

# TESL WW NEWS

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

We, at TESL WW, wish you all the best for 2008, and we couldn't think of a better way to start the New Year (and beat the winter blahs!) than by inviting you to the "Grassroots ESL Conference" on Saturday February 9<sup>th</sup>. This all-day conference provides you with a series of workshops to choose from; it's an opportunity for you to renew old interests and acquaintances, and create new ones. So please join us with your colleagues for the "Grassroots ESL Conference" to learn, converse, peruse publisher's displays, and share a meal together. In this newsletter you'll find an itinerary, and registration form. To ensure a spot in your desired workshop, print, fill-in and return your form as soon as possible. We look forward to seeing many of you in a few weeks!

Collaborating in teaching excellence,  
Your TESL WW committee.

## A Message from our President

Dear WW TESL affiliate members,

I would like to take this opportunity to address the frequently asked question of why we have to pay for workshops and the AGM in addition to our annual TESL Ontario membership fee.

The \$84.00 annual membership fee that all of us pay is used toward the publication of TESL Canada Journal, TESL Ontario conference, and newsletters. Also, of the \$84, every affiliate receives \$16.00 for each member in its chapter. In the case of Waterloo-Wellington, that amount translates to approximately \$1,600 per/annum, which hardly covers one full event. Since the affiliate rebate is not enough, we all have to pay the extra \$20-\$25 per event. In conjunction with TESL Ontario's contribution to our local chapter, registration fees supplement conference expenses such as presenters' honoraria and mileage, food and beverages, facilities, as well as yearly operating costs, website fees, recognition awards etc. It is important to note that all of us who volunteer as members of the organizing committee also pay to attend these events.

Our mandate is to provide Waterloo-Wellington members with opportunities for professional development, especially since many of us cannot take the time or incur the cost of going to the bigger conferences. Over the years we have been very fortunate to have many renowned speakers and workshop presenters who were willing to come to us at a fraction of their usual billing.

Your WW TESL affiliate conference on February 9<sup>th</sup> has a wonderful line-up of highly professional educators. Like you and me, these folks are spending their Saturday at a workshop because they believe in the importance of keeping current with new ideas, techniques, and pedagogies.

Having addressed your question regarding why and where your money is spent, my colleagues and I hope that you will join us on February 9<sup>th</sup>. These events are also wonderful occasions to meet and chat with colleagues.

Regards,  
Dara Lane, President

**Save the Date!!**

This year the TESL WW Annual General Meeting will take place at Renison College on Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>. As always, your registration for this event includes a full dinner, a noteworthy guest speaker, and an update on the past year's TESL WW activities. Consider volunteering at this time for the 2008 – 2009 TESL WW committee. A full itinerary, registration form, and available positions within the committee will follow in an upcoming newsletter. But for now, **SAVE THE DATE!**

***TESL WW BRINGS YOU THE WINTER 2008***

***GRASSROOTS CONFERENCE***

The TESL WW Winter 2008 Grassroots Conference has many interesting speakers presenting on a variety of issues pertinent to ESL teachers everywhere. Please check out the speakers' bios and fill in the registration form that follows. The sooner you submit your registration, the sooner you can secure a place to hear what our presenters have to share

# TESL WW Winter Workshop

Saturday, February 9, 2008 at Conestoga College

Registration	8:30 – 9:00 am
Speakers	9:00 – 10:00
Break	10:00 – 10:30
Speakers	10:30 – 11:30
Lunch	11:30 – 12:15 pm
Speakers	12:15 – 2:00

## Available Workshops:

*Early Session 9:00 am to 10:00 am*

**Kathryn Brillinger**

### ***\*Pronunciation Skills for ESL Learners\****

Most ESL learners need help in improving their pronunciation so that they can communicate meaning in spoken English. This workshop will outline key teaching areas and share ideas and handouts for incorporating daily pronunciation learning opportunities

**Sherley Loucks,**

### ***\*Becoming an IELTS Administrator\****

This workshop will be of interest to those who are interested in becoming an IELTS examiner. The presenter will give an overview of the IELTS exam and will provide information on how to become an examiner.

*Later Session 10:30 am to 11:30 am*

**Dr. Stefan Rehm**

### ***\*Public Speaking for ESL Students\****

In this workshop, Dr. Rehm will be talking about the public-speaking course for graduate ESL students that he teaches at the University of Waterloo. First, he will describe the oral assignments and some of the class activities he has developed in connection with them. Second, he will share his evaluation techniques, focusing on his rubric and the detailed explanations that he provides for each category. Third, Dr. Rehm will address the matter of error correction during oral assignments and the role it plays in cultivating a forum for collaborative learning. The overall objective in this workshop is to facilitate discussion on all of these topics so that participants can reveal some of their techniques for helping ESL students improve their oral academic discourse.

**Maureen Stewart**

### ***\*ESL Classics - Songs for Learning English\****

ESL Classics is a multi-level songbook combining classical music and illustrated verses. The workshop will demonstrate how this ESL songbook and CD can be used to reinforce vocabulary. The nine songs are theme based and focus on specific grammar structures. While listening tasks are the primary focus of the accompanying exercises, there are also speaking, reading and writing tasks related to each song.

Afternoon Session 12:15 to 2:00 pm

**Lucia Engkent**

***\*Vocabulary Building for Academic English\****

A strong vocabulary is essential for both reading and writing in college and university, but knowing a word is more than just knowing its meaning. Students need to understand patterns and relationships, collocation, derivatives, roots and affixes, and synonyms and antonyms. This workshop focuses on techniques to help students build vocabulary.

**Professor Marjatta Holt**

***\*Teaching and Learning Prepositions\****

Professor Holt is a seasoned and engaging grammar lecturer at the University of Toronto. She has presented workshops on numerous difficult aspects of grammar at many TESL Ontario conferences. She will be presenting a workshop on prepositions, an aspect of English teaching and learning that can be challenging for both instructors and learners.

**Anne Marie Kaskens**

***\*New LINC Guidelines\****

This workshop focuses on presenting the new LINC 5-7 Curriculum Guidelines (funded by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, developed by the Toronto Catholic District School Board). It will orient participants on the structure, approach and use of the guidelines as a tool to assist instructors in program planning.

Tear-Off Registration Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of Employment: \_\_\_\_\_

**Workshop Choices:** Please check **one** box for each session:

Early AM Workshop Session 9:00 to 10:00		Later AM Workshop Session 10:30 to 11:30	
<b><i>Pronunciation Skills for ESL Learners</i></b>	<b><i>Becoming an IELTS Administrator</i></b>	<b><i>Public Speaking for ESL Students</i></b>	<b><i>ESL Classics - Songs for Learning English</i></b>

Afternoon Workshop Sessions 12:15 to 2:00 pm		
<b><i>Vocabulary Building for Academic English</i></b>	<b><i>Teaching and Learning Prepositions</i></b>	<b><i>New LINC Guidelines</i></b>

Mail to: Lorraine Lasmanis: 144 Briarcliffe Cres. Waterloo ON, N2L 5T8

Cost: TESL Ontario members \$10; Non-Members and at door registration \$15. (Please make cheques payable to TESL WW). **The registration deadline is Monday, February 4, 2008.**

Please contact [llasmanis@sympatico.ca](mailto:llasmanis@sympatico.ca) for additional information.

## And the winner is...

As you may remember from our last newsletter, we asked you to be on the lookout for both exceptional students and exemplary teachers as potential recipients of our annual book awards. If there is a student that you would like to recognize, perhaps for their outstanding contribution to your class, or for their incredible achievements or improvement, or for their success in the face of adversity, please print, fill-in, and return the nomination form included. Likewise, if you know of a colleague whose attitude, energy, and ability are a constant source of inspiration, for both you and their students alike, please let us know about them so they may receive the recognition they deserve! Book awards will be given at the TESL – WW AGM.

### **Waterloo Wellington Nominations for “Awards of Excellence” Book Awards**

Each year at the AGM, TESL WW recognizes members’ students for their special efforts. This year we will also recognize one paid and one volunteer teacher.

#### **Student Awards**

TESL WW will offer “Awards of Excellence” as in the past to one person from those who are nominated in the following categories:

1. A Primary School ESL Student (\$50 book certificate)
2. A Secondary School ESL Student (\$75 book certificate)
3. An Adult ESL Student (\$100 book certificate)

Please consider nominating a student.

#### **Teacher and Volunteer Awards**

We are fortunate to have some exceptionally fine teachers and volunteers in our area. As a result of their abilities, their commitment, and their ongoing efforts our ESL students go on to be successful in the community. Our teachers impact not only their students, but also the community beyond our walls and eventually Canadian society.

The influence that these outstanding teachers have comes not only from their teaching skills, but from their high standards of performance, from their willingness to share with their colleagues and their students, and from their active commitment to their profession and their community.

We are fortunate, not only in the high caliber people we have teaching ESL in Waterloo-Wellington, but in how many we have! And each year TESL WW wishes to provide an opportunity to honour two of these people.

1. An ESL Volunteer (\$100 book certificate)
2. An ESL Teacher (\$100 book certificate)

Please consider nominating a fellow teacher.

Please send the completed forms to both Keely Cook at [keely@uwaterloo.ca](mailto:keely@uwaterloo.ca) and Dara Lane at [daralane112@yahoo.ca](mailto:daralane112@yahoo.ca) by May 1, 2008.



Waterloo Wellington

# Book Award Nomination Form for ESL Student

## Nomination Guidelines

1. The nominee must have at least one year of ESL support or ESL classes within the past two years. This can be full or part time study.
2. The nominee must have an excellent attendance record.
3. The nominee must have greatly improved in their use of English.
4. The nominee must have served as a role model for other students (offering peers help, ESL buddy, showing tolerance and community building etc.)
5. The nominee must have displayed a sense of community involvement (supporting school activities, fund-raising, volunteering, helping others etc.)
6. The nominee must be able to clearly articulate how advancing English will help them with their future goals.

## Nominee Information

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (Circle One):

A Primary School ESL Student

A Secondary School ESL Student

An Adult ESL Student

## Nominating Teacher's Information

Nominating

Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

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

Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Why is this student deserving of a book award? (Please write a short explanation.)



Waterloo Wellington

# Book Award Nomination Form for ESL Teacher or Volunteer

## Nomination Guidelines

1. The nominee must have at least five years of ESL teaching or ESL volunteering within the past seven years. This can be full or part time work.
2. The nominee must have served as a role model for other teachers (mentoring, offering peers help, , showing community building etc.)
3. The nominee must have displayed a sense of community involvement (supporting school activities, fund-raising, volunteering, helping others etc.).

## Nominee Information

Nominee Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Category (Circle One):

An ESL Teacher

An ESL Volunteer

## Nominating Teacher's Information

Nominating  
Teacher:

E-Mail

Address:

Telephone

Number:

Why is this teacher deserving of a book award? (Please write a short explanation.)