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American Translators Association (ATA) Announces Winner of 2011 School Outreach Award

ALEXANDRIA, VA (October 19, 2011) — The American Translators Association (ATA) today announced that Marcelo Pelliccioni, a translator based in Hartford, CT, has been chosen as the winner of ATA's School Outreach Program Award.

“We are very pleased to give this award to Dr. Pelliccioni to honor his effort to make students aware of this rewarding career option,” said Nicholas Hartmann, President of the American Translators Association. “It’s a really exciting time for translators and interpreters. As more and more companies are moving into the global arena, they are beginning to realize the importance of having a professional translator or interpreter. Good translations open doors, whereas mistakes can be embarrassing, costly, and potentially disastrous.”

ATA launched the School Outreach Program in 2004 to encourage its members to educate students about translation and interpreting and to interest them in these growing fields. Through the program, professional linguists speak to students at all levels, highlighting the career benefits of learning another language and the increasing potential for exciting work with foreign language skills. Using a variety of readymade presentations and activities available on ATA's website, presenters outline the requirements for becoming a professional translator or interpreter – and emphasize that these careers demand far more than simply being bilingual.

“As globalization continues to accelerate, the United States needs high-level language skills more than ever – in business, in diplomacy, and in national security,” said Meghan McCallum, ATA's School Outreach Coordinator. “It’s in everyone’s interest for today’s linguists to help educate tomorrow’s translators and interpreters as well as tomorrow’s language services consumers.”

To receive this award, participants must belong to ATA or an ATA-affiliated organization and must deliver a presentation at a school of their choice. Entrants are also required to submit photos of themselves presenting in the classroom.

A Spanish translator with over twenty years of experience in translation, Dr. Pelliccioni has recently launched MAP Translation Services, a language services practice specializing in science, technology, education, law, finance and business.

As winner of the award, Dr. Pelliccioni will receive free registration to ATA's 52nd Annual Conference at the Marriott Copley Place in Boston, where he will be presented with the award before hundreds of his colleagues in the translation industry.

To learn more about the American Translators Association and the School Outreach Program, visit www.atanet.org or call 703-683-6100.

Founded in 1959, the American Translators Association's primary goals include fostering and supporting the professional development of translators and interpreters and promoting the translation and interpreting professions. ATA, based in Alexandria, Virginia, currently has more than 11,000 members worldwide. For more information on ATA, please visit www.atanet.org.

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