

CAL News 2018

Online Archive

Commencement 2018, 1 January 2018

- Canberra Academy of Languages is now enrolling for 2018.
- See below for pictures and our 2017 report from the CAL End of Year Ceremony held on 12 December at CMAG.
- Final date for 2018 enrolments is Wednesday 7 February 2018. Earlier enrolment is preferred. Registration evening will be held in the Mezzanine at Civic Library (adjacent to the Canberra Theatre Centre) from 6 pm on Thursday 8 February [this event was subsequently moved to 7 February].

First day 2018, Monday 5 February 2018

It's the first day of the 2018 school year in the ACT and aspiring senior secondary languages students have three days left to enrol for French with Canberra Academy of Languages. CAL classes start in Week 2. Prospective students should enrol with us by COB Wednesday 7 February. Students and their families are invited to attend our registration session at Civic Library on Wednesday evening from 6 pm for an introduction to the 2018 program.

Registration evening, Wednesday 7 February 2018



It was very good to meet with students and families for our 2018 programs yesterday evening. We look forward to an excellent year. For anyone who missed the evening and is interested in finding out more about the program, please send a note to info@cal.act.edu.au, or call us on (02) 6152 9140.



First session for 2018, Wednesday 14 February 2018

We commenced our 2018 CAL French programs at Alliance Française, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner, on Wednesday 14 February 2018. Thanks to our AFCanberra colleagues for facilitating this.

Confirmation of new venue, Friday 16 February 2018

We are pleased to confirm our venue, the Alliance Française, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner, for CAL French in 2018. Benefits in our new venue include an authentic French ambiance, wifi accessible for students to access our CAL online resources repository (languages.org.au), AF resource centre in the same building, on-site café facility and ready access to latest information on French community events.



CAL at the National Multicultural Festival, Sunday 18 February 2018

Visit us on Stall E6, the Learning Languages in Canberra stall at the National Multicultural Festival, City Walk, Canberra City on Sunday 18 February 2018. The stall organisers are:

- Canberra Academy of Languages
- ACT Bilingual Education Alliance
- Canberra Region Languages Forum.



French Film Festival, 1 – 28 March 2018

The French Film Festival was held from 1 to 28 March at Palace Electric Cinema at the Nishi Building in New Acton. Highlights included the screening of *C'est la vie* (released in 2017) on the opening night, directed by Eric Toledano and Olivier Nakache (also directors of *Les Intouchables*, 2011); *La Mélodie* (Orchestra Class), 2017, directed by Rachid Hami; *Au revoir là-haut* (See you up there), 2017, directed by Albert Dupontel; *Demain tout commence* (Two is a Family), 2016, directed by Hugo Gélin; *Knock* (Dr Knock), 2017, directed by Lorraine Lévy; and *Jeune Femme* (Montparnasse Bienvenue), 2017, directed by Léonor Serraille.

CAL to be at CAP Expo, 24 March 2018

CAL will be represented at the ACT Government's Connect and Participate Expo (CAP Expo) at the Kingston Bus Depot Markets on 24 March 2018 (21 Wentworth Avenue, Kingston), 11 am to 3 pm. This will be the fifth year of CAP Expo, which ran for the first time in 2014.

The ACT Bilingual Education Alliance (ACT BEA) stall, with a focus on learning languages in the ACT, will have information from ACT BEA, CAL and other organisations that are active in the field.

CAL Charter – draft update March 2018

We are planning an update to the Articles of Association for the Canberra Academy of Languages, in particular Schedule 2, the charter of the organisation, outlining our values (which are listed on the home page of our website) and their significance in the context of language learning for our students. Your thoughts are welcome on the [proposed charter update](#).

Program for DELF examiners, April 2018

CAL Convener Frank Keighley visited the Alliance Française de Melbourne on 3-5 April 2018 for the program for DELF examiners. DELF (Diplôme d'Études de Langue Française) diplomas are based on the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages. CAL French students are invited to do the DELF exams in the final term of Year 12 for an additional, internationally-recognised, credential as evidence of their language proficiency.



German Film Festival, 23 May – 6 June 2018

The German Film Festival has begun. It will run from 23 May to 6 June at Palace Electric Cinema at the Nishi Building in New Acton. The Canberra Academy of Languages is a sponsor, with a slide in the ad reel during the festival, featuring our open night.



CAL Charter update endorsed 14 May 2018

The updated Articles of Association, including [the Charter](#) at Schedule 2 of the articles, were endorsed at the Special General Meeting of the Canberra Academy of Languages on Monday 14 May 2018.

The CAL charter includes details of the ideas underlying the CAL values, excellence, equity and a civil society:

1. Excellence in language learning requires scope for continuity. In the interests of continuity, it is imperative that students should have access to continued learning in their chosen languages as part of their senior secondary education.
2. Equity in language learning requires that the option to continue learning a language as part of a senior secondary education program should be available to students throughout the educational jurisdiction.
3. A civil society gives recognition and active support to linguistic and cultural diversity and recognises the importance of language rights, including the right of learners to aspire to, or to maintain and develop, bilingual or multilingual capabilities.

Multilingual Poetry Showcase 2 June 2018

Highly successful Multilingual Poetry Showcase on Saturday afternoon including poetry in Acholi and English by Jackline Okot. Pictured: Saturday's performers.



Pasi Sahlberg flags Gonski's missed opportunity on languages, 3 June 2018

Pasi Sahlberg advocates a 24th Gonski 2.0 clause for right to learn a language: [article in SMH](#) and Canberra Times on Sunday 3 June 2018. This view accords with the CAL Charter, which includes a statement that "equity in language learning requires that the option to continue learning a language as part of a senior secondary education program should be available to students throughout the educational jurisdiction".

Students who don't have access to learning languages are not only missing out on the enrichment of languages and the cultures to which they are a key; they are also missing out on learning about grammar and language as a system.

Sahlberg's comments were supported by Professor Ken Cruickshank, director of the Sydney Institute for Community Language Education.

Open Night venue confirmed for 14 June 2018

The venue for CAL Open Night has been confirmed. The event will commence at 6 pm on Thursday 14 June 2018 and will be held at the Ainslie Arts Centre, Elouera Street, Braddon.



We will outline our purpose, programs and enrolment process. Senior secondary (Years 11-12) Continuing and Advanced courses will be offered for 2019 in French, German and Indonesian, subject to viable numbers to fund teacher recruitment for these programs. Additional courses may also be delivered, subject to negotiations with colleges.



To assist with catering numbers, please rsvp via [EventBrite](#).



Soirée littéraire, 21 June 2018

Excellent "soirée littéraire" yesterday evening Thursday 21 June, with author Karen Viggers reading extracts from her writings and Flavie Alvarez reading French translations. Great to listen to. Nancy Waites launched the second edition of the magazine Canberra en français - a beautiful local publication.



Three CAL French students had items included at page 13 of this edition, under the title "témoignages", alongside an item about the Canberra Academy of Languages. The other two items were held over for the October edition, for reasons of available space.

ACT Bilingual Education Alliance update, August 2018

The [ACT Bilingual Education Alliance update for August 2018](#) comes with these items of language-related news:

- Mother tongue multilingual poetry workshop
- Mother tongue multilingual poetry evening
- ACT Libraries expanding bilingual story times
- Canberra Moon Festival
- Talk and Discussion on Language Revival
- Highlighting languages at the 2019 National Multicultural Festival (NMF)
- ACT Bilingual Education Alliance - Facebook page



Multilingual Poetry Workshop, Sunday 5 August 2018

Spend an afternoon participating at Civic Library on Sunday 5 August exploring writing and performing poetry in languages other than English - or a mix of languages - in this free workshop to be held from 2 pm to 5 pm.

It might be your first language or Mother Tongue, or you might be a language learner. But if you are interested in expressing yourself poetically, come for an afternoon of writing activities with a multilingual focus, and performance exercises to build your confidence and expression.



Multilingual poets Vesna Cvjeticanin and Karina Bontes-Forward, along with Jacqui Malins, will lead exercises to get the words flowing from your pen and your lips.

Suitable for those who want to try writing poetry for the first time, or poets who want to be stimulated and inspired. It is also a great opportunity to meet other writers who are interested in the power of words beyond the English language.

Vesna is a Serbian-born poet and devoted lover and explorer of the Serbian language. She writes in her mother tongue and translates her work to English. Vesna has increasingly been enjoying the freedom poetry gives her in conveying her thoughts to a range of audiences.

Karina Bontes-Forward is a poet and musician of Chilean heritage who writes and sings in Spanish, Indonesian and English and enjoys playing with different musical traditions and languages.

Email [Mothertongue Multilingual Poetry](mailto:MothertongueMultilingualPoetry@rsvp.com) to RSVP, and please email or call Jacqui on 0433 845900 if you have any questions.

Multilingual Poetry Night, Monday 13 August 2018

There will be a great lineup of poets signed up for the Multilingual Poetry Night on Monday 13 August 2018 from 7 pm to 9 pm at Smith's Alternative, in languages including Mandarin, Cebuano, Hindi, Bengali, French, German, Shona, Dari, Farsi, Japanese, Mongolian, Sinhalese, Serbian and Spanish. Each poet will share some insight into their poem, or a full translation, in English.



Presented in partnership with That Poetry Thing, which is on at Smith's every Monday Night, the event is \$5 at the door, but free for poets and readers who sign up before the night. Thanks again to Jacqui Malins, co-founder of Mother Tongue Multilingual Poetry, for organising this event.

ANGLS Conference, 23-25 August 2018

The ANGLS Conference was hosted from 23 to 25 August 2018 at the new headquarters of the NSW School of Languages in Petersham with colleagues participating this year from languages centres in SA, Victoria and NSW. The 2018 ANGLS Conference was the 21st conference of the Australian Network of Government Languages Schools. The conference was illuminating and valuable. The historic (100 years +) building in Petersham is newly converted and refurbished.

Highlights included items on:

- The Languages/STEM nexus (Professor Lesley Harbon)
- Languages uptake in senior secondary school (Associate Professor Ken Cruickshank)
- State reports: Canberra Academy of Languages (Frank Keighley); NSW Saturday School of Community Languages (Cate Chapple); Open Access College SA (Julie Taylor); SA School of Languages (Anne Reuter on behalf of Lia Tedesco); Victorian School of Languages (Frank Merlino and deputy principals); NSW School of Languages (Hilary Hughes)



- Community Languages programs, teaching materials, teacher professional learning and funding in NSW
- NSW languages curriculum (Lyn Sully, Inspector, NSW Education Standards Authority)
- Canvas virtual learning environment (Janan Assaad & Janelle Byrne)
- Tours of the NSW School of Languages in Petersham and Saturday School of Community Languages at the Ashfield campus

Meeting about National Multicultural Festival, 12 September 2018

On Wednesday 12 September, Dr Mandy Scott and I met with Azra Khan, Senior Manager in the Community Services Directorate, who coordinates the National Multicultural Festival. We put several suggestions, one of which related to the inclusion of references to languages in publicity for the festival. It is excellent to see that, as of December, languages are included on the festival home page, so that they are reflected in online messaging as an important dimension of multiculturalism.



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Information Evening, Thursday 20 September 2018

We will hold an information evening from 6 pm on Thursday 20 September at the Ainslie Arts Centre, 30 Elouera Street, Braddon (corner of Donaldson Street, on the CBD side from Ainslie Primary School). Elouera Street is the continuation of Doonkuna Street and the Ainslie Arts Centre appears on Google maps as being on Doonkuna Street, but navigation using 30 Elouera Street should work correctly.



We will provide students and their families with advice on learning languages in Years 11-12, receiving credit for your languages studies towards the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and towards the ATAR, and programs offered in Continuing and Advanced French, German and Indonesian.

We will also provide advice and assistance with CAL enrolment for those wishing to proceed and with completion of the ACT BSSS languages eligibility form

Working with CLSA, 8 October 2018

Conferring on 8 October at CMAG Café with Fuxin Li, now president of Community Language Schools Association.



Meeting with Minister for Multicultural Affairs 10 October 2018

Meeting with the ACT Minister for Multicultural Affairs Chris Steel – discussion on language resources in the ACT on 10 October, with Convener of Canberra Academy of Languages, President of the Community Language Schools Association of the ACT, President of the Modern Language Teachers' Association, Convener of the Languages Forum of the ACT.



Launch, October 2018 edition, Canberra en français magazine, 26 October 2018

Launch of the October 2018 edition of Canberra en français magazine on 26 October at Mount Majura Vineyard - Nancy Waites and Flavie Alvarez with two of the guests, from Parkes NSW. In this edition, there are items written by two of our CAL French students. Three others had items published in the June edition.



Languages as a resource for all, 20 November 2018

A position statement on "[Languages as a resource for all](#)" was endorsed on 20 November by ACT Bilingual Education Alliance, Languages Forum of the ACT and the Canberra Academy of Languages. The statement

will be tabled at the next meeting of the Canberra Languages Network, to be held on Thursday 22 November 2018.

Multicultural Summit, 22-23 November 2018

At the launch of the ACT Multicultural Summit on Thursday evening, one of the speakers was Andrew Barr, ACT Chief Minister. Among other points, Andrew Barr said that Canberra is uniquely placed to be an exemplary internationally focussed community and to model inclusivity.

Dr Mandy Scott, Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum and Frank Keighley, Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages had a good & positive conversation with Chief Minister Andrew Barr about future of languages education for the ACT.



Pictured below: Deputy Chair and Chair of Multicultural Advisory Council; Chief Minister Andrew Barr; Minister for Multicultural Affairs Chris Steel.

Languages received a high profile in reporting back at the end of the summit. We look forward to reading the draft report of the summit, which we understand will be circulated to participants in the near future.



Pictured here: Veronique Canellas, President of the Modern Languages Teachers' Association of the ACT; Dr Mandy Scott, Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum; and Frank Keighley, Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages.

Languages education discussion on ABC Canberra, 28 November 2018

On the Mornings program on Radio ABC Canberra with Adam Shirley today, the Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages discussed future directions for languages education in the ACT. We have an [audio extract of the discussion](#) available for those who may have missed it. Points covered were:

- If you want to learn a language, how available is it in the ACT? Has the ACT dropped the ball on this?
- Scope of employment opportunities related to languages skills and the range of languages spoken in Canberra households.
- Constraints on schools in provision of languages programs, considerations of staffing budgets.
- Opportunity to make more diverse provision for languages learning by supplementing school-based programs with centrally-delivered programs, as happens in other jurisdictions.
- Integration of teacher education and higher education in languages as an area that needs attention in the ACT.
- Teacher supply affected by the difficulty schools face in creating full-time teaching positions that prioritise expertise in languages.
- Language rights: the need for access to high-quality programs in languages of choice for students, which can be improved by combining strong school-based languages programs, together with a strong government-backed central after-hours delivery strategy for languages.
- What we stand to gain: system leadership can provide the opportunity for students to develop languages skills to a high level that can be applied in practical ways in the community and in workplaces.



Be:longing – Talking Migration and Nostalgia, 1 December 2018

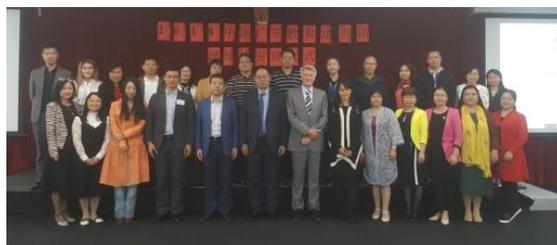
This year, CAL became the auspicing organisation for the editors of be:longing, an online magazine exploring personal experiences of migration, cross-culture, nostalgia and belonging, to apply for funding under the 2018-19 ACT Participation (Multicultural) Grants Program for ongoing publication associated with a live event to be held in May 2019. Meanwhile, on 1 December 2018, be:longing hosted an event at Smiths Alternative titled "Talking Migration and Nostalgia".



Seminar for educators from Guangdong Province, 3 December 2018

Pictured below: educators from Guangdong Province, with Principal of the Australian Contemporary Chinese Dr Fuxin Li and Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages Frank Keighley in the Multifunction Room at the Theo Notaras Multicultural Centre on their four-day visit to Canberra as part of an Australian tour for the group.

This morning, they participated in workshop sessions with Frank Keighley on professional standards and professional learning; and on teaching methodology, including curriculum, pedagogy, assessment and student wellbeing. This afternoon, they were with Dr Mandy Scott, Convener of the Canberra Region Languages Forum, for a workshop session on Australian school education systems.



On Thursday afternoon, they will visit Hawker College for a guided tour of the college, as guests of the Principal, Andy Mison.

Meeting with President and Artistic Director, Young Music Society, 4 December 2018

Thanks to Joan Dunn and Stephen Leek, President and Artistic Director of the Young Music Society, for the opportunity to meet with them today at their (relatively) new premises in the Flynn Community Hub. As another (albeit they are much larger scale) non-profit, we found much in common on which to compare notes. They are doing great work, including preparations for their Summer Music School, at which they anticipate having more than 400 participants from 7 to 18 January 2019.



DALF C2, 4 December 2018

We have received confirmation from the Alliance Française de Canberra that the Convener of the Canberra Academy of Languages, Frank Keighley, has been awarded the DALF C2 (Niveau C2 du Cadre européen commun de référence pour les langues (CECR) – Level C2 of the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages).



This qualification is awarded by the Centre International d'Études Pédagogiques (CIEP), an agency of the French Education Ministry. It forms part of the scale of recognition of language proficiency that comprises the Diplôme d'Études en Langue Française (DEL F A1, A2, B1, B2) and the Diplôme Approfondi de Langue Française (DALF C1, C2).

The DELF B1 is the level required for applications for French citizenship and the DELF B2 is required for applications for undergraduate studies at French universities. DALF C1 is required by some universities for non-French candidates to apply for post-graduate studies.

As [described on the DELF/DALF website](#), "Le C2 est le niveau le plus élevé du CECR et le DALF C2 est le plus haut diplôme de français langue étrangère. Au niveau C2, la maîtrise de la langue se traduit par un degré de précision, d'adéquation et d'aisance dans l'expression. Le candidat de C2 est capable de réaliser des tâches académiques ou de niveau avancé."

CAL End-of-Year Ceremony, 18 December 2018



The CAL End of Year Ceremony for 2018 will be held on Tuesday 18 December from 2:30 pm at the Alliance Française, 66 McCaughey Street, Turner 2612.



If you would like to attend, please email info@cal.act.edu.au and let us know your name, preferred phone contact details and the number of people wishing to attend with you.

CAL End-of-Year Ceremony update, 20 December 2018

Our thanks to the Alliance Française de Canberra – venue with great ambiance for our end of year event and to our guest speaker, Flavie Coulbault, Chargée de coopération éducative et linguistique, Ambassade de France en Australie.



Congratulations to all five students who did this year's program with us, particularly Liz, our Year 12 graduate, who was also successful in qualifying for the DELF B2 diploma. Thanks to Liz and Grace for their excellent addresses, delivered with confidence in French and English.

It was excellent to see current and former principals, deputy principals, languages coordinators, French teachers, advisory panel members, reference group members, former president of the ACT Community Language Schools Association, colleagues at the Alliance Française, and students of the Canberra Academy of Languages.

Copies of the [Convener's report for 2018](#) were available at the event.

