



**The First Annual DBC
Education Conference**

Sign from the start...

Success for a lifetime!

June 27-30, 2008

Hyatt Regency
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

DBC CORE TEAM



John Egbert (MN) is a founder of DBC. John's passion for language rights has made DBC possible.

Ella Mae Lentz (CA) is an editor and author in the field of ASL and has changed many lives through Deafhood.



David Eberwein (CA) is Principal at CSDF. He has been a long time educator, activist, and advocate in the field of ASL and Deaf Culture.

Barbara DiGiovanni (NY) is an ASL/English Bilingual Specialist at Rochester School for the Deaf. Her specialty is bilingual research and strategies.



David O. Reynolds (CA) teaches ASL at Ohlone University. He is one of the original Bilingual/Bicultural pioneers.

Tami Hossler (FL) is a hearing mother, an advocate, and holds a Master's degree in Education.



Welcome to the First Annual DBC Education Conference

The Deaf Bilingual Coalition would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for attending this Conference.

By growing, networking, and advocating, we can make a difference in the lives of Deaf babies and their families.

ASL
is a basic human right for all Deaf babies.



Schedule of Events is posted on the page 5.

**A BIG "THANK YOU" TO DBC SPONSORS,
THOSE OF YOU WHO DONATED,
THOSE WHO GAVE YOUR TIME TO VOLUNTEER,
AND THOSE OF YOU CONTINUING THE WORK OF
DBC THROUGH STATE CHAPTERS!!**

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Program-book design and production,
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DEAF LIFE

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Regency Ballroom

Friday, June 27

12:00 to 8:30 p.m. Registration
12:00 to 4:30 p.m. ASL Rally Preparations
2:30 to 4:00 p.m. State Chapter Meeting—Open
7:00 to 8:30 p.m. Opening Ceremony and DBC Orientation
8:30 to 10:00 p.m. Reception

Saturday, June 28

(Booths open at 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.)

7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Presentations
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Celebration Rally: ASL & Deaf Babies
2:00 to 3:00 p.m. Presentation
3:00 to 5:00 p.m. Workshop State Chapters—Open
(in Executive Ballroom A/B)
4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Dinner: On Your Own
7:30 to 9:00 p.m. Entertainment: Rosa Lee Show

Sunday, June 29

(Booths open at 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.)

7:30 to 9:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast
9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Presentations
11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Celebration Rally: ASL & Deaf Babies
2:30 to 4:00 p.m. Presentation
5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Closing Reception
7:00 p.m. Summerfest on Lake Michigan

Monday, June 30

9:30 to 11:30 a.m. DBC Business Meeting
(In Executive Ballroom A/B)
11:30 a.m. to Noon Conference Ends

PRESENTATIONS

SATURDAY, JUNE 28, 2008

9:00 a.m. — 10:00 a.m.

Dr. Barbara Kannapell

“Bilingual Education of Deaf Children: A Movement Begins”

My presentation will focus on a retrospective of my work and the work of others who pioneered bilingual education for Deaf children from the 1970s to the 1990s. I will explain how these efforts led to work for the recognition of ASL at the Federal level. In closing, I will share the lessons I learned from this process.

•

10:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.

Bobbie Beth Scoggins

“Early Hearing Detection and Intervention (EHDI), Deaf Babies, and Language Development: Where Have We Been and Where Are We Going?”

Early intervention for deaf and hard-of-hearing babies is essential to the development of language and learning. Three factors in ensuring that deaf babies get off to a good start are: enrollment in an appropriate EI program, active involvement by the parents, and their signing to the baby. With the NAD's staunch support, the first federal EDHI has been successfully enacted and a subsequent bill is now making its way through Congress. The goal is to ensure that all deaf/HoH babies receive the EI they need, and that they and their families get necessary support from their communities.

•

2:00 p.m. — 3:00 p.m.

MJ Bienvenu

“Bilingualism: Theories and Practice”

I will discuss different theories, types of bilingual education, and applications. I will also discuss what works best for Deaf children and why. I will also discuss my experience with Indiana School for the Deaf and The Learning Center.

•••

SUNDAY, JUNE 29, 2008

9:00 a.m. — 11:00 a.m.

Patrick Boudreault & Genie Gertz

**“The Emancipation of the Deaf-World from
Audio-centric to Visual-centric Values”**

The “Golden Age of the Deaf Culture” faded into the “Dark Age of Oralism” with the advent of Social Darwinism in the mid-19th century. Hegemonic forces gained strength with the Milan Congress resolutions (1880), the eugenics movement, and the influence of Alexander Graham Bell (1883). These events altered the landscape of the Deaf community and its own language, culture, education, and way of life. Hearing people’s obsession over curing deafness, for example, contributed significantly to the weakening of Deaf people’s identity. Deaf people can’t feel pride if they’re pathologized by their society. “Isms” that will be discussed:

- Dysconscious audism
- Phonocentrism
- Linguicism
- Audism

Through resistance, the Deaf community has managed to preserve its own linguistic and cultural heritage from eradication, and we’re now experiencing a “renaissance of the Golden Age.” Deaf people are thriving in and contributing to our society, aided by greater understanding and recent research in linguistics, language acquisition, deaf education, cultural studies, and most importantly, Deaf Studies. Our modern challenges include identity, pride, literacy, and bilingualism.

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2:00 p.m. — 4:30 p.m.

Marlon Kuntze

“The Story Behind Learning To Read”

The question of how deaf children may best learn to read has been unnecessarily muddled. Historically, the answers have been sought in the wrong places. As a result, questionable explanations have been provided for why many deaf children do not learn to read well, thus constructing an inaccurate narrative. In order to discover the real story about learning to read, we must look first at deaf children who have had full access to ASL from birth on so that we can understand what it is they have that helps them become successful readers.

•••

GUIDELINES FOR ASL RALLY CELEBRATIONS

Rules of conduct during DBC rallies:

- **Acceptable actions:**
Engaging people in positive dialogue.
Informative statements on signs, slogans, banners, and shirts.
Expressing opinions in a non-confrontational, positive manner.
- **Unacceptable actions:**
Provoking or inciting any persons, even if that person is openly confrontational at first.
Disrupting the peace.
Crude or inappropriate signs/banners/shirt at the rally.
Blocking sidewalks, access to buildings, or traffic.
Disobeying police orders.



**Keep in mind our purpose here:
to spread the DBC's message
to promote the rights for Deaf babies to have
access to their natural language, ASL.**

The following guidelines for participants should be observed, in addition to any constraints or conditions agreed beforehand with local authorities:

A. Conduct

- All participants, and supporters associated with or accompanying the public procession, should:
 1. behave with due regard for the rights, traditions and feelings of others in the vicinity;
 2. refrain from using words or behavior which could

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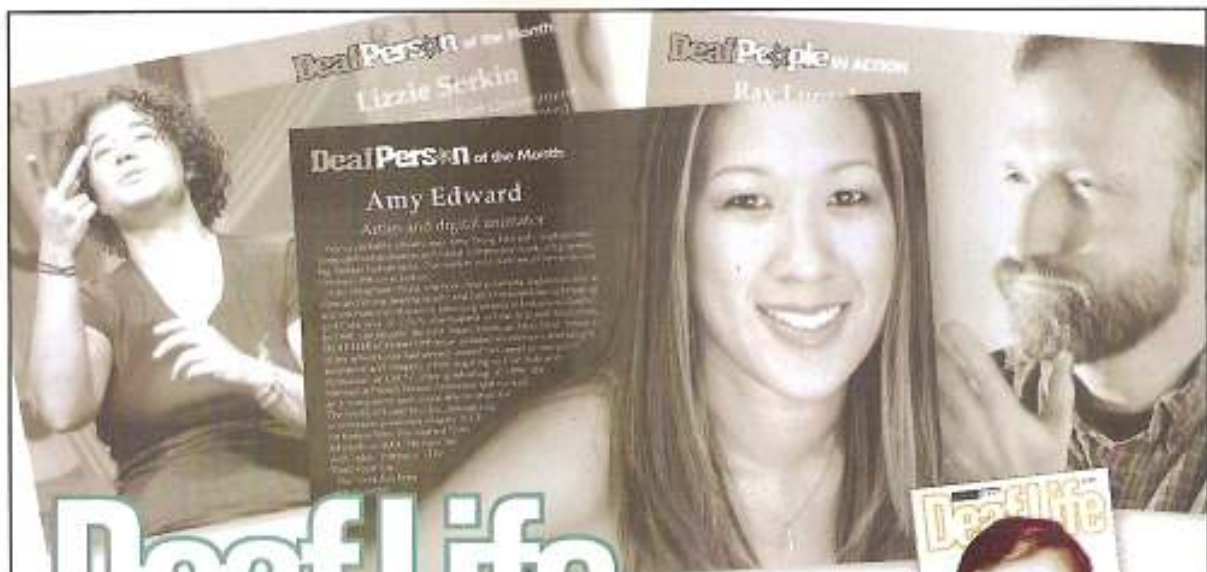


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DBC IS PLEASE TO PRESENT The Rosa Lee Show

Rosa Lee is a performance artist and instructor who has been involved with a variety of theatre arts projects over the past twelve years. She created her first one-woman show during the fall of 2004 and has since performed in front of thousands of hearing and Deaf onlookers all over the country to rave reviews. Rosa Lee incorporates all aspects of her artistic talents and her experiences as a Deaf woman from a Deaf family into her shows, which include music, video, and performance art.



Rosa Lee began her artistic career in 1993 in the prominent *PAH Side Story* (an adaptation of *West Side Story*). In 1997, she co-founded the performance arts group "Dangerous Signs" in Rochester, NY, hosted NTID's talk show *Chatting About...*, and was a dancer for the touring company Deafywood. She narrated *Love Thy Neighbor*, directed by Shanny Mow, and also directed the Northwest Theatre for the Deaf's play *Death of Silence* in Portland, Oregon.

Rosa Lee prominently appears on various DVDs, CD-ROMs, and VHS tapes. She is a featured poet on *ASL Poetry: Selected Works of Clayton Valli*, a narrator in DeafHope's *Till Domestic Violence Do Us Part*, ASL Rose's *Have You Ever Seen...? An ASL Handshape DVD/Book, Do? TELL! Kids Against Child Abuse*, and a language model for *American Sign Language Video Dictionary and Inflection Guide CD-ROM*.

As a teacher and instructor, Rosa Lee has guided students in the art movement and drama at the Indiana School for the Deaf, for PAH! Deaf Youth Theater Camp, and The Magical Literacy Camp. She also worked as a skit coordinator for the Youth Leadership Retreat 2005 in Peacable Kingdom, Texas.

Greetings and congratulations!

It is my honor, on behalf of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD), to extend our warm welcome and enthusiastic congratulations to all in attendance at the First Annual Deaf Bilingual Coalition (DBC) Education Conference, with the theme of *Sign from the Start...Success for a Lifetime*.

This year's DBC conference theme is right on target, being focused on the importance of signing for all deaf babies, so that they can become successful and productive members of American society. With our recently released position statement reaffirming our historical stance on American Sign Language (ASL), we look forward to strengthening further our relationship with DBC along parallel lines.

The NAD is now examining its history and traditions, seeking ways to change as an organization and laying the groundwork for future challenges and opportunities. The face of the NAD is also undergoing transformation to reflect the richness that is inherent to the American Deaf community. American Sign Language and Diversity are key core values. Positive changes are already happening within the NAD, with the theme of *Together, We Move Forward!*

Together, we must unite to protect the rights of the American Deaf community. Together, we can make desires and dreams come true. Together, as a community of advocates across the nation with passion, we can make the world a better place for current and future generations. Together, in unity, we achieve more, and in diversity, we stand tall!

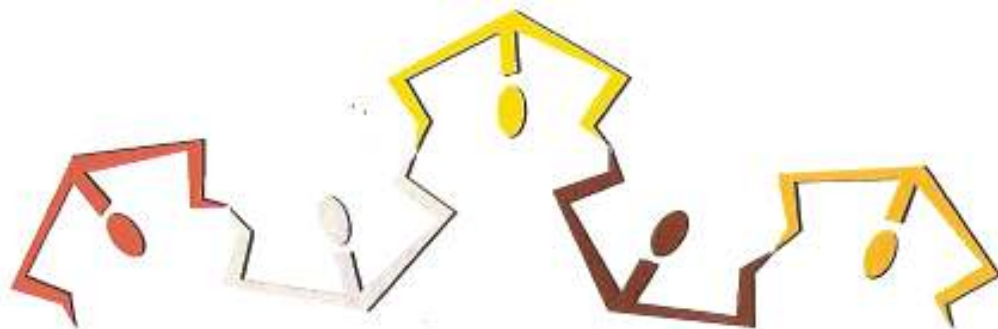
With this in mind, we invite you to be part of the 49th Biennial NAD Conference, July 7-11, 2008, in New Orleans (www.nad.org/2008conf), where much will be happening. MJ Bienvenu, chair of the ASL & Deaf Studies Department at Gallaudet University, is one of our two conference keynote presenters. Please come and join us!

Again, my warmest wishes on behalf of the NAD to every one in attendance for a highly successful and enjoyable First Annual DBC Education Conference!

Sincerely,

Bobbie Beth Scoggins
President





HANDS JOINED, SIGNS UNITED, COLORS FLYING

Deaf People of Color

Back by popular demand:

the second national conference for Deaf people of all ethnic/racial backgrounds: African-American, Latino, Asian, (Native) American Indian, Caucasian, biracial, and multi-racial. CMPs and CEUs offered.

Focus is on teaching, learning, employment, health, and community issues. The Coalition welcomes Deaf and hearing people of **all** colors.

This is going to be the largest turnout of Deaf people of color in the nation's history.

COME JOIN US!

Portland, Oregon

June 24-27, 2010



For more information, go to
www.deafpeopleofcolor.org

About DBC

The Deaf Bilingual Coalition is a grassroots organization established in 2007 to ensure that all Deaf babies and children succeed and thrive through early and strong acquisition of American Sign Language and English.

Research has proven that early access to language through ASL enhances:

- ✪ cognitive skills
- ✪ early literacy skills
- ✪ vocabulary skills
- ✪ acquisition of English
- ✪ social and emotional development
- ✪ speech and listening development
- ✪ strong bonds in families



“More”

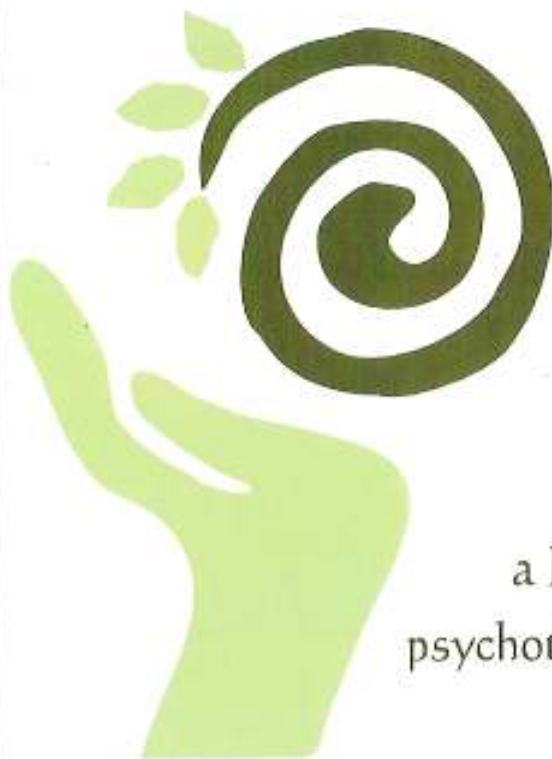
Currently, 3 out of 1,000 babies are born deaf each day in the U.S. Many parents are not informed about the benefits of the bilingual approach that starts with Deaf babies acquiring ASL as a primary language. ASL allows young Deaf children to establish a stronger language foundation making it easier to acquire and learn English.

American Sign Language

ASL is a fully developed, highly sophisticated language that enables all Deaf infants and children to participate equally in their families and schools.

DBC's goal is to promote public awareness, empower others to advocate on language rights, and celebrate bilingualism for all Deaf infants and children from the start through ASL.

The Deaf community has recognized the importance of the mission of the Deaf Bilingual Coalition that has resulted in the founding of DBC Chapters across the U.S. and internationally. Unity promotes positive changes!



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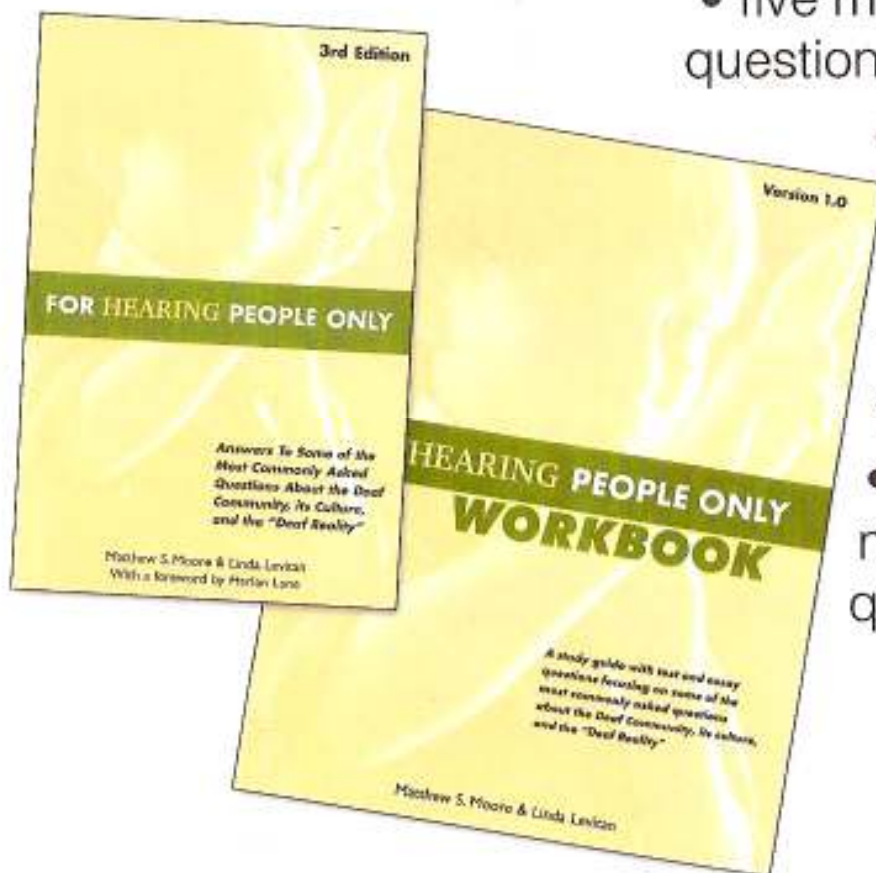
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(DSA) supports
the Deaf Bilingual Coalition (DBC)
in cherishing our beloved ASL and
wishing DBC's first conference
a success

Please mark down your calendar for
Deaf Seniors of America 2009 Conference
June 19-28, at Paris Hotel Las Vegas
www.dsa2009.us

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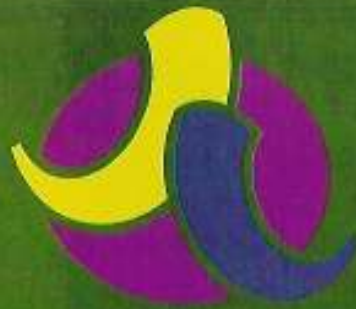
Deaf Youth USA (DYUSA)
Melissa Malzkuhn & Erica Hossler
www.dyusa.org

STATE CHAPTERS



dbcsc@gmail.com
State Chapter Coordinator
 Kristen Marie Weiner (CA) is a passionate activist advocating for a holistic lifestyle where our Deaf babies are fully respected as whole human beings.

Tom
 Chevy



Academic ASL APPROACH

Academic ASL Approach has developed a workshop series designed to introduce the L1 Academic ASL Approach and provide schools with specific program implementation information.

The series is co-presented by an ASL/English bilingual team.

The amount of time needed for each workshop will vary depending on the number of participants and the level of participation desired.

For information about the presenters, rates for each workshop or the series as a whole, send an inquiry email to **Academic ASL Approach, LLC** at A3@academicaslapproach.com

www.academicaslapproach.com

PRESENTERS: CAPSULE BIOGRAPHIES

MJ Bienvenu, a native ASL signer, originally from Baton Rouge, LA. She received her B.A. in English and M.A. in Linguistics from Gallaudet in 1974 and 1983, respectively. She worked at Gallaudet in various departments, including Linguistics Research Lab and English, for a total of 11 years. She then moved to be a co-director of the Bicultural Center for 7 years. She later became a director of



Language and Culture Center for 3 years before she came back to Gallaudet. MJ has published several ASL teaching materials (**Faces of ASL** and **ASL Numerical Systems**) and several American Deaf Culture videos and workbooks. She was a sign model for the first ASL instruction books, also known as the "Green Books." She also presented to schools, colleges, and universities and centers around the country, Canada, Europe, Japan Israel, and Cyprus, on topics of *Sign Language Instruction, Culture, Oppression and Empowerment, and Cross-cultural Interactions and Interpretation*. MJ is presently the Chair of the Department of ASL and Deaf Studies since 2003. She also serves as co-chair of the Sorenson Language and Communication Center building project. She also served as president of the Deaf Women United, Inc. from 1997 to 1999 and a co-chair of Deaf Lesbians Festival from 2000 to 2004. She is currently president of the National Organization of the Phi Kappa Zeta Sorority since 2004. On a personal level, MJ and her partner enjoy reading, traveling, and pets at home with her partner. Her specializations are Semantics, Lexicography, ASL Screening, and Curriculum Development.



Patrick Boudreault earned a B.A. degree in Linguistics in 1996 from Université du Québec à Montréal, a M.Sc. degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders from McGill University, in 1999, both from Montréal, and a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology in 2006 from University of Manitoba, Winnipeg. He is currently Assistant Professor in the Department of Deaf Studies at California State University, Northridge. His primary interest of study is the inter-

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V I A B L E

secting area of the first-language acquisition through sign language and formation of Deaf identity. He is currently working with the federally funded grant Deaf Genetics Project in collaboration with Dr. Palmer of UCLA. His other interests are filmmaking and Deaf Interpreter.

Genie Gertz is currently affiliated with the Department of Deaf Studies at California State University, Northridge as an Assistant Professor. Genie obtained a doctorate from UCLA in Social Sciences and Comparative Education with a concentration in Racial and Ethnic Studies. Her dissertation coined a new term of “dysconscious audism,” which addresses on how the individual’s



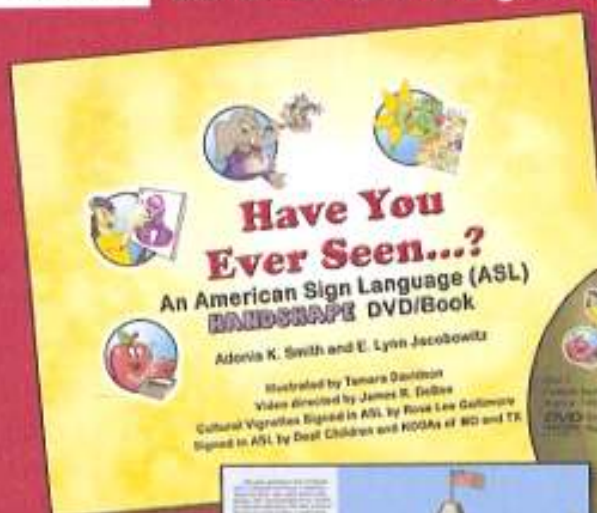
consciousness of Deaf identity is hampered by external forces. Her current research interest on exploring the social, cultural, linguistic, and educational features that cause to weaken Deaf individuals’ development of Deaf consciousness and identity is, for her, naturally gravitated to the topic of Deafhood. Close to her heart is political activism for the advancement of Deaf people. Genie was on the national board of Deaf Women United from 1995-1999, and currently is the Region IV NAD Board Member. Born deaf, Genie came to America from St. Petersburg, Russia, and the family chose to settle down in New York City when she was eight years old. In addition to her doctorate from UCLA, Genie has earned a B.A. degree and a M.A. degree from Gallaudet University and New York University respectively. Genie has been organizing social, educational, cultural programs with the goal of promoting greater awareness of the Deaf world. Genie is a world traveler and will seize every opportunity for travel. Seeing new places anywhere in the world with focus on how Deaf people are in their part of the world, never fails to captivate her. Above all, Genie is a Deaf cross-culturalist and appreciates different cultures, particularly Deaf cultures.

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Dr. Barbara Kannapell is a nationally and internationally known scholar and lecturer on American Sign Language and English bilingualism in the American Deaf community, and a pioneer in studying the culture of Deaf Americans. She develops and teaches academic courses on American Sign Language and the culture of Deaf people. She authored **Language Choice and Identity Choice**, a major study of Deaf identity, and has written many articles about Deaf Culture and History. For 25 years at Gallaudet University, she pioneered research on different methods of teaching and developing materials for ASL and English as well as American Deaf Culture. She facilitates and conducts workshops and training with local, national, and international organizations in the Deaf community on a variety of topics relating to ASL and American Deaf culture. She was a co-founder of DEAFPRIDE, Inc., a nonprofit organization which addressed the empowerment of Deaf people and their families, and combated discrimination (racism, language bigotry, audism) against them. Currently, she is an assistant professor with the Interpreter Preparation Program at the Community College of Baltimore County at Catonsville, MD.

Marlon Kuntze earned B.A. from Gallaudet, M.S. from Western Oregon University, Ph.D. from Stanford University, and Post-Doctoral Fellow from UC at Berkeley. Professor Kuntze is currently the Director of the Programs in Deaf Studies at Boston University. His broad research interest is language and literacy development, especially as they concern bilingual speakers, and the wide variance in the quality of language input in the lives of different deaf children and how it impacts their language development. Dr. Kuntze's theoretical interests, related to literacy development, lie generally in the cognitive aspect of literacy skills and how they manifest in bilingual speakers with a particular focus on deaf children who speak American Sign Language as an L1 and communicate in written English as an L2. On a practical level related to literacy development, he is also interested in how deaf children are able to learn written English without bothering to learn spoken English first.



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Dr. Bobbie Beth Scoggins, President of the National Association of the Deaf, was born deaf to culturally deaf parents. She also has a culturally deaf brother. Dr. Bobbie Beth Scoggins was valedictorian at the Texas School for the Deaf and attended Gallaudet. She obtained a B.A. degree in Psychology at California State University at Northridge and followed with her Master's degree in Administration and Supervision. She concluded her doctoral work at Pepperdine University in California with a Doctor of Education degree in Institutional Management. She became the chief administrator of a drug and alcohol recovery center for the deaf, which she created utilizing deaf staff persons, themselves recovering. This was an unusual first in America. Later she became the Executive Director of the Kentucky Commission on the Deaf and Hard of Hearing where she had unusual success with new and innovative programs and services including remote interpreting services by videoconferencing, licensing of interpreters, educational reform for deaf and hard-of-hearing children, and a statewide program to provide telecommunication devices in the Commonwealth. In addition to her work in public administration, she has had diverse and extensive professional experience in the fields of government, education, business and entertainment. Dr. Scoggins has been recognized by many professional and philanthropic organizations for her expert contributions. She was a board member for the Greater Los Angeles Council on Deafness (GLAD), served as a delegate for the United Nations Human Rights Commission, and was a member of the Los Angeles Cultural Arts Commission Advisory Board, where she helped design long-range goals for accessibility with disabilities.



**Signing on the Spectrum:
Meeting the Needs of Deaf Students with Autism**

October 24 - 25, 2008

More details coming soon!
For more information, please contact
Amy Collins at 508.879.5110 or
signingonthespectrum@tlcdeaf.org

Two-Day Schedule

Friday, Oct. 24, 2008
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at
the Natick Crowne Plaza Hotel

Educator Focus
Featured Presenters:
Karen Ewing,
Gallaudet University, Washington D.C. &
James Bebko, Ph.D.,
York University, Ontario, Canada

Saturday, Oct. 25, 2008
7:45 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at
The Learning Center for the Deaf,
Framingham, MA

Family Focus
Keynote: **Karen Ewing**

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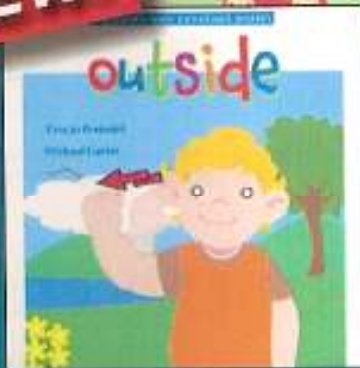
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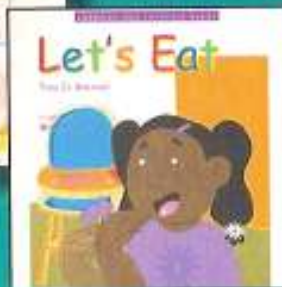
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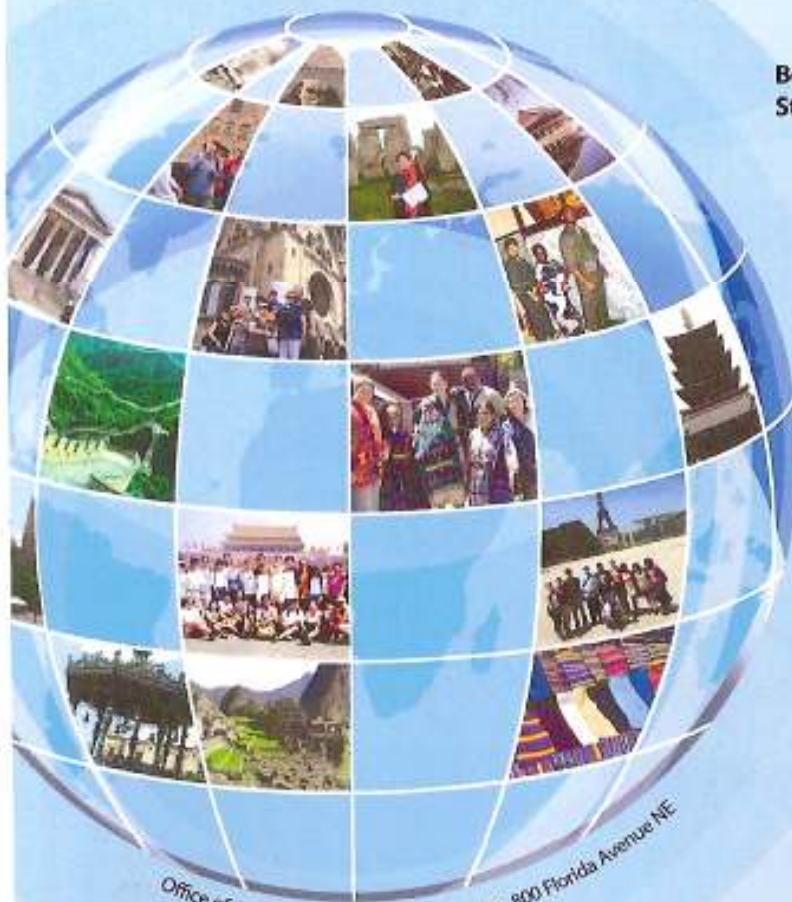
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The Deaf Bilingual Coalition promotes the basic human right of all Deaf infants and young children to have access to language and cognitive development through American Sign Language.

Goals:

The Deaf Bilingual Coalition is a community of Deaf and Hearing people whose goals are to promote language acquisition, social justice, and quality education through the awareness of ASL and its excellence in cultivating the critical intellect of Deaf infants and young Deaf children.

DBC will work to inform parents of Deaf children, guardians, teachers of the deaf, schools, doctors, audiologists, government officials, businesses, and other organizations on the importance of ASL in early language acquisition for all Deaf infants and young children.

DBC will work to spread awareness of the research that shows that ASL does make significant contribution to the development of literacy skills in both languages, ASL, and English.

And lastly, DBC will work in collaboration with others to promote respect and understanding of ASL.

Deaf Bilingual Coalition

www.dbcusa.org (New Website)
www.deafbilingualcoalition.com (Old)
www.deafbilingualblogspot.com

Contact:
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