

**NNELL's Award for Outstanding Support of Early Second Language Learning**

NNELL's Award for Outstanding Support of Early Second Language Learning will be given to an individual or individuals who have demonstrated *outstanding support of early second language learning of languages other than English*. Nominees may be actively involved in their efforts in a variety of ways including, but not limited to, the following: principal or other school administrator, district or state school superintendent, classroom teacher, parent, school board member, businessperson, civic leader, politician/elected representative.

***Nominees should be individuals whose primary job responsibilities are not related to the field of second language education.***

We encourage you to nominate a deserving candidate today. Click here to read the [submission instructions for NNELL's Award for Outstanding Support of Early Second Language Learning](#). Submissions should be received by May 1, 2007.

**Manuscript Submissions for Learning Languages**

NNELL is currently seeking manuscripts for both refereed and scholarly articles for the Spring 2007 and the Fall 2007 issues of its journal, *Learning Languages*. Spring submissions must focus on content-related second

language instruction. Fall submissions must focus on numeracy and literacy. Submit all manuscripts to Paris Granville, Editor, Learning Languages, at [paris@languageshaping.com](mailto:paris@languageshaping.com)

**February Is "Discover Languages" Month**

"Discover Languages" month is a great opportunity to advocate and celebrate language learning. Join ACTFL and NNELL's efforts to promote language programs with our schools, families, and communities. Click here to [learn more about the "Discover Languages" campaign](#).

**Summer Language Institutes 2007**

It's not too early to start planning your summer. Here are a few language-rich possibilities:

- [National K-12 Foreign Language Resource Center in Iowa](#)
- [National Capital Language Resource Center in Washington D.C. \(NCLRC\)](#)
- [The Center for Advanced Research on Language Acquisition \(CARLA\)](#)
- [Hawaii Foreign Language Resource Center](#)

- [National African Language Resource Center in Wisconsin](#)
- [Center for Advanced Language Proficiency Education and Research \(CALPER\)](#)

Click here to [see all the workshops offered at the language resource centers in 2007.](#)

### **Practice Languages Online**

Jacob Richman has created several free-or-charge websites to practice languages online:

English: <http://www.learn-english.co.il/>  
Spanish <http://www.learn-spanish.co.il/>  
and <http://www.my-spanish-dictionary.com/>  
Hebrew <http://www.learn-hebrew.co.il/>  
and [www.hebrew-verbs.co.il](http://www.hebrew-verbs.co.il/) French:  
[www.my-french-dictionary.com](http://www.my-french-dictionary.com)

### **More People Today Are Choosing to Keep the Home Language**

While previous generations of immigrant families were discouraged from maintaining their language of origin, the continuous efforts of civil rights and language advocacy groups together with the pressures of an increasingly global community are creating a new generation of children that will grow up proud of their mixed cultural heritage.

Here are two articles with new discoveries and opinions on how to raise children bilingually:

[Landmark research reveals multilingual upbringings benefit babies.](#)

[Challenges and advantages of bilingualism at the home.](#)

### **The Controversy about NCLB Reauthorization Continues**

Here are a couple of interesting editorials to read:

### **Fiscal Year 2007 Budget Request Advances NCLB Implementation and Pinpoints Competitiveness**

*"Increasing National Security and Global Competitiveness through Foreign Languages.* A \$35 million increase, for a total of \$57 million, for the Education portion of the President's National Security Language Initiative is designed to significantly increase the number of American students and workers learning critical need foreign languages such as Arabic, Chinese, Korean and Russian." Click here to read [Fiscal Year 2007 Budget press release.](#)

### **Learning a Second Language: When & Why**

"Can studying a second language in elementary school boost student achievement in other academic areas? Numerous studies suggest that this may be the case. Yet even though NCLB identifies foreign language as a core subject, only about a fourth of U.S. public elementary schools report

teaching foreign languages, and most of these schools provide only introductory courses. Fewer than half of all U.S. high school students are studying a foreign language. Meanwhile, administration of a National Assessment for Educational Progress test for foreign language has been put on hold.” Click here to read [Learning a Second Language: When & Why](#).

### **More US Schools Are Offering the International Baccalaureate Program**

“International Baccalaureate is best known for a high school diploma program geared to the university-bound academic elite. But Pietra and her husband, Peter, were sold on the lesser-known elementary version of IB. Both were attracted to the IB emphasis on global understanding, Pietra said, and added: “He was like, ‘Our kids are going to an Ivy League school, and we need an education that’s going to get them on the right track.’” [Read the whole article on International Baccalaureate here](#).

### **Dual Language Education Is Gaining Ground**

As shown in these articles:

**“School district eyes adding more language-immersion programs” — Seattle, WA**

The approach has been so successful at the John Stanford International School in Seattle that district officials unveiled an ambitious plan Thursday to expand the program elsewhere in the city -- with the goal of creating eight more language-immersion programs in the next five years. Click here to read the article [“School district eyes adding more language-immersion programs”](#)

### **“English, Spanish program works” — Snow Hill, NC**

“With respect to academics, the dual language program is perhaps a bit more rigorous than a conventional classroom but I think children often rise to the expectations placed before them.” Click here to read the article [“English, Spanish program works.”](#)