



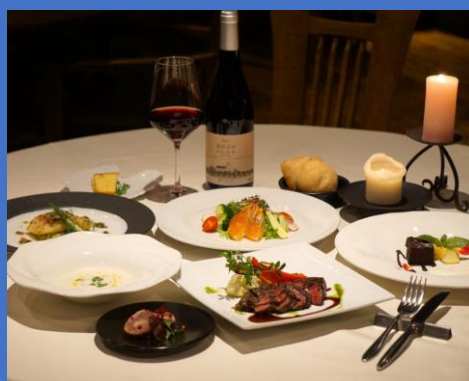
3rd Performance in Education SIG at Lake Nojiri Conference 2026

Furuma Community Center

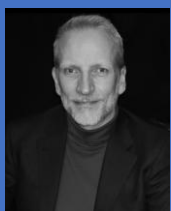
Monday Cultural Event (Tour of Area for those interested) 12:30-19:00

Tuesday Schedule: 9:00-17:00

Wednesday Schedule: 9:00-12:00



Lunch Banquet 12:20-14:30 St. Cousair Winery Restaurant



PIE SIG President

PIE SIG VP

Conference Chair

Darren Kinsman

Kevin Bergman David Kluge



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Welcome from the Conference Chair



The JALT PIE SIG, is proud to sponsor the PIE SIG Summer Conference 2026, to be held 1-2 September 2026 on Lake Nojiri in Nagano. We thank you for showing your interest and expertise with us.

David Kluge
Conference Chair

General Information

Here is some information that should help make navigating over the weekend.

1. Conference ID badge

We have provided blank ID badges. Feel free to use the markers to make your own creative name badge! Draw a picture of yourself! Go wild!

2. Goodies and a Bottle of Water

When you register, you will receive a free bottle of water. Snacks, including Choco PIEs and other snacks are available. You are allowed to eat and drink in the room.

3. Conference Room

Room #1, Second floor (accessible by elevator)

1. Empty room with tables and chairs in a storage area in the room
2. Air conditioning available
3. Maximum Capacity: 30, Expected Attendance 8-10
4. Large room with space for tables and workshop area as desired
5. Has whiteboard and 2 chalkboards
6. Provides a screen and projector for rent
7. The building has free wi-fi with access posted on the room wall
8. Bathrooms on both floors, one barrier-free on the First floor

4. This is just a reminder that **BEARS have been sighted in the area! Be careful.**

5. Password for Wi-Fi

The wi-fi information is posted on the walls in the Furuma Community Center.

6. Lunch

There are two recommended restaurants (Lumber Jack for Japanese and Western set menus and Italian, Pizza House Capitan for pizza and pasta.



Lumber Jack



Capitan

On Wednesday, lunch will be at St. Cousair Winery Restaurant. We will provide transportation both days.



3rd Annual PIE SIG-at-Lake Nojiri Conference September 1-2, 2026

CONFERENCE TEAM

David Kluge Conference Chair

Kevin Bergman Assistant Conference Chair, Photographer

Takahiro Iida Student Intern, Photographer

Max Diaz Web Manager

Darren Kinsman Publicity

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

TUESDAY 2ND FLOOR ROOM #1
9:00 Doors Open
9:00-9:30 Room Set-up
9:45-9:55 Welcome Kevin Bergman & David Kluge
10:00-10:45 “Life Lessons: A PIE SIG-based English Textbook” David Kluge with Takahiro Iida
11:25-11:35 BREAK
11:35-12:00 Morning DISCUSSION, Kevin Bergman & David Kluge
12:00-14:00 Lunch at Lumberjack lakeside restaurant or Capitan Italian Restaurant
14:00-14:50 “JOEE to the World” Ruth Gilmore Ingulsrud
15:00-15:45 DISCUSSION: Theatre vs. Drama Kevin Bergman & David Kluge
15:45-16:40 Afternoon DISCUSSION, Kevin Bergman & David Kluge
16:40-17:00 Room clean-up ALL PARTICIPANTS

SCHEDULE AT-A-GLANCE

WEDNESDAY 2ND FLOOR ROOM #1
9:00 Door opens
9:00-9:20 Room set-up
9:20-9:30 Welcome Message
9:30-10:15 “Down the Rabbit Hole: The Superpower of Multimodality” David Kluge
10:20-11:10 “Perform or Die: The Argumentative Performance of Werewolf in ELF Classrooms” Michael McGehee
11:15-11:40 “Doodles in the Margins: Art as Performance, Participation, and Meaning-Making” Ariel Taback
11:40-12:00 Room clean-up

Abstracts (in order of presentation)

TUESDAY PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS In Numerical Order by Presentation Order

1. **David Kluge** Chukyo University (Adjunct Professor)

Takahiro Iida Chukyo University Student

10:00-10:35

“Life Lessons: A PIE SIG-based English Textbook”

Life Lessons (David Kluge) is a student-centered content textbook based on life lessons the author wished someone had taught him when he was a university student. It is divided into 8 chapters: Identity; Friends Forever; Beliefs; Goals and Planning; Love; Recovering from Disappointment; Heroes; and Altruism, NPOs, & NGOs: Helping the World. Each chapter is divided into 4 units: definition of the Chapter topic, world example of the Chapter topic, individual example of the Chapter topic, and summary of the Chapter topic. An example of one chapter with PIE activities of discussions, presentations, and readers theatre will be shown. Q&A time will be provided.

NOTES

2. **Kevin Bergman & David Kluge**

“Morning DISCUSSION”

11:35-12:00

This discussion will cover the venue, the morning scheduling, and morning presentation.

NOTES

3. **Ruth Gilmore Ingulsrud** JOEE - Joyful Opportunity English Education

14:00-14:50

“JOEE to the World”

Joyful Opportunity English Education (JOEE) is a nonprofit foundation based in Japan. Our mission is to provide quality English language education to disadvantaged children, ages 2 to 10, growing up in institutional homes. The goal is to increase their emotional intelligence and expand their opportunities when they eventually launch out into the world at age eighteen. JOEE teaches basic English with accurate pronunciation by native-level teachers to give children growing up in institutionalized care in Japan an important advantage. During the JOEE lessons, children learn in a loving and lively atmosphere with puppets, books, songs and games. They are taught the following important truths: I am important. - I am kind. - I am loved. We hope that by teaching English in a way that is fun and engaging, the children will be motivated to study more intently and thereby increase their chances of finding fulfilling employment and life enjoyment as adults in this multicultural world.

NOTES

4. Kevin Bergman & David Kluge

15:00-15:45

“DISCUSSION: Theatre vs. Drama”

This discussion will define each term, show the similarities and differences, and discuss the strengths and weaknesses of Theatre and Drama.

NOTES

5. Kevin Bergman & David Kluge

15:45-16:40

“Afternoon DISCUSSION”

This discussion will cover the venue, the afternoon scheduling, and afternoon presentations.

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WEDNESDAY PRESENTATION ABSTRACTS In Numerical Order by Presentation Order

1. David Kluge Chukyo University (Adjunct Professor)

9:30-10:15

“Down the Rabbit Hole: The Superpower of Multimodality”

This presentation explores the value of curiosity in education. It defines “multimodality” in neurolinguistic terms, then explains the experience I had when using a web-browser to investigate what the algorithm suggested might be interesting to me. It tracks the investigation from step to step. Finally, I explain the revelation I had about the value of recording the steps my curiosity took me to satisfy me.

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2. Michael McGehee Temple University, Japan Campus

10:20-11:10

“Perform or Die: The Argumentative Performance of Werewolf in ELF Classrooms” WORKSHOP

Werewolf is a social deduction game, but in the language classroom it is also performance, argument, and conversation. If somebody says, “You’re the werewolf,” then the other player has to respond, give reasons, defend themselves, accuse somebody else, or persuade the group. If they actually are the werewolf, they have to play a part. The game creates a situation where students are not simply practicing English because the teacher has asked them to speak: they need to communicate in order to play.

This presentation draws on my experience using Werewolf with first- and third-year junior high school students in an English immersion program. I will show how I adapted the game for a class of about 24 students by pairing learners so that two students worked together as one player, making decisions, discussing suspicions, and voting together. I will connect this classroom practice to task-based and game-based language learning, performance pedagogy, and work on argumentation and embodied learning. In particular, I argue that Werewolf creates communicative necessity through hidden information, role performance, accusation, defense, and consequential decision-making. Claims, reasons, counterclaims, and rebuttals emerge spontaneously because they matter to the game. Students become highly invested, and even a little English is enough to participate, reason, perform, and learn through playing.

NOTES

3. Ariel Taback Temple University, Japan Campus, Kyoto

11:15-11:40

“Doodles in the Margins: Art as Performance, Participation, and Meaning-Making”

While some students eagerly embrace dialogue and performance, many students’ vibrant engagement shows up in a less recognizable or visible form: art. Rather than expressive faces and vocal tones, these students express their engagement through doodles in the margins, sketches on the backs of their papers, and diagrams and illustrations in their notes. Rather than treating these signs as “distractions,” “unimportant,” or “irrelevant,” this presentation challenges educators to expand the lanes of access available to students.

While some students perform skits or engage in debate, accessibility can be improved by opening a visual arts lane: someone who draws on the board as an integral player in a skit, an option to turn in visually annotated notes or artwork on the day’s discussion as part of engaged participation, or a designated “visual of the day” role to show the ideas in class visually.

This is both a practice and a mindset shift that takes “the quiet student doodling in the corner” from misperceived disengaged student to active participant and creative meaning-maker—which ultimately benefits everyone involved in the class.

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About the Performance in Education SIG (PIE SIG)

The mission of the Japan Association for Language Teaching (JALT) Performance In Education SIG (formerly the Speech, Drama, and Debate SIG) is to provide a forum for teachers and academics to discuss, research, and implement oral interpretation, speech, debate, drama and other forms of performance in language education. The main activities are the publication of a newsletter and the Mask & Gavel journal, as well as sponsoring conferences and workshops. including annual conferences in Okinawa and Sapporo. Other activities have included supporting chapter events and running local, regional, and national speech contests.

In the beginning, we created events by ourselves, which established our SIG as a vibrant entity. We started collaborative ventures by providing speakers to chapters upon request (Tokyo, Fukui, Fukuoka, Gifu, Nagoya, Okayama, Hiroshima, etc.). Many of these collaborations grew into co-sponsoring whole conferences, which we have done several times with Yokohama Chapter since 2015, Okinawa Chapter since 2015, and Hokkaido Chapter since 2019. Ever-evolving, these conferences have become annual. We have also collaborated with other SIGs, such as the LLL SIG, the BRAIN SIG, and the Critical Thinking SIG. We do these projects to tap into the regional bases which attract many participants, but we also enjoy the synergy that comes from working with new colleagues with different skill sets.

What We Are

“INTRODUCING, for Your Enlightenment and Entertainment, . . . The Performance in Education SIG!”
(Drumroll and trumpet fanfare)

A little too dramatic? Yes, well, that’s who we are. Who are we, you ask?

We are Dramatic.

One focus of the SIG is drama, and many members have theatre backgrounds or an interest in theatre. Yes, we do put on plays, radio dramas, and readers theatre productions in our schools, but we also incorporate into our classes, roleplays, simulations, theatre games, improv activities, and process drama techniques. Never heard of process drama? It can enhance EFL classes in many ways. Ask one of our members to explain it to you personally or at a chapter meeting.

We are Creative.

It is amazing how many creative, artistic people we meet whenever we gather together. If there were a group equivalent to Mensa for creative people, we would be a chapter of that group.

We are Flamboyant.

Not all of us, but a great many of us dress in flamboyant colors (guilty as charged) and talk and gesture dramatically. We can’t help it. It is like we are living in the “Bohemian Rhapsody” world. That is also how we teach. Students are not bored in our classes!

We are Argumentative.

Debate is another focus of the SIG and it is interesting how many of the flamboyant, dramatic people are also the debate people. Formal debate teaches important critical thinking and public speaking

skills, but it is also exciting and fun, and the way we teach it is fun, yet challenging. Students are not bored in these classes, either.

We are Orators.

We teach speech and presentation, and we are unusually good orators. At SIG forums at PanSIG or the JALT international conference, I am amazed at the consistently excellent quality of speakers in the SIG.

We are Serious Professionals.

In addition to being good teachers, we also write articles, textbooks, and performance pieces, we conduct research, we go to great lengths to mentor the younger members, we volunteer in the JALT organization, and we make it a point to go to conferences to spread the word about the value of performance in the learning process.

What We Do

Organizationally speaking, we are a relatively young SIG, officially founded in 2012. We are also a small SIG with membership hovering in the low to mid-50s. However, we are also a very active SIG. Our main activities are:

Publication Producer

Mask & Gavel is our official peer-reviewed journal that comes out once a year. And the PIE SIG Classroom Resources Journal, which is a collection of My Share-type articles, comes out whenever we accumulate a sufficient number of articles.

News Station

Current news about events relevant to our SIG or involving SIG members is announced to members and interested people on our social media.

Event Producer

In our first year, we produced our biggest event when we co-sponsored with Oxford University Press to bring Carolyn Graham (of Jazz Chants fame) and Ken Wilson (improv and Smart Choice) to Nagoya. We have co-sponsored with OUP to have Ken Wilson present at our events four times in the last seven years. The last time was at the 2016 JALT international conference in Nagoya when Ken did a presentation for us. Afterwards, we co-sponsored the OUP party with our coordinator singing bossa nova along with a few back singers/dancers provided by the SIG.

Presentation Agent

We have been asked to provide presenters at several JALT chapters and have even produced one-day mini-conferences for chapters. Please contact us if you are interested in presenting at or sponsoring a PIE SIG/chapter mini-conference.

Conference Sponsor

Every year we sponsor our own conference(s). They have been member-friendly—our 2018 Travelling Conference set up the big tent in the Kansai, Tokai, and Kanto areas to bring the conference to members who do not have institutional financial support to travel to conferences. Conferences have been held in interesting venues: for three years we have had conferences in Okinawa, our second home, and in 2019 and 2020 we held a conference in Sapporo. We actively welcome students (high school and university) to attend free of charge, give presentations, and

participate in performances. And these have been family-friendly conferences—held in interesting locations that families would like to travel to and family members have been welcome at our banquets and cultural events. In 2019 our most ambitious conference was held in Nagoya (June 15-17). The title and theme was Performance in Education: Research & Practice, and the plenary speakers were Dr. Rod Ellis and our own Dr. Vivian Bussinguer-Khavari.

Club

Although a small SIG, our networking dinners sometimes feature close to half of our total membership! These events are serious, loud, raucous, humorous, and most of all, a family gathering. Both Apollo and Dionysus are members of our SIG.

PIE SIG Officers (2026)

President: Darren Kinsman

Vice President: Kevin Bergman

Treasurer: James Higa

Membership Chair: Dawn Kobayashi

Program Chair: Vivian Bussinguer-Khavari

Assistant Program Chair: Yukari Saiki, Brian Gallagher

Publicity Chair: Darren Kinsman

Assistant Publicity Chair: Ashley Ford-Mihashi

Publication Chair: Philip Head

Publication Editor: Philip Head

Journal Editor: Philip Head

Translator/Japanese Language Coordinator: Yukari Saiki

Advisory Officers

Web Administrator: Max Diaz

Social Events Chair: Gordon Rees

Member-at-Large: Dawn Kobayashi

Speech Chair: *Contact us if you're interested in filling this position*

Committee Chair (Conferences Chair): David Kluge

Drama Chair: Zach Strickland, Kevin Bergman

Debate Chair & Oral Interpretation Chair: David Kluge

Music Chair: Kim Rockell

Conferences and Publications

The PIE SIG usually sponsors around five conferences a year: Summer Conference (Lake Nojiri, Nagano), Autumn Conference (Nagoya), a Winter Conference (Zoom), Sapporo Conference, and an Okinawa Conference. We also usually participate in the Spring PanSIG and the Autumn JALT International conferences with the PIE SIG Forum.

The PIE SIG publishes two main journals. *Mask & Gavel* is our official peer-reviewed journal and the PIE SIG *Classroom Resources Journal* which is a collection of My Share-type articles. Article submissions are accepted year-round, will be published online as they are finalized (with page numbers and DOIs for citation), and will be collected into full volumes that will be published as PDFs once we accumulate a sufficient number of articles. Please feel free to submit articles to the Publications Chair, Philip Head (head.philip@gmail.com). A third publication, Performance in Education Review, is composed of articles based on presentations given at one of the PIE SIG-sponsored conferences/events throughout the year. Please feel free to submit an article to David Kluge (performanceineducationconf@gmail.com).

Join Us!

We always welcome new members. If you feel you would like to contribute to the running of the PIE SIG, consider volunteering for one of the SIG offices. Nominations for people seeking office will be held in late October or early November with elections held in late November or early December.