

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 10/28/04

Contact: Connie Fredericks-Malone
Mail To: cfm@cdfmusiclegacy.com
Tel/Fax: 585.396.2995
Cell: 585.233.2426

Pop Icon Is Recipe For Success in the French Classroom

Rochester, NY... Foreign language teachers from around the state will convene in Rochester, New York when the New York State Association of Foreign Language Teachers (NYSFLT) holds its 87th Annual Meeting at the Clarion Riverside Hotel, October 29-31. The theme for this year's meeting is: **"Languages in Action: The Learner-Centered Classroom"**. The keynote speaker is Helena Curtain, Ph.D., Director of the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. Workshop sessions dealing with Heritage Language Learners, Culture, Foreign Language Teaching and Learning, Technology in the Classroom, and the latest updates from abroad will be offered.

Canandaigua resident Connie Fredericks-Malone will conduct a workshop, ***Carole Fredericks: A Recipe for Success in Your Classroom*** with co-presenter Nancy Gadbois on Saturday, October 30 from 11:15 to 12:30. The workshop will focus on Carole Fredericks, a Black-American singer who emigrated to France. Fredericks could not speak French when she arrived in Paris in 1979. She quickly mastered the language and became a major recording artist in the Francophone world. Fredericks was catapulted to the top of the contemporary music charts as one third of the rock trio, ***Fredericks Goldman Jones***. After her death in 2001, the Fredericks family, which includes blues musician Taj Mahal, established CDF Music Legacy LLC to preserve her memory. As a tribute to their late sister, the family and Nancy Gadbois transformed her biography, recordings and music videos into a French language program for American students. The program is entitled ***Tant Qu'Elle Chante, Elle Vit! apprendre le français grâce à l'héritage de CAROLE FREDERICKS*** (*As Long As She Sings, She Lives: learn French through the legacy of Carole Fredericks*).

"Carole left a treasure trove of songs, music videos and web-based materials behind," said Connie Fredericks-Malone, the sister of the late recording artist. "Nancy Gadbois showed us how Carole's music could be used to help American kids learn French. Students relate to Carole's story because she is an American who overcame the challenge of learning the French language. ***Tant Qu'Elle***

Chante, Elle Vit! is designed to engage students at their level of interest.”

The program includes six music videos on a 30 minute videotape that are appropriate for all age groups and student levels. The accompanying workbook features *des exercices pédagogiques* created by Mme Gadbois and can be adapted to different class levels. There is an assortment of activities: song lyrics, vocabulary lists, questions about the videos (factual and analytical), word search puzzles and fill-in-the blank activities.

Mme Gadbois is a veteran teacher of French at the High School of Science and Technology in Springfield, Massachusetts. She is a member of the American Association of Teachers of French (AATF), and the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL). Mme Gadbois serves on the Board of Directors for the Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (NECTFL), and she was also a pilot site teacher for both the content and performance standards of the National Standards for Foreign Languages.

Ms. Fredericks-Malone is the former executive director for Finger Lakes Arts Grants and Services, Inc. (FLAGS) in Geneva. She left the FLAGS position in June to assume the full-time role of manager and spokesperson for CDF Music Legacy. Mme Gadbois and Fredericks-Malone present workshops about Carole Fredericks, emotional intelligence and how technology can enhance language learning at foreign language conferences around the country.

The 2004 NYSAFLT 87th Annual Meeting will be held FRIDAY – SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29-31, 2004 at the Clarion Riverside Hotel in Rochester, New York. For further information, contact: nysaft@aol.com; <http://annualmeeting.nysaft.org>.

For more information about Carole Fredericks and CDF Music Legacy, visit: www.cdfmusiclegacy.com.

Carole Fredericks and the program ***Tant Qu’Elle Chante, Elle Vit*** were recently featured on National Public Radio’s ‘Day to Day’ program. Listen to the interview in its entirety online at: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=3857380>.

#