

SIGNING FOR THE DEAF

PURPOSE:

To develop the ability to interpret for the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing, as well as provide services to the Deaf/ Hard of Hearing to glorify God and His Church.

PROCESS:

Each participating congregation will:

- Insure participants select accurate level, proper grade division, level and type of sign language (ASL, SEE, PSE)
- **Signed Exact English** (SEE) uses the grammatical structure of English and the signs of American Sign Language or Signed English with few syntactical changes (*i.e. prefixes and suffixes*).
- **American Sign Language** (ASL) *Conceptual Signing* uses signs that convey the literal meaning, which often changes the original words and figurative language of the passage. This category is also appropriate for those signers using visual grammar or syntax. Features such as classifiers, non-manual markers, facial grammar and mouth movements are appropriate for this category, but are not necessary.
- **Pigeon Signed English** (PSE) a combination of SEE and ASL.
- Obtain from www.hoaltc.org, on the Convention Events page, a copy of the words to each song and scripture to be used. If it is not there when you need it, or if you have any questions, please send an e-mail to signlanguage@hoaltc.org.
- Please note on registration if interpreting services are needed and at what specific event/time. Also inform the signing coordinator if you are registering participants with disabilities that may need special accommodations
- Complete all General Event Rules (p 19) and Convention Event Rules (p 68).

The Judge will:

- Complete all Convention Event Rules (p 68).

The Ambassador will:

- Complete all Convention Event Rules (p 68).

The Event Coordinator will:

- Complete all General Event Rules (p 19) and Convention Event Rules (p 68).

PARTICIPANT RULES:

1. A participant may not watch other participants in the same level until he/she has completed his/her event. Participants are encouraged to watch higher levels or other events.
2. The event coordinator will provide the recordings for the convention. No other recordings may be used. No recording will be distributed in preparation for the event.
3. Participants will sign to the recording provided by the event coordinator at the convention.
4. No signs or coaching instructions can be given to the participant while performing. In the event this should happen, the judges can request that the people involved leave the room for the duration of the performance.
5. A solid color blouse/shirt/dress contrasting with skin tone will be worn while signing.

6. All Participants will be pre-registered by their church coordinator in the appropriate time slots and in specific rooms. If a participant's name is not on the list or other changes need to be made, see the event coordinator for resolution prior to the event.
7. All participants must meet at their assigned room a minimum of 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time.
8. Each participant must note on his/her registration form: (1) Grade Division/Level, and (2) type of Signing Language.

EVENT RULES

1. The participant will finger spell their own name and the title of the selection being signed. On selections chosen by the judge, the participant will finger spell their name and the selections chosen by the judges.
2. The participant will sign the selections to a recording provided by the event coordinator at the convention.
3. The participant must insure the version of the song follows the publication in this year's signing rules.
4. Once the judge has announced the selection, no changes will be made in the selection.
5. A copy of the words for the song and/or scripture will be provided by the Event Coordinator. No outside copies of the words permitted.
6. Insure that the participant is ready to sign/interpret the selections as described in each category.
7. For every 5 entrants in this event, the church will provide one judge for the event. The judges must know sign language enough to accurately observe and critique all participants.

LEVEL 1 – Grades 3 – 6

Each participant will select one (1) song **OR** one (1) scripture from the selections provided by the event coordinator (on the web or via e-mail.)

LEVEL 2 – Grades 7 – 9

Each participant will select one (1) song **AND** one (1) scripture from the selections provided by the event coordinator (on the web or via e-mail.)

LEVEL 3 – Grades 10 -12

Each participant will learn **ALL** the songs and scriptures from the selections provided by the event coordinator (on the web or via e-mail.) The judge will select one song **AND** one scripture for the participant to sign.

Judging Categories for all levels include:

Preparation, Movement, Finger Spelling, Understandability/Sign Clarity, Confidence, Expression, Vocabulary

Please note: Participants are also judged on correctly observing both participant and event rules listed above (i.e. proper dress, finger spelling, etc.)

To avoid scheduling conflicts and to ensure observers do not miss seeing specific participants, individual performer's times will NOT be rearranged. In other words, if Johnny is scheduled for 10:30 and the three people scheduled ahead of him are no shows, Johnny will still sign at 10:30. His time will NOT be bumped up.

Resources for learning sign language include, but are not limited to:

[Learning Sign Language: Visual and Audio, Videotapes and Computer Programs - clerccenter.gallaudet.edu](http://clerccenter.gallaudet.edu)

Updated listing of videotapes, software and other materials related to learning American Sign Language (ASL) ... Information on Deafness > Learning Sign Language: Media Resources.

[Learning American Sign Language ASL and Signed English \(SE\) - www.lesstutor.com](http://www.lesstutor.com)

Index of free articles, reproducible lesson plans, and printable worksheets for teaching and learning American Sign Language (ASL) and Signed English (SE)

Local bookstores and the Internet are great places to look for resources too!

Please remember during the Signing Event

- Spectators may not enter or leave the room while a participant is signing
- Applause is appropriate as a display of appreciation. If you learn to clap in sign it would be even more fun, please think to teach your audience how to applaud. (Raise hands, fingers spread and palms facing out, to shoulder height or higher and rotate wrists slightly so that palms face each other and then out again repeatedly.) Enjoy!

SIGNING FOR THE DEAF
2012 Heart of America
Leadership Training for Christ
“Journey of Faith”
Genesis

Event Coordinator's award: Gold Silver Bronze

	Exemplary	Competent	Developing
Standard Requirements	<input type="checkbox"/> Followed requirements for age level <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of apparel is excellent (solid, contrasting color)	<input type="checkbox"/> Followed most requirements for age level <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of apparel provides some contrast from the hands	<input type="checkbox"/> Attention is needed on meeting requirements more fully <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of apparel doesn't provide enough contrast from the hands
Introduction & Finger spelling	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) very clear and easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) are clear and easily understood	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) are somewhat clear and understood
Movement	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs are smooth and flowing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs are moderately smooth and flowing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs are sometimes smooth.
Understandability / Sign clarity	<input type="checkbox"/> All signs are clear and distinct	<input type="checkbox"/> Most signs are clear	<input type="checkbox"/> Some signs are clear
Confidence	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer well practiced and at ease with material and in front of an audience <input type="checkbox"/> Excellent eye contact	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer mostly practiced and at mostly at ease with material and audience <input type="checkbox"/> Moderate eye contact	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer somewhat practiced and at ease <input type="checkbox"/> Some eye contact
Expression	<input type="checkbox"/> Facial and body expression appropriate to selection(s) and greatly enhances meaning and understanding for the audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Facial and body expression mostly appropriate to selection(s) and enhances meaning and understanding for the audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Facial and body expression somewhat appropriate to selection(s)
Vocabulary	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer clearly demonstrates complete understanding of the selection(s) meaning with word choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer demonstrates moderate understanding of the selection(s) meaning with word choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer demonstrates some understanding of the selection(s) meaning with word choice.

Judge's comments:

Please help us improve this rubric each year by submitting Feedback on the website within 30 days of the end of the convention.