



**National Council of Hispano Deaf and Hard of Hearing
4th Biennial National Conference
Albuquerque, New Mexico
October 16 – 18, 2014**

Workshop Descriptions

American Sign Language Milestones: Age Appropriate Expectations

Melissa S. Draganac-Hawk

Track: Educational Issues, Sign Language

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Interactive Presentation

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, Family Dynamics, Literacy

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Interactive Workshop

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Interactive Workshop

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

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended Presentation

The audience participants will gain knowledge and understanding of the following educational and multiple identity issues related to Latina/o d/Deaf and hard of hearing students as identified in Carla García-Fernández's study, through presentation, small and large group discussions.

“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

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended & Interactive Workshop

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

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended & Interactive Workshop

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended Presentation

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 López

Track: History, Sign Language

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended Presentation

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

Time Format: 2.5 hours

Presentation Format: Extended & Interactive Workshop

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 Norteámerica: Mexico City, Mexico, July 22-25, 2014

Erik Arellano & David Quinto-Pozos

Track: History, Interpreting, Services & Resources

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation & Professional Discussion

This session will report on the July 2014 *Primer Encuentro Norteamericano de Intérpretes de Lengua 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 Academic

Delia Lozano-Martinez

Track: Advocacy, Educational Issues, Youth

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Interactive Workshop

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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

Time Format: 1.5 hours

Presentation Format: Presentation

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.

Contact:

If you have any questions about the conference, please contact the people listed below:

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DARS-DHHS-BEI and RID CEUs are provided for all workshops.
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Note: Presenter Biographies and Conference Schedule will be posted at a later date.