

For Immediate Release

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TESOL Announces 2024 Award and Scholarship Winners

Alexandria, Va. (March 19, 2024) – TESOL International Association (TESOL) is proud to announce the 2024 recipients of its awards for excellence and service and its travel grants and scholarships.

TESOL President Shelley K. Taylor said this year's group of scholarship and award winners showcases the many dedicated and talented professionals in the field of English language teaching who are making a positive impact across the globe. "I feel a sense of pride in our profession when I look at our recipients and know that our future is in good hands," said Taylor. "They share a commitment to excellence in the field and really care about improving outcomes for the multilingual learners of English they serve."

The following people were recognized in TESOL's Awards for Excellence and Service category:

TESOL Teacher of the Year

- Luis Javier Pentón Herrera is a full professor at Akademia Ekonomiczno-Humanistyczna w Warszawie, Poland. He is a Fulbright specialist and an English language specialist with the U.S. Department of State.

The James E. Alatis Award for Service to TESOL

- While teaching English or serving as an educational consultant in many countries around the world, Brock Brady has been a committed presence as a TESOL volunteer throughout his career, including serving two terms on the TESOL board.

TESOL Award for Excellence in Research

- Vahid Bahrami is a Ph.D. candidate in education at UNSW, Sydney. His main areas of research interest include language teacher psychology.
- Mehrdad Hosseini holds a master's in TESOL and works as an EFL lecturer at the University of Zanjan. His research explores the interaction between research and practice in L2 education.

TESOL Outstanding Advocate Honor Award

- Amira Salama is an English instructor at Nile University, Egypt. She is the incoming chair of the TESOL Research Professional Council, the past president of Africa ELTA, and the Africa ELTA 2024 Conference co-chair.

The Ron Chang Lee Award for Excellence in Classroom Technology

- Rachel Toncelli is a lecturer at Northeastern University and Suffolk University in Boston, Massachusetts, where she teaches English language courses to undergraduate and graduate international students.
- Ika Kostka is a teaching professor at Northeastern University in Boston, Massachusetts, where she teaches English language courses to graduate and undergraduate international students.

The following people were recognized in TESOL's Travel Grants and Scholarships category:

TESOL Awards for International Participation

- María Matilde Olivero is a language teacher educator and researcher at Universidad Nacional de Río Cuarto, Argentina.
- Sidrah Niaz is leading a women-led organization in Pakistan named Evolution with a vision to create innovative professional development opportunities in the field of TESOL.
- Lucía Pin is an architect and educational services director at Alianza Cultural Uruguay—Estados Unidos.
- Khoa Do is a lecturer at the National College of Education, Ho Chi Minh city.

The University of Pittsburgh Travel Award for IEP Instructors

- Fatima Aldajani, an educator and trainer with a doctorate in curriculum and instruction, teaches at University of Toledo and Franklin University with over a decade of academic experience.

Leadership Mentoring Program Award

- Huseyin Uysal is a visiting assistant professor at the Department of Educational Studies at Knox College.
- Yongzhi (Vito) Miao is a Ph.D. candidate in applied linguistics at Northern Arizona University.
- Jamie Harrison, associate professor of ESOL education at Auburn University, has over 20 years of ESL/EFL teaching experience nationally and internationally.

For more information about each of the honorees and the TESOL Awards Program, visit the [main awards page](#).

About TESOL International Association

TESOL International Association is the trusted global community for knowledge and expertise in English language teaching. TESOL advances the professional expertise in English language teaching to speakers of other languages in multilingual contexts worldwide through professional learning, research, standards, and advocacy. In principle and in practice, TESOL values professionalism, respect, integrity, and lifelong learning and seeks diverse and inclusive participation within the field of English language teaching. TESOL promotes equitable representation, engagement, and broad access to professional opportunities for all and works to eliminate any kind of discrimination. TESOL is a professional community of more than 13,000 English language professionals representing more than 150 countries. For more information, please visit www.tesol.org.

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