conferences to teachers of second languages in Indiana who work with students at all levels.

**NNELL** (The National Network for Early Language Learning) promotes early language learning nationally. It is a valuable resource and support for teachers of second languages who work with students at all levels.

**In addition to the above local and national organizations, each language has its own national organization like the AATF (The American Association of Teachers of French). So what are you waiting for? Start joining, learning and networking!**

## Teaching Tip: Monsieur Bonjour

Loic Andre, NNELL State Representative

One thing that we all struggle with at one point or another is how to get the children's attention as soon as they enter the class. For the last four years, I have started class by giving them the cognate of the week (or semi-cognate) "acted out" by our mascot Monsieur Bonjour. Monsieur Bonjour is a life-size portrait of a man's smiling face; he introduces cognates daily to all of my classes. To demonstrate the meaning of the cognate, I draw his body on the board, illustrating the word of the day. Since the word is a cognate, it is easy to memorize. It also reinforces that indeed 40-45 percent of English comes from French. We make up stories using this new word each week, involving as much of our old and new vocabulary as possible.



The children have lots of fun with this, especially when Monsieur Bonjour is caught in dangerous or humorous situations. You can use him in any language! You can also have a daily illustrator, by picking a child that would draw Monsieur Bonjour's body to depict the cognate of the week. As soon as the students enter the room, they can come up with some sentences describing the word of the day or the situation presented by Monsieur Bonjour.

Monsieur Bonjour is a great way to integrate your vocabulary lessons with the curriculum in other classrooms. In this picture, he is an *insecte* (a *mante religieuse* to be exact). He appeared as an insect when the 2nd graders were doing a unit on insects with their room teacher. The students learned that thorax and abdomen were spelled the same in French as in English, and that *antenne* and *insecte* were the French words for "antennae" and "insect."

As a class, we then created a story about how Monsieur Bonjour turned from a man into a bug. We even learned a song about a bug and illustrated it. Use this concept to unleash the creative and artistic powers of your students in your classroom. Beyond beginning your class with an engaging activity, you will emphasize both old and new vocabulary, develop cognate recognition skills and encourage storytelling, all while having a good time.

Monsieur Bonjour is my alter-ego. Create your own, and put more personalization into every class!

# Teaching Tip: Bubbles

Nicci Saari, Public Relations Chair

Bubbles, anyone? One activity I find extremely effective in terms of getting and holding students' interest, which provides repetition and uses very little prep time involves bubbles. This can be used with any language and any topic. For example, I often use this approach with learning the days of the week in Spanish.



I start by blowing bubbles and having a student say the days of the week repeatedly as many times as they can starting when the first bubble comes out and finishing when the last bubble pops. Students are very interested in counting the number of days another student can say in Spanish as well as watching the bubbles pop. I record the number on the board and see if anyone can beat the record. **Rule of thumb:** students must participate in saying the days of the week before they can blow the bubbles.

A very handy variation on this (which takes lots of time but the students love it) is to see if students can beat their own number of days they can say. Start blowing!

## Our History

Based on an original story by Kathy Hollander

In 1994 **Kathy White**, then a French teacher at the Orchard School, and **Kathy Hollander**, a Spanish teacher at the Sycamore School, were talking about how wonderful it would be to get together with other educators teaching languages to young children. Back then, there were far fewer resources available for songs, poems, projects and other fun activities for children learning French and Spanish. Our most valuable resource, then and now, is each other.

**Kathy White** set a date, brought a delicious baked brie appetizer and we were off. We began meeting at various schools, getting acquainted with each other and swapping ideas. **Claudia Nole and Molly Murphy joined us, as did Julie Berry, Nancy Morales, Mary Williams (Lappin), Olga Koorman, Mary Louise Cardwell, Louisa LaGrotto and Karen Steves.** We decided on topics to explore at our occasional gatherings, such as: fun ideas for celebrating holidays; the benefits of going to your students' classrooms versus having your own; pros and cons of exploratory language programs in middle school; and many more.

At an IFLTA conference, **Mary Williams (Lappin)** talked with **Kathy Hollander** about her work at the national level with NNELL and her vision of our casual group becoming a more formalized organization. **Mary** got **Rose Egan** involved, and we became IN-NELL. Others joined in, including **Pamela Valdes (Gemmer).** We had our first conference in March 2000 at the Carmel Clay Administration Building. Charter. By locating and inviting other early language educators throughout the state, we grew into a group of nearly thirty. Our fledgling IN-NELL group worked diligently, locating other teachers, inviting them to gatherings and publishing a newsletter. Our 2004 conference showed record attendance: over 100. Everyone attending joined both IN-NELL and NNELL making Indiana the state with the largest number of NNELL members in the nation that year.

Today our IN-NELL's board continues its mission to promote opportunities for all children to develop a high level of competence in at least one language and culture in addition to their own and to support the efforts of all individuals, institutions, and organizations involved in early language education.

Without dedicated educators such as you IN-NELL would not be the wonderful organization that we know today, and with every new member joining, our legacy lives on.

# Flashback: IN-NELL Conference 2005

Molly Murphy, IN-NELL Vice President



What happens when you bring a nationally known group of educators and a *familia* that is always *contenta*, together with Indiana language teachers and a table full of craft supplies? You have a fantastic day of creativity, professional development and fun!

Language educators from around Indiana gathered at Park Tudor School in Indianapolis to "Celebrate and Create with the Sunshine State" on March 5. IN-NELL was honored to have Sylvia Amaya, Jan Kucerik and Sandra Rosado of the Pinellas County FLES team lead our 6<sup>th</sup> annual conference.

These nationally known educators, along with la Familia Cicatríz and a host of emotional *frutas*, led an invigorating, hands-on workshop packed full of creative teaching ideas and activities. This dynamic group shared many original songs and activities with the group and then gave participants an opportunity to create their own.

The workshop proved to be both informative and inspiring as participants were given the time, opportunity and supplies to create materials for their classrooms. Games and assessments were demonstrated and explained, as were the creative technology components.

During our lunch meeting we had an opportunity to honor people who work hard to promote language learning in our state. Dr. Marta Antón received the Distinguished Service Award for her work in teacher education at I.U.P.U.I. We are all grateful for her incredible contributions and support of language education in Indiana and are honored to have her as an integral part of our foreign language community. Bill Main, director of Park Tudor Lower School, received our Champion of Foreign Language award for being a true supporter of the promulgation of language at an early age. Kathy White, from Orchard School in Indianapolis, received the IN-NELL Teacher of the Year award for her excellence in teaching.

Conference participants left with an abundance of teaching strategies for Monday morning as well as a folder full of swapshop materials and individual creations from the make and take session. Door prizes were awarded throughout the day and materials were available for purchase from our loyal vendors.

In the end, our presenters from Florida were successful in bringing some sunshine to our gloomy Midwestern skies that day in early March. After working in small groups to make up original songs, all participants became aware of their own creative gifts. We all left feeling inspired and empowered to bring some world language "sunshine" to our own students.

# Teacher Created Songs from the 2005 IN-NELL Conference

## Les saisons

Tune: London Bridge

Au printemps, il fait beau (3 fois)  
Au printemps, il fait beau et les fleurs poussent.

Au printemps, il pleut, il pleut (3 fois)  
Au printemps, il pleut, il pleut et il fait du vent.

En été, il fait chaud, il fait chaud (3 fois)  
En été, il fait chaud, il fait chaud et le soleil brille.

En été, il y a des orages, des orages (3 fois)  
En été, il y a des orages, des orages et moi je nage.

## ¿Dónde está la abuela?

Tune: Fray Felipe/ Are you sleeping?

¿Dónde está la abuela? (2x)  
En la cocina.(2X)  
Preparando chilaquiles(2x)  
Para desayunar. (2x)

¿Dónde está la abuela?(2x)  
En la cocina(2x)  
Cocinando frijoles(2x)  
Para almorzar.(2x)

¿Dónde está la abuela? (2x)  
En la cocina (2x)  
Asando la carne (2x)  
Para cenar. (2x)

¿Dónde está la abuela? (2x)  
En la cocina (2x)  
Horneando pasteles (2x)  
Para celebrar. (2x)

## El Cuerpo

Tune: If you're happy and you know it...

Boca, ojos, pelo y nariz - y orejas.  
Boca, ojos, pelo y nariz - y orejas.  
Boca, ojos, pelo  
Boca, ojos, pelo  
Boca, ojos, pelo y nariz - y orejas.

Manos, brazos, piernas y pies - y rodillas.  
Manos, brazos, piernas y pies - y rodillas.  
**Manos, brazos, piernas**  
Manos, brazos, piernas  
Manos, brazos, piernas y pies - y rodillas.

## ¿Qué animal será?

Tune: Pop goes the weasel

Es una mascota popular  
con garras afiladas.  
Duerme mucho dice "miau".  
¿Qué animal será?

Camina lento y pausado  
con coraza dura y fuerte.  
Es fácil esconderse.  
¿Qué animal será?