

Celebration 15

OVER the past 15 years,

the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) has become a symbol of hope for the thousands of persons who have studied, worked at, visited, or attended other events grown through its presence on the campus of Rochester Institute of Technology.

As a result of NTID, many deaf individuals have found themselves more fully a part of the nation's economic, political, social, and cultural life. It is a transformation that is benefiting a society as a whole, as well as to those who have and continue to interact with NTID.

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OVER the past 15 years,
*the National Technical Institute for the Deaf (NTID) has
become a special place for the thousands of persons who
have studied, worked at, visited, or, in many other ways,
grown through its presence on the campus of Rochester
Institute of Technology.*

*As a result of NTID, many deaf individuals now find
themselves more fully a part of the nation's economic,
political, social, and cultural fabrics. It is a
transformation that is benefiting to society in general,
as well as to those who have had personal contact
with NTID.*

This is a success story built on a spirit of commitment and caring. NTID has never swayed from its original commitment to opening new technical and professional career avenues for qualified deaf persons. Yet, just as important is that infectious NTID spirit of caring that prompts so many of them to reach beyond the comfortable and commonplace.

The following is a potpourri of images reflecting this special spirit that typifies NTID's 15 years. These images pay tribute to the people, places, and events that comprise the rich NTID tradition, and at the same time, serve as a reaffirmation of that spirit in the coming years.

October 1983

BECAUSE it heard the silence of the heart

Its destiny was daring from the start:

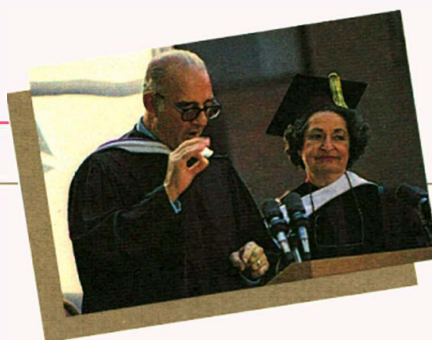
Beginning with a searching eye whose gleam

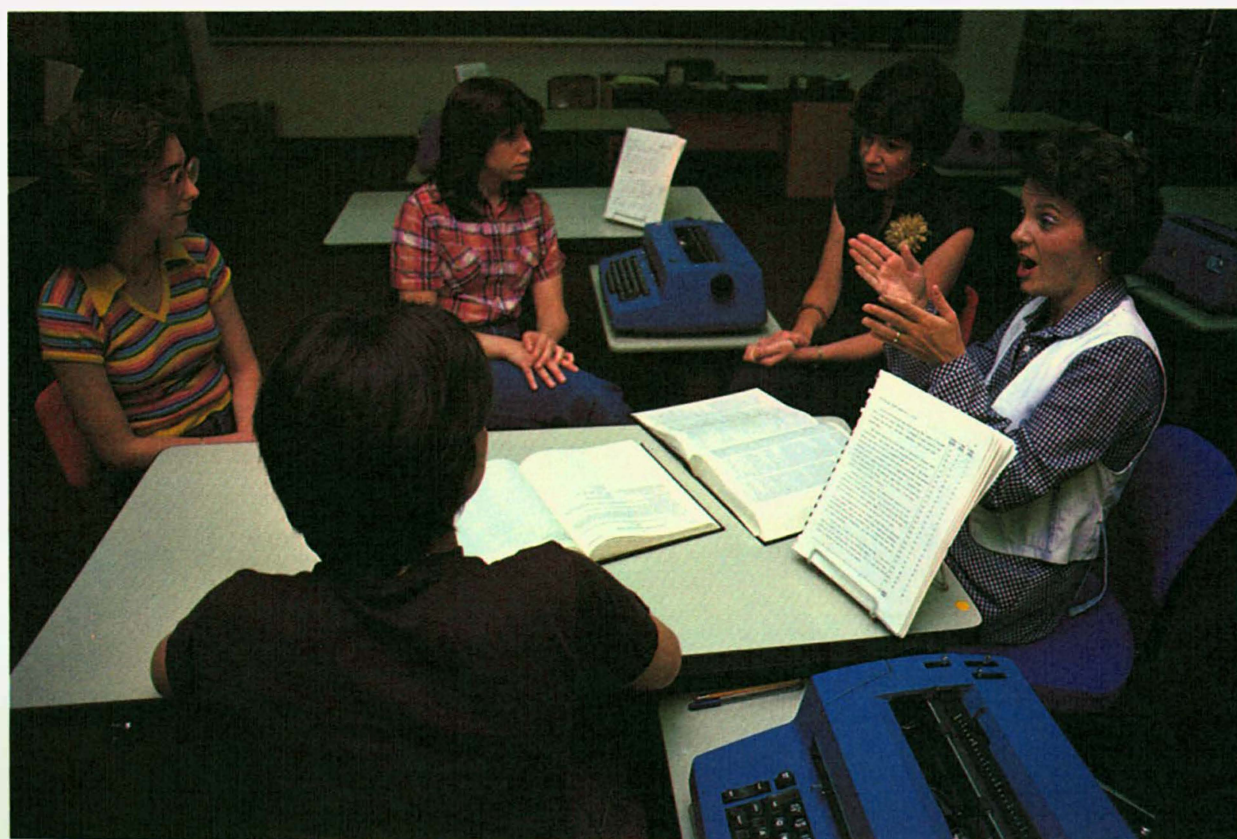
Envisioned newer worlds for his kind,

It gathered to a great crusading cause

Whose faithful followers held high the torch

For fiat lux and all the world to see.





NTID! Its time and tide had come
To integrate the hearing and the deaf
In kindred studies on a common campus,
Each learning from the other an awareness
Of human needs, of unfulfilled desires,
Of breaching the divisive wall of silence
And bridging the communication gap.





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AND theirs became the challenge and the charge
To mingle with the mainstream and to master
Their little fears and hang-ups and prejudices—
Not to belittle but be big of heart.
And from the experience in their vestibule,
Where stand the many ports of destiny,
Embark upon their chosen Odyssey.





MEANING so many things to these our people,
Today we pledge to dedicate anew
The dreamers and the dream they kept alive,
The spirit and the spur of "New Frontiers,"
The promise of "The Great Society"—
Our *open sesame* at RIT!

—Robert F. Panara





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