President’s Letter

Welcome to the Winter 2016 edition of *Idiom*!

It is my pleasure to serve as president of NYS TESOL for 2015-2016. We had a wonderfully successful Annual Conference, thanks in particular to conference chair Valentina Portnov and her team of highly dedicated volunteers. Please see the list of names below and join me in thanking them for their valued service to the organization. And, thank you to all who attended, presented, and volunteered at the Annual Conference!

Please save the date for the 46th Annual Conference in Syracuse, November 4–5, 2016, and consider submitting a proposal in the spring.

In addition to the Annual Conference, we have many events throughout the year. Coming up in March is the Applied Linguistics Winter Conference (ALWC) at Teachers College, Columbia University. I encourage you to view our calendar online, stay updated through the listserv and Facebook, and contact your SIG or Region leader to learn more about NYS TESOL events in your area. I also invite you to submit articles to our publications and attend our monthly Executive Board meetings.

Finally, NYS TESOL is always seeking volunteers. We have plenty of opportunities, big and small, and I welcome you to contact me if you are interested in giving back to your professional organization. Meet your colleagues from all over our state, network, and share ideas.

*You* are what makes NYS TESOL!

Happy reading!

Sarah Elia
President, NYS TESOL
pres@nystesol.org

2015 Annual Conference Team:

Valentina Portnov
**Conference Chair**
Maureen P. Edmonds
**Assistant Conference Chair/Scheduling Chair**
Jedediah Palmer
**Exhibitors, Sponsorships, Advertisements**
Ching-Ching Lin
**Volunteers Chair**
Gabriella Portalatin
**Publicity Chair**
Fran Olmos
**Registration Chair**
Maureen P. Edmonds
Cynthia Wiseman
**Onsite Registration**
Ravneet Parmar

**Conference Program Book**

Vlada Chekh

**Logo Graphic Designer**

Tilla Alexander
Catherine Box

**Student Essay Contest**

Tilla Alexander
Catherine Box
Christine Jacknick
Julie McCarthy
Ravneet Parmar
Cara Tuzzolino

**Student Essay Readers**

Meredith Van Schuyler

**Awards Chair**

Sarah Elia
L. Jeanie Faulkner
Fran Olmos

**Advisors**

Tilla Alexander
Catherine Box
Julie McCarthy
Ravneet Parmar

**SIG/Region Social Hour Chairs**

Helaine W. Marshall

**Conference Liaison and MC for the Proceedings**

Julio Batista
Jody Sperling

**J-Unit Karaoke**

Mark Aaron Polger

**Web, Email, and Listserv Administration**

Teale LaBarbera
Elke Apelbaum Savoy

**Proposal Chairs**

Joanne Beard
Lucia Buttaro
Della DeKay
Connie Dziombak
Robin Finnan-Jones
Robert Franz Jr.
Virginia Jama
Rebekah Johnson
Tamara Kirson
Ching-Ching Lin
Fran Olmos
Gabriela Portalatin
Lisa Pye
Elaine Roberts
Christine Rosalia

Proposal Readers