Breaking News You’ve Wanted to Hear About the 2020 SSTESOL of Florida First Ever Virtual State Conference

You wrote to us. You called members of the SSTESOL conference team, and we listened.

You said that members practice diverse religious activities on Sundays. Members use Sundays to prepare their lessons for the work week. Exhibitors also have their voices heard. They said they find it difficult for someone to man their ebooth and deliver session presentations on Sunday, November 15th.

Because SSTESOL always aims to serve its members and the safety of SSTESOL members and the whole Florida ESOL community is always our first priority,

the conference will now be held on November 14th, Saturday, with a Celebration Party on the evening of November 13th at 7:00 pm.

See you at the party!

For more information on SSTESOL’s newly established PRESS, please visit https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/page-1075379

Act Now! Register and plan to join your colleagues in the field. Registration fees are very affordable. SSTESOL members: $35.00, non-members $45.00, paraprofessionals $20.00.
The link for registration is here. https://web.cvent.com/event/9a69c4e4-030c-448a-8a37-6c07a32033f0/summary

Become a SSTESOL member. Annual membership fee: $25.00 only. You may
sign up here: https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/page-1075394

For more questions about the conference, please contact Dr. Tony Erben, Conference Chair, at terben@ut.edu.
Featured SSTESOL of Florida Local Chapter: Miami Dade TESOL

Contributed by Dr. Raydel Hernandez, President

Miami Dade TESOL and Bilingual Education was founded in 1997 by Cheryl Benz who led a call to create a new chapter identity in Miami. Its aim was to bring together folks from Higher-Ed, Adult Ed, and K-12. We voted on a new name: Miami Dade TESOL. We established a new charter, by-laws, and status as a Florida non-profit. Cheryl Benz was our first president, and she was an amazing force. We were selected to host SE-Regional TESOL in Miami in 2000. Preparing for that event really helped to solidify a strong network of TESOL professionals involved with Miami Dade TESOL. We have had excellent leaders all these times who have invigorated TESOL spirit and member engagement.

Featured Educator of the Quarter
Miami Dade TESOL
Ms. Lourdes Canino

Lourdes Canino is an ESOL Teacher and ESOL Department Chair at West Homestead K-8th Center. She is committed to educating students, colleagues, families, and the community through establishing strong

About the photos
Photos were taken from the 2019 MDTESOL Fall Symposium Program.

This October 24, 2020 we will be celebrating our first Virtual Fall Symposium. This year our theme is Communicative Competence Through Language Skills. This approach to teaching provides authentic and meaningful opportunities for a type of learning that transcends memorization of grammatical patterns and lexical items in isolation. For more information, please tune in to this announcement.https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NM6M34Tg4LE&feature=emb_logo

More about MDTESOL...
MDTESOL hosts two main events yearly. The event in May is aimed at networking with professionals of ESL/EAP/Bilingual Education and organizations such as LULAC for advocacy. The other event is in October which brings together all educators from all educational levels to present the results of what they do in the classroom and higher education professionals to share their research projects. Our most recent partnership in December 2019 was with Cuban TESOL (GELI). We shared the insights and knowledge of what we do in SSTESOL and MDTESOL. We also made donations of materials provided by Cambridge University Press. Currently, Miami Dade TESOL and Bilingual Education is led by Dr. Raydel Hernandez (president), Dr. Amanda de Varona (vice-president) and Lucas Katz (member-at-large). For more information, please visit www.mdtesol.com.
connections. She believes that instruction must be designed to meet the needs of all students in order to ensure student success. She holds an ED.S. in Elementary Education K-6th, from Nova Southeastern University. Mrs. Canino serves as PLST mentor teacher in West Homestead K-8 where she supports new teachers. She helps students overcome barriers that impact their learning. Mrs. Canino is recognized as a passionate, student-centered educator continually seeking to improve learning and school culture. Mrs. Canino has overall the responsibility for the administrative function of the English as a Second (ESL) program which includes student testing and registration, maintaining curriculum and program implementation, designing and maintaining EL’s individual student plans in compliance with Miami Dade School District and Florida Department of Education requirements.

Leadership Opportunities on SSTESOL Board

Your expertise is needed. Hone your leadership skills by volunteering your service to SSTESOL of Florida Board of Directors.

The SSTESOL Nominations and Elections Committee is thrilled to announce the opening of Members At Large positions. The Committee will choose a slate of candidates that represent diverse TESOL professions and diverse regions in Florida, balancing board needs for addressing advocacy, professional development, and organizational functions.

More information will be forthcoming in the next few weeks. For more information and questions, please contact Dr. Arlene Costello, President, at sstesol@gmail.com.

We welcome the support and donations of conference exhibitors and friends of education and Sunshine State TESOL of Florida. You, too, may contribute. Here’s how to send your contribution.

Go to https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/Donate and follow the prompt. You will receive a receipt for your tax-deductible contribution immediately. Make sure you follow Sunshine State TESOL’s activities on Facebook and “like” our posts. Thank you for your continued support to enrich education and opportunities for educators K12 and beyond!

Natural Disasters

These disturbances caused by natural disasters in 2020 from Hurricane Sally that devastated the Panhandle of Florida to the wild fires in the west coast and the pandemic have impacted ELs’ schooling and education, damaged homes and negatively affected the lives of English learners, their families, our donors, sponsors as well as our exhibitor friends. The release of this newsletter, issue 8 of "Perspective", has been delayed due to the impact of Hurricane Sally in NW
A Message from the Board of Directors

The members of the Board and I are looking forward to seeing you at the 2020 First Ever SSTESOL Virtual Conference. Despite all the changes and challenges around us at work, school, institution and home, TESOL professionals continue to build their ultimate professional learning experience provided through Zoom or other online meeting platforms. SSTESOL is proud to offer more than 100 sessions during its first ever virtual conference. Here you'll learn tips, tools and strategies from different strands to better serve underserved population, adult ESOL students, pre-service students, international students and EAP/IEP students.

At the 2020 SSTESOL Virtual Conference, sessions are 30-minutes long. You'll learn from K16 educators who implement research-based lessons and who will talk about how to implement the program they use, their successes as well as the challenges and problems they might encounter while using and exploring the strategies. According to a study by the Institute of Education Sciences (2018), teachers want to see these types of professional learning sessions.

Therefore, we invite you to register and attend the conference from the comfort of your home or wherever you might be. Write to us at sttesol@gmail.com if you need more information. Follow and like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sttesol.florida
### 2020 SSTESOL of FLORIDA FIRST EVER VIRTUAL CONFERENCE EXHIBITORS

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*From: The SSTESOL of Florida Board of Directors*  
*Eric Letourneau, Exhibitor Liaison*