



MAFLA Teacher of the Year 2024

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 (not to exceed 500 words) related to your teaching. Topics for consideration: What are you most proud of about your teaching? What is 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 reflects the 2021 Massachusetts World Language Curriculum Framework. The sample can be written or in a digital format.
- A reflection on the sample 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 2021 Massachusetts World Languages Curriculum Framework.

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 2024 (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 commit to making one or more presentations at MAFLA PD events during their "year of service."
- to serve as a spokesperson for the profession, based on availability, and to mentor future candidates.

Evaluation of Candidates:

- The MAFLA WorldLanguage 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.

All submission documents should be converted to PDF and sent in one email to Julie Caldarone MAFLA Professional Awards Chair (Caldaj1523@gmail.com) no later than **May 1, 2023**