



**NCTE**  
COSTA RICA

**38<sup>th</sup>**

**NATIONAL CONFERENCE  
FOR TEACHERS OF ENGLISH**

# CONNECTING KNOWLEDGE

**JUN 7-10**



**CENTRO CULTURAL**  
Costarricense • Norteamericano





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# INSPIRING CHANGE:

Reflecting on Who and What Really Matter  
in the ELT Classroom to Foster Versatile,  
Equitable, and Empowering Learning Spaces

**CALL FOR PROPOSALS**



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## BACKGROUND

For the past 38 years, the National Conference for Teachers of English Costa Rica (NCTE) has been a forum for the promotion of innovative practices in the field of English language teaching among educators in both the public and private sectors of the country along with participants and speakers from around the world. The goal of this annual event is to provide a space in which working professionals from many different teaching contexts can come together, share their experiences, creativity, and knowhow in order to contribute to the growth and advancement of English language education for all interested parties in Costa Rica and beyond.

## 2023 CONFERENCE THEME:

As we enter the post-COVID era of English language teaching, our ability to adapt to novel circumstances and overcome barriers to learning has never been more essential. Change has become a constant in the lives of all educators but it should not distract us from our deeper purpose. The NCTE 2023 conference, with its theme “Inspiring Change: Reflecting on Who and What Really Matter in the ELT Classroom to Foster Versatile, Equitable, and Empowering Learning Spaces” reminds us of the importance of focusing our efforts and priorities on what truly makes the difference; the learning potential generated through the cultivation of empathic relationships and fair, safe, and supportive environments.

## FORMAT

In recent years, the conference format has evolved, moving first to a fully virtual format in 2020 and 2021 due to COVID-19 before adopting a hybrid format in 2022. This most recent change provided flexibility and access for our virtual audience while also taking advantage of the social benefits of face to face interaction for those that attended in person. In 2023 we will continue the hybrid format by offering a combination of virtual workshops and in-person plenary sessions live streamed from the Eugene O'Neill Theater in San José, Costa Rica. These plenaries will also have online moderation which will allow remote participants to interact with each other and pose questions for the speakers.





# SCHEDULE

The event will feature 20 sessions offering a total of 30 hours of high quality professional development. Each session has a duration of 90 minutes and there is a 30 minute break in between sessions. The conference begins on Wednesday June 7th at 4:00 pm Costa Rica time with the opening keynote address.

**Jun 7: (4:00 pm - 7:30 pm)**  
**Opening Keynote and 1**  
**Interactive Session**

**Jun 9: (8:00 am - 7:30 pm)**  
**6 Interactive Sessions**

**Jun 8: (8:00 am - 7:30 pm)**  
**6 Interactive Sessions**

**Jun 10 (8:00 am - 7:30 pm)**  
**6 Interactive Sessions**



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# THEMATIC STRANDS

## 1. Teaching Best Practices:

Innovative and time-tested strategies for providing high quality English instruction, including but not limited to:

- Lesson Planning to Develop Linguistic Competencies
- Scaffolding and Flipped Learning
- Robotics, Makerspace, Projects and Content Based Language Teaching
- Development of 21st Century Skills
- Innovative Approaches to Teaching the Four Skills
- Feedback and Error Correction in the Digital Age
- English for Technical High Schools and ESP
- Learning Strategies, Metacognition, and Learner Agency

## 2. Teaching Young Learners:

Practical strategies and activities to work with preschool and elementary level language learners including but not limited to:

- Phonemic Awareness, Reading Comprehension and Storytelling
- Classroom Management and Student Engagement through the Screen
- Gamification and Activity Design
- Formative Assessment for Young Learners



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### 3. Assessment:

Tools, tips, and practices for observing and measuring student language proficiency and evidence of learning, including but not limited to:

- Standardized Testing, Diagnostics, and Screening
- CEFR Awareness: Language Learning Benchmarks and Competencies
- Innovative Formative and Summative Assessment Techniques and Rubric Creation
- Learner and Teacher Certification

### 4. Inclusive Education:

Case studies, teaching strategies, and approaches related to making the English classroom a more inclusive place, including but not limited to: Social Emotional Learning (SEL)

- Teachers as Agents of Change
- Teacher and Learner Empowerment
- Universal Design for Learning (UDL) in the Language Classroom
- Global, Local, and Digital Citizenship
- Strategies for Low-Resource Contexts and Populations with Limited Connectivity
- Learning Difficulties and Inclusive Education

### 5. Moving Forward:

Lessons learned, challenges, and opportunities for 21st Century teacher education and development including but not limited to:

- Innovation in Language Teaching and Learning
- Learner Autonomy in Virtual and Hybrid Education
- New Trends in Teacher Training, Action Research, and Reflective Practice
- Communities of Practice (COP) and Personal Learning
- Networks (PLN's)

## PRICES AND REGISTRATION:

Attendance to the online sessions of the NCTE 2023 is absolutely free for all participants. However, attendees can request a certificate of participation containing the number of attended hours for a small fee.

More information about registration, certificates, and schedules can be found on the conference website: <https://www.centrocultural.cr/ncte>







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