



**CSCTFL
MILWAUKEE
2018**

**CELEBRATING
50 YEARS!**

Join us in Milwaukee to celebrate!

Fifty years ago, a group of leaders (including Wisconsinites Frank M. Grittner and Anthony J. Gradisnik) founded a regional conference with the intent to promote collaboration and further the practice of language educators. With the very first theme of “Where from Here?” and a location of Milwaukee, the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages helped set a foundation to evolve into the “Friendly Conference” that we know and love today. Fifty conferences later, the Wisconsin Association for Languages Teachers is honored to invite you back to the shores of Lake Michigan to celebrate where it all began – Milwaukee. We are excited to celebrate 50 strong conferences in a way we know would make the founders proud – with excellent professional development and collaboration including over 250 different sessions.

The name Milwaukee is said to derive from a Potawatomi word for “Gathering Place (by the water),” and we are excited to gather with you all in our diverse and entertaining city. In addition to a strong Native American history, Milwaukee as a European settlement began from humble French Canadian fur trading roots. Later waves of German and Polish immigration helped foment our strong brewing and sausage culture. Additional waves of immigration from Scandinavia, the Balkans, Italy, Lithuania, France, Ireland, Russia, and Bohemia and migration of African-American communities to the North helped build the diverse city we know today. A melting pot of cultures with a strong tradition in food and festival, Milwaukee offers plenty of experiences and entertainment for all.

Our conference hotel, the [Milwaukee Hilton City Center](#), will serve as a marvelous gateway to all that our city has to offer. Just blocks from our hotel, you will be able to take advantage of the food, drinks, and spirit of [Old World Third Street](#), showcasing Milwaukee’s history while providing great German food and locally brewed beverages. You can get an early glimpse of the [Wisconsin Entertainment and Sports Complex](#), the future home of the Milwaukee Bucks and Marquette Golden Eagles, which will be near completion at the time of our conference. Also just blocks away is the spectacular [Milwaukee Public Museum](#), with exhibits like the [Streets of Old Milwaukee](#) (get the app for an audio tour on your phone!), the [European Village](#), and [Crossroads of Civilizations](#). Additionally, our hotel is located not too far from the [Milwaukee Riverwalk](#), a more than 20 block trail along the Milwaukee River connecting public art, beautiful theatres, quality restaurants, and our famous Bronze Fonz statue. You will want to grab a photo with him!

With a little farther jaunt (our local cabs are plentiful and can be called with the [Curb](#) app), make sure to witness the majesty of the [Milwaukee Art Museum](#), featuring the breathtaking wing design from Santiago Calatrava. Just next door you can enjoy a foray into hands-on science at [Discovery World](#), with spectacular vistas of Lake Michigan. Make sure to include a trip to the [Milwaukee Public Market](#), where you can grab a bite to eat from a variety of cultures, pick up some spices from around the world, and find unique Milwaukee souvenirs. Finally, think about scheduling a [brewery tour](#) celebrating Milwaukee’s rich brewing history ([Sprecher](#), [Lakefront](#), [MKE Brewing](#), [Pabst](#), and [MillerCoors](#) are just a few of [many options](#)).

With such diverse and entertaining selections, we are certain that this will be an unforgettable conference. WAFLT looks forward to welcoming you along with CSCTFL to the 50th conference back where it all began.

We look forward to seeing you in Milwaukee this March,
Josh LeGreve, Local Liaison 2018

Picture courtesy of Visit Milwaukee.