La TESOL
October 28, 2022
EBR Main Library
7711 Goodwood Blvd.
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Empowering Educators of Multilingual Scholars!

U.S. Department of State
English Language Programs
Fellow
Specialist
Virtual Educator

Cambridge University Press & Assessment
NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC LEARNING
Cengage
SPLC
Southern Poverty Law Center
Re-Imagining Migration
Championing immigrant students in schools and society
LATINX CENTER
Your Civic Latin American/Hispanic Community Space
A&M-Commerce
SM
ellii Formerly ESL.library

[Images of speakers]
Empowering Educators of Multilingual Scholars

Theme of the 2022 LaTESOL Conference

Author: Amy Pan, Ph.D.

1. Empowered educators know that multilingualism is an asset and they build instruction to promote the benefits of multilingualism.
2. Empowered educators are confident and have high levels of perseverance and self-efficacy.
3. Empowered educators know that English is a pathway to a future in which multilingualism will help us build a global community.
4. Empowered educators have formidable levels of knowledge of English as a Second Language pedagogy.
5. Empowered educators know that their scholars will strive to exceed the expectations set for them so that they will determine and define their own path in life.
6. Empowered educators have enhanced motivation and high student achievement.
7. Empowered educators realize that Long-term ELs need support from teachers, parents, and a growth mindset in order to succeed.
8. Empowered educators know that second-language acquisition takes time but they still push their Emerging ELs to persist and have a strong work ethic.
9. Empowered educators work to create project-based opportunities that allow Multilingual Scholars to shine at their school, enhancing school collegiality.
10. Empowered educators of Multilingual Scholars are leaders on their campus regarding diversity, multilingualism, wisdom, and educational experiences that transform generations.¹

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Speaker and Event</th>
<th>Title of Presentation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 AM.-9:15 AM.</td>
<td>ARRIVAL</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:15 AM.-9:30 AM.</td>
<td>LaTESOL Board</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 AM.-10:15 AM.</td>
<td><strong>Plenary Speaker:</strong> Dr. Sandra Mercuri’s Session 1</td>
<td><strong>Empowering Educators of Multilingual Scholars</strong></td>
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<td>Location: Large Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:30 AM.-11:15 AM.</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Session #1</strong></td>
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<td>English Language Programs, U.S. Department of State</td>
<td>The World is Your Classroom: Teach with English Language Programs</td>
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<td>Location: Large Meeting Room</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Lei Kayanuma, Director of Accounts at Ellii</td>
<td>Engaging Multilingual Learners with Ellii (worth $30 with Conference Registration)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Location: Room 102 (35 people) via Zoom</td>
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<td>Antoinette Gadson, National Geographic Learning</td>
<td>Bringing the World to the Classroom and the Classroom to Life</td>
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<td>Content Specialist</td>
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<td>Location: Room 2A (20 people) via Zoom</td>
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<td>Jaclyn Cole, Senior Litigation Advocate, Southern</td>
<td>Beyond the Bare Minimum</td>
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<td>Law Poverty Center</td>
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<td>Location: Study Room 2D (10 people)</td>
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<td>Administrator’s Roundtable</td>
<td>Programming for English Learner Success</td>
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<td>Location: Study Room 2E - Districts 1 + 2 (10 people)</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:30 AM.-12:15 PM.</td>
<td>Adam Strom, Re-imaging Migration</td>
<td>Re-Imagining Approaches to Immigrants and Immigration in Schools</td>
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<td>Location: Large Meeting Room via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:15 PM.-1:00 PM.</td>
<td><strong>LUNCH</strong></td>
<td>Tables for the following:</td>
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<td><em>La Salvadorena Restaurant</em></td>
<td>Chicken Tamale, Beef Tacos, Chicken Flautas, Baleadas</td>
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<td></td>
<td><em>Ten Raffles!</em></td>
<td>(vegetarian)</td>
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<td>1:15 PM.-2:00 PM.</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Session #2</strong></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Alejandra Torres, Assistant Director of LSU</td>
<td>Bridging the Gaps of College Access for our English Learners</td>
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<td>LatinX Affairs</td>
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<td>Location: Large Meeting Room</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Dr. Lauren Lukkarila, Coordinator of the Teaching</td>
<td>Empowering All Educators to Become Advocate-Allies for</td>
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<td>English Learners Program (TEL) at Tulane University</td>
<td>Multilingual Learners of English</td>
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<td>Location: Room 102 (35 people)</td>
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<td>Dr. Tracy LeBlanc, Associate Director of the LSU ESL</td>
<td>Racial bias indicators in placement exams are apparent in higher education. What do we do about it?</td>
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<td>2:15 PM.-3:00 PM.</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Session #3</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Beyond the Bare Minimum</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Administrator’s Roundtable</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Programming for English Learner Success</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Programming for English Learner Success</strong></td>
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<td>2:15 PM.-3:00 PM.</td>
<td><strong>LDOE English Learner Updates</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Glossary of Strategies for English and World Language Acquisition and Instructional Best Practices</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Strengthen Digital Literacy While Building English Proficiency</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Programming for English Learner Success</strong></td>
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<td>3:15 PM.-4:00 PM.</td>
<td><strong>Breakout Session #4</strong></td>
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<td><strong>EXCELL (Expanded Criteria for English Learners in Louisiana)</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Creating Equitable Classroom Communities and Learning Experiences</strong></td>
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<td><strong>The What and the How of Biliteracy Development</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Immigration and Kids in Louisiana</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Programming for English Learner Success</strong></td>
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<td>4:15 PM.-4:45 PM.</td>
<td><strong>LaTESOL Board Meeting</strong></td>
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<td><strong>Conclusion of the 43rd Conference and Board protocols</strong></td>
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For over 50 years, English Language Programs has placed highly qualified and experienced U.S. educators in the field of TESOL on in-country and virtual projects to assist U.S. Embassies in delivering quality English language programs and to support public diplomacy objectives.

Overview

- Participants of all programs
  - Are U.S. citizens;
  - Have a graduate level degree or higher; and
  - Demonstrate a commitment to the field of TESOL.
- Projects
  - Projects are designed by U.S. Embassies to build English language capacity at the local and national level.
  - All projects promote mutual understanding as part of the U.S. Department of State’s public diplomacy initiative.
  - Both in-person and virtual projects offer opportunities for cultural exchange.

www.elprograms.org  @elprograms
WHO WE ARE

Engaging students and educators is our passion. Today’s educational environment demands a holistic approach—one that fosters vital learner engagement, taking students from learners to thinkers. Our exclusive partnership with National Geographic provides a unique opportunity to inspire, expand global awareness, and teach students how to be leaders.

BRINGING THE WORLD INTO THE CLASSROOM
Texas A&M University

COMMERCE

MA/MS in
APPLIED
LINGUISTICS

EMPHASIS IN TEACHING ENGLISH TO
SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)

Texas A&M University

COMMERCE
Plenary Speaker: Dr. Sandra Mercuri

Session 1: Empowering Educators of Multilingual Scholars
Time: 9:30 AM - 10:15 AM in the Large Meeting Room.

The presenter demonstrates an approach to planning that promotes equitable access to content and gives students’ opportunities for literacy, and language development through strategic and intentional lesson design that builds on the existing content and literacy practices. In the process, teachers recognize and validate the students’ full linguistic repertoire, through translanguaging practices such as Preview/View/Review for whole group instruction (Mercuri & Pratts, forthcoming).

Session 2: The What and the How of Biliteracy Development
Time: 3:15 PM - 4:00 PM in Room 2A (20 people).

In this session, first, the presenter defines (bi)literacy. Second, she demonstrates an instructional approach that leverages the student's full linguistic repertoire through the planning of interdisciplinary units of inquiry and the strategic use of both program languages to support (bi)literacy development. Third, she exemplifies the steps involved in the planning process. Finally, she shares examples of translanguaging practices such as cross linguistic connections. These (bi)literacy practices provide students opportunities for the flexible use of language as they access their full linguistic repertoire and reinforce the development of (bi)literacy across grade levels.

Biography:

Dr. Mercuri is a nationally and internationally recognized educational consultant in the area of second language acquisition, dual language education and curriculum integration for biliteracy development. She has over 28 years of experience in teaching in K-12 schools and at the university level in Argentina and the United States. After retiring from the University of Texas Rio Grande Valley she continued to work on research on the development of academic language across the content areas, the use of translanguaging practices for language transfer and the effect of long-term professional development on bilingual and ESL teachers’ instructional practices. Dr. Mercuri is the author of the book titled Supporting Literacy Through Science: The Challenge of Teaching Science in a Time of Accountability. She has also co-authored the book Dual Language Essentials for teachers and administrators with Drs. Yvonne and David Freeman and Research-based Strategies for English Language Learners with Denise Rea. Her latest work includes Pathways to Biliteracy (2019) published by Velázquez Press, La enseñanza en el aula bilingüe: Content, language and biliteracy (Caslon, 2021) and Biliteracy para todos published by Okapi Publishing Company (2021). Read her CV HERE and visit her website HERE.
Featured Speaker: Adam Strom

Session Title: Re-Imagining Approaches to Immigrants and Immigration in Schools
Time: 11:30 AM.-12:15 PM. Location: Large Meeting Room via Zoom.

Description:
Too often first and second-generation immigrant, refugee, and asylee students are reduced to language learners in schools. This deficit lens gets in the way of seeing immigrant-origin youth's strengths in the classroom and our school community. In this presentation, Re-Imagining Migration Co-Founder Adam Strom will offer an asset-based way of serving immigrants and their families, building on the premise that migration and movement are throughlines of the human experience.

Biography:
Adam Strom is the Director & Co-Founder of Re-Imagining Migration. Before co-founding Re-Imagining Migration, he was a long-time member of the senior leadership team at Facing History & Ourselves. In 2017, he left Facing History specifically to help create RIM because he saw the impact of increasing anti-immigrant hate on the children of immigrants & understood that an organization was needed to focus on championing the social-emotional & academic success of Immigrant Origin youth. Adam has created hundreds of print & digital resources which have been used in over 100,000 classrooms serving millions of students in the U.S. & around the world. He has presented at conferences in the U.S. & around the world including the White House, Harvard University, UCLA, Indiana University, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, National Conference of Social Studies, American Academy of Religion, & the Global Education Think Tank. In addition, he has led workshops for educators in England, France, Germany, Greece, & Italy. He has served as a scholar in residence at NYU & Indiana University as well as a faculty member at the Project Zero Classroom conference at Harvard Graduate School of Education. He has co-chaired several academic conferences at Harvard Law School. Visit Re-Imagining Migration HERE.
Featured Speaker: Dr. Alejandra Torres

Session Title: Bridging the Gaps of College Access for our English Learners

Time: 1:15 PM-2:00 PM. Location: Large Meeting Room.

Description:

Language access, immigration status, and financial barriers should all be considered when advising English Learners about college. During this talk, Dr. Alex Torres, former EBR ESL teacher and current LSU Assistant Direct of Latinx Affairs will provide context and recommendations for empowering English Learners seeking higher education.

Biography:

Dr. Alejandra Torres was born in Mexico City and raised in Houston, Mississippi. She has a dual Bachelor of Arts in English and Spanish and a TESOL certificate from Mississippi University for Women. In 2020, she obtained her PhD in English with a graduate minor in Women’s and Gender Studies at Louisiana State University. Her dissertation “Documenting Desire: Addressing the Educational Needs of Undocumented English Learners” won the James Olney Distinguished Dissertation Award. Alex has over ten years of experience working with underserved students and with implementing culturally sustaining and healing-centered educational approaches. She has engaged in community advocacy for immigrant youth in the Baton Rouge area since 2015. In her role as Assistant Director of Latinx Affairs, her work centers on the coordination, implementation, and assessment of programs and workshops that serve students of Latinx descent and celebrate their heritage/culture. Dr. Torres provides support, advocacy, and leadership development to amplify opportunities for Latinx students. She advises student organizations such as Latin American Student Organization, assists with the management of the Latinx Cultural Center, and actively collaborates with the Latinx Faculty & Staff Caucus. She serves on the boards for the non-profits Humanities Amped and Louisiana Organization for Refugees and Immigrants. Visit LatinX at LSU HERE.
Session Descriptions:

1. **The World is Your Classroom: Teach with English Language Programs**  
   (Time: 10:30 AM.-11:15 AM. in the Large Meeting Room.)  
   → Learn from Ollie Rashid, Alumni Ambassador with English Language Programs. Hear about how you can make a difference globally through in-person and virtual teaching projects designed by the U.S. Department of State for experienced U.S. TESOL professionals. English Language Fellows, Specialists, and Virtual Educators provide language instruction, conduct teacher training, and develop resources, while being cultural ambassadors.

2. **Engaging Multilingual Learners with Ellii, formerly ESL Library**  
   (worth $30 with Conference Registration)  
   (Time: 10:30 AM.-11:15 AM. in Room 102 (35 people) via Zoom.)  
   → Learn from Lei Kayanuma, Director of Accounts at Ellii. Our students need to be engaged with relevant, meaningful lessons that are scaffolded for their level. Ellii (formerly ESL Library) is an online platform for teachers used in 10,000+ schools and districts around the world. Learn about our ready-made materials, interactive digital tasks, and feedback tools so you can teach your best class every class.

3. **Bringing the World to the Classroom and the Classroom to Life**  
   (Time: 10:30 AM.-11:15 AM. in Room 2A (20 people) via Zoom.)  
   → Learn from Antoinette Gadson, National Geographic Learning Content Specialist. Boost English language gains using National Geographic content in your classroom. Build background knowledge with National Geographic videos and photographs to teach vocabulary, literacy, and language skills with high interest texts.

4. **Beyond the Bare Minimum**  
   (Time: 10:30 AM.-11:15 AM. and 1:15 PM.-2:00 PM. in Study Room 2D (10 people) in-person)  
   → Learn from Jacyln Cole, Senior Litigation Advocate from Southern Law Poverty. Attendees will review the legal obligations of public school educators and administrators to immigrant & multilingual families and students. Attendees will then explore ways to go beyond legal requirements in order to create welcoming, inclusive, and encouraging spaces for ALL students and to advocate for positive changes.

5. **Empowering All Educators to Become Advocate-Allies for Multilingual Learners of English**  
   (Time: 1:15 PM.-2:00 PM. in Room 102 (35 people) in-person.)  
   → Learn from Dr. Lauren Lukkarila, Coordinator of the Teaching English Learners Program (TEL) Professor at Tulane University. Educators in all areas and multilingual learners of English need more support than schools provide. How can we help? Tulane’s School of Professional Advancement redesigned its ESL Add-on Licensure program around a new vision: Every teacher is a willing, capable advocate-ally who supports the multilingual learners of English. Join us to discuss this new program and help us help you.

6. **Racial bias indicators in placement exams are apparent in higher education. What do we do about it?**  
   (Time: 1:15 PM.-2:00 PM. in Room 2A (20 people) in-person.)  
   → Learn from Dr. Tracy LeBlanc, Associate Director of the Louisiana State University ESL Program. All international students are required to sit for placement exams for writing courses at university. Based on academic placement exam policies, “students from English speaking countries” are exempt from said exams and the corresponding writing courses. However, not all countries are treated as equal. What better practices can we adopt for a more equitable placement policy?

7. **LDOE English Learner Updates**  
   (Time: 2:15 PM.-3:00 PM. in the Large Meeting Room)  
   → Learn from Alice Garcia, the English Learner Federal Programs Coordinator at the Louisiana Department of Education. Hear about how school systems have been supporting ELs in Louisiana and best practices for educating ELs. Updates will be provided regarding the EL Program Evaluation Tool, Community of Practice, and Lau Plan.
8. **Glossary of Strategies for English and Language Acquisition and Instructional Best Practices**  
(Time: 2:15 PM.-3:00 PM. in Room 102 (35 people) via Zoom.)  
→ Learn from Dr. Margaret Piccoli, Assistant Professor of Professional Practice at Louisiana State University. This session will introduce the glossary of strategies to language acquisition. The purpose of the glossary is to provide classroom and content teachers with instructional tools to best meet the needs of multilinguals in their classrooms. These tools are content neutral and are beneficial in all disciplines. Each practice includes the grade level, proficiency level, language domain, description, and example strategies.

9. **National Endowment for the Humanities and You: Opportunities for Teachers and ELs**  
(Time: 2:15 PM.-3:00 PM. in Room 2A (20 people) in-person.)  
→ Learn from Laverne Simoneaux and Alexandra Horner, ESL teachers with the East Baton Rouge Parish School System. The federal government supports English learners and teachers through educational programs emanating from the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH.) This session will discuss NEH programs for ELs to enhance English learning, community involvement and teacher development.

10. **Strengthen Digital Literacy While Building English Proficiency**  
(Time: 2:15 PM.-3:00 PM. in Study Room 2D (10 people) in-person.)  
→ Learn from Robin Graybill, District Account Manager for Cambridge University Press. The presenter will spend time looking at the ways digital literacy has become an intrinsic part of English literacy, what that looks like for ESL learners, and how, simply by using a Digital Workbook for their English practice, students can take on critical skills they need for digital literacy. Examples will be pulled from the new Cambridge learning management platform - Cambridge One.

11. **EXCELL (Expanded Criteria for English Learners in Louisiana)**  
(Time: 3:15 PM.-4:00 PM. in the Large Meeting Room.)  
→ Learn from Cheruba Chavez and Emma Merrill, founders of EXCELL. The EXCELL Graduation Pathway Coalition is a formalized group of educators and leaders from industries across Louisiana supporting a proposed policy that creates an expanded pathway to a high school diploma for English Learners. It was developed in response to the differential of graduation rates (41% for English Learners but 80% of students statewide) and the need for a skilled, diverse workforce.

12. **Creating Equitable Classroom Communities and Learning Experiences**  
(Time: 3:15 PM.-4:00 PM. in Room 102 (35 people) in-person.)  
→ Learn from Kandice Oubre Yarbrough (EL Master Teacher) and Yesenia Morales (EL Facilitator) in Ascension Parish. Participants will learn of best practices in creating an equitable classroom and school community. Connections will be made to the NIET observation rubric as we highlight how it supports inclusive learning experiences.

13. **Immigration and Kids in Louisiana**  
(Time: 3:15 PM.-4:00 PM. in Study Room 2D (10 people) in-person.)  
→ Learn from Kathleen Gasparian, Immigration Attorney with Gasparian Spivey Immigration. In this session, we will discuss current trends in enforcement and immigration benefits with a focus on children. We will touch upon: available services and benefits for those who lack documented status in Louisiana, available representation, and potential relief and solutions.

14. **Programming for English Learner Success**  
(Times and Districts vary. Locations are in Study Room 2E (10 people) in-person)  
→ Learn from fellow ESL Administrators in this Roundtable. The objective is to listen to each other’s EL Programs, provide feedback, and network with leadership team members. This is an autonomous session. LaTESOL Board members will facilitate but will allow the ESL Administrators equal time to share about their school district’s “glows and grows.”

15. **LaTESOL Board Meeting: Conclusion of the 43rd Conference and Board protocols**  
(Time: 4:15 PM.-5:00 PM. Location: Large Meeting Room)  
→ Learn from the LaTESOL Board. If you are interested in serving on the board, you are invited to attend. The requirements include attending three out of four meetings per year.
2023 LaTESOL Teacher of the Year

1. **Mandatory qualifications:**
   - Minimum of 5 years teaching ESL; Currently employed as a K-12 ESL educator; ESL certified (No OFAT).

2. **Requirements for the application:**
   - Two Letters of Recommendation; Two Student Writing samples; Letter of Interest.

3. **Deadline:**
   - September 1, 2023. The winner will be announced at the 2023 LaTESOL Conference. Applications will be open May 1, 2023.

4. **Reward:**
   - $500

**Conference Information**

Please scan the QR code or visit the link [HERE](#) for all the documents for this conference. This includes the Certificates, Powerpoint Presentations, and Feedback forms. Please email louisianatesol@gmail.com if you did not receive the Ellii login code information or do not have access to the Google Drive.