



2026 CATI Conference Program

Saturday, March 28, 2026 – 8:00 am to 5:00 pm – Chapel Hill, NC

CEUs pending: NC courts, GA courts

Keynote

Bump It Up: From the Cockpit to First Class *CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1, NBCM-0.1*

Presenter: Ewandro Magalhaes

Ewandro Magalhaes is a conference interpreter, former Chief Interpreter in the United Nations system, interpreter trainer, and language technology advocate.

He has interpreted for two American presidents, five Brazilian presidents, the Dalai Lama, and countless heads of State and government.

Ewandro is an international speaker and a serial TEDx speaker. He is also the author of two viral TED-Ed videos. He has published three books, including *The Language Game: Inspiration and Insight for Interpreters*. Ewandro Magalhaes is a co-founder of KUDO, a disruptive platform that is revolutionizing the interpreting scene.

Session Description

True empowerment isn't about steering harder. It's about elevating your position so you can choose freely, with dignity and purpose. This keynote reimagines the familiar "driver's seat" metaphor, shifting the focus from control to choice, and offers translators and interpreters a fresh perspective on navigating their careers in ways that truly serve them.

Attendees will leave with a mindset that prioritizes strategic adaptation over trying to dictate every outcome.

Learning Objectives

- Recognize what aspects of your professional practice you can control in times of uncertainty and rapid technological change.
- Implement strategies to sharpen your skills and tools to remain competitive and adaptable in the evolving T&I landscape.
- Develop community-building approaches that foster collaboration, strengthen professional networks, and help mitigate AI-related risks in the industry.

NCSC and State Court Interpreter Credentialing *CEUs: ATA-1*

Presenter: Brooke Bogue

Brooke Bogue is the Manager of the Language Access Services Section of the National Center for State Courts. Ms. Bogue's work is focused on language access and access to justice issues and the state court interpreter testing program.

Prior to joining the NCSC, she served as the Manager of the Office of Language Access Services with the North Carolina Judicial Branch where she was devoted to expanding and improving language access services for LEP court users in the North Carolina state courts and elevating the credentialed court interpreter as an integral part of the full and fair administration of justice.

Prior to her work at the North Carolina Judicial Branch, she served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Tazewell and Fauquier counties. She holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law, and a Bachelor of Science from James Madison University, and maintains an active license with the Virginia State Bar.

Session Description

State courts across the nation are experiencing a shortage of credentialed court interpreters to better ensure equal access to justice for LEP court users. The court interpreting profession is of vital importance for the full and fair administration of justice. This session will provide an overview of the profession, introduce interpreters to the steps for pursuing state court interpreter certification/credentialing, provide guidance on successful NCSC oral exam preparation, and engage in a question-and-answer session.

Learning Objectives

State courts across the nation are experiencing a shortage of credentialed court interpreters to better ensure equal access to justice for LEP court users. The court interpreting profession is of vital importance for the full and fair administration of justice. This session will provide an overview of the profession, introduce interpreters to the steps for pursuing state court interpreter certification/credentialing, provide guidance on successful NCSC oral exam preparation, and engage in a question-and-answer session.

Transforming IEP Interpreting: The Super Power of Pre & Post-Session Strategies CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1, NBCM-0.1

Presenter: Milly Golia

Milly Golia is a Ph.D. candidate in Linguistics and Translation at Jaume I University in Spain. In her doctoral research, she studies translation and interpretation within the public services in the educational, legal, and medical sectors in the United States, emphasizing proposed improvements through the academic training program Take5steps©.

After earning her Master's in Legal Translation with a double major in Translation and Conference Interpreting from the Universidad Nacional de La Plata in Buenos Aires, Argentina, she received two certificates in Global Operations Management and Applied Project Management from the University of California, Irvine (UCI). She then started a translation company initially in Argentina and later in California. She is the founder and CEO of Bureaucom LLC, a multilingual service provider offering written and oral translations in over 40 languages. Additionally, she developed the Legal Spanish Interpreting Program at the University of California, Irvine, and works as an instructor for the Certificate Program there.

Milly also developed a curriculum called Take5steps©, a training program for students aiming to become professional translators or interpreters. She is a published author of a handbook titled "The Professional Interpreter"© and co-authored the English-Spanish Special Education Glossary Book© (ISBN 978-0-9793446-1-9).

Her professional career spans the United States, Europe, and South America, where she has worked as a translator, interpreter, localization manager, consultant, and international lecturer. She is also the founder and CEO of a nonprofit organization called Language Access. Its main goal is to advocate for language access and influence policies that promote language accessibility in public services, healthcare, and education, supporting non-native speakers and marginalized communities.

Session Description

In the evolving field of interpreting for Individualized Education Programs (IEPs), incorporating pre- and post-session discussions has become a transformative practice that enhances communication between families and improves outcomes for students with diverse needs. This presentation explores the vital role of pre-session preparation and post-session reflection in the interpreting process, emphasizing their impact on interpreters and educational stakeholders.

Using best practices, we will examine how pre-sessions create a stronger foundation for all involved and why this is essential from a cultural perspective. This collaborative method not only provides interpreters with crucial information but also promotes teamwork focused on effective communication. The presentation will also emphasize the value of post-session reflections, during which interpreters can evaluate their performance, gather feedback, and identify areas for growth.

Case studies will illustrate the benefits of this structured approach, demonstrating how it can lead to more accurate interpretation, fewer misunderstandings, and better advocacy for students.

Attendees will participate in discussions and exercises designed to reinforce the importance of preparation and reflection in interpreting.

Ultimately, this presentation aims to empower interpreters and educators by demonstrating that pre- and post-session preparation can enhance the quality of IEP interpreting and foster an inclusive educational environment where every family has the opportunity to succeed

Learning Objectives

- Understand the Importance of Pre-sessions: Participants will learn the significance of pre-session preparations in IEP interpreting, identifying key elements that contribute to effective communication and understanding of the student's needs.
- Identify Best Practices for Effective Collaboration: Attendees will explore strategies for collaborating with educators, parents, and other stakeholders during pre-sessions to ensure a comprehensive grasp of the educational goals and context.
- Develop Skills for Post-session Reflection: Participants will gain insights into the value of post-session evaluations, including how to analyze performance, receive constructive feedback, and set personal improvement goals.
- Implement Structured Approaches in Interpreting Practices: Attendees will learn practical techniques for integrating pre- and post-session activities into their interpreting workflow to enhance accuracy and advocacy during IEP meetings.
- Foster an Inclusive Educational Environment: Participants will understand how effective pre- and post-session practices contribute to creating an inclusive environment that supports students' diverse needs, leading to better outcomes in the IEP process.
- Engage in Interactive Discussions and Exercises: Attendees will participate in interactive activities that reinforce the presented concepts, allowing them to apply what they have learned and share experiences with peers in the field.

Conference Interpreting 101 *CEUs: ATA-1, NBCM-0.1*

Presenter: Ewandro Magalhaes

Ewandro Magalhaes is a conference interpreter, former Chief Interpreter in the United Nations system, interpreter trainer, and language technology advocate.

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Session Description

For people who don't attend traditional interpreting institutions, many times they find themselves asked to interpret in conference settings but haven't received "proper" training. This session will cover some conference interpreting basics so attendees can get a sense of what might happen, what to ask the client or coordinator, and what to expect from being "in the booth". Key areas of interest include preparation strategies, setting expectations, collaborating effectively with a booth partner, managing terminology (before and during the assignment) and handling equipment or on-site technical challenges. These are very real scenarios, and they represent exactly the kind of practical guidance attendees will benefit from learning about.

Learning Objectives

- Setting the right expectations with the client, your boothmate, and event attendees who will be using interpreting services.
- Main coping tactics to predict certain scenarios and handle unexpected situations that may arise during the assignment.
- Teamwork strategies so you and your boothmate can work well together to deliver a top-notch performance.

The Line We Don't Cross: AI, Compliance, and Trust in Translation CEUs: ATA-1

Presenter: Cristian Modesto

Cristian Modesto is a sworn public translator graduated from the University of Buenos Aires, with over 20 years of experience in the translation, localization, and global content industry. He is a co-founder and currently serves as Chief Commercial Officer at Arcadia, a language services company with an international presence, providing global linguistic solutions since 2006.

In 2020, Cristian co-founded Ark One Studios, a creative solutions company specializing in multimedia content, where he acts as General Manager and contributes to the strategic direction of the company.

Since March 2023, Cristian has served as President of the Argentine Association of Language

Services (AASL), where he led the merger process that culminated in the creation of ALIA, a new national association representing leading language service providers across Argentina.

Cristian regularly delivers talks and training sessions for companies expanding internationally, focusing on:

- Practical implementation of AI tools for multilingual content creation and management,
- Humanizing AI-generated content, and
- Applying AI across the sales process.
- Effective internationalization of products and services,
- Localized marketing for global audiences,

His approach combines hands-on industry experience with a strategic, forward-looking perspective, focused on helping organizations and professionals navigate the challenges and opportunities that AI presents for the translation and localization industry.

Session Description

AI is reshaping decades-old translation workflows. While its potential to increase efficiency and scale is undeniable, the risks of careless or uninformed adoption are just as real, especially when confidentiality, compliance, and client trust are at stake.

This session explores where AI truly belongs in translation workflows, and where it does not. Drawing on real-world experience implementing AI across language service operations, we will examine common mistakes organizations make when introducing AI, from data exposure and compliance gaps to the false belief that accountability can be automated away.

Attendees will learn how to evaluate AI use cases through a risk and compliance lens, understand when human oversight is non-negotiable, and identify the safeguards required to deploy AI responsibly. The presentation will also address emerging expectations around transparency, auditability, and governance, and how these factors are already influencing client trust and buying decisions.

Learning Objectives

- Identify where AI can (and cannot) be safely applied in translation workflows by evaluating use cases through the lenses of compliance, confidentiality, and risk.
- Understand the key compliance, accountability, and governance challenges introduced by AI, including data handling, human-in-the-loop requirements, and responsibility for errors.
- Develop a practical decision framework for responsible AI adoption, enabling participants to determine when AI adds value, when it must be constrained, and when the safest option is not to use it at all.

Beyond Words: Human Cognitive Skills at the Heart of Interpreting

Performance *CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1 PB, NBCM-0.1*

Presenter: Marisa Rueda Will

Marisa Rueda Will has been a medical interpreter at a Mayo Clinic for over 18 years. She earned a degree in Spanish from Luther College in 2006. She became a Certified Healthcare Interpreter-Spanish in 2012 and a Licensed Interpreter Trainer through Cross Cultural Communications in 2017. In 2020, she became a Simulation Center Instructor. She joined the NCIHC Webinars Work Group in 2022. That same year, she was promoted to a Level III Medical Interpreter at Mayo Clinic. Marisa has presented for the CHIA and ATA conferences, CCHI Summit, Atrium Health Symposium, and NCIHC Home for Trainers Webinar Series. She was accepted to the Masters of Interpreting Studies program through Western Oregon University and will start in fall 2024. In addition to being a full-time staff interpreter and student, she owns an interpreter training and translation business. Marisa specializes in education through storytelling. Her company, Tica Interpreter Training and Translations provides interpreter training based on real patient experiences.

Session Description

What if we told you the secret to better interpreting isn't about knowing more words?

Think of it this way: your language skills are what people hear, but your cognitive skills are the high-performance engine that makes it all happen. While you're listening, remembering, processing, deciding, and self-correcting (all at lightning speed), your brain is doing the real heavy lifting.

These mental superpowers are what separate good interpreting from great interpreting. They include memory, listening comprehension, oral production, information processing, decision-making, and self-monitoring. Here's the kicker: they work the same way no matter what language you speak or what setting you work in. They're universal, trainable, and often overlooked in interpreter training.

At a time when AI tools increasingly replicate surface-level language tasks, these human cognitive competencies remain the cornerstone of accurate, ethical interpreting. This session shines a spotlight on those often-overlooked mental muscles and why strengthening them can transform the way you work.

The Certification Commission for Healthcare Interpreters (CCHI) has spent more than a decade studying interpreter performance through ongoing Job Task Analyses—research that defines what interpreters do on the job. In 2023, CCHI took this work to another level by asking a different question: how do interpreters think while they do it? This led to the groundbreaking EtoE Project, which identified ways to measure the mental skills that support competent interpreting across all languages.

This isn't your typical sit-and-listen session. Join us for interactive exercises that give your linguistic skills a rest while strengthening your interpreting mind.

Learning Objectives

- Describe what cognitive skills are and how they support interpreting.
- Differentiate cognitive skills from language or interpreting techniques.
- Practice cognitive skills via interactive exercises
- Identify how strengthening specific cognitive skills can improve overall interpreting performance across diverse scenarios.

Interpretation Equipment Workshop *CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1, NBCM-0.1*

Presenter: Carlos Solis

Carlos Solis is a conference-technology specialist and co-owner of Universe Language Solutions, a language-services and interpretation-equipment provider serving legal, court, and conference settings across the United States. He specializes in the design, setup, and operation of interpretation and assistive-listening systems for depositions, court proceedings, hearings, trials, and multilingual meetings, and has extensive hands-on experience supporting interpreters in high-stakes environments,

Carlos works closely with legal teams, courts, agencies, and interpreters to ensure clear audio, reliable equipment, and practical solutions tailored to each assignment. His work includes portable interpretation systems, receiver/transmitter setups, and assistive-listening technologies used in both in-person and hybrid settings.

Carlos brings a practical, interpreter-centered approach to technology training, focusing on real-world scenarios, common challenges, and best practices that empower interpreters to advocate for and confidently use appropriate equipment in their professional work.

Rafael Landivar University and Tulane University - Communications 1999 – 2025; Owner of Universe Language Solutions since 2026

Session Description

Interpreters are frequently expected to work in environments where hearing clearly is as critical as linguistic accuracy—yet many professionals receive little formal training on interpretation equipment designed for legal, court, and meeting settings. This hands-on workshop is designed to bridge that gap by giving interpreters direct, practical experience with a range of interpretation equipment systems commonly used in depositions, court proceedings, meetings, and other real-world scenarios.

Learning Objectives

- The Interpreter learns about the importance of clear audio to guarantee quality of interpretation
- The interpreter learns about the different equipment options, audio feeds, transmission equipment, InfraRed versus Radio Frequency, this enables the interpreter to request quality audio feeds in different settings (courts, depositions, meetings), which in turn enhances their ability to provide quality and accurate interpretation
- The interpreter learns how to price the equipment, if he/she rents it to the hiring attorneys or organizations, in legal or business settings.

Varieties of U.S. English: Enhancing Interpreter Comprehension *CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1 PB, NBCM-0.1*

Presenter: Sarah Stockler-Rex

Sarah Stockler-Rex, MA, CHI-Spanish, has worked as a Spanish medical interpreter, in both onsite and remote modalities, for over 14 years. She holds a Master of Arts in Applied Linguistics with a specialization in Language Testing. Sarah is in constant pursuit of providing the highest caliber language access via quality assurance and training solutions. She currently oversees Equiti's Training & Testing Department: a team dedicated to continuous interpreter skill development and upholding the standards of the profession. Sarah is also a co-author of the highly acclaimed textbook from Cross-Cultural Communications released in 2023, *The Remote Interpreter: Volume I: Foundations in Remote Interpreting*.

Session Description

A large part of an interpreter's workload is processing and rendering English messages into the target language. Whether working onsite or remotely, interpreters are likely to encounter different Englishes on the job, including those who speak English as a second language. This presentation will examine the main dialects of English spoken in the United States and how interpreters can train their ear to better comprehend them. This training will benefit native and non-native speakers of English (and everyone in between!) as we delve into the differences in U.S. English varieties including phonological, lexical, regional, and ethnic and/or cultural differences.

Learning Objectives

- Use basic linguistic concepts as a framework for describing variation (descriptive vs. prescriptive language, language variation, linguists' use of 'dialect').
- Describe the main varieties of U.S. English and their differences (phonological, lexical, regional vs. ethnic/cultural).
- Employ strategies to improve their comprehension of varieties perceived as challenging.

From Text to Screen: A Practical Introduction to Subtitling *CEUs: ATA-1*

Presenter: Julia Velasco-Espejo

Julia Velasco is an ATA-Certified translator of English and Spanish, also working with French, and German, and interpreter of Spanish and English. She holds a Licenciatura en Traducción e Interpretación from the Universidad Pablo de Olavide in Seville, Spain; an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of South Carolina, and an MA in English from the University of Cincinnati. She has lived, studied and worked in the USA for over 10 years.

Session Description

Subtitles are a simple and effective way to make audiovisual content accessible across languages as well as to Deaf and hard-of-hearing audiences. It is one of the most visible and in-demand forms of audiovisual translation. This presentation offers a practical introduction to subtitling for professional translators who are interested in expanding their skill set into audiovisual translation. The presentation will combine academic perspectives with practical advice based on personal experience and other professional sources.

Learning Objectives

- Gain a general overview of the professional field of subtitling translation and creation.
- Identify and distinguish the main types of subtitles used in the industry, including interlingual and intralingual subtitles, as well as open subtitles and closed captions.
- Explain the key constraints and challenges of subtitling, such as spatial and temporal limitations, synchronization, orality, and the translation of culture-bound references.
- Learn about typical subtitling workflows and tools.
- Recognize entry points and opportunities in the subtitling market, including common clients and resources for further professional development.

Enhancing Professionalism and Client Relationships in a Globalized World

CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1, NBCM-0.1

Presenter: Sarah Wheeler

Sarah Wheeler is the Founder of InterpretReflect and creator of the ECCI Model™ (Emotional and Cultural Competency for Interpreters). A USAF Veteran with 20+ years of interpreting experience across medical, legal, educational, and remote settings, Sarah bridges the critical gap between linguistic skill and emotional intelligence. Her research-backed frameworks help interpreters build resilience, reduce burnout, and navigate complex cultural dynamics while maintaining sustainable, ethical practice.

Session Description

In an increasingly interconnected world, linguistic precision alone is not enough. This interactive workshop introduces the ECCI Model™ (Emotional and Cultural Competency for Interpreters), a research-backed framework designed to help interpreters navigate the complex emotional and cultural dynamics of their work. Participants will explore five core domains of excellence: Emotional Awareness, Cultural Humility, Professional Boundaries, Stress Management, and Ethical Decision-Making. Through real-world scenarios and guided self-assessment using the ECCI Rubric™, attendees will learn practical strategies to reduce burnout, enhance professional relationships, and elevate the quality of their interpreting services. Join us to discover how "soft skills" are actually the hard core of professional practice.

Explore InterpretReflect (interpretreflect.com), a professional development platform built for interpreters. Featuring the ECCI Model™ framework from this session, the platform offers AI-powered reflective practice, skills labs, and CEU tracking. Preview the tools and share your feedback, this platform was built by and for our community

Learning Objectives

- Identify the five domains of the ECCI Model™ and their impact on professional interpreting practice.
- Assess their own current level of competency using the ECCI Rubric™ (Emerging, Developing, Proficient, Advanced).
- Apply three specific emotional regulation strategies (including the STOP technique) to maintain professional neutrality in high-stress situations.

Roundtable and Closing: Where's Our Crystal Ball?

Expert panel discussion on the future of translation and interpreting in the next five years *CEUs: ATA-1, CCHI-1, NBCM-0.1*

Session Description

The translation and interpreting professions stand at a crossroads. Rapid advances in artificial intelligence, shifting global communications, and evolving client expectations are reshaping the landscape faster than ever before. But what do the next five years actually hold — and how can practitioners, educators, and organizations prepare?

This panel brings together leading experts for a candid, forward-looking conversation about the forces driving change in the field. Panelists will draw on their experience, with the aim of offering practical insights into how we may see our professions continue to evolve in the next few years. There will be an opportunity for limited questions from the audience.

Panelists

(Moderated by Dr. Monica Rodriguez Castro)

Ewandro Magalhaes is a conference interpreter, former Chief Interpreter in the United Nations system, interpreter trainer, and language technology advocate. He has interpreted for two American presidents, five Brazilian presidents, the Dalai Lama, and countless heads of State and government.

Brooke Bogue is the Manager of the Language Access Services Section of the National Center for State Courts. Ms. Bogue's work is focused on language access and access to justice issues and the state court interpreter testing program. Prior to joining the NCSC, she served as the Manager of the Office of Language Access Services with the North Carolina Judicial Branch where she was devoted to expanding and improving language access services for LEP court users in the North Carolina state courts and elevating the credentialed court interpreter as an integral part of the full and fair administration of justice. Prior to her work at the North Carolina Judicial Branch, she served as an Assistant Commonwealth's Attorney in Tazewell and Fauquier counties. She holds a Juris Doctor from the University of Baltimore School of Law, and a Bachelor of Science from James Madison University, and maintains an active license with the Virginia State Bar.

Danilo Formolo is the CEO and Founder of Affinity Language Systems, an organization focused on building human and technology-enabled language access infrastructure. He serves as a CCHI Commissioner and treasurer and spent 21 years building the largest healthcare-based language access program in the nation at Atrium Health. Serving as Associate Vice President of Language Access, he created a large, scalable infrastructure through the use of technology, efficiency and strategy to improve access across 4 states with a team of nearly 200 medical interpreters. Danilo earned Bachelor's Degrees in Management and International Business from UNC Charlotte, plus an MBA. Danilo has delivered industry conference presentations around the country, is a Certified

Healthcare Interpreter, and has served on various community boards and initiatives. Danilo is of Colombian and Italian heritage, and his first instrument is the piano. He's served as an organist and music director at various churches in the Charlotte, NC area.

[Angela Mills](#) is Director of Translation and Interpretation Services for Wake County Public School System and is an experienced Spanish translator and interpreter. She has expertise in medical, mental health, legal, and educational interpreting and translation in community and school settings. She holds a Business Administration degree from Universidad Católica Santiago de Guayaquil in Ecuador and completed specialized training through Durham Technical Community College, the Southern California School of Interpretation, the Virginia Refugee Healing Partnership, and the National Association of Educational Translators and Interpreters of Spoken Languages (NAETISL), where she earned educational interpreter certification through its pilot program.

Learning Objectives

- Identify key trends shaping the translation and interpreting profession over the next five years, including technological, economic, and sociocultural drivers of change.
- Evaluate the potential impact of artificial intelligence and machine translation tools on professional practice, and articulate strategies for adapting to and working alongside these technologies.
- Apply forward-thinking frameworks to attendees' own professional context, setting informed goals and making strategic decisions about skills development, specialization, or organizational planning.