

‘Illa magas artes Aeaeaque carmina novit’
(She learned the magic arts and spells of Aeaea,)

At last we have arrived at the month of October well known for many things. For us in World Languages, it represents a time when we can compare our own cultural traditions such as Halloween to the Mexican custom of Dia de Los Muertos. And in France: ‘Joyeuse Halloween! Des bonbons ou un sort! (Happy Halloween! Trick or treat!)’ is what is said. In MAFLA, the month of October is well known for our Fall Conference and preparations have been underway for months. In case you have not seen our line-up of 6 and 4-hour workshops, I am listing them here:

6 Hour Workshops

Workshop 1 - Leading with Culture Through Authentic Resources

Are you interested in learning how to find and utilize authentic resources for both cultural and communicative value and then design appropriate tasks centered around these resources? Then this is the perfect workshop for you. Our presenter Leslie Grahn will offer you lots of insights and help in these topics.

Workshop 2 - Program Design and Collaboration: World Languages in the Age of Proficiency

This workshop will be lead by two highly-regarded and knowledgeable educators from Massachusetts. I am sure many of you know both Nicole Sherf, Salem State University, and Timothy Eagan, Wellesley Public Schools. They have been leaders in the profession for many years and in this workshop they will be addressing designing curriculum, cultivating essential departmental resources, managing, effective meetings, and using data to help your department develop a voice. This is a perfect workshop for department chairs and upcoming leaders.

Workshop 3 - Machismo and Masculinities: A Testimony and a Workshop Around Vulnerability, Positionality, and Identity

Abelardo Almanzán-Vázquez who hails from our neighboring state of Vermont will present this very relevant topic of machismo and masculinities and help participants challenge these ideas and build new paradigms around identity, maleness, and masculinity. With Abelardo’s expertise and experience in this topic you will definitely leave this workshop enriched and well-prepared to be a role model in having vulnerable and honest conversations about gendered roles and stereotypes associated with masculinity in target language cultures

4 Hour Workshops

Workshop 5 - Thematic Units for Social Justice and Change

María Datel, who presented a workshop at our Virtual Conference and was voted “Best of MAFLA,” will be joined by Katia Marticorena, a frequent MAFLA presenter and facilitator of sessions, for a workshop which will allow you to explore and develop thematic unit plans that promote social justice while meeting academic standards. Come to explore practical strategies to empower students and promote equity, whether you're new to teaching social justice or an experienced educator. who would like to learn more about the topic.

Workshop 6 - A New Teacher’s Toolkit for Proficiency-Based Instruction: Theory AND Practice

Do you have questions about teaching for proficiency? Do you need nuts-and-bolts information on how to apply the principles of proficiency? Are you a new teacher and want to learn about Proficiency-Based Instruction or are you a veteran who would like to enhance your understanding of proficiency-based instruction. This workshop led by a very popular MAFLA presenter and facilitator, Charlotte Gifford, will help you develop a toolkit and skills based on research and theory. PLUS! The cohort will meet again virtually to reconnect and get all your questions answered.

Please come join us as we network, collaborate and socialize in Springfield at the Sheraton Monarch Hotel, Oct 26-28, 2023!



*Building Global
Perspectives through
The Power of Language*

MAFLA Fall Conference
Sheraton Monarch Place Hotel
October 26-28, 2023
Conference Chair: Vilma Nasuti Bibeau
