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OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE LANGUAGE CENTER



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The Language Center Newsletter

The Fall semester has started and it kept us extremely busy. In September we welcomed students back to Campus with the International Karaoke Night; put together Conversation Hours for eleven different languages; launched the Peer Tutoring Program for languages including Italian, Japanese, Arabic, ASL and more; and organized the second edition of the Languages Trivia Night. For our faculty, we offered a workshop for specific language teaching purposes and a welcome back faculty to strengthen networking across the multiple language programs.

We will have many more upcoming events. Look inside to see what we will be offering!

MELIORA!

From the Director

WELCOME!

I hope you had a great summer and that the beginning of fall semester is being a successful one.

As times flies by, we realized that we are celebrating our second year on campus. It has been an exciting adventure that one makes sense by sharing it with you. Thank you for all the time you spent here at the Center with us teaching us more about your expectations and dreams for the future.

In the short time we have been present on campus, the Language Center has become a destination for our campus community. It is with that in mind that we are trilled to announce that we now offer peer tutoring for languages here at the center. We have an amazing team of advanced students ready to support you. We also continue to offer Conversation Hours in several languages, events such as One Language, One Recipe or the International Karaoke Night.

We strive to provide our students the best support outside the classroom, as well as the best available tools to continue to immerse in the language(s). For that, we have a fully equipped computer hub where students can have access to language software and hardware that will help them to complete their assignments. Television channels in multiple foreign languages are also available for with a click on your smartphones and, others, in our living room area. We also didn't forget that been able to immerse in a culture and language requires knowledge of the main events in those countries, and for that we have available for you electronic newspapers in many languages.

We also work closely with all language departments and for this semester we have a series of talks planned in cooperation with the Department of Modern Languages and Cultures. The Language Center will also be offering workshops in collaboration with several departments and offices across campus with the goal of promoting collaboration among all of us we teach a language.

I cannot end this note without acknowledging all that will be visiting us during Meliora Weekend. We thank you for your visit and we hope t hat you have enjoyed your time with us. We look forward to seeing you soon.

Obrigada,
Teresa Valdez

Staff Members



We are very happy to introduce our entire staff to you!

From left to right:

Marco Ramos, Hana Kallen, Carlos Bustamente, Queenette Okwaraji
Karina Vasquez, Kinga Flaga, Daiki Nishioka, Isabella Dos Santos,
Teresa Valdez (Director)

Ian Manzi, Shasha Cui, Ana Garcia Casco, Carlotta Gambato
(Administrative Assistant)

Please stop by the Language Center on the 3rd floor of Douglass
Commons to meet us, and we will be happy to give you a tour of all that
the Language Center offers to students, faculty and staff.

Our Resources

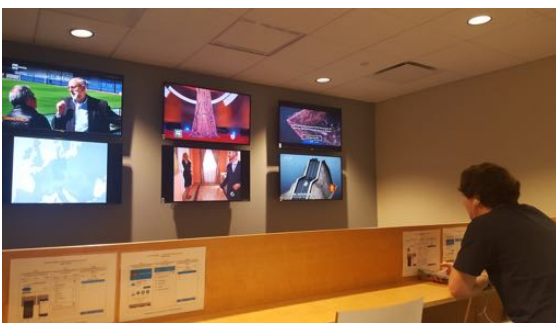
The new start of the semester, the Language Center wants to make sure you count on all the resources to make your whole study process of a language an enjoyable one.

WHAT DO WE OFFER YOU TO DO THAT?

A LIVING ROOM: The perfect spot to take a break from your study hours; equipped with International Digital newspapers to inform yourself about what happens around the world.

A place that feels just like home with our video gaming station, which you can play in different languages to have fun, relax, and practice languages at the same time.

The language center accounts for a vast number of books in different languages, which you could sign out and use at the Center.



Want to watch TV in your own language or a different one? We also offer an International TV Lounge for you to watch TV in any preferred languages available in the center.



All types of basic technological equipment for students to borrow: Headphones, Ipad and Tablets, Region Free DVD players, Sound and video equipment to borrow for your activities, and LCD screen for video, cable TV. Even if you would like to find a movie or series, we provide Netflix and Prime Video.

Ana Casco, '21

Computer Hub

The Language Center has a great computer hub for anyone to use! It is located directly next to the Language Center. It has fifteen computers, both PC and Mac, along with a large television that can be connected to the center's computers to project your presentations, videos, and documents. The center is open from noon to 5 pm on Saturdays, and from 2-9 pm on Sundays. It is available upon request during the week! The space is great for studying, and can be utilized by professors as a space for their classes to work on projects. You can even borrow a keyboard in French, German, Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Turkish, Hebrew, Spanish, Japanese, Korean, or Italian to use in the computer hub.



Hana Kallen, '20

Conversation Hours

Are you interested in a foreign language and want to practice with others? Then you should come to the Language Center's conversation hours in Douglass Commons 305!

We offer these conversation hours at the following times:

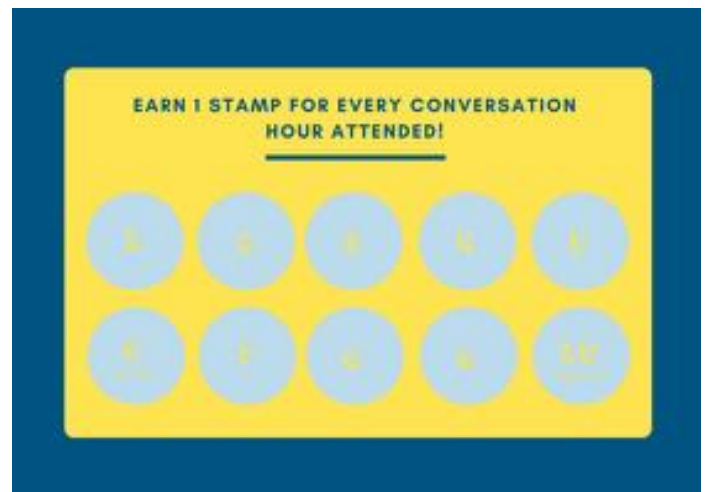
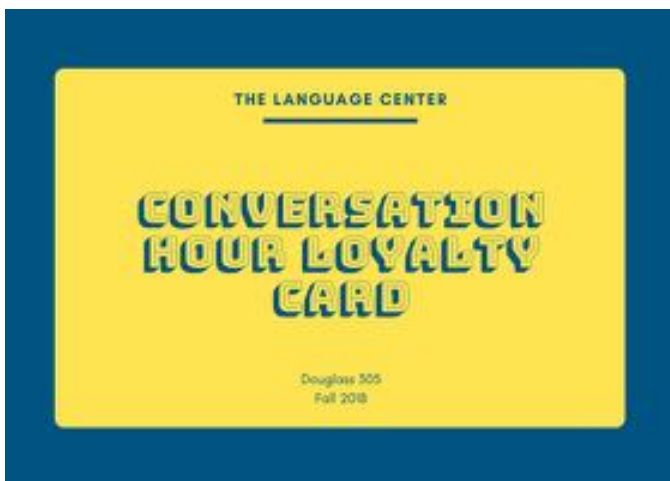


This semester we also have the English Learning and Speaking Program about U.S. Life and Culture, but this is a class that must be enrolled in and is not open to the public. This program is offered at the following times: Tuesdays, 10:00am-12:00pm (runs 9/11-11/13) Wednesdays, 5:00pm-6:00pm (9/12-11/13) Fridays, 1:00pm-2:00pm (9/14-11/16) Saturdays, 2:00pm-3:00pm (9/9-11/10) Sundays, 6:00pm-7:00pm (9/10-11/11)

Conversation Hours

Conversation hours are open to anyone regardless of level of skill or enrollment in a class. The meetings happen every week, and there will always be refreshments of tea and coffee provided.

ASL Club's Silent Coffee meets at the Language Center once per week on Thursdays, and on Mondays they meet outside of Starbucks. Please stop by the Language Center to learn more!



This year we are also introducing a Conversation Hour Loyalty Card! Inquire at the front desk to receive a card if you haven't already. Attend any conversation hour and before you leave you will receive a stamp on your card for attending. At six stamps you will receive a small prize, and at ten you'll receive a larger prize. You can only receive one stamp per week. Every semester a new card and prizes will be released, so make sure to be consistent with your visits. Once you have completed your Loyalty Card for the semester, you cannot receive a new one, but we encourage you to continue attending the Conversation Hours.

Past Events

LAST SEMESTER PAST EVENTS

The language center last semester carried out a lot of events such as the special Two Language, Two Recipes, the more traditional One Language, One Recipe, the first edition of the Trivia Night, the Karaoke night, the Language Fair, the Festival of Food, Film, and Cultures, the PS4 Fifa Game Night.



The beauty of these events is that they pull together all kinds of students and provide them the platform to get involved on campus, make friends and network. Friendships are formed effortlessly when you share similar interests or passions with your peers. The events allow you to branch out and meet students outside of your immediate social circle. Students take the advantage of successfully creating a balance between a full plate of academia and extracurricular activities, spice up their mundane school weeks and break up long blocks of study sessions. Again events at the language center help us to make the most of our college experience. Be on the lookout for all our upcoming events this semester. **DON'T MISS OUT**

Queenette Okwaraji, '21

Past Events

International Karaoke Night

First, there was one person singing, then there was a full crowd filling the rooms of the Language Center (LC). The first International Karaoke Night was a complete success, to say the least. As the LC staff tested the karaoke and set up the food, students from all backgrounds came to sign up and sing their favorite song in a different language. Students who only spoke English but enjoyed listening to others also came for a snack. The night was truly a multicultural spectacle: there were several passionate Chinese, a couple up-beat Spanish, an outstanding ASL, and many other songs sang and interpreted in languages from around the world. The event went on for two hours, yet there were many sad faces when the time came to finish up the event. However, there will be many other karaoke nights to come, stay tuned!



Marco Ramos, '20

Past Events

International Trivia Night

The Language Center hosted its Trivia Night on Saturday September 28th. Friends and soon-to-be friends huddled together with pieces of pizza, as they formed groups to represent different languages. Among them were, German, Portuguese, Chinese, Arabic, French, Japanese and Spanish.



Rules of the Game:

The game was simple: 6 rounds, 3 questions per round, and the team wagers points before given the question. At the end of the third round, our lovely program assistants quickly graded the questions: 0 points for a wrong answer, and the points they wagered for the correct answer. The question topics were about language, history and geography; when possible, the answer must be specific to the team's representative language.

Past Events

A taste of the Questions:



Some questions were easy, such as “How do you say hello in your team’s language?” Others were much harder, like “What is one language option at the Vatican’s ATM?” (The answer is Latin.) During the 2 -minute intervals when teams were able to respond, pop hits from languages around the world would play in the background like Russian, Polish and Mandarin.



...and the Winner is...

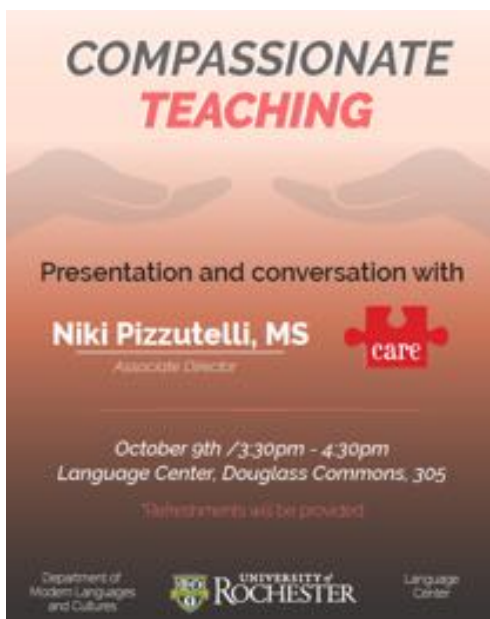
By half time, the German team and the Arabic team were leading ahead, with Portuguese and French in the bottom. Each question was a curveball:

“Name the 10 most common languages spoken around the world in descending order,” “How many kilometers span the Great Wall of China?” “How many Nobel peace prizes have been received in your language?” By the end, we were all curious about the answer and most curious about the winner. Tallies were in... the Arabic team won! It was a fun and exciting night for all who participated and we walked away learning a bit more about culture and language. So special shout-out to those who came, and for those who didn’t... study up and come next time!

Isabella Dos Santos, '19

Upcoming Events

October 4th: One Language, One Recipe
Cooking lesson taught in Korean by
Hyesoon Park and Myounghee Cho,
followed by an authentic tasting of
japchae. Learn about Korean cuisine one
bite at a time!



October 9th: Compassionate Teaching -
new series of presentations and workshops
to open a conversation among faculty, as
well as between faculty and University
services, on how to better address our
student academic and learning needs on a
more holistic basis.

October 17th: One Language, One
Recipe - Cooking lesson taught in ASL
followed by a delicious tasting of the
cooked recipe. Learn ASL one bite at a
time.

One Language, One Recipe

Upcoming Events



October 19th: Cultural Intersections - to open this new series of discussions "Speaking a Language or Speaking a Culture?" engage in a conversation about the difference between learning a language and speaking a language when outside your home country;

October 26th: workshop at the Community Kitchen designed for language faculty. Task Based Approach, what is it, and how can I apply it in a kitchen setting for my language class?



October 29th: International Bingo Night- The only thing better than Bingo is Bingo in multiple languages at a time. Regardless of where you are from, there is only one Bingo!

Daiki Nishioka, '21

Peer Tutoring

Welcome to all new language students and shout-out to current language students who are advancing in their language learning! Whether new or old, when it comes to writing and communicating in a foreign language, practice makes perfect!

In an effort to support the hundreds of students who are taking language classes at UofR, the Language Center recently formed the Peer Tutoring program. A tutor is a student who has excelled in their respective language classes and has been trained by the Language Center and the Center of Excellence in Teaching and Learning (CETL) in tutoring skills. The peer tutoring program is run by students with flexible times for your convenience.

Without the added pressure or intimidation of a professor, a student tutor can help you with pronunciation, practice, homework or an upcoming project assignment. If you are feeling shy about speaking in class due to your pronunciation... there is only one way to overcome it: practice, practice, practice. The student tutors are here to help. They are a great asset to take advantage of and make the most out of your learning experience!

Tutors will be available at the Language Center during the times listed on the next page. Please note that the tutorship program is only available for students who are currently taking a language class at the University of Rochester. If you wish to practice a language but you are not taking the respective class, you are more than welcome to come to our Conversation Hours.

Peer Tutoring

DROP-IN TUTORING SCHEDULE

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE	Tue. 4-5, Sun. 5-6
ARABIC	Tue. 12-30-1:30, Wed. 12-30-1:30,
CHINESE	Fri. 10-11, Sunday 4-5
FRENCH	Thur. 5-6, Sun. 5:30-6:30
GERMAN	Thur. 6-7, Sat. 3-4
HEBREW	Thur. 1-2
ITALIAN	Tue. 12-1, Sat. 2-3
JAPANESE	Tue. 3-4, Thur. 3:30-4:30
KOREAN	Wed. 7-8, Sat. 3-4
POLISH	Tue. 5:30-6:30, Sun. 3-4
PORTUGUESE	Wed. 12-1, Fri. 12-1