MaFLA Teacher of the Year 2023

The award for the **MaFLA Teacher of the Year (TOY)** is intended to elevate the status of our profession and to recognize our most accomplished world language teachers and language advocates. The Teacher of the Year Program has created and sustained opportunities for world language advocacy in Massachusetts and beyond. Moreover, it is intended to create as many opportunities as possible to increase the visibility of the importance of learning languages and cultures to the general public.

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 no more than half of the language teaching percentage being the teaching of English Language Learners) with an expectation of teaching during the next two (2) years. Candidates *do not* need to be a MaFLA member to be eligible for this award.

Candidates must include the following items in a portfolio (submitted electronically in one email) to be reviewed by the MaFLA Teacher of the Year Committee.
- Curriculum Vitae of no more than five (5) pages
- One-page letter of recommendation from a professional colleague
- One-page letter of recommendation from a supervisor/principal
- One-page letter of recommendation from a current or former parent or student
- Personal statement (on to exceed 500 words) on the value of learning languages and developing cultural competence for all learners
- One example of student work (from within the past year) that reflects the ACTFL World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages (5 C's). The sample can be written or in a digital format
- A reflection on the example student work (not to exceed two pages, size 12 font, double-spaced) that provides an explanation of how it
  - demonstrates current best practices of teaching and learning, including the integration of the World Readiness Standards for Learning Languages (5 C's);
  - encourages the proficient use of the target language by teacher and students;
  - provides the effective use of feedback, including but not limited to rubrics.

The MaFLA TOY will be a candidate for the NECTFL Regional Teacher of the Year and must therefore make a commitment
- to complete additional requirements for the NECTFL application portfolio, due in January 2023 (TBD).
- to attend the NECTFL regional conference for a personal interview if selected as a regional finalist. MaFLA will provide up to $750 in reimbursement for registration, transportation, and hotel expenses to the selected candidate.
- to serve as a spokesperson for the profession and present at the MaFLA annual Conference or at another MaFLA professional development event during the year, as available.

Evaluation of Candidates:
- The MaFLA Teacher of the Year will be selected based on their ability to communicate ideas clearly, commitment to the profession, and professional growth as evidenced by the portfolio.
- Finalists will be interviewed by members of the MaFLA Teacher of the Year Committee via Zoom at a mutually agreed upon time and will be announced during the annual Business & Awards Luncheon.

All submission documents should be converted to PDF and sent in one email to Kathleen Turner, MaFLA TOY Chair (kathleen.turner2013@gmail.com) no later than **September 15, 2022.**