



Dear LaTESOL 2020 Conference Attendees:

Welcome to our community and we look forward to learning from you and helping you develop your vision and strategy for advancing your pedagogy as professionals in the field of English as a Second Language and as global citizens. This work is guided by the vision that one of the most important educational challenges of our time is to prepare all people to be the architects of their own lives and contributing members of the communities of which we are a part. Those communities are local, regional, national, and global. The question we face, therefore, is how do we develop global citizens and global leadership among English as a Second Language Educators? We know that Louisiana educators are meeting the needs of our English Learners in K-12, Higher Education, and Adult Education. At LaTESOL we value the fusion between global citizenship and the English as a Second Language global sphere. One aspiration for this conference is to help you learn, from each other and from reflection, as well as from your engagement with new ideas and new practices, on how to strengthen your future in ways that most effectively advance this vision.

Artist Norman Rockwell's 1961 painting *Golden Rule* shows a group of people of different religions, races and ethnicity who serve as the backdrop for the inscription "Do Unto Others as You Would Have Them Do Unto You." The Golden Rule, also known as the *Ethic of Reciprocity*, has been valued by human societies for thousands of years and is found worldwide throughout cultures, religions, secular philosophies and indigenous traditions. Norman Rockwell was a compassionate and liberal man, and this simple phrase reflected his philosophy. Having traveled all his life and been welcomed wherever he went, Rockwell felt like a citizen of the world, and his politics reflected that value system. From photographs he'd taken on his 1955 round-the-world Pam Am trip, Rockwell referenced native costumes and accessories and how they were worn. In 2014 the United Nations rededicated a large mosaic of Norman Rockwell's iconic 1961 illustration, *Golden Rule*, which hangs in their New York City Headquarters. The work was originally presented to the UN in 1985 as a gift on behalf of the United States by then First Lady Nancy Reagan. (Adapted from the [Norman Rockwell Museum](#)).

Educating global citizens in Louisiana,

LaTESOL 2020 Board

