

## Canberra Region Languages Forum Update

September 2017

### 1. Canberra Academy of Languages: Information evening about 2018 programs

- Thursday, 14 September 2017, 6pm
- Canberra Museum and Gallery, Civic

The Canberra Academy of Languages is a registered Specialist Education Provider with the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies. It offers language courses for senior secondary students who wish to study languages not available in their day schools or through other established providers.

Courses for 2018, subject to viable enrolment numbers, include Continuing French, Advanced French, Continuing German and Continuing Indonesian. Advanced level German and Indonesian are also possible. In addition, CAL has proposed the writing of a course in Indigenous languages.

For more details: [www.cal.act.edu.au](http://www.cal.act.edu.au) or email [frank.keighley@cal.act.edu.au](mailto:frank.keighley@cal.act.edu.au)

### 2. Poetry on the move 14 September to 21 September

Hosted by the International Poetry Studies Institute and based within the Centre for Creative and Cultural Research, Faculty of Arts and Design, University of Canberra.

The program features 75 poets and other contributors. Most events take place at the University of Canberra; others are in city centre locations, the Belconnen Arts Centre, and the National Portrait Gallery. The following events maybe of special interest:

#### Friday, 15 September

- 2pm: Japanese Translation Workshop – Rina Kikuchi, Jeffrey Angles
- 4.30pm: Multilingual Poetry and Translation
- 6.30pm: Women's Voices from Japan: A Bilingual Poetry Reading

#### Saturday, 16 September

- 2pm: Poetic Journeys: two Japanese stories – Hiromi Ito & Mayu Kanamori (National Portrait Gallery)
- 3pm: Measures of Expatriation: Poetry and displacement (National Portrait Gallery)
- 7.30pm: Poetry Reading – Hiromi Ito, Keijiro Suga, Vahni Capildeo, Glyn Maxwell (Gorman Arts Centre)

All events are free, but numbers are strictly limited for some. Hence booking is required. For more information see: <http://www.canberra.edu.au/research/faculty-research-centres/cccr/ipsi/events/potm2017>

### 3. Volunteers needed to lead conversation groups at ANU College

ANU College has a number of programs for international students who need a bit of extra support before they enrol at ANU. Many find it difficult to meet locals and integrate into Australian culture. So ANU College has started a conversation program to bridge the gap between their international students and other members of the community.

They are currently seeking leaders for English conversation groups from 9 October – 22 December 2017.

Volunteers can arrange the time and location (e.g. cafes, libraries on ANU campus) to meet with a small group of 4-5 students for 1 hour a week to help them practise English. If you are interested in volunteering, apply online at <http://btr.im/0936q> by 8 September 2017.

For more information: email [conversation@anucollege.edu.au](mailto:conversation@anucollege.edu.au).

#### 4. Opportunities for language learning in the ACT area

##### a) Language Exchange Canberra

- Tuesdays, 6:30pm – 9pm at PJ O'Reilly's, Alinga St, Civic

A club for anybody interested in learning English or improving a second language, meeting new people from other cultures and being social. They have little flag stickers from different countries. The first flag is your native language and goes at the top. The second flag is the language you would most like to learn. You don't have to be a great speaker and you can talk about anything you like. Free admission

For details: <https://www.facebook.com/LanguageexchangeCanberra/>

##### b) Polyglot Club

- Mondays evenings at the ANU. Small conversation groups in French, German, Spanish and Danish. For more information: <http://www.canberrapolyglot.org/>

##### c) The Alliance Française de Canberra

French for adults and young learners during the school break, 26 September 2017 to 5 October 2017. For details: <http://www.afcanberra.com.au/>

##### d) For other opportunities to study and practice a range of languages in the Canberra region:

<http://actbilingual.weebly.com/other-language-programs.html>

#### 5. New Mandarin programs

##### a) 10 week course in Basic Mandarin

Organised by the Taiwanese Association of Canberra Australia (TACA), taught by qualified and experienced teachers, aimed at learners with little or no knowledge of Mandarin.

For adults over 16: learn to have simple conversations in Mandarin relating to social and travel aspects and find out more about Taiwan. Saturdays 10.15am – 11.45am from 14 October to 14 December, 2017

For 5-12 year olds: develop communicative skills in speaking, listening, reading, and writing in Chinese, daily conversations relating to social and cultural aspects. Mondays 4pm – 5.30pm from 9 October to 14 December, 2017

Venue: 28 Astrolabe Street, Red Hill. Cost: \$200 per person, which includes course materials.

Maximum number per course: 15. Places offered on a first come first serve basis. Closing date for enrolment: Thursday 21 September 2017. For more details: [tacamail.act@gmail.com](mailto:tacamail.act@gmail.com)

##### b) School holiday Chinese and art program

A program by experienced teachers for students aged above 5 from both Chinese and non-Chinese backgrounds. Organised by Canberra Chinese School 华夏中文学校

- 8:30am -5:30pm, Tuesday 3 October to Friday 6 October 2017
- Palmerston Primary, Kosciuszko Ave, Palmerston
- Chinese lessons, art lessons (e.g. craft, brush painting and drawing), fun indoor and outdoor activities
- Cost: \$50 per day or \$180 for four days

Register by Wednesday 20 September 2017. For registration form and more information: [www.canberrachineseschool.net](http://www.canberrachineseschool.net) or contact Liz Gao ([lijun001186@gmail.com](mailto:lijun001186@gmail.com))

#### 6. The Expressionists

A podcast produced by Helen Rydstrand and Olivia Rosenman which discusses the meaning, origin and use of everyday expressions, sayings and idioms. For 15 to 20 minute chats about cocks and bulls, foot putting, short shrift and roos loose in the top paddock see

<http://expressionists.audio/>

You can also sign up to receive a fortnightly Expressionists newsletter and occasional extra idiom tidbits.

## **7. This is a Voice exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum in Sydney**

If you are visiting Sydney, why not check out this exhibition at the Powerhouse Museum?

Experience the human voice, how it locates us socially, geographically and psychologically, and learn how the voice is utterly flexible and can be altered with treatment and training. The exhibition features the Sydney Speaks app, developed by The ARC Centre of Excellence for the Dynamics of Language, an interactive tool that involves hearing clips of speakers and matching them with social characteristics (occupation, region, ethnicity and age).

On now until 28 January 2018. For details: <https://maas.museum/event/this-is-a-voice/>

## **8. ACT Bilingual Education Alliance Potluck lunch and networking event**

- Saturday 28 October 2017, 11am – 1pm,
- Deakin Preschool, 2 Hopetown Circuit, Deakin ACT 2600

A Children's Week activity to promote networking and information exchange between families raising children in more than one language and others interested in bilingual education. Free fun language activities for children. Everyone invited to bring a dish of their favourite food to share.

RSVP via eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/actbea-languages-potluck-lunch-tickets-37628965248> or contact [canberrabilingual@gmail.com](mailto:canberrabilingual@gmail.com)

## **9. Articles and links that may be of Interest:**

- Humans who read grammars. A blog by young linguists interested in diversity and description of the world's languages. They write posts about research and academia relevant to young linguists and sometimes also the general public.  
<http://humans-who-read-grammars.blogspot.com.au/>
- The Language Teacher Helpmate: Resources. Links for books; languages pedagogy blogs & websites; planning for languages programs & advocacy; materials for languages teaching; CLIL; languages & ICTs; museums & language resource centres; general teaching materials; image banks; and intercultural understanding and Asia literacy.  
<http://www.languageteacherhelpmate.com/teaching-resources>
- A free online English course developed by the Institute of Continuing and TESOL Education (ICTE-UQ) to help students preparing for assessment through the International English Language Testing System (IELTS). This is the University of Queensland's most popular MOOC, and has attracted more than 418,000 enrolments from around the world.  
<https://www.uq.edu.au/news/article/2017/07/need-improve-your-english-free-course-here-help>

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

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