



*“We want to raise our children so that they can take as sense of pleasure in both their own heritage and the diversity of others.”*

*-Mr. Rogers*



SAVE THE DATE!

Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 2010

IN-NELL  
CONFERENCE

Featuring:

Laura Terrell

At Park Tudor School,  
Indianapolis

A Busy Fall for IN-NELL

Fall is always a busy time for educators, and IN-NELL has been busy with professional development and community service as we continue to spread the word about the importance of early and sustained world language instruction.

In October, we were lucky enough to host Dr. Helena Curtain for her NNELL workshop at Park Tudor School. Dr. Curtain reminded us all how important our role as world language teachers is to 21<sup>st</sup> century schools and inspired us to be creative and thoughtful in our lessons. Dr. Curtain also participated in an IN-NELL sponsored round table discussion and breakfast with local superintendants and principals to communicate the benefits of world language instruction and advocate for continued funding of K-12 programs. We were honored to have Dr. Curtain here in Indiana and grateful to NNELL for making her visit possible.

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## **Saari wins K-8 IFLTA Teacher of the Year Award**

By Julie Canady, Vice President, IN-NELL

IN-NELL is proud to announce Nicci Saari, Spanish teacher at Eastwood Middle School was recently awarded the 2009 Teacher of the year for the K-8 level at the November IFLTA conference. Saari was nominated as IN-NELL Teacher of the year in May 2009 and submitted a portfolio that was judged along with other Teacher of the year candidates for the overall K-8 award. Although she has been teaching thirteen years, Nicci has successfully worked with the students of Washington Township for nine. She was nominated for her hard work, dedication, and commitment to success for all students.

Some of Saari's professional activities include: IN-NELL Public Relations Chairperson, IFLTA Secretary, advisory board member for I-AATSP, and recently elected first Vice-President of IFLTA. In the classroom her students have won the state Spanish contest or placed highly several times, they place consistently well on the National Spanish exam, have opportunities to travel to Mexico, and participate in an after school French/Spanish language club. Most importantly, Nicci involves the community in the importance of World Languages by hosting a yearly Multicultural Festival for Washington Township schools. The festival integrates multiple disciplines such as science, music, art, physical education, and languages. Throughout the school day, students participate in various activities, while in the evening the community is invited to sample ethnic foods and participate in activities. Although she appears to be quite busy, Nicci always has time to lend a hand to mentor beginning and pre-service teachers.

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Congratulations for all of your hard work and dedication, Nicci! We are proud to have you as an IN-NELL member and for representing us so well!

## **IN-NELL / IMCPL Bilingual Story Time**

Indiana Network for Early Language Learning has partnered with the Indianapolis Marion County Public Library to offer a bilingual story times the second Saturday of every month at Central Library, downtown. We are thrilled to have such a wonderful venue for exposing young children to world languages. Our next story time for will be Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 P.M. The featured language for December is Swahili.

In January we will feature stories in Dutch. Please stop by the library on the second Saturday of each month at 2:00P.M. in the Learning Curve for a wonderful blend of language, culture and literacy and tell your students about this free opportunity!



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**SAVE THE DATE!**

**February 27, 2010**

**IN-NELL's Annual Conference  
at Park Tudor School in Indianapolis**

**Featuring Laura Terrill**

**"World Language Teachers are Reading and Writing Teachers"**

*World language teachers are integral to the development of strong reading and writing skills in today's schools. This workshop will focus on a wide variety reading strategies designed to enhance student engagement with the text while strengthening vocabulary acquisition. Participants will also examine how they can apply the six traits of writing to advance an individual student's writing skills. This strategy-based approach to the teaching of reading and writing will allow teachers to more easily differentiate to meet individual student needs. Come prepared to participate in a variety of instructional activities that require little additional preparation time.*



Laura Terrill holds a BA in French from the University of Missouri — St. Louis and a MA in Secondary Administration from Northeast Missouri State University. She taught French at all levels for 21 years before becoming the Coordinator of Foreign Language and English as a Second Language and then, Director of Curriculum in the Parkway School District in St. Louis, MO before taking early retirement to join her husband in Puerto Rico. She has taught methods courses at Washington University and has been active at the local, state, regional and national levels. She served as the Central States delegate to the ACTFL Board and was the 2006 Program Chair for the ACTFL Convention. She most recently taught French at Lawrence Central in Indianapolis. She is currently working as an independent consultant.

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Song:

El verbo IR (To the tune of “Dem Bones”)

Nicci Saari, Eastwood Middle School

If it says yo voy it means I go

If it says tú vas it means you friend go

(clap) If it says va it means you sir go

And he goes she goes too (clap clap)

If it says nosotros vamos it means we go

If it says Uds. van it means you all go

If it says ellos van it means they go

And those are the forms of IR. (clap clap)

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## Tips for teaching color vocabulary!

Julie Canady- K-6 Spanish Teacher, SENSE Charter School

My students enjoy singing this song when learning colors. I'm not sure who composed the song; it was passed on to me by Nicci Saari. It is sung to the tune of, "Are you sleeping"?

Red is rojo,  
Green is verde,  
Blue azul,  
Negro black,  
Yellow Amarillo,  
Purple is morado,  
Gray is gris,  
Brown café

After we have studied color vocabulary for some time, I take large strips of laminated paper and line them up in my classroom. Students take turns climbing the colors, in order to "climb" on the next color; the student must be able to say it correctly in the target language. If the student can't he goes to the end of the line and the next person goes. The first person to climb the colors successfully is the winner. \*\*If you have older students, you may want to put them in small groups\*\*.

Another idea I use is to cut up several small laminated squares of construction paper. Give all students their own set in a plastic bag. Call out the colors in a pattern and see if the students can place them correctly on their desk. Also you can ask the students to touch a certain color or hold up a certain color, of course, all in the target language.

Lastly, a great book to review color vocabulary is, "Brown bear, brown bear, what do you see"?