



February 11, 2025

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Hello,

The City of Riverside's Commission of the Deaf and the Deaf Community of Riverside are delighted to announce our 26th annual Deaf Awareness Day, also known as DeaFestival, and it will be held on Saturday, September 20, 2025. The year's theme is "A World Where Deaf People Can Sign Anywhere!"

Last year's DeaFestival was both beautiful and successful, thanks in part to your valuable support. We aim to expand on this success and would appreciate your continued involvement, particularly in engaging the crowd with the popular "Show and Tell" segment. The festival's purpose is to educate the public, raise awareness about the Deaf community, and celebrate the rich cultural diversity of our city.

This year, the event will be held at the City Hall breezeway, featuring live entertainment, vendor booths, bounce houses, food, and activities for children. There will also be numerous opportunities to learn about Deaf culture. The community is very excited, and we anticipate even greater attendance than last year.

Each year, the City of Riverside's Mayor underscores a strong relationship with Deaf community by presenting our annual awards. This year, Mayor Lock Dawson will honor recipients of the DeaFestival Community Award, DeaFestival Community Business Award, DeaFestival Ruth Usher Interpreter Award, and DeaFestival Ian Barazza Youth Award.

We are thrilled to have you join us as a representative for both the City of Riverside and the Deaf community. We look forward to seeing you at the event!

If you have any questions or need further details about the plans, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Warm Regards,

Scott Berdy
Show and Tell program

Mike Anderson
DeaFestival Chair