

deafweekly

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Editor: Tom Willard

Deafweekly is an independent news report for the deaf and hard-of-hearing community. It is mailed to subscribers every Wednesday morning and available to read at www.deafweekly.com. For information, contact mail@deafweekly.com.

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NATIONAL
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DEAF GAY FATHER APPEALS RULING FORCING PARTNER TO MOVE OUT

The Washington Post reported last Thursday on Ulf Hedberg, a deaf Gallaudet University archivist and gay divorced dad who was told he could not have custody of his son unless he agreed not to live with his male partner. The 2002 court order, issued in an Alexandria, Va. family court, forced Hedberg and partner Blaise Delahoussaye to sell their home and move to separate apartments in Rockville, Md. Hedberg's son, now 12, had lived with the two men since he was four, after his father and mother, Annica Detthow, were divorced. Detthow, a hearing sign-language interpreter, supports the custody ruling because she doesn't want her son living with the man who broke up her 12-year marriage, said her attorney. Hedberg has appealed to Maryland courts to have the order declared unconstitutional, and he has two powerful allies: the New York-based Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

NEW CENTER TO ASSIST DEAF IN SOUTHERN UTAH

Residents of St. George, Utah celebrated the opening Saturday of a new home for the Southern Utah Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program. An official ribbon cutting ceremony and social reception marked the opening of the new facility. The center will offer community courses, vocational rehabilitation, educational advancement opportunities and access to technology and resources. Funded with \$100,000 from the state Legislature, the center will serve approximately 600 deaf and 100 hard-of-hearing people in southern Utah, reported The Spectrum. Ron Burdett, the center's coordinator, hopes to win another \$50,000 from the state this year to fund a vital position – a full-time secretary/interpreter.

COURT POSTPONES DEPORTATION HEARING FOR OHLONE INTERPRETER

A deaf interpreter who faces deportation from the United States won a reprieve last Tuesday when his deportation hearing was postponed. Gerry Dulalia, 39, has been in the U.S. for 18 years, as a student and interpreter for the deaf-blind in the deaf studies department at Ohlone College (Fremont, Calif.). His Filipino father fought with U.S. troops in World War II and was promised American citizenship, a promise revoked by Congress in 1946. The decision was reversed in 1990, and his father was granted citizenship in 1995. Had it been granted when promised, reported Inside Bay Area, Dulalia would have been born an American. "Things are looking up for Gerry," said his attorney, Marcia Perez. Added Joe McLaughlin, Ohlone's dean of deaf studies: "I'm very relieved."



Here's the skinny on sidekick II.
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NTID ESTABLISHES CENTER TO STUDY SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETING

The National Technical Institute for the Deaf announced yesterday that it has established a new center to study sign language interpreting. NTID, a college of Rochester (N.Y.) Institute of Technology, says its new Center of Excellence for the Study of Sign Language Interpreting will bring together experts from around the country "to better understand how interpreting affects learning." Center projects are already underway, thanks to two grants totaling more than \$1.5 million from the National Science Foundation and an additional award from the National Institutes of Health. "We will build on what we already know," said Marc Marschark, the center's director, and "as we gain a clearer picture, many other groups can benefit from our findings."

DEAF CULTURE IS HOT TOPIC ON NPR'S 'TALK OF THE NATION'

Listeners to National Public Radio's "Talk of the Nation" had the opportunity last week to learn more about deaf culture. Gallaudet University President I. King Jordan was a guest on the one-hour program, along with Carol Padden and Tom Humphries, authors of "Inside Deaf Culture." Deaf people had the chance to follow along with the broadcast, thanks to a simultaneous text translation in real time. A transcript of the program may be found here: <http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=4476250>.

ORGANIZERS OF PROPOSED SIGNING TOWN CHOOSE TOWN-PLANNING FIRM

More progress has been made by organizers of the proposed signing town of Laurent, S.D. Coordinators Marvin Miller and M.E. Barwacz reported last week that the Laurent Company has chosen Nederveld Associates to be its town-planning firm. Nederveld will lead a week-long planning meeting, called a charrette, March 20-27 at Camp Lakodia in Madison, S.D. Meanwhile, the Laurent Company has signed a lease for two office spaces on Main St. in Salem, which is 3-6 miles from two potential sites for the new town. They expect to move in by March 1 and will be hiring senior members of the management team over the next two months. "All in all, we're very pleased with the progress we have been making," they said.

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INTERNATIONAL

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RESEARCHER DOCUMENTS CREATION OF NEW SIGN LANGUAGE

A researcher has documented the creation of a new language used by deaf Arabs in an isolated southern Israel village. The Al-Sayyid Bedouin Sign Language (ABSL) was developed over the past 70 years by deaf villagers who descended from two of the village founders' sons. The village contains about 3,500 people and ABSL is used by about 150 deaf residents and another 150 Arab-speaking villagers who use it to talk with deaf friends and family. It's "the first documented case of a language that's arisen pretty much without any external influence," Mark Aronoff, a Stony Brook University linguist, told Newsday. "And that language has developed a very clear structure within a very short period of time."

TAX FRAUD INVESTIGATION HALTED CHINESE IMPORTS OF IMPLANTS

The Australian-based Cochlear Corporation was unable to ship cochlear implants into China for three months late last year, the Sydney Morning Herald reported Jan. 31, due to a Chinese government tax fraud investigation. Cochlear was not implicated in the investigation, which targeted the Research Centre for Deaf Children, but the company and its competitors were barred from shipping implants into China from October until mid-January. Normally about 600 cochlear implants are imported into China each year. Any lost sales in China were offset by additional sales in the U.S., the newspaper noted, after Cochlear's major competitor, Advanced Bionics, took its product off the market during a seven-week recall.

CLOUD OF GAS DISRUPTS EXAMS HELD AT SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

"Students Pass Gas to Avoid Exams!" was the headline of an article from Mid-Day Mumbai in India last Friday. It is believed that one or more students conspired to disrupt a college exam that was being held at the School for the Hearing Impaired in Goregaon. Shortly after the exam started at 9 a.m., "a mysterious, acrid gas clouded the air," the paper reported, and exam takers stumbled outside coughing, wheezing and vomiting. The 42 youngsters at the hearing-impaired school, who were involved with their morning assembly, suffered the same effects. "It is a myth that the hearing-impaired are more sensitive to smells," said a hospital administrator. "Everyone would have been affected similarly."

GRANDMA'S SPECIAL INGREDIENT HELPS ALLEVIATE TINNITUS

Gray-haired grandmother Patricia Tabram of Northumberland, U.K., was in court recently for possession of 240 grams of marijuana. According to news reports, Tabram, 66, uses the cannabis in soups and baked goods to alleviate her suffering from tinnitus and pain caused by a car crash. Tinnitus is ringing, whistling or

buzzing noises in the ear, and is caused by loud noises, ear infection, head injury or use of certain drugs. "If they send me to jail, I can finish writing my book about the merits of medicinal herbal cannabis," she said. She also hopes to publish a cookbook.

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New Video/DVD Series for ASL Instruction in English or Spanish

Now available at Harris Communications: "Family Sign Language", a video/DVD series that provides ASL instruction in either Spanish or English. Together with the "Family Sign Language Companion Guide", it is an excellent teaching tool for hearing parents of deaf and hard-of-hearing children as well as teachers who need ASL instruction in Spanish. The DVD set is on sale for only \$139.95 (regularly \$159.95). The video set is now only \$129.95 (regularly \$149.95). The Companion Guide is only \$21.95 (regularly \$25). These sale prices expire February 13, 2005. For more information, visit us at <http://www.harriscomm.com/link/?www.harriscomm.com?sr=deafweeklynews> or contact us at <mailto:info@harriscomm.com>.

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LIFE & LEISURE

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CATHOLIC CHURCH STARTS PROGRAM TO TRAIN DEAF PRIESTS

A church in San Leandro, Calif. has started a new program to help deaf men become priests. The first group of six deaf men started the year-long novitiate program Jan. 25 at Dominican Missionaries for the Deaf Apostolate priory. The new religious order is designed to provide a least-restrictive environment for deaf and hearing candidates who want to become priests and religious brothers for the deaf apostolate in the Catholic Church. The new order is accepting qualified applicants; knowledge of sign language is helpful. Write: Dominican Missionaries for the Deaf Apostolate, 1851-A 136th Ave., San Leandro, CA 94578, or email: tomcoughlin@juno.com.

CSD RECEIVES GRANT FOR CANCER AWARENESS PROGRAM

CSD offices in St. Paul, Minn. and Sioux Falls, S.D. have been awarded a grant through the American Cancer Society to raise cancer awareness in the deaf community. CSD's Alcohol and Drug Prevention Department will spearhead the Cancer Awareness for Deaf and Hard of Hearing project. According to CSD, the agency will use its expertise in health education and outreach to provide workshops and other activities for about 4,500 deaf and hard-of-hearing youth and adults, focusing on cancer awareness and smoking cessation. For more information, contact Ken Breslow at kbreslow@c-s-d.org.

ALLDEAF.COM INVITES MEMBERS TO PARTICIPATE IN FREE FORUMS

Would you like to be a part of an online community where members from all over the world, both deaf and hearing, have fun sharing their knowledge and jokes? Check out AllDeaf.com, an Internet website where you'll find 34 different forums on such topics as current events, sign language, hearing aids/cochlear implants, deaf product/pager reviews, marriage/single life and more. Features include your own private message box, buddy/ignore list, public and private calendar, image/file uploads and an opportunity to participate in contests. Registration is fast, easy and free. Just go to www.alldeaf.com.

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Want quicker access to Video Relay Service? Hamilton VRS encourages all D-Link consumers to add call.hipvrs.com to their videophone speed dial list. This will also enable consumers to connect with their choice of VRS provider.

To add the IP address for Hamilton VRS to your list:

1. Go to "Dial" button and click on the button to enter another prompt.
2. Go to "Add" to add the video relay service address in the Speed Dial list. You will see a prompt immediately after hitting the "Add" button that will contain information such as name, telephone number field, and address field.
3. Go to the address field and enter "call.hipvrs.com" and click on the "OK" button upon completion to save the address.

Contact Customer Support

Via Phone: 1-877-283-7687 V/TTY

Via Instant Messaging (AOL, Yahoo or MSN) at HamiltonVRSHelp
(from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. (EST), Monday – Friday

Via E-mail: hipvrs@hamiltonrelay.com

Hamilton VRS hours are from 7:30 AM to Midnight EST daily.

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WORKING WORLD

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‘DEAF-FRIENDLY’ UNIT TO OPEN AT ALABAMA PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL

A new 10-bed “deaf-friendly” unit will open in the spring at the Greil Psychiatric Hospital in Montgomery, Ala. Hospital officials have been planning the new unit for more than two years in association with the Office of Deaf Services at the Alabama Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. According to Steve Hamerding, director of the Office of Deaf Services, the new unit will be the first of its kind in Alabama and will be a major source of employment for deaf people and hearing signers who want to work in the mental health field. Twenty full-time workers are needed as soon as possible to prepare for the opening of the unit. If you are interested, contact Dr. Frances Ralston at drfralston@earthlink.net.

GIMME JIMMY’S COOKIES TAKES FIRST STEP IN EXPANSION PLAN

Jimmy Libman, who launched Gimmee Jimmy’s Cookies 22 years ago from his childhood home in West Orange, N.J. with his mother’s cookie recipe, has embarked on an ambitious expansion program. Over the

next two years, Libman, 48, plans to open five stores in the New York City tri-state area. Last week, the first store opened in Montclair, N.J. According to The Montclair Times, Gimmee Jimmy's Cookie Bar was selected from a pool of hundreds of tenants wanting to open stores in the Hinck Building. Property owner Dick Grabowsky praised the company: "If you want great cookies in Montclair, you have to come to Jimmy's." Libman estimates the company uses 7.5 tons of butter, 6 tons of chocolate chips and 1.5 tons of nuts each year to produce 1.5 million cookies. Libman was born deaf but downplays his hearing loss: "I'm happy with who I am, and I don't see myself as a victim."

IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM HELPS PARENTS KEEP THEIR KIDS SAFE

For the first time since it started 14 years ago, the Child ID program has begun targeting deaf parents in New York. According to the Democrat and Chronicle, program officials took over a vacant store in Rochester's Marketplace Mall last weekend and offered to fingerprint and videotape the children of deaf parents. Deaf volunteers helped with registration and videotaping, and hearing parents and children were welcome, too. The information can prove vital if a child goes missing. The free Child ID program is run by the Masons, an international fraternity. Until now, "The deaf community has not benefitted from this program," said Harrison Parson Jr., 40, a deaf Mason who helped organize the event.

DENVER FIRM'S HIGH-TECH DEVICE OFFERS HEARING HELP

The Denver Post's Innovations & Ideas column last week featured "a high-tech device no bigger than a grain of rice" that the newspaper said allows many deaf and hard-of-hearing children to hear for the first time. The technology, used in headsets and phones for the deaf, was invented by Able Planet, a Denver-based startup company. According to CEO Jo Waldron, the company is also testing a hearing aid and hopes to launch the new device with at least \$2 million in venture capital. Able Planet is targeting "600 million deaf and hearing-impaired people across the world," reported The Post. For more information, visit www.ableplanet.com.

OLATHE INTERPRETER OBTAINS REAL ESTATE LICENSE

Something "clicked" when Mitch Bartlett took his first sign language class as a senior at Olathe (Kan.) South High School, reported the Kansas City Star. "I knew this was what I was supposed to be doing," said Bartlett, 30. For the past 10 years, he has worked as an ASL interpreter and assistant college professor, while advocating for deaf people. A few years ago he talked with a couple of deaf friends who had just purchased their own homes. "They told me they didn't know what they were signing," he said. Bartlett decided to get into real estate, and last August he obtained his license so he can help deaf people navigate the real estate jungle. "The thing that's good about Mitch," said Dale Carrison, his manager at Discover Real Estate in Olathe, "is that he has a lot of empathy for these people."

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Sidekick and HipTop wireless device users access Sprint Relay by clicking on the bright TTY icon directly from the chooser screen. To download and install Sprint Relay Wireless, access the device's "Catalog" download feature. In the catalog, simply select "Sprint Relay Wireless" from the Applications list, and select "Purchase" to download and install the service for free. For more information on Sprint Relay Wireless, visit <http://www.sprintrelay.com/> or email srw@goamerica.com.

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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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'BIRTH STORY' OPENS IN NEW YORK FOR LIMITED ENGAGEMENT

Birth Story, a new play written and performed by Hillary Baack, opened last Friday in New York City. Birth Story is author/actress Baack's retracing of her life story back to the day she was born, including a brush with death and the loss of her hearing. Directed by Alex P. Baack, the play explores the universal experiences of growing up, fitting in and finding one's place in the world. Birth Story runs through Feb. 25 at The Barrow Group Arts Center, 312 W. 36th St., 3rd Floor, New York, with performances at 8 p.m. Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays, and matinees at 2 p.m. on Feb. 12 and 19. Tickets are \$15 and can be reserved by calling (212) 868-4444, or by visiting www.smarttix.com (Use showcode BIR0).

NEW AXSYS LOGISTICS COMPANY SEEKS MODELS, DANCERS, ACTORS

Popular entertainer C.J. Jones has formed his own production company, Axsys Logistics Company, and is now compiling a database of deaf and hard-of-hearing professional models, dancers and actors. Axsys plans to use the database to hire dancers for music videos and models to promote the company's new products. Axsys is also seeking news anchors and TV reporters for DeafTV news. The application deadline is April 1, and interested people should write for details to thelivingcartoon@aol.com. Axsys is also seeking professional deaf-related video content to feature on its new 24-hour DeafTV. Send your videos by June 1, but first write and request the specifications.

INTERNATIONAL PHOTO CONTEST FOCUSES ON HEALTH, DISABILITY

The World Health Organization has announced a photo contest called "Images of Health and Disability 2005," with a special theme of employment and labor. Photographers from around the world are invited to submit images that promote the ideas of health and disability. Examples include showing how people live with disabilities; contrasting "disabled vs. healthy"; showing disability from a societal perspective; and illustrating concepts such as "what is health?" There are three categories: color; black & white; and digital art (manipulated images). The top prize is \$1,500. April 16 is the closing date for entries and judging will take place at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. There are no entry fees. For more information, visit www3.who.int/icf.

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Upcoming DIIT Workshops at NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

<http://www.rit.edu/diit>

or 585-475-2225 V/TTY

Deaf Initiative in Information Technology (DIIT) would like to inform and invite you to attend their upcoming workshops held at NTID.

DIIT sponsors computer and information technology workshops designed especially for deaf and hard-of-hearing professionals.

The workshops provide a unique opportunity:

- * An All Sign Environment
- * Learn New Technical Skills
- * Network with Other Deaf IT Professionals

Creating Web Pages with HTML

Instructor: Elissa Olsen

Date: February 21-25, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

Introduction to Microsoft Access Database

Instructor: Ari Ogoke

Date: February 21-25, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

Introduction to Macromedia Flash MX 2004

Instructor: Karen Beiter

Date: February 28-March 4, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

PC Hardware Maintenance and Repair

Instructor: Tony Spiecker

Date: February 28-March 4, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$400

Building and Managing a Secure Wireless Network

Instructor: David Lawrence

Date: May 9-13, 2005

Place: NTID/RIT, Rochester NY

Cost: \$300

For more information visit: <http://www.rit.edu/diit> . If you are interested in attending, click "Registration" on the left side of that web page, or call 585-475-2225 V/TTY.

DIIT is supported by a grant from the National Science Foundation.

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SPORTS

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OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY GOLFER SETS COURSE RECORD

Kevin Hall, a deaf golfer from Ohio State University, "brought the (Birmingham, Ala. Highland Park) golf course to its knees" the day after Christmas while playing a round with his father and a friend, The Birmingham News reported Sunday. Hall, 22, registered seven birdies and an ace on the first nine holes, and he finished 18 holes with a score of 57, a record 13-under for the par-70 course. Hall, deafened from meningitis at age 2, is set to graduate in the spring from Ohio State. His senior season of golf is over, and he has turned professional while putting the finishing touches on his journalism degree.

BASKETBALL TOURNAMENT MAKES HEADLINES IN PHOENIX

The Arizona Republic sent a reporter to the Phoenix Day School for the Deaf last week to cover the 30th annual Western States Basketball Classic, "where players can't hear the whistle and cheerleaders let their fingers to the chanting." The high school tournament attracted teams from as far away as Washington, serving not only as an intense competition but also as a cultural exchange among the non-hearing, the paper reported. "I think it's more exciting to play against other deaf schools," said Troy Stone, 16. "We all speak the same language ... and after the game, we have a chance to socialize and meet new people." Added sophomore cheerleader Amanda Garcia: "The most important thing is to have fun ... and win."

COLLEGE POLE VAULTER LEAPS AHEAD ON DEAF AWARENESS

Last week, The Purdue Sports at Purdue University (West Lafayette, Ind.), wrote about pole vaulter Jocelyn Lindsay, who "takes sign language to new heights." Lindsay, a two-time NCAA Mideast Regional qualifier in the pole vault and team co-captain who can hear, recalled her first exposure to deaf culture when she was 3 years old: she took a dance class with a young girl who was hard-of-hearing. Lindsay and the girl learned to communicate with each other and became close friends, but Lindsay gained more than a friend: "She was developing an appreciation for a culture unfamiliar to her own," said the report. Today, Lindsay maintains her interest in deaf culture by attending ASL Club meetings at Purdue and plans to use her signing skills in whatever profession she chooses.

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EMPLOYMENT

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MENTAL HEALTH WORKER

PT Mental Health Worker positions providing direct care to Deaf adults with mental illness living in the metro area. Must be able to read/write and ability to document daily logs. HS diploma and current MN drivers license req. Fluency in American Sign Language and various other forms of non-verbal communication a must. Experience working with mental illness is desired. Please reference Job Code DW-ARRAY on resume. Send resume with Job Code to People Incorporated, 317 York Ave, St Paul MN 55101 or Fax 651-774-0606. You may also email it to employment@peopleincorporated.org.

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The Laurent Clerc National Deaf Education Center is conducting a national search for three high-level

positions listed below. The Clerc Center is located on the beautiful 100-acre campus of Gallaudet University, in our nation's capitol.

JOB #05009: Principal MSSD.

The Principal promotes national mission initiatives by serving as the chief instructional leader of the model high school that serves deaf and hard of hearing students from grades 9 - 12. Promotes and facilitates an innovative instructional and educational environment; establishes a school climate in which a variety of research and dissemination projects occurs in academic departments. Promotes a school culture of high expectations that yields corresponding results. Provides leadership, in collaborating with a range of personnel, to determine and identify long and short-range plans for the school. Supervises personnel and manages budgets.

(Salary range: \$76,690 to \$122,705).

Please apply if you are interested and possess the following qualifications:

Master's degree in education, educational administration or related field. Five years experience in an educational setting; at least three years of successful teaching experiences. Three years administrative experience in an educational program. Thorough knowledge of educational trends and effective teaching methodologies. Evidence of competence in best educational practices with diverse students who are deaf or hard of hearing in programs from infancy to grade 12. Knowledge of personnel practices. Knowledge of effective evaluation procedures and techniques to provide optimum educational opportunity for all involved in the school. Evidence of ability to work and communicate with diverse groups of people for the optimum benefit of the educational program. Excellent command of written English. Fluency in American Sign Language required.

JOB #05001: Director Information Systems and Computer Support.

The Director supervises all employees of the Information Systems and Computer Support department as well as the Media Services office; provides leadership for creating state-of-the-art computer support for the administrative and academic needs of the Clerc Center and in support of the national mission focus; disseminates knowledge nationwide about technological applications in classrooms with students who are deaf or hard of hearing; manages the budget for the units and approves expenditure of funds; serves as a link between the units and other offices and the demonstration schools.

(Salary range: \$68,520 to \$109,633).

Please apply if you are interested and possess the following qualifications:

Bachelor's degree in computer science, mathematics, or science related field. Five years experience in an information systems setting including knowledge of major information systems development and management. Working knowledge of data structures, file organization and access methods. Management or supervisory experience or clear evidence of management and supervisory capability. Ability to work collaboratively with a variety of people.

JOB #05010: Assistant Principal MSSD.

The Assistant Principal provides support to national mission efforts by performing high-level administrative duties to ensure the smooth operation of the Model Secondary School for the Deaf (MSSD), including administering disciplinary procedures for the academic program. Coordinates the placement of interns, practicum students and volunteers. Serves as the first point of contact for MSSD visitors and families. Manages the recruitment and hiring processes for daily and short-term substitute teachers for KDES (the elementary school on campus) and MSSD. Coordinates the Extended School Year (ESY) Program at KDES and MSSD. Coordinates logistics for the Stanford Achievement Tests. Supervises the work of assigned personnel; assigns work, evaluates performance and recommends personnel actions.

(Salary range: \$61,756 to \$98,809).

Please apply if you are interested and possess the following qualifications:

Master's degree in deaf education, education, communication, counseling or a related field. Coursework or experience in administration and supervision; demonstrated leadership capabilities. Three years teaching, counseling and/or administrative experience in an educational program for deaf and hard of hearing students. Demonstrated knowledge of educational programming and effective school administration practices and techniques. Excellent writing and communication skills. Fluency in ASL required.

To apply, mail a resume or Gallaudet University application form to:

Gallaudet University
Personnel Office – College Hall - Room 106
800 Florida Avenue NE, Washington, DC 20002

Or FAX a resume or Gallaudet University application to: 202-651-5344

Email address: Personnel.Office@Gallaudet.edu

Gallaudet University serves deaf and hard of hearing students from many different backgrounds and seeks to develop a workforce that reflects the diversity of its student body. Gallaudet is an equal employment opportunity/affirmative action employer and actively encourages deaf, hard of hearing, members of traditionally under-represented groups, people with disabilities, woman, and veterans to apply for open positions.

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