

ORAL LANGUAGE BUILDER

Program Authors

Donna L. Clementi holds a B.A. in French and Education and an M.S. in Curriculum and Instruction. In 2004, Clementi was honored with the National Association of District Supervisors of Foreign Language (NADSFL) Outstanding District Supervisor Award. She is a past recipient of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Florence Steiner Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Education K-12 in the United States.

Ms. Clementi is an executive board member and former president of the Wisconsin Association of Foreign Language Teachers, as well as a member of the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Association of Teachers of French. She is also a member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and an annual presenter at their conferences. Ms. Clementi recently served on the executive board of the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages. She currently is an instructor in Foreign Language Methods at the University of Wisconsin at Oshkosh.

Marcela Matienzo Gerber holds a B.A. in Elementary and Secondary Education and a B.A. in Comprehensive Latin Studies. She is a National FLES Committee Member of ACTFL. Ms. Gerber, a native Spanish speaker from Buenos Aires, Argentina, founded the National FLES Institute of Texas in 1995 and has served as the director since its inception. Additionally, she has been a presenter at the National and State Foreign Languages Conferences for more than 17 years.

Ms. Gerber is a member of and contributor to the Texas Foreign Language Association (TFLA), a member of the Southwest Conference of Language Teachers (SWCOLT), and a member of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP). She has taught FLES for 25 years at The Hockaday School in Dallas, Texas, and in 2006, she was named a Hockaday Honorary Alum.

Mona Scheraga holds a B.A. in English and an M.A. in Urban Education. She is a recipient of the Princeton University Award for Distinguished Secondary School Teaching and of a National Education Association Hilda Maehling Fellowship for developing vocational education materials for non-native English speakers. Ms. Scheraga has presented papers and workshops at International TESOL (Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages) and NABE (National Association of Bilingual Educators) conferences and at several of their state and international affiliates, and has conducted workshops and teacher training throughout the United States, Puerto Rico, Canada, France, Sweden, Poland, Belarus, and the Baltics.

Ms. Scheraga is a past chair of the Materials Writers Interest Section and Secondary Schools Interest Section for International TESOL, where she also has served on the Socio-Political Concerns Committee and the Awards Standing Committee. She was the 1999 recipient of the D. Scott Enright Award for outstanding service to Interest Sections in TESOL. She currently is consulting, providing workshops in various school districts, and writing in the field of ESL/EFL/ELL.

Program Consultants

Helena Curtain, Ph.D., recently retired from teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in English as a Second Language and foreign language methodology at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Her concentration is in language acquisition, regardless of the language, and she has been involved with world languages teacher certification programs as well as teaching both English as a second language and English as a foreign language. Dr. Curtain co-authored the internationally known and used Languages and Children—Making the Match: Foreign Language Instruction for an Early Start K–8. She currently travels extensively as a consultant on second language acquisition.

Carol Ann Dahlberg has been teaching German and future teachers for over 40 years in public schools, St. Olaf College, the University of Minnesota, and at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN. She has given the keynote address at state foreign language associations, national and regional conferences across the U.S., and has been a regular presenter at ACTFL/AATG conferences, the Central States Conference, the Northeast Conference and the Second Language Acquisition by Children. With Dr. Curtain, Ms. Dahlberg co-authored the internationally known and used Languages and Children—Making the Match: Foreign Language Instruction for an Early Start K–8. Her honors and awards are numerous and include ACTFL's Anthony Papalia Award for Excellence in Teacher Education and ACTFL's Florence Steiner Award for Leadership in Foreign Language Education at the Post-Secondary Level.