The 4th Biennial National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conference

Hosted by the New Mexico Hispanic Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

OCTOBER 16-18
ALBUQUERQUE, NEW MEXICO

www.nchdhnh.org
What a privilege for us to have NCHDHH’s national conference in New Mexico! NMSD recognizes and appreciates this rare opportunity. It is our pleasure to support the conference as best we can and maximize its benefits for our Hispanic students, families and adults. We are both honored and excited about hosting NCHDHH’s pre-conference youth program and board meetings at NMSD in addition to providing interpreting support for the conference among other things.

Wishing NCHDHH a highly successful and memorable experience. Welcome and enjoy the Land of Enchantment. Those of us at NMSD look forward to seeing and meeting you all.

Saludos,
Ronald Stern
NMSD Superintendent
October 16, 2014

Queridos Amigos,


We, on behalf of the New Mexico Hispanic Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NMHC), are delighted to host this conference, and we are thrilled you are able to participate. Gracias! We hope that you find the workshops you attend to be informative and stimulating.

**Si, Se Puede -Yes, You Can** is the theme for us to rejuvenate ourselves through collective inspiration and to promote success in the Hispanic/Latino Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. This includes our youth, our colleagues, our educators, our friends, and especially the Hispanic/Latino parents of our community.

**Si, Se Puede -Yes, You Can** is about teaching the qualities of leadership, awareness, and aspiration to everyone in our community, particularly so our youth can educate and lead future generations.

Not only will the workshops captivate you, the informal and generous interactions outside the scheduled workshops have long contributed to networking in the community, along with the exchange of diverse cultural discussions and debates about social justice, and education.

We trust that you will share in the exchanges and learn with your people.

Before I close, muchas gracias to the NCHDHH Board of Directors, Conference Planning committees, and volunteers for their dedication to seeing this conference come to fruition. We greatly appreciate our sponsors, donors, and exhibitors for their support.

Get ready to inspire and be inspired; Si, Se Puede!

Muchas gracias,
Jim
NMHC President

The New Mexico Hispanic Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NMHC) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Dear NCHDHH Family, Supporters and Friends,

On behalf of the NCHDHH Board of Directors, Chairperson and Conference Planning Team, I would like to welcome you to the 4th Biennial National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Our theme this year is “Si, Se Puede. Yes, You Can”. The conference will be the only place for the majority of Latino attendees to receive resources and is an unparalleled opportunity to view or experience information, products, and services in the deaf and hard of hearing Latino realm.

The mission of the National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing is to ensure equal access of the Hispano/ Latino deaf and hard of hearing community in the areas of social, recreational, cultural, educational, and vocational welfare. To this end, the NCHDHH maintains a national awareness program to educate the deaf and hard of hearing communities as well as social and educational programs and organizations about the needs and issues facing Hispano persons and work collaboratively with them on amelioration.
It is my pleasure to welcome a few of our special guests, Dr. Carla Garcia-Fernandez and Mr. Jim Vigil as keynote speakers for our Opening and Closing ceremonies. I’d like to give you an idea of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next few days. Please see the schedule of workshops and events within this program book.

Before I close, I’d like to thank to our Conference Chairperson, Corina Gutierrez, and her committee members for their contributions to the NCHDHH conference this year. I also I’d like to thank each of you for attending our conference and bringing your expertise to our gathering. You, as organization leaders, have the vision, the knowledge, the wherewithal and the experience to help us pave our way into the future. You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. Throughout this conference, I ask you to stay engaged, keep us proactive and help us shape the future of Latin@. My personal respect and thanks goes out to all of you.

Sincerely,

Elvia Guillermo
President
National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing
I’d like to personally welcome each of you to the 4th Biennial National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing conference “Yes, You Can Si, Se Puede” 2014. It’s an exciting time for our organization as we continue to ensure equal access for Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing individuals in all areas of life, including social, recreational, cultural, educational and vocational. We as a unique culture will grow and adapt, remaining always flexible, motivated and responsive to innovative ideas.

I am thrilled to tell you that this year’s Conference spurred the creation of a brand new organization for Hispanic New Mexicans. The development of the New Mexico Hispanic Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing organization has brought forth an amazing group of individuals that otherwise would probably not work together with such a noble attitude and powerful dedication. We as New Mexicans are grateful to host this conference here in our desert!

I’d like to give you an idea of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next few days. First, I am proud to announce that our keynote speakers Dr. Carla Garcia-Fernandez and Jim Vigil are native New Mexicans. Both of these special people bring forth a multitude of innovative ideas and information that they are so kindly willing to share with all of us. Please help me welcome and recognize their efforts over the course of this exciting weekend. Second, all of our presenters for this year’s conference are amazing, and have very interesting and thought provoking concepts to share with us. Each one of the presenters this year is a role model for our Hispano community. I encourage you to help me welcome these individuals for all of their contributions to this year’s conference as well.

In addition, the committees that have been created to help organize this conference are invaluable. This conference would not be what it is today without the enduring hours and hard work each one of these committees has provided to us. All of the efforts of each individual are completely volunteered and most people leading committees have multiple other personal responsibilities that they must juggle to accommodate the time commitment and effort that is required for such a successful event to occur. Once again, I ask for your support by recognizing all efforts and hard donated work and time commitments that these people have graciously given to us all.

Before I close, I’d like to thank each of your for attending our conference “Yes, You Can Si, Se Puede” 2014 and bringing your expertise to our gathering. You, as organization leaders, have the vision, the knowledge, the wherewithal and the experience to help us pave our way into the future. You are truly our greatest asset today and tomorrow, and we could not accomplish what we do without your support and leadership. Throughout this conference, I ask you to stay engaged, keep us proactive and help us shape the future of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing people. My personal respect and thanks goes out to all of you. Most importantly, I hope you have fun this weekend!

Corina Gutiérrez
NCHDHH Chairperson
CONFERENCE CHAIR
CORINA GUTIÉRREZ

WORKSHOP AND PROGRAM COORDINATOR
ROBERTO SANDOVAL

CEUS COORDINATOR
ALBERTO R. SIFUENTES

YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM CO-COORDINATORS
MILLY MORALES Y JIM VIGIL

PROGRAM BOOK AND FLYERS COORDINATOR
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ROGELIO FERNÁNDEZ
National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing
4th Biennial National Conference

Conference Schedule

Thursday, October 16

3:00 pm – 4:00 pm  Booth Set-Up  Sandia Ballroom
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  Registration  Registration Desk
4:00 pm – 7:00 pm  Deaf Latin@ Expo  Sandia Ballroom
7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  Welcome Reception  Grand Ballroom
   Keynote Address: Nuestra Gente – Our People
   - Jim Vigil

Friday, October 17

8:00 am – 7:00 pm  Registration  Registration Desk
8:30 am – 7:00 pm  Deaf Latin@ Expo  Sandia Ballroom
9:00 am – 10:30 am  4 Workshop Breakout Sessions
   What is Social Media and How to Use It to Reach the Hispanic "Deaf" Audience
   - Henri Grau  Salon A
   Social Justice and the Latin@ Signing Community
   - Mark A. Ramirez & Elena Ruiz-Williams  Salon B
   Roadmaps to Deaf Latin@ Student Achievement in Academics
   - Delia Lozano-Martinez  Salon C
   Think Deaf Latino Can’t? I’ll Prove You Wrong
   - Juan Bernal  Salon D
10:45 am – 12:15 pm  4 Workshop Breakout Sessions
   American Sign Language Milestones: Age Appropriate Expectations
   - Melissa S. Draganac-Hawk  Salon A
   Honoring the Life and Legacy of Ralph Sedano: Father of Trilingual Interpreting
   - Roberto Sandoval  Salon B
   Education Advocacy for Parents
   - Tawny Homes  Salon C
   BILINGUAL: Yes, I am. True?
   - José-Ovi Velasquez  Salon D
12:30 pm – 1:45 pm  Lunch Boxes  Grand Ballroom
2:00 pm – 3:15 pm  3 Workshop Breakout Sessions
Decolonial Love: Coming Together to Heal (Part 1)
- Elena Ruiz-Williams & Brandon Ruiz-Williams
Salon A

Lengua de Señas Mexicana (LSM): Roots and History (Part 1)
- Alvaro ‘Al’ Jimenez & Armando Lopez
Salon B

Iqualdad para Todos: Equality for All (Part 1)
- Howard A. Rosenblum
Salon C

3:30 pm – 4:45 pm  
**3 Workshop Breakout Sessions**
Decolonial Love: Coming Together to Heal (Part 2)
- Elena Ruiz-Williams & Brandon Ruiz-Williams
Salon A

Lengua de Señas Mexicana (LSM): Roots and History (Part 2)
- Alvaro ‘Al’ Jimenez & Armando Lopez
Salon B

Iqualdad para Todos: Equality for All (Part 2)
- Howard A. Rosenblum
Salon C

4:45 pm – 7:00 pm  
**Dinner On Your Own**

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm  
**Mis Manos**
Grand Ballroom

**Saturday, October 18**

8:00 am – 7:00 pm  
**Registration**
Registration Desk

8:30 am – 7:00 pm  
**Deaf Latin@ Expo**
Sandia Ballroom

9:00 am – 10:15 am  
**3 Workshop Breakout Sessions**
“Deaf* World” Latin@ Children of Deaf Adults (Coda*): Identity, Multiculturalism and Multilingual Heritage Languages, Intersectionality, and Language Brokering (Part 1)
- Paola Morales
Salon A

LGBT Identity: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Latino/a Community (Part 1)
- Alberto R. Sifuentes
Salon B

Deaf-Latina/Latino Critical Theory in Education: Multiple Identities and Experiences of Deaf Latin@s in a Residential School for the Deaf (Part 1)
- Carla García-Fernández
Salon C

10:30 am – 11:45 am  
**3 Workshop Breakout Sessions**
“Deaf* World” Latin@ Children of Deaf Adults (Coda*): Identity, Multiculturalism and Multilingual Heritage Languages, Intersectionality, and Language Brokering (Part 2)
- Paola Morales
Salon A

LGBT Identity: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Latino/a Community (Part 2)
- Alberto R. Sifuentes
Salon B

Deaf-Latina/Latino Critical Theory in Education: Multiple Identities and Experiences of Deaf Latin@s in a Residential School for the Deaf (Part 2)
- Carla García-Fernández
Salon C
11:45 am – 2:00 pm  Lunch On Your Own

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm  4 Workshop Breakout Sessions
I am Deaf. I am Undocumented.
- Karen Angelica Ruiz  Salon A
Common Experiences for Latin@ Students and Families in Schools
- Tawny Holmes  Salon B
Report on Primer Encuentro de Intérpretes de Lenguas de Señas de Norteamérica: Mexico City, Mexico, July 22-25, 2014
- Erik Arellano & David Quinto-Pozos  Salon C
Can you work? Si se Puede!
- Alma Pizarro-Gould  Salon D

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm  General Meeting
- President Elvia Guillermo  Cimarron & Las Cruces

5:00 pm – 7:00 pm  Booth Breakdown  Sandia Ballroom

7:00 pm – 11:00 pm  Fiesta!
Keynote Address: Let’s Break the Cycle: Yes, We Can.
- Carla Garcia-Fernández  Grand Ballroom

Part 1 and Part 2 must be attended in order to be awarded CEUs.
We are looking forward to have students coming from different schools and different countries to our Youth Leadership Training. If it was not for Dr. Ronald Stern and his school – New Mexico School for the Deaf-- we wouldn’t be able to make this happen. We are also grateful for our sponsors and their contributions to this program! We now have about 15 students in our program. We also are excited to have Dr. Carla Garcia-Fernandez, Rogelio Fernandez, Delia Lozano-Martinez, and Jim Vigil as our trainers. We wanted to thank them for contributing their time to this program as well! Our conference motto: Si, Se Puede! (Yes, You can!). It applies to this program as our children are our future!

-Milly Morales, NCHDHH Youth Program Coordinator
Mr. Jim Vigil was born in Santa Fe, “The City Different,” New Mexico. Jim comes from many generations of Spanish/Mexican people who came to Santa Fe. He holds a bachelor’s degree in General Psychology, a master’s degree in School Counseling, and a certificate in Multicultural and Human Service from Gallaudet University.

Jim’s employment experience includes over 25 years working with Deaf and Hard of Hearing adolescents. He spent twenty-two years working at The Learning Center for the Deaf in Massachusetts as a school counselor with middle school and high school age students. He also taught night classes focusing on ASL/Basic Structural English to Deaf adults who came from foreign countries at D.E.A.F. Inc. in Boston for 15 years.

Jim returned to Santa Fe, and is currently working at the New Mexico School for the Deaf (NMSD) as a Behavior and Positive Development Specialist working with preschool and K-12 students. He has taught as an ASL instructor for Immersion Program two summers and has taught night ASL classes at NMSD.

Jim proudly serves as President of New Mexico Hispanic Council of Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NMHC).
Dr. Carla García-Fernández was born in Belen and grew up in her native state of New Mexico. She was the fourth of eight children. At the age of 18 months, Carla enrolled in the New Mexico School for the Deaf with her older brother, Tim. This was the first step in her educational career which culminated in the completion of her PhD earlier this year. Carla credits her parents, Charles and Alice Garcia with instilling the value of education which has directed her steps and influenced both her life and career.

Passionate community activist with an aim to educate, learn and grow with Deaf-Latinas/os, as well as other Deaf People of Color and marginalized groups through dialogue and collaborative research on multiple intersectional identities and social justice. Carla’s research interests center around racial and cultural identities, social justice—particularly in education, critical race studies, Deaf-Latina/o critical studies, and multilingual/multicultural education. She holds a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction: Cultural Studies in Education from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.A. in Language, Reading and Culture: Bilingual and Multicultural Education from the University of Arizona, and a B.S. in Home Economics: Child Development from Gallaudet University.
Enchantment Package - $5,000
Gallaudet University
New Mexico School for the Deaf
New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Zia Package - $3,000
National Technology Institute for the Deaf at Rochester Institute of Technology

Turquoise Package - $2,000
ASL Services & Global VRS
SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID)
Teltex

Balloon Package - $1000
Gallaudet University Regional Center Southwest

Roadrunner Package - $500
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ALBERTO R. SIFUENTES

Alberto R. Sifuentes grew up on the Mexico-Texas border. He attended Texas School for the Deaf and National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Alberto currently studies Interpreting and Art & Media Design at Gallaudet University. He is the Co-Founder of Deaf Gay Napoleon Club of New England, and he served as Co-Host of the social club from 2009 to 2014.

ALVARO ‘AL’ JIMENEZ

Alvaro ‘Al’ Jimenez, born in Mazatlán, Mexico, is the Director of Comité Nacional de la Lengua de Señas Mexicana (National Committee of Mexican Sign Language). He serves as the Vice President of Texas Latino Council of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The President of Unión Nacional de Sordos de México (National Union of the Deaf of Mexico) recently appointed Al as Director of Lengua Señas de Mexicana (LSM). He has an A.A.S. in Paraprofessional in Deaf Education from SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf and a B.A. in Spanish from Gallaudet University.

ALMA PIZARRO-GOULD

Alma Pizarro-Gould is the Deafness Resource Specialist at The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Center in Corpus Christi, Texas funded by Department of Rehabilitation Assistive Department Office of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. This program provides advocacy services for Deaf and Hard of Hearing consumers of all ages needing equal communication access in thirteen counties. Mrs. Pizarro-Gould has provided services to the Deaf for over 20 years with various Deaf community agencies and organizations.

ARMANDO LÓPEZ

Armando López, a native of Mexico City, was educated using the oral method at the Instituto Mexicano de la Audición y Lenguaje (Mexican Hearing and Speech Institute, IMAL). He lived five years in Los Angeles, California, where he completed an A.A. degree at Los Angeles Trade Technical College. Armando was Secretary of the Asociación Mexicana de Sordos (Mexican Association of the Deaf) and Vice President of the Federación Mexicana de Sordos (Mexican Federation of the Deaf). He was a leader and spokesperson for the Deaf community before the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate, where they achieved the recognition of LSM as a language of Deaf people. Armando teaches LSM classes at various universities across Mexico and is the author of the book “Mis manos que hablan” (My Hands That Speak).

BRANDON RUIZ-WILLIAMS

Brandon Ruiz-Williams is a native of Dallas, Texas. He recently graduated from Gallaudet University with a degree in social work and is a member of the Deaf* People of Color organization, Take A Stand. This is his first NCHDHH conference.
CARLA GARCIA-FERNANDEZ

Dr. García-Fernández was born in Belen, New Mexico, and holds a doctorate in Curriculum and Instruction: Cultural Studies in Education from the University of Texas at Austin, an M.A. from the University of Arizona, and a B.S. from Gallaudet University. Carla’s research interests center around racial and cultural identities, social justice—particularly in education, critical race studies, and multilingual/multicultural education.

DAVID QUINTO-POZOS

David Quinto-Pozos, Ph.D. Linguistics, University of Texas at Austin. Some of David’s research topics are developmental signed language disorders, trilingual interpreting, & contact between LSM & ASL. He teaches bilingual first language acquisition and signed language linguistics at UT and is currently President of Mano a Mano, a national organization for trilingual (ASL-Spanish-English) interpreters.

DELIA LOZANO-MARTINEZ

Delia Lozano-Martinez received her Bachelor’s degree in Early Childhood Education from Gallaudet University and is currently working on a Master degree in Social Work. She is the program coordinator for Keeping the Promise: Educating Latin@ and Black Deaf Students program within the Office of Diversity and Equity for Students at Gallaudet University. Her passion is to work with young deaf Latin@ students, and is actively involved with the Deaf Latin@ community at Gallaudet University and in the Metropolitan area.

ELENA RUIZ-WILLIAMS

Elena Ruiz-Williams works as an instructor, writer, and activist. She is additionally involved in the Deaf* People of Color organization, Take A Stand. This is her third NCHDHH conference. Elena has an M.A. in Deaf Cultural Studies in 2013 from Gallaudet University.

ERIK ALVARO ARELLANO

Erik Álvaro Arellano Hernández is from Mexico City and holds a degree in Communication Sciences (forthcoming) from Universidad del Valle de México, San Rafael Campus. He is also an instructor of Mexican Sign Language (LSM) at various locations, a human rights social activist for people with disabilities, President of the Coalición de las Personas Sordas del D.F. (Coalition of Deaf People of Mexico City), President of the Comunidad Nacional de Jóvenes Sordos de México (National Community of Mexican Deaf Youth), LSM interpreter, and presenter on the human rights of people with disabilities, their community, and Deaf culture.

HENRI GRAU

Henri Grau is a full time, freelance photographer, graphic designer and social media consultant based out of Albuquerque. A graduate of Gallaudet University and American University in Washington, DC, Henri began his career working as a video editor at an affiliated television station in Richmond, VA, WTVR-TV8. Prior to becoming full-time freelance, Henri worked as a photographer/graphic designer at the New Mexico School for the Deaf for twelve years. He is the only child of immigrant parents; his Cuban father and Spaniard-Jewish mother.
HOWARD A. ROSENBLUM

Howard A. Rosenblum is the Chief Executive Officer of the National Association of the Deaf (NAD). He has been an attorney for 22 years, practicing in disability rights and special education. He received his law degree from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law (1992), and Computer Engineering degree from the University of Arizona (1988).

JOSÉ-OVI VELASQUEZ

José “Ovi” Velasquez was born to hearing parents in a small town in Mexico. His parents migrated to the United States so that he could have a better education. José is currently teaching at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. His main interests are doing community work, making a better community/environment for deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals. Especially, empowering deaf to become leaders in their communities. He is currently working on his doctorate student at Lamar University.

JUAN BERNAL

Juan Bernal, born in San Jose' Potosi, Mexico, works at the Great Lakes Naval Base as a Case Manager for the Deaf and at the Sorenson Communication as a Professional Development – Language Mentor. When time permits, he works as a Deaf Interpreter in several settings. Juan has traveled all over the USA and Canada giving presentations on deaf and hearing interpreting, LGBTQ issues, minority topics, etc. Juan is the Vice President of the Illinois Deaf Latino Association.

KAREN ANGELICA RUIZ

Karen Angelica Ruiz is a student at California State University Northridge, majoring in Deaf Studies. Her goal is to become an ASL teacher at a high school. After Karen completes the credential program, she will pursue a law degree to help undocumented Deaf people obtain a work permit, residency, and/or U.S. citizenship.

MARK RAMIREZ

Mark Ramirez recently obtained his Masters degree in Social Work from Gallaudet University. He currently resides in Albuquerque, NM with his family. This is his second NCHDHH conference.

MELISSA S. DRAGANAC-HAWK

Melissa S. Draganac-Hawk is a deaf American of deaf immigrant Peruvian parents. She earned an M.A. in Linguistics in 2001 from Gallaudet University. Melissa served as the President on National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing and she is currently the Vice-President of the National Association of the Deaf.
Paola Morales is a private practicing Coda* Sign Language Interpreter that follows an Integrated Model of Interpreting. She provides multilingual interpreting services in ASL, English, LSM, and Spanish. She holds a B.A. in Community Studies from University of California at Santa Cruz. Paola served on the NCIEC National Task Force on Trilingual Interpreting. During the 2013 RID Conference, she was a panelist at the Community Forum: “Conversations Today, Shaping Tomorrow,” and was the Trilingual Interpreter Coordinator.

Roberto Sandoval currently serves on the board of Texas Latino Council of Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and is the Vice President of NCHDHH. He is the first Deaf Board member on the Mano a Mano Executive Board. Roberto’s participation on the Mano a Mano Board marks the beginning of much collaboration between Deaf and hearing interpreters who work in Spanish-influenced settings.

Tawny Holmes, Esq. is from Laurel, MD. and has a B.A. in Deaf Studies/Sociology, and a MA in Deaf Education from Gallaudet University. She graduated from University of Baltimore Law School with a J.D. Tawny works as an Equal Justice Works Fellow and staff attorney at NAD focusing on education advocacy.

“We need to help students and parents cherish and preserve the ethnic and cultural diversity that nourishes and strengthens this community – and this nation.”

~Cesar Chavez~
Deaf and hard-of-hearing students bring a variety of life experiences and communication preferences to RIT, but all have one thing in common—RIT is the right fit for them.

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American Sign Language Milestones: Age Appropriate Expectations

_Melissa S. Draganac-Hawk_
Track: Educational Issues, Sign Language

Parents of American Sign Language (ASL) users need to be aware of language development milestones. ASL is a visual language with its own structure and rules used by Deaf people in the United States. This presentation discusses various milestones at approximate age intervals children acquire specific skills with examples.

**BILINGUAL: Yes, I am. True?**

_José-Ovi Velasquez_
Track: Educational Issues, Literacy

José-Ovi Velasquez’s research topic is on bilingualism. He feels it is important for everyone to know if they are actually bilingual. We know there is bilingualism in Deaf Community, but the question is; Are you bilingual? Many Deaf pupils on the border are struggling with language acquisition. Are the teachers using a bilingual approach daily?

**Can you work? Si se Puede!**

_Alma Pizarro-Gould_
Track: Employment/Training

What are your rights as a Deaf / Hard of Hearing employee seeking employment or currently employed? What resources are available for you, and what kind of access and rights do you have or can you get? This workshop is about knowing the law with employment and communication access. Looking for a job can be challenging. Having a job, keeping a job, and advancing on a current job is not easy either, but there is a way for everyone! Come and learn your rights and tips on self-advocacy related to employment and VR services as well.

**Common Experiences for Latin@ Students and Families in Schools**

_Tawny Holmes_
Track: Educational issues, Ethnicity & Cultural Issues, Family Dynamics

Come share your or your child’s positive and negative experiences with school so two national organizations (National Association of the Deaf and the Conference of Educational Administrators for Schools and Programs for the Deaf) can learn and spread awareness about what schools can improve on/focus on for Latin@ families and children.
Deaf-Latina/Latino Critical Theory in Education: Multiple Identities and Experiences of Deaf Latin@s in a Residential School for the Deaf

Carla García-Fernández

Track: Educational issues, Ethnicity & Cultural Issues, Family Dynamics

The audience participants will demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the following educational issues related to Deaf-Latina/o students through presentation and discussions:
- Multiple identities of Deaf-Lat students in residential schools for the Deaf
- Educational issues of Deaf-Lat students experience at residential school for the Deaf
- Cultural clashes between White teachers and Deaf-Lat students
- Support toward Deaf-Lat students and their parents
- Implications of Deaf Education Teacher Preparation Program

“Deaf* World” Latin@ Children of Deaf Adults (Coda*): Identity, Multiculturalism and Multilingual Heritage Languages, Intersectionality, and Language Brokering

Paola Morales

Track: Ethnicity & Cultural Issues, Family Dynamics

Got Coda*/Koda* identity? Many Deaf parents of color give birth to children that will grow up in a culturally Deaf* world. Children grow up bimodal. Sign language is a native language along with a second and third language. What happens when Latina/o heritage intersects with the Coda* identity and multilingualism? Can language brokering research provide insight?

Decolonial Love: Coming Together to Heal

Elena Ruiz-Williams & Brandon Ruiz-Williams

Track: Advocacy, Ethnicity & Cultural Issues

Dominican author Junot Díaz has talked about and written about decolonial love and what it means for the Latin@ community, especially families and individuals who have faced various experiences of trauma and struggle as a result of colonialism and other processes of systematic violence. Brandon and Elena Ruiz-Williams have been working on integrating decolonial love within their own relationship as two Deaf partners who come from different racial backgrounds, class statuses, and who have differing gender and sexuality identities. This presentation will address systems of oppression and how they mold us all as individuals, and how our relationships: with our families, friends, partners, and others, can be places where we can work on unpacking internalized oppression and violence. Through unpacking what we have internalized, we can become a liberated community and work towards attaining justice; and this workshop offers a starting point for us to come together and begin the process.

Education Advocacy for Parents

Tawny Holmes

Track: Advocacy, Educational Issues, Empowerment, Legal Rights

This workshop will share information on national resources and current statistics of deaf education in USA and provide a brief review of the IEP meeting process to empower parents on how to support
their child. Parents will get information on where they can go to get legal help and advocacy.

Honoring the Life and Legacy of Ralph Sedano: Father of Trilingual Interpreting

Roberto Sandoval
Track: History, Interpreting

Ralph Sedano was a pioneer of the ASL/Spanish/English trilingual sign language interpreting field well before the National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers published “Toward Effective Practice: Interpreting in Spanish-Influenced Settings.” Before the Texas Board for Evaluation of Interpreters developed the trilingual interpreter certification. Before the Mano a Mano, the national professional trilingual interpreting organization, was established. Ralph Sedano and his work hold great meaning to us as Latin@ Deaf and interpreting communities. A lot of what he stood for anchored in the fundamental idea that, beyond mere language mediation, interpreters be of service to our communities. The presentation will focus on his biography and work including interviews, pictures, and video clips.

I am Deaf. I am Undocumented.

Karen Angelica Ruiz
Track: Ethnicity & Cultural Issues, Immigration

In this presentation, the work-in-progress documentary film will be showing what Karen Ruiz and her partner are currently working on. In this film, the audience will witness the life stories of two undocumented Deaf students. Each explains the academic achievements and challenges they have been through and/or continue to confront.

Igualdad para Todos: Equality for All

Howard A. Rosenblum
Track: Advocacy, Communication Access, Legal Rights

There are many laws that promote equality, but those laws are only useful if you know your rights. You have rights regardless of being deaf, hard of hearing or hearing, and regardless of your background and ethnicity. This presentation will talk about the most important federal laws to know and how to use those laws to maximize your rights.

Lengua de Señas Mexicana (LSM): Roots and History

Alvaro ‘Al’ Jimenez & Armando Lopez
Track: History, Sign Language

This presentation will focus on the roots and history of Lengua Señas de Mexicana (LSM). President Lic. Benito Juárez signed the Deaf education bill into federal law. The school opened in Mexico City in November 1867, with three students, under the direction of Eduardo Huett, a Deaf French teacher. For years, LSM has faced much oppression. Lengua Señas de Mexicana was officially declared a “national language” in 2005.
LGBT Identity: Deaf and Hard of Hearing Latino/a Community
Alberto R. Sifuentes
Track: Ethnicity & Cultural Issues

What is life like for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing LGBT in the Latino/Hispanic communities? Do they have the same privileges as others? What are the advantages and disadvantages? During this workshop, participants will see some videos from various Latin American and Caribbean communities and have a discussion.

Report on Primer Encuentro de Intérpretes de Lenguas de Señas de Norteamérica: Mexico City, Mexico, July 22-25, 2014
Erik Arellano & David Quinto-Pozos
Track: History, Interpreting, Services & Resources

This session will report on the July 2014 Primer Encuentro Norteamericano de Intérpretes de Lenguas de Señas in Mexico City. Included will be historical accounts of LSM-Spanish interpretation in Mexico, involvement of the Deaf community in the field of interpretation, and current developments in the field of interpretation in Mexico.

Roadmaps to Deaf Latin@ Students Achievement in Academics
Delia Lozano-Martinez
Track: Advocacy, Educational Issues, Youth

This presentation will focus on essential of Latin@ students develop a healthy sense of self-awareness of her/his own ethnic identity by maintenance their cultural traditions, and heritage in their academic environment. Having a sense of group identity as well as personal identity help students feel a sense of belonging will increase their self-confidence in academic success.

Social Justice and the Latin@ Signing Community
Mark A. Ramirez & Elena Ruiz-Williams
Track: Advocacy, Ethnicity & Cultural Issues

Latin@/Ch/Xican@ individuals of color are bound to experience the systematic oppression of racism in a society where white privilege still exist. However, not every individual is “just deaf” or “just Latin@.” Many of us experience multiple systems of oppressions, and have intersectional realities. To give some examples: Latin@ Signing people of color of all gender identities experience racism, Latina Signing women-identified people experience sexism, Latin@ Signing LGBQ experience heterosexism, Latin@ Signing Trans* experience cissexism, and Latin@ Signing people experience audism, and Latin@ DeafBlind, DeafDisabled people experience both audism and ableism. All of these –isms, and even more, must be addressed equally in order for true collectivism and social liberation among the Signing Latin@ communities to happen.
Think Deaf Latino Can’t? I’ll Prove You Wrong

Juan Bernal
Track: Advocacy, Family Dynamics, Empowerment

Being a Latino, deaf, gay father was not easy. As a child, the shame I brought to the family for being deaf. Forced for hours locked in a basement. The family; illegal immigrants and unemployable. Today are survivors. I work on the US Military Navy Base overseeing 70+ Deaf employees.

What is Social Media and How to It to Reach the Hispanic “Deaf” Audience

Henri Grau
Track: Media, Services & Resources, Technology

There are 52 million Hispanics in the U.S. alone, and this isn’t just a subset of the U.S. population — they are the U.S. population. Not only are Hispanics more digitally savvy than any other group, but research shows that they turn overwhelmingly to mobile devices for information, entertainment, and shopping. Are the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Hispanic population as digital savvy as our hearing counterparts are? Unfortunately, many deaf and hard of hearing Hispanic are struggling to embrace simple social media tools such as Twitter, Buffer, Shareroot, Pinterest and even Facebook.
Thank You!
New Mexico School for the Deaf
Gallaudet University
New Mexico Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
National Technology Institute for the Deaf
at Rochester Institute of Technology
ASL Services & Global VRS
SouthWest Collegiate Institute for the Deaf (SWCID)
Gallaudet University Regional Center Southwest
Teltex
Desert Hills