

Look at
and link
to the many
opportunities
for you and
your students

Chicago Area AATSP Summer 2015 Newsletter

chicagoaatsp.org

National Spanish Exam Awards Ceremony

May 16, 2015 at Niles North High School



Once again, over 300 students were honored amidst a crowd of 700. Before the awarding of certificates and cash prizes, the winners and guests were entertained by Lori Willer, Chapter President. Lori has been studying flamenco for years and is part of a dance troupe. After the ceremony the attendees enjoyed picture taking and refreshments.

Lori Willer, Flamenco Artist. ¡Olé!

Mesa Redonda para Profes de AP Lengua y Cultura (2015)

This was our second year of Mesa Redonda at Highland Park High School and we got to see new faces and share new experiences. This year we invited Marta Constenla to our last meeting to share tips on how to prep students for the AP exam. Marta is an AP reader and has lots of experience teaching AP. Our last session was well attended and we got to hear how to get our students ready for that long sought out 5 on the AP exam. Dinner was served under the sponsorship of the Chicago Chapter of AATSP, and the attendees were very grateful for the food as well as the information. Also, ICTFL was quick to tell us how to get credit for all the Mesa Redonda sessions attended. All in all, we are looking forward to a positive and productive 3rd year and with the great news that other AP teachers in our building are seeking the opportunity to start a Round Table for their own content AP classes!

José Acosta, Vice President Chicago Area Chapter

Chicago Area AATSP June Luncheon

D'Candela Restaurant, 4053 N. Kedzie Ave., Chicago

Thanks to the efforts of co-chairs Tere Blair and Susan Ranft, the Council, chapter members, and guests gathered at D'Candela on June 6th for our annual luncheon. We honored retiree, Scott Shearon, for finishing his career at Glenbard West High School. Scott was a former chapter and national president of AATSP. Attendees were able to enjoy the many Peruvian dishes served family style, such as *arroz con camarones* and *pollo saltado*. They also enjoyed hearing the tributes to our 3 Distinctive Service Winners: Marta Constenla, Alan Howell, and Laura Jacobson. The luncheon concluded with a raffle—a council tradition.



Left: Marta Constenla poses with friends - Marisa Wetmore and Beatriz Rodriguez - after being awarded the Chapter Distinctive Service Award.



Right: President Lori Willer congratulates Scott Shearon on his retirement.

Wondering about the benefits of a Spanish Honor Society chapter?

There are wonderful scholarships available to your students who are members, and many local winners are listed on the following page. Each year your SHH chapter can select one of your junior students to apply for a travel scholarship and a senior to apply for a college scholarship. Although the teacher acts as interviewer in a taping, the process is well worth the reward. The Senior awards are for scholarships to be applied to college tuition; the Junior Travel award varies destinations from year to year. For more information, please visit the SHH website at www.aatsp.org/?SHH, or contact the Illinois State Director/Region III Director of the SHH, Susan Ranft at susran@d219.org or 847-626-2136.

This year there were many students of Chicago Area Chapter members of AATSP who received national awards and scholarships from both the SHH (Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica) and the NSE (National Spanish Exam).

Congratulations to the following students:

2015 NSE Junior Travel Award for achievement on the NSE and for excellent skills in the Spanish language. This national award, valued at over \$2,500, is given each year to twenty-four students from across the United States who become eligible by earning high scores on the National Spanish Examination and then submitting to a selection committee samples of their written and oral work in Spanish. In July, they will be traveling to Puerto Rico.

Sarah Chang Quiroz, Northside College Prep. Teacher: Robert Blease

Jacob Gasienica, Lemont High School. Teacher: Stefanie Miller

Fiona Kurzlowicz, Illinois Math and Science Academy. Teacher: José Palos

Dacey Maglaque, Niles North High School. Teacher: Laura Jacobson

Zack Struckman, New Trier High School. Teacher: Lori Willer

Global Citizen Scholarship to Concordia (2 week Spanish immersion) for the NSE

Jack Golden, Marist High School. Teacher: Erica Nathan-Gamauf

2015 Bertie Green Junior Travel Award to Puerto Rico for participation in the SHH.

Ashley Garla, Marist High School. Sponsor: Erica Nathan-Gamauf

Stefania Pulido, Hoffman Estates High School. Sponsor: Yolanda Rodriguez

2015 Joseph Adams Senior Scholarship of \$1,000 (SHH)

Gita Deva, Niles North High School. Sponsor: Susan Ranft

Sakina Musani, Plainfield East High School. Sponsor: Hilda Stewart

Matilde Saucedo, St. Joseph High School. Sponsor: Silvia Markowski

Michael Serwetnyk, Marist High School. Sponsor: Erica Nathan-Gamauf

Alberto Villegas, Maine West High School. Sponsor: Jazmin Barbas

SHH Chapter of the Year for quality and quantity of programs and contributions to Albricias magazine.

Capítulo Jorge Luis Borges, Homewood-Flossmoor High School. Sponsor: Michelle Parada

The 2016 ICTFL Summer Trip: ITALY

ICTFL is planning a great summer trip to the ancient Roman ruins of both Rome and Pompeii, with a visit to the Vatican City to see Michelangelo's work firsthand. Travel seaside to see Positano on the Amalfi Coast; experience the magic of the Blue Grotto on the island of Capri and more. You'll have opportunity to savor the culinary wonders of Italian cuisine and even take a cooking class. For all of the details and to download the PDF of the tour's itinerary, visit www.ictfl.org. To join this tour, register online at www.explorica.com/ICTFL-8226.

What opportunities are there for this summer? from www.ictfl.org

SUMMER INSTITUTE – TALL-IL 2.0 - July 29-31, 2015 - 3-Day Professional Development Event

- This 3-day event is for “First-Timers” or those who have attended a 1-day TALL-IL Fall Conference Thursday Event (Espresso Shot 2014 or Snapshot 2015)
- Learn in depth how to plan for learning (Domain 1). Designing curriculum that provides language teachers ways to document student growth meeting the requirements of PERA .
- Assist K-12 world language teachers with the implementation of standards-based unit design through a focus on summative performance assessments, using the guiding principles of Understanding by Design.

Leonora por Elena Poniatowska Reseña por Teresa T. Blair

Seix Barral Premio Biblioteca Breve 2011

Elena Poniatowska nos dice de ésta su obra: “[...] esta novela, [...] no pretende ser de ningún modo una biografía, sino una aproximación libre a la vida de una artista fuera de serie.” Como escritora comprometida, E.P. generalmente elige escribir sobre temas de marginados para darles voz y reivindicarlos con su prosa periodística. Por consiguiente, superficialmente, parecería que Leonora Carrington, proveniente de la clase alta, rica y aristocrática, no sería un tópico de su elección. Sin embargo, como mujer, que en adición ha sufrido una crisis nerviosa, sí la califica como doblemente marginada por ser mujer en el movimiento predominantemente surrealista de los hombres y por ser emocionalmente inestable. Esta artista, escultora y escritora es la protagonista de la novela que desde su concepción hace hincapié en la fuerza, determinación y rebeldía titánicas de Leonora. Basta leer que la expulsaron de 5 instituciones de los 8 años a los 20 para calibrar su carácter.

El tono y estilo narrativo que E.P establece desde el principio acentúa el ímpetu que se produce al mezclar la ficción y la historia biográfica y, de esta forma, proyecta una imagen fantásticamente surrealista, onírica por excelencia, que oblitera todas las líneas divisorias entre lo normal y lo anormal. Todo es aceptable, se suspende el enjuiciamiento de los hechos. El mundo de Leonora es extraño desde su niñez. Para ilustrar: en el primer párrafo del libro, Leonora está consumiendo su avena en el desayuno que, dicho sea de paso, ella odia, simplemente porque su niñera irlandesa, Mary Kavanaugh, le ha dicho que cuando termine de comérsela encontrará el lago Windermere en el fondo del plato... - ¿Y qué piensan Uds.? - Leonora “empieza a escuchar el agua y mira como pequeñas olas se frisan en su superficie porque ha llegado al Windermere.”

Leonora . . .a continuación

A esto le sigue su aserción: **“soy un caballo vestido de niña”** como contrapunto contradictorio al comentario de su mamá que le dice que **parece una potranca**, con los mismos ímpetus, que brinca, pateo, etc. **“pero lo que yo veo es una niña vestida de blanco con una medalla al cuello.”** Leonora tergiversa esta sentencia y afirma que no es una niña vestida de blanco sino un caballo vestido de niña.

Las experiencias que le brinda la vida a Leonora, segunda guerra mundial, la noche de Tlatelolco, el terremoto del 85, para mencionar algunos pocos, E.P. los entrelaza con la descripción de cuadros. De este modo las viñetas biográficas son yuxtapuestas a su arte y pasan a ser una parte activa y vibrante. Las personas que cruzan su camino son seres famosos todos entre escritores y pintores, poetas y políticos. No los puedo mencionar aquí porque me llenaría páginas y páginas ese trajín. Sus cónyuges Ernst Max (Loplop, el pájaro mayor), Renato Leduc (poeta y diplomático), Chiki (Emerico Weisz fotógrafo famoso, padre de sus 2 hijos, Pablo y Gabriel), Edward y Álvaro y otras aventuras amorosas menos permanentes sirven de testimonio de “lo que sí supo es diferenciar amor y deseo y en esto último no puede quejarse: despertó pasiones y correspondió a casi todas, porque sabe que el deseo que no se satisface abrasa al cuerpo y vivir encenizada no es vivir.”

La cultura irlandesa por parte de madre y de su niñera que la introduce a los “sidhes” y la inglesa por parte de padre, luego en París, el Surrealismo, en México, la cultura azteca, enriquecen su producción artística como escritora (novelas, cuentos) escultora y pintora. Pero sobre todo, la imaginación de su autor favorito, Lewis Carroll, la ha marcado más que ninguno.

El final de la novela es ambiguo; Poniatowska introduce un personaje, Josefina alias Pepita que se introduce de sopetón, como un huracán, en la casa de Leonora y la lleva a todas partes en México. Una muchacha “Punk” con “piercings” en la nariz, las orejas, el ombligo, con un tatuaje, etc. con una vitalidad y energía igual a la de Leonora. Esta muchachita extraña, cuya función es obvia, le sirve de guía hacia la muerte a Leonora, es decir, la ayuda a cruzar la mítica laguna Estigia. Es su doble, su alter ego, pero transformada y transplantada a la época contemporánea. Lo que no queda claro es si Leonora está soñándola o si es real. ¿Sueño o realidad?

Leonora Carrington, mujer, feminista, fuerte como el roble y amante de la vida nos dice: “No me gustaría morir de ninguna manera, pero si me sucede que sea a los 500 años y por evaporación lenta.” Murió a los 94 años de edad de pulmonía. La novela Leonora se publicó el mismo año de su muerte, 2011.

Elena Poniatowska, ganadora del Premio Seix Barral Biblioteca Breve en 2011 por Leonora y del Premio Cervantes en 2013, definitivamente sabe escribir muy bien. Leonora es la prueba. Aprendí mucho con esta novela. Les aconsejo que busquen las pinturas descritas (con el título de cada una) en el libro por la computadora y las compaginen tanto con las viñetas biográficas y como con las ficticias. El resultado es intrigante e iluminador.

2015 AWARDS FOR PROFESSIONAL DISTINCTION

This year the **Chicago Area Chapter AATSP Award for Professional Distinction** was awarded to three outstanding professionals: Marta Constenla of Barrington High School; Laura Jacobson of Niles North High School and Alan Howell of Fenwick High School. These teachers were honored at our June Luncheon that was held at the Restaurant D'Candela. Over 30 friends and colleagues gathered to enjoy the rich variety of dishes and to hear the tributes to these teachers. All of them have been role models in their schools, exhibiting service, dedication and diligence to the profession of teaching Spanish. Each winner received a monetary award of \$100 and a certificate.

Marta Constenla acts as Barrington's coordinator of the Study Abroad Program to Spain as well as the Spanish Honor Society Awards ceremony. Marta's impact on the World Language Department is at the highest level. Her selection as AP reader attests to her superior skills and leadership. The AATSP Executive Council also benefits from Marta's outstanding qualities. She is a valued member of the group. Over the last five years Marta has used her leadership and organization to develop a very successful Winter Workshop. This year Marta had full responsibility. She set the theme, searched for presenters and made all the on-site arrangements. Furthermore, she solicited and synthesized evaluations, and coordinated PD's with the ISBE.

Laura Jacobson has given her time and energy to the AATSP organization for over two decades. Her leadership involvement is unequalled on the council. She served two terms as chapter president, and is currently finishing a three-year term as high school representative to the National Executive Council. Besides leading, Laura's contributions to chapter events have been vital to the success of the chapter and impacted the 2014 Chapter of the Year selection. Thanks to her contacts and energy, we were able to hold the NSE Awards Ceremony at Harper College. When that was no longer viable a few years ago, Laura stepped up to be the site coordinator for the event at Niles North. She had already assumed this role for our fall Poster Poetry contest at her school. Laura's participation also extends to her support of the contest opportunities for her students who regularly participate in the NSE. Laura acts as site coordinator for this and also runs the lab the day of the testing. Laura's students also participate in the Poster and Poetry contests.

Alan Howell has a career at Fenwick High School that has spanned more than three decades. He has exhibited a tireless commitment to education, a student-centered approach to learning, and a steadfast belief in the important role that foreign language instruction plays in the development of the children we serve. These outstanding qualities, combined with his professionalism, collegiality and collaborative spirit, have contributed to his tremendous success. Alan's exemplary teaching skills and dedication to excellence have helped his students excel both in and out of the classroom. They routinely earn scores of 4 and 5 on the AP exam. They have won an array of medals in conjunction with their participation in the AATSP poetry contest. They also often earn gold, silver and bronze awards on the National Spanish Exam. However, what the students truly value and appreciate about Alan is the leadership and guidance he offers them outside of the school day. Whether he is working with them in his role as the head of the Spanish club, organizing culturally significant outings or experiences, or helping them practice for the poetry contest, Alan shows his students each and every day how invested he is in their growth and progress.