
OCTOBER 15 • WEDNESDAY

9:45am – 3:00pm

N Pre-Conference Tour and Workshop

1869 Luckenbach Mill (following walking tour of Downtown Bethlehem) (1869 Luckenbach Mill, 459 Old York Rd, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)

Speakers: Jennifer Dobberfuhr Quinlan

PRE-REGISTRATION REQUIRED

Please meet in the lobby of Hotel Bethlehem at 9:45 am to begin the walking tour.

Join us for a unique and enriching pre-conference experience that blends local history, cultural immersion, and professional learning. This full-day workshop invites participants to step into the storied past of Historic Bethlehem, a National Historic Landmark District rich with colonial charm and Moravian heritage. We'll begin the day with a guided walking tour through the heart of Bethlehem, where cobblestone streets, 18th-century buildings, and centuries-old stories come to life. Led by local experts, this tour will highlight key historic sites while exploring the connections between place, language, and identity. We will meet in the Hotel Bethlehem lobby to begin the tour.

Next, participants will enjoy a locally catered lunch at the scenic Luckenbach Mill, a beautifully restored 1860s building nestled along the Monocacy Creek. This peaceful setting offers the perfect backdrop to reflect on the morning's discoveries and engage with colleagues.

In the afternoon, shift gears from exploring Bethlehem's rich cultural landscape to designing transformative learning experiences in your own classroom. This interactive, hands-on workshop, presented by Language Testing International, introduces participants to the ADDIE model of instructional design—Analyze, Design, Develop, Implement, and Evaluate—as a powerful framework for enhancing language proficiency and driving programmatic growth.

With a focus on "Backward Design to Build Proficiency and Improve Program Outcomes," participants will:

- Explore the ADDIE model and its relevance in a variety of instructional contexts
- Practice applying ADDIE to real-world language learning scenarios
- Pause for reflection and discussion during a mid-afternoon break
- Zoom in on evaluation and assessment, clarifying the distinction and learning to approach both more systematically
- Discover how to tell a compelling story with data, draw insights from evaluation results, and make informed changes to instruction and curriculum
- Apply insights by revising or creating learning outcomes based on sample or real program score reports
- Revisit the ADDIE process in light of evaluation findings, theorizing and adjusting plans with data-driven intent
- Engage in case-based practice, applying each step of ADDIE to specific instructional or programmatic challenges

This session provides concrete tools and guided practice to help participants translate theory into action, improve student outcomes, and align curriculum design with meaningful, measurable proficiency goals. Whether you're a curriculum leader, language educator, or program coordinator, you'll leave with a refreshed understanding of how to design, evaluate, and adapt with purpose.

Whatever your level of expertise, this workshop promises an inspiring blend of professional development and cultural enrichment in one of Pennsylvania's most picturesque and historically significant towns.

Five ACT 48 Credits will be available for members who participate in the full pre-conference workshop.

A Advocacy **B** Break **C** Cultural and/or Social Awareness **M** Meal **P** Panel Discussion

D Pedagogical Materials and/or Strategies **R** Research and Innovation **T** Roundtable **W** Wellness for Educators

OCTOBER 16 • THURSDAY

7:00am – 8:00am	M Breakfast	Mezzanine
	Continental breakfast of assorted pastries, yogurt, granola, and fruit will be available in addition to coffee, tea, and juice between 7 and 8 am.	
	Beverage stations will be available all day long, throughout the venue.	
8:15am – 9:00am	A Building Pennsylvania's Multilingual Future: Shaping the PA Language Roadmap	
	<i>Speakers: Cherie Garrett, Michael Bogdan</i>	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	PSMLA has led a two-year initiative to develop the Pennsylvania Language Roadmap, designed to strengthen and promote world language education across the Commonwealth. This session will present up-to-date data on the current status and challenges of world language education in Pennsylvania and engage participants in a collaborative discussion to gather feedback and ideas on implementing the roadmap to achieve statewide impact. All those who care about world language education in PA are invited to learn about the present landscape and help us prioritize the next steps in strengthening our profession.	
	For information on the PA Language Summit & Roadmap as well as the statistics presented in this session, please visit our Resources page on psmla.org : https://psmla.org/pa-language-summit/	
8:15am – 9:00am	C FOLDIS: Cultural Awareness at Your Institution	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Harrison Wick, Marjorie Zambrano, Heide Witthöft</i>	
	The interactive presentation would include video, imagery, and discussion about the FOLDIS events at IUP. Speakers will present on their experiences related to FOLDIS and how these collaborative opportunities have succeeded in engaging with students and faculty. The presentation would include a history of the event, the goal of inclusion through education about world perspectives, and a discussion of activities. The presentation would conclude with a hands-on FOLDIS activity designed to engage with the audience.	
8:15am – 9:00am	C Little Kids Can Do IPAs too!	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Victoria Gilbert</i>	
	Participants in this session will brainstorm customs from target language culture that are appropriate for their students and see how to design an IPA around authentic resources they locate for that custom. Whether it is a song, poem, hand play, game, story or infographic, participants will have a starting point for tasks that are developmentally appropriate in the three modes before leaving the workshop. The presenter will share her best tips for locating such resources and designing tasks for students as young as PreK & Kindergarten through Grade 3 by sharing her model IPA's.	
8:15am – 9:00am	W Silent Reset and Recharge Room	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
	<i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	
	Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	
9:15am – 10:00am	C Exploring Culture Through Culinary Crossroads	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Natasha Lopez, Xiaoxia Xu</i>	
	This session will explore the intersection of food, history, and identity in Chinese and Latin American communities in the Pittsburgh area. Teachers will demonstrate and guide other World Language teachers on how to design an immersive unit or mini course that connects students to the complex relationship of food, culture and society and will highlight two demographics (Chinese and Latino) that have helped to transform the culinary diversity of the Pittsburgh region. Other world language teachers will learn how to replicate this course and its teaching strategies in their own school school districts.	

9:15am – 10:00am	P	Put Some PEP in your Program! <i>Speakers: Natalie Puhala, Junko Yamamoto, Isabel Espino de Valdivia</i> Do you want your World language program to be recognized in Pennsylvania? Come and participate in interactive activities that will help you highlight your strengths and improve other aspects of your program.	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
9:15am – 10:00am	D	Developing a Can-do Attitude <i>Speakers: Dagoberto Polanco</i> In this informative session, participants will explore the transformative power of Can-Do Statements in shaping a proficiency-based language classroom. Can-Do Statements serve as a clear roadmap for both teachers and students, outlining what learners can accomplish at various proficiency levels. This session will dive into practical strategies for integrating these statements into daily instruction, assessment, and feedback to foster a learner-centered environment.	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
9:15am – 10:00am	R	Storytelling & AI: Fostering Belonging and Cultural Expression in Classrooms <i>Speakers: Ameeta Schmitt</i> Storytelling is a dynamic way to foster creative, emotional, and cultural expression, helping young people celebrate their sense of belonging and identity. In this session, we will explore how storytelling can support social-emotional learning (SEL) in diverse classrooms by encouraging students to reflect on their identities, beliefs, and biases. We will discuss essential cultural and linguistic considerations when implementing SEL approaches to ensure inclusivity and respect. Additionally, we will examine how generative AI can serve as a tool to help students tell their personal stories in meaningful and culturally responsive ways. Participants will gain practical strategies for integrating storytelling and AI to empower student voice and identity.	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
9:15am – 10:00am	W	Silent Reset and Recharge Room <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i> Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
10:00am – 10:45am	B	Morning Break Take a break and enjoy a local specialty - Moravian Sugar Cake! Beverage stations will be available throughout the venue all day long.	Balcony
10:45am – 11:30am	C	Fostering Cultural Sensitivity <i>Speakers: Junko Yamamoto, Yanfei Li</i> Linguistic and ethnic diversities exist across many cultures. Teaching language through a lens of cultural sensitivity dismantles stereotypes and facilitates the recognition of biases. By sharing materials and methods in French and Chinese, the presenters illustrate how to foster an appreciation of diversity across cultures, a key objective supported by the Comparison Standards.	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
10:45am – 11:30am	C	Sign Language Basics and Hearing Loss <i>Speakers: Jennifer Campbell</i> In this session, you will learn the basics about hearing loss, considerations for the classroom, and common challenges that deaf and hard of hearing students face. You will also learn about the various systems of sign language, practice the ASL alphabet and learn some basic conversational phrases! Come learn a new language today!	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
10:45am – 11:30am	D	Language Lessons on Crisis, Conflict & War: If, When, How <i>Speakers: Christopher Gwin</i> Our students are connected to the globalized world through social media and in other digital spaces. Conflict, crisis and war are constantly present in those spaces and our learners are confronted with images they may not comprehend. What role can the language teacher play in making sense of the world for our students? How can we balance their social/emotional and cognitive maturity with their curiosity about the world? If the language teacher does not approach these themes, who will? Let's examine how to integrate these historical, cultural, geographic and political themes at various levels of language instruction.	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
11:00am – 11:20am	W	Manageable Mindful Movement for Teachers (Express Presentation) <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i> Take some time for yourself and learn some simple ways to incorporate mindful movement into your school day. This session will be experiential and will adapt traditional yoga poses and stretches to a chair with an emphasis on breathing to help you to relax and relieve tension and stress.	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)

11:45am – 12:30pm	C	Second language vocabulary learning in a mixed-proficiency Community-Engaged program: Vocabulary instruction	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		<i>Speakers: Carmen Alicia Martinez, Lucia Osa-Melero</i>	
		This presentation documents how college students participating in a community-engaged program (CEP) learn vocabulary alongside elementary school children from the Latino Community after-school program. This study researches L2 vocabulary learning by implementing a program that addresses the needs of both college students and children. Moreover, students in the School of Nursing, motivated by their interest in health and Spanish, acquired vocabulary faster than higher-proficiency level students. This research uniquely combines quantitative and qualitative data on vocabulary learning within a CEP framework. The program aligns with policies that uphold the dignity and rights of immigrants through cultural and linguistic support.	
11:45am – 12:30pm	P	What Does Learning a Language Online Look Like?	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		<i>Speakers: Melissa Henderson, Ashley Hertzog, Olivia Grugan, Lauren McMinn, Ying-Fang Jeffers</i>	
		Join a panel of teachers and administrators who work to deliver high-quality, proficiency-oriented language acquisition experiences completely online. Even if you don't think of yourself as teaching online, we ALL use online learning in some way with our students. Language educators, like ourselves, use a variety of tools and platforms to deliver instruction, track growth and connect students with the world around them. Learning from those who do this full-time, you will come away with strategies that can apply to any context.	
11:45am – 12:30pm	D	Generative AI as your World Language Thought Partner	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		<i>Speakers: Ameeta Schmitt</i>	
		Discover how generative AI can serve as your planning partner while also supporting your role in preparing students for ethical, confident use of AI in world language learning. This session will explore practical strategies for integrating AI to enhance instruction, build student self-efficacy, and promote responsible digital citizenship. Walk away with ready-to-use ideas and guidance on fostering student awareness of AI's potential and limitations as a language learning tool.	
11:45am – 12:30pm	R	Modernizing Language and Media in the German Classroom	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		<i>Speakers: Meghan Pribicko</i>	
		Changes in Germany's demographics over the last decade have impacted terminology for minority groups and the media that young people are consuming. As Germany's population changes, German as a foreign language instruction should keep pace. Come to this session to learn about resources and ideas to update your lessons.	
12:00pm – 12:20pm	W	Integrating Stress-Less Strategies into Your Day and Your Classroom (Express Presentation)	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		<i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	
		Are you curious about how to bring stress-less strategies such as mindfulness, breathing techniques, and other methods into your classroom so that you can support both yourself AND your students? Are you concerned about doing it just right or what to expect as you get started? In this mini session you'll learn the key principles of practicing stress-less strategies for yourself and teaching them to our youth. Learn simple ways to help you to successfully integrate it as a regular practice in your classroom. There will be opportunities for questions, experiences, and practice along the way!	
12:30pm – 2:30pm	B	Keynote Luncheon	Grand Ballroom
		Link to Dr. Gilbert's Keynote and referenced documents	
		Keynote address by Dr. Victoria Gilbert, St. David's School in New York City. Performance by the Latin Jazz Ensemble of the The Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts	
		Lunch will be a hot buffet.	
2:45pm – 3:30pm	D	Developing Confident Readers	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		<i>Speakers: Nathan Campbell, Megan Flinchbaugh</i>	
		Join this session to learn tools and creative strategies designed to develop strong and confident readers in the target language and cultures. We know that regular and effective reading in the target language contributes to vocabulary acquisition, reinforces language structures, and provides a cultural backdrop for language learning. Join Megan & Nathan to learn and discuss ways you can make reading engaging and meaningful so your students at all levels (novice, too!) can reap the rewards of reading in the target language.	

2:45pm – 3:30pm	D Supercharge and Engage Your World Language Class with Collaboration-Boosting Games	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Mahmoud Amer</i>	
	This session shows how free, non commercial game-based learning platforms can transform world language learning through sustained, collaborative game based projects and activities. Game-based learning experiences immerse teachers and students in a continuous cycle of motivation, challenge, and engagement. Backed by research, games boost collaboration and active learning—vital in today’s classrooms. During the demonstration, participants will play several L2 games to discover strategies to integrate gaming as a core teaching tool, shifting it from an end of lesson treat to a systematic approach that drives deeper language acquisition and collective success.	
2:45pm – 3:30pm	T Level I Language Teachers: Let’s Collaborate and Connect!	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Laura LaRose, Amy Necci, Michael Bogdan</i>	
	Join fellow Level I language teachers for an interactive, discussion-based session focused on sharing ideas, strategies, and challenges specific to beginning language courses. Rather than a formal presentation, this session will provide space for small group conversations on key topics such as target language use, motivation and engagement, tech and AI, and assessment. Connect with colleagues, exchange best practices, and leave with fresh inspiration for your classroom. Whether you’re a new or experienced teacher, this is a great opportunity to collaborate and grow together!	
2:45pm – 3:30pm	W Silent Reset and Recharge Room	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
	<i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	
	Need some quiet time away to pause? It’s an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it’s sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	
3:30pm – 4:00pm	B Afternoon Break	Balcony
	Crisp market vegetables will be available on the Balcony.	
	Beverage stations will be available throughout the venue all day.	
4:00pm – 4:20pm	W Balanced Life Mentoring Q & A (Express Session)	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
	<i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	
	Balanced Life Mentoring with Amy is for you if...	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -You don’t have time for self-care (but know it’s necessary). -You don’t know where to start to find a school / family / life balance. -You’re not really sure what you need to do, to support yourself -You know you HAVE to do something -You want to empower yourself with manageable, cost-effective solutions that will allow you to enjoy an ongoing connection with yourself and others. 	
	But maybe you’re just not sure HOW to do that. I’m here to help you find balance between your school life and your personal life, so that you can live a life you LOVE.	
	How do I do that? Join me for a freeform Q & A session and ask me anything!	
4:15pm – 5:00pm	D Convos that Count: Crafting Clear Communication to Connect with Caregivers	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<i>Speakers: Cindy Bailey</i>	
	Strong communication with caregivers lays the foundation for student success, but it doesn’t have to feel overwhelming. In this session, we’ll explore practical ways to build trusting relationships with families from the very start of the school year, semester, or course. You’ll learn simple techniques for keeping communication clear, positive, and efficient, along with tips to make parent/teacher conferences more productive and less stressful. We’ll also look briefly at how AI tools can support teachers by helping to draft messages, saving time while keeping your voice authentic. Walk away with ready-to-use strategies and fresh ideas to strengthen connections with caregivers—and boost confidence in every conversation.	

4:15pm – 5:00pm

D Meeting World Language Proficiency Goals with Partnerships

Speakers: Kay Ireland

Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)

Learn how your school can partner with organizations to deliver on school and statewide world language and global competency goals. Learn how Language and Culture programs and a Scholarship Fund promote WL proficiency, the State and Global Seal of Biliteracy, and global citizenship as 21st century skills that are critical to college and career-readiness. See the impact of equitable, educationally aligned study abroad from the school, student, and teacher perspectives. Have a better understanding of criteria to evaluate potential partnerships that complement and enhance school curricula and programming and connect your students with resources to engage in lifelong language learning.

4:15pm – 5:00pm

D Tailor-made Teaching

Speakers: Ken Stewart

Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)

Just like a perfectly tailored outfit, language instruction should be customized to fit the needs of each learner. This session explores how to craft individualized, proficiency-based lessons using Lingco's editable and authentic content. Discover how to weave thematic instruction, cultural connections, and adaptable activities into a seamless learning experience. Learn practical strategies to design lessons that fit your students like a glove—engaging, rigorous, and tailor-made for success!

4:30pm – 5:00pm

W Silent Reset and Recharge Room

Speakers: Amy Necci

Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)

Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.

6:30pm – 10:30pm

Thursday Evening Social

Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)

Come join your colleagues for a relaxing evening after a day of inspiring sessions. There will be music, dancing, and plenty of food! We'll have passed hors d'oeuvres as well as an antepasto display, a "Takeout Bar" full of your favorite items from the Chinese food menu, and a Churros bar complete with Mexican Hot Chocolate. Each registrant will receive a drink ticket for a soft drink, beer, wine, or mixed drink. A Cash Bar will be available to purchase other drinks.

Stick around for trivia at 8:30! Assemble a team to show off your smarts. Start thinking of your clever team name NOW!

B Break **M** Meal **D** Pedagogical Materials and/or Strategies **R** Research and Innovation **T** Roundtable

W Wellness for Educators

OCTOBER 17 • FRIDAY

7:00am – 8:00am	Breakfast Continental breakfast of assorted bagels with cream cheese, yogurt, granola, and fruit will be available in addition to coffee, tea, and juice between 7 and 8 am. Beverage stations will be available all day long, throughout the venue.
8:15am – 9:00am	D Problem-Posing in the Language Classroom Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Junko Yamamoto</i> Problem-posing, a pedagogy by Paulo Freire, is driven by dialogues between the teacher and learners, where they identify issues that the students want to solve or the impacts they want to make in their community or the global society. The teacher can offer linguistic support to Novice speakers by using sentence structures and concept maps so that they can express complex ideas with words and sentence fragments. The teacher can use close-ended and open-ended questions for all language proficiency levels. Through the process, the learners write and speak about the impacts they can make at school, their community, or the global community. Advanced speakers can narrate what they plan to do in the future or actions they have taken.
8:15am – 9:00am	D Tech-Infused Vocabulary: Engaging Tools for Vocabulary Acquisition Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Jennifer Campbell</i> Looking to transform vocabulary learning in your world language classroom? This session explores innovative educational technology tools that make vocabulary acquisition more interactive, personalized, and fun. Discover digital platforms and strategies that go beyond traditional flashcards, engaging students in meaningful practice, promoting retention, and building confidence. Participants will leave with practical, ready-to-use ideas to energize their lessons and support learners of all proficiency levels. Level up your vocabulary instruction with tech tools that make vocabulary learning stick!
8:15am – 9:00am	R Advocating is key to your program's success Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Cherie Garrett</i> Advocacy is a crucial component to promoting the importance of world language education to students, parents, administrators and the community. In this session, learn numerous ways to advocate for your program and discover various resources to facilitate the process.
8:15am – 9:00am	W Self-Support Strategies for Educators Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room) <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i> Are you feeling burned out, overwhelmed or unable to find any time to take care of yourself? I hear you! I know how hard it can be to find even a few minutes of time to pause and regroup, much less try to find the time or money for extravagant self-care activities. This workshop offers 5 simple steps to help you to create more balance and ease in your daily life as an educator. If you struggle to find the time for self-support, this is an opportunity to get comfortable with putting yourself first on the list.
9:15am – 10:00am	D Pedagogy First: Purposeful AI Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Christina Huhn</i> Great teaching begins with intention, not automation. This session explores how educators can embrace AI's potential while keeping pedagogy at the forefront—designing learning experiences that are rooted in best practices and good language teaching. The session will focus beyond the shortcuts and prompts and reaffirm the teacher's role in the classroom.
9:15am – 10:00am	D Teach with the Science of Learning Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Heather Dravk</i> Do you have students this year who haven't retained as much as you think they should have? Instead of focusing our practice on teaching, let's look at learning. What does science tell us about learning and what can we do in the classroom to ensure learning is taking place? Learn some research-based strategies to increase learning and transform your students into successful learners. Teaching may be an art, but learning is a science!
9:15am – 10:00am	D The Do's & Don'ts of Authentic Resources Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA) <i>Speakers: Michael Bogdan</i> You found a great authentic resource! Now what? And is it the right one? Discover best practices for selecting and integrating these materials as well as pitfalls to avoid. Enhance student engagement, language acquisition, and cultural awareness through comprehension and analytical tasks based on target language oral and visual texts.

9:15am – 10:00am	W	Silent Reset and Recharge Room <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	
10:00am – 10:30am	B	Morning Break Enjoy a mid morning break with cookies and milk on the Balcony!	Balcony
		Beverage stations will be available throughout the venue all day long.	
10:30am – 11:00am	W	Silent Reset and Recharge Room <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	
10:30am – 11:15am	D	Oye Mi Canto, Mi Son <i>Speakers: Douglas Bowman</i>	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		A colorful journey to Spanish fluency is the integration of literature, art, music and culture to produce a learner interested in being a lifelong learner. Learn to use backward design and AI to integrate the four skills in joyful environment. Appreciate the art of reading to become a better writer.	
10:30am – 11:15am	D	Ready the Future: Develop & Equip the Next Generation of Educators <i>Speakers: Nathan Campbell, Megan Flinchbaugh</i>	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		Are you ready to shape the future of world language education? In this session, participants will explore how to be an effective mentor to student teachers and novice educators entering the profession. We'll examine practical strategies, key mindsets, and essential structures that support meaningful mentorship. Whether you're preparing to host a student teacher or looking to strengthen your leadership, this session offers tools to guide and inspire the next generation. Join us to build a stronger, more supportive professional community—one new teacher at a time.	
10:30am – 11:15am	D	Save Your Sanity <i>Speakers: Kaytlyn Byers</i>	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		Do you feel overwhelmed by your workload? Do you find it challenging to start your journey with acquisition-driven instruction because you feel like it is too much extra work? Try some of my techniques to streamline your lessons and free up space in your brain for creativity and trying new things. I have never taught less than 5 preps and am the only French teacher in my building. I'd love to share my secrets!	
		Here is a link to a 30 day free trial of the Voces textbook series (available for French, Spanish, Italian, German, and ESL): https://www.vocesdigital.com/trialreg.php?refid=47263	
11:00am – 11:20am	W	Manageable Mindful Movement for Teachers (Express Presentation) <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Take some time for yourself and learn some simple ways to incorporate mindful movement into your school day. This session will be experiential and will adapt traditional yoga poses and stretches to a chair with an emphasis on breathing to help you to relax and relieve tension and stress.	
11:30am – 12:00pm	W	Silent Reset and Recharge Room <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.	

11:30am – 12:15pm	D	IPAs Are Not Just for Happy Hour <i>Speakers: Courtney Bonino</i>	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		Integrated Performance Assessments (IPAs) are based on authentic resources and are used for evaluating student proficiency in the three modes of communication (Interpretive, Presentational, Interpersonal). Learn where to find authentic resources, how to create, administer and grade an IPA!	
11:30am – 12:15pm	D	Thinking in More than One Language: Strategies for Deep Cognitive Engagement in the Language Classroom <i>Speakers: Katrina Griffin</i>	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		In this session, we'll explore how to foster deeper cognitive engagement through intentional language tasks that challenge students to think critically, solve problems, and make meaningful connections across languages and cultures. Participants will leave with ready-to-use strategies that empower learners to move beyond surface-level vocabulary and grammar toward higher-order thinking—comparison, inference, synthesis, and perspective-taking.	
11:30am – 12:15pm	D	Using the IMAGE model to explore cultural perspectives about sustainability <i>Speakers: Silvina Orsatti</i>	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) recognize that ending poverty and other deprivations must go hand-in-hand with strategies that improve health and education, reduce inequality, and spur economic growth - all while tackling climate change and working to preserve our oceans and forests (United Nations, 2020). The acronym IMAGE represents 4 steps of a model in which learners observe and explain cultural products and practices to then examine their relationships to cultural perspectives (ACTFL, 2017). In this session you will learn strategies to explore cultural perspectives about global challenges described in the 17 United Nations Goals.	
12:00pm – 12:20pm	W	Integrating Stress-Less Strategies into Your Day and Your Classroom (Express Presentation) <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Are you curious about how to bring stress-less strategies such as mindfulness, breathing techniques, and other methods into your classroom so that you can support both yourself AND your students? Are you concerned about doing it just right or what to expect as you get started? In this mini session you'll learn the key principles of practicing stress-less strategies for yourself and teaching them to our youth. Learn simple ways to help you to successfully integrate it as a regular practice in your classroom. There will be opportunities for questions, experiences, and practice along the way!	
12:30pm – 1:45pm	M	Awards Luncheon	Grand Ballroom
		Please join us to honor our award winners from 2024 and 2025. You will also enjoy a performance by the Touring Choir of the Lehigh Valley Charter High School for the Arts and a presentation from our sponsor, EF Tours. Lunch will be a Main Street Deli Buffet including a variety of salads, chips, and gourmet sandwiches.	
2:00pm – 2:20pm	W	Balanced Life Mentoring Q & A (Express Session) <i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i>	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
		Balanced Life Mentoring with Amy is for you if... -You don't have time for self-care (but know it's necessary). -You don't know where to start to find a school / family / life balance. -You're not really sure what you need to do, to support yourself -You know you HAVE to do something -You want to empower yourself with manageable, cost-effective solutions that will allow you to enjoy an ongoing connection with yourself and others. But maybe you're just not sure HOW to do that. I'm here to help you find balance between your school life and your personal life, so that you can live a life you LOVE. How do I do that? Join me for a freeform Q & A session and ask me anything!	
2:00pm – 2:45pm	D	Cognitive Grammar, The Communicative Intention Behind the Words <i>Speakers: Andrea Giganti Dima</i>	Northampton Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
		Proficiency is the goal. There is also the need to explain to our students how and why a speaker chooses the words to convey their intended meaning. Cognitive Grammar analyzes the communicative intention behind the words. This session, emphasizing online courses, explores how to incorporate this method into your classes.	

2:00pm – 2:45pm	D Grab a flashlight: Shine Your Light on Reading for Proficiency	Lafayette Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<p><i>Speakers: Nicole Hartung</i></p> <p>Discover why our students are reading in the dark and how to guide them toward a brighter path to proficiency. We will remove some of the stumbling blocks that our students face, and explore practical methods to create a class culture for reading. You will take away strategies you can use next week as you shift your role from the reader for your students to a trail guide who lights the way towards reading for proficiency.</p>	
2:00pm – 2:45pm	D Harnessing Motivation Through Gamification	Lehigh Room (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<p><i>Speakers: Joe Mencarini, Joe Mencarini</i></p> <p>Come learn how to use some shortcuts in MS Excel/Google Sheets and be part of a community collaboration to help construct a vocabulary corpus for exporting datasets for use as flash cards or question banks for gamified learning (eg, Gimkit, Blooket, Quizlet, Kahoot, etc.). Many hands make for light work, and I feel like this might be something many of us might already building separately. In part one, participants will learn how the TEXTJOIN/ CONCATENATE functions work and see some examples of its applications. In part two, participants will break out into groups based on target language and CEFR level.</p>	
2:00pm – 2:45pm	R Offering the Seal of Biliteracy	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<p><i>Speakers: Cherie Garrett</i></p> <p>Offering the Seal of Biliteracy at your school district will not only recognize those students who are proficient in two or more languages by their high school graduation, but will also generate support and excitement among your students, administrators and the community for your world language program. In this presentation, the purpose and benefits of the Seal of Biliteracy will be explained and a plan for implementation will be shared so you have a simple process to offer the Seal of Biliteracy to the students at your school district. In addition, a comparison between the Seal of Biliteracy and Global Seal of Biliteracy will be explained.</p>	
2:30pm – 3:00pm	W Silent Reset and Recharge Room	Balance for Educators Recharge & Reset Room (Moravian Room)
	<p><i>Speakers: Amy Necci</i></p> <p>Need some quiet time away to pause? It's an amazing experience being at a conference, connecting with other language educators, and learning new things. With so many exciting things happening all around us, it's sometimes necessary to take some time for yourself to reset & recharge so that you get the most out of your time here. Wander in and out as you please during this open freeform time. Sit a while, perhaps close your eyes, or engage in any of the mindful activities available in the room: Use the fidgets, do some mindful coloring, read and practice with mindful moments and affirmation cards. Please maintain silence during the Reset & Recharge times.</p>	
2:45pm – 3:30pm	B Grab & Go Snacks	Balcony
	<p>Before you head out, please stop and pick up a to go bag. There will be protein bars and bagged mixed nuts available, as well as bottled water.</p>	
3:00pm – 3:45pm	T PSMLA Peer Mentoring Program (Closed Session)	Mural Ballroom (Hotel Bethlehem, 437 Main St, Bethlehem, PA 18018, USA)
	<p><i>Speakers: Heather Dravk, Rich Madel</i></p> <p>This is for participants of PSMLA's Peer Mentoring Program to connect, debrief the conference, and discuss other program-related items.</p>	