

ABOUT BRYCE

The main thing to know about Bryce Hedstrom is that he wants to be a better teacher and he wants to help others that are working toward that same goal.

His habitual by-line is, “**We all get better when we work together**” because he believes that honey works better than vinegar, that cooperation works better than competition, and that an encouraging smile works better than a disapproving scowl.



Bryce is a high school teacher and teacher trainer in northern Colorado. He has a B.A. in Spanish and an M.A. in Curriculum and Instruction, but claims that the biggest help to him as a teacher has been the on-going professional development at conferences and workshops, particularly those in his state organization, CCFLT. Bryce has taught since 1989 at the elementary, middle school, high school and college levels. He received the **Best of Colorado** award from the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers (CCFLT) in 2008, and was elected president of CCFLT in 2015.

Bryce taught conversational Spanish at the college level from 1993-2014 at Aims Community College in Greeley and Loveland, Colorado where he received the **Award for Excellence in Teaching**. His teaching emphasizes a comprehensible input-based approach which includes [storytelling](#), acting, reading, [music](#), student engagement and plenty of [laughter](#).

Bryce has also worked with clients in the business world including Fortune 500 corporations Hewlett-Packard, ConAgra and Universal Forest Products, as well as influential regional companies Porter Industries and Group Publishing. He has taught Spanish classes and served as an editor and translator of corporate training materials and operations manuals. In the corporate world he has trained both Spanish-speaking employees and managers as well as provided Spanish language classes to everyone from hourly employees to corporate executives. He has also translated and done proofreading for Group Publishing.

Some of the most rewarding work he has done has been serving as an interpreter for short-term pediatric medical clinics in Mexico and Guatemala with a group of regional doctors, accompanied by area youth who spoke Spanish and entertained the throngs of children waiting for medical help.

Bryce is a regular presenter at regional and national conferences including the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers (CCFLT), the Southwest Conference on Language Teaching (SWCOLT), the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL), the International Forum on Language Teaching (iFLT) conference and the National Teaching Proficiency through Reading and Storytelling conference (NTPRS)—one of his favorite venues because of the enthusiasm of the attendees, their passion to become better teachers and the camaraderie.

He has written scores of books, articles, blogs and lessons to train teachers and to teach Spanish learners. He produces training guides, posters and artwork for the same purpose. His articles have been published in the CCFLT Journal and the International Journal of Foreign Language Teaching (IJFLT).

Bryce lives in Loveland, Colorado. His interests include learning about language acquisition, reading, short-term medical mission trips for disadvantaged children in Spanish-speaking countries, playing the guitar, drawing cartoons, fitness, cycling and family activities (but not all at the same time, he's not *that* talented). He can often be found on the Colorado Front Range back roads on his road bike. His cycling achievements so far include riding over Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park (the highest continuous paved road in the world) six times and completing the annual Triple ByPass bike ride Between Avon and Evergreen, Colorado twice, where he learned what *real* perseverance looks like from an unusual and heroic fellow cyclist (ask him about that some time—you won't be sorry).

Bryce started developing materials, presenting and blogging because:

“It disheartens me to see so many teachers try and then give up because they cannot make all the pieces of their teaching work right away. I also dislike the way that the inertia in education is crushing the dreams of so many gifted teachers and making students think that they are bad at learning.

It doesn't have to be this way. I want to contribute to solving these problems of discouragement and abandonment of our profession by giving teachers some hope. I believe that success in the classroom is possible; that students can learn and that teachers can be both productive and happy. Comprehensible Input-based methods, solid classroom management, varied reading approaches and fresh student engagement techniques can help us to get there.”

This website is dedicated to training teachers with his blog, helpful links and free materials, as well as his books and other materials.

Bryce can be reached at: contact@brycedstrom.com

More ↓

Some of Bryce's Presentations, Workshops, Awards and Activities

- Keynote Speaker, **Wyoming Foreign Language Teachers Association (WFLTA)** annual state conference, 2016.

- President-Elect of **Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers (CCFLT)**, 2015-2016, President of CCFLT, 2016-2017, Past President/Executive Board Member, 2107-2018

- Keynote Speaker, **Alaskans for Language Acquisition (AFLA)** annual state conference, 2014.

- Internationally acclaimed teacher trainer at noteworthy schools including:

- **Walter Payton College Preparatory High School**, Chicago, Illinois

[#1 International High School in the United States, 2015, and in the top 10 for the last 10 years, according to US News and World Report]

- **Yongsan International School of Seoul**, Seoul, South Korea

- **KIPP Schools of New Jersey**, Newark, NJ

- **The Texas International Schools**, Dallas, TX

- **The Lovett School**, Atlanta, GA

- **Holland Christian Schools**, Holland, MI

- **St. John's School of Orange**, Orange, CA

- **Poudre School District**, Fort Collins, CO

... and many others.

- **National Teaching Proficiency with Reading and Storytelling (NTPRS) Conference** presenter (2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018)

- **International Forum on Language Teaching (iFLT) Conference** presenter (2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018) and iFLT Language Lab teacher (2012)

- [Featured article](#) in **Reporter-Herald.com**

- **SWCOLT** Regional Conference presenter

- **ACTFL** National Conference presenter

- State and regional conferences presenter
- In-service trainer for school districts across the country
- Awarded **Best of Colorado** by the Colorado Congress of Foreign Language Teachers
- Recipient of the **Excellence in Education Award**, Aims Community College, Greeley, CO
- Interpreter in Guatemala and Mexico for short-term pediatric medical clinics
- Spanish language consultant, employee trainer, language teacher, translator and proofreader in the corporate world. Clients include Fortune 500 companies **Hewlett-Packard, ConAgra & Universal Forest Products** as well as regional powerhouses, **Group Publishing** and **Porter Industries**.
- Developer, with Noah Geisel, of the CCFLT free mini-conferences in Colorado to serve members in distant parts of the state, raise awareness and increase membership.

A couple of Bryce's favorite quotes:

"If you want your children to be intelligent, read them fairy tales. If you want them to be more intelligent, read them more fairy tales."

—[Albert Einstein](#), German theoretical physicist (1879-1955)

"Whatever comes out of these gates, we've got a better chance of survival if we work together ... If we stay together, we survive."

—*Maximus (Russel Crowe)* in the movie *Gladiator* (2000)