



news

For Immediate Release

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TESOL to honor Congressman Jared Polis at 2009 Denver Convention

Alexandria, VA (March 2009) – Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), announces it will be honoring Rep. Jared Polis (D-CO) at the opening plenary of its 43rd Annual Convention and Exhibit in Denver, Colorado, USA. The presentation will be held before an audience of 1,500 English language educators from around the world on Thursday, March 26, 2009, at 9:00 AM in the Wells Fargo Theater of the Colorado Convention Center. Rep. Polis will be recognized for his leadership in advancing educational opportunities for immigrant students in Colorado.

Elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 2008, Rep. Polis is a standing member of the House Science and Technology Committee, and serves on the House Education and Labor Committee. A successful entrepreneur, Polis quickly came to realize and value the important role education plays in our economy. With this in mind, he ran for and won a seat on the Colorado State Board of Education in 2000 and served as the youngest Chairman in the history of the Board. That same year, Polis founded the Jared Polis Foundation to improve and expand access to education, and has also founded two innovative charter schools to help meet the needs of Colorado's underserved students. In 2004, seeing the difficulty faced by older immigrant youth in mainstream public schools, he established the New America School and served as its superintendent. Today, the New

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TESOL to honor Congressman Jared Polis (cont'd)

America School operates four campuses in Colorado and plans to open a campus in New Mexico to extend the benefits of English literacy and a high school liberal arts education to all students.

Under the banner "Uncharted Mountains—Forging New Pathways," the 2009 TESOL convention will feature more than 1200 lecture/discussion sessions presented by 3000 speakers representing more than 25 countries. Among the variety of topics are language testing and assessment, technology in language learning, bilingual education, education standards, and refugee/immigration concerns. In addition, the convention features one of the largest exhibitions of its kind in the world, with over 100 exhibitors offering some of the finest products and services for English language educators and their classrooms.

Press can register for the convention either in advance or on site. To register in advance, visit the online press room at <http://www.tesol.org/convention2009/>, where other press releases and more information about presenters and sessions are also available. To register on site, please visit the Press Desk in the Registration Area in Lobby A of the Colorado Convention Center.

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Incorporated in 1966, Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL), is a global association for English language teaching professionals headquartered in Alexandria, Virginia, USA. TESOL encompasses a network of approximately 60,000 educators worldwide, consisting of more than 14,000 individual members and an additional 45,000 educators within the 100 plus TESOL affiliate associations. Representing a multifaceted academic discipline and profession, TESOL offers members serial publications, books, and electronic resources on current issues, ideas, and opportunities in the field of English language teaching. TESOL also conducts a variety of workshops and symposia, including an annual convention, regarded as the foremost professional development opportunity for English language educators worldwide. TESOL's mission is to develop and maintain professional expertise in English language teaching for speakers of other languages worldwide.