

## The NCLRC Language Resource

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Visit our website at <http://www.nclrc.org>

Happy New Year from NCLRC! We're "**Reaching Out through Clubs**" this month. Our [feature story](#) tells how a teacher started a Spanish Honor Society chapter and found new motivation for her students, and rewards for herself. YANA answers a question on the importance of language clubs, and the [Readers' Corner](#) reports on our poll about club involvement.



Native Speakers of critical languages can find [special opportunities](#) this month, and a batch of teacher exchanges are listed in [our professional development section](#).

### ★ Announcements:

- [February is ACTFL's Discover Languages Month](#) See resources for teachers [on the website](#)
- [NCLRC's Summer Institutes](#) are open for registration. Register now and reserve your space.
- U.S. school administrators are invited to apply for an opportunity to participate in a two-way Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program with Argentina.
- Goldman Sachs Foundation Prizes for Excellence in International Education deadline for applications has been extended from January to February 5 [Goldman Sachs Foundation Prizes for Excellence in International Education](#)
- [American Association of Teachers of French](#) summer scholarships for teachers application deadline is March 1, 2007.
- Watch for [US Department of State scholarships](#) for college students for overseas summer language study in Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and the Indic, Turkic, and Persian language families
- Watch for announcements of [US Government-funded Arabic and Chinese summer institutes](#) that will include both teacher training institutes and summer language programs for high school and college students. .
- Click on the [CALENDAR](#) to review conferences, calls for papers, and grant, proposal and scholarship deadlines.

### Troubleshooting:

If your email client does not recognize the links in this webzine, or the links do not work, you can go straight to the NCLRC newsletter online page clicking this link [www.nclrc.org/newsletter/english\\_newsletter.html](http://www.nclrc.org/newsletter/english_newsletter.html) or copying and pasting the link into your browser address bar.

### ★ Feature article

**Spanish Honor Society Benefits Students and Sponsors**  
by Christy Joria, Georgetown Visitation Preparatory School  
"I wish I'd started this club 25 years ago!" says Christy Joria. Read

### ★ Culture Club

*Edited by Christine Meloni*  
**What's new in the Culture Club?**  
The [Teacher's Lounge](#) features a lesson plan for using podcasts

how she found a way to increase motivation while helping her students to be more involved with Spanish language and culture. Find out about this very active club's creative educational, charitable, and fundraising activities by [reading more...](#)

## ★ Teacher's Diary

*Sofia is a second-year Spanish teacher at a charter school in the Baltimore area. Each month she shares her journal of reflections on teaching.*

Dear Diary, We're only in the first week of school and my students are driving me crazy. As it is, the start of second semester is generally jarring. [Read more...](#)

## ★ Readers' Corner

*Here's where you, our dear readers, can TALK BACK! This month we ask about teaching culture.*

**What describes the way you teach culture to your language students?** Answer our [Poll](#)

**What do you think is the most effective way to teach your target language culture?** Click here to answer the [Question](#)

Last month we asked about **traveling abroad to improve teacher's language proficiency.** [See the results here...](#)

## ★ For your Classroom

*Our 2006 Spanish Immersion Summer Institute participants collaborated on exciting lessons for teaching culture.* We are pleased to present a lesson this month on using a film that could be used with a club or a class, Flores De Otro Mundo: Flowers From Another World. The lesson was created by Susan Barrow and Diane Whitmore, and allows for discussion of the theme of immigration in modern Spanish culture and comparison of the cultures of Latin America and Spain. [See the lesson here...](#)

## ★ Critical Languages

**Arabic, Chinese, Korean, Russian, and more**

*ACTFL is recruiting native speakers of specific critical languages to participate in February, March and April training workshops.* Participants will be paid to attend the workshops and provide telephone testing from home. [See the details here.](#)

## ★ Language at Work

*Give your students real-life examples of "what you can do with foreign language."* This month we talk to Cheryl Ames, Coordinator of the "Japan-in-a-Suitcase" program in the Washington, DC area. She visits schools with "a suitcase filled with visual aids including picture panels, maps, clothes, and school supplies in order to bring Japan to life in an exciting and educational way." [Read more...](#)

with students of foreign languages. You will also find an exciting new photo contest for teachers of Italian in the Lounge. [The Hangout](#) offers an interview in Portuguese and English with a 13-year-old boy from Parede, Portugal. [The Internet Media Room](#) has new links to online radio, television, newspapers, and blogs in several languages. My favorite link is Rai Click which provides 14 Italian-language films in the popular Inspector Montalbano series.

## ★ Dear YANA

*Edited by Sheila Cockey. YANA stands for "You are Not Alone." Your questions on challenges in your classrooms are answered by an expert on languages and culture teaching.* This month's questions:

1. We have just lost one of our vibrant club advisors. Nobody who teaches that language wants to take over the position. Please help us determine why the language club is an important feature of the foreign language department. Leaderless
2. We are starting to have some televised courses in our school and I am wondering what will be the best way to ensure that the students have the interaction and conversation that is so important in language learning today. Distance Learner

[Read YANA's answers...](#)

## ★ Tech for Teachers

*by Laura Blythe Liu*

Can we use technology to stimulate more interaction in the classroom? Student response systems are being found more often in college classrooms. Find out what they are, how they work, and whether they might work in [your teaching environment...](#)

## ★ Professional Development, Conferences and Funding Opportunities

We've compiled the announcements and emails in one easy-to-access place, the Teachers' Calendar. Find out what conferences are coming your way this year [here...](#)

Many teacher exchanges, grants and fellowships are being announced - [see them all here](#)

## ★ Ask Dora

*Dora Johnson is a Program Associate at Center for Applied Linguistics, and answers reader's questions related to languages. Our advice columnists collaborated this month to answer one reader's question:*

Dear Dora,

I am a native Arabic linguist and was offered to teach Modern Standard Arabic to intermediate students, though I've never taught before except for mentoring non-native students. [Read YANA's and Doras' answers...](#)

## ★ NCLRC Staff

Hope you've all had a restful break and are re-energized for the Spring semester. [Let us know](#) what you'd like to see in this

newsletter, or what articles you can contribute!

The Language Resource is a monthly publication of the National Capital Language Resource Center <http://www.nclrc.org> to provide practical teaching strategies, share insights from research, and announce professional development opportunities for all foreign language educators.

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### Also available on our website

[Culture Club](#)

[Elementary Immersion Learning Strategies Resource Guide](#)

[Arabic K-12 Teachers' newsletter](#)

[The Essentials of Language Teaching](#)

[Sailing the 5 Cs with Learning Strategies](#)

A Resource Guide for Secondary Foreign Language Educators

[Developing Autonomy in Language Learners](#) Learning Strategies Instruction in Higher Education

[Portfolio Assessment in the Foreign Language Classroom](#) [Russian for Russians](#)

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