NAOBI-DC'S MARCH NEWSLETTER JUST FOR YOU!

GIVES BACK!

UPCOMING EVENTS!

2017 CONFERENCE ELEVATION!

ISSUE 01 • MARCH 2017 • LET'S GET CERTIFIED!
NAOBI GIVES BACK!

BY BILLY SANDERS

NAOBI Gives Back kicked off into high gear again! The Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Beautification Day event turned into a mass collaborative effort with the Student Conservation Association Monday, January 16, to beautify the grounds of Anacostia Park with a plethora of nonprofit and social justice organizations. We cleaned. We interpreted. We served to honor the legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. in our immediate community. We partnered with our sister organization, DCABDA, and continued to partner by coordinating interpreters for their Black History Month events.

With no delay, we sponsored two booths for DCABDA’s Expo of Color to the tune of 30 NAOBIans coming out to serve and represent our beloved organization. Furthermore, we served on Gallaudet’s Black Student Union’s CODA of Color Panel. The Community College of Baltimore County’s ASL Club will host a Black Deaf Culture workshop, with a panel discussion we have been invited on. Come out and support tomorrow’s interpreters, today!
We partnered with Busboys and Poets, and DJ Supalee to provide interpreting services for their ASL Poetry Night. As a strong testament to the body of work DJ Supalee has compiled over the nine year life span of the monthly event, National Public Radio live streamed ASL Poetry Night to an audience of over 300,000 viewers online. So, come out and support Washington D’C’s most unique hotspot for Deaf artists on the last Friday of each month (www.busboysandpoets.com).

Catch us at the end of the month as we partner with the Department of Interpretation and GURIEC to sponsor the 2017 Symposium on Signed Language Interpretation and research! Please see the flyer for more details.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY THROUGH SERVICE IN A NONTHREATENING WAY THAT BUILDS BRIDGES BETWEEN MEMBERS OF NAOBI-DC AND DCABDA? JOIN NAOBI GIVES BACK TODAY!
A bonafide CODA who set the standard of excellence eventually became the beacon of light that illuminated a pathway of opportunities many of us enjoy today. A daughter, teammate, sister, mother, wife, leader, teacher, and a beloved friend to any NAOBian who knew her. We are indebted to the pursuit to be our best selves, because Shirley Childress envisioned something that was harder to find than a unicorn in comic book: a certified professional, talented and dynamic Black interpreter.

I remember learning about Sweet Honey in the Rock many years ago while growing up in St. Paul, MN, and seeing my mother’s face light up because she felt represented by a “really good interpreter.” Too nervous and shy during my adolescence to interpret music on stage like my Mother wanted me to, I eventually became an interpreter many years later in Tallahassee, Florida. One dreamy night, Sweet Honey in the Rock made their way to Florida A&M University for a “One Night Only” show. All nine of Tallahassee’s interpreters were in that packed auditorium!
Majestically, we all wowed in awe at Shirley’s use of classifiers, space, and *spunk*; it was *Black Star Power* like I had never witnessed. Eager to touch the hem of her garment after the show, I made a beeline to the front of the stage - interpreter-style. Shirley spoke with me like she had always known me, and encouraged me to never give up “the good fight.” Shirley leaned in and assured me, with a motherly wink, that she knew I would eventually become certified one day.

To this day, I wonder just how many interpreters Shirley has touched, inspired, or spoken life into around the world. How could I show my sincere appreciation to such a legend? The legend who started an organization for us long before there was a NAOBI? A co-founder of the Black Deaf Advocates, which later birthed the national conference from which the founders of NAOBI, Inc. emerged. Then, it came to me like a song I wrote: why not honor Shirley with the Trailblazer Award at the NAOBI-DC 15-Year Anniversary Gala? To present Shirley with a distinguished award was one of the most proudest moments of my life!

Shirley served as our Keynote Speaker and feature Honoree at the Anniversary Gala, because many NAOBlans who knew her personally came together to make the connections happen. It was during the strategic planning of the Gala that I learned she had become Dr. Shirley Childress, after being granted an Honorary Doctorate Degree from Chicago Theological Seminary.

A master teacher, interpreter, mentor, and leader in a profession which has seen tremendous growth, Shirley has always followed the mantra: each one reach one; each one teach one. Dr. Childress founded Bridges, to focus on Black Deaf consumers and interpreters. Bridges laid the foundation that NAOBI has built upon with pride and determination to continue fighting “the good fight.”

Thank you Dr. Shirley Childress for believing in yourself, and the many you met along the way. We love you. We honor you. We will continue pressing towards the mark with the dignity, class, and perseverance you exemplified.
CCBC ASL CLUB PRESENTS

BLACK DEAF CULTURE THROUGH THE LENS OF BLACK DEAF HISTORY

Presented by Benro Ogunyipe

Please join our special FREE powerful workshop, where we will discuss, through a historical lens, the culture, education, and sociolinguistics of Black Deaf people!

WHEN

Friday, March 10 2017
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

WHERE

Student Services Building
Room 004
Community College of Baltimore County,
800 S Rolling Rd, Catonsville, MD 21228

Workshop from 6:00 PM-7:30 PM followed by discussion with members of the DC chapter of the National Alliance of Black Interpreters (NAOBI-DC) and members of the Deaf Black Community

RECOMMEND FOR ALL SIGNING LEVELS

Presentation in ASL interpreted into English.

QUESTIONS?

Contact:
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CCBC ASL Club
E: lasagnahog@gmail.com
ELEVATION CONFERENCE

March 17-19, 2017
Gallaudet University • Washington, D.C.
www.naobidc.org
GET OUT of the BOX!

Interpreting for Music & Stage

Are you ready for the “BRIGHT LIGHTS” of the stage? Or are you just tired of the dim lights of a music stand? Are you interested in learning what’s involved in the process? Do you wish you could see if that crazy idea could have worked?

This workshop will address strategies used by Professional Sign Language Interpreters working within Creative venues: Stage, Concert, and Cruise.

The workshop for ASL Interpreters, ITP students, and ASL users interested in Performance Interpreting!

Content area: Professional Studies. Novice & Intermediate

March 24-26, 2017

1.2 CEUs!! $150

To register, email: TerpTools.AC@gmail.com

Cancellations: 15+ Days, 50% refund; 5-14 days, 25% refund

Held in Theater Venues in Frederick, MD

SEATING IS LIMITED

Accommodations provided upon request, with 14 days notice

PCRID is an RID Sponsor of Continuing Education Activities

Learn more tools to get what you need for the job. Give the Deaf patrons what they really wanted when they purchased that ticket!

Participants will analyze segments of music and stage performances. Develop creative interpretations that go beyond ‘just lyrics’, and incorporate what’s actually happening on the stage. Identify and use key elements, dramatic components, and characterization as a means to a more cohesive production. Have an “Emergency Plan B” for jobs with limited prep time! And yes, we will try “Out of the Box” ideas, and incorporate some in a live fun performance!

We will meet “On Location”. Utilizing local theater venues, we will discuss logistics, lighting, and challenges. After some lyrical analysis, we will perform “Hands-Up” activities, and engage in peer/patron discussion. Finally, a chance for that DO-OVER!

Leave with a deeper understanding of principles & variables involved in Creative Interpreting, before accepting that next “FUN” job!

Presenter/Moderator: Alecia Cole, CI, NIC

Alecia has been a Professional Interpreter for over 25 years. Her background also includes Graphic Arts & Photography. She was raised attending Art & Cultural events, and has a passion for “Live Theater”. She has interpreted plays, concerts, musicals, and more throughout her career. She enjoys interpreting within the Cruise Industry, doing so for about 10 years. Alecia also serves as trainer, coordinator, ASL instructor, mentor, tutor, and consultant. She continues to learn and share each step of the way.

“I have learned that no two shows are alike. I know our Deaf clientele are not alike! So I do not follow a ‘one method for all’ approach. I believe our goal as interpreters should be to give the customer an EQUAL experience of the joy, surprise, laughter, and wonderment portrayed on the stage!” - AC
FREE
PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SERIES

YOU DON'T WANT TO MISS THE NEXT

POWER HOUR

WORKSHOP PRESENTER: JOHN MARCELLE, JR.

WHERE ARE BLACK INTERPRETERS?

Where are Black interpreters? Is that a question of physical position/location; of preparation or training, skill or proficiency; of relationship with the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, and Deaf-Blind people? The answer to each question is a resounding YES! Through open and honest dialogue, this workshop seeks guide you to an enhanced awareness of the place of the Black interpreter.

WORKSHOP HIGHLIGHTS

UNDERSTANDING  STREAMED LIVE  FACEBOOK: NAOBI-DC  RESPONSIBILITY

THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 2017
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Payden Academic Center * Room 103 * Trinity Washington University
125 MICHIGAN AVE., NE * Washington, DC 20017

FOR MORE INFORMATION
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www.naobidc.org