

ROSA BELL – 2022 HAWAII TEACHER OF THE YEAR



Rosa M. Bell, born and raised in Panama, Republic of Panama. Relevant education includes a Masters of Secondary Education in World Language - Spanish in Hawaii Pacific University (HPU); A second Masters of Art in Teaching with Specialization on E-teaching and Learning from National University; Bachelor degree in Early Childhood Education, Cum-Laude at National University.

My professional experience started fifteen years ago working with military families, special education students, multilingual learners, diverse/multicultural populations, and the community in general in the education field. I began my career in education as an Early Childhood education preschool teacher and in the past decade, I have grown teaching on different grade levels World Language Spanish. I have participated in over 10 workshops that include providing staff development training, and addresses at local, regional, and national conferences and in schools throughout the United States.

I am a former president of the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP-2020). Currently, I am the Hawaii State Director of the Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica in which I continue to support teachers/advisors to incorporate culture and diversity with innovative ideas for students to receive the best educational resources. My leadership experience includes mentoring new teachers for the HODOE and as a teacher mentor volunteer in ACTFL since 2018. I am a leader in the HODOE World Language OCIS Annex Complex in Honolulu, HI. Participating in the World Language leadership committee enhanced my planning skills, and the ability to create curriculums to provide world language teachers with professional development courses. The World Language Symposiums in the State of Hawaii (2018), and the professional conferences at national level as in the American Council of Teachers of Foreign Languages (ACTFL - 2018 to 2021), and in the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese (AATSP - 2019 to 2022), has expanded my advocacy for learning a second language and culture.

Recently, I founded a virtual Professional Learning Community (PLC) Culture and Diversity with educators at national and international levels. This Professional Learning Community advocates for the integration of culture and diversity in World Language classrooms. Along with my virtual PLC is the “cafecito cultural”, a weekly broadcast (supported by Olelo communication Media in Oahu, HI) of interviews with professional educators that brings more interest about cultural resources available in our network. My areas of research and curriculum development are multicultural and diversity education, comprehensional input in the language classroom, and technology in language teaching.

[Candidate Video](#)