

# Honoring Florida Teachers and Students



*Wershow Award*  
*2016 FFLA Teacher of the Year*  
*Teacher of Promise*  
*Teacher of the Year (TOY) for Associated Leagues*  
*Scholar/Student of the Year Award*  
*Most Valuable Teachers (MVT)*

Awards Chair: Maria Eugenia Zelaya  
Awards MC: Aaron Houts

# WERSHOW AWARD

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*Each year, the prestigious Irving Wershow Award for Excellence in Leadership in the profession is presented at the FFLA conference in October. It is awarded to a member who has demonstrated leadership at the regional, state, and/or national level, served as a quality educator in her/his own right, and promoted the teaching and learning of world languages or English as a Second Language.*



## **Linda Markley** **Consultant, Vista Higher Learning**

Linda Markley has shown unending dedication to FFLA through her service on the board for many years being a regional director, a representative of the FAATSP (when she was president of that organization), the Advocacy Chair, the Awards Chair, the Secretary, the Parliamentarian and the President.

She has traveled to Tallahassee countless times in her support of the Seal of Biliteracy and her opposition to the Coding bills on our behalf. As President, she initiated an outreach to local and state and national political leaders on a scale never seen before or since. She truly reached for the stars as she brought in astronauts and business people to talk to us about why speaking languages is important in their industries.

She's been a voice for all of us who are in our classrooms and offices every day because she truly has the heart of a teacher and understands us. She has attended JNCL-NCLIS as a representative of FFLA for many, many years and has lobbied at the national and state level as well as in local districts and around the state.

As a district resource teacher and through the Teacher of Promise and New Teacher Workshops at FFLA, she has spent countless hours training, mentoring and assisting new teachers to develop into the promise we see sparks of in their first years. Her never-ending service to our organization, in my opinion, is the very epitome of the spirit of this award. Although she has won it before and this award has not been given to the same person twice in FFLA's history, the gratitude of our organization is owed to her.

# 2016 FFLA Teacher of the Year

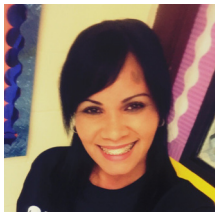
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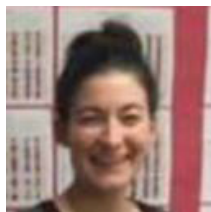
**Christel Callahan**  
St. Andrews School

## TEACHER OF PROMISE

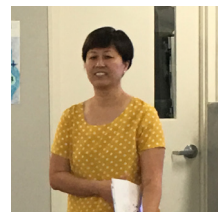
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**Damaris Santiago**  
Sebring High School



**Elena Wigelsworth**  
Frank H. Peterson  
Academies of  
Technology



**Hui (Isabella) Liu**  
Pine View School

## TOY FOR ASSOCIATED LEAGUES

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**Ida M. Vincenty-Rolon**  
Timber Creek H.S.  
Florida American Association of  
Teachers of Spanish & Portuguese



**Rose Adams**  
Seminole Ridge Community H.S.  
Florida American Sign Language  
Teacher Association



**Whey Lian (Retired)**  
St. Andrew's School  
Florida Chinese Teachers  
Association



**Hong Jia**  
University School of Nova  
Southeastern  
Florida Chinese Teachers  
Association



**Adam Mize**  
Holy Trinity Episcopal Academy  
Classical Association of Florida



**Veronique Fois-Assuied**  
Posthumous  
American Association of Teachers  
of French-Florida Chapter



**Judy Haisten, PhD**  
College of Central Florida  
Florida World Languages Colleges/  
Universities



**Pablo L. Martinez Torres**  
Polk County Schools World  
Languages TRST  
Florida Foreign Language  
Association of Managers of  
Education

# STUDENT SCHOLAR OF THE YEAR

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## ELEMENTARY

***Mattais Rabbini***  
Elementary School  
North Broward  
Preparatory  
Chinese  
Teacher: Chu-Chuan  
Chiu

## MIDDLE

***Jonah Lubin***  
Middle School  
Nova Southeastern  
University Lab School  
Chinese  
Teacher: Hong Jia

## HIGH SCHOOL

***Valentina Celis***  
High School  
American Heritage  
School  
Spanish  
Teacher: Sonia Remy

# MOST VALUABLE TEACHERS (MVT)

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***Alonna Walsh***  
Ed White High School  
Exceptional WL Educator | Expert  
at Motivating Students

***Ashley Baumann***  
Sandalwood High School  
Continually Demonstrating  
Excellence

***Ayesha Hui***  
Carrollton School of the Sacred  
Heart  
Most Valuable Teacher

***Charlene Chang***  
Carrollton School of the Sacred  
Heart  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Craig Leavitt***  
Douglas Anderson School of the  
Arts  
Service Above and Beyond |  
Professional and Caring World  
Language Educator

***DJ Holt***  
St. John's Episcopal Parish Day  
School  
Holt encourages love of Latin

***Donna Guzzo***  
St. Johns County School District  
Champion of Early Language  
Learning

***Elena Wigelsworth***  
Frank H. Peterson Academies of  
Technology  
Enthusiastic Volunteer and  
Cutting-edge Educator

***Florence Lee***  
Saint Andrew's School  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Hua Zhang***  
Saint Andrews School  
Passionate, hardworking,  
dedicated and responsible | Most  
Valuable Mandarin Teacher

# MOST VALUABLE TEACHERS (MVT)

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***Jin Ji***

St. Andrew's School  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Julia Ullmann***

Professional and Technical High  
School (TECO)  
Florida AATF Pres works tirelessly

***Kendal Ogles***

St John's Episcopal Parish Day  
School  
Following in her Mother's footsteps

***Lusi Hong***

Palm Bay Academy Charter School  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Mako Nozu***

University of South Florida  
A Hard-working Teacher

***Marilyne Shaffer***

Community School of Naples  
A Competition to End Harassment

***Nancy Valdes***

Bishop John J. Snyder High  
School  
Emerging Leader

***Naoko Komura***

Florida International University  
Promoting Japanese language and  
culture in Miami

***Ofelia Motta Cribbs***

Perkins Elementary  
World Language Educator Hidden  
Gem

***Ray Cornelius***

Daytona State College  
Phenomenal Lifelong Foreign  
Language Professor

***Risa Wada***

University of Florida  
Excellent teaching and service

***Shumin Yu***

The Out-of-Door Academy  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Sonia Rivera***

Sebring High School  
Dr. Sonia M. Rivera's dream

***Suna Lee***

Fisher Island Day School  
Most Valuable Mandarin Teacher

***Yasuo Uotate***

University of Florida  
Leadership roles in J-CAN Project

***Yesel Galban-Moreno***

East Lee County High School  
Teacher Inspires Students to  
Achieve

***Ying Jia Hu***

Apopka High School  
Most Valuable Teacher

# JOIN US NEXT YEAR!

## FFLA 2018 - OCT. 18-20

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF FFLA...SETTING THE  
STAGE FOR THE NEXT 50

- Professional Development • Advocacy
  - Interculturality
- Standards • Global Education
- Less Commonly Taught Languages

### PRE-CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS:

\$30\* for 1/2 day session

\$50\* for 2 1/2 day or 1 full-day session

\*Incl. continental breakfast for workshop attendees

### REGISTRATION COST WILL INCLUDE:

President's Reception Thursday evening, Continental Breakfast Friday & Saturday, Gala Plated Short Rib Dinner Friday evening, Refreshment Breaks Friday & Saturday

### EXTRA: LANGUAGE LUNCH & MTG:

\$37 Plated lunch: Tropical Salad Mix, Airline Chicken Breast with Vegetables & Starch, Bread, Butter, Dulce de Leche Cake, Iced Tea, Coffee

*Wyndham Orlando Resorts*

For more information contact Meruchy Hoedo  
fflasecretary2018@gmail.com



***Awards booklet sponsored by AVANT***

*Special thanks to Patricia Alba, Communications Specialist at the  
UF Center for Latin American Studies*