



Deaf People in the News

September 20-26, 2020

Celebrate with us!



North Dakota School for the Deaf Parent-Infant Program and School Age Outreach Department
Nicole, Denise, Carol, Linda, Ashley and Lana

Deaf Awareness Week is a national **week** of **celebrating deafness**.

It is observed annually throughout the last full **week** of September.

The **week** focuses on promoting the positive aspects of **deafness**, encouraging social inclusion, and raising **awareness** of the organizations that support those who are **deaf**.

SOME of the Services that we provide:

Parent-Infant Program (0-5 yrs.)

- Family Support and Education Centered
- Language and Auditory Fun
- Assistance in developing Individualized Family Service Plan
- Information on education and communication choices

School Age Outreach (3-21 yrs.)

- Assessments
- Sign Language
- Developmental
- Transition
- Youth activities
- Consultations
- ❖ In-Services
- ❖ Observations
- ❖ IEP and/or 504 Planning
- ❖ Classroom strategies, modifications, accommodations



Any questions or concerns on children with hearing loss, contact your regional outreach office.

Carol Lybeck, Coordinator PHONE: 701.665-4400 Carol.Lybeck@k12.nd.us	Denise Marback, Northeast PHONE: 701-665-4420 Denise.Marback@k12.nd.us	Nicole Swartwout, Northwest PHONE: 701-858-3357 Nicole.Swartwout@k12nd.us
Lana Zimbelman, Southwest PHONE: 701-328-3987 Lana.Zimbelman@k12.nd.us	Linda Ehlers, Southeast PHONE: 701-239-7373 Linda.Ehlers@k12nd.us	Ashley Martin, Sign Language PHONE 701-239-7375 Ashley.Martin@K12.nd.us

Have you seen or heard of these deaf individuals?



Is a skateboarder who invented a move that was called "Mute Grab." That move was recently changed and named after him and featured in the remakes of Tony Hawks 1 and 2 video games.

1



This British woman has hearing and vision loss. She started a revolution in the toy industry with the formation of #ToyLikeMe. She was able to get toy producers to create toys representing a variety of disabilities such as wheelchairs, vision loss and hearing loss.

2



This woman was crowned Miss America in 1998.

3



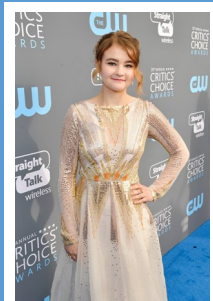
This man acted two supporting roles of Boo Radley and Link in the new 2020 production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* on Broadway. He has guest starred in HBO's *Fargo*.

4



This man competed in the Ninja Warrior show on NBC.

5



Is an American deaf actor who was in the Amazon Studio's movie *Wonderstruck*. The next movie, *A Quiet Place 2*, is scheduled to be in theaters April 2021.

6

A. Heather Whitestone

B. Russell Harvard

C. Lauren Ridloff

D. Kyle Schutze

E. Ashley Fiolek

F. Millicent Simmonds

G. Rebecca Atkinson

H. Nyle Dimarco

I. Chris Weddle

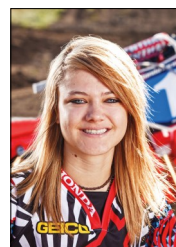
ANSWERS:

(1. I), (2. G), (3. A), (4 B), (5. D), (6. F), (7. H), (8. E), (9. C)



This man is the first Deaf model to appear and win on America's Next Top Model: He has won the Dancing with the Stars: competition as well.

7



This athlete is the youngest motocross champion EVER.

8



First deaf superhero, Makkari, in Marvel's new movie, *the Eternals*, due out in February 2021. Has been on *Walking Dead* but unsure if she has been killed off.

9

Tony Hawk changes name of skating boarding trick to honor Deaf skate boarder

Tony Hawk is a skateboarding legend, legendary X-gamer, and video game pioneer. The skateboard trick that was called the mute grab, involved the skater grabbing the board in between the feet, with one hand, during a jump.

It's been around since 1981 and was first performed by a deaf skater boarder named Chris Weddle.

According to Hawk, Weddle was a prominent amateur skateboarder who didn't talk much, hence the name "mute grab."

Hawk explains that Weddle has always been gracious about the name of the trick. Weddle is actually deaf and not mute. Hawk said, "It's clear that the skateboarder would be more well-known if the trick mentioned his name instead." So Hawk decided to change it.

A remake of the originals, *Tony Hawk's Pro Skater 1 & 2* videogames, is coming out soon. Hawk and the game's developers made sure to rename the trick. In the new game, the trick will officially be called the "Weddle Grab"!



Hearing loss represented in toys



In the upcoming new LEGO City Main Square set, one of the Minifigure is wearing a hearing aid.

Build-A-Bear allows you add a red and silver hearing aid for about \$2.00.

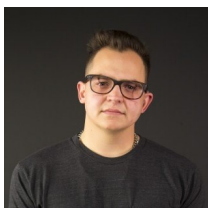


The website Flaghouse sells Just Like Me Dolls and can be outfitted with a pair of hearing aids for \$3.05. Doll costs about \$31.50 and comes in a variety of appearances and skin colors.



American Girl now offers Joss who is a beach-going cheerleader with hearing aids. You can also get removable aids for about \$14.00 on any American Girl doll but requires the doll to be sent to the "Doll Hospital" so that the Doll's ear can be properly fitted for an aid on one or both ears.

Information for this article was taken from <https://entandaudiology.com/blog/8-dolls-stuffed-animals-and-toys-with-hearing-aids/>. It offers other resources.



Washington Post

Sean Forbes makes #1 on charts

Sean Forbes is a Deaf hip-hop artist. On February 21, 2020 Sean released a new album called "Little Victories" and within the week hit #1 on the iTunes and Amazon hip-hop charts and #1 on Amazon for digital sales. Check out his video. Go to <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5JaUg94oazM>

In 2015, Sean co-founded D-PAN, The Deaf Professional Arts Network, a nonprofit organization that has been making music accessible to the Deaf and hard of hearing community by creating American Sign Language interpretation music videos of popular songs. D-PAN has created videos for John Mayer, Christina Aguilera, Eminem, and more.

North Dakota People



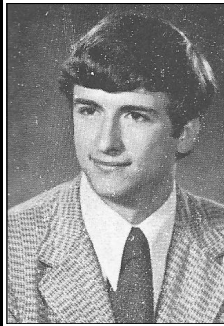
Phyllis Frelich, is the only person born in North Dakota to win a Tony Award for best actress, and she was deaf. She won the award in 1980 for her starring role in "Children of a Lesser God."

Frelich had Deaf parents and was born in Devils Lake in

1944. She was the oldest of nine deaf children. The playground at North Dakota School for the Deaf is named after her family.

After graduating from high school in 1962, she attended Gallaudet College, a liberal arts college for the deaf in Washington, D.C., where she pursued her life-long dream of acting.

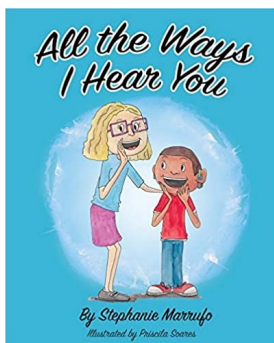
On Jan. 23, 1981, Frelich was notified that she had been selected to receive the Theodore Roosevelt Rough Rider Award, the highest honor given in the state of North Dakota. A painting of her is hanging in the Capital building in Bismarck. Frelich died on April 10, 2014.



Steve Blehm became North Dakota's all time leading scorer even without the three point line. He was Deaf and played basketball for North Dakota School for the Deaf, from 1969 to 1973. He holds seven school, 12 state and three national records.

On Jan. 27, 1971, Steve Blehm, a sophomore, scored 85 points for the Devils Lake School for the Deaf, beating Hampden 122 to 22. By the end of the season, he moved ahead of Wilt Chamberlain to fourth place in the nation for the highest point average in a season — 47.3 points per game. Blehm graduated in 1973, scoring 3,859 points during his high school career, with a scoring average of 41.5 points, a national record that still stands.

Following graduation, Blehm went to Minot State for one semester, then transferred to Gallaudet, where he was selected most valuable player in 1976, '77 and '78.



"All the Ways I Hear You" has a young narrator named Sy and has hearing aids. Sy goes on to introduce his diverse group of friends who are deaf, hard of hearing or deafblind and their own hearing technology and communication styles.

They include cochlear implants, bone anchored hearing systems, communication boards/tablets and sign language. This is the first book written by Stephanie Marrufo, of Bismarck, who is Sy's mother. Sy was diagnosed with hearing loss at 2-years-old. Stephanie began searching for children's books that included deaf and hard of hearing characters but could find very few. She decided to write her own story and wanted to include the variety of ways people hear and communicate. "All the Ways I Hear You" is illustrated by Priscila Soares, an artist with hearing loss who wears bone anchored hearing aids, and is mother to a child born deaf who now has cochlear implants.

North Dakota School for the Deaf celebrates 130 years!



Old Main was designed by Olaf Hanson, a rising deaf architect from Minneapolis.



The North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center for Deaf and Hard of Hearing has been serving individuals with hearing loss since September 1890. Back when North Dakota was becoming a state, Anson R. Spear, a deaf man from the Minneapolis area, came to North Dakota to establish a school for the deaf.



Be Deaf Aware!



Make sure you have the attention of the person before you start talking.

Be in places with good lighting and little or no background noise for conversations.

Use your normal voice as well as lip movement and facial expressions.

Keep hands and objects away from your mouth when talking and face the person who is listening.

Check whether the person understands what you are saying.
If not, try saying it in a different way.

NEVER say, "Never mind" or "Don't worry about it."

Tips for communicating when wearing a face mask

Communication is now tougher for individuals with hearing loss as people are encouraged to wear face masks to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Masks block the high frequency speech sounds which is already difficult for people with hearing loss. They also cover the face up, making it impossible to read lips or facial expressions. You can do the following to help communication with individuals having difficulty understanding you:

1. Use visual cues to signal someone and get their attention, especially if it appears they did not hear.
2. Try to speak loud enough so the person can hear you.
3. Gesture if possible. Point to objects, posters or signs to clarify
4. Write it out if you can. Use a notebook, whiteboard or electronic writing tablet.
5. Ask the individual directly what would help them.
6. Be patient.



GoGraph.com

How to access services from North Dakota School for the Deaf/ Resource Center on Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Families, school districts, area education agencies, other interested individuals and North Dakota School for the Deaf/Resource Center on Deaf and Hard of Hearing (NDSD/RCDHH) work together to provide appropriate services...

For on-site school-age programs:

- 1** Contact your local school district
- 2** Contact North Dakota School for the Deaf.
Superintendent: 701-665-4400
Toll Free: 1-800-887-2980
- 3** Tour North Dakota School for the Deaf's campus with your area education agency and local school district staff
- 4** Work with your school district to schedule an IEP meeting to determine placement that includes a NDSD/RCDHH representative.



A Division of the
ND Department of Public Instruction,
Kirsten Baesler, Superintendent

Parent-Infant Programs & School Age Outreach Regional Offices

Program Coordinator
1401 College Drive North
Devils Lake, ND 58103
(701) 665-4400
Toll Free: 1-800-887-2980

Northwest
Memorial Hall
500 University Avenue West
Minot, ND 58701
(701) 858-3357

Southwest
418 East Broadway, Suite 228
Bismarck, ND 58501
(701) 328-3987 or
123 Summit Street
Underwood, ND 58576
(701) 215-1718

Northeast
1401 College Drive North
Devils Lake, ND 58301
(701) 665-4420

Southeast
1321 23rd Street South,
Suite A
Fargo, ND 58103
(701) 239-7373
(701) 239-7375



To access Outreach Services:

- 1** Contact the designated person listed below for each service area:

Parent-Infant Program:
(For birth to age five)
Carol Lybeck.....701-665-4400
Carol.Lybeck@k12.nd.us

School Age Services:
(Assessments & Consultations)
Carol Lybeck...701-665-4400
Carol.Lybeck@k12.nd.us

Adult Services:
Pam Smith.....701-665-4401
Pam.Smith@k12.nd.us

Interpreting/Communication
Lilia Bakken.....701-665-4423
Lilia.Bakken@k12.nd.us

Summer Camps
Linda Ehlers.....701-237-7374
Linda.A.Ehlers@k12.nd.us

North Dakota School for the Deaf does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability in employment or provision of services