



# ANNUAL 2021- REPORT 2022



**HERITAGE  
LANGUAGE  
EDUCATION**  
NETWORK

*Algemeen Nut  
Beogende Instelling*

**ANBI**



# FEATURE PROJECTS

HLE Network was involved with numerous projects in the 2021-2022 school year. Thank you to all of our partners who helped make these a success!



## CHILDREN'S BOOKS

Since our last report, collections in Romanian, Bulgarian, Persian, Polish, and Ukrainian were added to the [International Children's Book Collection at Eindhoven Library](#), for a total of 9 languages, with 12 more on the way. The mayor attended a celebration of the collection on May 21, 2022, which was covered in Eindhoven News, and also in the news in Korea and India! We now have a summary on our website of the reading activities that take place in different languages at the library.



## PUBLIC OUTREACH CAMPAIGN

An MA intern from Radboud University Nijmegen helped us organize the public outreach campaign "[The Joy of Reading in the Heritage Language](#)." We organized the "Thuis taal Toppers!" book recommendation contest for multilingual children, created the "Ik lees ook in mijn thuis taal" video, presented research on our website about what benefits can follow from reading in the home language (available in English and Dutch), and we put together a Toolbox (in English and Dutch) with tips for how to get children reading in the home language.



## ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Together with organizations abroad, we started a tradition of running an annual conference for people involved with heritage language education: the [Forum of Heritage Language Coalitions in Europe \(FOHLC Europe\)](#). The free, online conference took place on November 19 and 20, 2021, and with the theme: Future-proofing Heritage Language Education. Keynote speakers were Dr. Anthony Thorpe and Lia Tedesco. There were approximately 150 registrations for the event.



## PROFESSIONAL PRACTICES

Together with organizations abroad, we focused on what heritage language programs worldwide have in common to define universal principles and good practices that can help guide HL programs. The result is a brief document: the [International Guidelines for Professional Practices in Community-Based Heritage Language Schools](#). The hope is that HL programs across the globe can be united through these common practices, leading to successful, respected, and trusted educational programs.

## A YEAR'S OVERVIEW

## WHERE WE ARE NOW



Heritage Language Education (HLE) Network brings heritage language (HL) programs together. We give voice to the common issues faced by these groups, and we raise public awareness about the societal benefits when multilingual children develop all the languages they speak.

This is the first annual report to appear after we formed a legal entity. On July 5, 2021, HLE Network became a [foundation](#)!

The Dutch tax authority now recognizes us as an "[ANBI](#)" which stands for "Algemeen Nut Beogende Instelling." This means our efforts are almost entirely committed to the public benefit. On our website you can find a policy plan and financial overview.

We are also now registered with [Geef.nl](#), which allows the use of their ANBI logo. It also provides a platform for monetary donations.

In August 2021, we started out with three board members (Diana Angelova, Geert Simons, and Philippe Soulard), and we were pleased to take on Anne van Buul as our fourth board member in April 2022. The day-to-day management of the organization is carried out by the Managing Director, Gisi Cannizzaro. From February to July, Gisi was assisted by Joni van Bruggen, an MA linguistics student from Radboud University Nijmegen.

During much of the 2021-2022 school year there were pandemic measurements in place, which meant that HL programs either could not operate, or they operated with restrictions or via online teaching. Despite this, several of us were able to meet each other face-to-face for a social [Meetup](#) in September 2021 for drinks at Pand P. In February 2022 we had an online Meetup.

We added to our website [four new interviews](#): *How to revamp a HL program: the story of the Polish School of Eindhoven* (September 2021), an interview with Dr. Ania Kijak; *Helping the supplementary schools of England achieve excellence: Meet the NRCSE* (October 2021), an interview with Pascale Vassie; *A story of language loss: Sicilian Americans in New Orleans in the 20th Century* (November 2021), a personal perspective about heritage language maintenance in her own family in the U.S. by HLE Network's Managing Director; and *Zurich's Herkunftssprachlicher Unterricht (HSU): a well-functioning model of heritage language education* (April 2022), an interview with Markus Truniger, former Head of the Department for Intercultural Education in Zurich and Sabrina Marruncheddu Krause at the Zurich University of Teacher Education.

Looking forward, we have organized an online talk "[Moedertaal en Vaderland](#)" (in Dutch) for September 29, 2022 by award-winning children's book author Marit Törnqvist to talk about the importance of having children's literature available at the library in multiple languages. We have also organized the [second FOHLC Europe conference](#), to take place on November 11 and 12, 2022, with the theme Multilingual Children and Multilingual Libraries: Cultivating Reading Habits in the Heritage Language. One of our guest speakers will be Professor Stephen Krashen.

In the year to come, we intend to emphasize how our activities are in line with Eindhoven's Preventatief Jeugdbeleid, Brainport Development's vision "We are the Future," and the U.N.'s Sustainable Development Goals.

# VISIBILITY



## Lezen in je thuistaal is voor expat kinderen heel belangrijk

vr 27 mei 17:27 - 01:58 min

Daarom wordt het lezen in de thuistaal gestimuleerd bij expat kinderen in Eindhoven, o.a. met een wedstrijd recenseren.

One of HLE Network's goals is to make the topic of heritage language education more visible. This year, we created a LinkedIn page for our organization, increased the number of newsletter subscribers we have from 120 to 200, and had over 825 unique visitors to our website.



## IN THE NEWS

One of the first contestants to submit a book recommendation to "Thuistaal Toppers!" was a Polish-speaking boy named Vincent, who was featured in a video piece by [Studio040](#), together with his mother, in May 2022. HLE Network and the Polish School in Eindhoven were featured in an article on [DutchNews.nl](#) on International Mother Language Day in February 2022.



## PARTNERS

The [Holland Expat Center South](#) gives much visibility to HLE Network: we appear twice per year in their Expat Guide and Living In Guide. Our Managing Director was featured in their July 2022 "We Are Not Alone" newsletter. HLE Network was also mentioned in the [Eindhoven Library](#)'s annual report, and we are listed on [Brainport Development](#)'s new Partner Page.



## LISTINGS

HLE Network is now listed in the directory of the [European Center for Modern Languages](#). We are also listed on [Nuffic](#)'s website as resource under "[Kinderen van internationals in het basisonderwijs](#)" as well as one of the "[Zeven initiatieven voor nieuwkomers en vluchtelingen](#)".



## INTERNATIONAL

HLE Network presented online at the [8th annual Community-Based Heritage Language Schools Conference](#) based in the U.S. Our Managing Director was interviewed for the American podcast "[It's About Language](#)" for a discussion about international collaborations. The *International Guidelines for Professional Practices in Community-Based Heritage Language Schools* were presented at the [NHLRC's Fourth International Conference on Heritage/Community Languages](#) (June 16 - 17, 2022).