Essential Information: More about the 2020 SSTESOL of Florida First Ever Virtual Annual State Conference

Below, you can find the answers to most of your questions about the Virtual Conference.

As you outline your professional learning plans for the 2020 school year, please mark your calendar! This exceptional 2020 SSTESOL of Florida’s First Ever Virtual Annual Conference will be held from November 13 – 15, 2020. You are invited to register, attend, learn and connect with TESOL colleagues from Florida, around the nation and other countries around the globe.

Registration fees are very affordable. SSTESOL members: $35.00, non-members $45.00, paraprofessionals $20.00 and FT undergraduate students...

**Exhibitors**

You are very important constituents of the conference also. We welcome your support and participation. Your registration fee is $200.00 with multiple privileges. Visit [https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/Exhibitors](https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/Exhibitors) for more information. For questions and more information, contact Eric Letourneaux, Exhibitor Liaison, at eletourneaux@valenciacollege.edu.

**Features of the Conference**

The SSTESOL Board has decided to deliver our 2020 annual state conference virtually and right at the comfort of your home or wherever you will be during the conference because the safety of SSTESOL members, exhibitors, all Florida residents and the ESOL global community is our first priority. Our conference will be held Friday 13th, Saturday 14th and Sunday 15th November so that hard working educators can attend and be professionally replenished!

On Nov 13th, SSTESOL will hold a virtual party celebrating 30 years of the Florida Consent Decree, launching of the first book published by the TESOL Press, and awarding scholarships, grants, and special awards.

Because we learn best from each other, SSTESOL is excited to showcase the profession on Saturday, Nov 14th and Sunday, Nov 15th. The features of the conference include:
- The Best of the Best Practitioners (featuring presentations from the Florida Teachers of the Year and an ESOL teacher representative from each school district and local SSTESOL Chapters in Florida)
- Inspirational policy makers
- Supportive school leaders and administrators
- Enthusiastic Institutional Leaders of ESOL, IEP, EAP, and Adult Education Programs
- Uplifting cultural experiences

**Call for Proposal:** Break away from your comfort zone and consider submitting one.

You can do it! It’s rewarding. We encourage you to SHINE and let the world know of your amazing work. Researchers and educational authors are curious how you are applying research-based practices in your classrooms that deliver results in student achievement. This call for proposal announcement should serve as your guide in writing your first (second or multiple times) proposal for SSTESOL Conference.

- **For more information on proposal guidelines**, please visit https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/page-1075488
- **Please submit your proposal here:** https://forms.gle/neyzxtByad96jZAZ7
- **Deadline for proposal submissions to be received:** September 28, 2020
Acceptances, notifications and schedule of presentations will be announced on a rolling basis.

Registration deadline for all accepted presenters: October 2, 2020.

For questions: Please email Michelle Ploetz, Program Chair, at mplotz@mdc.edu

---

2020 SSTESOL Grants, Awards, Scholarships, and Honors Program
https://sunshinestatetesol.wildapricot.org/Programs

The SSTESOL Grants, Awards, Scholarships, and Honors Program was designed to honor and recognize excellence in the field and research, and to provide financial support to SSTESOL members to attend the annual SSTESOL Conference and Exhibits.

Applications are now being accepted for the following award categories.

**Deadline:** September 1; **Notifications:** September 25

Teacher Mini-Grants: **Award:** (4) $250.00
Conference Grants: **Award:** (4) $250.00
Conference Grants: **Award:** (10) $35.00
Research Grants: **Award:** (1) $250.00
STTESOL / Badia Scholarship Award: **Award:** $500.00
STTESOL / Dr. Goussakova Scholarship Award: **Award:** (1) $500.00 US.
STTESOL Outstanding Educator Award: **Award:** $500.00 (1) K12 and (1) Higher Education levels
Institutional Excellence Award: **Award:** $500.00

If you have questions, please contact Dr. Lillien Tunceren, Chair, SSTESOL of Florida Awards and Recognition Program Committee at sstesol@gmail.org.

---

If you have more questions regarding the 2020 SSTESOL First Ever Virtual Conference, please contact Dr. Tony Erben, Conference Chair, at sstesol@gmail.com.
In the early 2000’s, a group of TESOLers realized the need for a local chapter to better serve the needs of English Learners, teachers and administrators in the Tampa Bay area. Many of the founding members had been working in professional development efforts to help implement the Florida Consent Decree. The new local chapter was officially called Bay Area Regional TESOL, commonly known as BART, with Dr. Carol Cargill as our first president. Similar to its beginnings, today BART draws members primarily from Hillsborough and Pinellas but also includes and supports educators in Pasco, Hernando and Manatee.

At present, the BART website is under construction while being moved to a new website, but interested parties can learn more about BART and its events on its facebook page. Just search Bay Area Regional TESOL and join us!
everything possible to continue launching programs and initiatives that promote and support leadership and advocacy in language policy issues and access to professional development, research and practice. The ultimate goal is the success of English learners and the ESOL programs. With your donation, we could continue to support the:

· Scholarship Programs
· Teacher Project mini grants, Conference grants, and Outstanding ESOL Educator and Institution recognition programs

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!

In Partnerships with
ESL Library
Florida Association of Bilingual and ESOL Supervisors
Florida Department of Education Teacher of the Year Program

Thank you!

A Message from the Board of Directors

We are thinking of you, your health, and the safety of all educators as districts, colleges, universities, non-profit institutions and adult education ESOL providers make plans this fall to go back to schooling in K12 and beyond. Please reach out to SSTESOL for support, questions and also to share with your colleagues ways in which you and education leaders support students and educators in your professional community to engage and collaborate safely. We would like to hear