



THE IHLA NEWSLETTER

Namaste to all the esteemed members of Heritage Language community. It's a great honor and privilege to serve as President of International & Heritage Languages Association.

First of all, I want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Antonella Cortese, who served as President of this association for more than a decade. She gave direction to heritage language school community to better themselves so they can offer better learning opportunity for their students, built very amicable relations with government departments and other organizations in Canada, USA, and other countries in the world.

**VOLUME 20
ISSUE 3
EDITOR: MARINA
CASTRO**

August 2nd, 2023

She along with other members of the association have made IHLA proud by participating in international studies and being invited to present in the international conferences. These are great shoes to fill, and I commit to do my best under her guidance.

I now take this opportunity to welcome the team which will help me, guide me and keep us all on track. Our Vice President - Francis Wambugu, Treasurer – Anupama Deshpande, Secretary – Sylvia Pozorek and Jitka Storoschuck, Directors – Archana Gautam Kumar, Kuljeet Kaur, Lilya Sukhy, Paylig Oltadjian and our Emeritus Members – Jaspal Bansal, Josephine Pallard, and Krystyna Dembowski. To help us all and keep day to day business of the association moving we have Grace Alarcon-Isla, Coordinator and Marina Castro, IT Coordinator.



I look forward to working with you all. I salute your commitment to Heritage Languages, heritage language schools, teachers, and students.

I also want to invite all members of Heritage Language community to contact me or any of us if you have any idea that can help, improve or assist for the betterment of our HL schools. Let's discuss your idea and find ways to give wings to your idea and help HL schools, their teachers, and students.

IHLA will continue to hold Principals/Administrators meetings, Professional Development programs for HL teachers, MLD program and MLD Book to showcase talent of our students. IHLA also provides opportunity to our HL schools by working together and sharing teaching and learning techniques through our Mentor and Mentee program. This year IHLA was invited to participate in K Days where our HL schools promoted language, culture, and other talents. A big thank you to Explore Edmonton and our Coordinator Grace Alarcon-Isla for making this arrangement.

A BIG thank you to Alberta Education and AGLC to provide financial support so that IHLA can assist heritage language community in Northern Alberta. I would also like to thank my heritage language community – Alberta Hindi Parishad, where I had the opportunity to be the first principal of Hindi Vidyalaya in 1987. It's a proud moment for me that Hindi Vidyalaya has been consistently teaching Hindi, 3rd most spoken language in the world, to children from Indo-Canadian community, and to children and adults from Edmonton. I congratulate current board of AHP and the dedicated team of teachers who have been continuing the great tradition of teaching Hindi and culture of India.

Namaste.

Krishna Gupta

(IHLA President)

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS (Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana)

In June 2008, a community pilot project took place to ask the question: *“If there were an Italian heritage language program for preschool aged children, would families enroll them?”*

Fast forward to June 2023 as the Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana celebrated its 15th Year of activity with a class of 66 and proudly graduated its first 2 students—Alia Santoro and Stella Filipic both beginning in our preschool program continuing through to Grade 6 (and receiving recognition from the Global Seal of Biliteracy —Pathways Ribbon testing at the low Intermediate on the Grade 7 Exam).

Our 2023 End of the Scuola Year Festa was glorious; filled with student performances, incredible surprises and above all, a joyous and memorable sense of community that only our CPLI families can generate when we all come together. It is this care and support of our CPLI Scuola that has brought us to this milestone and the daily efforts and dedication of our CPLI Teaching Team and Board who bring experience, love for our heritage language and culture, and our students above all.

We look forward to our new Scuola Year 2023/2024 reflecting upon lessons learned over each year that has passed. To intentionally create a learning environment where our students and families can grow, into their Italian heritage language and culture. This, in order to keep our Italian heritage language community vibrant and growing for many years to come.

(Antonella C. & Milena Santoro)



**Congratulations
CPLI!**

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

(Filipino Language and Culture School)

Filipinos all over the world celebrated the Philippine Independence Day for an entire month in June. Our Filipino Language and Culture school of Edmonton students were no exception. They were invited to numerous events and fiestas. They showcased their knowledge of the Filipino language and cultural understanding through various forms of representation and performances.



June 11, 2023 The Filipino Language and Culture School of Edmonton students represented the Filipino Canadian Saranay association of Alberta at the **125th Independence Day Cultural day** at the Rizal monument Nose Creek park, Airdrie, AB. They were personally invited by the Philippine Consulate General of Calgary to start off the programme to sing about the Philippine National hero, Dr. Jose Rizal.

July 17, 2023 Our students and the Saranay Rondalla string orchestra were invited to start the programme during the Annual **Filipino Fiesta** at Borden Park, Edmonton. They started the programme with the Philippine National anthem and Canadian anthem sung in Filipino. They were even featured as one of the headliners on stage.



June 25, 2023 Our Filipino Language and Culture school students, staff and parents celebrated the **YEAREND** with a **Kamayan or Boodle fight** experience; Shared food divided onto banana leaves and everyone ate with their hands. Kamayan describes the act of eating with the bare hands, which is the traditional pre-colonial method of eating in Filipino culture. We also presented the **IHLA 20th anniversary MLD** book to students who contributed to the anthology and a song presentation by the Saranay choir.



July 30, 2023 We were proud to represent our Filipino school at the **IHLA Multicultural storefront** during the 10 day **Kdays event** and performed at Discovery Hall stage during the **Multicultural presentation**.



Heritage Language: Beyond the classroom

Grace Alarcon-Isla was invited to be part of the award-winning theatre production, **Prison Dancer, the musical**, May 2023 at the Citadel Theatre, Edmonton. She was hired on by the Citadel theatre company as the production's dialect coach. What is a dialect coach? A dialect coach is someone who helps the voice and speech of character or actors; in this case, on-camera, and stage production. Her role was to make sure that characters that were depicted in the story who come from different regions of the Philippines performed as close to its true cultural form, values, and mannerism.



GRACE ALARCON-ISLA
DIALECT COACH

Grace is an Alberta based Filipino language educator. She joins *Prison Dancer* as a first-time dialect coach. Her knowledge of learning the Filipino language comes from her personal experiences when she first learned Filipino in Junior high. She has previously joined the local Filipino production of *Emma, The Musical* as part of the backstage manager for the Saranay Rondalla string orchestra (2018). Grace would like to thank her parents and mentors for encouraging her to pursue a lifelong commitment in teaching her Filipino heritage. Mabuhay sa ating kulturang Filipino!



She is encouraged to know that having knowledge in heritage languages has greater benefits and extension from the heritage language classrooms. In fact, various public services need individuals with good to expert knowledge about their culture and the various heritage languages they speak. If there is service to communicate with the public, a heritage language service will be needed, law enforcement, judicial court houses, hospitals, theatre and more. Be proud of your heritage language and seek out the opportunities where individuals can learn, share, and preserve heritage languages in your communities.

NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS

(Gabriela Mistral)



Hola a todos! Hello everyone.

We are Gabriela Mistral Latin American School. We are a nonprofit organization and we have been present in the Edmonton community since 1987 teaching Spanish language and Latin culture, music, and dance.

We are very excited to be up and running again after COVID turned our worlds upside down. We have dedicated teachers that have been with the school for many years and have welcomed some new faculty as well.

We have found a new home in the Edmonton Intercultural Centre. And continue to receive support and guidance from IHLA.

This past year we opened our doors at our new location and welcomed students from kindergarten to grade 9. They learned Spanish language & literacy with their home room teachers. And then also learned Spanish dance and music with their dance and music teachers. We were able to have our **annual Latin Elements** year-end show, first one since 2019. It was incredible to see the hard work the teachers and students dedicated to their performances. We were also fortunate to have Edmonton community collaboration with local Latin dance group performances and local Latin food vendors.

We are planning for the new school year. We will continue to have classes for children from kindergarten to grade 12 on Saturday mornings from 9am-12pm. We will also be offering adult classes (beginner, intermediate, advanced) on Wednesday evening and/or Thursday evenings and/or Saturdays (dependant on registrations).

Some important dates to remember:

Saturday Sept 16th, 2023 9am-12pm will be our open house and registration

Saturday Sept 23rd, 2023 9am-12pm will be our first day of classes for kids.
Adult class start date TBD.

Please spread the word with any family or friends you know that might want to join our school community.

We look forward to seeing you all in the fall.

<https://gabrielamistralschool.ca/>

Gracias!





COALITION of Community-Based Heritage Language Schools

October 13 & 14, 2023

10TH ANNUAL COMMUNITY-BASED HERITAGE LANGUAGE SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

Reflecting on the Past and Moving into the Future

The conference will be hybrid, held both on site at American University and online.

Register at tinyurl.com/heritagelanguage2023

Telling the Stories of Community-Based Language Schools in the United States

Shuhan Wang, ELE Consulting International; Chinese Language Education, Asia Society

Supporting Sustainable Less Commonly Taught Community-Based Language Programs

Felix Kronenberg, National LCTL Resource Center

Motivating Students to Continue Language Development With the Seal of Bilingualism

Kristin Davin, Professor, University of North Carolina-Charlotte

HOSTED BY



COALITION of Community-Based Heritage Language Schools



REGISTER NOW for the 10th Annual Community-Based Heritage Language Schools Conference!

October 13-14, 2023

The conference will be **hybrid**, held both on site at American University and online.

Explore the [conference website](#), see the full [conference schedule](#), learn about our [plenary speakers](#), and [register here](#)! The registration fee for on-site participation covers **refreshments, lunch, and a reception**. In addition, on-site participants can get together for a **meet and greet** at a local restaurant on Friday evening. See the [AU webpage](#) for a list of hotels with discounted rates.

Plenary Speakers

Shuhan Wang, Ph.D.

Telling the Stories of Community-Based Language Schools in the United States

Felix Kronenberg, Ph.D.

Supporting Sustainable Less Commonly Taught Community-Based Language Programs

Kristin Davin, Ph.D.

Motivating Students to Continue Language Development With the Seal of Biliteracy

Please share the conference [Facebook event](#) widely and invite your colleagues!

Invite Colleagues to Receive the Coalition Newsletter

Your colleagues can sign up to receive the ***Coalition Newsletter*** by submitting [this form on the Coalition website](#).

[Subscribe here!](#)

Coalition of Heritage Language Community-Based Schools | 4514 Fairway Downs Ct., Alexandria, VA 22312

IHLA AT K-Days 2023 – A few highlights (more on our website)

A big thank you to all our wonderful volunteers from Edmonton Marathi Shala, Incredible India team, Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana, Ivan Franko School of Ukrainian Studies, Armenian Cultural and Educational Association of Edmonton and the Filipino Language and Culture Association for presenting such a beautiful showcase of all heritage languages and schools.

IHLA is proud this year to have been part of the Multicultural Centre at the Edmonton Expo where our volunteers presented various activities from crafts to games and on – stage performances, which attracted families of all languages and cultures. A huge thank you as well for supporting us and our cause in spreading awareness and exposure of our heritage schools, to Explore Edmonton.

A few highlights below of our ten days showcase at the Edmonton Expo. For more pictures and to watch the performances, follow the link to our website.

K
DAYS





Sponsored by Explore Edmonton:

Storefront facade Facility, entrance/parking passes for volunteers, activity expenses for groups, on-stage facility/technical support.

Sponsors:

Staples professional

Imagefly

Fabulous Balloons

MLA Christina Gray, Edmonton Millwoods

HL school participation: Comitato Promotore della Lingua Italiana, Filipino Language and Culture School of Edmonton, Ivan Franko School of Ukrainian Studies, Armenian Cultural and Educational Association of Edmonton, Edmonton Marathi Shala

Special guests and groups: Incredible India and Small arts of Kindness

Special contributions: Kuljeet Kaur, Gabriela Mistral

Features and special mentions:

Friday Jul 21 - Contributions of K-Days participants to the various heritage language sayings on rocks

Sat Jul 22 - Photoboosts and Henna

Sunday, July 23 - Leaning Tower of Pisa art

Monday, Jul24 - Filipino star - Parol craft and Filipino games

Tuesday, Jul 25 & Wednesday, Jul 26- Ukrainian beading and tattoo

Thursday Jul 27 - Wall of languages

Friday, Jul 28 - Face painting and Henna

Saturday, Jul 29 - Armenian keychain beads and Baybayin (Filipino script) bookmarks

Sunday Jul 30 - Music program and Wood craft

Performances:

Filipino Language and Culture School students

Saranay and Artists house choir

Saranay Rondalla string orchestra

Naamaaste Z Dance School

Jeevan Gopal Dance Academy

Incredible India group

Raffle draw winners:

[Staples Professional](#) school supplies gift basket - Brenda L

Imagefly \$100 printing certificate- Beverly L

Imagefly Personalized shirt printing- Crystal L & Caliope D.

MacKenzie Brown print donated by MLA Christina Gray Edmonton-Millwoods -Tahmina H

20th Anniversary MLD book- Dustin S.

Colouring package donated by MLA [Christina Gray](#) Edmonton-Millwoods - Doreen P/ Tyler P

Membership registration 2023/24

- Online Registration starts September 1st, 2023;
- Follow the [Register with us! | International and Heritage Languages Association \(ihla.ca\)](#) link, and submit all your school information;
- Download and fill out the Memorandum of Understanding, and send to the required email address;
- Pay your membership fees by cheque, or e-transfer.

More details will be sent out at the end of August regarding Registration.

~ We look forward to the new 2023/2024 year! ~

Mother Language Day book

- *Distribution of books by June 19, 2023*
- *PDF copy will be launched on the website after June 20, 2023*

~ Books are still available for pick up. Please make an appointment with us if you wish to pick up. ~



~ Professional Development 2023-2024 and important dates ~

(Please check our website www.ihla.ca for updates as well as our Facebook page)

*** Please make sure to register for workshops so that you are able to have access to that PD session***

Upcoming Professional Development and Important Dates (2023 / 2024)

- September 2023:
 1. Registration starts – September 1st.
 2. Archana Gautam Kumar: Engaging children in their heritage language – ONLINE (TBC)
 3. First Principal's Meeting - September 21st, 6:30 pm (First half an hour presented by Staples: Staples Professional info) – sharing info about discount products.

- October 2023:
 1. First Aid – TBC
 2. Sudeep Manandhar: Empowering Non-Profits using Google for greater impact – TBC

Dates and times will be announced at a later date. Please check our website and Facebook page for more details.

2023 - 2024 IHLA EXECUTIVE Board of Directors



IHLA AGM 2023

THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED OUR 2023 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, AND CONGRATULATIONS TO ALL OUR NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEMBERS!

PRESIDENT: KRISHNA GUPTA (ALBERTA HINDI PARISHAD)

PAST PRESIDENT: ANTONELLA CORTESE (COMITATO PROMOTORE DELLA LINGUA ITALIANA)

VICE PRESIDENT: FRANCIS WAMBUGU (KISWAHILI LEARNING CENTRE)

TREASURER: ANUPAMA DESHPANDE (EDMONTON MARATHI)

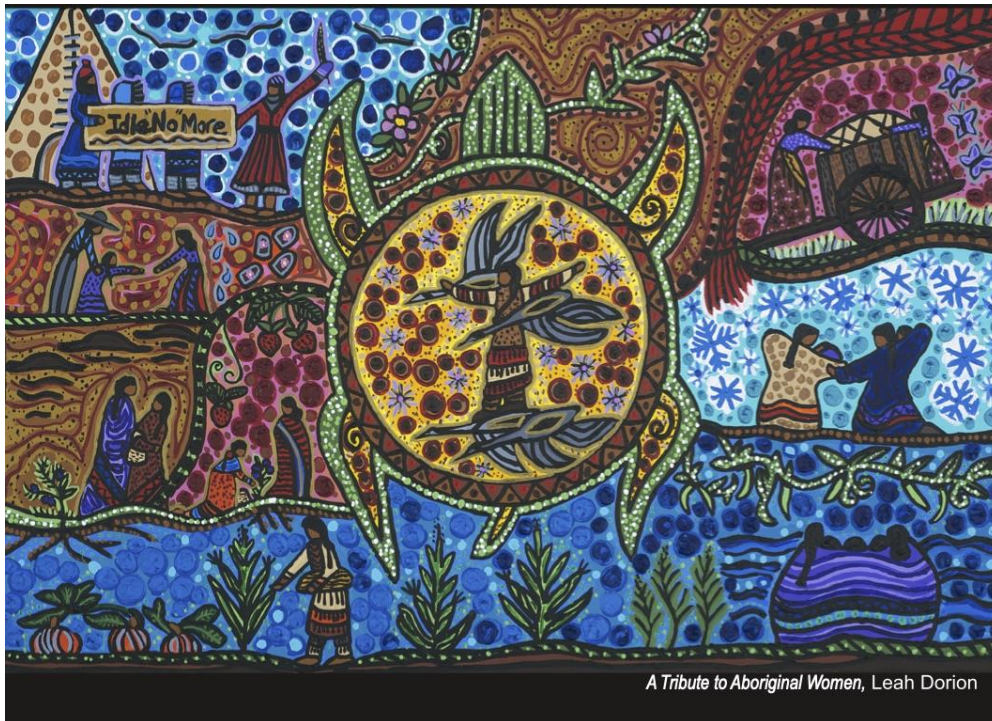
SECRETARIES: SYLVIA POZOREK (HENRYK SIENKIEWICZ) & **JITKA STOROSCHUK** (CZECH SCHOOL IN EDMONTON)

MEMBERS AT LARGE: LILYA SUKHI (IVAN FRANKO SCHOOL OF UKRANIAN STUDIES)

KULJEET KAUR (RAMGARHIA KHALSA SCHOOL)
ARCHANA GAUTAM KUMAR (ALBERTA HINDI PARISHAD)
PAYLIG OLTADJIAN (ARMENIAN CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF EDMONTON)

EMERITUS MEMBERS: JOSEPHINE PALLARD,
KRYSTYNA DEMBOWSKI, AND
JASPAL BASAL

~Free Indigenous Courses at University of Alberta~



Subtitles: Arabic, French, Portuguese (European), Italian, Vietnamese, German, Russian, English, Spanish

Indigenous Canada is a 12-lesson Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) from the Faculty of Native Studies that explores Indigenous histories and contemporary issues in Canada. From an Indigenous perspective, this course explores key issues facing Indigenous peoples today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations. Topics for the 12 lessons include the fur trade and other exchange relationships, land claims and environmental impacts, legal systems and rights, political conflicts and alliances, Indigenous political activism, and contemporary Indigenous life, art and its expressions. (University of Alberta website) For more information about the course and to enrol, please follow the link below: [Indigenous Canada | Coursera](#).

[Indigenous Canada | Coursera](#)

~Being a member in good standing~

To be an IHLA member in good standing your school needs to:

- a) complete a registration form, b) pay IHLA membership fees,*
- c) participate at MLD through a table (and a book or presentation),*
- d) volunteer at IHLA fundraising events, and e) participate in at least 2 IHLA sponsored professional development sessions.*

~Follow us on social media~

Please follow us on our Instagram @edmontonihla and International Heritage Language Association our Facebook page for more updates



International Heritage Language Association @edmontonihla

Website:

www.ihla.ca

Contact:

780 – 760 0700

Grace Alarcon – Isla (Program Coordinator)

coordinator@ihla.ca

Marina Castro (IT Coordinator)

itcoordinatorihla@gmail.com