Congratulations for a successful first SSTESOL virtual conference!

Spotlighted:
History of ESOL
Reflections by Dr. Ester de Jong
130 Session Presentations
20 Exhibitors
Global in Scope - Attendance and Presenters
Launching of SSTESOL Press Awards and Recognitions
Business Meeting
Town Square Networking Session
Gift cards as Door Prizes

Breaking News: Here’s what SSTESOL virtual conference attendees have to say about the SSTESOL First Ever Virtual Conference.

"It was a great conference, especially for being the first virtual conference. Go SSTESOL!!" Pamela Jo Wilson

"The conference was a great success. I look forward to the links to the recordings, since there were some sessions, I was interested in but conflicted with other sessions. Thanks to you and your team!!" Dr. Debbie Giambo

"Excellent conference! I loved every one of the sessions I attended - great variety and outstanding speakers. Thanks!" Dr. Geri Chaffee

"Congratulations to you and the SSTESOL team for a great conference. You are miracle workers to pull off all the required technology that was so easily
followed even by those of us not born into the cyber era. At the same time, the quality of the presentations was excellent.” Dr. Teresa Lucas

"Thank you for your leadership and for the tremendous organizational skills and perseverance that you and the SSTESOL committee and everyone else involved carried out to make this virtual conference such a huge success! Please let the "SSTESOL committee know that I thought the programs were outstanding!" Dr. Joyce Williams

"What a wonderful virtual conference! Thank you and the board and the volunteers for all of the hard work that went into this endeavor, and thank you for including a strand of Florida’s districts! I thoroughly enjoyed the many presentations I was able to join throughout the day! I appreciate the collaboration that exists on a regular basis with SALA and SSTESOL. Let’s keep that going to improve our work for our ELLs statewide!" Chane Eplin

With great appreciation and thank you for the making the 2020 SSTESOL Conference a great success! I personally learned many new things from the presentations I attended. Some of the presenters were new to me and others I have known for years, but they all shared ideas and inspiration that I needed. In our presentation on the adult ESOL program in Florida, Pamela Jo and I felt elated with the response from the audience members. They gave us so much positive energy it was hard to wind down from the clouds! A special KUDOS to Andrea Lypka, who monitored all of the Adult Education presentations with great calm and reassurance, plus she helped keep everyone engaged with questions and comments in the chat. I look forward to following all of the SSTESOL activities during this next year." Phil Anderson
with important bits of information concerning the post conference survey, Certificates of Participation, recordings of most of the sessions that will only be available until November 30, 2020. We value your feedback and impressions; therefore, we encourage you to complete and submit the conference survey. Please follow this link to the Survey. **click here**

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**The 2020 SSTESOL Virtual Conference in Pictures**

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**Featured SSTESOL of Florida Local Chapter:**

**Northeast FL TESOL**

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**About the photos**

Consent Decree Historical Reflections by Dr. Ester De Jong, Left: Opening Celebration. Launching of SSTESOL Press. Right: FABES
Northeast Florida Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages (NEFTESOL) is a non-profit organization serving the educational sector of TESOL/ ESOL/ ESL and membership is open to any individual interested or involved in English as a Second Language Programs or those preparing for teaching, training or administration of ESOL Programs. Since being established in 1993, NEFTESOL has extended to include: Alachua, Clay, Duval, Flagler, St. Johns, and Volusia counties. This organization strives to connect members of all levels of ESOL instruction at the university, school-based, community, and international echelons. Membership benefits include access to the annual NEFTESOL newsletter, professional updates, scholarship opportunities, networking events, annual area mini-conference, and virtual roundtable discussions; all reflective of the core values routed deeply in the educational equity and advocacy for all English language learners. Visit our website for more organization and event information: www.neftesol.org

**Featured Educator of the Quarter**

**Ms. Gabriella Solano**  
Northeast FL TESOL, SSTESOL Chapter

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**Congratulations, Broward TESOL!**

The SSTESOL Board during its November 2020 meeting, overwhelmingly approved Broward TESOL’s application to form a Local SSTESOL Chapter. Broward TESOL will serve the geographic area of Broward County, FL. Its mission is to strengthen and improve instruction of English to speakers of other languages and promote effective intercultural communication and understanding. Congratulations to the members of the Executive Board: Jennifer Killam, President; Caroline Webb, Vice President; Tiffany Carrasco, Secretary and Laura Sanchez-Felser, Treasurer. All members of the Board are SSTESOL members. You may reach them at browardtesol@gmail.com and their website address is www.browardtesol.org. Membership dues are currently set at $10.00.

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About the photo; Local Chapter Presidents Quarterly meeting held on October 31, 2020. L to R: Arlene Costello, SSTESOL President; Carla Huck, SWFL; Shannon Solis,
Meet Gabriella Solano, our featured Northeast Florida TESOL Educator of the Month, from Duval county, Florida. She is currently a Dual Language teacher at West Riverside Elementary in Jacksonville. This astounding teacher has been dedicated to second language learning and guiding students to becoming bilingual, biliterate, and bicultural for the past 8 years. Beginning as a student of bilingual education and childhood education at NYU, Gabriella perused her career as a teacher in a dual language program teaching both English and Spanish. During this time, she has worked on developing her practice through collaboration with colleagues, contributing to curriculum, professional development, leading workshops for fellow dual language teachers, and action research. We are so proud to have Gabriella Solano represent Northeast Florida TESOL!

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!

Program and Curriculum Resources

Nominations are now open through January 21, 2021 for the Presidential Cybersecurity Education Award, which honors two educators, one from the elementary and one from the secondary level, for excellence in cybersecurity education. A nominee need not work exclusively in cybersecurity education; all those whose subject matter includes cybersecurity are eligible for recognition. The nomination period is open through January 31, 2021.

In addition, nominations are currently open through March 1, 2021 for the Presidential Awards for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

THE BIG READ

The National Endowment for the Arts’ (NEA) The Big Read, established in 2016, supports Americans reading and discussing a single book within their communities. Local governments, libraries, school districts, colleges and
AmeriCorps State and National Grants Funding is available for programs that are designed to strengthen communities and solve local problems, including those found in rural and underserved areas. Funding priorities include prescription drug and opioid abuse, education, and rural intermediary organizations. Closing date: Jan. 6, 2021

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ASA’s Artemis Moon Pod Essay Contest, open until December 17, challenges U.S. K-12 students to imagine leading a one-week expedition to the Moon’s South Pole.

A Message from the Board of Directors

Dear SSTESOL members and colleagues in TESOL,

On this week’s Thanksgiving holiday, we set aside time to offer gratitude and appreciation to every member of the SSTESOL Board and to SSTESOL members for the special ways in which you have dedicated yourselves to make a difference in the SSTESOL community and during our first ever 2020 virtual conference. Without you, there would be no SSTESOL Board. Without members there would be no SSTESOL of Florida. Without conference participants, presenters, donors, sponsors and exhibitors, the 2020 SSTESOL first ever virtual conference would not have been such an astounding success! Thank you!
The SSTESOL Board would like to wish all of our members and friends a happy Thanksgiving. May the medical service providers, the women and men who protect our country and you, who teach English Learners, be forever safe and healthy. Enjoy your much-needed fall break. Happy Thanksgiving!

Sincerely,
SSTESOL Board

Contact SSTESOL at sstesol@gmail.com. Follow and like us on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/sstesol.florida