

## Touch the World

Each and every one of us was touched by something related to another language or culture, igniting a fire that is still burning as we have become language educators. For some of us, that spark was small, such as a story from one of our teachers or a story that we read in class. For others, it was bigger and more life altering, such as hosting or becoming an exchange student or traveling to a new land. It is that spark that allows us to truly relate and even empathize when we see such calamities as the earthquake in Japan, the attack in Norway and the trapped miners of Chile. We use that empathy in our classrooms to help our students see those events through our eyes.

I look forward to joining all of you at the **2012 Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages** in [Milwaukee, Wisconsin](#) as we share these great stories and experiences with our new colleagues and our great friends. At the same time, I encourage you to further connect to other cultures through the exceptional offering of more than [175 sessions](#), more than [20 workshops](#) and a great selection of events for teachers of all levels. Please be prepared to be renewed, rejuvenated and motivated to ignite a fire in your students so that you can both lead and join them in an effort to "**Touch the World**".

Special Events on Thursday, March 8, 2012

**CSCTFL Leadership Program**, a two-day peer-mentoring program, supports development of state projects. State-nominated representatives attend this morning workshop. To investigate possibilities and fill out an application, [click here](#).

**The Conference Workshop/Extension Workshop (CW/EW)** provides professional development outreach. Participants apply in advance and are trained on this year's topic, "Make Sense of Writing", at a conference workshop (CW). Then, participants are trained to present that topic at state and local opportunities (EW) during the following year. For more information, [click here](#).

**Workshops:** Both half- and full-day workshops are offered covering various topics ranging from language immersion, assessment, TPRS and so much more. For a full listing, [click here](#).

The **Delegate Assembly** provides leaders in the various state organizations the opportunity to network, discuss policies, procedures and challenges and learn about the current status of world language education in our 17-state region and throughout the nation. State organizations are asked to send representatives to this afternoon event. Please [click here](#) to submit the information about the delegates from your state and to check the information currently listed for your state organization for accuracy.

You are invited to join the **CSCTFL Advisory Council**, which provides you with the opportunity to attend the **Advisory Council Reception and Business Meeting** early Thursday evening, as well as enjoying a gratis conference registration. Find more information [here](#).

The **Exhibit Hall Opening and Wine and Cheese Gala** provides a first peek at the exhibits and the first chance to visit with vendors. This is also a fantastic opportunity to connect with colleagues from around the region, make new connections and explore the exhibit hall in a leisurely environment. For the complete conference schedule, [click here](#).

#### Special Events on Friday, March 9, 2012

**The Exhibit Hall** will be open all day from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. There are designated breaks to visit with exhibitors; however, you may want to spend time there during your lunch break or between sessions as well. For the complete conference schedule, [click here](#).

**The Awards Ceremony** preceding the Keynote address will honor the [2012 Teacher of the Year](#) and the other Teacher of the Year candidates and the [Paul Simon Award](#), the [Founders Award](#) and the [Scholarship](#) recipients.

The [Keynote speaker](#) will be **Linda Mornell**, founder and former President of Summer Search, an organization that creates programs to offer high potential but very low income students life-changing educational, service and leadership opportunities.

**The CSCTFL Report Authors' Luncheon** honors presenters whose articles are chosen for publication in the [2012 CSCTFL Report](#).

**Early evening language receptions** provide another opportunity to meet colleagues in specific language groups in a relaxing, social atmosphere. Some gatherings have a program, and others are quite informal.

#### Special Events on Saturday, March 10, 2012

[NELL/FLES Swapshop Breakfast](#) highlights elementary ideas and resources. Be prepared to share an idea prior to arriving at the conference. Look for more detailed information elsewhere in this Conference Preview.

Wisconsin FLESFEST has partnered with CSCTFL to provide a full day of amazing FLES sessions and activities. The **FLESFEST** will begin shortly after the NELL/FLES breakfast with a Keynote presentation followed by a full strand of sessions throughout the rest of the day.

At the **NADSFL/NCSSFL Luncheon**, district and state world language supervisors meet to enjoy lunch and network. If you are a district supervisor, world language department chair, or state supervisor and you don't know about these two groups, this is a great way to get acquainted with them while enjoying a nice lunch.

Our **Saturday session offerings** are packed every hour to maximize opportunities for those who have difficulties joining CSCTFL on weekdays. For the complete conference schedule, [click here](#). For a list of conference sessions arranged by theme, [click here](#). For a list of conference sessions arranged by language, [click here](#).

#### Special Events throughout the conference

All of the 2011 CSCTFL sessions and workshops that were designated as "**ALL STAR**" sessions for their outstanding quality and execution will be returning for the 2012 CSCTFL Conference. For a full listing of these great sessions and workshops, please [click here](#).

16 of our 17 Central States will be presenting a presentation or workshop that their state organizations have designated as "**Best of**" sessions. We hope you are able to glean some great knowledge from a different state! For the list of these sessions and workshops, please [click here](#).

There are more than **20 great workshops** available to attendees. Please see the workshop descriptions and get excited to attend one or more of these outstanding offerings throughout the conference. To see the full list, please [click here](#).

**Special session selections from Ellen Shrager** will address issues facing teachers and schools today both within and beyond the world language field. Locate these sessions in the program listing, and let your administrators know that you'll be willing to bring these ideas home and share with your entire staff.

The **2012 Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages** is ready and waiting for you to attend. We have an outstanding program for you and your colleagues, and we look forward to helping you and your students "**Touch the World**" through language, culture and a global vision.

**Program Committee Members:** Jill Woerner, Program Chair, Pendleton Heights Middle School, Pendleton, IN; Leann Wilcoxon, St. Bede Academy, Peru, IL; Rose Egan, Cathedral High School, Indianapolis, IN

Jill Woerner, 2012 Program Chair

Leann Wilcoxon, 2012 Assistant Program Chair