

# Canberra Region Languages Forum Update February 2013

## 1. LANGUAGES AT MULTICULTURAL FESTIVAL IN CIVIC

Friday 8 February - Sunday 10 February 2013.

Enjoy the voices, food and performances of multilingual Canberra. For program and other details see: [http://www.multiculturalfestival.com.au/performers/festival\\_program](http://www.multiculturalfestival.com.au/performers/festival_program)

Children's Sanctuary 10am-3pm Saturday 9 February

Outside Canberra Museum and Gallery (CMAG), London Circuit, near Civic Square. Lots of free fun activities for children, involving many languages and cultures. For more details see [http://www.multiculturalfestival.com.au/oasis\\_and\\_sanctuary/childrens\\_sanctuary](http://www.multiculturalfestival.com.au/oasis_and_sanctuary/childrens_sanctuary)

Publicise your language programs and find out about local language-related activities:  
Sunday 10 February

Come and visit and/or bring any leaflets or brochures to the ACT Bilingual Education Alliance stall (Stall number F47), on Akuna Street opposite Myers Dept Store on the corner of City Walk. 10.30am to 5pm, Sunday 10 February or contact [canberrabilingual@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabilingual@gmail.com)

## 2. NEW LANGUAGE PROGRAMS AT ANU

The new Diploma of Languages

Languages available are: Ancient Greek, Arabic, Chinese, French, German, Hindi, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Latin, Persian, Sanskrit, Spanish, Thai, Urdu and Vietnamese.

You can study the Diploma of Languages alongside a current undergraduate degree, but not as a standalone program unless you already have a degree. This program can only be undertaken on a part-time basis.

ENROLMENT DEADLINE 8th February

For more information see <http://students.anu.edu.au/think/dip-lang.php>

Portuguese language will be offered for the first time in second semester 2013. The unit, PORT1001, will combine a tutor at ANU with an online course and video-conferencing with Indiana University.

## 3. FREE EVENTS FOR CHILDREN AT GUNGAHLIN LIBRARY (Hibberson St, Gungahlin)

Multicultural Story Time Thursday, 7 February from 10.30-11.30am

Celebrate Chinese New Year with stories from China. Thursday, 14 February 10.30-11.30am

Both events are free and no bookings are required.

## 4. FREE RESOURCES IN MANY LANGUAGES

A digital library of children's books from around the world downloadable free of charge from <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/index.shtml>

Books and other resources in many languages in ACT libraries: see [www.library.act.gov.au/library\\_services/multicultural\\_services](http://www.library.act.gov.au/library_services/multicultural_services)

## **5. AIATSIS PUBLIC FORUM: LANGUAGE REVITALISATION**

Wednesday 13 February 2013, 1:30-3.30pm, Mabo Room, AIATSIS.

Join a conversation with the Barngala people and panel of Australia's language experts. The Barngala people have been working in collaboration with Professor Ghil'ad Zuckermann on a language revival program.

The Forum is free of charge, refreshments will be served and free parking is available.

## **6. SEMINAR FOR FAMILIES RAISING CHILDREN IN MORE THAN ONE LANGUAGE**

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2pm-5pm, University of Canberra**

Expert and practical advice and support for parents, grandparents and carers as well as teachers and early childhood professionals involved in developing children's skills in more than one language.

If you are interested in attending, or providing or displaying information during the afternoon, Please contact [canberrabilingual@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabilingual@gmail.com)

## **7. FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON DRAFT CURRICULUM FOR ITALIAN AND MANDARIN LANGUAGES IN AUSTRALIAN SCHOOLS**

ACARA (the Australian Curriculum, Assessment and Reporting Authority) is seeking feedback and comments on the draft national curriculum for Mandarin and Italian languages from Reception (i.e. Kindergarten) level to Year 10 now available online.

ACARA also welcomes feedback on the overarching aspects of the Languages Learning Area that apply to all languages, and encourages all stakeholders with an interest in languages to contact them during this consultation period.

Closing date: Friday 12 April 2013.

See <http://consultation.australiancurriculum.edu.au/> for information on how to access the curriculum and how to provide comments and feedback.

## **8. LANGUAGE CONFERENCES IN CANBERRA IN JULY 2013**

Languages and Cultures Network for Australian Universities (LCNAU): Policies, practices and research in university language and culture programs, the second colloquium of LCNAU. At ANU from 3 to 5 July, 2013. Free registration.

For more details see <http://lcnau2013.cap.anu.edu.au/> or contact [lcnau13@anu.edu.au](mailto:lcnau13@anu.edu.au)

Australian Federation of Modern Language Teachers Associations biennial national conference: 5-8 July, hosted by the Modern Language Teachers Association ACT.

For more information see <http://afmlta.asn.au/>

The 19th National Chinese Teachers' Conference will be held in Canberra, July 6 and 7, 2013.

More information: <http://www.cltfa.asn.au/> or Dr Li Fuxin at [ascc@trilong.com.au](mailto:ascc@trilong.com.au),

## **9. NEWS FROM THE TELEPHONE INTERPRETER SERVICE (TIS) NATIONAL**

TIS National is up and running again

Services have been fully restored after an electrical fire in the TIS National office which disrupted all phone, on site and pre-booked services. TIS National thanks all of its clients and stakeholders for their patience throughout the disruption.

### How to pre-book an interpreter

You can now book a telephone or onsite interpreter more quickly by using the online booking forms on the TIS National website. Using online forms automatically registers you in the booking system and removes delays associated with sending your request by fax which TIS booking officers have to process manually.

See: [http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help\\_with\\_translating/](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help_with_translating/)

## **10. RESOURCES FROM THE DEPT OF IMMIGRATION AND CITIZENSHIP (DIAC)**

- *Beginning a Life in Australia*: a booklet in English and 37 community languages. <http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/settle-in-australia/beginning-life/>
- TIS National Promotional DVD: training resource for organisations that work with interpreters. Also provides a simple guide for accessing interpreters through TIS National. [http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help\\_with\\_translating/promotional-dvd.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/living-in-australia/help-with-english/help_with_translating/promotional-dvd.htm)
- Australia a new home DVD (Burmese, Karen, Nepali, Chin (Haka) and Rohingya, and English) <http://www.immi.gov.au/about/reports/annual/2008-09/html/features/feature12.htm>
- Australia a new home DVD, settlement information for newly arrived African refugees (Amharic, Dinka, Kurundi, Swahili, Sudanese Arabic and Tigrinya)
- More than 90 DIAC fact sheets available on DIAC's website covering a range of information and topics: <http://www.immi.gov.au/media/fact-sheets/>

Local contact: Community Engagement and Multicultural Affairs Branch, DIAC ACT and Regions office: tel: (02) 6195 6046 Email: [morgan.small@immi.gov.au](mailto:morgan.small@immi.gov.au)

## **FEEDBACK ON THESE UPDATES AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO FUTURE UPDATES WELCOME.**

**Copies of previous Forum Updates are available at**  
<http://canberralanguages.blogspot.com/p/forum-updates.html>