



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

www.nmabe.net

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Fall, 2005

NMABE Board Plans 34th Annual Bilingual Education Conference

The Executive Board of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education met on September 10 to begin planning its annual state conference for bilingual education. The conference will be held April 6, 7, and 8, 2006 at the new Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

The conference theme is "Expanding Our Horizons Through Languages". Research has shown that gaining academic mastery of English plus another language advances one's cognitive capabilities and horizons. As the saying goes "La lengua y la cultura son hermanos en la educación." (Language and culture are like brother and sister in education.) Bilingualism/biliteracy fosters multicultural understandings in wide contexts - much needed in our global society of the 21st century.

Professional Development

The conference offers participants a host of workshops, papers and demonstrations on timely, research-based, and classroom-oriented topics. This is an excellent professional development opportunity for teachers, administrators, and parents alike. Workshop strands include

- Administering Bilingual Education Programs
- Indigenous Bilingual Education

- Programs
- Second Language Acquisition
- Technology in Bilingual Education
- Two way / Dual Language Programs
- Assessment and Evaluation
- Content Area Instruction and Materials
- Instructional Methodologies and Materials
- Indigenous Language and Cultures
- Spanish Language Workshops

Student Activities

Cultural presentations and student entertainment from schools across the state enrich the conference proceedings. School district exhibits show off student projects and the exceptional efforts of teachers in bilingual education classrooms across the state. These two events are always enjoyed by all while promoting linguistic and cultural understandings acquired through bilingual multicultural education.

Two featured events, the only two of their kind in the nation, have generated greater and greater interest each year from school districts across the state. They are the State Spanish Spelling Bee and the Indigenous Literary Festival. Last year there were record-breaking num-

bers of students and school districts competing in these activities. This year, they will be the sole events featured on Saturday, April 8th. Parents travel far and wide to support their children as they compete to win in each of these events.

Recognitions and Awards

Lastly, the association annually recognizes leaders across the state for their contributions to the field of bilingual education. A description of award categories is on pages 2 and 3 of this newsletter. The Awards Ceremony is held during the NMABE Banquet, followed by the dance.

For the second year in a row, NMABE will also host a Pow Wow.

Forms and Registration

Forms, proposals for workshop presentations and forms for student activities and awards will be available on the NMABE website in the near future. (<http://www.nmabe.net>) Additionally, school district directors of bilingual education will receive hard copies of all conference materials.

The NMABE board welcomes your proposals for presentations, nominations for awards and student participation in the various events featured during the state conference. Look for information packets in the near future.

NMABE Hall of Fame Awards

The Bilingual Education Hall of Fame was established in 1977 in order to recognize individuals who have made significant contributions to the bilingual education community of New Mexico. Four awards have been designated:

The Joseph M. Montoya Award

This award is named in honor of the late Senator Joseph M. Montoya, and is awarded to recognize a New Mexican who has made a significant contribution at the national level to bilingual education.

The Matías L. Chacón Award

This award is named in honor of the late Matías L. Chacón, and is awarded to recognize a New Mexican who has made a significant contribution at the state level to bilingual education.

The Teófila Trujillo Award

This award is named in honor of the late Teófila Trujillo who made a significant contribution to parental involvement in bilingual education programs.

The Native American Award

This award is designated to honor a member of the Indian community who has made a significant contribution to bilingual education.

See www.nmabe.net for nomination rules.

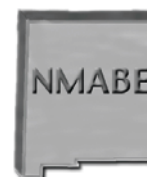
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■ **Biographical Sketch:** A narrative prepared by the candidate describing his/her formative environment and specific events or experiences leading to his/her involvement in education, particularly in bilingual education. This narrative must be typed, double spaced, no more than four pages.

■ **Philosophy of Education:** A statement by the candidate reflecting his/her commitment to the profession, including a description of the candidate's educational values and belief in the effectiveness of bilingual education. This may be written in the home language.

■ **Professional Development:** A statement of the candidate's plans to advance his/her educational goals, including information about the professional development program he/she is presently enrolled in or would enroll in if chosen as the recipient of NMABE Instructional Assistant of the Year Award. There should also be a description of the candidate's participation in professional organizations, service committees, commissions, task forces, workshops and conferences. Recommendations or statements from organizations will be accepted.

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P. O. Box 5190
Clovis, New Mexico 88102-5190
www.nmabe.net

Editor Roy E. Howard
rhoward@wnmu.org
Associate Editor
Mary Jean Habermann López
maryjeanhl@msn.com

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 30:1, Fall, 2004: Oct.
(Pre-conference issue)

No. 30:2, Winter, 2005: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
Call to Action)

No. 30:3 Spring, 2005: April
(Conference Edition)

No. 30:4 Summer, 2005: August
(Summer Activities, Institutes)

Inserts offer monthly news

NMABE Award

The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education annually recognizes individuals across the state for their substantive contribution to the field of bilingual education. Please take a moment to read through the award descriptions on these two pages. You, as a NMABE member at the local level, know those in our profession who merit the recognition, appreciation and respect for the excellent work they do. Please submit a nomination for a deserving colleague.

The Henry W. Pascual Teacher Excellence in Bilingual Education Award

This prestigious award recognizes teachers whose dedication and practice resembles the spirit and vision for quality teaching that the late Henry W. Pascual, the first Director of Bilingual Education at the SDE, impressed upon many professionals in the state.



Requirements for the Award

1. Colleagues of the candidate may make the nomination with a minimum of two letters of support.
2. No resource teacher/master teacher will be considered. Teacher must have their own class.
3. Nominee must prepare a written statement addressing the following question: What do you believe is your greatest responsibility as a bilingual teacher?
4. Evidence of the work of the teacher:
 - A 25% time commitment to instruction in the native language on a daily basis.
 - Submit a daily schedule and two lesson plans in the native language, one with a language arts/literacy focus and one in a content area taught through the native language. (Note: for Native American languages, an English equivalent of the lesson plan will be submitted. For English language instruction, submit two lesson plans, one with a language arts/literacy focus, one in a content area taught through the English language.)

University Bilingual Education Professor of the Year Award

This award recognizes an outstanding bilingual education professor who teaches at a university that offers a complete bilingual education teacher preparation program.

The professor must be employed full-time at this university with a significant part of her/his teaching duties dedicated to the bilingual education teacher-training program. The professor must be nominated through a letter on her/his behalf by a student in this professor's classes or a colleague. The following are items to be addressed in the nomination letter: dedication, advocacy, knowledge of subject area, longevity, and any writings dedicated to bilingual education.

Bilingual Paraprofessional Award

This award recognizes a community member who is dedicated to helping students in the classroom, facilitating the critical language and cultural link to learning and identity, and optimizes a more individualized, focused approach in the classroom.

Requirements for the Award

1. Only NMABE members in good standing may make the nomination.
2. Instructional assistants who work full time qualify for the award. Candidates must be exceptionally skilled and dedicated and working a bilingual education program, Pre-K to 12th grade and be fluently bilingual. Nominees should also be participating in, or planning to participate in a professional development program, including one leading to certification as a bilingual teacher. The most important qualification, however, is the candidate's proven ability to inspire bilingual children to learn.
3. Each candidate must submit the following portfolio of materials to be used by the selection committee in its deliberations:
 - **Background Information:** Use the data sheet on the www.nmabe.net site to provide basic information about the candidate.

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Clovis, NM 88102-5190

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■ **Community Service:** A description of the candidate’s participation in civic organization as well as personal efforts improve.

Bilingual Education Administrator of the Year Award

This award recognizes an administrator who helps ensure bilingual education programs can operate effectively in a given school/school district setting. It is inclusive of all administrators from school level principals to district level administrators. Any teacher, group of teachers, school administrators, school board members, or parents of students may nominate a candidate

Requirements for the Award:

1. In narrative form outline the accomplishments of the person being nominated. The nominee must have demonstrated outstanding leadership and administrative skills in enhancing and implementing bilingual programs over a 10-year period.
2. Three letters of support from teachers, school administrators or parents.

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