

John Baltrus

From: A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education) [gail@appleamericanprofessionalpartnershipforlithuanianeducation.ccsend.com] on behalf of A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education) [jonaspb@comcast.net]
Sent: Tuesday, December 09, 2014 6:01 AM
To: jonaspb@comcast.net
Subject: News from A.P.P.L.E. (American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education)

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The A.P.P.L.E. Seed

(American Professional Partnership
for
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E-Zine



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Dear John,



Karl Janowitz

Message from the President

December is here! What an exciting time of the year. Cold weather is here for many of us and the holidays are right around the corner. This is a perfect time to reflect on our lives and on all that is important to us. I want to wish you a wonderful holiday season. May you have a very Merry Christmas and a fine New Year in 2015.

**Sveikiname Jus su artejanciomis Sv. Kaledomis ir Naujaisiais metais.
Linkime Jums dvasinio džiaugsmo, ramybes, sutarimo, vienybes ir sveikatos.**

The announcement of the Call for Proposals for the Summer of 2015 is found below. Plans for A.P.P.L.E. 2015 are still being finalized at the present time. This issue also contains the final instructor reflection from this past summer's program. Thanks to all for sharing your reflections with our supporters. Thanks to everyone for all you do and have done for A.P.P.L.E.

Sincerely,

Karl

Dr. Karl P. Janowitz
President

Mission Statement:

"The American Professional Partnership for Lithuanian Education (A.P.P.L.E.) is a volunteer international non-profit educational organization. With the support of the Lithuanian Ministry of Education and Science, A.P.P.L.E. partners with Lithuanian educators to foster the implementation of innovative educational approaches that contribute to the development of a democratic society."

Call for Summer 2015 Proposals

Plans for A.P.P.L.E.'s 25th and final summer program for Lithuanian educators are underway. You are invited to join this rewarding exchange of current educational practices.

Deadline for Proposal submission is February 1, 2015

The dates for the sessions have not been determined, however we anticipate two, one-week sessions, either June 22nd-June 26th and June 29th-July 3rd or June 29th-July 3rd and July 6th-July 10th. The exact number of hours constituting a week's session may vary dependent on the King Mindaugas holiday and other program and travel constraints. You will be expected to make a two-week commitment to the program. When you receive notification of acceptance you will receive details about dates in order to make travel arrangements. Lecturers will be required to be in Lithuania a few days prior to the start of the first session.

Who Should Apply?

Applicants may be preschool, elementary, or secondary teachers, who have a master's degree in education or associated discipline, and who have demonstrated excellence in teaching. College or university faculty with expertise in teaching in education or closely related disciplines are welcome to apply. We are seeking teachers and other education professionals who are prepared to share their knowledge and demonstrate expertise in current theory and practice related to the theme: Meeting Today's Educational Challenges

Topics of Special Interest

The Ministry indicated topics of interest. In the area of Educational Leadership presentations on working with parents, teacher coaching models, conflict resolution, motivating teachers, and sessions on how to organize school activities and school organizations are desired. In the area of Instruction there is interest in kindergarten teaching. For the first time Lithuania will institute a half-day kindergarten, so that children will enter public school a year younger than they have traditionally. Information on kindergarten teaching practices from a developmentally appropriate perspective are requested. English as a second language for elementary school-age children is also a topic of interest. New to Lithuanian schools is that 5th grade students will be provided a computer. Sessions delivering multifaceted information on how to maximize the utility of computers for students and parents, integrated within the context of the classroom and access to resources in the school community were requested.

Teachers in attendance at the Summer 2014 program in Kaunas expressed interests also: learning how to work with parents; instruction in science, music and art; after-school programming; use of technology in the classroom; team building to improve school functioning; conflict resolution; inclusion of children with different learning styles in the classroom; integrated learning; gifted education; and differentiated instruction.

These topics are of particular interest, however proposals focusing on other educational topics are welcome.

More details, including information on how to apply and what to expect can be found on [A.P.P.L.E.'s website](#).

Save the Dates - A.P.P.L.E.'s 25th Celebrations

At this time, we don't have exact dates or locations, but we are planning celebrations of A.P.P.L.E.'s 25th anniversary in both the U.S. and Lithuania. An April celebration to coincide with our Spring Board Meeting in the U.S. is in the works. We will publish more information as soon as it is available. We hope you will be able to join us for one of the events.

Elementary Strand Reflection - Anne Erbe & Tracy Mandara



Vida Anton Takes a Turn at Teaching the Elementary Strand

We showed a video of our school and different classes. The Lithuanian teachers were able to see Greenville students from different grades participating in math and reading lessons. The video showed the children at lunch and recess. We discussed the similarities and differences between a Lithuanian school experience and an American school experience. We explained our report card grading system and showed a copy of a report card. Additionally, we discussed the standards and testing done in our school system. Then, the teachers completed a "Get-To-Know-You" activity.

Throughout the week, we taught several language arts lessons. In reading, the teachers utilized graphic organizers to assist with story elements, comprehension, problem/solution, and beginning, middle, and end. Writing activities included creating an All About Book about birds in which the writer wrote a nonfiction book providing information like bird characteristics, habitats, food, etc. The teachers used three traits and reviewed their personal collections of objects. Then, they wrote their opinion and stated which object was the best citing evidence.

In addition, teachers listened to several versions of The Three Little Pigs and completed a Venn diagram comparing and contrasting the different versions. They also wrote their opinion on whether they believed the Pigs' point of view or the Wolf's point of view citing evidence from the stories. We wanted to demonstrate how to use a book or theme across the curriculum so the teachers worked with Tangrams that were used in one of the Three Little Pig stories. In addition, the teachers "built" houses from hundreds, tens, and ones similar to the pigs building their houses.

The teachers were shown how we created an SGO (Student Growth Objective) for math. Our students at Greenville have to master their subtraction and addition facts through 20. We shared the learning activities and website BigActivities.com with the teachers. We also shared how we celebrate the students' success when meeting their objectives. Calendar math was also demonstrated as well as our "100th Day" celebration.

In social studies we created a "flip book" to represent ourselves in the world. Each place that we live in is part of a greater place and the flip book illustrated that concept. We also created time lines depicting important events of the week and made a collage showing important Lithuanian symbols.

During the two weeks of our visit, we had an opportunity to see the song festival dress

rehearsal, go to downtown Kaunas, eat at several restaurants, visit Vilnius, and go to the Baltic Sea. It was a pleasure to meet and work with A.P.P.L.E. board members and teachers whom we now consider friends. We are thankful that we were able to share our teaching techniques and lessons with our students. This has been a memorable experience.

Knygu Kaledos 2014 - Christmas of Books 2014



Let's donate books by Lithuanian authors to libraries in Lithuania!

The national "Christmas of Books" campaign initiated by President Dalia Grybauskaitė has started its fourth successive journey across Lithuania, inviting people to donate new books to local libraries.

"Books embody our history and traditions and keep them alive throughout generations. They teach the true values of life. This Christmas season let us donate books by Lithuanian authors so that readers can read and enjoy them in public libraries," the President said.

Village, town and school libraries are short of new fiction books by Lithuanian authors, books about the history of Lithuania, encyclopedic and reference publications.

From November 10 to January 6 campaign labeled books will be offered for a 20 percent discount at the Vaga, Pegasas, Knygu Namai, and Humanitas bookstores, as well as in the IKI chain supermarkets. They will also be available online at Knygos.lt, Knyguklubas.lt, Knygukatalogas.lt, Manoknyga.lt, Niekorimto.lt, and Patogupirkti.lt.

More information is available [here](#).

Fundraising Corner

You still have an opportunity to make a donation to honor A.P.P.L.E. and the many volunteers who have served A.P.P.L.E. over 25 years. All donations will be expended towards 2015 programs including A.P.P.L.E. Scholar's Fund. You can make a direct donation to A.P.P.L.E. by [clicking here](#) and using PayPal. Make sure to add a note if you wish that your donation be specifically used for a Lithuanian Scholars' Fund grant.

What will different levels of donations accomplish?

- For \$100, you can provide an ink cartridge and paper so that A.P.P.L.E. can distribute lesson notes to teachers.

- For \$200, you can provide a stipend for a translator.
- For \$450, you can underwrite the distribution of our newsletter.
- For \$500, you can sponsor a Scholar's Fund Grant. Lesser amounts will be combined to fund a grant.

A minimum donation of \$25-individual or \$40-family will enroll you as a member of A.P.P.L.E. for one year. Of course, donations are still welcome by mail: A.P.P.L.E., 105 Sturbridge Lane, Chapel Hill, NC 27516

A.P.P.L.E. is a 501(3)c organization, which means that your gifts are tax-deductible. Our tax-exempt number is 23-2682202. Because of strict IRS regulations, we cannot accept donations intended for specific people. If you would like to support relatives or friends, please do so directly. The A.P.P.L.E. scholar grants are intended for Lithuanian educators who do not have contacts in the United States.

This electronic newsletter is designed for quick delivery of A.P.P.L.E.-related news to an audience that includes current A.P.P.L.E. members, friends of A.P.P.L.E. and interested potential members both within the United States and Lithuania.

Increasing communication and the exchange of ideas among our members increases the strength of our organization and our ability to be relevant to our Lithuanian constituents. Exciting and pertinent events occur all year round, and we want to keep all of you abreast of what is happening, when it's happening.

Consider passing this email along to a friend who you think might be interested in hearing about us.

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