

# The LLL SIG Newsletter

## Message from the Program Chair

The LLL-SIG invites those teaching languages to young, middle-aged, and older adults to share information through our website [ <http://jalt.org/lifelong/index.html> ], newsletter, at various SIG conferences and events (including the Pan-SIG), and at the JALT National Conference, where an annual LLL-SIG forum is held.

This year's JALT Pan-SIG 2013 Conference will take place at Nanzan University in Nagoya on May 18th & 19th, 2013. The theme of the conference is "From Many, One: Collaboration, Cooperation, and Community." With David Kluge as the Conference Chair, it is sure to be a lively, fun, and worthwhile event. The call for papers has ended and the announcement of successful applicants has already been sent out. However, there is still time to register for the conference and we hope that you will be an active participant. Past Pan-SIG conferences have proven to be high-energy occasions for teachers to network and share their knowledge and expertise.

The LLL-SIG will have a table at the Pan-SIG Conference and will hold a forum, in cooperation with the OLE-SIG and JSL-SIG, entitled "Learning Languages at All Stages and Ages." As part of that forum, Rudolf Reinelt (representing OLE-SIG) will give a case study that shows how a very old learner of German came to enjoy success in a language skill that had not been emphasized by his Nazi-prone, grammar-emphasizing German native speaker teachers many years ago. Don Maybin (representing the LLL-SIG) will describe his own experiences learning languages, starting with secondary school French in Canada--which was taught much like he was to find English being taught at Japanese high schools. He will show how selected learning experiences influenced his teaching, particularly with immigrants to Canada, and how it came to inform the blended learning courses he was to develop in his prime.

In addition to the LLL co-sponsored forum at the Pan-SIG, we will also have individual presenters representing us, giving presentations on the following topics: Enriching study abroad programs, Blended benefits: Computer to classroom to Cambodia, English Rakugo and English teaching, Enriching study abroad programs, and Older students as both teachers and learners. On the following page, you will find summaries of the five LLL-related presentations that will be featured at the Pan-SIG.

Our Facebook page can be accessed at <https://www.facebook.com/jaltLLL> . As of this writing, we have nearly 150 likes and we always welcome more. If you "like" us, you will be able to find out about not only our SIG's events, but you can also get tips about lifelong language learning and teaching, and find out about opportunities and events in the community that stretch your capabilities and broaden your horizons, including volunteering possibilities.

Joseph V. Dias  
LLL-SIG Program Chair

## Summaries of LLL-related presentations that will appear at the upcoming Pan-SIG Conference:

### **Enriching study abroad programs**

This presentation outlines the development and enhancement of a short-term study abroad program (STSAP) to the University of Tasmania, Australia. It illustrates the need for STSAPs to have two essential features: a built-in mechanism to receive feedback from participants, and institutional flexibility to initiate changes to the program to enhance participants' educational experience. As the English education industry is a significant source of revenue for many host institutions, this paper recommends that all STSAPs and hosting institutions be continually monitored for quality. High quality programs are more likely to benefit students and foster motivation for lifelong language learning.

### **Blended benefits: Computer to classroom to Cambodia**

The presenter will describe an accelerated language learning program which integrates online and classroom training to develop basic language skills. Participants of this year's course included four Japanese, one Chinese, one Italian and one Canadian ranging in age from 19 to 65. They studied Khmer over a 3-week period at SIT then flew to Cambodia for testing to determine their ability to communicate and complete tasks. A demonstration of the teaching approach will be followed by firsthand accounts from participants, who will also answer audience questions. This presentation will be conducted in English and Japanese.

### **English rakugo and English teaching**

The presenter/ performer will first talk about Rakugo, and English Rakugo in particular: Its meaning and history, how he got involved in the world of Rakugo, and his English Rakugo classes. English Rakugo can motivate students to study English. It not only improves their English ability but also their presentation skills. Two different kinds of Rakugo in English will be presented, a modern piece and a classical one.

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### **Older students as both teachers and learners**

The presenter will discuss possible reasons Japanese learners have for being interested in studying English. He will also report on his activities to help them study English by demonstrations of certain aspects of Japanese culture and a program that matches up non-Japanese visitors with volunteer tour guides. The presentation will end with a case study illustrating what happened at a festival where international students from Waseda University carried a portable shrine with the help of residents of a downtown Tokyo community through the medium of English.