

Education-

Queen Elizabeth's former translator opens European language school for children in downtown Saratoga  
The Star

*Classes in French, German and Italian available*

A Glens Falls teacher who once served as translator to the Queen of England has opened an after school language enrichment program for children at the Saratoga County Arts Center on Broadway in Saratoga Springs.

Waltraud (Trudy) Flynn, a native of Innsbruck, Austria, who founded The European Language School after settling in the USA, will introduce youngsters to German, French and Italian through a curriculum that includes songs, games, puppet shows, dancing and cultural insights.

Frau Flynn, as she is called by students, spent several years developing her teaching method which incorporates fun into lessons for children ages 5 through 12.

This is the sixth year Frau Flynn has been offering private instruction in the area - providing group lessons to home-schooled children in Saratoga County and offering private tutoring to college students and business people.

On a more formal level, she has taught French at St. Mary's Academy and St. Alphonsos Regional School in Glens Falls. German at Spring Hill School in Saratoga Springs and Italian for students in the Gifted and Talented Program at BOCES.

Frau Flynn, who has also resided in France and Italy, returns to Austria twice a year to visit schools and gather teaching materials not available in the USA.

During her last trip, she toured several elementary schools and reviewed curriculum for Grades 1-3 from the Austrian Education Department.

Her desire to offer foreign language instruction to young Americans is supported by politicians like New York State Governor George E. Pataki who wrote the following about Foreign Language Week.

"Research has shown the earlier children begin to study a second language, the greater their ability to achieve proficiency in that language; in order for students to derive the optimum benefits...it is vital that second language study be an ongoing process which starts in the elementary grades and continues through the high school years..."