



The Deaf Reader

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President's Message

Written by: Dawn Watts

[President's ASL message](#)

I received a card and award for being voted ODFL Volunteer of the Year 2023 by the ODFL Board. I am grateful for this recognition and would like to thank everyone involved.

I would also like to take this opportunity to provide some information about Ohio Deaf History Month. This is a month-long celebration that takes place from March 13 to April 15 every year. Ohio was the first state to recognize this event with the passing of Resolution 27 by Ohio legislators and the State Governor more than seven years ago.

There is also a National Deaf History Month, which used to be celebrated in March by the National Association of the Deaf (NAD).



However, last year, the NAD agreed to change it to April. The US Congresswoman, Joyce Beatty, is the sponsor of the National Deaf History Month bill, H. Resolution 290. The bill is still waiting for the US Congress members to vote on and pass it. Once passed, it will impact Ohio's Deaf History Month, and it will change from March to April. For now, Ohio is still following the March 13 to April 15 timeline.

Today, we are celebrating Deaf History Month!

Lastly, I wanted to mention that one of the ODFL Reps, JJ Bechhold, has put in a lot of effort to organize an ASL storyteller program. We discussed this idea with staff who work for the State Library of Ohio, and they felt that an ASL Storyteller would be a good affiliation with statewide Ohio libraries. You can read more about JJ Bechhold's message in the Deaf Reader newsletter.

Happy Reading!

Dawn K Watts

Dawn K Watts
ODFL President

www.ocdclibrary.org



Picture was taken in the State Library of Ohio in Columbus with Wendy Knapp, CEO State Librarian, Ryan Burley, Researcher, Barb Kimmel, ASL Intepreter/ODFL Consultant, Dawn Watts, ODFL President, Janet Ingraham Dwyer, Library Consultant

State Library of Ohio Donations

Written by: Dawn Watts

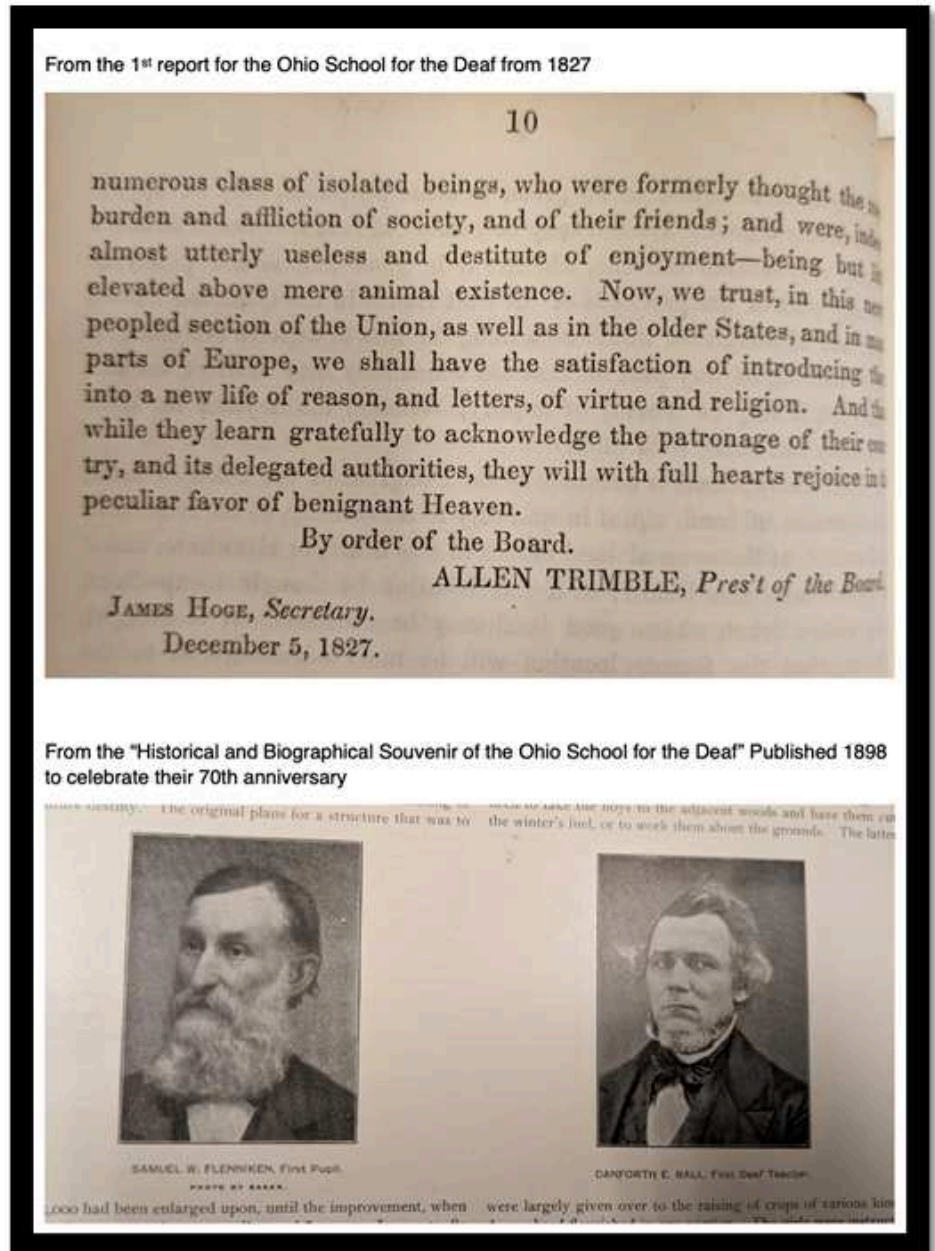
Brad Race and I met with Ryan Burley, Ohio State Library Researcher. He showed us to the special collection room where the very rare books are kept.

Ryan did some research and found some information about the production of boxes by the Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD) which I think sheds some light on the boxes.

One of the Books we looked at while you were here, *“Historical and biographical souvenir of the Ohio School for the Deaf : seventy years' history of a notable seat of learning...”* published in 1898 says that the Ohio School for the Deaf’s Industrial department made 3,500 boxes a year for the State of Ohio for shipping bound volumes of reports. So, I’m thinking that our boxes may possibly have been made as part of that program.

The State Library of Ohio’s Traveling Library program started in 1896 and by 1910 there were 1,387 boxes of 25-30 books that traveled around Ohio.

YouTube Video: [Deaf History](#)



ASL StoryTime Invitation

Written by: JJ Bechhold

My name is JJ Bechhold. I'm the ODFL Columbus representative.

I'm making this video because we are excited to announce that we have a few projects in development with ASL Story Time and we are seeking people to join and support us. We're looking for Deaf/Hard of Hearing people who are fluent or native signers. They need to be comfortable interacting with Deaf/HH children and families. No previous experience is necessary! If you want to learn more or to get involved, first time or not, you are welcome!

Training is provided! Training will include opportunities to learn more about what ASL storytelling is, to model storytelling skills, and to get practice with feedback and revision. We will also offer materials and equipment to enhance the storytelling experience.

This is also a paid opportunity which is nice! If you're interested in getting involved or learning more, you can email us at ODFLStoryTime@gmail.com We'll be on the lookout for your email!

We thank you for your support and involvement in this project which is to provide ASL Story Time for D/HH children to provide them an authentic ASL language and cultural experience.

[JJ Bechhold Video](#)

Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library: Columbus is seeking
Deaf/Hard of Hearing Native or Fluent ASL Signers to sign
ASL Story Times for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children!

Are you interested or know anyone who is interested?
E-mail us or share away!
ODFLStoryTime@gmail.com

- ★ Storytelling Training will be provided
- ★ Activity and Story Enhancing Materials provided
- ★ Storytellers will be paid for their time and travel
- ★ Improve your ASL, Expressive and Theatre Skills!

Ohio History Center

Written by: Dawn Watts

I recently completed a project that involved organizing my family's important documents. This included old school pictures of my mother, her report cards, and a letter from a friend telling a story about my grandmother, Amanda (McClintock) Hauswald, who founded the Supervisor School for the Deaf in East Cleveland back in 1930. I also included my own school records from Chamber School Deaf Day, East Cleveland, Greenview Jr High School in South Euclid.

I used to keep all these documents in a safe room in my house, but it's great to know that the Historical Society or Library Archives provides a temperature-controlled environment where they can be kept safe for many years to come.

Seven years ago, I donated seven boxes containing my family tree research, which my mother had been working on for over 30 years, to the Western Case Reserve Historical Society. It gave me peace of mind to know that these documents are now in a safe place where they can be preserved for historical purposes.

Lenora Culpher, the first DeafBlind student to graduate from Ohio School for the Deaf in 1919. She wanted to enroll in Gallaudet College, but she was not allowed because of her race. She was a mixed-race woman of Native American (Cherokee) and Black descent. The Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library has raised funds for a new gravestone in her honor, which will be placed at her resting place soon. Stay tuned for pictures in the future.





2024 Ohio Deaf History Month | Ohio Statehouse

Written by: Debbie Brown (video)

[Debbie Brown's ASL message](#)

Celebrating Deaf History Month Across Ohio

Columbus State Community College



Cleveland Heights Public Library



Portsmouth Public Library



Coventry Village Public Library in Cleveland Heights



ASL Faculty and Library Collaborate to Celebrate National Deaf History Month

Written by: By Katie Foran-Mulcahy (CECH Library Head) and Rachel Hoople (CECH Library Operations Supervisor) | University of Cincinnati Libraries, CECH Library

National Deaf History Month (NDHM), commemorated annually in April, brings attention to significant events in Deaf history, while also calling for reflection and activism. In celebration of NDHM, the University of Cincinnati's American Sign Language and Deaf Studies department and the [University of Cincinnati Libraries](#) have planned a number of collaborative projects with broad student impact throughout the spring term.

Several library exhibits are planned to open in April. The Walter C. Langsam Library will host two exhibits on the 4th and 5th floor lobbies, celebrating the history of Deaf achievements in the arts and media. Entitled *Deaf in Media*, the Langsam exhibits were co-curated by University of Cincinnati ASL faculty and the [College of Education, Criminal Justice and Human Services \(CECH\) Library](#) Head, with exhibit design and production by the UC Libraries Director of Library Communications and Design Co-op Student.

The CECH Library will also host two exhibits in April – one highlighting Deaf poets and one promoting children's books centering on Deaf characters and stories. The Deaf poets exhibit, a collaboration with the [Elliston Poetry Room](#), will highlight poetry collections written by Deaf poets. These items were specially curated by a CECH Library student employee and Operations Supervisor. The children's book exhibit began with the purchase of new children's books, selected using a framework developed by students in the *Psychosocial Aspects of Deafness* course. Key tenants of the selection framework included attention to inclusivity, culture, stereotypes, authority, and accuracy. The exhibit design is a collaborative effort of the ASL Club and the CECH Library. Additionally, CECH Library staff and ASL faculty were awarded a Diversity Grant to fund the creation of this exhibit.

Lastly, an ASL story time will take place in April at Arlitt Child Development Center. Located on the University of Cincinnati campus, the Arlitt Center is one of the oldest demonstration preschools in the United States. Combining themes and rhymes already familiar to the class, ASL faculty and library staff are looking forward to delivering an ASL story time with our university's youngest students.[HJ(1) [FMK(2]

From the perspective of the library, the partnership with the ASL department has been educational and humbling. It's been a great honor to learn more about the Deaf community and Deaf culture by partnering on these educational and community outreach projects. We look forward to celebrating the exhibit openings and delivering an ASL story time alongside our ASL department colleagues in April.

ODFL Honors: Dr. Charles V. Williams

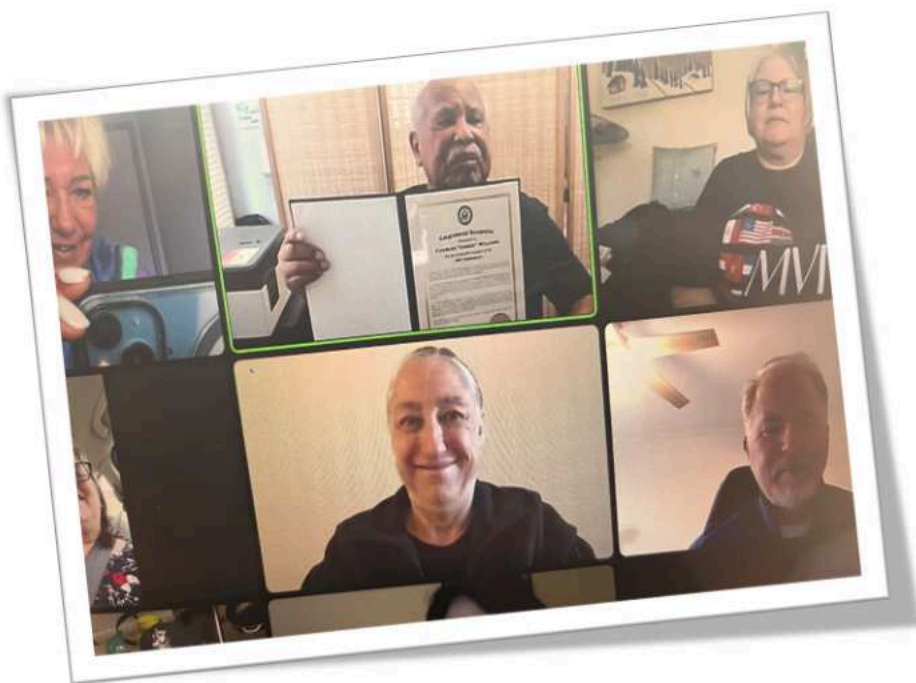
Written by: Brad Race

On Wednesday March 13th, 2024, Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library held a special zoom meeting. This meeting was no ordinary one and was set up under a false pretense for Chuck Williams. Chuck was under the impression that this meeting was to discuss regular O.D.F.L business. In fact, the zoom meeting was to celebrate Chuck Williams' first ODFL Honors. Not only was Chuck surprised by this nice gesture by Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library to celebrate his birthday but that's not all. It gets even better! Dawn Watts, President of Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library, asked Congresswoman Joyce Beatty to send something from her office to Chuck. It was not only for his birthday but also to recognize and honor his many years of community service for being a fierce advocate for Black Deaf Rights and for the Deaf community, including being an ODFL Rep for more than 7 years.

When it came time to give him this award, Chuck's reaction was priceless. During the zoom meeting, Dawn Watts told him that His birthday celebration wasn't all that we were gathered for but that we had one more thing to celebrate. Chuck was perplexed as he had no idea what was coming. When his wife brought in the package sent by Dawn for him, he said, "What's this?" her response, "I've had this and kept it from you until today." He incredulously and jokingly said, "I'm going to divorce you." The banter was hilarious and had all those who attended the zoom meeting bursting into laughter.

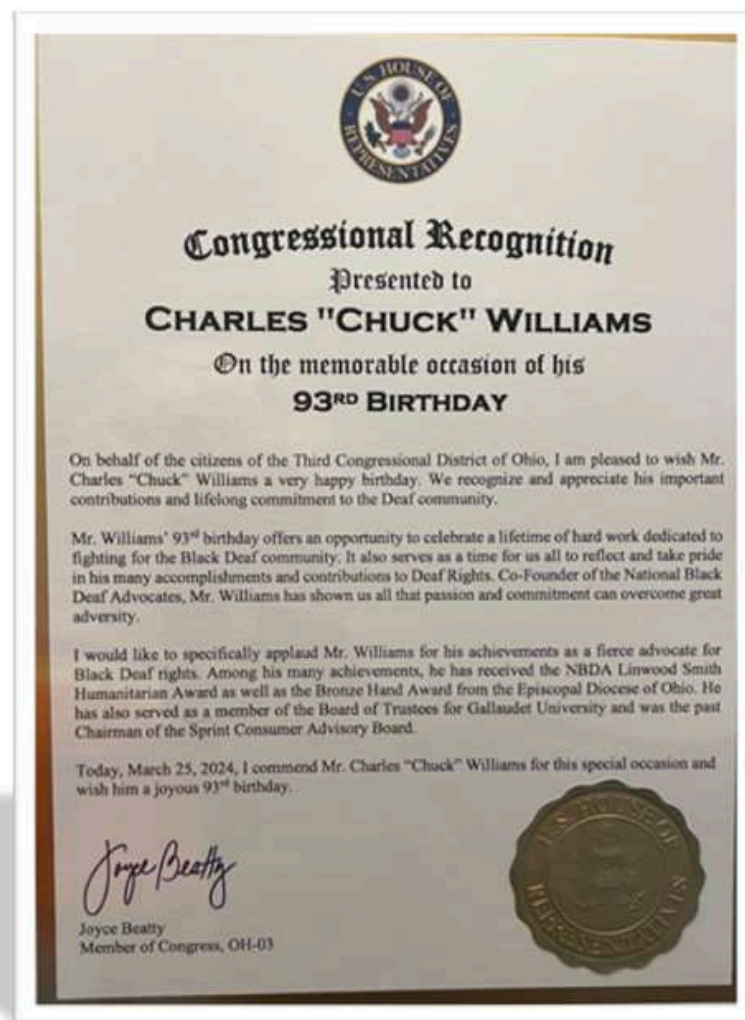


Once the laughter settled and Chuck had time to digest the magnitude of his surprise celebration, he gave all of us his heartfelt gratitude and thanked everyone for making this momentous occasion a memorable one.



Happy Birthday again & congratulations Chuck!

Your Deaf Friends of the Library
are so happy and proud of you!!



4th Annual Deaf-Themed Art Contest

Written by: Brad Race

On Sunday March 3, 2024, Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library, Ohio Hands and Voices and Advocates for Kids joined together to host the 4th Annual Deaf Themed Art Contest which was held for the first time at the Columbus Art Museum.

What a fun time was had by all! We had a nice turnout of around 50 people in total. The best part was the student turnout, 20 in total, and each and every one of them participated in the 4th Annual Deaf Themed Art contest. We even had students who couldn't attend submit their artwork electronically. Even though it was a deaf themed Art contest, it was cool to see the diversity among all the Artwork that was submitted by the contestants.

Once the Art contest was completed, we collected all the Artwork and grouped them into four Grade classifications: K-2nd, 3rd - 5th, 6th - 8th, and 9th - 12th. We then decided to have 3 winners per grade classification with prizes for each winner. So, the 1st place winner would win \$50.00, 2nd place winner would win \$25.00 and finally, the 3rd place winner would win \$15.00.

Next, our esteemed panel of judges had the difficult task of selecting all the place winners. In everyone's mind, all the contestants were winners but unfortunately we could only have three winners per grade classification.



Our judges were Wendy Knapp, CEO of the State Library of Ohio, Christine Stepien, Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library’s Secretary and finally Margo Repas, Executive Director of Advocates for Kids.

Without further adieu, here are our winners!!

K - 2nd grade winners

1st Place Laurent Clerc (Eden Szeus)

2nd Place Ladybug (Emmy Korecky)

3rd Place Pig Faces (Ivy Szeus)

3rd - 5th grade winners

1st Place Starbucks (Mila Parsons)

2nd Place You Can Do Anything ASL (Maddie Fry)

3rd Place HOH (Keira Bancroft)

6th - 8th grade winners

1st Place Girl with Red Hair (Caelan Pudelski)

2nd Place ASL Cartoon (Morales)

3rd Place White Noise (Toby Wairen)

9th - 12th grade winners

1st Place Eyeth Earth (Xantay Anderson)

2nd Place Let’s Grow Together (Sarah Van Sickle)

K-2nd Grade | 1st Place Winner | Eden Szeus

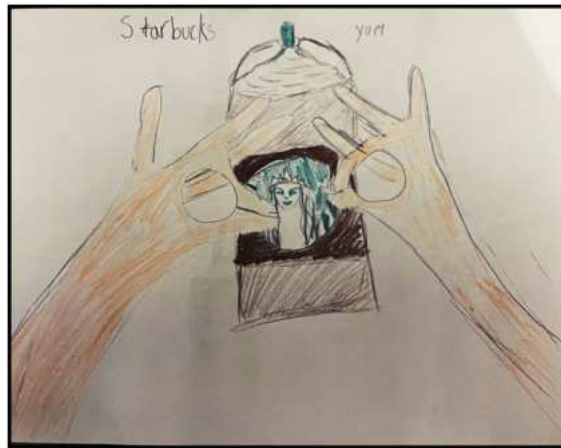
“Laurent Clerc”

Laurent Holt put Eden Szeus’ picture in his

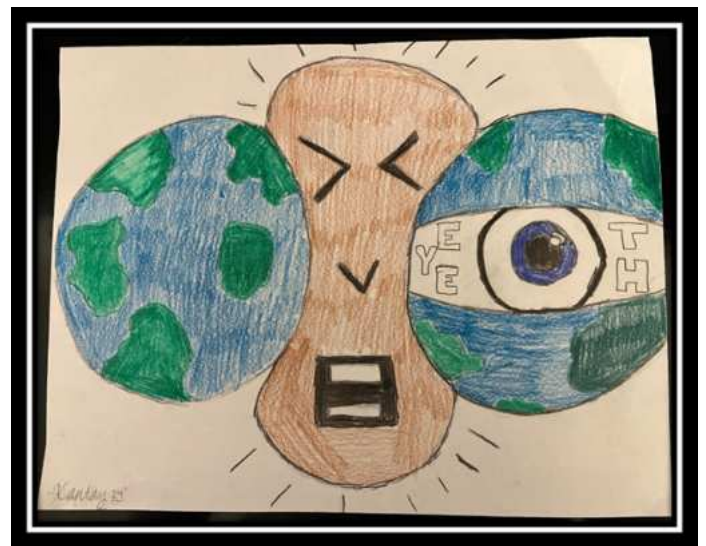
Gallery website Laurent Clerc



3rd - 5th Grade | 1st Place Winner | Mila Parsons | “Starbucks”

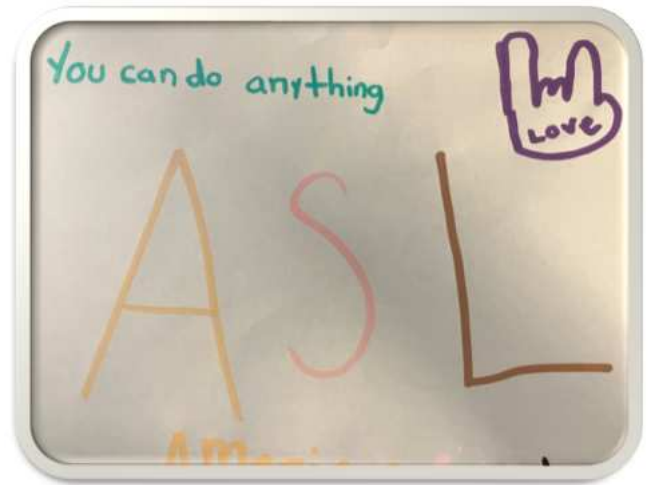
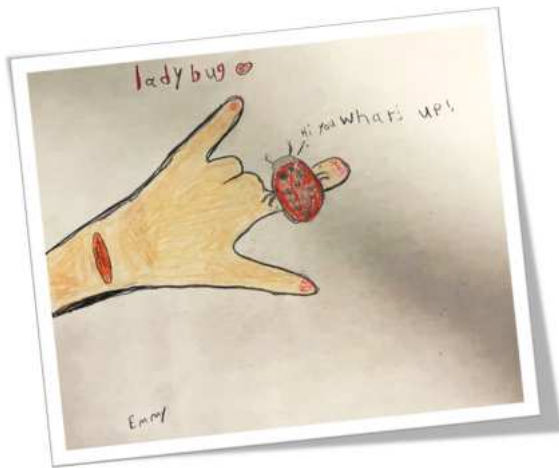


6th - 8th Grade | 1st Place Winner | Caelan Pudelski | “A Girl with Red Hair”



9th - 12th Grade | 1st Place Winner | Xantay Anderson | “Eyeth Earth”

K - 2nd Grade | 2nd Place Winner | Emmy Korecky | "Lady Bug"



3rd - 5th Grade | 2nd Place Winner | Maddie Fry | "You Can Do Anything ASL"



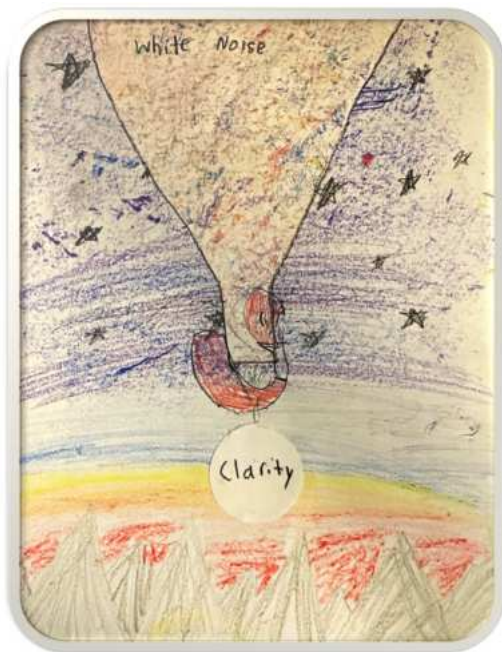
6th - 8th Grade | 2nd Place Winner | Morales | "ASL Cartoon"

9th - 12th Grade | 2nd Place Winner | Sarah Van Sickle | "Let's Grow Together"

K - 2nd Grade | 3rd Place Winner | Ivy Szeus | "Pig Faces"



3rd - 5th Grade | 3rd Place Winner | Keira Bancroft | "HOH"



6th - 8th Grade | 3rd Place Winner | Toby Wairen | "Noise"

3rd - 5th Grade | Artwork | Maddie Fry | "American Deaf Flag"

Special Guest Speaker: Laurent Clerc's 4th Grandson, Laurent Holt | ZoomCast Speech

Written by: Brad Race

Although the Art contest was the main event, we had a wonderful Special Guest Speaker via Zoom. Laurent Holt is the 4th Great Grandson of Laurent Clerc. He has had the honor of presenting about Laurent Clerc many times worldwide. During our Zoomcast, Mr. Holt shared with us about life during the times of Laurent Clerc. Many people may not know that Clerc was the founder of French and American Sign Language.

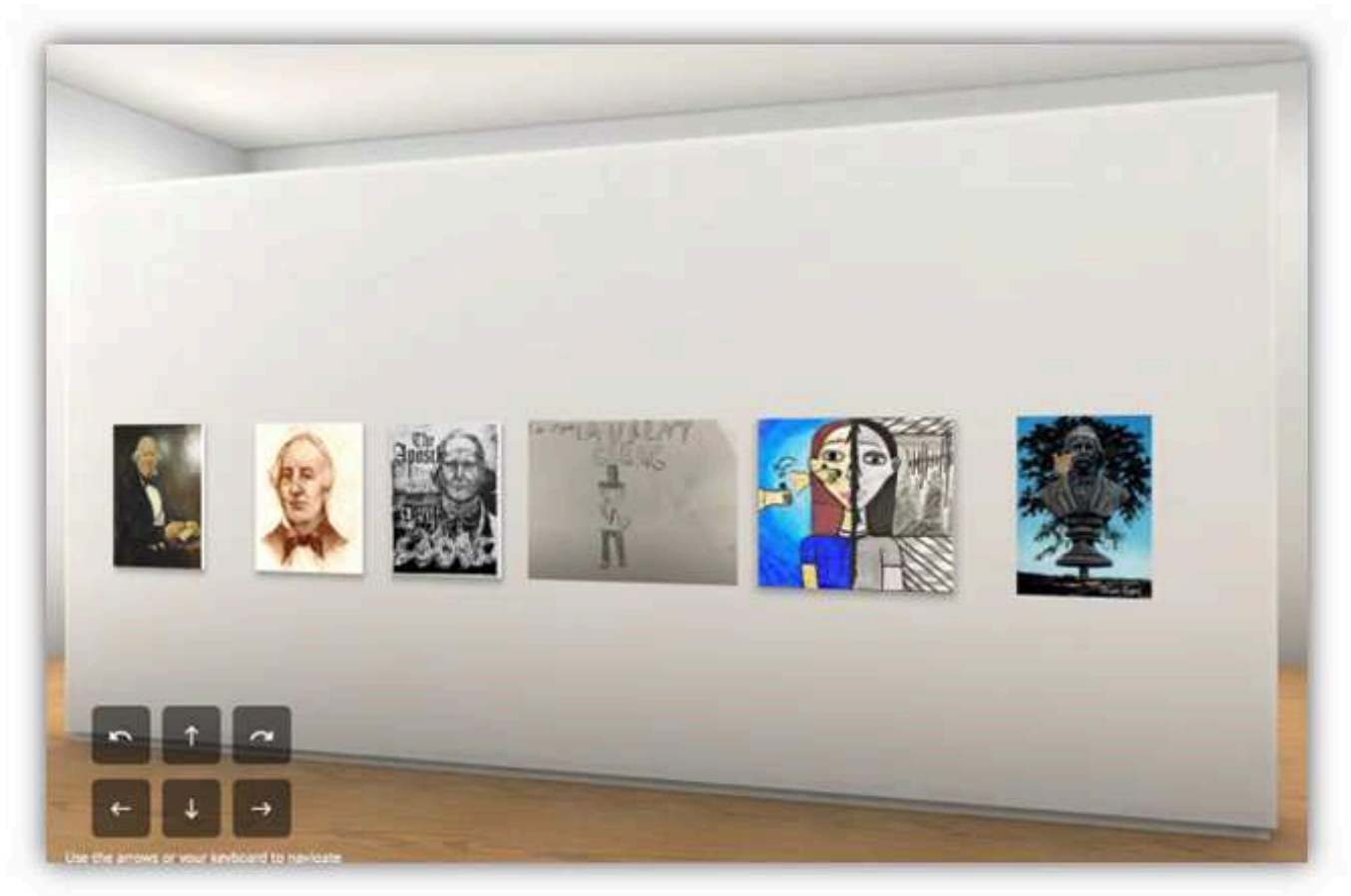
Holt shared how Laurent Clerc's name sign came to be: Clerc was accidentally burned in the face as a baby which left

a scar on his right upper cheek area. It wasn't until many years later and well into adulthood that his name-sign was given to him. His name-sign can be signed by taking the right hand's index and middle finger and then brushing downward on the right side of the upper cheek.



After the presentation, Laurent Holt was made aware that 1st Place winner Eden Szeus drew a picture of Laurent Clerc.

He was so overjoyed that he now has Eden's picture on his website.



<https://www.laurentclerc.org/>

**Mark on your calendar for next year April 9, 2025
Laurent Holt will support us and give his presentation, again.**

The Ohio Chapter of RID (OCRID) Conference

“An Attitude of Gratitude”

Written by: Vicky Emerson | OCRID Director of Meetings

The Ohio Chapter of the National Registry for the Deaf (OCRID) hosted its Spring 2024 Conference on March 8 & 9, 2024. The ASL interpreting community came together centrally at Columbus State Community College and focused intently on developing and celebrating, “An Attitude of Gratitude!”



OCRID is a professional group of both Deaf and Hearing ASL Interpreters, D/deaf educators, Interpreter Training Program (ITP) educators and their students amongst others who work near and around the D/deaf community and provide interpreting services across the great state of Ohio.

Maintaining high standards of interpreting throughout the state is a difficult task when everyone is busy with full-time jobs and a full family life back at home but these 120 conference attendees came together bright and early on a Friday and Saturday to do just that!

Why? Because we ARE grateful!

You may ask, “Grateful? To whom?” Well frankly, to YOU Deaf Reader!

We interpreters are grateful to the Deaf community, near and far, for the honor of not only the gift you have given us by sharing your precious language but for sharing yourselves to help us do our very best & teaching us how to do it better. With humble & grateful hearts we train to improve our skills so that YOU can have qualified interpreters and access to do ANYTHING you put your minds and hands to do.

Each year these interpreters, educators and students gather together to improve Deaf services through continuing to learn their craft, celebrating the successes and collaborating to solve the problems that are ever present.

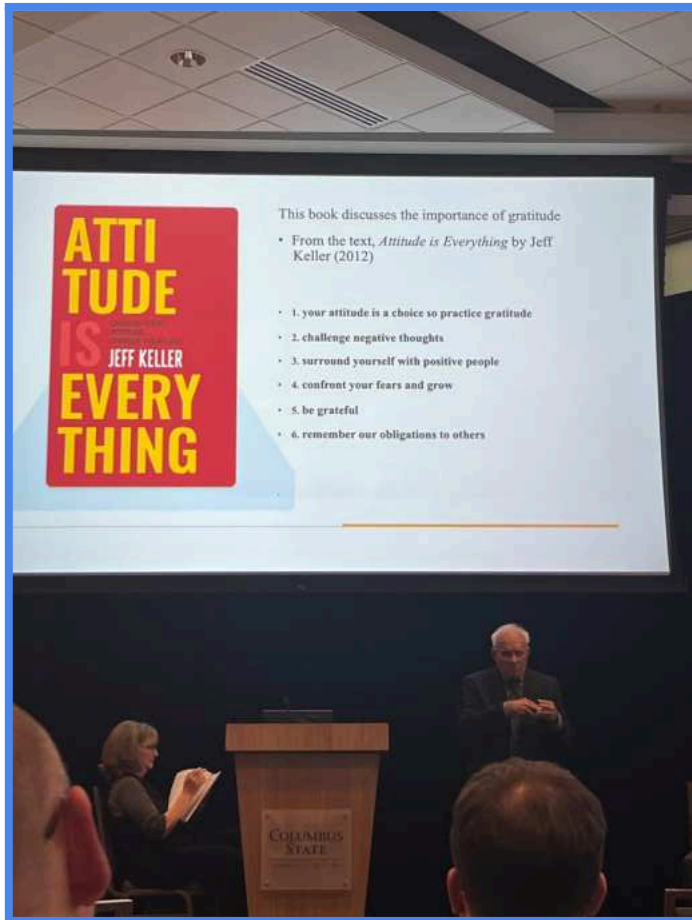
OCRID hosted workshops to particularly improve mental health services across the state. We welcomed mental health collaborators, DeafBlind community members, Deaf presenters, and PhD's in abundance.

Is there a "Doctor in the House?" Well, at our conference there were so many PhDs present and also presenting that you'd have thought it was a conference for doctors!



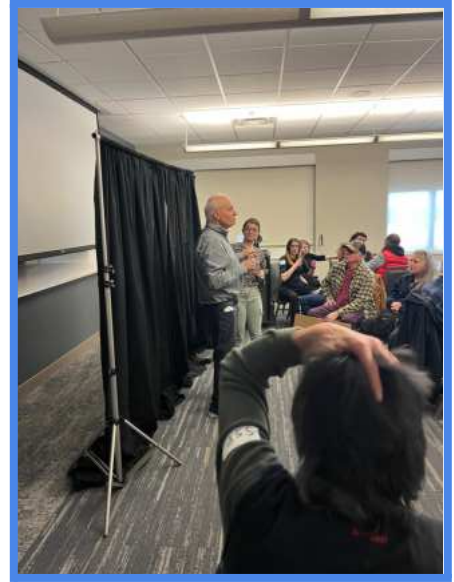
Dr. Reagan Thibodeau presented a workshop "Deaf and Hearing Interpreting Teams in the Sandbox" where both novice and veteran interpreters learned how to play better in the sandbox, that is the work of teaming together.

OCRID has worked tirelessly to bring in Deaf presenters from Ohio and across the country in order to train both Deaf Interpreters (DI) and Hearing Interpreters (HI) how to improve their skills while working together as a team among a variety of partners. Featured in the photo below (standing on the far left) is 1st year OCRID conference interpreter, Cameron Smith who is a new Deaf Interpreter (DI). Tyrone Nelson, in the green top, is one of two students from Sinclair Community College's Deaf Interpreters (DI) training at their ITP in Dayton. At the far right is Deaf presenter, Dr. Reagan Thibodeau who stands by, watching closely over the group as they workshop intently to master this difficult skill. As you can see in the photo, the pacing and timing of each interpreter varies throughout the group as each interpreter processes the information received in their own way. Practice like this does not come around often and as you can see the workshop attendees are enjoying every minute of it.



“Global Gratitude”

Art Roehrig and Dr. Leah Subak co-presented the keynote address, “Global Gratitude” to our conference. In the photo to the right, you can see OCRID’s commitment for keeping ASL as the language of the conference by utilizing Deaf interpreters who are ready to interpret conference attendees’ comments to the audience and to DeafBlind presenter Art Roehrig. What a rare privilege to learn the importance of gratitude directly from our consumers of interpreting services. In their presentation they reminded us of book author, Jeff Keller’s insights that your attitude is a choice so why not choose to practice gratitude?! Negative thoughts are ever present and normal but you need only to challenge why you are having those thoughts by surrounding yourself with positive and grateful people. In order to be more grateful you may need to face and conquer those fears that have been holding you down. They reminded us that we interpreters as well as you dear reader, have an obligation to others for where we are now in life. Be grateful.



OADB at the OCRID Conference

Written by: Vicky Emerson | OADB Member

OCRID was proud to welcome the Ohio Association of the DeafBlind (OADB) on Saturday, March 9, 2024 to share the conference space and help to highlight Governor DeWine's new 2024 Support Service Provider (SSP) & Co-Navigator (CN) Pilot Program that was voted into the 2024 budget. If you are interested in learning more about this, please contact the Columbus Speech and Deaf Center, Ohio SSP Coordinator, Dawn Watts by emailing her at: dwatts@columbusspeech.org.

The workshop kicked-off with OCRID Board members welcoming the DeafBlind community and OADB to the Conference and thanking them for being an important feature for the interpreting community and sharing their insights with us interpreters.

More than 50 people crowded into the large conference room to listen to DeafBlind leader, Art Roehrig and a special guest speaker encouraged and informed the community of things going on around the country regarding DeafBlind rights. Many people at the conference had never witnessed such a large gathering of tactile ASL signers before.

OCRID and OADB humbly thank Sinclair Community College's practicum instructor, Nicole Morris, for bringing the cohort of ITP students from their Washington, DC trip directly to the conference where they volunteered as SSPs for the DeafBlind community during the workshop.

Deaf Camp for Children

There are two links for Deaf Camp:

1. <https://osd.ohio.gov/schools-and-programs/osd-summer-camps/osd-summer-camps-2024#SummerCampsforK12>
2. <https://csdkodacamp.my.canva.site/>

Juneteenth Social with Black Deaf People

Save your date on Saturday, June 22nd in Westerville, Ohio.

A Black Deaf guest speaker, D'Wayne Meridy of Cincinnati, will give his presentation. 11:00 am to 3 pm. RVSP before June 14th.

Soul Food will serve.

Need Committee

Contact to Arlon Nash at ballnash@yahoo.com

More information on FB: ODFL and Ingram: ODFL

A night with Matt “The Hammer” Hamill

Hosted by Xavier University

When – April 17, 2024

Time - 6:30pm



Where – Cintas Center at Xavier University

A Night with Matt "The Hammer" Hamill!

Matt will be sharing his story & promoting his upcoming new movie!

This event is free & open to the public.

Any questions, or to request a parking pass & map, please contact Lisa Hover at hoverl@xavier.edu.

Ohio Deaf Leadership Training

Written by: Dr. Marsha Moore

Ohio Deaf Association (ODA)

The Ohio Deaf Association is off to a great start, hosting the first Ohio Deaf Leadership training on Saturday, March 16, 2024 at the Ohio School for the Deaf's Conference Center. Mark Apodaca, the first Deaf Professional Registered Parliamentarian (PRP) provided the 9 AM to 4 PM intensive training on leadership, board governance, Robert's Rules of Order and motions. 45 people attended this training.

Surveys received by the participants stated they learned a lot and would like a follow up training in the near future. The CORE team: Linda Adams, Rose Larson, Shannon Seger, and Dr. Marsha Moore, along with Irene Tunanidas, ex officio, must be commended for a well done job planning this event. Also a big thank you to those who donated monies and in-kind contributions to make the event a success. The individuals were recognized at the training for their support.

Just this week, ODA's Articles of Incorporation was approved by the State of Ohio and an EIN (Employer Identification Number) was issued to us as well. Please follow us on our FaceBook (FB) page: Ohio Deaf Association for updated information as we work on obtaining 501c3 non-profit status for ODA.

ODA looks forward to serving Ohioans who are Deaf, Hard-of-Hearing and DeafBlind in the months and years to come.



Members come first to serve



More information on our
FaceBook Page: Ohio Deaf Association

Buckeye Chapter of GUAA

The Buckeye Chapter of Gallaudet University's Alumni Association (GUAA) is Ohio's chapter of GUAA.

Tamara Sulterm, Gallaudet University's Development Officer shared with us about Gallaudet University Updates:

- Currently, we have a bit over 1,300 students enrolled (UG/Graduate)
- Our students come from 47 different states and 34 different countries
- Our student body is diverse:
 - 1/3 come from deaf schools,
 - 1/3 come from mainstream schools, and
 - 1/3 are transfer students.
- Popular undergraduate majors:
 - Physical Education & Recreation
 - Social Work
 - Psychology
 - Communication Studies
 - Information Technology
- Popular graduate majors:
 - Social Work
 - Speech-Language Pathology
 - Sign Language Education (MASLED)
 - Public Administration
 - Interpretation
- We have several new programs:
 - [Centre for Latine Deaf Studies \(Nuestra Casa\)](#)
 - Schuchman Deaf Documentary Center ([Deaf Printers](#) / [Deaf NYC Project](#))
 - [Motion Light Lab](#) (Mavo)
 - [GIEI](#) and more!
- Gallaudet Athletics has 18 sports teams and over 300 student-athletes
- We have over 30 different student organizations
- Last fall, during Homecoming, Gallaudet launched its major fundraising campaign, [Necessity of Now](#), with a goal to raise 23 million!



The GUAA Elections will take place this summer for GUAA members to vote on new board members for the 2024-2028 term. Please vote!

Your role with the community, whether through volunteerism, employment, or just being who you are, is an example of Gallaudet's success story. We thank each and every one of you.

Every alumni gift makes a difference. The more alumni who participate in giving, regardless of the amount, strengthen our position when seeking grants from major corporations and foundations. This directly translates into more resources for our students.

As you know, 70% of our undergraduates come from families with a combined annual income of less than \$50,000.

Gallaudet is proud of our alumni, and we hope to have your continued support in sharing your own success stories to help recruit future students. Again, thank you for showing your love and support for Gallaudet!

I, Dawn Watts, want to say THANKS to Art Roehrig for using his clubhouse to host. (attachments of pictures).

Remind you that we will have our zoom meeting on Thursday, April 25, 2024 from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.

Let me know at buckeye chapter.



Buckeye Chapter of GUAA Zoom Meeting



Buckeye Chapter GUAA Membership

March 13, 2024 - March 13, 2025

Annual Membership: \$5.00

Here's what you get as an annual member

Pride in being a member of a strong state organization

Privilege to run for office on the Board of Directors or Standing Committees

Right to vote for Buckeye Chapter GUAA Business Meeting & Election of Board of Directors

New friends socialize.

Personal Information:

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

VP _____ Text _____

Email address _____

Friend of BC GUAA. _____

Gallaudet University Alumni

Year Graduation _____ Major _____

To send the membership form, please email at buckeyechapterofguaa@gmail.com

Buckeye Chapter ZOOM Meeting on April 25th at 6 pm to 7:30 pm

Date Received

Payment: Check # _____, Cash _____ Venmo _____ PayPal _____

WEBSITE: <https://buckeyechapterofgu.wixsite.com/buckeye>



SUMMER PROGRAMS 2024

JUNE 15-22, 2024

DISCOVER COLLEGE AND CAREERS

Discover your future by exploring college programs, potential careers, and immersive student life at Gallaudet University!

GENCYBER

Interested in information technology and cybersecurity? This is your chance to soar into the next generation of cyber stars!

IMMERSE INTO ASL!

Dive into the world of ASL with Deaf mentors, engage in ASL conversations with new friends, and embark on a journey of self-discovery.

JUNE 23-30, 2024

BISON SPORTS CAMP

Explore all 19 collegiate team sports, including Esports in our state-of-the-art, DeafSpace-designed gaming arena, and play on the disc golf course on our vibrant campus.

JUNE 24-29, 2024, 9a-5p

IMMERSE INTO ASL! Day Camp

Dive into the world of ASL with Deaf mentors, engage in ASL conversations with new friends, and embark on a journey of self-discovery.

REGISTER NOW!



gu.live/CampRegistration



Youth Programs

youthprograms@gallaudet.edu
gallaudet.edu/youth-programs

800 Florida Avenue, NE
 Washington, DC 20002



NAPOLEON
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FLORIDA NAPOLEON MCCLURE

ASL STORYTIME

in celebration of Ohio Deaf History Month
March 13 - April 15

SATURDAY, APRIL 13
AT 10:00 AM

In collaboration with
Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library
and with special guests
Dawn Watts and Amy Panning.

Join us for an ASL storytime to learn signs from an ASL interpreter, sign & sing along to stories and songs, and make crafts that celebrate American Sign Language.

ASL Storytime

London Public Library | Dawn Watts

Portsmouth Public Library | Chris Cooley

Coventry Library - Cleveland Heights | Liliana Pokorny



Scioto County Public Library and Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library

MARCH
is Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month & Deaf Awareness Month

Interactive Signing Storytime

Monday, March 11th
10:30am at the
Portsmouth Library



Join Chris Cooley, Local Ambassador of the Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library, for an Interactive Signing Storytime and craft. This program will start at 10:30am at the Portsmouth Library and is for children. For more information call 740-354-5562.



Columbus Speech & Hearing

SAVE THE DATE

When: Sunday, June 9th

9am to 6pm

Where: Columbus Zoo

Who: DeafBlind Community

What: DeafBlind Event

**Why: Give DeafBlind touch activities
to enjoy the Columbus Zoo.**

Schedule with your SSP NOW!

SSP free with your paid registration.

More information to come!

Contact to: dwatts@columbusspeech.org

If you have any issues regarding this newsletter, please contact:

Director, Editor, or Co-Editor at TheDeafReader@gmail.com

This project has been approved by the Gallaudet University IRB and is funded by the National Institute of Health #8U01DC02178-02
(PI: Poorna Kushalnagar, Ph.D.)

TAKE OUR HEALTH SCREENING SURVEY, GET \$10!

IF ELIGIBLE, YOU MAY GET AN ADDITIONAL \$25!

-DEAF,
DEAFBLIND, OR
HARD OF
HEARING
-USE AMERICAN
SIGN LANGUAGE
-AGES 45-75



UP TO 50
MINUTES OF
YOUR TIME

[http://calendly.com/erikabergeron/
screeningsurvey](http://calendly.com/erikabergeron/screeningsurvey)



Questions? Contact Erika Bergeron
dhe.cancer.coord@gallaudet.edu



GALLAUDET
UNIVERSITY

Center for
Deaf Health Equity

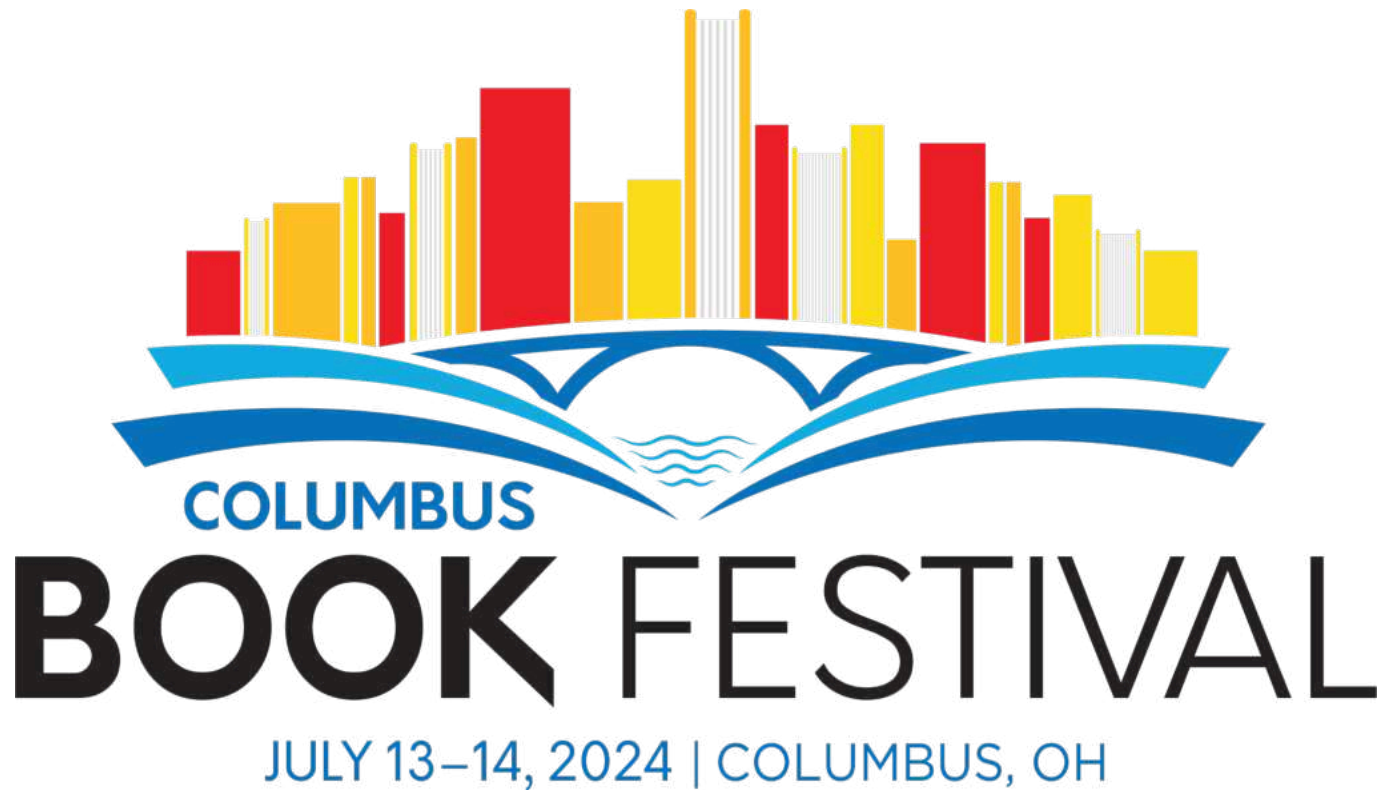
On the behalf of the Center for Deaf Equity, we are reaching out to request your assistance in inviting individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, or hard of hearing, and aged between 45 and 75, to participate in a survey related to health screening. Participants will receive a gift card worth up to \$35 as a token of appreciation. This project has been approved by the Gallaudet University IRB and is funded by the National Institute of Health (#8U01DC02178-02, PI: Poorna Kushalnagar, Ph.D.) with the aim of gathering information about the experiences of DDBHH individuals with cancer screening.

We have a flyer and an image description of the flyer ready to help you disseminate the survey to your **organization members**:

The background of the flyer is white. At the top of the flyer, there's black text that says, "This project has been approved by the Gallaudet University IRB and is funded by the National Institute of Health #8U01DC02178-02 (PI: Poorna Kushalnagar, Ph.D.)." In the middle of the flyer, there's blue and pink text that says, "Take our health screening survey, get \$10! If eligible, you may get an additional \$25!" A yellow square-shaped sticker with black text presents two bulleted points: 1) Deaf, DeafBlind, or Hard of Hearing 2) Use American Sign Language 3) Ages 45-75. A QR code to the Calendly link is displayed in the middle of the flyer. A blue square-shaped sticker with white text inside states, "Up to 50 minutes of your time." The link: <http://calendly.com/erikabergeron/screeningsurvey> is displayed in pink text. At the bottom, there's a circular headshot of Erika Bergeron, who has red hair, glasses, and is smiling at the camera. Below the image, black and blue text reads, "Questions? Contact Erika Bergeron dhe.cancer.coord@gallaudet.edu" At the bottom left corner of the flyer is an icon of blue scales of justice on a yellow background. At the bottom right of the flyer is the logo of Gallaudet University, in white text and spelling out Center for Deaf Health Equity against a blue background.

We would greatly appreciate your support in distributing this information to your community members who may be interested in participating. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Erika Bergeron at dhe.cancer.coord@gallaudet.edu.

Thank you for your collaboration and support!



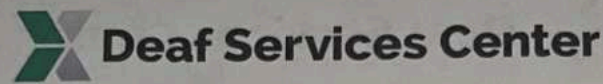
Ohio Deaf Friends of the Library Booth with Nancy Churnin, Author The William Hoy Story (Steve Sandy) Booth
ASL Storyteller Group

We're back for year two and the 2024 Columbus Book Festival will feature a whole new lineup of 200+ national and Columbus-based authors, panel discussions author talks, book signings and more!

The Festival Marketplace will brim with dozens of bookish retailers, community exhibitors, an entertainment lineup, local food court and the popular Indie Author Alley pavilion and Friends of the Library Big Book.

Where: Columbus Main Library and Topiary Park

<https://www.columbusbookfestival.org/>

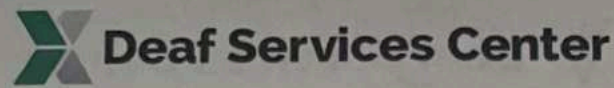


**Seeking Passionate Leader:
Executive Director for Deaf Services Center, Inc**

Key Responsibilities:

1. Vision and Strategy:
 - a. Develop and articulate a clear vision and strategic direction for the organization in collaboration with the board of directors and key stakeholders.
 - b. Set organizational goals and objectives aligned with the mission and ensure effective implementation and evaluation of strategies.
2. Organizational Leadership:
 - a. Lead and inspire diverse staff and volunteers to achieve the organization's goals and objectives.
 - b. Foster a culture of collaboration, inclusivity, and accountability within the organization.
 - c. Provide mentorship, professional development opportunities, and support to staff members.
3. Fundraising and Financial Management:
 - a. Develop and implement comprehensive fundraising strategies to ensure the organization's financial sustainability.
 - b. Cultivate relationships with donors, sponsors, and funding partners to secure financial support.
 - c. Oversee the organization's budget, financial planning, and reporting processes to ensure fiscal responsibility and transparency.
4. Program Development and Implementation:
 - a. Oversee the development, implementation, and evaluation of programs and services that meet the needs of the Deaf community.
 - b. Ensure that programs are culturally and linguistically accessible and aligned with best practices and evidence-based approaches.
5. Advocacy and Community Engagement:
 - a. Serve as a spokesperson and advocate for the Deaf community, representing the organization in public forums, media appearances, and legislative advocacy efforts.
 - b. Build and maintain partnerships with other organizations, government agencies, and stakeholders to advance the rights and interests of the Deaf community.
6. Governance and Compliance:
 - a. Work closely with the board of directors to ensure effective governance, including board recruitment, orientation, and ongoing engagement.
 - b. Ensure compliance with relevant laws, regulations, and ethical standards governing nonprofit organizations.

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E: Info@dsc.org P: 614.841.1991 www.dsc.org



7. Talent Management:

- a. Attract, retain, and develop top talent to build a high-performing team capable of executing the agency's strategy and delivering results.
- b. Foster a culture of diversity, inclusion, and employee engagement to drive innovation and creativity.

8. Risk Management:

- a. Identify and mitigate potential risks and vulnerabilities that may impact the company's reputation, financial performance, or operations.
- b. Develop contingency plans and crisis management protocols to ensure business continuity in the face of unforeseen events.

Qualifications:

- Fluency in American Sign Language (ASL).
- Demonstrated at least five-seven years of leadership experience, preferably in nonprofit organizations serving the Deaf community or disability rights.
- Strong strategic planning and organizational development skills.
- Excellent communication, negotiation, and relationship-building abilities.
- Preferably, a history of successful fundraising and financial management.
- Knowledge of relevant policies, legislation, and issues impacting the Deaf community.
- Commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion principles.
- A bachelor's degree is required, and an advanced degree in a relevant field is preferred.

The Executive Director of the Deaf Services Center plays a crucial role in advocating for the rights and well-being of the Deaf community, promoting accessibility, and fostering empowerment and inclusion. This position requires a passionate and dedicated leader committed to positively impacting the lives of Deaf individuals and their families.

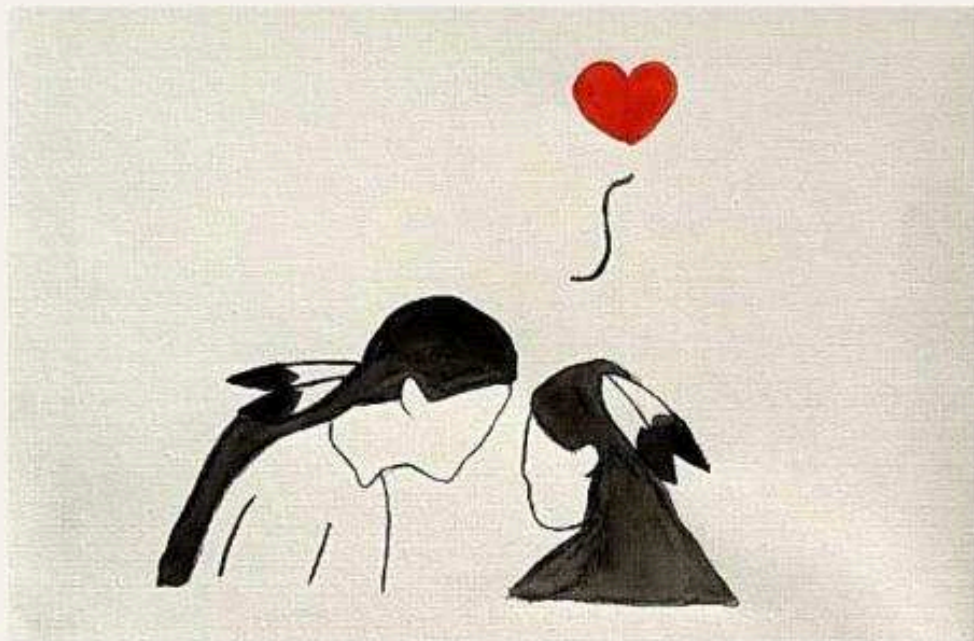
The salary for the CEO position would be commensurate with the candidate's experience, qualifications, and the organization's budgetary constraints.

Please submit your resume and cover letter to board@dsc.org outlining your qualifications and experience relevant to the Executive Director position at our nonprofit Deaf organization. We look forward to reviewing your application and learning more about how your skills align with our mission and goals.

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Call for Indigenous Deaf Artists

Decolonize and Indigenize



SUBMISSIONS CLOSE: MAY 3, 2024
NATIONAL DEAF LIFE MUSEUM
GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

EXHIBITION DATES: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2024,
THROUGH FRIDAY, MAY 9, 2025

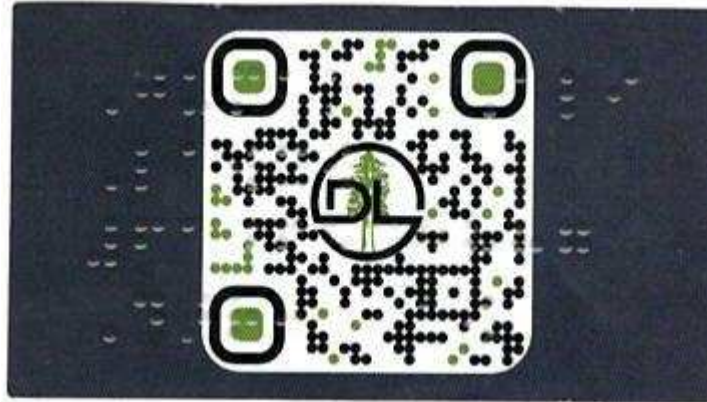
Curators: Nancy Rourke, Leticia Arellano, and Vergena Chee

<http://gu.live/IndigenousDeafArtists>

Upcoming Events

If you need an attorney for a lawsuit pertaining to American Sign Language Access, use this QR code below.

Darr Law: Jumana M. Ali
Attorney
JMA@Darr.law
www.Darr.law
614-653-7887



If you have any issues regarding this newsletter, please contact the Director, Editor, or Co-Editors at TheDeafReader@gmail.com

Next *The Deaf Reader*
Newsletter Vol. 3
July 2024

Contact Information

The Deaf Reader

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thedeafreader@gmail.com

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P.O. Box 917

Worthington, Ohio 43085-0917

Standing Committees

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Librarian for Deaf

Ben Gulyas

Coventry Village – Heights Public Library

Ben Gulyas

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Danny Lucero

Specialist DeafBlind

Bryan Grubb

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Bylaws

Angie Potosky

Bylaws Parliamentarian

Bob Donaldson-Pirc

President

Dawn Watts

Vice President

Angie Potosky

Secretary

Christine Stepien

Treasurer

Debbie Brown

WE STRIVE FOR ALL
LIBRARIES TO BE
MADE ACCESSIBLE
TO ALL THE DEAF
COMMUNITIES IN
THE STATE OF OHIO

Northwest 1 Representatives None

Allen, Auglaize, Crawford, Defiance, Eric, Fulton, Hancock, Hardin, Henry, Huron, Lucas, Mercer, Ottawa, Paulding, Putnam, Sandusky, Seneca, Van Wert, Williams, Wyandot, Wood

Northeast 2 Representatives Liliana Arsean-Pokorny, Jenny Jaske, and Regis Gilchrist

Ashland, Ashtabula, Carroll, Columbiana, Cuyahoga, Geauga, Harrison, Holmes, Huron, Jefferson, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, Tuscarawas, Wayne

Southwest 3 Representative Juanita Hall, Scott Van Nice, and Melissa Kelly

Adams, Brown, Butler, Clark, Clermont, Clinton, Champaign, Darke, Greene, Hamilton, Highland, Logan, Miami, Montgomery, Preble, Shelby, Union, Warren

Central 4 Representatives Brad Race and Danny Lucero

Coshocton, Delaware, Licking, Fayette, Fairfield, Franklin, Knox, Marion, Madison, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Union

Southeast 5 Representative Chris Cooley

Athens, Belmont, Gallia, Guernsey, Hocking, Jackson, Lawrence, Meigs, Monroe, Morgan, Noble, Pike, Ross, Scioto, Vinton, Washington

Director: Dawn K. Watts Co-Editor: Brad Race, Vicky Emerson, and Juanita Hall

The Deaf Reader newsletter editors reserve the right to review and make any necessary edits in the enclosed articles.