



Hawai'i Association of Language Teachers

# Newsletter

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<http://halthome.org>

April 2007

## HALT honors its Excellence in Teaching Award winners

Every year, HALT recognizes and honors two outstanding second language teachers in the state of Hawai'i through its Excellence in Teaching Award. This award recognizes our teachers' exemplary performance in and invaluable contributions to the field of language teaching in Hawai'i.

This award, however, would not have been possible if not for the generous contribution of the Honolulu Advertiser Foundation, our strongest partner, who has been supporting us since the Award's inception. The foundation sponsors this award by donating a monetary contribution of \$1,000 every year (\$500 per awardee).

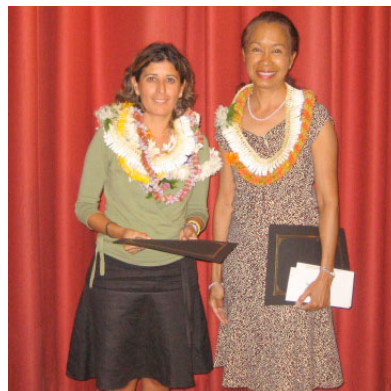
Last year's recipients, Professors Kathryn Klingebiel and Lucia Aranda, were both from the UH Department of Languages and Literatures of Europe and the Americas. This year, we have another exceptional teacher from that same department, Esther Rodrigo Diez, who is the recipient of this year's HALT award at the college/university level.

In the K-12 level, the award goes to another outstanding teacher not too far from UH; actually it's just next door. From Mid-Pacific Institute, the recipient is Anne Marie Shim.

Congratulations to both Mrs. Shim and Ms. Diez, this year's recipients of HALT's Excellence in Teaching Award. And thank you also to those who nominated them, who believed in their dedication, passion, and extraordinary language teaching experience that exemplifies an excellent language teacher.

Finally, we would like to encourage everyone to start considering nomination of a colleague who you think deserve this excellent award for next

year. We have many remarkable language teachers all over the state who are possible candidates for this award. So please visit our Web Site, [www.halthome.org](http://www.halthome.org), to get more information about this award.



### ABOUT THE AWARDEES:

**ESTHER RODRIGO DIEZ** has been teaching Spanish at UH Mānoa since 1999. Here is what several of Esther's students have said: "Esther's classes are always extremely diverse in activities and structure, providing a palette of forms in which a student may enrich his/her education. Her infectious attitude and the atmosphere which she creates in the classroom ultimately leads to a very positive and productive learning environment where each student receives consistent encouragement and motivation." "It is unlikely that no other individual has been a more significant influence on my university education than Señora Rodrigo. She nurtured my initial interest in the language and culture and has been an inspiration to my studies." "She has made me realize that language is a window to a new world. (*continued on page 3*)

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## MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

2006-07 was another successful year for HALT. Three years into the Decade of Languages, we continue to make great strides in addressing the needs of our Hawai'i language teaching community. Thank you all for your continued support of HALT! I wish to offer my deepest appreciation to the dedicated board members for their undying commitment to HALT and generous contributions to its projects and activities.

The 2006 Fall Symposium, "Navigating the Curriculum", was a successful opener of the school year, efficiently coordinated by Jim Yoshioka, our hardworking Newsletter Editor and ACTFL representative. Our speakers, Linda Fujikawa (KCC), Doris Christopher (UHM) and Kawika Napoleon (KCC), shared some very useful and practical ideas that we can all bring to our classroom, and we thank them for taking the time to come and share their experience and expertise.

Our second Edith Kuttner Essay Contest with this year's theme, "Learning Languages: Discovering Self," received a number of entries from several O'ahu high schools. The winning essay was written by Ha Ngo from Roosevelt High School, where Lyanne Iwamoto locally coordinated the contest. Thanks to Cindy Wong and Julius Soria for their overall coordination efforts, and to Teresita Ramos, Cynthia Ning, and John Mayer for serving as readers/judges of the contest.

Congratulations to our Excellence in Teaching Awardees, Esther Rodrigo Diez, Spanish instructor at UH Mānoa, and Anne Marie Shim, French teacher at Mid-Pacific Institute. You both deserve the honor for your dynamic and inspiring presence in the classrooms and your notable contributions to the language teaching profession. For their continued support of this Award, we are truly grateful to the Honolulu Advertiser Foundation. Thanks also to our Awards Coordinator, Imelda Gasmen, for her overseeing this project.

HALT's biggest endeavor for the year was the 2007 Spring Conference: "Teaching Languages: Discovering Connections." The keynote address delivered by Doris Christopher (UH Mānoa College of Education) was both insightful and informative. Participants also expressed interest and appreciation for all the practical ideas shared by presenters from different Hawai'i universities, colleges, and K-12 schools. This year saw a record high in the participation of exhibitors. Publisher representatives were happy with the number of people who came to talk to them about new books and teaching materials. We also received a good number of donations for the sweepstakes drawing at the luncheon where participants had some time to sit down with colleagues, catch up, and exchange ideas. For this successful event, we owe much to Laura Sardagna, 2007 Conference Chair, and the tireless efforts of conference organizers, Paul Chandler, Jim Yoshioka, Carol Beresiwsky, Kayoko Ross, Tess Lane, Yukio Kataoka, Cindy Wong, Julius Soria and Imelda Gasmen. Thank you all and congratulation on a job well done!

HALT continues to have regional and national presence through SWCOLT (ably represented by Paul Chandler) and ACTFL (efficiently represented by Jim Yoshioka), as well as on the worldwide web ([halthome.org](http://halthome.org)) through the effective management of our Web Administrator, Tess Lane. This April, several of our colleagues will be attending the SWCOLT Conference in Las Vegas where the campaign for the 2009 SWCOLT Conference in Honolulu, HI will be launched. Our Best of HALT presenter at this event will be Satoru Shinagawa of KCC.

Lastly, let me welcome the 2007-08 HALT officers and representatives. I wish you all the best for future projects and another fruitful year of our organization. I think that we can all look forward to an exciting year as we intensify our campaign for the joint 2009 SWCOLT-HALT conference. Good luck!

It's been an honor and a pleasure serving as President of HALT this school year. Mahalo for the opportunity! See you all at future HALT activities.

Respectfully,

*Sheila Zamar*  
*University of Hawai'i at Mānoa*  
*[zamar@hawaii.edu](mailto:zamar@hawaii.edu)*

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## HALT EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD WINNERS (COVER STORY, CONTINUED . . . )

She is one of the best kept secrets at the university.”

And from a colleague: “Esther has proven herself to be a superb teacher and an invaluable colleague. I would like to point out Esther’s wonderful rapport with her students and adeptness in explaining the finer points of grammar in a very accessible manner. Besides her stellar classroom performance, I would like to draw the committee’s attention to her creativity in producing classroom activities: her exercises and tasks are by far some of the most inventive, useful, and expertly executed I have seen here at UH.”

**ANNE MARIE SHIM** has been teaching French at the Mid-Pacific Institute for 18 years. She became the World Languages department head in 1996. She teaches beginning through advanced levels in French (including the International Baccalaureate program which has consistently earned a certificate on the IB exam). She has also taught Spanish at the same school. To sum up Anne Marie’s teaching experience, Richard Schaffer, Mid-Pacific Institute’s high school principal, has said: “Not only is Mrs. Shim an excellent French and Spanish teacher, she is also an outstanding World Languages chair and a very strong voice for the promotion of second language skills. My frequent visits to her classroom always showed engaged, challenged, interested, and performing students. With a positive, professional, and energetic demeanor, she never fails to have a productive and enjoyable lesson. With a soft-spoken, supportive yet firm manner, she inspires her faculty to do their best both in and out of the classroom. Most recently, Mrs. Shim, through research and advocacy, has led Mid-Pacific to once again offer Mandarin Chinese as a World Languages option for our students.”

Aside from teaching, Mrs. Shim is also involved in other endeavors — she has been the VP of the American Association of Teachers of French since 1997.

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## REMINDER: CASTEL-J REGISTRATION

CASTEL-J (Computer Assisted Systems for Teaching & Learning Japanese) is a conference on how technology is used to teach Japanese. CASTEL-J in Hawai‘i will be held at Kapi‘olani Community College, August 3-5, 2007. This is the 4th international conference, and there will be about 80 paper presentations, workshops, panel discussions, and poster sessions. The previous three conferences were held in Torino, Italy, Toronto, Canada, & San Diego, California. Don’t miss this chance to participate in such an internationally recognized conference held locally.

The early registration deadline (April 15) has passed. The Kama‘aina late registration rate is \$70.00. This is a huge bargain considering the regular late registration rate is \$170.

Please go to the conference web site to register or find out more information about the conference:

**<http://castelj.kshinagawa.com/>**

If you have any questions, please contact the conference chair, Satoru Shinagawa [satoru@shinagawa.us](mailto:satoru@shinagawa.us)

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## HALT OFFICERS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2006-07

**President:** Sheila Zamar (UHM)

**Conference Chair VP:** Laura Sardagna (Academy of the Pacific)

**Membership VP:** Kayoko Ross (UHM)

**Secretary:** Lisa Kobuke (KCC)

**Treasurer:** Yukio Kataoka (KCC)

**Newsletter Editor:** Jim Yoshioka (UHM)

**Webmaster:** Tess Lane (HPU)

**Awards Coordinator:** Imelda Gasmen (UHM)

**DOE Contact:** Lynette Fujimori (DOE)

**SWCOLT Representative:** Paul Chandler (UHM)

**Members at Large:** Carol Beresivsky (KCC), Teresita Ramos (UHM), & Cindy Wong (Moanalua High School)

**Language Representatives:** Sue Fujitani (KCC – Chinese), Ruth Mabanglo (UHM – Filipino), Julius Soria (UHM – Ilokano), Lucia Aranda (UHM – Spanish), & Kathryn Klingebiel (UHM – French)

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## 15TH BJT BUSINESS JAPANESE PROFICIENCY TEST

The 15<sup>th</sup> BJT Business Japanese Proficiency Test (formerly known as the JETRO Test) will be held at JAISMS in Hawai'i Kai. The BJT objectively measures and evaluates Japanese communication skills in business situations.

*Eligibility:* Individuals whose first language is not Japanese. (Persons of Japanese nationality may take the test provided that Japanese is not their first language.)

*Date:* Sunday, June 10, 2007

*Time:* 8:30 am (Registration begins)

9:00 am (Test begins – Late shows will not be admitted)

*Place:* JAISMS - 6660 Hawaii Kai Drive

*Cost:* \$50.00 (Cash or check payable to JAISMS)

*Registration Deadline:* Wednesday, April 25, 2007

*Contact:* Lori Nakano

*Tel:* (808) 396-7105

*Email:* lnakano@jaims.org

Further information regarding the BJT can be found on the BJT website at

<http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/bjt/>

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## STARTALK – CHINESE LANGUAGE IMMERSION SPORTS CAMP!

### Student program (July 8-28, 2007):

Sixty motivated high school students (entering grades 9, 10 and 11 in Fall 2007) with no previous experience in Chinese (any dialect) will be accepted to participate in a 3-week residential program on the campus of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, to acquire basic listening, speaking, reading, writing, and culture skills in Mandarin Chinese. Participants will learn language while practicing table-tennis and martial arts (an hour a day each) under the tutelage of championship level coaches from the People's Republic of China. Language lessons will bracket the sports sessions and will consist of interactive, task-based exercises designed to encourage learners to communicate in Chinese. Evening assignments and activities (including tutoring) will support learning. Weekend excursions to sites around

scenic Honolulu led by native speakers of Chinese will provide additional practice.

The camp will provide a total of 90 hours of instruction, equivalent to a normal one-semester course at the college level. Credit for Chinese 101 may be available for students who will be juniors in Fall. A separate application and administrative fee is required.

### Teacher program (July 8-28, 2007):

Ten pre-service and in-service teachers who have a basic understanding of task- or performance-based language teaching methodology but lack training in what this approach looks like in practice will be invited to the Sports Camp to observe, provide feedback, and occasionally assist with teaching 70 high school students in this three-week immersion program.

Special training and discussion sessions every day, during the early evenings and on weekends will support the teachers throughout the camp.

It is expected that all teachers participating in the camp will have at least Intermediate High proficiency in Mandarin Chinese and Advanced level proficiency in English.

If desired, three credits of "Teaching Chinese as a Foreign Language" may be obtained via separate application and payment of administrative fees.

For detailed information about either program, visit <http://www.chinesestudies.hawaii.edu/confucius/projects/summer/>

Applications for both programs are due by May 1, 2007.

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## FILIPINO PROGRAM LAUNCHES PHILIPPINE LITERATURE FESTIVAL

A two-day Philippine literature festival to celebrate Filipino writing and writers took place on April 12 & 13, 2007 at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa campus and the Philippine Consulate General of Hawai'i.

Initiated by the UH Filipino and Philippine Literature Program, the festival convened writers from the Philippines, the US mainland, and Hawai'i. The first day was called "Pagtatagpo: Filipino Writers Summit," a roundtable discussion on the direction of Philippine writing in the United States. The panelists included Ma. Josephine Barrios, a well-known playwright, poet and novelist from the Philippines; R. Zamora Linmark, distinguished visiting writer from the UH

Department of English and author of *Rolling the Rs*; Ninotchka Rosca, New York-based international human rights activist and author of the award-winning *State of War*; Marianne Villanueva, San Francisco-based short story writer and author of *Mayor of Roses*; Michelle Cruz Skinner, Punahou teacher and author of *Mango Season*; and Francis Tanglao-Aguas, a playwright/stage performer and author of the collection, *Purple*.

The writers were met by local writers and UH aspiring writers/performers on April 12, 2:00-5:00 pm at the QLC Student Services 412 on the Mānoa campus. Among the invited local writers were Amalia Bueno, Michael Cueva, Elynia Mabanglo, Aurelio Agcaoili, Amado Yoro, Khalil Apuzen, Lee Cataluna, Felino Tubera, Jovita Zimmerman, and many other young writers from the University of Hawai'i campuses.

To celebrate writing, the festival had a musical literary event on the 13th, 6:00 to 9:00 pm on the lanai of the Philippine Consulate General of Hawai'i. The evening showcased performances of invited writers and contributors to the third volume of the *Katipunan Literary Journal*.

The festival aims to (1) create an avenue of discourse amongst writers and aficionados of Filipino ancestry about the state of the art, problems of invisibility, and publication opportunities open to would-be writers; (2) discover diversity in fostering literary writings in a multi-lingual setting (Filipino, English, Ilokano, or Pidgin); (3) foster the appreciation of Philippine literature through the writings of Filipino and Filipino-Americans; (4) encourage and show appreciation to Filipino and Filipino American students of the UH System, local Filipino American writers of Hawai'i and the US mainland through poetry reading, storytelling, and performance arts; and (5) inspire young Filipino American writers by finding role models for them through the presence of renowned writers.

For inquiries about this or future literary events, please call or email Ruth Mabanglo, 956-6970, [mabanglo@hawaii.edu](mailto:mabanglo@hawaii.edu); Elvira Fonacier, 956-5901, [fonacier@hawaii.edu](mailto:fonacier@hawaii.edu); or Sheila Zamar, 956-3550, [zamar@hawaii.edu](mailto:zamar@hawaii.edu)

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## **BUSY SEMESTER FOR THE UHM FRENCH DIVISION**

On the second Saturday morning in March, 248 students from public and private schools -- Campbell, Iolani, Kaiser, Le Jardin, Mid-Pac, Mililani, Punahou, and Saint Andrew's Priory -- came to Moore Hall to take the "Grand Concours,"

or national French contest, organized by the American Association of Teachers of French. Three graduate students in the French Division, led by Prof. Marie-José Fassiotto, helped the high school teachers in administering the Concours. Our thanks to Prof. Fassiotto, Tania Fortier, Ashley Uyeno, and Iskandar Rabeendran!

Winners in the French Division poetry contest, for students of French and Italian, will be announced shortly. There are four categories of prizes, for first-year students through graduates. The contest deadline for the 2006-07 academic year fell on the 22nd of March. Winners will have an opportunity to recite their winning poems at the upcoming Initiation Banquet of Pi Delta Phi, the national French honor society, on 2 May 2007. Winning poems and many others are published annually in *Vers*, edited by Prof. Marie-José Fassiotto. *Vers* began publication in 1978 and can be found on the shelves of Hamilton Library (PQ 1160. V47).



The Division also participated in "International Student Night 2007" at the Campus Center ballroom, on Friday 16 March, with a table devoted to French and Italian language and culture. Featured were posters, maps, flags, a video or two, and a PowerPoint quiz on French food. Passersby enjoyed playing a special version of French 'bingo' by identifying mystery objects from France (bootjack, butter/cheese cutter, nutcrackers, snail tongs, and so on). This year's theme for International Night was "A Century of Aloha," in recognition of the 100th birthday of the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. Thanks to Jacob Huss' FR 309 (Business French) class members who participated in International Night 2007, and to Jacob for his time and energy. Our special correspondent Ceci Febrero caught Jacob and Iska as they were enjoying the second part of the stage show (see picture above).



## *TOYOTA INTERNATIONAL TEACHER PROGRAM*

### Professional Development Opportunity in the Galapagos Islands

The Toyota International Teacher Program to the Galapagos Islands is a unique study abroad opportunity for U.S. educators. This program to South America aims to inspire collaboration between U.S. and Galapagueño teachers and to build awareness of how to teach sustainability and environmental stewardship through a cross-curricular approach.

**Applications are available online to participate in this fully funded 10-day study tour of the Galapagos Islands.** Eligible applicants must teach full time in grades 7-12 and must have at least 3 years teaching experience by April 23, 2007. Twenty (20) classroom teachers of all disciplines will be selected to travel the Galapagos Islands to discover some of the world's most unique animals, explore cutting-edge environmental projects, and participate in discussions with experts and community leaders.

Toyota Motor Sales, U.S.A., Inc. sponsors these opportunities with the goal of expanding the global perspectives of all educators and their students.

Full-time classroom teachers in grades 7-12 are encouraged to submit online applications for the Toyota International Teacher Program by **April 23, 2007**.

- Apply online at <http://www.iie.org/toyota>
- Program brochures may be requested by visiting the Toyota International Teacher Program website or by calling the Institute of International Education at 1-877-832-2457.

**Application deadline: April 23, 2007**





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## MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



*Important reminders! Upcoming events!*

**Apr 23** – Toyota International Teacher Program application deadline – <http://www.iie.org/toyota/>

**Apr 25** – BJT Business Japanese Proficiency Test registration deadline - <http://www.jetro.go.jp/en/bjt/>

**May 1** – STARTALK application deadline - <http://www.chinesestudies.hawaii.edu/confucius/projects/summer/>

**Aug 5-7** – CASTEL-J Conference (KCC) - <http://castelj.kshinagawa.com/>

**Sep 20-22** – 2007 Task-based Language Teaching Conference (UHM) – <http://www.tbtl2007.org/>

**Oct 27** – 2007 HALT Fall Symposium – <http://www.halthome.org>

**Nov 15-18** – 2007 ACTFL Conference (San Antonio, TX) – <http://www.actfl.org/>

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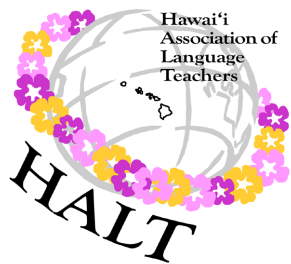
### ABOUT HALT ([WWW.HALTHOME.ORG](http://WWW.HALTHOME.ORG))

The Hawai'i Association of Language Teachers (HALT) is a group of World Language Teachers from K-12 and higher education institutions in Hawai'i who work to maintain the highest standards in the profession of teaching world languages. We also promote the academic welfare of our students by providing steadily improving professional procedures and objectives for all teachers. Our organization provides teachers of world languages with the opportunity to meet with their colleagues to exchange ideas and experiences and to enrich their professional background.

HALT coordinates two events per year: a Fall Symposium on a specific topic and a Spring Conference, in which members and guest speakers present pedagogical or research topics on language teaching and learning. HALT also publishes the HALT Newsletter.

Membership is open to all foreign language teachers and administrators in Hawai'i. Language students may also participate as non-voting members within the organization. Please see the back page for our membership form.

HALT is an affiliated member of the national American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) and the regional Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (SWCOLT), whose member states include Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawai'i, Nevada, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, and Utah. Visit their respective websites at <http://www.actfl.org> and <http://www.swcolt.org> for more information.





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## HALT MEMBERSHIP FORM FOR 2007

Name : \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Language(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Institution: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: (home) \_\_\_\_\_ (work) \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Dues:

- ☐ Lifetime \$100.00
- ☐ Professional (2007) \$15.00
- ☐ Student (2007) \$5.00

The amount enclosed is \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Is this a renewal?

- ☐ yes
- ☐ no

Please mail this form to

HALT  
P.O. Box 61903  
Honolulu, HI 96839-1903

As a member you will receive an electronic copy of the HALT Newsletter 4 times during the academic year. Please be sure to include your email address above. If you wish to have a paper version sent via mail instead, please check here: ☐



Hawai'i Association of Language Teachers

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