



Mano a Mano, Inc.
3700 Commerce Blvd.
Suite 216
Kissimmee, Florida 34741
www.manoamano-unidos.org

PRESIDENT
Dr. David Quinto-Pozos
president@manoamano-unidos.org

VICE PRESIDENT
Martin Vasquez
vicepresident@manoamano-unidos.org

SECRETARY
Mathew Call
secretary@manoamano-unidos.org

TREASURER
Nydia Hernández
treasurer@manoamano-unidos.org

Region I Representative
Tony Barraza

Region II Representative
Carmelo Falú

Region III Representative
Emma Shiver

Region IV Representative
Mónica Gallego

Region V Representative
Caleb López

Member at Large # 1
José Bertrán

Member at Large # 2
Gina Wilkinson
Kristie Casanova de Canales
(understudy)

International Chair
Angela Roth

Translation Chair
Carmen García

Membership Chair
Tanya Lee Velazquez

Canada Representative
Juliette Ruiz

January 28, 2013

Dear Mano a Mano Board and membership,

As I look back to all the tasks that were accomplished last year, I realize that it was certainly a busy 2012! We could not have completed the work outlined below without the help of many dedicated members, and I extend my gratitude on behalf of the entire membership.

In the 2011 year-end report to the Board and Membership, I indicated that I would like us to work on the following tasks in 2012:

- review and revise our By-Laws, as appropriate
- create a Standard Practice Paper for Trilingual (Spanish-English-ASL) Interpreting (in conjunction with the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers [NCIEC])
- improve our membership connections and services
- increase our membership
- assist with the creation of an on-line directory of trilingual interpreting; hosted by Mano a Mano on our website
- begin our fundraising efforts for the 2013 national conference

I am pleased to say that gains were made in all of these areas, with the exception of the last bullet point. However, I have recently called for volunteers for a conference planning committee, and at least two board members have indicated their willingness to assist with the planning. As always, please contact me if you are interested in helping out in any way. We can always use more hands!

What follows here is a summary of the other items on the list and other important work that was also completed in 2012. Additionally, I list items that I propose we tackle for 2013.

A committee of four Mano a Mano members (two board members: Tony Barraza and Caleb López and two general members: Yolanda Chavira (TX) and Esteban Amaro (IL) was formed, and together they developed a method for reviewing the existing Bylaws and providing suggested revisions for the different sections, as appropriate. They created a draft of revised Bylaws, and that draft will be circulated to our Board members soon; I am now awaiting rationale statements for the suggested changes from the committee.

An RID committee was formed to create a Standard Practice Paper (SPP) for trilingual interpretation. On that committee were: Pauline Annarino (Western Region Interpreter Education Center), Kristie Casanova de Canales (Mano a Mano), Stephanie Chao (RID), Diana Doucette (Regional Interpreter Education Center at Northeastern University), Beverly Hollrah (Gallaudet University Regional Interpreter Education Center), Angela Roth (Mano a Mano), and Martin Vasquez (Mano a Mano). My understanding is that the committee benefited greatly from work that the NCIEC (National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers) Trilingual Task Force has undertaken since 2011 (e.g., data from surveys, community forums, etc.). I have been told that the committee has completed a draft of the SPP, and it will be disseminated to the Mano a Mano Board shortly for review.

In 2012, several of our members served on a committee to address membership matters. The committee is comprised of Caleb López (Region V representative), Arlene Narvaez (member, CA), Emma Shiver (Region III representative), and Tanya

Velasquez (Membership committee chair). An important task that was accomplished recently was that the committee members sent email messages to all Mano a Mano members in order to reach out to them. You should have received a message. If you have not, please contact: membership@manoamano-unidos.org. Some positive responses were received from that original mailing. The committee will be continuing their work throughout 2013 in order to improve Board-membership relations and communication and the entire membership process (e.g., initial registration, annual renewal, etc.). We currently have 126 members listed (40 student, 72 professional, and 5 organizational). Thirty-three of the 40 students registered in 2012, and I believe that most of those 33 registrants are first-time members of Mano a Mano. The number of new student members is notable, and I would like to focus more on this subgroup within our membership during 2013.

The NCIEC was instrumental in supporting the creation of an on-line list of trilingual interpreters throughout the country. I want to thank Kristie Casanova de Canales (Member at Large #2 understudy) for assisting with much of the time and legwork to make this a reality; Highforge Communications performed the web-page design, and NCIEC supported the effort. There are currently 69 trilingual interpreters on that list. What a wonderful resource for interpreter agencies, trilingual interpreters, and interpreting students!

In addition to reaching many of the goals that were set in January of 2012, the year kept us busy with official responses to FCC calls for input. I drafted and filed two letters with the FCC as responses to questions about minimum standards for VRS interpreters. In those letters, we also assert the need to work more closely with CDI interpreters who are versed in the communication styles of members of communities where Spanish use is prevalent (and where they may be the use of another signed language, too). I would like 2013 to be a year where we reach out to our sister organization, the National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NCHDHH), as we continue to work toward improving the services that we provide to deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing persons from Spanish-influenced communities.

Additionally, Mano a Mano developed partnerships with key interpreter organizations throughout 2012. As president, I participated in regular online video meetings with the heads of RID, NAOBI, NCIEC, and CIT (Conference of Interpreter Trainers) in order to share information that is pertinent to all our organizations. Mano a Mano also joined the National Interpreter Associations Coalition in order to stand by our interpreter and translator colleagues throughout the country on issues related to our profession. See <http://www.manoamano-unidos.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/01/NIAC-Flyer.pdf>. Our Vice President, Martin Vasquez, met monthly with this group (online) through late 2012, and I will be taking over in 2013. Finally, we continue to work on completing our membership to the World Association of Sign Language Interpreters (WASLI), with help from Angela Roth (International Chair) and José Bertrán (Member at Large #1). All of these activities provide evidence that Mano a Mano has become a part of the larger interpreter professional communities throughout the U.S. and beyond!

In 2012, I also served on the RID Executive Director Task Force, a committee that was assembled to work on various aspects of the search process for the new RID Executive Director. I represented Mano a Mano and helped to contribute to the voice of interpreters of color. As you know, Shane Feldman has been selected as the new RID Executive Director, and we offer our support and encouragement in his new position. We look forward to working with Shane in the future, and he has expressed his excitement about working with us.

I want to thank all the Mano a Mano Board members, other members of Mano a Mano, and supporters from affiliated organizations for making 2012 a huge success!

I am sure that I have not listed all the people who have been involved, in key ways, throughout 2012, and I apologize for any oversight for not thanking each of you by name. In particular, I am eternally grateful to all the board members who give of their time and energy to move our work forward. You engage in many tasks that are not always recognized, and I want to extend my gratitude.

That brings me to a few points that I'd like to make about the coming year. The following bullet points highlight tasks that I would like to work on during the remainder of my term in 2013:

- address the needs of student members, including programming and inclusion, as appropriate, in planning for the future and activities of the organization
- begin to explore the feasibility of different strategies for current and future fundraising
- continue to work with partner interpreter organizations (e.g., interpreter coalition, WASLI, etc.) to voice the concerns and needs of the trilingual interpreter community
- design and implement a successful 2013 conference
- increase our membership base, continue to build our relationships with members, and work to include members in all levels of the organization
- continue to solidify and grow Mano a Mano regional chapters

In 2013 we will also have an election of half of our governing board. The following positions will be open later this year: President, Secretary, Region I Representative, Region II representative, Region IV Representative, and Member at Large #1, and Membership Chair. For all of these board seats existing board members can be re-elected, according to our current bylaws. We will begin the nominations process in the coming months.

I would like to stress again the need to have each of you participate in Mano a Mano tasks and activities in order to make our goals a success. I believe that we can be proud of what has been achieved, and we can look with hope and excitement to the future that we will continue to build! I hope that 2013 is a great year!

As always, please contact me if you have any questions or concerns:
president@manoamano-unidos.org

Sincerely,



David Quinto-Pozos, PhD
President, Mano a Mano