The Francophone Research & Resource Center (FRC) develops and conducts programs, workshops, conferences, seminars and other activities for a wide range of audiences, Francophile and Francophone, members of the university communities of Southern California, teachers of French at all levels, and students of French language and cultures.

Housed by USC’s College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, with the support of USC Libraries, the USC Francophone Resource Center serves as a hub for a diverse set of multidisciplinary activities involving distinguished Francophone writers, scholars, filmmakers, journalists, and scientists. In sum, its goal is to create new interdisciplinary bridges between local and Francophone institutions.

In this Newsletter:

- The Month Special Feature
- Grants for Teachers of French
- Cultural Events
- The French Finest: Visual Arts, Music, Films, Performing Arts
- Teaching French as a Foreign Language
- Web Portals for French as a Foreign Language
- Educational Resources...
The French Embassy is offering Teacher Training Grants in France

Every Year, the French Government through their Cultural Services in the US, offers 3 weeks grants in France, to qualified Primary and Secondary Schools French Teachers who would like to improve their language skills and enhance their knowledge of French culture.

About the Grant and the Training

What is included:
- Enrollment and training fees for 3 weeks
- Round-trip train ticket from Paris to the Provinces
- Part of the costs of lodging and food
THE GRANT DOES NOT INCLUDE THE AIRFARE USA/France

Dates:
July 2009 (3 weeks)

Theme:
Intensive study of French language and teaching French and modern French culture through writing, theatre, cinema.
Also available: teaching French in a bilingual elementary school

Elegibility

Full-time teachers in accredited schools who:
- are US Citizens or Permanent Residents (French citizens are not allowed to apply)
- have working knowledge of French
- are assigned to teach the French language and/or French Culture in grades K-12
- wish to strengthen their French language skills and enhance their knowledge of French culture.
- have not received a grant from the French Government for the last 3 years

To download the application form, for any information and deadlines, visit:

APPLICATION AVAILABLE
JANUARY 2009
Email: education@consulfrance-chicago.org

The Month Special Feature

Grants for French Teachers

French-American Commission for Educational Exchange

The Commission provides grants to French and American students (graduate and post-graduate levels), young professionals, scholars, teachers and language teaching assistants wishing to expand their educational experience during a year in the host country.

Amongst others: The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program
More information at:
Be aware that most deadlines for application are mid-January!!
Cultural Events

The French Finest

Architectures of Survival

December 4-14, 2009

Komplot curate at the Open Gallery several video installations with some of the most influences French artists of the moment.

The French collective Bad Beuys Entertainment presents the video 'Champion' (2003), an animated gif file that is a series of logos of products, brands, companies and organisations called CHAMPION collected on the web.

Pauline Bastard works on the detournement of functional objects, transforming their use value in moments of contemplation. Her work ‘Fresh’ associates a plastic bag and a ventilation fan in a very iteral visual pun. Movement and playfulness are also characteristic of the fountains she creates out of domestic wrapping paper.

Jean-Philippe Convert made a piece by associating the Flemish flag with the cover album 'The Wall' by Michael Jackson. Like in his video 'Advise to Iraki People', he puts together different sources to question poetically what seems to be accepted in the media.

Yona Friedman will be in Los Angeles, in January 2009. Before his visit, we wish to introduce his work by distributing manuals for building and creating spaces and structures that he puts together like recipes for public and private environments, sculptures and shelters.

Hugues Marechal will stage a re-enactment of a performance where he stood at the entrance of an exhibition opening, demanding cigarettes from the visitors, whilst sporting a tattoo of the crocodile logo of Lacoste reversed on his chest in place of a shirt. A photograph of the original will act as a teaser for the visitor. Operating on the margins of the art world, Hugues Marechal tackles the question of survival facing artists in society & nature, with idiom based works on T-shirts (images from military survival manuals), plastic bags (Y€$) or graffiti tags which point to social phenomenon’s, sex, community.

With the support of the Commissariat général aux relations internationales, the Ministry of Culture of French Community of Belgium, the French and Belgian Consulates in Los Angeles

Location: Open Gallery - Outpost for Contemporary Art / 6375 N. Figueroa St. - Los Angeles, CA 90042


But also...

French Beats

Sebastien Tellier
Electro pop
December 3, 2008 @ 8:00pm
Henry Fonda Theatre
The Eurovision candidate may be on his way of becoming famous over here...
Info: www.sebastientellier.com
www.henryfondatheatre.com

Elodie O
Electro pop
December 11, 2008 @ 8:00pm
Beauty Bar LA
Info: www.elodieo.com/start.html
www.beautybar.com

Performing Arts

The Bourgeois Gentilhomme
From November 7, 2008 to February 22, 2009
location: City Garage
The world premiere of a new adaptation of Molière’s classic comedy Le Bourgeois Gentilhomme.
Info: www.citygarage.org

In Theatre Now

I’ve loved you so long
(Il y a longtemps que je t’aime) by Philippe Claudel

A Christmas Tale
(Un Conte de Noël) by Arnaud Desplechin

Jules & Jim
by François Truffaut

More info at:
http://www.laemmle.com
Teaching French as a Foreign Language

Web Portals for French as a Foreign Language

Trying to find resources on the Internet is not as simple as it seems to be. Unless being really good at key words, one usually surfs randomly for hours before finding the right pieces of information. Domain-specific web portals can keep you from wasting your time. They present information from diverse sources in a unified way, thus preventing you from getting lost in the jungle of the World Wide Web.

Franc Parler  http://www.francparler.org/
A worldwide community for French teachers where you will find:
- educational features providing both theoretical and practical ideas to spice up your French class (teaching with films, games, comics...)
- worldwide news about French language
- useful posts to: find penfriends or built a partnership with a French school, etc...
- a selection of links to the best websites for French as a Foreign Language Teaching
- and many more!
Our favorite. Probably the most resourceful portal for French teachers.

Frenchresources.info  http://www.frenchresources.info/portail/fr/index.htm
Edited by the Cultural Services of the French Embassy in the United States. Dedicated to French teachers in the US.
- online educational resources classified by topics
- a complete sitography for FFL
- a calendar of workshops available for French teachers throughout the US.
- Infos about official tests and certifications in French as a Foreign Language.

Le Point du Fle  http://www.lepointdufle.net/
A web portal giving access to the best FFL activities available on the web to complete in the language lab, at home or simply as an inspiration for your French lessons. Index of hundreds of sites categorized by topics: skills practice, vocabulary, grammar, culture...

Le Weboscope  http://www.arts.kuleuven.be/weboscope/francais/index.htm/
A very good guide of FFL resources available on the web. Sections of interest:
- Lire, écrire, écouter, parler, intégration
- Grammaire, vocabulaire, interculturel

Quartier Français du Village Planétaire
http://faculty.staff.richmond.edu/~jpausen/gvfrench.html
Rich portal with hundreds of links to FFL educational resources (pedagogy, literature, grammar, vocab, language courses) Will be very difficult not to find what you are looking for!

Flenet  http://www3.unileon.es/dp/dfm/flenet/
A good illustration of the use a French Teacher can make of the Internet. Lessons, exercises, reflexions, publications...

Le Français en Ligne  http://francaisenligne.free.fr/
Easy-to-navigate portal providing a list of activities and exercises carefully selected from the web. The skill/level-based classification makes navigation easier. Five sections: écrire/ parler/écouter/ lire/ outil.

But also

Fle.fr
http://www.fle.fr
A detailed selection of the best websites for FFL.
Check out « cartable connecté »: a selection of websites to animate your class

Edufle.net
http://www.edufle.net
A cooperative portal where all actors of FFL are invited to share their experiences, reflexions and educational resources.

Le Site de la Délégation Générale à la Langue Française et aux Langues de France
http://www.culture.gouv.fr/culture/dglf
Check out « Ressources et liens » and « Le Français Langue Etrangère »: a bunch of interesting links to educational resources, FFL associations, available teachers workshops, certifications and tests in FFL

La Page Pédagogique des Internautes
http://home.sandiego.edu/~mmagnin/SitesPeda.html/
A bunch of resourceful websites for FFL categorized by topics.

USC Francophone Research and Resource Center
http://www.usc.edu/schools/college/francophone
Calendar of French cultural events and teachers workshops at USC , links to resourceful FFL websites and educational material online
Teaching French as a Foreign Language

Educational Resources...

The Times Educational Supplement
Each Friday, the British Newspaper *The Times* publishes an educational supplement. These extra pages, mostly written by teachers for teachers, can be found on the web. Why are we telling you that? Simply because the TES also offers resources for Teaching French as a Foreign Language.
Have a look at it:
http://www.tes.co.uk/section.aspx?navcode=398

Celebrating Christmas in French
A bunch of activities to celebrate Christmas in your French classes. Amongst others: games on Christmas vocab, Christmas traditions in France, written and spoken activities, Christmas carols, songs and recipes.

Writing Competition

Because taking part in a writing project with your classroom is definitely one of the best way to enhance your students’ writing production

Bloguons en Français! Info/Intox?  
International competition organised by the International Federation of French Teachers. Teachers willing to participate must build a partnership with a French class.
Idea: Through a blog, students from both class will present their country to each others by publishing articles in French, pictures, videos.
The infos can be either true or false. The idea is that the partner school will have to find out what is « info » (real information) or « intox » (false information) and make comments.
-Read the competition rules at http://lewebpedagogique.com/concours-fipf/
-Build a partnership with an other class: http://www.francparler.info/pa/

International Writing Competition
Fifteen year-old famous writing competition organised by the Writing Workshop.
This year: « Somebody has been murdered. By who and why? Write a criminal enigma and imagine the investigation that will clarify the mystery »
-For more infos, visit webpage at: http://www.leaweb.org/lw/default.aspx

French Podcasts
The students of the Lycée International de Los Angeles have recorded podcasts about cultural, historic, scientific or music events in French.
Educational material for your classes? Go and check out by yourself:
http://blog.lilaschool.com

USC Francophone Research and Resource Center
USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences
Leavey Library, 302
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0033
Phone: (213) 740-3703
E-mail: frc@usc.edu