Happy May! MAFLA’S Vision states that all students will demonstrate proficiency in more than one language and culture. Over the past few years, the subject of Interculturality and cross-cultural connections has interested me a great deal. “Building Global Perspectives through the Power of Language” is our Fall Conference theme. It will provide numerous sessions about how students must be open to and actively involved with cultural practices such as exchange programs, internships, research projects, and community service. These programs enable students to navigate cross-cultural settings, to succeed in domestic and study abroad programs and global internships, and to flourish in cross-cultural communication inside and outside their classrooms. Most importantly these global perspectives must focus on world language proficiencies and a deep understanding of other cultures, along with an understanding and sense of global citizenship in order to function with global and cultural competencies.

The conference also reflects the elements of the World Language Standards in regard to intercultural communication. Sessions will help teachers include discussions of cultures as part of their curricula as well as comparisons of those
cultures to their students’ own. The power of language is the natural connection between other cultures and what we know about our own culture.

I look forward to seeing all of you in October 26-28 at MAFLA 2023 and sharing this important and meaningful journey and experience with you as we provide students with the world language tools they need to succeed in our multicultural world. We welcome you and we hope we have inspired you to participate in a meaningful, and rewarding way. See you at the conference!

Lastly, we encourage our members to nominate themselves or a colleague for MA Teacher of the Year. See the link below.

Teacher of the Year: Follow the link here
Proficiency Academy: Follow the link here
Summer Institute: Follow the link here
Fall Conference: Follow the link here