Heritage Languages
IN AMERICA

About the Alliance

The Alliance for the Advancement of Heritage Languages (the Alliance) consists of individuals and organizations invested in language development for heritage language speakers in the United States. The Alliance is committed to fostering the development of the heritage language proficiencies of individuals in this country as part of a larger effort to educate citizens who can function professionally in English and other languages.

The Alliance focuses on the following activities:

▪ Documentation of heritage language programs

▪ Information exchange and networking

▪ Conferences

▪ Research and resources

▪ Policy

▪ Public relations and promotion

▪ Professional development (teacher preparation and in-service development)

The work of the Alliance is carried forward through our Web site (www.cal.org/heritage) with links to resources on heritage language issues, information on collaborating organizations, and an electronic discussion list. The Alliance is collecting profiles of heritage language programs to promote information sharing and capacity building. (*See the box to the right for more information.*)

Visit us online

The Alliance Web site provides information on activities and resources, including our guiding principals, research, bibliographies, and access to the Online Collection of National Heritage Language Program Profiles.

Online Collection of National Heritage Language Program Profiles

The Alliance is collecting profiles of heritage language programs within and outside the formal education system and making them available on our Web site at **www.cal.org/heritage**.

View the collection online

You can view the profiles online by language or program type. The Online Collection of National Heritage Language Program Profiles is designed to allow heritage language programs in community-based and K–12 settings to form a network to exchange ideas and resources with one another.

Submit a profile online

If you work in a community-based or K-12 heritage language program, we encourage you to complete a Heritage Language Program Profile. By entering your program into the Online Collection of Heritage Language Program Profiles, you will

▪ Show other program developers and staff how to start or improve their own heritage language programs

▪ Provide information for researchers and for organizations seeking funding for programs

▪ Help your program by learning from other heritage language programs

To complete a program profile or view the collection, visit www.cal.org/heritage/profiles.html.
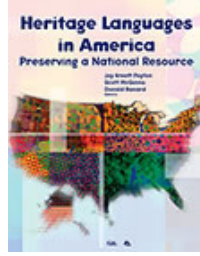
Join the Heritage Languages Listserv

Receive periodic emails with updates on conferences, training opportunities, resources, and news items for the heritage languages community.

To join the Listserv, email Scott McGinnis at smcginni@umd.edu.

Heritage Languages in America: Preserving a National Resource

Joy Kreeft Peyton, Donald A. Ranard, and Scott McGinnis (Editors), 2001

As this nation faces a critical shortage of adults with proficiency in languages other than English, we need to pay attention to our own rich linguistic resources, the languages spoken in ethnic communities across the United States. *Heritage Languages in America* outlines what needs to be done to help heritage language speakers develop their languages for use in academic and professional arenas. This book can be used by heritage community members, heritage and foreign language teachers and administrators, researchers, and policy makers to promote the maintenance and development of the languages in this country.

For more information, visit www.cal.org/resources/pubs/heritage.html.

The Alliance Leadership Team

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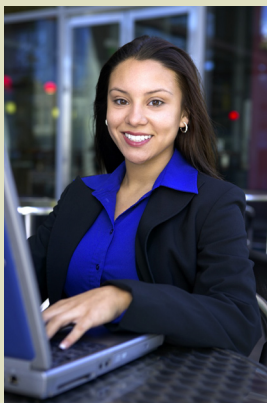
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Resources and Publications

The Alliance Web site houses a growing body of electronic and print resources on heritage languages. This includes informational brochures, teaching materials, news reports, scholarly articles, and books. There are also links to relevant community organizations, academic research units, and non-profit and government organizations.

- **CAL Resources**: The Center for Applied Linguistics has produced a wide range of publications related to heritage languages. Visit CAL online to find materials to help promote awareness in and support of heritage language development, summaries and digests on particular topics, and information on a full-length edited volume on heritage languages in the U.S. *Visit www.cal.org/topics/ell/heritage.html.*

- **Links to online resources**: Learn about and link to other organizations and resources available on the Web.

- **Bibliography**: Browse our expanding collection of references that include such information as reports on community efforts to promote heritage languages, scholarly articles on language development in heritage language learners, and information on the teaching of specific heritage languages in the U.S.

Visit the Alliance Web site at www.cal.org/heritage for more information about our publications and resources.

Become an Alliance Partner

Alliance partners are individuals who are serving in leadership capacities in a language area or geographical area of the country and contribute to the work of the Alliance by

- helping to build the collection of heritage program profiles,

- letting programs know about resources available on the Alliance Web site,

- and building coalitions of programs and individuals to work with the Alliance.

Join us in our efforts to promote the maintenance and development of heritage languages in the United States.

Email us at heritage@cal.org to learn how you can be part of this important inititative.

Visit us online at www.cal.org/heritage