

SIGNING & INTERPRETING FOR THE DEAF

PURPOSE: To encourage students to develop the ability to interpret so that they can minister to and develop relationships with the hearing-impaired, as well as provide various services to the hearing-impaired to the glory of God and His church.

PROCESS:

Each participant will:

- Prepare for either signing OR interpreting, and does so for the appropriate experience level.
- Be certain that they are registered for this event no later than the registration deadline.
- Notify event coordinator at least 2 weeks before the convention if interpreting services are needed (if participant is hearing-impaired). This is in addition to the regular registration process. (The church coordinator can notify the event coordinator for this.)
- **NOTE:** It is very important that the participant is certain that critical information is sent to the event coordinator at least two weeks before the convention. See section on “Information Needed, In Addition to Normal Registration Process”.

The Church Coordinator will:

- Be certain to provide an adult volunteer to evaluate or help with this event, if possible. Send their name and phone number to the event coordinator no later than 3 weeks prior to the convention. Additional volunteers will be greatly appreciated.

The Event Coordinator will:

- Be certain that participants have been assigned to event rooms.
 - Provide the recordings to be used during the convention.
 - Provide adult volunteers to serve as “room emcee” for each event room. MWLTC organizers will assist you to determine how many emcees are needed.
 - Conduct an evaluators meeting before the event.
 - Report results and provide critique sheets to the Awards Committee.
 - Provide qualified evaluators for the Signing and Interpreting events
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GENERAL GUIDELINES:

Participant Eligibility

- Any registered student in grades 3-12 can participate in this event. Students will be evaluated according to their grade level.

Preparation

- A video of a person signing all the selections will be prepared and made available early in the year for students to use in their preparation and practice for this event. This video is intended for those students who do not have the opportunity to learn from an adult with signing experience. It will include instructions to help students understand the meaning behind the signs. The interpretations in the video will be valid for each selection, but are certainly not the only correct interpretations.
- Church coordinators will be notified via email and the MWLTC web site when this video is available.

General Guidelines

- *Signing OR Interpreting:* Students must choose to participate in either the Signing for the Deaf or Interpreting for the Deaf portion of the event. Different guidelines & rules are provided later in this document for each area.
- *Experience Levels:* Both the Signing and the Interpreting portions of this event have Beginning, Intermediate, and Advanced experience levels that a student can choose to participate in. Descriptions of those skill levels are provided later in this document.

Information Needed, In Addition to Normal Registration Process (at least 2 weeks prior)

- Each participating student and/or church coordinator is responsible for sending the following information to the event coordinator. This can be done with the web-based form for this event at www.mwltc.org.
 - a. *Student Information:* Name, grade level, home congregation
 - b. Is the student participating in Signing OR Interpreting?

- c. Is the student's experience level Beginning, Intermediate, or Advanced?
- d. Are interpreting services needed (if the participant is hearing-impaired)?

During the Event

- *Order of Performance:* A list will be posted outside the signing/interpreting room with the order in which each student will participate. If a participant's name is not on the list, please go to LTC Central or the event coordinator for resolution. All students must gather in front of their assigned performance room at least 10 minutes prior to their scheduled time. Each student will be called in at the appropriate time.
- *Participant Appearance:* A solid color blouse/shirt/dress contrasting with skin tone shall be worn during signing.
- *Participants Watching the Event:* A participant must not watch (will not be permitted in the room) with the other participants in the same event / level until he / she has completed his / her event.
- *Spectators:* Spectators may not enter or leave the room while a participant is signing or interpreting.

Disqualification

- A participant will be disqualified if another person gives any signs while he/she is signing.

Specific Guidelines for Signing for the Deaf

Experience Levels & Selections

NOTE: All songs are taken from *Songs of Faith & Praise*, copyright 1994, Howard Publishing Company. The songs should be signed according to the soprano lyrics. All scripture passages are from the NIV (1984).

- *Beginning Level:* Participant will sign one song or one scripture of their choice from list below:
 - a. Beginning Song List
 - i. #67 For the Body (vs 1,2)
 - ii. #731 Take Time to be Holy (Vs 1,3)
 - iii. #6 All Creatures (vs 1,4)
 - b. Beginning Verses
 - i. Genesis 1:1-2
 - ii. John 1:1-2
- *Intermediate Level:* Participant may choose to learn all of the songs and scriptures in either Group A **or** Group B. At convention, the participant will be asked which Group they are prepared to sign. The participant will be asked to sign any one song **or** any one scripture from the Group they selected.
 - a. **Group A** Songs & Scriptures
 - i. #100 Holy Ground (vs. 1,2)
 - ii. #991 This is My Father's World (vs 1,2)
 - iii. Genesis 1:1-4
 - b. **Group B** Songs & Scriptures
 - i. #71 As the Deer (vs. 1,2)
 - ii. #601 My God and I (Vs 1,2)
 - iii. John 1:1-4
- *Advanced Level:* Participant will learn all of the following songs and scriptures. At convention, the participant will be asked to sign any one song **and** any one scripture from the list below:
 - a. Advanced Song List
 - i. #76 How Great (vs 1,2)
 - ii. #755 God Be With You (vs 1,2)
 - iii. #992 Can You Count the Stars (vs 1,2)#113 His Grace Reaches Me (vs. 1, 2)
 - b. Advanced Verses
 - i. Genesis 1:1-5
 - ii. John 1:1-5

During the Event

- *The Selection:* The event coordinator will provide a recording of the selection at convention. (See previous section for list of selections and how they are chosen.) No other recordings may be used. No advance copies

of the recordings will be distributed. Words will not be provided. For intermediate and advanced signing, once the evaluator has chosen the selection, no changes will be made in the selection. Failure to sign the announced selection will result in a maximum of a Bronze award.

- *Version:* The participant must ensure the song and scripture selections that he/she signs match the versions indicated in the sections above. Failure to comply with this will reduce the maximum award to bronze.
- *Introduction:* The participant will fingerspell his/her name and sign the selection he/she will be signing. Intermediate and Advanced will fingerspell name and sign selection chosen by the evaluators.

Specific Guidelines for Interpreting for the Deaf

Experience Levels & Selections

- *Beginning Interpreting:* Each participant will interpret a short recorded LTC Announcement (approximately 2 minutes). Each student must know how to sign LTC events, dates, locations, days of the week, and numbers.
- *Intermediate Interpreting:* Each participant will interpret a two-minute talk (approximately). The sermon will be based on the book of Genesis.
- *Advanced Interpreting:* Participants will be assigned to interpret a speech given by a speech participant. Please note that this will occur during the Speech event and not during the Sign Language / Interpreting event.

During the Event

- *The Selection:* No advance copies of the material to be interpreted will be distributed. Words will not be provided. The participant interprets the material (announcement, sermon, or speech) as it is being spoken.

AWARDS:

Grade Level 3-6	Gold = 90 to 100	Silver = 80 to 89	Bronze = 70 to 79	Participant = 69 & less
Grade Level 7-12	Gold = 95 to 100	Silver = 85 to 94	Bronze = 75 to 84	Participant = 74 & less

EVALUATION CRITERIA:

For signing, see the “Signing for the Deaf” evaluation form for criteria and weighting.

For interpreting, see the “Interpreting for the Deaf” evaluation form for criteria and weighting.

Signing For the Deaf

Evaluation Form // Revised 2009-09-20

Instructions for Evaluators:

1. Place bar code label or write student info.
2. Assign score for each criteria & calculate total.
3. Write additional comments.

Place Label Here	Name:		Place Label Here	EVENT COORD:
	Grade:	Gender:		
	Cong:			FINAL AWARD

Finger-Spelling

Score: ____/10

- 9-10: Used correct letters/numbers & appropriate spacing • Mouthed words, not letters • Hand remained stable
8-9: Used correct letters/numbers & appropriate spacing • Mouthed words, not letters • Hand bounced some
7-8: Some incorrect letters/numbers or inappropriate spacing • Mouthed words, not letters • Hand bounced some
0-7: Some incorrect letters/numbers or inappropriate spacing • Mouthed letters • Hand bounced often

Preparation

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Used correct song(s) or scripture(s) for this year • Introduced self and selection • Appeared familiar with song and/or words • Signs flow with words
17-19: Used correct song(s) or scripture(s) • Introduced self and selection • Appeared familiar with song and/or words • Some signs didn't flow smoothly
15-17: Used correct song(s) or scripture(s) • Introduced self and selection • Appeared somewhat unfamiliar with song and/or words • Some signs didn't flow smoothly
0-15: May have used incorrect song or scripture • Needed to be reminded to introduce self and selection • Appeared somewhat unfamiliar with song and/or words • Sign flow was choppy

Movement

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Always used: • Correct movement of signs • Clear hand shapes • Correct palm orientation • Accurate location of signs • Clear transitions between signs
17-19: Usually used above list
15-17: Often used above list
0-15: Several unclear sign movements/hand shapes/transitions. Palm orientation/sign locations often incorrect.

Expression

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Excellent facial expression and body language used throughout
17-19: Appropriate facial expression and body language used most of the time
15-17: Minimal amount of facial expression and body language used
0-15: Lacked or used inappropriate facial expression and body language

Confidence

Score: ____/10

- 9-10: Comfortable enough to make eye contact throughout • Appears to be relaxed and having fun
8-9: Made eye contact most of the time • Appears less relaxed but still having fun
7-8: Made eye contact some of the time • Somewhat nervous but still appears to be having fun
0-7: Very little or no eye contact • Appeared very nervous • May have stopped after making a mistake

Understandability

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Used correct concepts/meanings throughout • Always used appropriate placement/directional signs • Clear interpretation
17-19: Usually used correct concepts/meanings • Usually used appropriate placement/directional signs • Clear interpretation
15-17: Did not use correct concepts/meanings • Used appropriate placement/directional signs some of the time • Somewhat clear interpretation
0-15: Did not use correct concepts/meanings • Did not use appropriate placement/directional signs • Interpretation was unclear

PENALTIES (check any that apply):

___ Deduct 5 points if not wearing a solid color shirt contrasting with their skin tone.

Total Score: ____

3rd-6th grd: 0-69; 70-79; 80-89; 90-100
7th-12th grd: 0-74; 75-84; 85-94; 95-100

Evaluator's Comments:

Interpreting For the Deaf

Evaluation Form // Revised 2009-09-20

Instructions for Evaluators:

1. Place bar code label or write student info.
2. Assign score for each criteria & calculate total.
3. Write additional comments.

Place Label Here	Name:		Place Label Here	EVENT COORD:
	Grade:	Gender:		
	Cong:			FINAL AWARD

Vocabulary

Score: ____/10

- 9-10: Always used correct vocabulary. • Finger-spelling always very clear. • Able to substitute synonyms
8-9: Usually used correct vocabulary. • Finger-spelling usually clear. • Able to substitute some synonyms.
7-8: Usually used correct vocabulary. • Finger-spelling somewhat unclear. • Able to substitute some synonyms.
0-7: Did not use correct vocabulary. • Finger-spelling somewhat unclear. • Rarely able to substitute synonyms.

Process / Preparation

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Maintained appropriate lag time throughout • Used negation appropriately • Clearly prepared for this event
17-19: Usually maintained appropriate lag time • Used negation appropriately • Generally prepared for this event
15-17: Maintained appropriate lag time part of the time • Used some negation appropriately • Less prepared for this event
0-15: Too much lag time • Used some negation • Unprepared for this event

Sign Clarity

Score: ____/15

- 14-15: Always used: • Stable position of hand • Clear transitions between signs • Clear interpretations
13-14: Usually used: • Stable position of hand • Clear transitions between signs • Clear interpretations
11-13: Often used: • Stable position of hand • Clear transitions between signs • Clear interpretations
0-11: The position of hand, transition between signs, and the overall interpretation was often unclear.

Movement

Score: ____/10

- 9-10: Always used: • Correct movement of signs • Clear hand shapes • Correct palm orientation • Accurate location
8-9: Usually used: • Correct movement of signs • Clear hand shapes • Correct palm orientation • Accurate location
7-8: Often used: • Correct movement of signs • Clear hand shapes • Correct palm orientation • Accurate location
0-7: The sign movement and hand shapes were often unclear. • Incorrect palm orientation and location of signs.

Expression

Score: ____/10

- 9-10: Excellent facial expression and body language used throughout
8-9: Appropriate facial expression and body language used most of the time
7-8: Minimal amount of facial expression and body language used
0-7: Lacked or used inappropriate facial expression and body language

Confidence

Score: ____/15

- 14-15: Comfortable enough to make eye contact throughout • Appears to be relaxed and having fun
13-14: Made eye contact most of the time • Appears less relaxed but still having fun
11-13: Made eye contact some of the time • Somewhat nervous but still appears to be having fun
0-11: Very little or no eye contact • Appeared very nervous • May have stopped after making a mistake

Understandability

Score: ____/20

- 19-20: Used correct concepts/meanings throughout. • Always used appropriate placement/directional signs.
17-19: Used correct concepts/meanings most of the time. • Usually used appropriate placement/directional signs.
15-17: Did not use correct concepts/meanings. • Used appropriate placement/directional signs some of the time.
0-15: Did not use correct concepts/meanings. • Did not use appropriate placement/ directional signs.

PENALTIES (check any that apply):

___ Deduct 5 points if not wearing a solid color shirt contrasting with their skin tone.

Total Score: _____

3rd-6th grd: 0-69; 70-79; 80-89; 90-100
7th-12th grd: 0-74; 75-84; 85-94; 95-100

Evaluator's Comments: