

# Massachusetts Foreign Language Teacher of the Year



Deadline: December 1

*(all submissions must be submitted digitally)*

The award for the Massachusetts Foreign Language Teacher of the Year is intended to elevate the status of our profession by creating opportunities for recognizing the most accomplished members of our profession. It is intended to create opportunities to increase the visibility of the importance of learning languages and cultures to the general public. Successful candidates must be full-time language educators who spend at least fifty-percent (50%) of their time in direct teaching during the year of application with an expectation of teaching during the next two (2) years. You must be a MaFLA member to be eligible for the award.

The following items must be included in the portfolio to be considered by the committee:

- Letter of recommendation from a professional colleague
- Letter of recommendation from a supervisor
- Letter of recommendation from a current or former parent or student
- Curriculum Vitae of no more than five (5) pages.
- Five-hundred-word (500) first-person statement on the value of learning language and culture.
- Two hundred and fifty word (250) personal statement related to you teaching. Topics you might consider: What are you most proud of about your teaching? What's an experience that made you think differently about your approach to teaching? What would your ideal classroom look like?
- One sample of student work (from within the past year) that you are proud of. This sample should be accompanied with a 250 word reflection describing how the sample reflects the ACTFL Standards.

The selected candidate must:

- make a commitment to attend the respective regional conference for a personal interview if selected. (MaFLA will provide up to \$750 in reimbursement for registration, transportation, and hotel to the selected candidate)
- be willing to serve as a spokesperson for the profession, based on availability; and
- mentor future candidates

## **Evaluation of Candidates and selection**

The state winner will be selected based on his/her ability to communicate ideas clearly, commitment to the profession, and professional growth as seen in the letters of recommendation, CV, student work sample/reflection and other writing samples.

The selected candidate will receive the \$500 Gonnerman-Torchin Prize awarded in recognition of a Massachusetts world language teacher for outstanding performance in the classroom, enthusiasm and passion for the teaching and learning of languages, and enthusiasm and love of children.

Submissions should be submitted to Tiesa Graf, Awards Chair at [tiesagraf9@gmail.com](mailto:tiesagraf9@gmail.com)