



El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

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NHCC Hosts Fourth Annual Santillana, USA National Spanish Spelling Bee

Article Prepared by Steven Stieglmeyer

The Fourth Annual Santillana, USA National Spanish Spelling Bee took place in Albuquerque, New Mexico from July 17th until the 19th at the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC). Students from across the United States competed to see who would be crowned the national champion. Out of 23 contestants, spellers John Adamson, Eric Leal and Stephanie Arévalo helped round out the top five, while two-time champion Judith Villa and Andrés Arreola took the 2014 competition to the 28th round before a winner was declared. After Villa received an “incorrecto” while spelling the word “PERENDENGUE,” Arreola was able to spell that same word “correcto” and clinched the championship with the word “MAGUEYAL.”



Two students enjoy ice cream after lunch.

Even with Spanish being a mostly phonetic language, students from the 4th to 8th grade are also challenged to spell the words complete with correct diacritical marks, such as accents, *tildes* (ñ) and the *diéresis* (..güe). The students receive a list that is provided to them in the weeks and months prior to the competition, but to add to the excitement, there’s a secret word list that is only unveiled once all of the words from the original

list have been used.

Along with being academic, the Santillana, USA National Spanish Spelling Bee is also a family and cultural event, spanning three days of food, fun and stories. Students were joined by their parents, teachers and individual sponsors. Before the main event at the National Hispanic Cultural Center, the festivities were held at the La Cascada Hotel in Albuquerque. The hotel is home to an indoor water park that everyone was able to enjoy, compliments of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education, which provides the event’s main financial support.



The Contestants

Latin hip-hop/educational artist, GueroLoco, served as the Master of Ceremonies and, along with David Briseño, the founder and coordinator of the Santillana, USA NSSB, they worked together



Judith Villa (Gadsden) spells her word.

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BMEB Selects Task Force for Bilingual Seal

Dr. Icela Pelayo, Director of the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau (BMEB) of the New Mexico Department of Education (NMPED), will select highly qualified members of the education community to serve on the STATE SEAL OF BILINGUALISM-BILITERACY Task Force. Meetings are scheduled for September 19, October 17 and November 14, 2014, from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.

The Seal was created in legislation during the 2014 New Mexico Legislative Session, Rep. Rick Miera was its sponsor.

The State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliter-

acy Task Force determine specific criteria for awarding the Seal on the New Mexico Diploma of Excellence for graduates who are proficient in speaking and writing a language other than English. They will also consider criteria for awarding a seal as well for non-written Native languages. The Task Force will incorporate existing local district and school level Bilingualism-Biliteracy Seal guidance that supports the State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy requirements.

Specifically, the Task Force will:

1) Draft a proposed rule to establish the

specific criteria for students to earn the seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy;

- 2) Set a timeline for districts and state charter schools to begin implementing processes for awarding the Seal;
- 3) Draft a State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy handbook to support districts and state charter schools; and,
- 4) Incorporate current, local-level seal designs to establish a State Seal of Bilingualism-Biliteracy.

The Task Force will be composed of language experts including:

1) Indian na-

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Continued From Page 1 to make this year's event extra special. According to Briseño, "When I first began working to organize a national event, I simply



The Press interviews one of the students.

envisioned a competitive event. It has evolved into much more. It has brought families together as they travel to the Bee and participate in the activities, and most importantly, it has brought together students of various ethnicities and from throughout the country to compete in a Spanish spelling bee."



Parent and student give "thumbs up" for NSSB.

Sponsored by the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education and Santillana USA, the top three spellers were able to make a little extra cash for all of their hard work. The Third Place winner received \$100, Second Place was \$250 and the Grand Prize for the winner was \$500. Champ Andrés Arreola wasn't sure what he would do with his



NMABE Exec. Dir. David Briseño and Master of Ceremonies GueroLoco present a NSSB certificate to a student and her family.

new-found fortune, but this young man is focused on his future, saying that, when he gets older he would like to be a teacher and an academic coach to help students compete in academic competitions. Andrés represents Sunland Park Middle School (Gadsden Independent School District) in New Mexico.

New Mexico, which has a strong history of Bilingual Education, has won the event in all four years since the Bee began. Massachusetts and Oregon had



David Briseño puts the four finalists at ease.

a strong showing as well as California and Texas. The NSSB is looking to expand into as many states as possible, to attract more spellers from around the nation. More information about hosting a Spanish spelling bee at your school or a statewide event is available at [www.](http://www.NationalSpanishSpellingBee.com)



The Champs: First place: (C) Andrés Arreola, (Gadsden, NM); Second Place: (R) Judith Villa (Gadsden, NM); Third Place: Stephanie Leal Arévalo (San Antonio, TX)

NationalSpanishSpellingBee.com or you can contact Mr. Briseño directly at nmabe@suddenlink.net

The 2015 NSSB will again be held in Albuquerque on July 16-18, 2015, with plans on moving the event to San Antonio, Texas in 2016.



El Noticiero

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 38:1 Fall 2013: October
(Back-to-School Edition)

No. 38:2 Winter 2014: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
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No. 38:3 Spring 2014: April
(Spring Conference Edition)

No. 38:4 Summer 2014: July
(Summer Activities)



The New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

TEACHER-CENTERED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

2014 - 2015

NMABE's Professional Development Institutes will center on effective practices for English Learners (ELs). Designed for **any teacher working with ELs** (Bilingual Multicultural Education, Title III, and general curriculum teachers), the institutes will help professionals learn about practices that have been shown to help EL students attain the Common Core Standards and achieve academically. Look for more information in future editions of the NMABE El Noticiero.



PRACTICES THAT WORK FOR ELS

NMABE will feature effective practices that the Bilingual Multicultural Education Bureau has identified in districts and schools which have produced high academic outcomes for its English Learner population. Unique practices found to be effective in each region of the state will be shared with teachers and administrators at both the NMABE Northeast and Southwest Teacher Institutes, scheduled for the Fall of 2014. The registration fee has been reduced to \$125.00 this year!

LITERACY SQUARED®

NMABE's annual Bilingual Educators' Institute is held in conjunction with its annual Bilingual Education Day at the Legislature. Dr. Kathy Escamilla, noted expert in Literacy Squared® (http://literacysquared.org/?page_id=15) will share practices designed to accelerate the development of biliteracy. While designed for Spanish- and English-speaking children, the model posits that literacy

needs to be taught from the linguistic framework of each individual's language. As such, the framework's concepts should be useful for Native American Bilingual Education practitioners as well. The institute will also focus on the new *EL Crosswalk*, which has been designed to augment the NM TEACH evaluation tool, for use by any teacher working with English learners. The registration fee is \$150.00.

LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGES: A BENEFIT FOR ALL

The NMABE 42nd Annual Bilingual Multicultural Education Conference will add a new strand of workshops to its usual ESL/Native American/Bilingual and Dual Language Education/Administrator strand offerings. The new strand will emphasize universal practices that have been shown to enhance learning for English learners. Effective practices for ELs are effective for all students. Invited keynote speakers and featured session invitees are well-recognized experts in effective practice for English learners and Dual Language/Bilingual Education program students. The conference will be held on April 22-25, 2015, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque. Early Bird registration is \$299.



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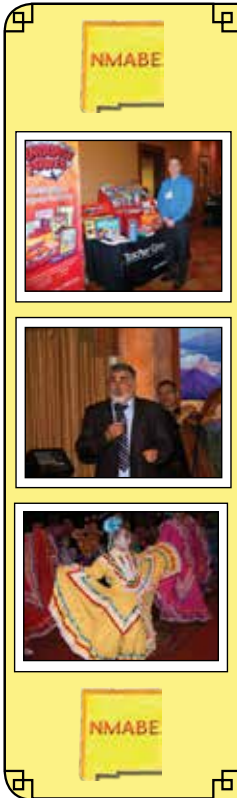
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tions, tribes and pueblos; 2) teachers of world languages; 3) endorsed teachers of bilingual multicultural education; 4) directors of bilingual education;

5) statewide organizations representing language educators, bilingual education, dual language education and teachers of English as a second language;

6) university professors of world languages, heritage languages, Indian languages; and

7) representatives of the State Bilingual Advisory Council, the Indian Education Advisory Council and the Hispanic Education Advisory Council.



NMABE 2015 State Bilingual Multicultural Education Conference

LEARNING THROUGH LANGUAGES: A BENEFIT FOR ALL

April 22-25, 2015 The Embassy Suites Hotel Albuquerque, New Mexico

- Universal practices to enhance learning for English Learners
- ESL/Native American/Bilingual and Dual Language Education/Administrator strand offerings
- Invited Keynote: Dr. Luis Moll, Arizona State University, noted for his work in "Funds of Knowledge"
- Featured sessions with experts in effective practice for English Learners and Dual Language/Bilingual Education program students
- Publishers' Exhibits/Student Entertainment/Hall of Fame Banquet/Presidents' Reception
- April 22-25, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Albuquerque
- Early Bird registration is \$299

For more information, contact NMABE Executive Director David R. Briseño:
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The Task Force will also include a counselor from a high school that awards a local level Bilingualism-Biliteracy Seal.

La Cosecha 2014
19th Annual Dual Language Conference
November 19 - 22, 2014



Join us in Santa Fe, New Mexico, for the 19th Annual *La Cosecha* Conference!
Come share your experience and knowledge as we celebrate the best of our multilingual and multicultural communities!
¡Cosechando lo mejor de nuestra comunidad bilingüe!

2014 Featured Speakers Include:

 Jeff Zwiers Stanford University	 Yvonne Freeman University of Texas, Brownsville	 David Freeman University of Texas, Brownsville	 Cheryl Urow Illinois Resource Center	 Karen Beeman Illinois Resource Center	 Wayne Thomas George Mason University	 Virginia Collier George Mason University
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For the latest conference information and to register visit us online at <http://dlenm.org/lacosecha2014>



La Cosecha is hosted by Dual Language Education of New Mexico
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