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El Noticiero

Newsletter of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education

National Spanish Spelling Bee Plans Underway

In July, 2011, the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) in Albuquerque New Mexico will host the Inaugural National Spanish Spelling Bee, co-sponsored by the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education (NMABE) and the Alliance for Multilingual Multicultural Education (AMME). Estevan Rael-Galvez, Executive Director of the NHCC, is pleased to offer the NHCC for this noteworthy event.

The Bee is modeled after the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education's (NMABE) annual state Spanish Spelling Bee, which completed its 15th annual competition in 2010. David Briseño, Executive Director of the New Mexico Association for Bilingual Education, is leading the effort with the assistance of a local planning group.

The event offers a premier opportunity for ALL Spanish Spelling Bee champs across the nation to showcase their academic control of Spanish orthography. In initiating a local, state or national Spanish spelling bee, the question that inevitably arises is, "Why have a spelling bee in Spanish? Isn't it easy to spell in Spanish?" Spanish orthography can be considered "transparent" because of its almost perfect one-to-one letter-sound correspondence. That fact, however, does not in any way lessen reasons for having a bee. A Spanish bee challenges native and non-native speakers alike to excel in important academic arenas within the language arts. Beyond the act of actually spelling, Spanish diacritical marks are also a challenge for students. It is much more than just memorizing spellings.

As contestants prepare for local and state bees, and now the national bee, they accrue valuable skills for academic learning. For example, they develop dictionary skills as they look up definitions, building greater understanding of the language. Word origins are also analyzed, and since thousands of Spanish words come from Greek, Latin and Arabic, the contestants increase their lexical repertoire to excel in many areas of study, such as math, science, literature, etc. Finally, the bees not only validate and give equity to the Spanish language, but they also contribute greatly to the development of a positive self-image of the contestants.

Maria Hinajosa, host of Latino USA on National Public Radio has agreed to be the Pronouncer. Maria Hinojosa is the President of the Futuro Media Group. In addition, she is the Senior Correspondent for the acclaimed series NOW on PBS, the anchor and managing editor of NPR's Latino USA, and the anchor of her own Emmy Award winning talk show One on One with Maria Hinojosa from WGBH/La Plaza. Hinojosa has won top honors in American journalism including 2 Emmy's, the Robert F. Kennedy Award for Reporting on the Disadvantaged, and the Edward R. Murrow Award from the Overseas Press Club for best documentary for her groundbreaking piece Child Brides: Stolen Lives.

History of the NMABE State Spanish Spelling Bee

The state Spanish Spelling Bee began in 1995 at the annual NMABE state conference. The legwork for the bee, however, had roots in its precursor--a southern regional Spanish spelling bee held in Las Cruces in 1994.

Juan Sánchez, former director of the Gadsden Independent School District Bilingual Education Program, organized it through the incipient Southern Consortium for Bilingual Education to "test the water" for a future statewide contest.

Schedule of Events

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| July 7, 2011 | Participants arrive in Albuquerque |
| July 8, 2011 | Participants enjoy a local entertainment venue during the afternoon followed by dinner |
| July 9, 2011 9:00 a.m. | Bee begins at National Hispanic Cultural Center |
| 7:00 P.M. | Awards Dinner |
| July 10, 2011 | Participants depart Albuquerque |

BECOME A SPONSOR

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| NEW MEXICO TURQUOISE SPONSOR | \$5000 |
| PLATINUM SPONSOR | \$2500 |
| GOLD SPONSOR | \$1000 |
| SILVER SPONSOR | \$750 |
| TWO-TEAM SPONSOR | \$600 |
| ONE-TEAM SPONSOR | \$325 |
| SUPPORTER SPONSOR | \$100 |

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ON WEBSITE: WWW.NMABE.NET

He said, "I believe only six southern districts participated, but the interest was sufficient for me to proceed with plans for the following year at the NMABE conference."

The biggest challenge in the beginning was disseminating information to build interest for it at the local level. A state-wide competition meant local districts would have to hold their own Spanish



El Noticiero

El Noticiero is published monthly by *Language Magazine* and provides information on current affairs concerning the education of language minority persons in New Mexico and the United States.

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2009 - 2010 NMABE BOARD

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PUBLICATION SCHEDULE

No. 34:1 Fall 2009: October
(Conference Edition)

No. 34:2 Winter 2010: January
(Board News, Bilingual Education Day,
Call to Action)

No. 34:3 Spring 2010: April
(Institute Announcements)

No. 34:4 Summer 2010: July
(Summer Activities)

Monthly Inserts/Wraps with Language Magazine

15th Annual Dual Language Conference

La Cosecha 2010

November 17-20, 2010
Santa Fe Convention Center
Santa Fe, New Mexico



La Fonda Headquarter Hotel

November 19th
Dance Celebration
with three time
Grammy award
winners:



Little Joe y La Familia

Featured Speakers

- Jenni DeGroat
- Barbara Flores
- Mary Capellini
- Stanley Lucero
- Elena Izquierdo
- Kathy Escamilla
- Consuelo Kickbusch
- Michael Guerrero
- Virginia Collier
- Wayne Thomas
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www.lacosecha.dlenm.org

spelling bees so that they could send a district champion to the state bee. New Mexico's Northern and Southern Consortia for Bilingual Education encouraged and set up local bees. The first year, NMABE had about 15 district Spanish Spelling Bee champions who competed in the state Spanish Spelling Bee.

"I always tried to make the contest as fair and equitable as possible so the judges could not be associated with any public schools. Thus, I selected the most highly qualified Spanish language experts from New Mexico's universities to represent the entire state. They were: Western New Mexico University - Dr. Patricia Cano; New Mexico Highlands University - Dr. Loretta Salazar; Eastern New Mexico University - Dr. Julia Rosa López Emslie; the University of New Mexico - Dr. Federico Carrillo; New Mexico State University - Dr. Cecilia Pino," said Sánchez. Dr. López Emslie was the first pronouncer and has continued in this role to the present time.

The first spelling booklet was developed from a list of words used in the Gadsden Independent School District (GISD) which had been conducting its own bee for over 20 years. The booklet had been updated every year by replacing about 20% of the words with new ones. The Southern Consortium for Bilingual Education helped revise the rules and regulations for a state-level competition. Master copies of the booklet were sent to all school districts for reproduction and use at the local level. NMABE presently handles this task. In 2009, with the assistance of the Spanish Resource Center in Albuquerque, NMABE compiled a new spelling list consisting of 7,000 words.

Present Supporters

The Spanish Resource Center in Albuquerque has been a sound supporter of the NMABE Spanish Spelling Bee for the past three years and is on the planning committee. The Education Office of the Embassy of Spain in Washington, D.C. is currently disseminating the information

about the National Bee to all its offices throughout the United States.

- *Language Magazine*, friend to all professionals involved in language education and to all who believe in the power of multilingualism, has partnered with NMABE.
- Dual language Education of New



NORTHWEST REGIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTE



HARVESTING SEEDS OF LEARNING

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2010
CATE CENTER
FARMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS
8:00 A.M. – 4:30 P.M.

**COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
AND BOX LUNCH**

**INFORMATIVE OPENING AND LUNCHEON
SPEAKER**

TOPICS

- NATIVE LANGUAGE LITERACY
- NM ELD STANDARDS
- PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT
- STUDENT MOTIVATION
- CLASSROOM MANAGEMENT
- ACADEMIC LANGUAGE
- CULTURE AND LANGUAGE AS A PLUS IN THE CLASSROOM

EXHIBITORS

DOOR PRIZES

REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE CONDUCTED ONLY ON-LINE. YOU CAN USE A PURCHASE ORDER, A DISTRICT PURCHASING CARD OR A PERSONAL CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD TO PAY FOR YOUR REGISTRATION FEE. FOLLOW THIS LINK TO REGISTER FOR THE NMABE NORTHWEST INSTITUTE: [HTTP://WWW.ACTEVA.COM/GO/NMABE](http://www.acteva.com/go/nmabe)

REGISTRATION COSTS

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| SCHOOL PERSONNEL: | \$ 75 |
| PARENTS: | \$ 35 |
| STUDENTS: | \$ 15 |

THE NORTHWEST REGIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN INSTITUTE IS SPONSORED BY THE NEW MEXICO ASSOCIATION FOR BILINGUAL EDUCATION

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CELL: 505-238-6812

Mexico (DLeNM) is on the planning committee and advocating participation locally and nationally .

As the NMABE planning group solicits public and private support, it is important to remember that you, too, can be a part of history by supporting the students, their parents, teachers and schools across the nation who believe in and advocate for bilingualism for all! Levels of support range from the \$100 level to the \$5,000 level. Consider supporting the bee as an individual at the \$100 level. Your name will be listed in the Spelling Bee program, in the Power Point presentation at the Bee and your company logo will be on the Bee Website. More importantly, you will be helping young students across the nation to compete in this noteworthy, first-of-its-kind, scholarly contest.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW FOR THIS HISTORIC EVENT! Spread the word and build support in your district among school personnel, board members and parents. Build your students' spelling skills in Spanish and encourage them to prepare themselves to compete in this first-ever event! The winners of the New Mexico State Spanish Spelling Bee in April will compete in the national competition in July, 2011.



NORTHEAST REGIONAL NMABE INSTITUTE

UNLEASHING THE POTENTIAL OF NATIVE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT

SEPTEMBER 11, 2010
OHKAY CASINO/RESORT HOTEL
ESPANOLA NM
8:00 A.M. TO 4:00 P.M.

KEYNOTE DR. KATHY ESCAMILLA

REGISTRATION: \$75.00

**COMPLIMENTARY CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST
AND FULL LUNCH**

TOPICS

- PRUEBA: TIPS AND STRATEGIES
- USING DICHOS, COPLAS, TRABALENGUAS TO ENCOURAGE NATIVE LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT
- SPANISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS
- HISTORY OF BILINGUAL EDUCATION
- ACKNOWLEDGE OUR NATIVE LANGUAGE TO EMPOWER ACADEMIC GROWTH
- TEACHING SPANISH TO NATIVE/HERITAGE LANGUAGE LEARNERS

REGISTRATION FOR THIS EVENT WILL BE CONDUCTED ONLY ONLINE. YOU CAN USE A PURCHASE ORDER, A DISTRICT PURCHASING CARD OR A PERSONAL CREDIT OR DEBIT CARD TO PAY FOR YOUR REGISTRATION FEE. FOLLOW THIS LINK TO REGISTER FOR THE NMABE NORTHEAST INSTITUTE: [HTTP://WWW.ACEVA.COM/GO/NMABE](http://www.aceva.com/go/nmabe)

REGISTRATION COST: \$75

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