

## *2018 LILT Annual Conference*

### *Meet the Presenters*

**William C. Anderson:** William earned his B.A. in Spanish and Political Science and his M.A. in Foreign Language Education from Syracuse University. He currently works at the Massapequa School District as the Curriculum Associate for World Languages and ENL. He serves on the ACTFL and NECTFL Boards of Directors, and he served as the 2014 NYSAFLT President.

**Joanna Asvestas:** Joanna earned her B.A. in Art History and French and M.A. in Art History from Stony Brook University. She holds a M.A. Museum Studies from Ecole du Louvre. This is her ninth year teaching French and her first presenter experience.

**Carolina Bustamante:** Carolina holds a PhD in Foreign Language Education from Lincoln University, Nebraska. She has been the coordinator of the Spanish Adolescence Education Program and has been teaching World Language pedagogy courses at SUNY Old Westbury for the past four years. She has presented several workshops at ACTFL, AERA, Spanish in the US and international conferences.

**Xian Xian Cascella:** Xian Xian holds a B.A. in Chinese Language and Literature and a M.A. in Elementary Education. She taught Chinese in Connecticut (CLSC) and she was appointed Vice Principal in CLSC. In 2012 Xian Xian established the FLES Mandarin program in Kindergarten and 1st grade in the North Shore School District.

**Marisa DeSerio:** Marisa currently holds NYS certifications in Birth - 1st and 1st - 6th in Elementary and Special Education from St. Joseph's College and a TESOL K-12 from Hofstra University. Marisa has been teaching for 12 years in Riverhead School District as a 6th Grade ENL teacher.

**Donna Di Natale:** Donna earned a B.A. from Stony Brook University in Italian Language and Culture, and M.S. at Dowling College. For the past 30+ years Donna has been teaching M.S. and H.S. Italian in the Connetquot CSD. She also teaches Italian for the Community through the Center for Italian Studies at Stony Brook University. Donna has served LILT as 2nd Vice President and 1st Vice President and is now LILT Interim President.

**Alba Gallegos:** Alba graduated from Queens College with a B.A. in Spanish and French and an M.S. in Spanish and Secondary Education. She also earned her M.S. in School Administration and Supervision from the College of St. Rose. Alba currently serves as the P-12 Chairperson for World Languages and ENL for the Hewlett-Woodmere Public Schools.

**Melissa Gordon:** Melissa currently holds NYS certifications in Childhood Elementary 1-6 from Brandeis University as well as TESOL from Touro College. She is currently teaching as a 5th grade ENL teacher at Riverhead CSD. Melissa has been teaching for eight years. She also worked abroad in Ecuador as a TEFL teacher.

**Valerie Greer:** Valerie earned a B.A in French Language and Literature and a M.A in Liberal Studies from SUNY Stony Brook. Valerie has presented workshops and sessions for LILT, NYSAFLT, NECTFL, and ACTFL. She was recently named “Best of NY” for NYSAFLT and NECTFL. Valerie teaches at Bay Shore M.S.

**Denise Hannaoui:** Denise earned her B.A. in Linguistics and her M.A. in TESOL from SUNY Stony Brook. She also holds a M.A. in Instructional Technology with distinction from Old Westbury. Currently, Denise is the Director of ENL and World Language K-12 in Connetquot CSD. She has also served as the Curriculum Director of World Language and the Director of Testing and Assessment at Lawrence Public Schools.

**Stacy Incardona:** Stacy earned her B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature and Italian from SUNY Binghamton and her M.S. in Education from CUNY Queens College. Stacy taught 5th-7th grade Spanish in NYC and presently teaches Spanish to grades 3, 4 & 5 in the Massapequa School District.

**Christina Margiore:** Christina earned a B.A. in Adolescence Education: Spanish 7-12 from LIU Post and a M.A. in Liberal Studies: Spanish. She also holds an Administrative Certificate from SUNY Stony Brook. Christina has taught Spanish at Northport MS and HS for nine years. Currently she is teaching at North Shore H.S.

**Wendy Mercado:** Wendy earned a B.A in Hispanic Language and Literature and a M.A in Liberal Studies from SUNY Stony Brook. She has presented workshops for LILT, NYSAFLT, NECTFL, and ACTFL and was recently named “Best of NY” for NYSAFLT and NECTFL. Wendy teaches at Bay Shore M.S.

**Juan Carlos Morales:** Dr. Morales is now in his 25th year in education, during which he has worn many hats including world language teacher of German, Japanese, French, and ESL; co-director for curriculum and content for the College Board's AP World Language and Culture program; state supervisor for World Languages for the state of Delaware; and chairperson for World Languages at Miami Dade College's InterAmerican Campus. He currently works as a member of the faculty at Gulliver Preparatory Academy in Miami, Florida, and continues to work as an adjunct professor at Miami Dade College.

**Lina Onufrock:** Lina is a native Spanish speaker born and raised in Colombia. She earned a M.S in Education from Touro College with certifications in General Ed. grades 1-6 and Spanish 7-12. She has been teaching over 10 years. Currently, Lina teaches FLES Spanish at North Shore School District to grades 3-5.

**Victoria Pappas:** Victoria earned her B.A. in Elementary and Special Ed. from St. Joseph's College and her M.A. in Educational Technology and Leadership from Dowling College. Victoria currently works as a Technology Integration Specialist blending curriculum and technology. She also has presented workshops at the LI Technology Summit and the Suffolk Asset Conference.

**Chris Pipala:** Chris earned his B.A. in Spanish Economics from the College of the Holy Cross, M.A.T. in Spanish from Boston University, C.A.G.S. Educational Leadership from LI University Post, and is pursuing

his Ed.D. in Leadership Administration and Supervision from St. John's University. Chris has been teaching Spanish at Great Neck School District since 2012.

**Dan Saitta:** Dan earned his B.A in Spanish and English from SUNY Geneseo, his M.A. in Spanish from Middlebury College M.A. and his SDA from CUNY Queens College. Dan teaches Spanish at Valley Stream Central H.S. and is the World Language chairperson of Valley Stream Central H.S. and Memorial J.H.S.

**Cheryl Sosa:** Cheryl earned her B.A. in French and Hispanic Languages and Literature, her M.A. Hispanic Languages and Literature; and her Advanced Certificate in School District Leadership from Stony Brook University. She has been a teacher at Connetquot High School for over thirty years. She is a member of the NYS Academy of Teaching and Learning and participated in curriculum writing for NYS Checkpoint C.

**Emilio Sosa:** Emilio holds a B.A. in Spanish Language and Literature and a M.A. in Hispanic Languages and Literature from Stony Brook University. In 2013 Emilio studied abroad at the University of Alcalá de Henares in Spain and in 2010 at the Lingue-Institute of Language in Sorrento, Italy. Emilio has taught at St. John the Baptist Diocesan High School and currently teaches at Longwood HS.

**Vanessa Sosa:** Vanessa holds a B.A. in French/Spanish Language and Literature and a M.A. in TESOL both from Stony Brook University. In addition, she holds a NYS Teaching Certification in TESOL and is working towards her degree in Childhood Education (1-6). Vanessa currently teaches a 6th grade ENL class at Riverhead School District.

**Ana Tiburcio:** Ana holds a B.A. in Liberal Arts and a M.A. in Spanish Language and Literature from Stony Brook University. Ana is Flipgrid certified. She has eleven years of teaching experience. In addition she has presented workshops at Superintendent Conference Day in the Smithtown School District.

**Valeria Tovar:** Valeria earned a B.A in Spanish Language & Literature and M.A. in Education 7-12 from Stony Brook University. Valeria has taught at Valley Stream Junior HS for the past year. Valeria was a student teacher at Half Hollow Hills Central District during the fall of 2016.

**Maggie Wu:** Maggie holds a M.A. LOTE/TESOL from Hofstra University and obtained a New York State Teacher Certification in Mandarin. Maggie worked as a Chinese language teacher and an Asian Culture Club advisor in Great Neck School District.

**Amber Wang:** Amber holds a M.A. Foreign Language Education from New York University and a B.A. in Teaching Chinese from East China Normal University, Shanghai. She has taught high school Mandarin in all levels at the Ross School. Currently she teaches Mandarin and ESL at Great Neck School District.