

Signing & Interpreting for the Deaf

PURPOSE:

- To develop the ability to interpret, communicate and provide services to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing communities
- To glorify God and His church
- To learn a new way to serve His church

GUIDELINES:

- Coaches and participants should familiarize themselves with the rules and judging criteria.
- Determine proper grade division and signing level
- Confirm the participant is scheduled for the signing event time slot; if there is a scheduling conflict with another event, participants may move up to another grade level time block.
- Register judges and door monitors online; or email their name, phone number, and preferred judging times to the event coordinator by the [Final Registration Deadline](#).
- Please respect the participants by not entering or leaving the room while a participant is signing.
- Applause is appropriate as a display of appreciation after the signer has completed their selection
- Scriptures are from the NIV 2011
- If special accommodations are necessary, please contact the event coordinators prior to convention.

GRADE DIVISIONS: There are three grade divisions in this event

- 3rd – 6th grade
- 7th – 9th grade
- 10th – 12th grade

PARTICIPANT RULES:

- Participants should not watch other participants until they have completed their own performance.
- The event coordinator will provide the recordings for the convention. Other recordings will not be used.
- No one may give signs or coaching instructions to the participant during the performance.
- Participants should wear white, black, or navy blue shirts with no design or words on them to sign for their performance.
- All participants will be pre-registered, by congregation, in hour time slots, in specific rooms.
- If a participant's name is not on the list or other changes need to be made, see the event coordinator at the signing registration table.
- All participants must meet at their assigned room at least 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time. The absence of some participants may advance the performance time of other participants.

EVENT RULES:

- The participant will fingerspell their own name and title of the selection they will sign.
- The participant will sign the selection(s) to a recording provided by the event coordinator at the convention.
- Once the judge has announced the selections, the choice will not be changed.

JUDGING CRITERIA: Listed In order of importance

- Level 1 & 1.5:
 - Preparation
 - Fingerspelling

- Understandability
- Confidence
- Expression
- Level 2:
 - Preparation
 - Fingerspelling
 - Movement
 - Understandability
 - Expression
 - Confidence
- Level 3:
 - Vocabulary
 - Movement
 - Expression
 - Understandability
 - Fingerspelling
 - Process
 - Confidence
- Level 4 & 5:
 - Vocabulary
 - Understandability
 - Sign Clarity
 - Expression
 - Movement
 - Process
 - Fingerspelling
 - Confidence

SIGNING LEVELS:

There are 6 levels to choose from in this event. Beginners are recommended to start at Level 1 and move up through the levels as deemed appropriate by the student and coach. A new level, Level 1.5, has been added this year to help with the transition from Level 1 to Level 2.

****All Songs taken from "Songs of Faith and Praise" by Howard Publishing Co. - all verses****

- **Level 1:** Each participant will choose 1 song or 1 scripture from the following selections:
 - Come Into the Holy of Holies - #45
 - In His Presence - #99
 - Jeremiah 17:12
 - Hebrews 9:24
- **Level 1.5:** Each participant will choose 1 song AND 1 scripture from the level 1 list to sign at convention.
- **Level 2:** Each participant will learn ALL the following songs and scriptures. The judges will pick 1 song AND 1 scripture for the participant to sign.
 - Holy Ground - #100
 - My Faith Has Found A Resting Place - #582
 - Psalm 46:1-3
 - Psalm 23:4

- **Level 3:** Each participant will learn all the songs and scriptures in Signing Levels 1 and 2. Each participant will sign three items: a recorded 30-second introduction played before the song, then 1 song and 1 scripture as selected by the judges. The introduction will not be scored, but this will allow for the experience of interpreting unpracticed material without being penalized.

- SAMPLE INTRODUCTION:

“Good Morning and welcome to LTC Signing for the deaf. We are happy you are here and hope you are blessed by this event. I will now sign a song and a scripture from the Bible as directed by my judges”.

**THIS IS ONLY AN EXAMPLE! The actual introduction will be different at the LTC convention.

- **Level 4:** Each participant will interpret two items: a two-minute “Communion Thought” SIMILAR to the one included below, and one Level 2 song selected by the judges.

- SAMPLE COMMUNION THOUGHT:

“This is the time in our worship when we look back to the cross and what Jesus did for each of us there. We think of the way He suffered for our sins, the pain and agony that was caused by our thoughts and actions. We think of this bread, His body offered for us. As we eat this bread, let us remember that He died so that we might live. He suffered for our sins, so that we might not die a spiritual death. And as we drink from this cup, the cup containing the fruit of the vine, which represents His blood given for us, let us remember that His blood covers our sins and makes us clean and pure in God’s sight. Jesus died so that we would not have to be separated from God for eternity. But more importantly, Jesus rose so that we could live with Him forever. As we participate in this Lord’s Supper, let us think of all that means to us. By partaking of this feast, we remember Jesus’ death and its significance for us until He comes again to take us home to Heaven”

**THIS IS ONLY AN EXAMPLE! The actual communion thought will be different at the LTC convention.

- **Level 5:** Interpret a four-minute devotional thought on this year’s theme.