



Experiential Learning... *Serious Fun!!*

Issue 2011-2

July, 2011

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New Class Structure

Bill Heinz, President

We are very excited about our upcoming Fall programming this year – we are making some major changes to all of our adult language courses. While they are major changes for us, I think they represent our continuous commitment to developing and offering programs that fit the needs and situations of our current and prospective students. Two major changes include length and pricing. We are reducing our programs from 10 weeks to 7 weeks. We believe this will reduce conflicts that students may have and requires less of an upfront commitment. Additionally, it will allow us to begin running 6 program sessions per year instead of 4. Overall, we're creating more opportunities for our students. By reducing the length, we're also able to lower the price for our programs, too. Our 7-Week Spanish programs will now be \$175 (\$230 previously) and our Non-Spanish programs will now be \$199 (\$255 previously). We believe just these two changes make our programs a lot more accessible to busy adults. But,

we are also adding some depth to our programs at the same time! With paid enrollment for a 7 week course, students will also receive 5 vouchers to attend various conversation groups in their target language. We have always offered conversation groups, but have not always created incentives for our enrolled students to participate in those. Another exciting change is that our conversation groups will now take on themes. One group may be media-rich, another be focused on dining or current events and another may meet in real-life venues like a coffee house or walking about town. Students may use their vouchers to attend one group consistently or try out different ones. Students may also use their vouchers during the current session or carry them over the immediately following session. Lastly, we will be integrating social media into the learning relationship students have with their instructors. Our **Talking Points** website, will host the ongoing chatter between our instructors and students – which will keep the lessons fresh, relevant and engaged!



Where you can Experience us!

Ghyslain Bistro on Market

Los Monitos has partnered once again with renowned **Chef Ghyslain** to offer its brand new and successful series:

A Full Day of French Food in 4 weeks

where participants sample exquisite foods and dishes the French traditionally eat at different times of the day, along with expressions and French cuisine terms.

Sep 7th—28th

You can register:

www.losmonitos.com/destinationfrance

Vincenzo's Italian Language and Dining Series returns in SEPTEMBER!

This time in a 4-WEEK format

Sep 12th - Oct 3rd

&

Oct 17th - Nov 14th

You can register:

www.losmonitos.com/vincenzos



International Wine & Language Series for private parties, clubs or neighborhoods!

Los Monitos is thrilled to offer this new option to the community. This program can be hosted at your home, office, club or anywhere you are planning a unique gathering for friends, family or colleagues.

For this program we would bring a wine expert and an instructor (the country and language of your choice) who will co-present the program and interact with guests. This program will provide an energetic, interactive, fun and educational experience. Video and photos will be taken so the experience can be remembered. For more details contact

Maria@losmonitos.com

502-893-0933

Fall is just around the corner!

We are preparing for it! This year's Fall Schedule will include our new **7-week classes** for adults & new pricing!
\$175 Spanish group classes
\$199 Non-Spanish group classes

Fall Schedule will be out the second week of August. Check it out and join us for a fun and exciting season
www.LosMonitos.com
or give us a call at
(502) 893-0933

Integrating Social Media

Los Monitos is putting social media to productive use! Beyond keeping up with friends' moods, statuses and current predicaments, social media can play an important role in the learning process. It has the innate capability to reach outside of the classroom to reinforce and stimulate. We are using Social Media in several ways: 1) Our most current class updates or cancellations will be posted on our Calendar and News webpage – and can be instantly updated through Twitter – so it stays up to date in real time; 2) Our new Talking Points webpage hosts Twitter feeds for all of our language programs. It will allow for our instructors to prompt conversations and engage students throughout the course of a week; 3) And finally we will be capturing our students participating in our programs and posting them to our Facebook Fanpage, so they can share it with their friends.

NEWS FLASH!!! We welcome our new Intern **Lizzie Denny** who's fantastic and a great help for our team!



Los Monitos Language Center is awarded Federal STARTALK grant to create Interactive Arabic Language and Culture Institute

Our program is off to a **WONDERFUL** start! It is almost dizzying how much our participants have learned in just a few days! They are incredible, and doing so well. Our entire team is impressed with each and every one of our kids.

If you want to learn more about the program and see what kids are learning everyday, please visit the "The Daily Feed" or "Blog" on the program's website (www.losmonitos.com/startalk) to see videos and pictures from some of each day's activities. You very well might see someone you know, though you may have NO idea what they are saying!

The program includes activities such as Skyping sessions to Egypt, music performances and a field trip. During the first week, students will be Skyping with three girls, age 12, in Cairo, greeting them with a big "Hello!" in Arabic, and they will then talk a little bit about themselves. Students will then have the opportunity to ask our new Egyptian friends one question each. Also, there will be a Lebanese musician and instrument maker *George Wakim* who will perform authentic Arabic music for the participants (on three different instruments, and sing) and talk to the kids about Arabic music. Parents will get to hear George at the open house on August 6th!

Connecting and Collaborating with the Arab World:
July 19 - August 6, 2011

For Middle and High School Students

This program was developed by our Arabic Program Director Julie Purcell:
julie@losmonitos.com or 502.644.2784

YMCA Contract Renewed

Los Monitos Language Center and the YMCA of Greater Louisville have agreed on a new contract which brings Homework Assistants into 60 of the Y's after-school programs for the 2011-12 academic school year. These assistants are assigned to one or two schools, each for two days per week for an hour per day. Many assistants that worked last year are already in-place, but more are actively being recruited. Homework assistants are paid \$10 per hour, \$5 per day gas allowance, a \$25 fee for referring new assistants and access to any foreign-language class offered at Los Monitos for free. Qualified candidates must have an associates degree or be currently enrolled in a four year degree; call 515-8731 or email hwassistant@losmonitos.com if interested.

Language Center Intern Program

We are happy to announce that recently we started our **new intern program**. Our current intern is *Lizzy Denny*, whose great personality and skills are a perfect fit for our company. Our interns primarily assist the administrators with a range of work, including office tasks, customer service, program development and promotion. We look for hard-working individuals, with great people skills, who have a friendly phone voice, and a knack for organization. Computer skills and some background with languages are essential; In-design knowledge and social media experience a plus. If you or someone you know are interested in becoming a part of the Los Monitos Language Center team, **we'd love to hear from you!** The position is part-time unpaid. We are happy to work around other school or work commitments. This is a great opportunity for college students or anyone looking to gain career skills that will benefit them for future employment opportunities. We are looking to fill the position by mid-August.

Upcoming Programs

Destination Italy:

A Journey of Regional Food Discovery

Brings you to an exciting new perspective on the different regions of Italy and their food, culture and customs.

4-week class—at Los Monitos—Crescent Hill

Thursdays 7:00-8:15 pm

August 11th – Sept 1st

\$119 per person



Destination Italy:

Your Travel Starts Here!

1st class: Pick-up your luggage (Louisville Airport)

2nd class: Hotel Check-in (Local Hotel)

3rd class: Getting around: directions, means of transportation, etc. (Local Neighborhood)

4th class: Fist stops (Gelato Gilberto)

4-week class

Thursdays 7:00-8:00 pm

Oct 6th – 27th

\$99



Hiko-A-mon: Japanese Language and Dining Series

A **4-week**, 90 minute event, once per week on Monday evenings at **Hiko-A-mon** Japanese restaurant in Westport Village. Each week you will gain insight into the Japanese culture, learning about traditions, ceremonies, Japanese greetings, culinary and dining expressions, and taste samples of the very best Chef Hiko has to offer!

Aug 8th -29th, Mondays 6:30-8:00pm

\$219 Per person

Los Animalitos Nocturnos:

Owls, bats & spiders (3-5 Year olds)

A collaboration with **the Louisville Zoo**, this family program teaches children Spanish experientially at the Zoo!

3 Saturdays 10-11:30 am, Oct 15th -29th ,

\$49 per child (Zoo admission included)

Foreign Language for Toddlers

It is well known scientific research about the benefits of learning a foreign language at a young age. Children as young as 17 months old begin to pick up vocabulary and use it in everyday speech. Toddlers realize every English word has an equivalent in another language, which fosters greater cognitive abilities and they develop a better accent and see foreign language as fun and entertaining! Los Monitos is happy to offer our "Young Immersion Program" for little ones, where we customize the program according to the children's abilities and age and make it fun for them to learn. For more information contact Maria@losmonitos.com

Keep the conversation going!



@experienceLM experiencelosmonitos

Check out our blog at: [WORDPRESS.COM](http://www.experencelosmonitos.wordpress.com)
www.experencelosmonitos.wordpress.com