



The Deaf Reader

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Message from the President

This past year of 2020 has been a rough year due to the coronavirus (COVID-19) for many of us in Ohio, nationally, and around the world. This has also caused difficulties for our local libraries. I thank all of you for your support and contribution for our libraries during this past year. Despite the ravaging pandemic, our libraries have endured and became a source of comfort and support for our local communities.

I thank each one of you on the Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures (OCDC) board for your commitment not only with our organization during this time but also with attending our regular Zoom meetings. We have worked hard this past year despite the upheaval caused by this pandemic.

I want to extend special thanks to Darrell Doudt for his wonderful and informative presentation during our June 2020 meeting on the Organization Alliance in State of Ohio (OAO). Our OCDC board agreed upon selecting Tom Benziger as the OAO’s facilitator to assist and guide all forty organization to work together with collaborative goals. The OAO was established with the purpose of finding better welfare and quality of services for the Deaf community. If your organization is interested, you may find more information about this OAO collaboration in our OCDC website in its Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) at <https://ocdclibrary.org/bylaws>. If you are interested in joining our OAO meetings, please contact me at: ohiocdc2016@gmail.com.

Additionally, we appreciate if you help raise funds for OCDC through Amazon Smile. OCDC is listed as a charity on [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com). We appreciate your support!

I look forward to us working together in this coming year 2021. May this year be a year of progress as we grow together as an organization to support our local libraries as we spread awareness on our Deaf culture, history, and community.

I wish you all a wonderful Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Dawn Watts



Holiday Dinner Blues



Written by: Barbara Earth

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Holidays can be fraught with tension for Deaf people, depending on whether or not we have accessible communication within our families. Only about 10% of Deaf people are born into Deaf families. For them, communication within the family is easy; everyone signs. On the other hand, more than 90% of Deaf people are born into hearing families. For us, communication problems at holiday dinners mark us as different from our families and can cause alienation.

Deaf individuals in hearing families are marginalized in family interactions because the communication modality—hearing and speech—is inaccessible to us. The feeling of being an outsider can be stark and painful at holiday times when we are bombarded with images of close, loving, cohesive families. Imagine sitting at a festive table loaded with delicious, traditional foods. Our whole family is there to celebrate. It should be a happy time, right?

All too often it's not a happy time. Our family probably loves us, but they can't communicate with us. Conversation at the table is flying fast and we don't know what they are saying. We may ask whoever is sitting next to us what they are talking about. But the answer is likely to be "It's not important;" "I'll tell you later;" or "Never mind." We may feel exhausted and angry after those dinners that fill our stomachs but leave us empty.

It hurts to be dismissed and excluded, but we accept it. After all, it's normal to be left out in our family. But why can't our family find a way to include us? For some reason it is beyond them to write notes, and totally out of the realm of possibility for them to learn to sign. Could it be they don't really love us enough to think about how to include us, or care enough to include us?

I am unusual for a Deaf person because I've been on both sides of this experience; I was hearing, now I'm Deaf. I have what is called DFNA2 no syndromic hearing loss. My mother had it and so did my grandmother. It means we are born hearing but gradually become totally deaf beginning in young adulthood. Thus, as a young hearing person, I was unthinking and mean to my deaf elders, and now as an older Deaf person I'm getting the same treatment from my family.

As a hearing child, I saw my grandma slaving away on our holiday dinners—I'll never forget her fried chicken, mashed potatoes and gravy! It didn't seem strange that Grammy couldn't hear anything, and it didn't matter. I loved her. I was too young to understand what it meant to be deaf or how it must have felt for her to work so hard but be so left out, almost like a servant.

Many more years passed during which we gathered for dinners; now it was my mother's turn to be left out. Increasingly hard-of-hearing and eventually deaf, she got only the "table scraps" of dinner conversations, like a family dog. I'm ashamed to admit I participated in excluding her. But as my own hearing deteriorated, I grew more empathetic and considerate of my mother. Finally, I understood her isolation. My mother and I became the gang of deafies who sat together and wrote notes at the dinner table. We ignored those hearies! I wrote funny notes, and I could dash them off quickly. She was so happy! Finally, she was included! She relished our special bond and reciprocated with matching humor. I miss her so much! Now I'm the only deafie at the table and no one writes good notes. Now I'm the family dog.

I've gone over in my mind how and why I was so cruel to my deaf family members. Even though my family has had DFNA2 genetic deafness for at least four generations, we've done nothing to accommodate the ones who inherited it. We just didn't think it was our responsibility to meet them on their turf. Rather, we sort of unconsciously felt lucky it wasn't us—yet. We absorbed and embodied the audist societal attitude of hearing superiority. We knew it was tragic for the deaf ones, but it was just their lot to bear. Our hearts were hardened against our deaf members.

My own daughter has internalized these damaging ideas. She paid a lot of money for her young son to learn Spanish, even as I begged her to support ASL. But in her mind ASL is not worth learning. She didn't realize what a gift it would have been for him and for me, actually for all of us. This lost opportunity to change the family dynamic felt like a deep rejection. My grandson has forgotten the Spanish he learned. He knows a little ASL, but his motivation is low due to his parents' attitudes. Now his mom is forcing him to learn Latin. She will never support ASL, so I've pretty much given up.

This year because of coronavirus-2019 (COVID-19), we cancelled our family Thanksgiving dinner. I didn't miss it a bit! I felt liberated! I think I will make a habit of skipping these dinners. I no longer care to feel down and inferior for the dubious benefit of keeping tradition. Why should I attend family dinners that mostly celebrate hearing privilege? No thank you.

This paper uses Deaf with a capital “D” to refer to people who lack audition, use sign language, and are part of a community of sign language users. The term “deaf” refers to people who lack audition but do not use sign language and are not part of a sign language community. Capital “D” connotes a cultural identification.

Quick statistics about Hearing. www.nidcd.nih.gov
Barnhart, Jerel (2007). Table Scraps. In Mark Drolsbaugh (ed). *On the fence: the hidden world of the hard of hearing*.
Springhouse PA: Handwave Publications.
see *Why 'Dinner Table Syndrome' is getting worse for deaf people* at bbc.com.

Dinner Table Syndrome

Written by: Juanita Hall

The holidays are often associated with enjoyable family get togethers at the dinner table as they carry on conversations about their lives and current events. Yet, for the Deaf, hard of hearing, Late-Deafened Adults, Deaf Disabled, and DeafBlind this can be a time of frustrations, hurt feelings, and loneliness from being excluded from this enjoyable dinner time. This exclusion from conversations with hearing individuals during mealtimes is termed as “dinner table syndrome.” This occurs when Deaf individuals are often left out of meaningful discourse with their hearing families, peers, co-workers, or any other individuals in their daily lives. They often feel isolated and lonely due to lack of communication accessibility. This may occur not only during mealtimes but anytime during the day such as in work, school, social gatherings, family, or in other situation that requires dialogue (Meek, 2020).

Reference

Meek, D. R. (2020). Dinner Table Syndrome: A Phenomenological Study of Deaf Individuals' Experiences with Inaccessible Communication. *The Qualitative Report*, 25(6), 1676-1694. Retrieved from <https://nsuworks.nova.edu/tqr/vol25/iss6/16>

Black Deaf History

Written by: Kimberly Savage and Juanita Hall

Black History Month is a time of reflection and appreciation for our black history in this country in America from February 1 to March 1. This special month became official in 1976 after 61 years of its first appearance in Chicago on September 9, 1915 with the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH) to promote the Black's achievements, and scientific study on the black life and history. Later in 1920, Woodson encouraged the creation of Negro Achievement Week. By 1976 the name was name was changed to Black History Month. The reason Woodson chose February as its month was to commemorate two influential people's birthdays with black's emancipation: President Abraham Lincoln – February 12th and Frederick Douglass – February 14th (Scot, 2011). However, despite this month's wonderful contribution in promotion Black's rich history, it often overlooked one important aspect of Black History, the Black Deaf.

The Black Deaf is an important minority group among the blacks that needs to be recognize. They have suffered much oppression twice as much as the regular blacks due to being both black and Deaf. The Black Deaf woman endured thrice discrimination with not only their race and deafness, but also with their gender. During the horrible segregation in the 17th to mid-20th century, the Black Deaf were discriminated by not only the whites, but also by both the hearing blacks and the Deaf. They had no access to the national civil organizations for the blacks nor could participate in Deaf clubs and organizations. On top of that, the National Association for the Deaf (NAD) prohibited the Black Deaf membership for over 40 years! They were not allowed to join until 1964 after the Civil Rights Act of 1964 passed. Even Gallaudet College (now University) would not enroll any Black Deaf until Andrew J. Foster, in 1954, the first Black Deaf (Ogunyipe, n.d.). Andrew Foster is an amazing Black Deaf who has rich history and has overcome great odds. Before his premature death, he established 32 Deaf schools in 13 African countries and is knows as “Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet’ of Africa” (Gallaudet University, n.d.).

Thankfully, the tides started to turn for the better for the Black Deaf in the early 1980's. First, the Eastern Regional Black Deaf Conference at Howard University was organized in 1981. Then, in 1982 in Cleveland, Ohio a Black Deaf Strength through Awareness national conference was held. From there, a wonderful organization was formed, the National Black Deaf Advocates (NBDA), which currently has over 30 local chapters, including Ohio's Chapter #2 Cleveland (Founder Charles “Chuck” Williams) and Chapter #20 Buckeye Black Deaf Advocates. NBDA has promoted many wonderful services for the Black Deaf such as high school and college leadership training programs, college scholarships for the Black Deaf, Miss Black Deaf America Pageant, and many other opportunities and programs (Ogunyipe, n.d.). The BBDA is currently based in Columbus, Ohio and has various wonderful events and programs for the Black Deaf. More information may be found on its website <https://buckeyebda20.weebly.com/> and <https://dcmp.org/learn/366-black-deaf-culture-through-the-lens-of-black-deaf-history>

References

Gallaudet University. (n.d.). *Visionary Leader – May 2014 Andrew Foster*. Retrieved from <https://www.gallaudet.edu/about/history-and-traditions/andrew-foster>

Ogunyipe, B. (n.d.). *Black Deaf Culture Through the Lens of Black Deaf History*. Described and Captioned Media Program. Retrieved from <https://dcmp.org/learn/366-black-deaf-culture-through-the-lens-of-black-deaf-history>

Scott, D. M. (2011). *Origins of Black History Month*. ASALHA. Retrieved from <https://asalh.org/about-us/origins-of-black-history-month/>

Organization Alliance in the State of Ohio Facilitator: Thomas “Tom” Benziger



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by Thomas Benziger

Thomas “Tom” Benziger, who prefers to go by Tom, has accepted the position as the Organization Alliance in the State of Ohio (OAO) Facilitator. Tom grew up as oralist from Chicago and did not learn sign language until he attended Gallaudet (College) University. Tom studied for a couple years at Gallaudet when it was a college (Gallaudet College). Twenty-five years later, when he went back to Gallaudet, it had added graduate programs and formally became a University institution. He attended Gallaudet University from 1992 to 1994 where he graduated with his BA degree. In his own words, he states that this show that “really it is *never too late* to be a student.”

As a child, Tom attended Bell School in Chicago where deaf, blind, gifted, and hearing programs were offered. From there, he then went to an all-boy’s school at Lane Technical High School. This school only had 6,500 boys and his graduating class had over 1,500 boys. There were no interpreting services or note takers available at that time. Therefore, he had to sit in the front row to read lips. Even though he had to work harder than his hearing peers due to his deafness, he really appreciated this high school because it was one of the best high schools in the city of Chicago. Now this high school is co-ed, open to both boys and girls.

He enjoys traveling abroad and tends to be a very independent traveler. He makes sure he always researches the country before traveling to the designated country so he may be educated about the country before he travels. He also enjoys doing family history research and have learned much about his family on both sides and appreciates their rich history. Lately, his granddaughter and close acquaintances have asked and begged him to write a book about his life, which never has a dull moment! Currently, he is putting together an outline on the events in his life to write his biography. With his many interests, he is happy to often offer his assistance to many organizations including as a facilitator for OAO.



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Ohio Deaf History Month 2021

Written by: Debbie Brown

The fourth annual Ohio Deaf History Month (ODHM) from March 13 to April 15. Some of the main libraries or many other local libraries are being recommended by the five Regional Representatives from their area to ask them to provide a display of ODHM materials such as books, posters, or any DVD/Video related to Deaf Culture and Deaf History.

As chairperson for ODHM for Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures OCDC, it is my responsibility to choose a list of books written by Deaf, DeafBlind, CODA, and Hearing authors. Some of these books are historical, whereas others are biography works. As you go through the list of books, you may google up the books to find more information on it. If you are interested to read any of these books, then you may check your local library to see if they are available or ask them to order them for you. If your local libraries don't have the book(s) you are interested, I suggest you check out other libraries to see if they have them. If none of them have them, then I encourage to find the book(s) on the *State Library of Ohio* website at: <https://library.ohio.gov/documents/ohio-public-library-system-directory/>. If all fails, then you could just purchase the book(s) online such through suggested books listed on the following page 8.

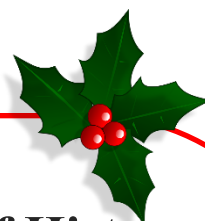
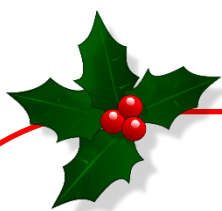
In addition to these suggested books, we have some exciting news. We will be hosting our first annual children's art contest for ODHM as a fundraiser. More information is explained on page

If you are interested to help them then please contact your local Regional Representative. You may find their contact information on the contact list on the Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Brochure and on the last page of this newsletter. You may also contact me by email: dboho1960@yahoo.com. If you have any questions, please feel free to email me.

In the meantime, I sincerely hope this coronavirus (COVID-19) does not close our local libraries during this year of 2021. Please stay safe and healthy during this upcoming year!



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Suggested Books on Deaf Culture & Deaf History

Haben—The DeafBlind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law by Haben Girma (Eritrean-American and DeafBlind)

Samuel Thomas Greene—A Legend in the Nineteenth Century Deaf Community by Clifton F. Carbon (Canadian Deaf)

Crying Hands—Eugenics and Deaf People In Nazi Germany by Horst Biesold (Hearing Teacher of the Deaf in Germany) with Introduction by Henry Friedlander

Paris in America: A Deaf Naticoke Shoemaker and His Daughter by Clara Jean Mosley Hall (Native Indian and African American Hearing CODA) with Gayle Williamson (Hearing)

From Rejection to Love: The True Story of a Deaf Woman by Jennifer A. Hertneky (Deaf)

Agatha Tiegel Hanson: Our Places in the Sun by Kathy Jankowski (Deaf and blind in one eye)

Black and Deaf in America—Are We that Different by Ernest Hairston (Black and Deaf) and Linwood Smith (Black and Deaf)

Finding Zoe: A Deaf Woman's Story of Identity, Love, and Adoption by Brandi Rarus (Deaf) and Gail Harris (Hearing)

Deaf Hearing Boy: A Memoir by R. H. Miller (Hearing CODA)

Heart Language: Let's Communicate like Jesus and Change the World by Randy Dignan (Hearing CODA)

Our Father Abe—The Story of a Deaf Shoe Repairman by Harvey Barash, MD & Eva Barash Dicker, MS (Hearing CODAs)

Get your Elbow off the Horn—Stories through the years by Jack R. Gannon (Deaf)



Children's Drawing Art Contest!

Written by: Debbie Brown

ODHM will be hosting a children's art contest where any Deaf, hard of hearing, Child of Deaf Adult (CODA), or hearing children/students may participate. Those who would be interested to participate will be instructed to draw a picture of anything related to Deaf culture and Deaf history in honor of ODHM. Also, they have the option to draw a picture of their experience as a Deaf person or a future dream of what a Deaf person could do.

All the submitted drawings will be separated into three different categories: Grades K – 4, 5 – 8, and 8 – 12. These artwork drawings will be judged by three different individuals: Brenda Shrader, Bonnie Sandy, and Willie Cook. The selected winner will have the honor of having the winner's artwork and name on special notecards. These notecards will be used to help raise funds for our OCDC organization.

The contest will be taking place from January 7 – March 7, 2020. The winner will be announced on March 13th on Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Facebook (FB) page, which will occur on the same day when ODHM starts. The winner will also receive an award certificate and his/her name will be printed on the back of the notecards for (OCDC).

The drawings artwork should be mailed to the following address:

Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures
PO Box 917
Worthington, Ohio 43085-0917

If you have any questions regarding this art contest, contact your regional representative listed on the last page of this newsletter.



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NDHM HR224 Resolution

Written by: Andrew Knox

HR224 Resolution - National Deaf History Month by U.S. House of Rep: Joyce Beatty 3rd District of Ohio.

Andrew Knox and Dawn Watts plan to go in January 2021 to pass out flyers to the US House of Reps Congress members over 400 letters, in regards to the resolutions and push for March 13 to April 15 for Deaf month.

Contact your US House of Representative to send a letter or call. It is also found on its website <https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative>. If you have any questions, contact Andrew Knox at knox.andrew19@gmail.com.



DEAF OHIOANS

20th Century Work, Sports & Politics

Weds., Jan. 27 • 7 p.m. VIRTUAL

In much of the first half of the 20th century, deaf Americans recognized Ohio as a national center of deaf culture and activism. Drawn together by the rubber industry, wartime labor needs, skilled sports teams and political action, deaf Ohioans created community and lives for their families. They fought discrimination and claimed legitimacy. Join accomplished writer and lecturer Dr. Kim Nielsen from the University of Toledo in a virtual discussion to learn more about this rich history!

This program will utilize auto-generated captions and faculty-supervised student interpreters will be provided by the Columbus State Community College Interpreter Education Program.

\$5/Nonmember; Free/Member

Visit ohiohistory.org/deafohioans to buy your tickets today.



National Deaf Center

Written by: Juanita Hall

The National Deaf Center (NDC) is an organization based in Austin, Texas with this mission, “We believe that all deaf people can succeed, thrive, blossom, and triumph” (NDC, n.d., para 1). Since its establishment in 2017, it has worked hard with its mostly Deaf employees with individuals and organizations in assisting Deaf people with better education and employment. Research has shown that Deaf people have a much harder time completing high school, earning high education degrees such as bachelor, graduate, and doctorate degrees due to various reason such as lack of communication and accommodations. According to research done by Carrie Lou Garberoglio, Jeffrey Levi Palmer, Stephanie Cawthon, and Adam Sales, only 53.3% of the Deaf were employed in 2017 versus 75.8% of the hearing were employed. Additionally, the Deaf have a much harder time than the hearing in finding full time jobs and have a greater percentage of working only part-time compared to the hearing (Garberoglio et al., 2019).

Therefore, NDC is activity working with individuals in organizations to help the Deaf improve their changes in obtaining educational opportunities and employment. Their website has excellent resources for the Deaf, their families, instructors, educational organizations, and specialists to explore. They provide the following services (NDC, n.d.):

- Resources at no cost
- Referrals and assistance
- Inspirational stories by other Deaf
- Online game
- Classes offered online
- Community social
- Research’s data

As the new year rolls around, NDC has made some positive transitions with its administration. Their new Director and Principal Investigator will be Carrie Lou Garberoglio, PhD, while her previous position as Associate Director and Co-Principal Investigator is replaced by Tia Ivanko, MS. It is their hope along with their hard-working team to provide services in helping the Deaf obtain better education and employment in this coming year 2021 (S. W. Cawthon, personal communication, December 10, 2020). More information about NDC and its services may be found at their website <https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/>.

References

Garberoglio, C. L., Palmer, J. L., Cawthon, S., and Sales, A. (2019). *Deaf People and Employment in the United States: 2019*. NDC National Deaf Center on Postsecondary Outcomes. Retrieved from [https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/sites/default/files/Deaf%20People%20and%20Employment%20in%20the%20United%20States_%202019%20\(7.26.19\)\(ENGLISH\)\(WEB\).pdf](https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/sites/default/files/Deaf%20People%20and%20Employment%20in%20the%20United%20States_%202019%20(7.26.19)(ENGLISH)(WEB).pdf)

Garberoglio, C. L., Palmer, J. L., Cawthon, S., & Sales, A. (2019). *Deaf People and Employment in the United States: 2019*. Retrieved from [https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/sites/default/files/Deaf%20People%20and%20Employment%20in%20the%20United%20States_%202019%20\(7.26.19\)\(ENGLISH\)\(WEB\).pdf](https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/sites/default/files/Deaf%20People%20and%20Employment%20in%20the%20United%20States_%202019%20(7.26.19)(ENGLISH)(WEB).pdf)

TH NDC. (2017). *Our Mission*. Retrieved from <https://www.nationaldeafcenter.org/mission>

Community News

Kids Connect Program

Written by: Marsha Moore

After a successful 8-week pilot Summer Kids Connect Program, Kids Connect Fall Program will be offered for the fall to kids residing in Ohio within ages 7-18. We give special thanks to Advocates for Kids, Ingram-White Castle Foundation, the Dorothy E. Ann Fund (D.E.A.F.) of the Columbus Foundation, and Deaf Services Center for collaborating in making this happen. The program will commence on Monday, October 5, 2020, and continue until March 26, 2021.

Three age groups will be offered for this fall program: Ages 7-9, 10-13, and 14-18. The mentors will meet with their groups twice a month for up to an hour each session. Kids Connect will also host a monthly event where a guest speaker will come in and discuss his or her occupation and their experiences. All programming will be provided virtually, and accommodations will be offered as needed.

Register your child today at Kids Connect website: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe9iRPIIHZF8TNU_HFQsL_e5N77vph_x_9D8S8VloaxS1LXIw/viewform

DSC
Where Communication Happens

KIDS CONNECT PROGRAM

Program Information

- Participants can make a new friend, have FUN, communicate, socialize, reduce isolation, connect with kids like themselves, enjoy a new pen-pal, and stay connected with existing friends!
 - This program is FREE with limited space available!
- Participants must be a resident of Ohio, Deaf or hard of hearing, and between the ages of 7-18
 - Each child's preferred mode of communication is valued and accommodated!
- Interpreting and captions will be provided, as needed
- Kids will connect with peers and friends up to 2x a month
- Guest speaker will join us one time per month, on a Saturday, for one hour of fun and interactive sessions.
 - Participant age groups are 7-9, 10-13 and 14-18
- Small groups of kids are matched with a Deaf/HH Mentor
- Mentors are 21+ years old, have experience working with kids, have successfully completed the pre-program training, and have a clean FBI/BCI background check on file

- Safety and FUN are the TOP priorities!!
- Duration of each virtual connection varies by age group – attention span, and maturity level are considered (Each connection will be 25-60 minutes)
- Device with camera and WIFI are required to participate in the virtual connections
- Virtual connections are scheduled Monday – Friday, between the hours of 4pm-8pm
- Virtual connections are all about FUN activities!
 - We follow the 'rule of 3' so your child will never participate in a 1-on-1 with a Mentor
- Parent/Guardian are welcome to view all virtual connections and/or assist your kiddo/child, as needed, with their device

DATES: OCTOBER 5, 2020 - MARCH 26, 2021
For more info please contact Program Coordinator Marsha Moore at marsha@dsc.org.
Register Here: <https://forms.gle/hZRnNSnzPq8i5zHN6>

deaf
dorothea ann fund
strengthening the potential of youth who are deaf or hard of hearing

Advocates for Kids

INGRAM White Castle FOUNDATION

Make new friends

Virtual Activities

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Ohio Deaf Book Club!

Written by: Angie Potosky

Hello! Did you know that we will have a fun-filled upcoming Deaf Book Club Zoom event? We will select one book to read. The first book we plan to start with is *The Silent Psychopath* written by Jennylee Rose Bruno. She will join with us on Thursday, January 14, 2021. RSVP to Angie Potosky before January 7th.

We will meet once a month through Zoom in the evening with discussions and questions. The purpose of this Deaf Book Club is to bring the Deaf community together with Ohio Citizen of Deaf Cultures (OCDC) organization. Additionally, we will learn about Deaf or Child of Deaf Adult (CODA) topics and expand our knowledge on various authors. American Sign Language (ASL) users are welcomed. If you are interested, please email Angie Potosky at potosky2rep@gmail.com. I hope to see you at the Deaf Book Club!

Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Welcome to our ASL Book Club!

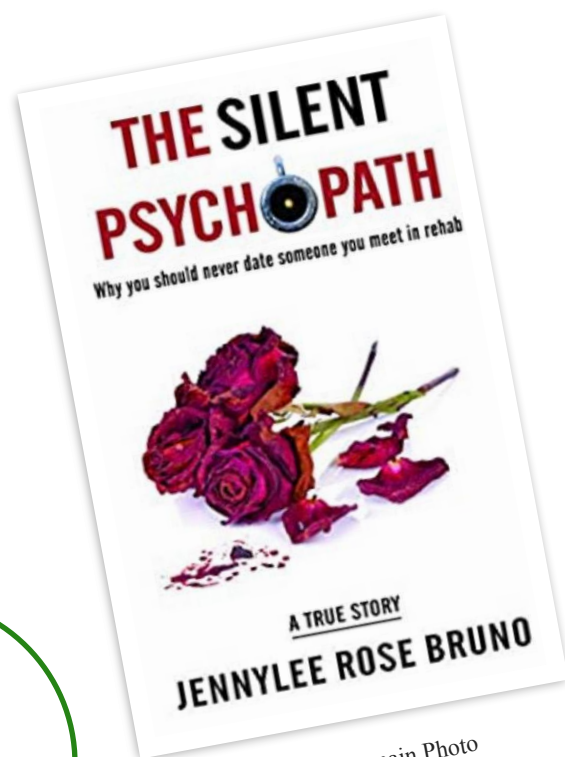
The purpose of this ASL Book Club is to read and appreciate reading! If you love fiction or non-fiction books and discussions, then you are in the right place!

Rules for ASL Book Club:

- It is okay to disagree, but be sure it is done politely, professionally, and properly.
- Inappropriate behavior and/or offensive language will not be accepted.
- Remember to only discuss about the book.
- Respect each other.
- All monthly meetings will resume promptly.
- Book Club questions related to the selected book will be distributed prior to the meeting.
- All participants who sign in ASL is welcome.
- Avoid dominating the discussions – please take turns.
- Be kind in your comments – Avoid saying this book is terrible. It may offend others.
- Participants will discuss, select, and vote for the next book to read.
- Keep an open mind.
- No spoilers please or it will be not be a FUN ASL Book Club!

Remember, the most important thing is to have a fun, friendly, respectful, and enjoyable conversations!

Happy Reading!



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OCDC News

Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures Grant Writing

Written by: Beverly Cain

The Ohio Citizens for Deaf Cultures (OCDC) Grant Writing Committee members are Beverly Cain, Tabitha Belhorn, and Chris Kuhns. The Committee met with Dawn Watts on October 20th. The Committee has been working on identifying possible grant sources to help fund OCDC programs and projects. We were able to work with the Worthington Public Library and find several other possible grants to apply for in 2021.

The Worthington Public Library has agreed to be a partner with the OCDC for the ASL Storytime Grant application. This application will be submitted to the State Library of Ohio in the first quarter of 2021. This grant will provide up to \$4,999 in federal Library Services and Technology Act funds. This will help us record 6 ASL story times, which will be made available to children through the Ohio School for the Deaf and public libraries. We may be able to get school libraries involved too.

We have identified a few other grants that we will try to apply for in 2021 as listed:

- Nationwide Foundation has grants available for projects or for operational support. The application period will open in May 2021.
- Columbus Foundation has several grants available but two of them look promising for OCDC. The first is the Siemer Family Foundation, which has a focus on children, and also the community education and literacy. Applications open May 1 with a very short timeline. The deadline is June 1.
- Dorothy E. Ann Fund (D.E.A.F) is another fund at the Columbus Foundation. It has a focus on children and youth who are deaf or hard of hearing. Applications are due December 15, 2021.
- Community Fund Management Foundation provides grants to nonprofits serving Ohioans with disabilities and reviews applications twice a year.
-

We are looking into a couple of other things and will continue to look for other opportunities.



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Newly Appointed OCDC Members

The Deaf Reader Co-Editor: Barbara Earth

Barbara Earth, PhD, is a prolific writer who has earned her doctorate degree from Gallaudet University. Barb currently resides in Athens, Ohio and is a researcher, writer, and teacher with international experience. She is mother of one daughter and grandmother of two boys. She was born hearing and grew up hearing but gradually over four decades became totally deaf. Her Deaf journey is a major theme throughout her life. She is willing to dedicate some of your busy time as co-editor for *The Deaf Reader*. She will be a huge asset to this newsletter.



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Join our Ohio Citizens for Deaf



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Annual Deaf and Library Events

- **Black History Month/African-American History Month**

- February 1 – March 1
- 1915: Started in Chicago on September 9, 1915 with Association for the Study of Negro Life and History (ASNLH)
- 1920: Negro Achievement Week was created by Carter G. Woodson
- February chosen to commemorate two influential people's birthdays with black's emancipation:
 - President Abraham Lincoln – February 12th
 - Frederick Douglass – February 14th
- Carter G. Woodson wanted to change it from Negro History Week to Negro History Year
- 1976: Black history celebration was changed from Negro History Week to Black History Month (Scott, 2011)

- **Inventor's Day:**

- February 11
- United States Presidential Proclamation since 1983
- Honor Thomas Alva Edison's birthday (February 11, 1847)
- Mr. Edison was born in Milan, Ohio
- Thomas was deaf in one ear and hard of hearing in the other
- Thomas said his deafness was a blessing because it gave him quiet time to develop his many inventions (Gallaudet University, 2020)

- **National Deaf Youth Day:**

- March 6
- National Association of the Deaf (NAD) founded this observation since 2017
- Purpose:
 - Recognize and bring together Deaf and hard of hearing students from Deaf schools, mainstreamed programs, and higher education establishments
 - Celebrate the Deaf and hard of hearing youth's accomplishments
 - Promote the idea that the Deaf and hard of hearing can do anything (NAD, 2020b)

- **Deaf History Month**

- March 13 – April 15
- American Library Association (ALA) and NAD founded this observation since 2017
- Purpose: Commemorate three key Deaf milestones in American history
 - April 15, 1817 – American School for the Deaf establishment in Hartford, CT

2021 Ohio Teacher of the Year

Anthony Coy-Gonzalez was named the 2021 Ohio Teacher of the Year. He is an elementary teacher at the Ohio School for the Deaf (OSD). He encourages his students to dream big. He believes “as educators, our hope and our work is to help prepare students to reach those dreams” (Holloway & Fisher, 2020 - 2021). Click on the link below to read OSD’s newsletter about this story.

http://viewer.zmags.com/publication/c85ce33c?nocache=1608619269604&fbclid=IwAR2o7ma8VgnnKisj82yDsMjPzfYmObse-iC1EfODbHv7_rivRzt8LGIGI1w#/c85ce33c/1

Reference

Holloway, R. & Fisher, S. (2020, December /2021, January). *Dream Big*. Ohio Schools, 99(6), 12 - 16.

Next The Deaf Reader

Newsletter Vol. 6

April 1, 2021

Next OCDC Board Meeting

March 4, 2021

(Zoom)



Prettige

Felices

li holidè

Happy Holidays

Joyeuses Fêtes!

A Freylekhu Yontev!

Buone Feste!

Boas

Frohe Feiertage!

Selamat Hari

Jie Ri Yu Kuai!

Happy Holidays,

Meri

Raya!

Mate!

Kirihimete!

Sawadee Pee

Mutlu Bayramlar!

Selamat Hari Raya!

Mai!

Laethanta saoire

행복 휴일

Tanoshii kurisumasu wo!

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**Vanuinui
vinaka Me
Nomuni!**





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Standing Committees

Ohio Deaf History Month (March 13 to April 15th)

Debbie Brown (Chairperson)

Ohio Deaf Culture Digital Library Task Force

Ohio Alliance Organizations (Professional)

5-years Strategic Planning

Beverly Cain (Chairperson)

Deaf Mentor Program

Marsha Moore (Chairperson)

Specialist DeafBlind

Donna Schultz

Bylaws

Rick Burke (Chairperson)

The Deaf Reader Newsletter

Juanita Hall and Barbara Earth

HR Resolution 224 National Deaf History Month Chairperson

Andrew Knox

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

Northwest 1 Representative Lori Luk

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 Chuck Williams, and Angie Potosky

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

Southwest 3 Representative Paul Wernsing

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

Central 4 Representatives Tim McNutt and Kimberly Savage

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

Editor: Juanita Hall Co-Editor: Barbara Earth

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