Letter from the Chairman

Dear Friends,

Greetings from our Nation’s Capital! Autumn is now upon us and another summer has gone too quickly. Just a few months ago I asked to hear from you, and energetically you spent the summer sharing your thoughts and concerns with the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation. Your opinions matter and help guide our mission. We sincerely appreciate the feedback.

This newsletter will share some of the exciting things happening here, including our latest partnership that brings a completely free English language learning program to our website, www.usefoundation.org. I encourage you to check out the program.

Also, we recently awarded our annual scholarship to a bright student whose studies focus on teaching English as a Second Language for practical application in the U.S. for the upcoming school year. You’ll find details on our promising young student as she begins her Master’s Degree coursework. Her enthusiasm for helping new immigrants learn our common language is quite remarkable and thrilling to see within today’s college students.

Finally, we share some thoughts on planning for the future and taking control of your assets through the writing of a will. It might be a difficult discussion for some, but a little planning now will go a long way in making a statement on your vision for the future.

As always, our work is only possible because of your continued support to the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation. Thank you for those contributions.

Sincerely,

Mauro E. Mujica

New Partnership with Mingoville

America has long been a land of opportunity. The endless possibilities for those that were willing to work hard drove generations of immigrants through Ellis Island. This American Dream is still alive and stirs in the hearts and minds of America’s immigrants today. But it is becoming virtually impossible for immigrants to achieve that dream without learning to speak English.

We want to inform you of our latest efforts to facilitate English acquisition. As part of our efforts to help new Americans learn our common language, the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation is promoting an innovative online English learning program called Mingoville.

We partnered with the renowned Danish eLearning Center (DELC) to provide this fun, effective, and free way to learn English online. Mingoville is a valuable English language learning program that is used in over 60 countries worldwide. Interactive lessons, games, and activities focus around a family of flamingos that help users of all ages complete tasks and keep track of their progress. Through our partnership, we can offer the use of this free online program to English language learners on our website: www.usefoundation.org.

Please share our free English language learning program with everyone you know or any group you think could benefit from this resource.

Scholarship Awarded

Katherine Foster is the 2008 recipient of the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation Scholarship. She will receive a $1,500 award toward her tuition at the University of Texas as she works toward her Master’s Degree in Foreign Language Education in English as a Second Language (ESL).

“English is truly a global language, and a window to the world,” states Katherine. This is a belief she has acted on, teaching English in Japan for over three years. She returned home to the United States to continue her education to teach ESL to American immigrants.

In her scholarship application, Katherine wrote, “When a person
Thank You

All of these programs, research projects and education initiatives take financial resources. We are able to be on the forefront of Official English because of your support. So, plain and simple, thank you. Thanks for being there and thanks for keeping the faith in our unifying cause.

Realizing Your Vision with Planned Giving

Do you have a will? You might think it’s a highly personal question to ask and early one at a certain age, but the reality is that more than 60 percent of the Americans who pass away this year will not have one. That means the government will decide what to do with the assets the individual spent a lifetime earning. And that’s just not right.

No matter how much property you have, you need a will. Property is defined as anything that you own. That can be real estate, cash, investments, retirement accounts, life insurance, jewelry, and even your car. You earned it and you have the right to decide what to do with it.

The best way to draw up a will is with a licensed attorney in your state and it generally costs less than most people expect. The attorney should be able to provide cost information upfront.

If you’re thinking about writing a will or revising an old one, the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation has a booklet that can help you pull your thoughts together on what you want to do with your money today and tomorrow. Just call Victoria Renard, Director of Special Programs, at 800-787-8216 or email her at vrenard@usenglish.org and she’ll send you the information to help get your thoughts organized.

As always, the U.S.ENGLISH Foundation thanks those members who have drawn up a will and thoughtfully included the Foundation with a legacy gift. These gifts create a lasting legacy for you and make a strong statement on your vision for the future.