



ADA TODAY



Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 6

March 2013

National Deaf History Month

The Office of Disability Rights would like for you to join us in our recognition of National Deaf History Month March 13th thru April 15th. National Deaf History Month celebrates deaf history and promotes awareness of American deaf culture. We support the advancements and contributions of individual deaf Americans in our society.



College Hall, Gallaudet University

Three key moments in American History for the Deaf community is first, the March 13, 1988 *Deaf President Now* protest; a student led protest at Gallaudet University against the Board of Trustees' announcement of its decision to appoint another hearing person as its seventh president. Second, the April 8, 1864, marks another significant moment in deaf history when President Abraham Lincoln signed the Gallaudet University "*Charter*" initiating higher education for the deaf. Finally, the establishment of the *American School for the Deaf* in Hartford, CT on April 15, 1817, as the first permanent public school for the deaf.

To continue the promotion of deaf Americans into our society, the Office of Disability Rights adheres to its mission by ensuring that all of the District government's programs, services and activities are accessible to and useable by people who are deaf. You can view the resources below to learn more about our services or visit us on the web at www.odr.dc.gov

Services Provided by the Office of Disability Rights

ADA Training The Office of Disability Rights (ODR) provides various free Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other disability rights laws and regulations training sessions to DC government agencies.

Braille Services Interpretation Program When to request Braille Language interpretation: When a District resident or DC Government agency's client/consumer requests official DC Government material in alternate formats (Braille, large print).

Captioning and Transcription Services ODR can assist you in requesting transcripts for DC Government videos recorded prior to 2012 which are not captioned.

Guidance ODR's guidance will assist you in effectively communicating with individuals with disabilities and providing them equal access to your agency or organization's programs, benefits, and services.

Information, Assistance and Complaints ODR can provide information to people with disabilities about their rights and offer technical assistance and guidance on the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and other laws affecting people with disabilities.

Sign Language Services

Office of Disability Rights (ODR) provides sign language interpreter services (via a private contract vendor) for most DC agencies for meetings, conferences, trainings, and other interactions with DC residents and consumers who are deaf and hard-of-hearing.

For more on ODR Services, visit our website at odr.dc.gov.

Local News & Information

Bright Stars Circus Event- Verizon Center, Washington, D.C. Wednesday, March 23, 2013

Join Easter Seals as it teams up with Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus for an exciting night of fun at the Verizon Center in Washington, D.C. For each ticket to the circus purchased by a corporation, civic or community organization, an additional ticket will be donated to a family that includes a child with a disability.

National Health & Fitness Expo Presented by Washington Convention & Sports Authority

The Greater Washington Sports Alliance invites you to the 2011 National Health & Fitness Expo Presented by the Washington Convention and Sports Authority at the DC Armory on Friday March 25th, 2013 from 11:00AM -8:00PM. FREE ADMISSION! Come enjoy the 2nd annual Speaker Series, free and fun workouts at the new Movement Square Presented by Zephyr, and browse through over 75 exhibitors showcasing fitness apparel and accessories as well as healthy food and beverage samples!

National Training Conference

The Deaf & Hard of Hearing in Government: 2013 National Training Conference April 8 - 10, 2013, (Monday through Wednesday) Washington Marriott Hotel 775 12th Street, NW Washington, DC. Contact: Deaf & Hard of Hearing in Government at 202-618-3009.

Federal News & Information



"Because" Public Service Announcement

A new, inspirational video and poster series featuring people with disabilities who are realizing their goals and passions because someone believed in them and urged them to set high expectations. Click here to learn more **"Because" Public Service Announcement**

Disability.gov

Thousands of resources on benefits, civil rights, community life, education, emergency preparedness, employment, health, housing, technology and transportation for people with disabilities, their families, Veterans, educators, employers and others.

For Information about ODR's Newsletter call 202-724-5055 or visit the web at odr.dc.gov.



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MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the District Office of Disability Rights (ODR) is to ensure that the programs, services, benefits, activities and facilities operated or funded by the District of Columbia are fully accessible to, and useable by people with disabilities. ODR is committed to inclusion, community-based services, and self-determination for people with disabilities. ODR is responsible for overseeing the implementation of the City's obligations under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) as well as other disability rights laws.