

# L'Élan

Bulletin de la Société Honoraire de Français et des Jeunes Amis du Français

**AUTOMNE 2018**  
**SERIE 46 NO. 1**

***Dans ce numéro....***

<i>Lettre de la présidente.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>New This Year!.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Announcements.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Headquarters Report.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Travel Award Reflections.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>La Bourse aux Idées.....</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Council Minutes.....</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Constitutional Issues.....</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>Elections.....</i>	<i>20</i>
<i>Calendar.....</i>	<i>21</i>

**Présidente:** Abbe Guillet

**Représentants:**

Andrea Isabelli

Justin F. Charles

**Secrétaire:** Christy Brown

[shf@frenchteachers.org](mailto:shf@frenchteachers.org)

**Rédactrice en chef:**

Roseann D. Lorefice

[aatfelan@gmail.com](mailto:aatfelan@gmail.com)

*Sous la plume de la présidente....*

## **Chers Collègues,**

Early this summer, as I was reading through all the old editions of the Élan, I found, in the December 1973 edition, the winner of the publication's name contest: Emma Blanch. She chose the name: « L'Élan » because the animal is *toujours sautant, galopant pour faire mieux. On peut dire que l'élan est significatif de nos membres qui doivent avancer, même faire des sauts dans l'étendue du progrès mondial.* Emma was born in Belgium and taught French in Amity Senior High School and West Haven Senior High School in Connecticut until her retirement in 1980. She passed away in 2004. To think that she chose the name for a publication that you are reading in 2018 is an amazing legacy, and it symbolizes for me what I want for SHF, looking forward without forgetting all that our sponsors have done in the past.

As you complete these tiring first few weeks of school, please know how much we appreciate all that you do, above and beyond, for your students. You truly are those *élans*.

It was a joy to meet some of you in Martinique, and we hope that you gleaned at least one new idea for your

*Sous la plume...suite*

chapter from our station-to-station presentation. We will be sharing the many ideas over the course of the year for those of you unable to attend.

This year, our goals are to continue to refine our online communication, whether it be on Facebook, here in the *Élan*, our three contests, the Annual Report, and to reach out to middle school French teachers to encourage them to either start a chapter of *Jeunes Amis du Français* or to help them connect with other sponsors. High school teachers, please add this request to your department meeting agendas and let us know if we can be of some assistance.

We hope that you enjoy this edition of the *Élan*. We thank those generous teachers who took time out of their summer vacation to contribute to our resourceful *Bourse aux Idées*, and we look forward to serving you during the year.

*Bonne rentrée!*

*Abbe*

---

## **What's New This Year in SHF / JAF**

- A new contest, Creative Writing, especially for students in *Jeunes Amis du Français*.
- An earlier deadline for the Travel Award: Tuesday, January 8, 2019
- Students studying in a domestic immersion program are now eligible to apply for the Travel Award.
- When evaluating travel programs for the Travel Award, only the length of time the student will be in a francophone country will be considered.



**Please join us as one of the over 700 members of our page on Facebook page!**

Members of this group share ideas for activities for their chapter, such as National French Week celebrations, induction ceremonies, chapter service, and fundraising activities. Please feel free to use French or English, as you prefer.

**You asked, we listened**

Last year on Facebook, one of the repeat posts was concerning an induction script, especially for schools who hold joint inductions with the honor societies of the other languages offered in the school. We thank Stephanie Guillet Gonzalez who contributed the script from the Dobbs Ferry Middle School joint induction (French-Spanish-Italian) available [here](#) and Regina Symonds who contributed the script from the Triton High School joint induction ceremony (French-Spanish). available [here](#). (*Editor's note: induction scripts will appear in downloads.*)

**Important: Our name is SHF**

Pi Delta Phi is the French National Honor Society for college and university undergraduate and graduate students. During past years, Pi Delta Phi has had to ask Facebook chapters of SHF and high school SHF chapter web pages to cease using the name: French National Honor Society, Pi Delta Phi, their Greek letters ( $\pi\Delta\phi$ ), and/or their images to represent SHF. We do not have the right to make use of their name or symbols. Merci beaucoup!



## ALL ABOUT CHAPTERS AND SPONSORS

The SHF charter is linked to your school. If you become the new sponsor of an existent SHF charter (chapter), you need not reapply for a charter; simply contact Christy Brown ([shf@frenchteachers.org](mailto:shf@frenchteachers.org)) to inform her of the change in sponsorship. If however, you left a school where you were the sponsor of a chapter to begin working in a new school that has never had a charter, you must apply for a charter for that school.

### What sponsors need to do to retain an active chapter status

First of all, a sponsor must be a member of AATF. For a charter to be considered active, a sponsor must submit an annual report each year by June 30<sup>th</sup> and pay a one-time induction fee for each student inducted, at least once every two years. Ordering materials for students for whom induction fees were not paid does not fulfill the requirement. If these requirements are not met, a charter shall be considered inactive. To regain active status, the sponsor must re-submit an application accompanied by a charter reactivation fee.



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### SHF Travel Award 2019

*La Société Honoraire de Français* is delighted to once again offer a generous \$1,000 Travel Award to an outstanding French student who is an active member of SHF to help defray the cost of travel in a formal program during the current academic year or the following summer. It should be understood that, given the

**January 8, 2019 (23h59)** application deadline, the award may arrive after the final payment for the trip is due. All applications and supporting documents must be submitted electronically; they are time-stamped and must be received by the deadline. Teachers must be members of AATF and chapters must be active by this deadline. Note that all directions are available on the AATF website, [www.frenchteachers.org/shf/travelaward](http://www.frenchteachers.org/shf/travelaward). New this year: (1) the inclusion for eligibility of domestic immersion programs and (2) only the portion of the trip in a francophone country will be considered.



## Creative Writing Contest 2019 for members of the *Société Honoraire de Français*

Once again, student entries will be divided into two categories: Category A (Levels 2 and 3) and Category B (Levels 4 through 6). Native speakers may enter; we ask only that you note them as such. Teachers should not correct student essays as comprehensible errors are not taken into consideration. All submissions must be submitted electronically; they are time-stamped and must

be received by the deadline, **February 1, 2019 (23h59)**. Teachers must be members of AATF and chapters must be active by this deadline. Note that the application and all directions are available on the AATF website, [www.frenchteachers.org/shf/creativewriting](http://www.frenchteachers.org/shf/creativewriting)

First, Second, and Third place winners will receive \$100; their entries, as well as any Honorable Mentions, will appear in the Spring Élan. All students receive a participation certificate in a national contest.

**The topic** for this year's writing competition is:

*Une histoire inspirée d'un tableau d'un artiste du mouvement impressionniste français.*

- Choisissez une personne dans un tableau et racontez son histoire! Utilisez "je".
- Il faut donner un titre à votre histoire et ajouter une reproduction du tableau en couleur avec le nom du tableau, l'artiste, et le musée, la ville et le pays (tout en français!) où il se trouve.
- Sur le tableau, indiquez le personnage que vous incarnez.

## **REPORT FROM HEADQUARTERS**

Christy Brown, our secretary, is pleased to report the following activity for our groups:

ACTIVE SHF CHARTERS: 1725

New SHF Charters: 1

Total SHF Charters: 3693

ACTIVE JAF CHARTERS: 38

New JEA Charters: 1

Total JEA Charters: 64

ORDERS FILLED LAST YEAR: 2276

81 banners

8193 honor cords

527 JAF inductions

22,148 SHF inductions

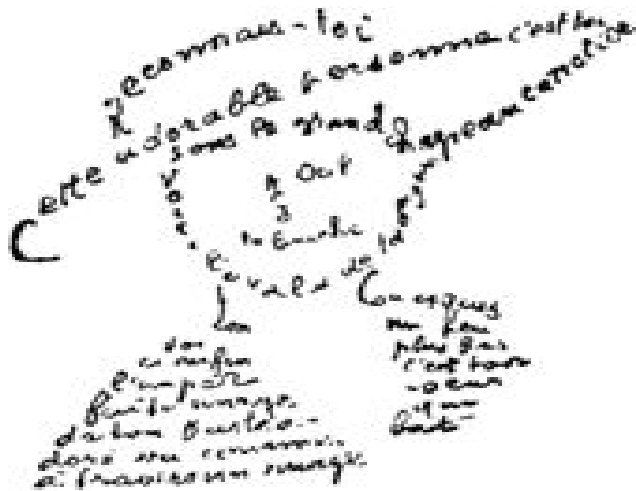


**ANNUAL REPORTS RECEIVED: 1725**

# NEW! NEW! NEW!

## Creative Writing Contest 2019 for members of the *Jeunes Amis du Français*

This new contest is open to all middle-school members of the *Jeunes Amis du Français*. Native speakers may enter; we ask only that you note them as such. Teachers should not correct student entries as comprehensible errors are not taken into consideration. All submissions must be submitted electronically; they are time-stamped and must be received by the deadline, **Tuesday, December 4, 2018** (23h59). Teachers must be members of AATF and chapters must be active by this deadline. Note that the application and all directions are available on the AATF website, [www.frenchteachers.org/shf/creativewriting](http://www.frenchteachers.org/shf/creativewriting) First, Second, and Third place winners will receive \$25; their entries, as well as any Honorable Mentions, will appear in the Spring Élan **Watch**: “The Poet Who Painted With His Words - Geneviève Emy” <https://youtu.be/YJ0x1Y0uMwQ> to learn the history of Guillaume Apollinaire and the poem-picture, written portrait, thoughts-drawing in his *calligrammes* such as this:



Reconnais-toi  
Cette adorable personne c'est toi  
Sous le grand chapeau canotier  
Oeil  
Nez  
La Bouche  
Voici l'ovale de ta figure  
Ton cou esquis  
Voici enfin l'imparfaite image  
de ton buste adoré  
vu comme à travers un nuage  
Un peu plus bas c'est ton cœur qui bat

***WRITE A CALLIGRAMME!***

## 2018 SHF TRAVEL AWARD REFLECTIONS

*(editor's note: We are delighted to share some of the reflections of the twelve recipients of the \$1000 SHF Travel Award.)*

### **Lily Bannister, student of Monique Goodrow-Trach, of Medfield, MA**



My trip to the Tufts University European Center in Talloires, France was unforgettable. This experience has only strengthened my love of learning French. Because I was living with a host family for a month, I developed a first-hand appreciation for the daily life and culture. Although challenging at times, it was amazing to be speaking French all the time when I was home. If I did not know the exact word I was looking for, I had to quickly think of ways to explain my

thoughts in other ways. I would tell students who are travelling abroad to take the time to keep a journal. Because I kept a journal of what I did each day and more importantly how I felt about my experiences, I will be able to read about my experiences so that I don't forget them.

### **Margaret Elliott, student of Mary Townsend, of Kettering, OH**

One of my favorite parts of this experience was unplanned – on the train from Paris. I sat next to a very sweet, old French man, who told me about the towns and landscapes we passed as we made our way to Nice. To future recipients of this award, I would say to not be scared to try new foods and new experiences and go with the flow. No textbook or video can truly capture the experience and excitement of visiting another country.

### **Sophia Sanico, student of John Daniel, of Monterey, CA**

This experience has definitely changed what I think about French language and culture. I've realized that learning a new language is not about memorizing new words and phrases so that you can translate, but rather learning how to think and understand in the language without the need to translate every word.

### **Carmen Folsom, student of Jane Weaver, of Nashville, TN**

This trip has been the greatest experience of my life so far and I am beyond thankful to have had this opportunity to travel to France, experience firsthand the French culture, build new relationships, and further my knowledge of the language.



**Lauren Hulshof, student of Jodi Johnson, of Overland Park, KS**

Moments of dancing in front of the Saint Michel fountain, discussing books while eating ice cream along the Seine are inescapable. But the moments spent doubting myself, quiet while my host sister rapidly talked with her friends, and fighting exhaustion are inescapable too. We must face troubles to truly comprehend happiness. Languages are painstakingly difficult and traveling abroad can be terrifying, but with an open mind and heart, the world can be yours to explore and enjoy. French to me is no longer a class filled with grammar and listening tests, it's a preparation course for my future, a crucial course that teaches one how to deeply connect with another human regardless of native tongues.

**Karley LaBenne, student of Jacqueline Prugar, of Ridgway, PA**

We spent the last couple of days touring le Mont Saint Michel and the cathedral of Chartres. The labyrinth and the stain glass of Chartres were mesmerizing, and I loved exploring the many rooms and locations in le Mont Saint Michel. Out of all the locations that we visited, I believe that these two were the most wonderful because I thoroughly enjoyed learning about their religious and historical significance as well as admiring their sheer beauty. It was so cool to travel around and to hear people actually speak French after so many years of hearing the language only in the classroom. This visit definitely increased my interest in the language and in the idea of pursuing French after high school.

**Mirna Maldonado, student of Tiffani Jones, of Washington, DC**

This trip has helped ground the person that I am today and has been a life-changing experience. While abroad, you become more open-minded as you are exposed to cultures and customs that are different from yours, but this cultural awareness is important to have throughout life. Overall, it is important to travel and understand what makes you all different, but most importantly, what makes you all the same.

**Caitlin Martens, student of Amanda Liska, of Rochester Hills, MI**

Seeing the Eiffel Tower at night, glowing gold and glittering in little lights, while eating the best crêpe in Paris was one of the most memorable parts of the whole trip. Looking back on it, the whole thing seems like a dream. I did so many new things, met so many people, and ate so many new foods. It was absolutely incredible. After experiencing such an amazing trip, I'm way more appreciative of the education I've received, as I was successfully able to communicate with all of the people I met, whether it was in a shop or with kids my age. I'm more confident in my French skills because of this, and more passionate to learn more.



**Natalie Regan, student of Cathy Kendrigan of Wilmette, IL**

This trip has changed the way I feel about the study of French. I now have a revitalized passion for the language and a fortified desire to achieve proficiency so that I can continue to expand my perception of the world. Maintaining a sense of wonder and curiosity about new places that suddenly surround you is essential if you are to get the most out of the experience.

**Shawn Siler, student of Stephanie Hill, of Kalispell, MT**

Throughout my stay in Grenoble, I learned so much culture and history. This only increased my desire to explore new places and learn more about the world outside of Montana. This family stay immensely changed my feelings towards the study of French. I feel as though through this experience I have taught myself how to fully apply the skills I have learned in three years, making the subject feel less like a class, and more real life applicable, as well as greatly increasing my interest in the French language and culture. There are so many things to learn from being abroad and an abundance of incredible people to meet. Keeping an open mind and an open heart is key.

**McKenna Thurber, student of Caroline Jones, of Woodland Hills, CA**

Being able to experience French history and culture, outside of a textbook, helped me to not only truly understand it, but truly appreciate it as well. Speaking the language was the most gratifying experience of the trip, and I encourage all future recipients of this scholarship to take advantage of any opportunity they can to ameliorate their French.

**Carson Timmons, student of Alexis Savas, of Lone Tree, CO**

This trip was truly life-changing for me. I have realized the true scope of the world and the enormous amount of people in it. It has inspired me to keep studying French and study more vigorously than I was before.



# *La Bourse aux Idées*

*editor's note: Submissions of chapter events have been solicited from various SHF and JAF chapters around the country based upon their Annual Reports. Those posted here represent responses from chapter sponsors to share new ideas and activities with colleagues. Information and requirements on how to submit text and photos can be obtained by contacting the editor at [aatfelan@gmail.com](mailto:aatfelan@gmail.com)*

## **Love Wall**

CHAPTER: Nazareth Academy HS  
LOCATION: LaGrange, IL  
SCHOOL SIZE: 763  
SPONSOR: Elizabeth Balge

As National Foreign Language Week rolled around, I wanted to engage my students in an all-school project. Our school had recently committed to a goal of celebrating diversity and we were able to incorporate contributions from the entire student body in a project while celebrating the diversity of the Francophone world.

In class, students were introduced to the original Love Wall, located in a small park in Montmartre. They learned about the artists' intentions in creating this wall, which is covered in hand-painted messages of love in over 300 languages.

Monday of NFLW, French students hung our version of the Love Wall. A large sheet of black paper with abstract red shapes attached, it hung in the main entrance to the school where every one of our students would pass by during the day. With help from students, I began adding a few words of love in the languages taught at our school—French, Italian, and Spanish. Next to the wall, we hung a student-written explanation of the original Love Wall, the artists' intentions, and a photo of the original in Paris. That morning, a student read an introduction to the project over the morning announcements, as well as an invitation to students, faculty, and staff to contribute words of love in the languages they know and speak. We collected these responses (over 100!) via a Google form. This allowed screening of the submissions for any inappropriate words. The Love Wall filled with the languages of our community during the week.

Morning announcements continued each day with interesting facts about la Francophonie, and a reminder that more submissions were welcome. In the end, we had a full Love Wall in a public place in our school. Students, faculty, and parents were thrilled to see the community engagement we had created, in celebration of the diverse francophone world.

## **Art Scavenger Hunt**

CHAPTER: Immaculata High School  
LOCATION: Somerville, NJ  
SCHOOL SIZE: 500  
SPONSOR: Gale Benn

This year for National French Week, the Immaculata High School chapter of *Société Honoraire de Français* chose to highlight the work of Fernand Léger. We created a gallery of his work in the media center and conducted an art “scavenger hunt”. Each student was given a handout entitled - *Trouvez le tableau où il y a....* (for example) *une femme qui porte une robe bleue*. Students then match the clue to the painting with the woman in the blue dress and write the letter assigned to that painting on the handout. This works well at all levels of study as clues can be easy for beginners and more difficult for advanced students. Students then share which painting they liked the best. We also include biographical information about the artist.

## **HELP FOR HAITI!**

CHAPTER: Rumson-Fair Haven Regional HS

LOCATION: Rumson, NJ

SCHOOL SIZE:900

SPONSOR: Christine Berg

The French Bulldawgs at Rumson-Fair Haven Regional High School are a relatively small chapter with big aspirations. We dedicate our efforts every year to improving the lives of the people of Haiti through our work with the Haitian People's Support Project. Click [here](#).

The week before Thanksgiving, my students organize what has become a popular event at our school every fall. We sponsor a 3 -on – 3 basketball tournament called “Hoops for Haiti”. Each player pays \$10 to participate. We create brackets and each team plays five-minute games until there are only two left. The winning team receives “Hoops for Haiti Champion” t-shirts and gift certificates to a local French café.

This year, we used funds raised to help bring electricity to a village in Haiti that has been without power since Hurricane Matthew hit two years ago. Learning that solar panel projects have been successfully undertaken in several African countries we consulted with one of our contacts there and determined that the best use would be to purchase two generator/solar panel units. These would power a community center in the village.

We contacted *EcoFlow Technology*, and the Director of Business Operations gave us a generous discount on the two units and additional accessories at no charge. He was very enthusiastic about our project and informed us that EcoFlow ([www.ecoflowtech.com](http://www.ecoflowtech.com)) was in the process of developing technologies specifically for countries like Haiti, where access to power is limited. We promised to keep in touch and plan our next project together!

## **French Storytime**

CHAPTER: Mount Vernon HS

LOCATION: Mount Vernon, WA

SCHOOL SIZE:1038

SPONSOR: Jennifer Bishop

Each year the fourth-year Mount Vernon High School French students host French Storytime at the local public library. Storytime happens in early November as part of our celebration of *La Semaine du Français*. It is also a part of students' culminating first quarter project.

At the beginning of the school year, fourth year students review grammar and read *La grammaire est une chanson douce* . A portion of the unit includes students choosing their favorite childhood storybook and creating their own version in French. Students then create their own “big book” with their translation and their own illustrations. This acts as the base for that year's Storytime..

In addition, students create a mini-lesson based on their “big books” and share them with children in the program. Students do preparation and research to create activities linked to their stories. This usually involves games and short francophone songs and students even create a coloring page for attendees. While the fourth-year class oversees Storytime, students in French 1-3 and French Club members also help to organize the event. This experience is an opportunity for all our French students to leverage their creativity, practice their French, and expose a younger generation to a new language .



## Haiti Orphanage Help

CHAPTER: Utica Academy for International Studies

LOCATION: Sterling Heights, MI

SCHOOL SIZE:400

SPONSOR: Mary Blain

While I believe that it is extremely important to prepare my students well for their high stakes IB exams, I also firmly believe that they need to be compassionate and caring citizens of the world. With this goal in mind then, I reached out to a local sports writer, author and radio personality who oversees the operation of an orphanage in Port-au-Prince, Haiti.

I appealed to my students with photos and biographies of these children. Many were abandoned at birth, left in a field to die, or dropped off at a police station. Several others lost their parents in the earthquake of 2010. Their stories are heartbreaking; their resilience heartwarming. We all fell in love with them.

For the last two years, we have been hosting crêpe sales during our lunch hours, usually two per semester. French students donate the crêpe batter, Nutella, fruit fillings, whipped cream, paper plates, napkins etc. Students sign up to make or fill the crêpe, take money or keep the line moving and organized. We publicize the crepe sale with posters around our small school, PA and cafeteria announcements, and our school newsletter. We inform our school community that 100% of their donation goes to help feed, educate and contribute medical care to these 40 children.

The line to purchase crêpe on “crêpe days” is very long, and students have become very efficient in the process. We sell the crêpe for one dollar, but often students donate more. In the span of 50 minutes or two lunch periods, we usually average around \$500.

In April 2017, I was able to visit the HAVE FAITH HAITI Mission and meet the children we help. Meeting those children, seeing the need and how far our dollars go, has changed me. I will dedicate the rest of my career to helping those sweet children .





## Childhood Cancer Fundraiser

CHAPTER: Billerica Memorial HS

LOCATION: Billerica, MA

SCHOOL SIZE:1200

SPONSOR: Terri-Anne Bynoe

One of the most remarkable moments of the 2017-2018 academic year for *La Société Honoraire de Français* was our collaboration with the Spanish and Italian honor societies for a childhood cancer fundraiser.

Before the SHF involvement, the Spanish National Honor Society sponsor held a Childhood Cancer fundraiser. Most staff and students dressed in gold and some made donations. As soon as the school started last year, she approached the sponsors of the French and Italian Honor Societies as well as her own group to see if there was interest in joining together for the fundraiser. All the honor societies were on board and the students took the fundraiser and ran with it.

The fundraiser is a friendly competition among the grades. We assigned each grade a golden boot and students donated their pocket change into their assigned boot during lunch for one week. The grade with the most money at the end of the week won the golden opportunity to pie the principal and other teachers in the face! Our honor society officers created excitement among the student body, collected money during lunches and counted it all at the end of the week.

Together, the students raised \$2817.06 for Childhood Cancer; the most successful year for this fundraiser. We need more Childhood Cancer Awareness in our schools and in our world. We need to GO GOLD every September for Childhood Cancer.



## Café des Artistes

CHAPTER: Roy C. Ketcham HS

LOCATION: Wappinger Falls, NY

SCHOOL SIZE:2000

SPONSOR: Diane Gueren

Although this was our chapter's first year, we enjoyed great success with a fundraiser for *Médecins Sans Frontières*. We called it "Café des Artistes" and sponsored it on a Saturday afternoon in May. We contacted several painting companies, but chose one, "Hudson Valley Drip and Sip" that didn't require a deposit and had a reasonable cost of \$20 per participant.

Allison, the artist, created a simplified version of "Nuit Etoilée." She brought all the necessary materials and walked us through the painting. Some of our members who didn't paint worked as waiters and brought food and drinks to the various tables. We sold 20 tickets and raised \$300.

It was a great way to raise money while having fun. It was the perfect way to spend a Saturday afternoon with families and friends and support a worthy cause.



## National Foreign Language Week

CHAPTER: Stoneham Central Middle School

LOCATION: Stoneham, MA

SCHOOL SIZE: 687

SPONSOR: Valerie Hays

Every spring during National Foreign Language Week, I collaborate with my students to promote French in our school and to boost enrollment numbers for the following year. This year, we started with a display case outside of our main office filled with their work: posters about Francophone language and culture, 3-D models of iconic Parisian monuments, and posters focusing on aspects of French culture.

We also set up a table in the cafeteria with information about French and what we do in our classes. Current students designed promotional brochures with information about why French is useful and important. Incoming students had the opportunity to meet me (the only French teacher in the school) and ask me questions about my classes. We also handed out pencils and stickers with French slogans. Students loved picking out sticky-note compliments (en français, of course!) from a French “compliment board” that my older students designed. They wrote simple compliments (tu es drôle, tu es sympa, tu es intelligent(e), etc.) and anyone passing by was invited to take one.

On the final day of our week celebrating French, I asked any faculty member who speaks French to wear a “Je parle français” sticker to spark conversations among teachers and students. Students were interested to know who speaks French, and our resident Francophiles were proud to show off their skills!



## Enseignement des jeunes

CHAPTER: Seacrest Country Day School

LOCATION: Naples, FL

SCHOOL SIZE: 350

SPONSOR: Sylvie Lucki

Afin de conclure le premier semestre de l’année mi-janvier, mes étudiants de second cycle (9-12) organisent, tous les ans, la « matinée de la francophonie » pour les élèves de PK 3-8. Après avoir divisé le jardin de l’école en plusieurs kiosques, ils installent tables et chaises pour les spectateurs et participants.

Chaque groupe de 3-4 lycéens choisit et prépare pendant trois semaines des activités en français facile à comprendre, surtout pour les petits. En voici quelques exemples :

- Un spectacle de 10-15 minutes en français très simple,

- Des jeux (pétanque, marelle...)
- Des lectures de livres pour enfants,
- Des tatouages (drapeaux français, tours Eiffel...) et peintures sur visage,
- Des dégustations variées (frites à la poutine, madeleines avec Nutella, couscous, tartes...) avec des menus originaux.

Pendant que les lycéens restent à leur poste, les collégiens et les petits défilent par groupes de 6-8 maximum de kiosque en kiosque. Ils y restent environ 15-20 minutes pour éviter toute confusion dans la foule ! Nous avons remarqué que le kiosque le plus fréquenté était celui des tatouages et peintures, donc nous en avons créé plusieurs.

Les collégiens et lycéens doivent parler français en fonction de leur niveau (par exemple prendre une commande ou commander un dessert, ou encore expliquer un jeu aux petits). À la fin de la matinée, nous donnons des crayons, autocollants, porte-clés (Tours Eiffel en général) et quelques bonbons/chocolats français, suisses ou belges à chaque participant pour les remercier.

L’école doit fournir les crayons, les autocollants, les tatouages, la peinture, les porte-clés commandés sur des sites internet, mais nous demandons aux parents de préparer et d’apporter les desserts, bonbons, frites, tartes etc...

Bien entendu, nous invitons les familles et les administrateurs à prendre des photos pour le magazine, et ainsi faire de la publicité pour mon programme. Notre « matinée francophone » est ouverte à toute l’école et fait partie des traditions de Seacrest Country Day.

## [International Francophone Day Celebration](#)

CHAPTER: Rocky Hill School

LOCATION: East Greenwich, RI

SCHOOL SIZE: 300

SPONSOR: Eléna Rich

Last year, the French teachers and students at our school decided to organize a *Journée Internationale de la Francophonie* in order to share a little bit of the Francophone cultures with our community. We wanted this event to be fun and to engage as many members of our high school as possible.

The agenda was mainly designed by the students taking French who came up with various activities to run throughout the day.

The week prior to our event, each advisory (our version of homeroom) in our high school was assigned a francophone country and provided with cultural resources (e.g. music, art) from that country. Each advisory was encouraged to create artwork illustrating their country and to display their work outside of their classrooms. The day of our celebration, the whole high school was decorated and we were ready to go!

To kick off our *Journée Internationale de la Francophonie*, students gathered in our meeting space and we played a pronunciation game. Each grade was represented by a small group of non-French students (there was also a faculty team!), who were given particularly difficult French words to try to pronounce. The French teachers had to guess what the words were. If the teachers guessed correctly, the pronouncing team would get a point; the team with the most points at the end won! It was a fun and engaging game and all had fun trying to pronounce words (*chirurgie* and *œil* were particular hits) that looked impossible to read.

Throughout the day, we also organized a *crêpe* sale (with proceeds going to Women's Refugee Care in Providence, an organization our French III students had worked with this year), a francophone lunch, and various afternoon activities students could sign up for (e.g. a soccer tournament with francophone teams, French karaoke, French board games, francophone cooking, and art workshops). The day ended with a screening of *Les Intouchables*. We are already planning our next *Journée Internationale de la Francophonie*, and we're hoping to extend the festivities to include our Lower and Middle Schools, as well.



## [Scavenger Hunt](#)

CHAPTER: Triton HS

LOCATION: Byfield, MS

SCHOOL SIZE: 800

SPONSOR: Regina Symonds

Un grand merci to Karen from Waterford Union High School in Waterford, Wisconsin, who shared her *National French Week Scavenger Hunt* idea in the Fall 2017 edition of L'Élan! ([click here](#), page 8).

Triton High School French students discovered the many French Connections of their teachers, guidance counselors, secretaries, and administrators during National French Week 2017. Thanks to Karen's willingness to share, and thanks to the *Société Honoraire de Français'* wonderful publication L'Élan, students and staff alike enhanced relationships and shared stories about the beautiful French Language and Culture

More fun facts [here](#).

Karen's Survey as adapted for Triton is [here](#).



## **Teaching Elementary Students**

CHAPTER: Johns Creek HS  
LOCATION: Johns Creek, GA  
SCHOOL SIZE: 2100  
SPONSOR: Roya Schweinbeck

At our high school, one of our most prized service projects is [G16] our biweekly State Bridge Elementary School Lesson Plans Project. Success has been due to consistent and devoted member participation regardless of credit hours. Before each visit, the executive board our SHF creates a simple lesson plan teachable to second graders, seven to eight years old. Our members then glance at the day's topic and gather in the second grade hallway to be split into groups of three to five members. Then, the lesson begins.

We try to make the lesson plans as engaging as possible, ensuring that all of the students have fun. We begin by presenting the vocabulary terms with a picture. The students then repeat the correct pronunciation of the words so that they will be able to correlate the picture to the terms.

Finally, after repeating the vocabulary sufficiently, we start the lighthearted competition, where the students try to match the spoken term to the picture faster than their opponent, providing both an educational and enlightening experience .



## **Tricycle Relay Race**

CHAPTER: Trinity Episcopal School  
LOCATION: Richmond, VA  
SCHOOL SIZE: 500  
SPONSOR: Julie Urena

Each spring, we sponsor the Tour de Trinity Tricycle Relay race [G19] . This school-wide event raises money for the World Bicycle Relief fund, an organization that provides sturdy Buffalo bikes for people living in developing countries, (<https://worldbicyclerelief.org/en/>). Each bike costs about \$150.00 and we usually raise enough money to buy one or two.

The race gets its inspiration from the *Tour de France* but we use tricycles instead of bikes and ride around a designated track while our fans cheer us on. For the race, we need at least eight sturdy Radio Flyer tricycles which parents have donated over the years. Another possible source is Goodwill stores.

We set a date and time, usually during lunch, and make announcements at school. School clubs, athletic teams, friends and even teachers have formed teams in the past. Each team consists of four bikes, makes up a team name and donates at least \$20.00 to participate. They also dress in fun or silly spirit wear. For example, the swim team called themselves Poseidon and wore goggles, snorkels and bathing suits over their clothes. The Spanish team wore sombreros and ponchos and called themselves the Sombreros. Even the football team participated!



A sportscaster (student) commentates the event over a mic and speaker. The race takes place in the school parking lot, but it can be held anywhere. Like a relay race, bikers ride around the track and switch off at designated spots. Since there are 16 teams and eight trikes, there are two rounds. The two winners ride against each other in a third and final round that determines the winner of the race. The winning team receives the coveted Maillots Jaunes. The team who has the best spirit wins a huge jar of Nutella. Take lots of pics!



## Predictions for French Class

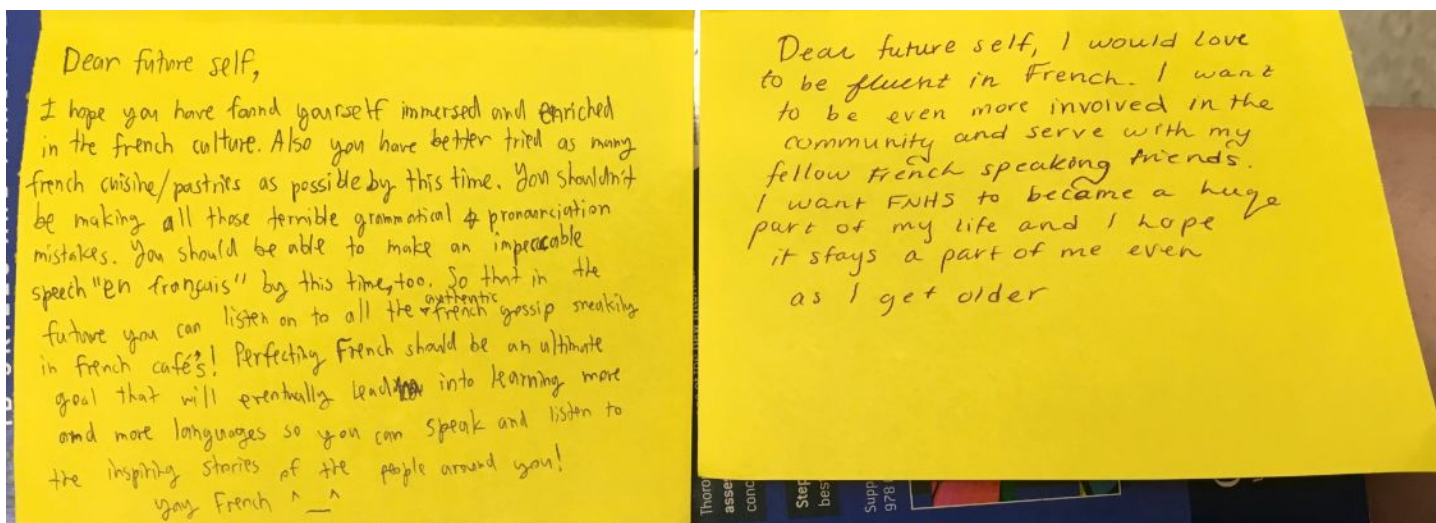
CHAPTER: Garland HS

LOCATION: Garland, TX

SCHOOL SIZE: 2700

SPONSOR: Rebecca Emblar

Since many of my students take French in middle school, they are often eligible to become members of the French National Honor Society quite early in their high school career. They are excited to join a club, and even a bit nervous to practice their French in a new setting. As part of our induction ceremony, I have each student write a note to their future self about what they hope to gain from their experience with the SHF. They can write them in English or French, as this is a personal endeavor. I keep these notes until the end of their senior year when we have our annual picnic. Both they and I really enjoy reading their notes. Sometimes the messages are funny, many are earnestly serious, but I am happy to say that almost all of the students got what they were looking for out of the experience.





### SHF National Council Meeting

On July 20, 2018, members of the SHF National Council met in the beautiful Hôtel Bakoua in La Pointe du Bout, Martinique. President, Abbe Guillet, Teacher Reps Justin Charles and Andrea Isabelli, outgoing AATF President Catherine Daniélou, incoming AATF President Anne Jensen, former AATF President Ann Sunderland, and AATF Executive Director Jayne Abrate, reviewed the progress of the 2018 goals and set the goals for 2019.

The 2018 goals of visibility and communication were met with our Facebook page, which now has over 700 members, as well as the streamlined online Annual Report, which was filed by 1,725 sponsors, up from 340 last year. Roseann Lorefice, editor of the online *Élan*, published two volumes this past year, adding a new section: *La Bourse aux idées*, where teachers shared successful activities, along with pictures. In 2018, applications for both the Creative Writing and the Travel Award were online submission only, and this coming year a new creative writing contest for JAF students will be introduced.

The Council voted to include immersion programs in the United States, as eligible for the 2019 Travel Award, understanding that, while a program in a francophone country may be culturally more enriching, the immigration status of some of the students may prevent foreign travel. It also amended the Travel Award rubric to count as days of the trip only those in francophone countries. No new items will be introduced into the store until the branding initiative for AATF has been launched, but the newly introduced banner, graduation stoles, certificate holders, and invitations, among other items, were very successful this past year. Our goal for 2019 is an increased awareness of *Jeunes Amis du Français*, the middle school honor society, and continued communication with our sponsors from both organizations.

# *A Constitutional Issue*



## **Make your “new school-year resolution to write your local constitution!**

It is most important to create a local constitution of your chapter’s *Société Honoraire de Français* or *Jeunes Amis du Français*, specifically as it relates to **Membership and Member Status** of the national constitution (online on the AATF-SHF site). If parents contact the national office to ask about selection or dismissal criteria, they are referred to the school and sponsor and ultimately what the local constitution says.

Think about what is important to you and what works for your school. Ask yourself:

- If underclassmen are inducted, is it important to you that they continue to study French throughout high school to retain their membership and wear honor cords at graduation?
- How active must they be in activities and/or service projects?
- Are there any activities, such as National French Week and the *Concours*, that they must participate in?
- What will you do if they do not maintain their grade?
- What requirements may be imposed by your school?

Once you have completed your local constitution:

- Go over the specifics with your principal and give her/him copy. (I have a spot for a principal signature.) Explain your reasoning and make sure s/he supports it.
- In the beginning of the year, give your students a complete list of all that they will need to do if they wish to be inducted and what they will need to do to maintain their membership.

Here is a sample local constitution, annotated to help you write yours: Click [here](#). (*Editor’s note: it will appear in your download file.*)



# Important: Teacher Representative Elections 2018

An election will be held in November for one of the two Teacher Representative positions on the SHF National Council. All sponsors will be asked to participate in online voting.

## Frequently asked questions include:

- **How long is the term of office?** Two years: January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020.
- **What will my responsibilities be?** Serve on the three contest committees (December, January, February), read annual reports and request articles for *La Bourse aux Idées*(July), host (with the president, editor, and the other teacher rep) the annual breakfast and the session at the annual convention and attend the SHF National Council Meeting (July). Duties throughout the year include consulting and commenting on the SHF Facebook page and assisting the president when needed on matters such as new SHF materials and voting on any new initiatives.
- **Must I attend the annual AATF convention?** Yes. There are funds available for transportation and the hotel (two nights), but there are no exceptions for the registration fee.
- **Must I be a member of AATF and be a SHF sponsor or former sponsor?** Yes

If the idea of serving SHF on the national level interests you, the following information, in a Word document, must be sent to Jayne Abrate, [abrate@frenchteachers.org](mailto:abrate@frenchteachers.org), by **October 31, 2018**:

(1) Resumé (Please limit this information to 500 words.)

- **Present Position**: Position, Institution, City, State; *starting date*
- **Teaching Career**: Past positions, institutions, date(s)
- **Education**: Highest Degree, Field, Institution, Year; Next degree, Field, Institution, Year; Other degree, Field, Institution, Year; Other Training.
- **AATF**: Member since Year; AATF Positions Held, Date(s);  
**Other Language Organizations**: Member since Year; Positions Held, Date(s);
- **Honors and Awards**: Award, Given by, Year.

(2) Statement concerning all aspects of your involvement with the SHF, including why you would like to be a member of the SHF National Council as Teacher Representative.

(100-250 words)

(3) Photo: In a digital format,

The above information will appear on the ballot in November. Thank you so much for your dedication to AATF and SHF!

# *Calendrier*

National French Week, November 1-7, 2018

[www.frenchteachers.org](http://www.frenchteachers.org)

Deadline for submissions to NFW contests essay and video/animation: November 15, 2018

[www.frenchteachers.org/nfw/contests.htm](http://www.frenchteachers.org/nfw/contests.htm)

JAF Creative Writing deadline

December 4, 2018

SHF Travel Award deadline

January 8, 2019

SHF Creative Writing Contest deadline

February 1, 2019

Le Grand Concours

Grades 1-6 (FLES): February 10-23, 2019

Grades 7-12 (Levels 01-5): February 19-March 18, 2019

<https://www.frenchteachers.org/concours>

92nd Annual AATF Convention, July 14-17, 2019

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

National Foreign Language Week, March 3 - 9, 2019

Sponsor: Alpha Mu Gamma

<http://www.amgnational.org/national-foreign-language-week.html>

La Journée internationale de la Francophonie 2019 – le 20 mars

<https://www.francophonie.org/Journee-internationale-de-la-45683.html>



*L'Élan, Bulletin de la Société Honoraire de Français et des Jeunes Amis du Français*, is a nonprofit publication which operates under the auspices of the American Association of Teachers of French. It is published in the fall and spring as a service to its members and sponsors and other world language professionals.

Please contact the editor directly at [aatfelan@gmail.com](mailto:aatfelan@gmail.com) with any questions or concerns.