



Historical Perspective 2008 - 2009

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On the year 2009, our 92nd year, the NYSAFLT leadership has continued to make steady progress in its constant quest to provide our members with everything a 21st century professional organization should offer.

Our newly created membership category for organizations was well received across the state, and NYSAFLT is now proud to include four regional associations in its membership ranks: COLT, LECNY, NYCAFLT and WNYFLEC.

This past year saw a significant redistribution of duties on our Executive committee. Traditionally, our Second Vice-President chaired the Annual Conference his/her first year on the Executive Committee, followed by chairing the Summer Institute the following year as First Vice-President. These two jobs were switched in our By-laws by the Board of Directors in January. The Board felt that chairing the Annual Conference will be much less daunting a task when done by someone who has already been on board for a full year.

We also saw the addition of a new member to our team: the newly created position of Associate Director was filled January 1 by former Syracuse regional director Roseann Loreface. Roseann has had a very good start and extremely productive first year on the job!

To name just a few of our successes and steps forward in the 2008-2009 year:

- In the 2008-2009 year, NYSAFLT successfully piloted a statewide peer mentoring program and will be continuing it again this year.
- The Fulvi application process was streamlined and moved online.
- NYSAFLT Teacher Travel scholarship applications have been aligned and rubrics have been updated and created where there were none before.
- The Annual Conference 2009 will be held in Buffalo for the first time. Buffalo is the second largest city in the state, and with this conference, we are now on track for a three-year rotation between east (Saratoga) and west (Buffalo and Rochester).

The NYSAFLT website, under the stewardship of Ken Hughes, continues to be the most powerful communication tool this organization possesses. With the ability to communicate with thousands of members and teachers in the blink of an eye, we've never been in a better position for getting the word out about the importance of LOTE instruction. Thank you, Ken, for all that you do!

Our Annual Meeting 2008 was chaired by Irma Evangelista in Saratoga Springs, NY. Over 100 workshops were offered. Keynote speaker “Tennessee” Bob Peckham spoke to the conference theme, *Teaching Languages in a Changing World: Rethinking Literacies*.

The 2008 Awards Banquet, was, as always, a celebration of the contributions and careers of our colleagues and friends. Paul Sabatino was this year’s recipient the Ferdinand DiBartolo New York State Distinguished Foreign Language Leadership Award for his outstanding service as President of NYSAFLT. The Sen. Paul Simon NYS Friend of Foreign Language Award was presented to Nancy Andress, Assistant Superintendent for Instruction in the Guilderland Central School District. The Anthony J. Papalia Award was presented to co-authors Eileen Angelini, Ph.D. and Jane C. Judge. The Sr. Rose Aquin Caimano Distinguished Administrator Award was presented to Joanne G. Nardone Principal of Milton Elementary School in the Rye City School District and the Ruth E. Wasley Award K – 12 was presented this year to Suzanne J. Schermerhorn, retired from the Mayfield School District. Ronnie Maibaum of New York City was this year’s recipient of the Dorothy Ludwig Memorial Award for service to the profession and President Paul Sabatino recognized Mary Holmes with a President’s Award. Robert D. Peckham, Ph.D., our keynote speaker, was awarded the Robert J. Ludwig Distinguished Leadership Award. This year’s Outstanding Journalist/Media Presenter Award went to Rebecca James, a reporter at the Syracuse Post-Standard and, finally, the NYSAFLT Culture through the Arts Award was presented to Justo Lamas for his ongoing dedication and contributions to the profession through his music.

The 2009 NYSAFLT Colloquium, successfully chaired by President-Elect Sue Hochmuth, was keynoted by long-time NYSAFLT member Bill Heller, who spoke inspirationally to the theme *Our Second Standard: Integrating and Assessing Culture in the LOTE Curriculum*. The 2009 NYSAFLT Summer Institute, *Building in the Basics, Raising the Standards* was held in Oneonta, NY, and was chaired by Second Vice-President Mary Holmes. A variety of informative, fun and enriching workshops were presented by talented leaders in the profession from around the state and beyond.

NYSAFLT is looking forward to a successful 2009-2010 school year and beyond, once again, kudos to all who have worked and continue to work so hard to make NYSAFLT the outstanding organization that it is!