



AATSP

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American Association
of Teachers
of Spanish & Portuguese
Est. 1917

106th AATSP Annual Conference

Hilton Portland Downtown

Portland, Oregon

AWARDS CEREMONY

Monday, July 1, 2024

17:00 - 18:15

Event Program

I. Welcome

II. Recognition of Friends of the AATSP

III. Recognition of 2024 AATSP Study Abroad Scholarships and Conference Travel Stipends

IV. Presentation of 2024 AATSP Awards

Outstanding Scholarly Publication

Outstanding Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Outstanding Service

AATSP Chapter of the Year

Teachers of the Year

Elementary (PreK-8) Level

Secondary (9-12) Level

Two-Year Community College Level

Four-Year College/University Level

Honorary Fellows Award

Mario Vargas Llosa Sigma Delta Pi and AATSP Joint Award

Lawrence Wilkins Founder's Award

VI. Recognition of Outgoing Board Members

Friends of the AATSP

Angelica Amezcua, University of Washington, Co-Editor, Revisita Luso-Hispánica

Maria Barrio de Mendoza, El Camino Community College, CA

Jesús Joaquim Cerdá Tortosa, Education Office, Embassy of Spain

Mark Del Mastro, Executive Director, Sigma Delta Pi

Jesús Fernández González, Consejero de Educación, Embajada de España en Estados Unidos y Canadá

Xavier Gisbert, President, Asociación Enseñanza Bilingüe, Spain

Camelot Marshall, Senior Assessment Manager, ACTFL

Maria José Martínez de Lis, Asociación Enseñanza Bilingüe, Spain

Kristi O'Connor, Klett World Languages

Gregg Roberts-Aguirre, President, Dual Language Alliance

Josefina Tinajero, The University of Texas at El Paso

Eduardo Viana Da Silva, University of Washington, Co-Editor, Revisita Luso-Hispánica

Daniel Ward, Editor, Language Magazine

Study Abroad Scholarship and Conference Travel Stipend Recipients

Nilda C. Barraza, Mather High School, Chicago, IL; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient, United Planet

Katharine Blevins, Clarke County High School, Berryville, VA; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient, LATINO SCHOOLS

Molly E. Cook, Moravian Academy, Bethlehem, PA; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient, Embassy of Spain

Emaida Krvaric, The Woodlands College Park High School, The Woodlands, TX; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient, Academia Mester

Jennifer Jue Mattle, Delran High School, Delran, NJ; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient; CELAS MAYA

Jovann Silva Delgado, Pembroke High School, Pembroke, MA; Study Abroad Scholarship Recipient; Centro Mundo Lengua

Margarita de León Viera, West Career & Technical Academy, Las Vegas, NV; Conference Travel Stipend Recipient (Lingco)

Kimberly Ponce de León, Shaker Heights High School, Cleveland, OH; Conference Travel Stipend Recipient (Lingco)

Kimberly Tangaro, Mililani High School, Mililani, HI; Pulsera Project Travel Award Recipient

Outstanding Scholarly Publication Award



Jorge E. Ramos

Georgetown University, Washington, D.C.



Christine Shea

University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA

The AATSP Outstanding Scholarly Publication Award is given annually to an article published in *Hispania*. The focus of the award alternates on an annual basis. The focus for all odd-numbered years is literature, film, and culture while the focus for even-numbered years, such as this year, is linguistics and language science/pedagogy.

The 2024 Outstanding Scholarly Publication Award goes to Jorge E. Ramos, Georgetown University, and Christine Shea, University of Iowa. Their article, titled "Speaking Race or Racialized Speaking: Evidence from Perceptions of Lateral Variants by Puerto Rican Listeners" is freely available on the AATSP website.

The members of the Selection Committee recognized the essay as a fascinating, polished, well argued, and intriguing empirical approach examining the socio-phonetic dialect variants of [r] and [l] alternation in Spanish.

Unfortunately, the authors are unable to join us today.



The runner up for 2024's Outstanding Scholarly Publication Award is "Second Language Development of Dialect Awareness in Spanish" by Lauren B. Schmidt, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA.

As noted by the Selection Committee, the author's research sheds light on how dialects affect linguistic proficiency, but there are also other implications, such as the continued need for inclusion and diversity in what Spanish we are teaching.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award



Alejandro Lee

Santa Monica College, Santa Monica, CA

The AATSP Award for Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion is a relatively new award sponsored by Klett World Languages. The award reflects AATSP's values to embrace diversity and strive for a more equitable, inclusive future, through language education.

Professor Alejandro Lee is the 2024 recipient of the AATSP Award for Excellence in Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI). Dr. Lee teaches Spanish at Santa Monica College, in Santa Monica, CA.

As noted in one of his letters of recommendation, Professor Lee's tireless advocacy for diversity, equity, and inclusion has been evident since the very beginning of his career, but it is clearly exemplified by his invaluable contributions to Open Educational Resources (OER). His authored readings on topics such as Spanish in the Philippine Islands, Equatorial Guinea, Perú Negro, the Chinese influence in the chifas in Peru, and the LGBT+ community have significantly enriched the learning experience for students.

Alejandro Lee writes:

Diversity, equity, inclusion, and accessibility have been important to me throughout my career, but it is in my current position at a community college that the need is more pronounced. Moreover, my advocacy for these tenets grew stronger when I began teaching heritage speakers of Spanish. At all levels of instruction, heritage language education requires a balance of equitable, yet fair, and inclusive practices in the curriculum.

Outstanding Service Award



Hannah Rae Joseph

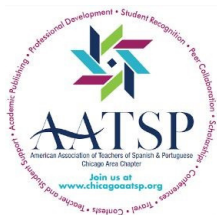
Spain Park High School, Hoover, AL

The AATSP Outstanding Service Award is given to a member in good standing of the Association who has made outstanding service contributions to the Association, such as holding leadership positions within the AATSP and/or one of its chapters, serving as a chair or member of important AATSP committees, and representing the AATSP in a national or international capacity.

This year's recipient of the AATSP Outstanding Service Award is Hannah Rae Joseph, from Spain Park High School in Hoover, Alabama. Hannah has served as President of the Alabama Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese and as a member of the Board of the Alabama World Language Association. Among her most impactful contributions to the teaching profession is her N.E.W.B.I.E project, an initiative which provides care packages to new language educators to help them feel welcomed and supported. Her recent expansion of the project to include partnerships with organizations in Illinois underscores her unwavering commitment to supporting educators across the nation. Hannah's work is a powerful reminder of the transformative impact that service can have in creating positive change within our communities.

Unfortunately, Hannah Rae Joseph is not able to join us today.

Chapter of the Year Award



Chicago Area Chapter

Chicago, IL

The AATSP Chapter of the Year Award is presented to the chapter that demonstrates outstanding chapter activities along with membership participation.

The Chicago Chapter is this year's recipient of the *Chapter of the Year Award*. This dynamic chapter has shown exceptional dedication to promoting our shared mission. Highlights of their outstanding work include sponsoring a poetry contest, creating a bespoke advocacy sticker, presenting at conferences (including our own conference and ACTFL), offering professional development webinars, awarding student scholarships, and nominating deserving candidates for AATSP awards. Moreover, the Chicago Chapter has an impressive participation record in the National Spanish Examinations (NSE), with 93 members from 35 schools participating this year. Accepting this award on behalf of the chapter is MaryJo Aronica, the 2024 Chicago Chapter President.

The Chicago Chapter notes:

The Chicago Chapter is proud of the many ways we've been able to serve our membership and their students. Looking back from 2023 till now, we've faced the many challenges that have altered professional organizations in the post-pandemic era. We've moved our general meetings to online Zoom, but we continue to look for ways to make connections and serve our community.

Among those ways, the Chicago Chapter's virtual **Café Literario** offers a steady source of support for AP Literature teachers.

AATSP Teacher of the Year Award Elementary Level (PreK-8)



Victoria Gilbert

Saint David's School, New York City, NY

Victoria Gilbert is the 2024 recipient of the AATSP Teacher of the Year Award for the PreK-8 level. Gilbert is the Modern Language Department Chair at Saint David's School in New York City, NY.

As noted in one of her letters of recommendation for this award: *In addition to leading thematic curriculum development in her school, she openly and freely shares resources with other language educators who are looking for help through social media. She currently serves as the Northeast Regional Representative for NNELL, and has been an instrumental player in organizing professional development for the organization.*

Victoria writes:

As a teacher for over thirty-five years, I continue to learn every day from my students and colleagues. My students respond to input provided with their uptake and, eventually, their output. When I see them willing to stretch their language skills by relying on context clues, asking for expressions they need or listening closely to pick up new words from a more advanced speaker, I admire their ability to take risks and feel grateful that the design of the learning environment has been successful.

Unfortunately, Victoria Gilbert is not able to join us today.

AATSP Teacher of the Year Award

Secondary Level (9-12)



Lisa DaCunha Machnik, Ph.D.

Somerville Public Schools, Somerville, MA

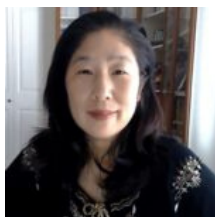
Dr. Lisa DaCunha Machnik is the 2024 recipient of the AATSP Teacher of the Year Award for the Secondary Level (9-12). Dr. DaCunha Machnik teaches Portuguese and Spanish at Somerville Public Schools in Somerville, MA.

As noted in one of her letters of recommendation for this award: *Within the last few years, Massachusetts has adopted progressive world language standards that center social justice. Dr. Machnik has been very proactive in incorporating them. She provides first class professional development for her teachers, regularly attends conference like AATSP, considers policies that need to be address, such as their Honors Program, and contributes to the field as a frequent presenter.*

Lisa writes:

As a teacher and as the K-12 World Language Supervisor, I believe that all students should have equitable access to our language program and that all students can learn with the appropriate support and level of rigor. I believe in giving students voice and choice. I believe in multilingualism and foster this belief by overseeing the district's Seal of Biliteracy award. In our department we are committed to exploring multicultural perspectives, especially of less commonly taught cultures in the languages we teach. I believe it is important that students see themselves reflected in the curriculum-representation matters.

AATSP Teacher of the Year Award Two-Year Community College Level



Cristina Moon, Ph.D.
Chabot College, Hayward, CA

Professor Cristina Moon is the 2024 recipient of the AATSP Teacher of the Year Award for the Two-Year Community College level. Dr. Moon teaches Spanish at Chabot College in Hayward, CA.

As noted in one of her letters of recommendation: *Her tireless efforts in developing online courses, creating accessible teaching materials, and spearheading the adoption of Zero-Textbook-Cost (ZTC) initiatives have significantly enhanced the educational experience for her students and colleagues alike.*

Cristina writes:

In my classes, I maximize the learning potential for all students by creating the most innovative, entertaining, interactive, and fulfilling language class environment. I am always in the lookout for new materials, new technologies, and new tools to enhance the learning experience... My passion for teaching and learning has been at the core of what I do at Chabot College and my commitment to my students' success will continue to guide my teaching philosophy that all students should have access to equitable and accessible courses.

AATSP Teacher of the Year Award

Four-Year College/University Level



Carmen Ramos Méndez

International University of Applied Languages, Munich, Germany

Professor Carmen Ramos Méndez is the 2024 recipient of the AATSP Teacher of the Year Award for the Higher Education level. Dr. Ramos Méndez teaches Spanish at the International University of Applied Languages (SDI München) in Munich, Germany.

As noted by the President of her University: *Professor Ramos has significantly contributed to the development and implementation of a pioneering MA program in Teaching Spanish as a Foreign Language, which stands out in Europe for its unique specialization modules... Her initiative in organizing online symposiums each semester for students and faculty showcases her forward-thinking approach, incorporating topics such as artificial intelligence in language teaching and professional use of social media.*

Carmen writes:

Considero que mi principal tarea consiste en ofrecer oportunidades de aprendizaje significativas, interesantes, enriquecedoras y que ayuden a que los alumnos mejoren sus competencias en español y se sientan motivados y capaces. Valoro la autonomía de aprendizaje, el feedback de calidad y la atención a la creciente diversidad del alumnado. Tengo la enorme suerte de trabajar en una universidad en la que los estudiantes provienen de culturas y lenguas muy distintas, por lo que aprovechar este plurilingüismo en el aula de español es una ventaja de la que disfrutamos cada día.

Honorary Fellows Award



Ondjaki (Ndalú de Almeida)

Luanda, Angola

The AATSP's Honorary Fellow Award honors individuals who have distinguished themselves and received recognition for outstanding services or contributions in the field of Hispanic and Luso-Brazilian languages, literatures, cultures, linguistics, and cinema.

This year's recipient of the Honorary Fellows Award is Angolan writer Ondjaki. Ondjaki is the pen name of Angolan author Ndalú de Almeida (b. 1977). With over 20 books, Ondjaki's body of work is extensive and varied, and includes novels, collections of short stories, poems, film scripts, and children's literature. He has won important literary prizes, including Portugal's José Saramago Award for his 2013 book *Os Transparentes*, and Brazil's Jabuti Prize for Best Book in Foreign Literature (FNLIJ, 2023) for *O livro do deslembramento*.

Celebrating the richness of Angolan Portuguese, Ondjaki writes:

I was born into a Portuguese language which was, and is, Angolan. But many Portuguese languages exist in Angola. It's not just the difference between Luanda and other places. The way of speaking varies according to social class, also, or according to place, or according to the personal interpretation that each person makes of their language. The Portuguese language in Angola, whether used by a citizen in daily life, by a child, by a woman who sells things in the street, by a sea-shell seller, a politician or a writer, is a singular instrument of self-expression and creation. It's even each person's private theatre.

Mario Vargas Llosa Sigma Delta Pi and AATSP Joint Award



Anya Neumeister

Davidson College, Davidson, NC

The Mario Vargas Llosa Award is a joint award of Sigma Delta Pi, the National Collegiate Hispanic Honor Society, and the AATSP. It is granted yearly to one undergraduate Spanish major or minor who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in all upper-division courses completed and exemplary involvement in extra-curricular activities as related to Spanish.

Anya writes:

I feel fortunate that membership in Sigma Delta Pi has allowed me to develop my language abilities and to also expand my understanding of different Spanish cultures. I cherish the relationships that I have cultivated through this society, and I thank both the AATSP and Sigma Delta Pi for this honor.



Lawrence Wilkins Founder's Award



Instituto Cervantes

New York, NY

The Lawrence Wilkins Founder's Award is a relatively new award and one of the AATSP's highest honors. This award is the brainchild of Bernie López, AATSP NY Metro Chapter President. Lawrence Wilkins was one of our founding fathers. He served as President of the AATSP in 1918-1920 and 1927 and as Vice President from 1921-1926. Wilkins certainly demonstrated a love for Spanish and showed great foresight with the creation of our Association.

This year, the AATSP Board of Directors is honored to name the Instituto Cervantes as the recipient of the 2024 AATSP Lawrence Wilkins Founder's Award. The Founder's Award was created to recognize individuals or entities that have a long history of collaboration with the AATSP and have played an important role in supporting the Association and its mission. The Instituto Cervantes truly embodies the spirit of the Founder's Award.

The relationship between the AATSP and the Instituto Cervantes has been and continues to be a rich, long-standing collaboration that dates back decades. This collaboration is a model of mutual support of our shared mission of sustaining and developing teachers of Spanish of all levels and nurturing the Hispanic heritage in the United States. Accepting this award on behalf of the Instituto is Dr. Bueno Hudson, Executive Director of the Instituto Cervantes in New York City, and a steadfast friend and partner of the AATSP.

We wish Dr. Richard Bueno Hudson the best as he prepares to leave his current position to take charge of the Instituto Cervantes in Lisbon, Portugal.

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June 26 - June 29, 2025

Marriott Panama Hotel
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The AATSP sincerely thanks
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