

# 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](http://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](mailto: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 69).

The Judge will:

- Complete all Convention Event Rules (p 69).

The Ambassador will:

- Complete all Convention Event Rules (p 69).

The Event Coordinator will:

- Complete all General Event Rules (p 19) and Convention Event Rules (p 69).

## 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. The participant may choose to bring or use a copy of the words for the song and/or scripture. The Event Coordinator will not provide words aside from the projection behind the participant.
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 fluently 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.lessontutor.com](http://www.lessontutor.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!

<b>SIGNING FOR THE DEAF</b> <b>2010 Heart of America</b> <b>Leadership Training for Christ</b> <b>“The Rock”</b> <b>2 Samuel</b>		<b>Event Coordinator's award:</b>			
		<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Bronze</b>	
	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Bronze</b>		
<b>Standard Requirements</b>	<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 is good	<input type="checkbox"/> Did not follow or fully understand requirements for age level <input type="checkbox"/> Choice of apparel more distracting than helpful		
<b>Introduction &amp; Finger spelling</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) very clear and easy to understand	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) are mostly clear and easily understood	<input type="checkbox"/> Name & selection(s) seem “garbled” some difficulty understanding signs		
<b>Movement</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs are smooth and flowing.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs are sometimes awkward and jerky.	<input type="checkbox"/> Hand shapes and placement of signs uncertain at times and lacked flowing movement.		
<b>Understandability / Sign clarity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs are clear and distinct, meaning of song is supported by signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs are mostly clear and signer understands the meaning of song in connection to signs	<input type="checkbox"/> Signs sometimes unclear, meaning of song does not seem apparent to the signer		
<b>Confidence</b>	<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 comfortable with material and mostly at ease in front of an audience <input type="checkbox"/> Good eye contact	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer uncomfortable with material and uneasy in front of an audience <input type="checkbox"/> Little eye contact		
<b>Expression</b>	<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 somewhat appropriate to selection(s) and increases meaning and understanding for the audience	<input type="checkbox"/> Facial and body expression are minimal. Meaning and understanding are not fully conveyed		
<b>Vocabulary</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer clearly demonstrates understanding of the selection(s) meaning with word choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer demonstrates a basic understanding of the selection(s) meaning with word choice.	<input type="checkbox"/> Signer demonstrates a limited understanding of the selection(s) meaning, word choice is not clear		
<b>Judge's comments:</b>					
Please help us improve this rubric each year by submitting Feedback on the website within 30 days of the end of the convention.		<b>Judge's award:</b> (Circle One)	<b>Gold</b>	<b>Silver</b>	<b>Bronze</b>