
RIT/NTID Deaf Studies Archive

3rd floor, 3660

Joan Naturale, NTID Librarian
[Becky Simmons](#) and [Jody Sidlauskas](#), RIT Archivists



The Wallace Center

INTRODUCTION

- **NTID History**
- Deaf Organizations
- **Education**
- Theater and Film
- **Visual Arts**
- Poetry and Literature
- **Technology**
- Periodicals
- **Deaf and Holocaust**
- For More Information



NTID HISTORY

- Founding of NTID
- NTID Groundbreaking
- NTID Community
- NTID Alumni





NTID Dedication





DEAF ORGANIZATIONS

- [Deaf Women of Rochester](#)
- Empire State Association of the Deaf
- Rochester TTY Organization
- [National Fraternal Society of the Deaf](#)



Empire State Association of the Deaf

1936 33rd Convention. -1-
 Official Proceedings of the
 Reorganization Convention of the
 Empire State Association of Deaf Mutes.




The convention held its opening session
 Friday morning, Aug. 21, in the ball room
 of Hotel Arlington, in Binghamton.
 President Annie S. Washbrook called the
 Convention to order at 9 a.m.
 The office of the Secretary being vacant, Mrs.
 John H. Shamos, of Utica, was appointed to
 serve as Sec'y pro tem.

Mrs. Alice Kennedy, of Columbus, Ohio, was asked
 to serve as interpreter.

Rev. Herbert C. Merrill gave the invocation.
 C. Adair Harrell, City manager, representing
 The Mayor, gave the welcoming address.
 Kenneth Johnson, manager of The Chamber of
 Commerce, then addressed the members
 and their guests.

Dr. Thomas F. Fox, of N.Y. City made the
 response to the welcoming speeches.

Victor O. Skyberg, Superintendent of The New York
 School for the Deaf, in N.Y. City, who was a special

Empire State Association of the Deaf

Celebrating the 150 years of Advocacy and Rights
 of Deaf People and Many More Years to Come!

October 1-4, 2015

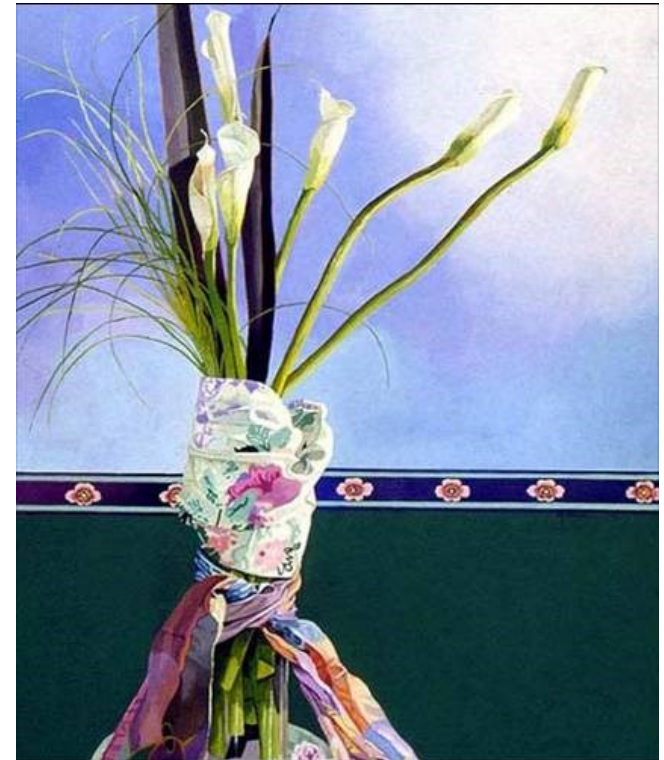
Embassy Suite Hotel Syracuse
 6646 Old Collamer Road South
 East Syracuse, NY 13057

- 2015 ESAD Conference Schedule -	
<p>Thursday, October 1st 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM - Board Meeting</p> <p>Friday, October 2nd 9:00 AM - 10:15 AM - Workshop #1 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM - Town Hall #1 1:30 PM - 4:30 PM - General Meeting #1 3:30 AM - 5:00 PM - Workshop #2</p> <p>Saturday, October 3rd 8:30 AM - 9:45 AM - Workshop #3 10:00 AM - 11:30 PM - Town Hall #2 1:00 PM - 4:30 PM - General Meeting #2 & Election 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM - 150th Anniversary Banquet</p> <p>Sunday, October 4th 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM - New Board Meeting</p>	<p>The Empire State Association of the Deaf (ESAD) is the oldest State Association founded in Mexico, NY by the graduates and former pupils of the New York Institute for the Deaf in 1865. ESAD is an affiliate member of National Association of the Deaf since 1941. ESAD is pleased to celebrate 150 years of advocacy services for deaf people in New York State.</p> <p>Early-bird Combo (Workshops, Meetings, Membership, & Banquet) \$65 (Deadline: September 1st)</p> <p>Late-bird Combo (Workshops, Meetings, Membership, & Banquet) \$70 (Deadline: September 25th)</p> <p>Banquet Only \$45 (Deadline: September 25th, No exceptions)</p> <p>Workshops, Meetings and Membership for both days \$25* (Deadline: September 25th, \$30 at door)</p> <p>Conference Application can be found at: www.esad.org Mail your checks to this address below: Empire State Association of the Deaf PO Box 1241, Tonawanda, NY 14151</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">- 2015 Reorganization -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">GROUP CODE: ESA</p> <p style="text-align: center;">For reservations contact at 315-446-3200</p> <p style="text-align: center;">http://embassysuite.hilton.com/en/es/groups/personalized/15SY/15SYDNE-ESA-20151001/index.html?WT.mc_id=POG</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">For more information: - 2015 Conference Committee -</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Donna Wine, Chair at slame@cat122655@aol.com</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Elaine Coleman Margie Lundy</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Additional information about the Conference itself will be shared soon!</p>



EDUCATION

- Ahira Webster Diary-1859
- L'Epee and Deaf Mutes Banquets
- Tripod School and Films



Ahira Webster Diary

- The **Ahira Webster** papers includes a diary from 1849-50, with daily entries describing **Webster's** life at the New York Institute for the Deaf and news of events and people in the United States during this period, particularly about events preceding the American Civil War.

Also included is a brief biography of **Ahira George Webster**, a June 15, 1899 issue of Deaf-Mutes Journal, the 1849 Annual Report and Documents of the New-York Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb, and a photocopied portrait of **Webster**.





Monday, March 5th ¹⁸⁴⁹ This was the first day
of Mr Gallaudet's week of supervision but Mr Lewis Peet
executed the office this week. To day Mr Gallaudet could
not officiate in the chapel, and he had to ask Mr
L. Peet to exchange weeks with him. He had been
sick and now was better. He came here and taught
his class.


We heard that General Taylor began to enter upon the
duties of the office to succeed Mr Polk, the Ex. President
of the United States. Mr Fillmore who is the
new vice president, was inaugurated at Washington.
I like Gen Taylor better than poor Mr Polk. We
rejoiced with great joy an account of the new presid-
ency. I thought that most of the people in America
kicked the poor President away from his office.

Tuesday March 6th In the morning when school
began, my teacher told us the news about the president
contained in the newspapers. Yesterday the city of Washing-
ton was full of people. It is said that their number
consisted of about ten thousand persons. At twelve
o'clock the old Vice President accompanied Mr

Saturday May 26th We had not
in school long before we were
called to go in the chapel to hold
an exhibition before a large
school of young ladies under
the care of Miss Haines a well
known and popular teacher.
They all seemed much pleased.
Miss Haines asked us several ques-
tions which we answered in
writing. At intervals while ~~we~~
were writing on the slates, Master
Triscall made signs and amused
them very much. At the conclusion
of our exercises Miss Haines
requested our teacher to tell
us that she had been very much
gratified with what we had done.
In the afternoon a colored
woman from Hayti named
Mrs Gaines came here with her




L'Épée Medal and Deaf Mutes Banquet




Tricentenaire de la naissance de l'Abbé de l'Épée

Bon de commande

Médaille commémorative frappée par la Monnaie de Paris réalisée par Renée Mayot diamètre : 63mm, bronze Florentin.



 FNSF - 41 rue Joseph Python - 75020 Paris
mail tricentenaire : info300ans@fnsf.org
www.fnsf.org/300ans



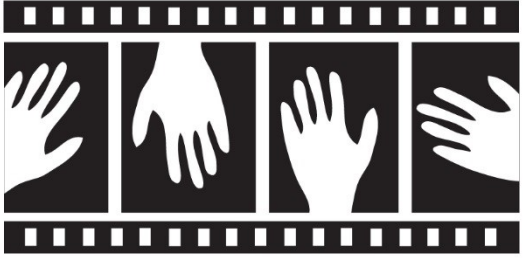
Deaf Mutes Banquet



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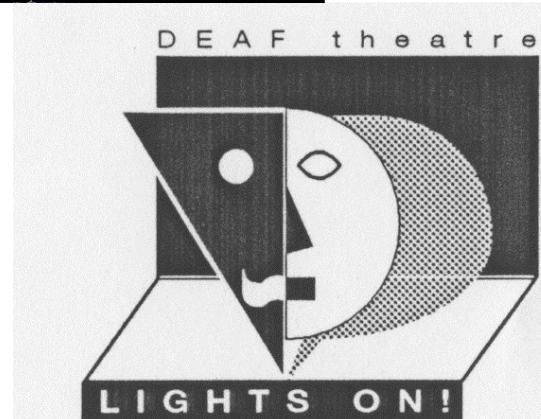
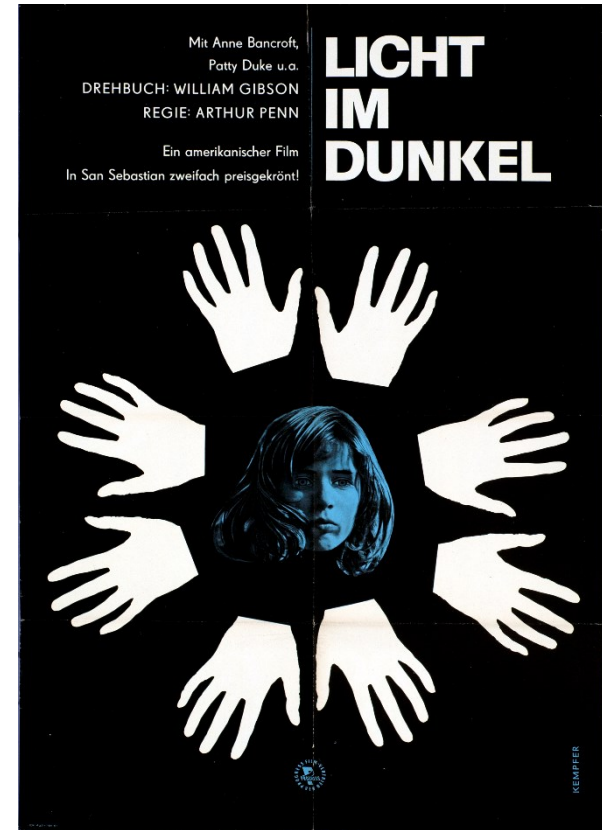
DEAF ROCHESTER



FILM FESTIVAL

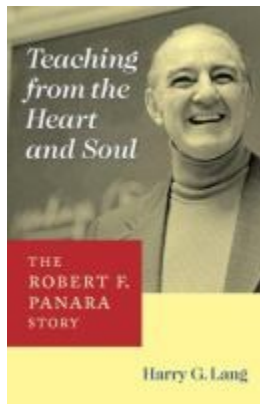
THEATRE AND FILM

- [Robert Panara's Collections](#)
- Newby Ely's Deaf Film Collection
- [Bernard Bragg's Collection](#)
- [NTID Drama Club](#)
- [NTID Performing Arts](#)
- [Lights On! Rochester Deaf Theatre](#)
- [National Theater of the Deaf](#)
- [Australian Theater of the Deaf](#)
- [Deaf Rochester Film Fests](#)



Robert F. Panara

Have his Gallaudet undergraduate papers, many photos, his involvement with The Advisory Board for NTID, the Drama Club, NTD, and more. Look at [Harry Lang's collection on Robert Panara](#) as he wrote a book about him.



The Silent Stage

Drama Nite
 Place: Ingle Auditorium
 R.I.T.
 Date: May 29, 1970
 Time: 8:00 p.m.
 Admission:
 .75 advance ticket sale
 \$1.00 at door

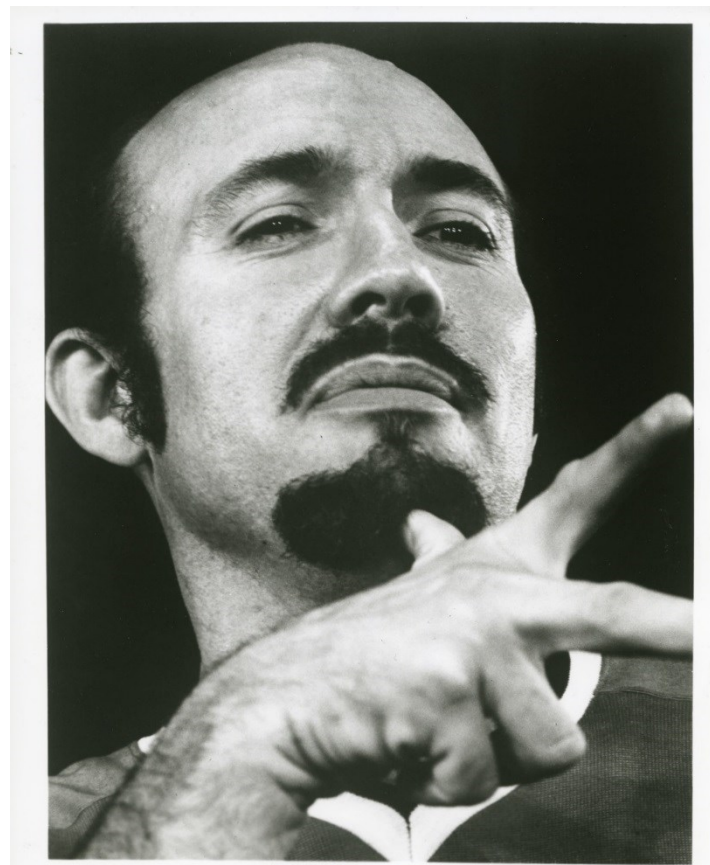
Presented by NITED Drama Club



DEAF LIFE

TEACHER ...
 AUTHOR ...
 PERFORMER ...

A TRIBUTE TO
BOB PANARA



WILLIAM HURT MARLEE MATLIN

She is the most mysterious, independent, beautiful, angry person he has ever met. He is the first man who has ever gotten close enough to love her.

Children of a Lesser God

Opens October 30th at a Theatre Near You.

Shame came out of the shadows and changed a young girl's life!

WARNER BROS. presents
"Johnny Belinda"

JANE WYMAN · LEW AYRES

CHARLES BICKFORD AGNES MOOREHEAD · STEPHEN MCNALLY
 Directed by JEAN NEGULESCO · Produced by JERRY WALD

a mighty motion picture experience... touch it... sense it... feel it...
 you can't forget it!

the miracle worker

STARRING
Anne Bancroft
Patty Duke **Victor Jory** **Andrew Pine** **Inez Swenson** **Kathleen Conroy**

WILLIAM GIBSON based upon his stage play **Arthur Penn** **Fred Coe**



DEAF PLAYERS' GUIDE 1982-1983



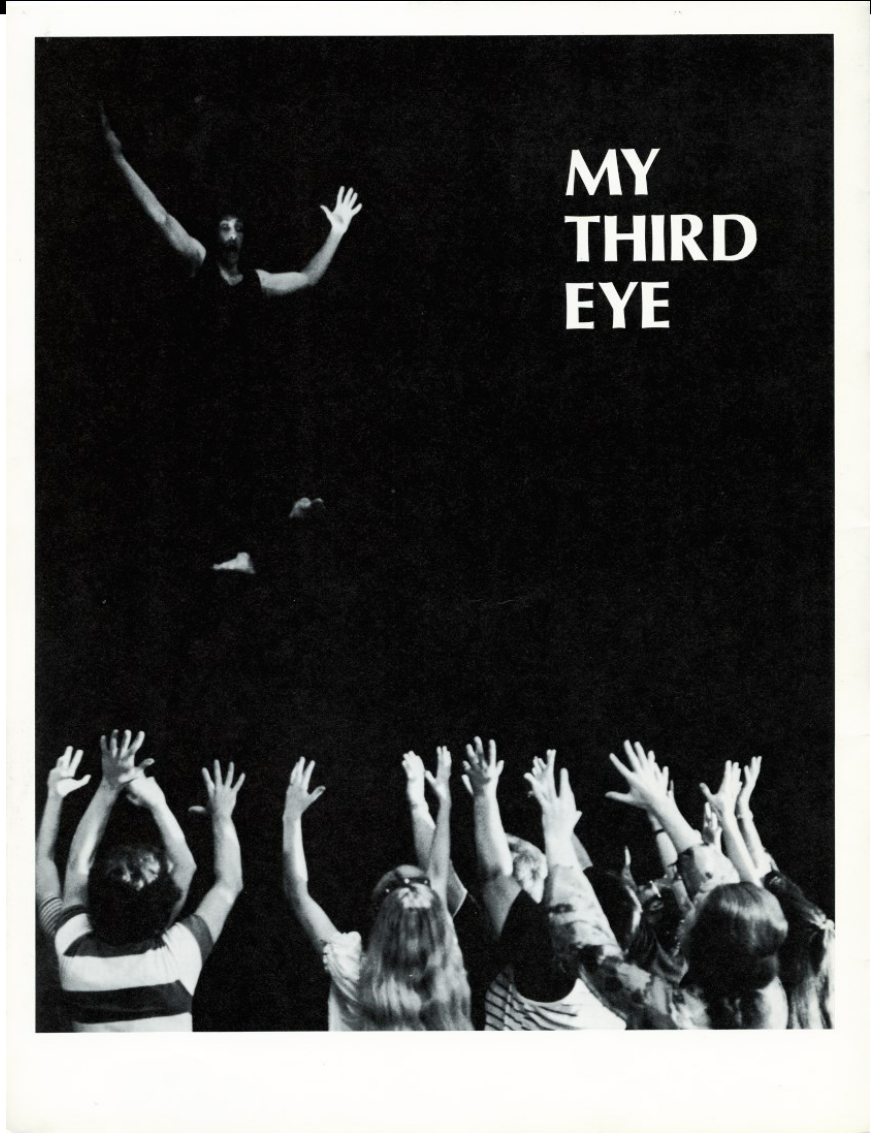
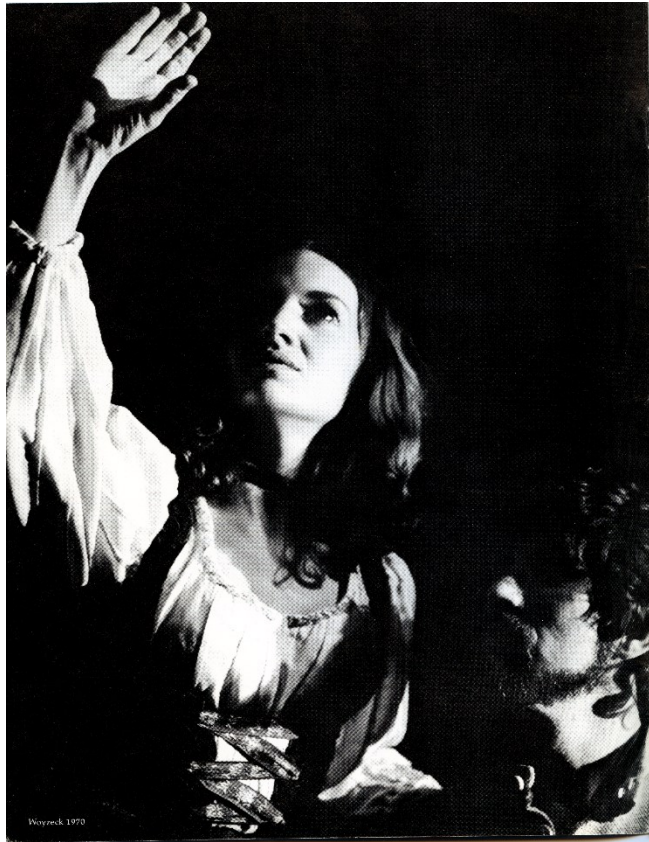
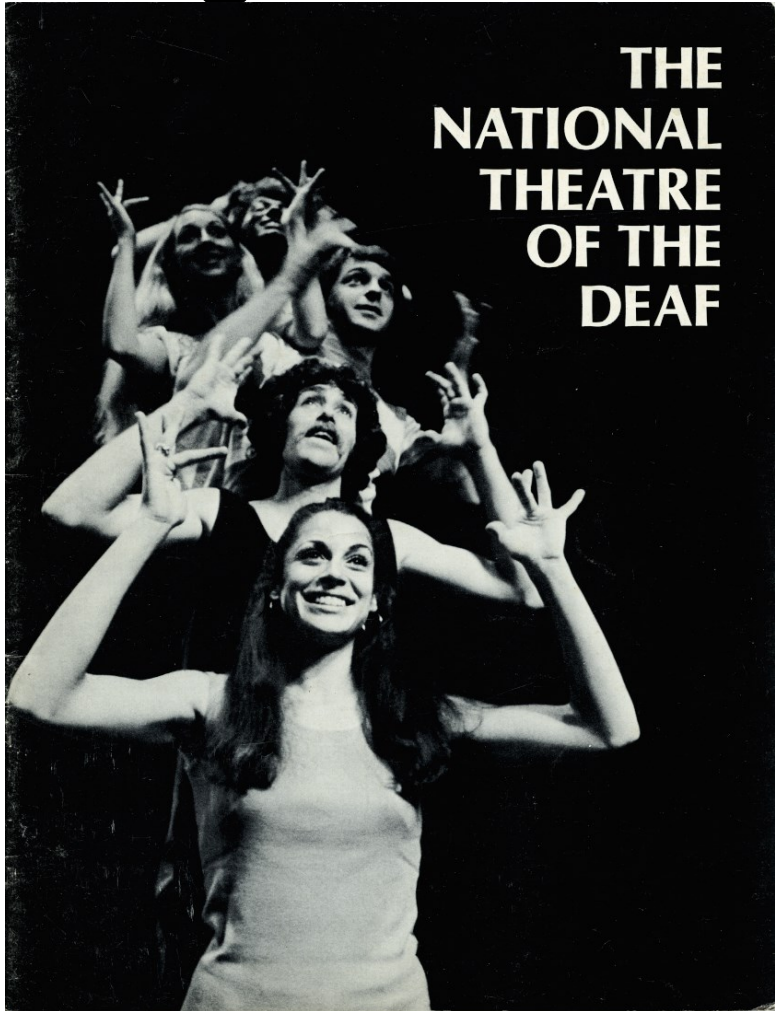
A nationwide directory of talented deaf performers
for Stage, Screen and Television

Published by
The National Theatre of the Deaf

Third Edition

The Wallace Center
at R-I-T





The Wallace Center
at R-I-T



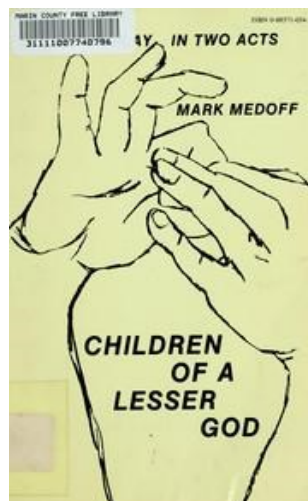
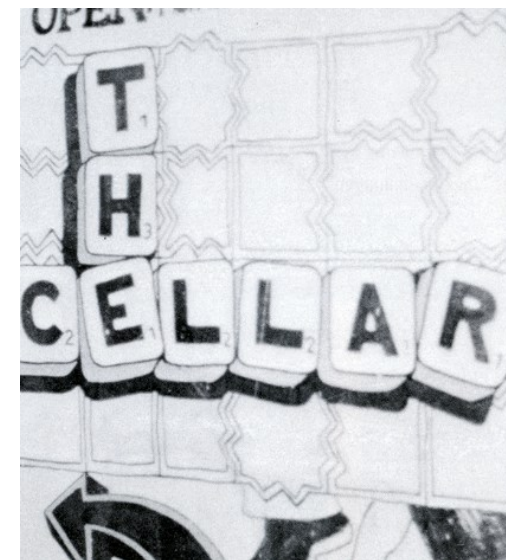


SIGN POETRY AND LITERATURE

[Lerner's ASL Poetry Collection](#)

[Robert Panara Video Collection](#)

[Robert Panara Deaf Literature Collection](#)



DEAF WRITERS

POETRY

It is generally agreed that Poetry is the oldest of all literary genres and the first to be given expression in writing. Almost the same can be said of the literary achievement of deaf people inasmuch as the first writers on record who produced works of genuine merit were the French poets, Pierre Ronsard and Joachim du Bellay.

If Italy was the cradle of the sonnet form during the Renaissance, it was France that gave birth to the first deaf poet to carry on this tradition and influence future sonneteers. This was Pierre de Ronsard (1522-1585) who was aptly named "The Prince of Poets" by his literary peers and admirers, among them the three kings of France whom he served and their enemy royalties--Mary Queen of Scots and Queen Elizabeth I of England.

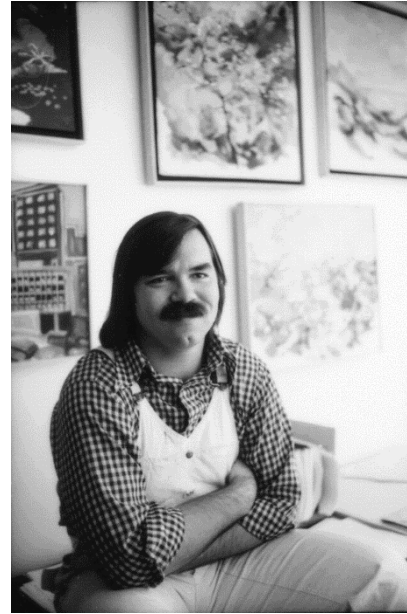
Ironically, it first appeared that Ronsard was destined for a life of political action because of his birth and breeding, his good looks and personality. A serious illness at the age of 16, however, caused severe deafness for several years and then left him hard of hearing for the rest of his life. It forced him

We have Robert Panara's papers from his Gallaudet days, his MA thesis, and we think we have his dissertation work from Catholic University



DEAF VISUAL ARTS

- Deaf Artists from the NTID Community
- International Deaf Artists
- National Deaf Artists
- Famous Deaf Artists





International Archive of Deaf Artists



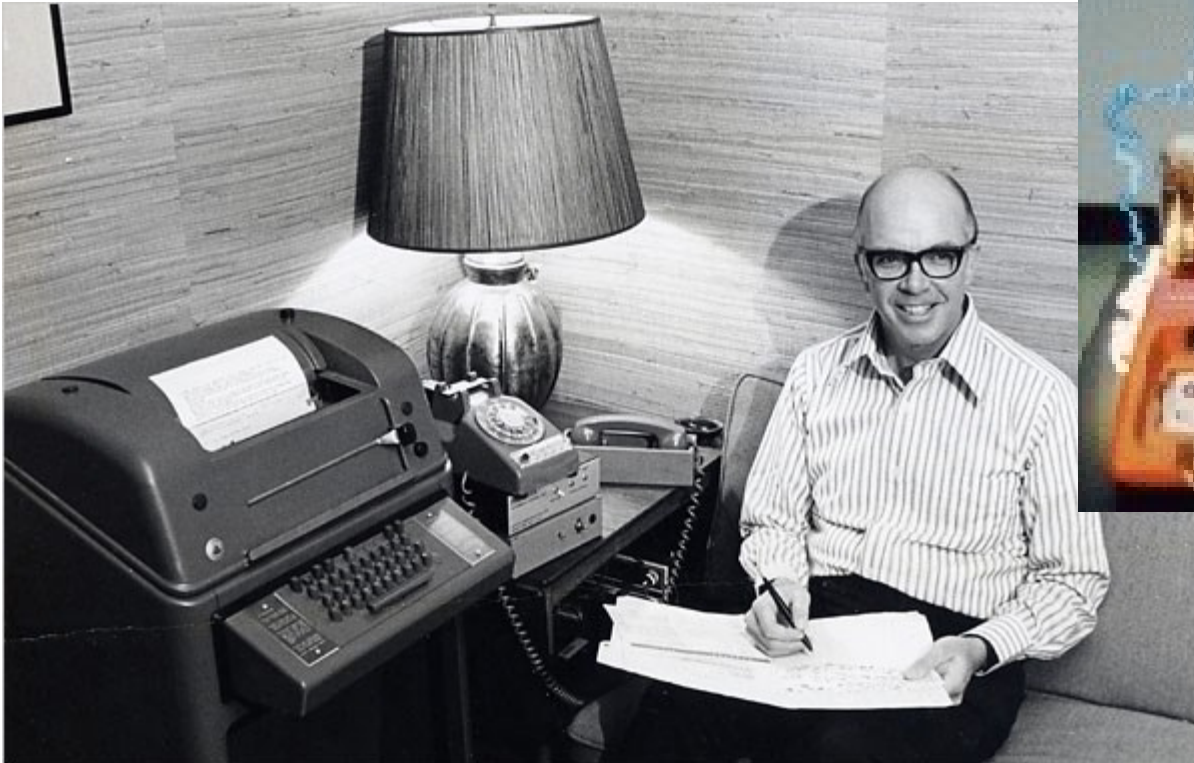
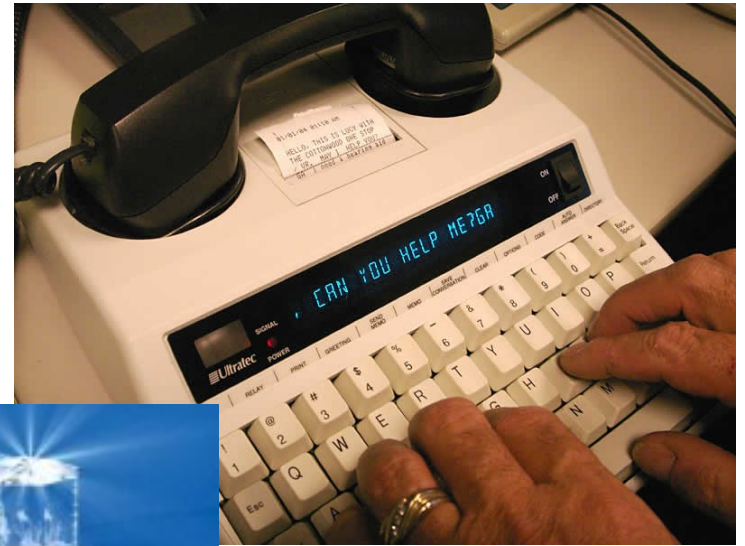


The Wallace Center
at R-I-T





TECHNOLOGY





**Vista phone: 1ST Videophone!
Stromberg-Carlson company
in Rochester—used a TV and
phone lines to create a
videophone in the late 1960s**



VISTAPHONE AT NTID

- Communication limited to VISTAPHONE users
- NTID had 29 of these VISTAPHONES
- Phased out in the early 1970s....too expensive
- Samuel Holcomb retrieved two of the VISTAPHONES
- We have articles about this VISTAPHONE

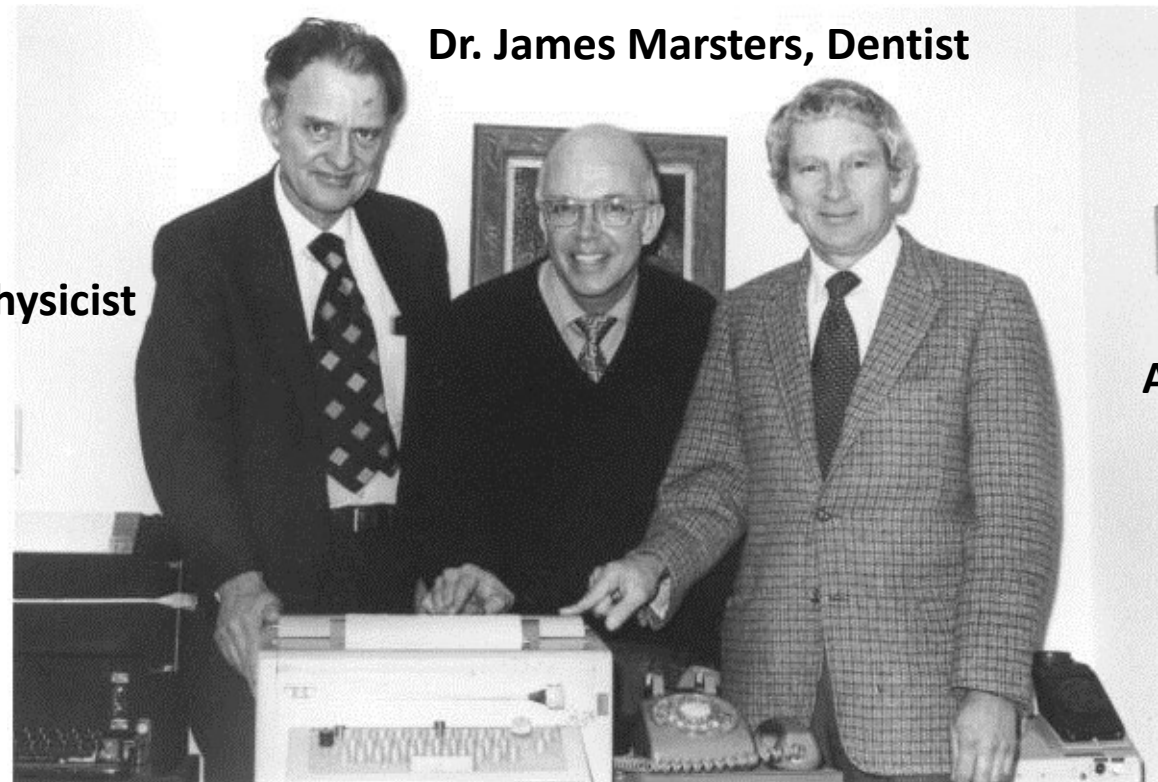


DR HARRY LANG AND FIRST TTY MODEM

Dr. Robert Weitbrecht and James C. Marsters



TTY MODEM: THREE DEAF MEN



Robert Weitbrecht, Physicist

Dr. James Marsters, Dentist

Andrew Saks, Engineer

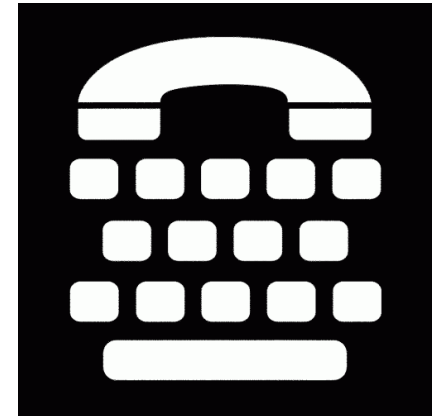




Paul and Sally Taylor
1st TTY Prototype in
St. Louis. Involved with
TTY repairs, relay service,
and donated materials
Related to TTY history.

LEE BRODY TTY COLLECTION

- Collection of TTY equipment, business records, posters, and awards relating to telecommunications pioneer Lee Brody. TTY phones allow the deaf to use the phone to communicate.
- He started a non-profit company called Phone-TTY. He sought out donations of teletypewriters, which he would refurbish with modems.
- He developed the world's first Braille TTY used by the Deaf Blind to communicate by phone.
- His company also designed assistive devices, including doorbell and phone ringing light signalers and wake up devices.



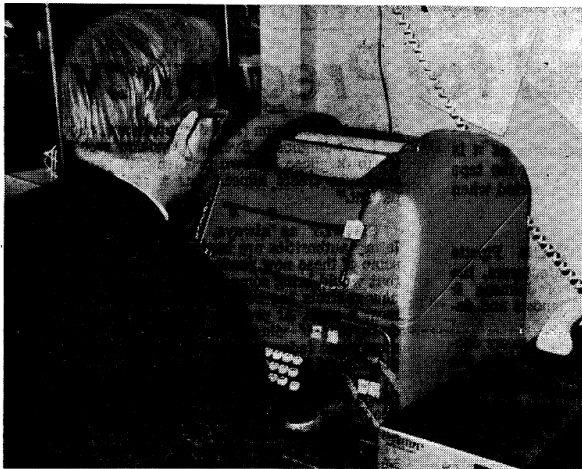
Telephone
Typewriter
(TTY)



LEE BRODY COLLECTION

- The collection includes records of Phone TTY and vibrator signaler used with the Helen Keller Tactile Communicator
- Correspondence with utilities and patents
- Various models of TTY couplers
- Pocket TTY
- Company records include correspondence, invoices, logo artwork, and advertisements
- There is a Braille tape from the Braille TTY





TELETYPEWRITER helps the Rev. Roger Pickering "talk" with others. Telephone-like instrument, a coupler-converter, is part of communications system designed for deaf.

The Deaf Listen With Their Eyes

The Phone Call Rings With a Flashing Light

By **STEPHANIE GEORGE**

WHEN the Rev. Roger Pickering gets a phone call, he doesn't pick up the receiver and start to talk. He takes the receiver off the hook, sits down at a teletypewriter, reads the message and types his reply.

He is one of the growing number of deaf persons who are part of a communications system designed specifically for them.

Mr. Pickering, vicar of All Souls Church for the Deaf, 19 S. 10th which is a mission at St. Stephen's Church, explained how the system works.

Teletypewriters or teletypes, the machines found in the stock market, brokerage houses and newspaper newsrooms, are used. Functioning on an ordinary telephone wire, a teletypewriter is connected with a highly sound sensitive

telephone instrument, a coupler converter.

Messages sent on through the typewriter keyboard of the teletypewriter are picked up as high frequency electrical impulses by the converter, which changes these electrical signals into sounds, enabling them to travel over ordinary phone lines.

At the other station, as a teletypewriter-converter system is called, a flashing light signals the "called" party that there is a message for him. He goes to his teletypewriter, reads the message and types his reply.

THIS system was developed by a deaf engineer Robert Weithrecht in 1964 for easy communication among deaf people. It was first used in the Philadelphia area in the fall of 1970.

Mr. Pickering said that it

enables the deaf to be more self-sufficient without having to get a neighbor to telephone someone for them, or having to drive great distances to communicate with a friend.

The vicar, president of a non-profit organization, the Delaware Valley Tele-Communications for the Deaf, DVTCD, has two teletypewriter stations in his home and one at All Souls' offices.

DELAWARE Valley Tele-Communications for the Deaf was begun in fall 1970 by Mr. Pickering, the current president.

DVTCD's purpose, according to its by-laws, is to furnish teletype machines for the deaf to communicate, provide for their servicing, familiarize deaf and hearing people with teletypewriters and to have established, "public teletypewriters at pertinent locations such as the Bell Telephone Co.; police stations; airport; bus depots — and



CAPTION DECODERS



Deaf Mutes Win Spurs On Production Front

Toledo—A "silent army" of 60 deaf mutes have joined the battle of production here.

They're helping Willys-Overland turn out jeeps, shells, and other war weapons, thus releasing physically fit men for the armed services. These workers assemble jeep parts, operate lathes, inspect bullet cores and perform a varied number of other war jobs in a manner which has won high praise from company production experts.

"We find," Joseph W. Frazer, president, explained, "that physically handicapped men make splendid production soldiers."

PERIODICALS



ASL ranch proposed to meet needs of convent

Eye Festival project would provide total accessibility for conferences, tournaments, camping and retreats

By Diane Plassey Gutierrez

LOS ANGELES - The concept of a year-round conference and training center that is accessible to all deaf people sited just outside Los Angeles was announced at the November, 1994 ASL Festival held in Pomona, California. Fund raising with a long-term goal of \$2 million to purchase the site began this year by the Eye Festival Training Center, Inc. A non-profit corporation founded in 1988, it was responsible for organizing the

largest Deaf exposition in the country, the ASL Festival. At this festival, EFTC outlined the features the ASL Ranch concept. This would house deaf conferences, conventions, tournaments, camping, retreats and training sessions. The design is to be barrier-free and totally visually accessible for all attendees. It will contain indoor and outdoor text messaging and telecommunications devices, situated in a semi-rural area accessible by freeway in Southern California. As a permanent facility, it would also welcome participation by hearing people. Presently, organizations of the deaf hold conventions in existing hotel and convention facilities. Although the Americans with Disabilities Act requires them to provide accommodations for the hearing

impaired, it only require or facilities be equipped deaf attendees at large camps without these devices. Thus, a separate facility aim of total accessibility. The late Rick Rogers, at Eye Festival, was instrumental in developing the ASL Ranch. Donations are being accepted. Funds are being deposited in a separate account for the ASL Ranch project. For further information contact: 4717 Laurel Canyon Blvd., Wood, CA 91607-3944.

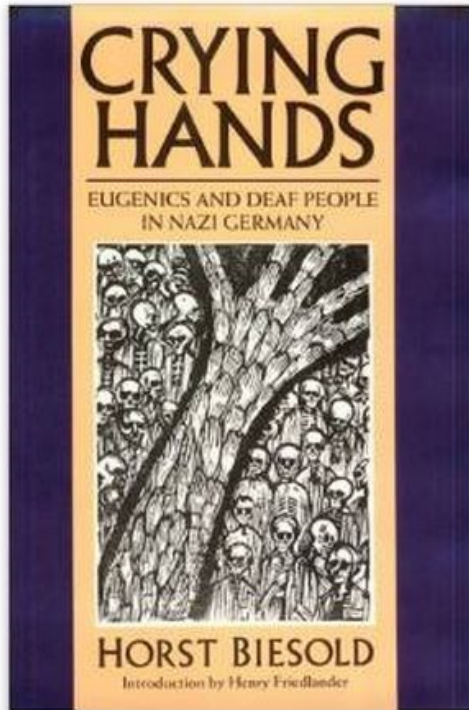


DEAF HOLOCAUST AND WW II

[Patti Durr Collection](#)

[Newby Ely Collection](#)

Includes video interviews
documents and related materials



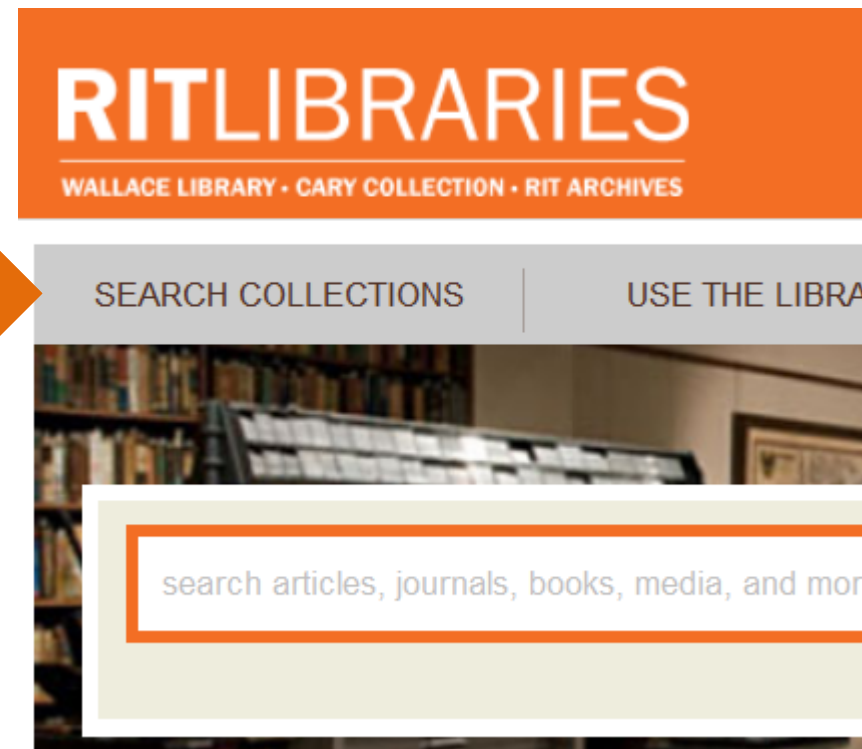
Deaf Japanese Students Rejected by Oregon

There were a dozen or more deaf Japanese youths in Oregon who were taken to relocation centers along with other Japs. These young people had never attended the State school at Salem. After being moved to their new homes, they suddenly wanted to attend the Salem School. Their request was denied by the board of control. Superintendent Marvin Clatterbuck was opposed to admitting these students, but sympathically suggested the government provide classes for them within the relocation centers.



FOR MORE INFORMATION

Go to <http://library.rit.edu>.
Click on Search Collections.



Click on RIT Archives

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Discover credible, reliable library content through a single search

RIT Archives

Explore RIT's rich history and special collections such as the RIT Art Collection and Deaf Studies Archive



Finding Aids and Collections

If you want a general idea of what is in the Deaf Studies Archive, click on Collections. If you want to browse specific collections, click on Finding Aids. We collect documents, objects, artwork, clothing, newspapers, scripts, videos, and other related materials.



Finding Aids

R·I·T ARCHIVE COLLECTIONS

Search Our Finding Aids

IN All Collections

Search Browse All Search Tips

Finding aids provide detailed descriptions of archival collections and background information on the history and creators of the materials.

Collections contain a variety of items including letters, reports, memorandums, photographs, drawings, printed material, diaries and objects.

Finding aids are available in the following collections:

- **RIT Archives** (of or relating to the history or culture of RIT)
- **RIT Art Collection** (artwork by faculty, alumni and others)
- **RIT/NTID Deaf Studies Archives** (of or relating to the history and culture of NTID and Deaf community members worldwide)
- **RIT Special Collections** (important collections not related to RIT)

You can click on Browse All to find the Deaf Studies Archive collections or if you know what you are searching for. Type in your keywords in the search box.



Finding Aids

▼ Collection
RIT Archives (541)
RIT/NTID Deaf Studies Archives (84)
RIT Art Collection (82)
RIT/NTID Deaf Studies Archive (20)
(10)
RIT Special Collections (7)
RIT Deaf Studies Archive (3)
RIT Art Collections (2)
David Bloch lithograph (1)
David Call linocut (1)
Michael Jolliffe oil pastels (1)
RIT /NTID Deaf Studies Archives (1)
RIT Archive Collections (1)
RIT Art Colleciton (1)
RIT Art collection (1)
RIT Deaf Studies Archives (1)
RIT/NTID Archives (1)
RITArchives (1)
Rit Archives (1)

You will see this in the left hand column. Click on RIT/NTID Deaf Studies Archives to get an idea of what we have. Note that not all collections have finding aids yet. Note that there are several Deaf Studies Archive links.



Some Collection Examples

People

- Panara, Robert (6)
- Lang, Harry G. (5)
- Durr, Patricia (4)
- Baird, Chuck, 1947-2012 (2)
- Brody, Lee (2)
- More...

Organization

- National Technical Institute for the Deaf (34)
- National Technical Institute for the Deaf Faculty (17)
- Rochester Institute of Technology -- Art collections (5)
- National Theatre of the Deaf (4)
- Australian Theatre of the Deaf (2)
- More...

Subject

- Deaf -- New York (State) -- Rochester (30)
- Deaf -- Means of communication (26)
- Deaf artists (25)
- Deaf -- Education (19)
- Deaf college students (19)
- More...

Document Type

- DVDs (13)
- Correspondence (11)
- Programs (documents) (9)
- VHS (TM) (9)
- Clippings (information artifacts) (8)
- More...

Decade

- 2010 (7)
- 2000 (28)
- 1990 (36)
- 1980 (25)
- 1970 (22)
- More...

FINDING AIDS

Title: **NTID Life Histories Project records**
Date: 1988-2001
Size: 3.0 Linear feet (6 document boxes)
Abstract: Documents pertaining to the NTID Life Histories Project, an online website that offers access to the personal life stories of everyday deaf Americans. The collection is contained in six boxes and consists of a variety of materials related to the project including manuscript copies of Eugene Petersen's work, You Dea? Visits With Deaf Americans; planning documents for the project such as correspondence, professional guidelines, funding requests, and budgeting materials; correspondence and contractual agreements with interviewees; and video tapes and floppy disc records of various interviews.

Title: **Lights On! Deaf Theatre records**
Date: 1991-2001
Size: 7.75 Linear feet (14 document boxes, 2 lid boxes)
Abstract: Documents related to the Lights On! Deaf Theatre group, a Rochester based organization dedicated to deaf theater. The collection contains administrative documents for the organization, such as bylaws, meeting minutes, and budgeting materials, as well as newsletters and correspondence. Also included are scripts and materials related to each production, such as playbills, schedules, floor plans, production notes, photographs, and video recordings.

Title: **National Theatre of the Deaf annual reports and players' guides**
Date: 1967-1994
Size: 0.4 Linear feet (1 document box)
Abstract: National Theatre of the Deaf annual reports and players' guides covers the theatre from 1967 to 1994. Reports include plays performed for that year; biographies of actors, directors, and staff; images; and in later years, financial information.

Title: **Patti Durr collection on Deaf Holocaust Survivors**
Date: 2000-2009
Size: 0.83 Linear feet (1 document box, 1 clamshell box)
Abstract: Patti Durr's filmed interviews and transcripts she conducted with deaf survivors of the Holocaust, as well as copies of two films created from the interviews. Also included are copies of older interviews conducted by Simon Carmel, former NTID faculty.

Title: **Newby Ely collection on Deaf Holocaust Survivors**
Date: 0.83 Linear feet (2 document boxes)
Abstract: Collection of filmed interviews made by historian Newby Ely, chronicling the experiences of deaf Holocaust survivors.

NTID-History, Drama Club, Robert Panara collections on Deaf Literature, Posters, and Videos, Student Life Videos, Harry Lang collection on Robert Panara, Edmund Booth, biographical work, and NTID History

Deaf School-TRIPOD

Theater-Rochester Deaf Theater, Lights On, National Theater of the Deaf, Australian Theater of the Deaf, Bernard Bragg

ASL Poetry and Literature- ASL Literature conferences, Lerner ASL Poetry collection

Deaf Holocaust Survivors-Durr and Newby collections

Deaf Organizations-Deaf Women of Rochester, Empire State Association of the Deaf, National Fraternal Society

TTY and Videophone- Lee Brody TTY collection, First TTY modem, Vistaphone

Photography and Artwork-Melbourne Spurr, Susan Dupor, Paul Johnston, Nancy Rourke, Theresa Coughlan, Pamela Witcher, Paula Grcevic, Arnaud Balard and others

Deaf Rochester Film Fests 2005, 2007, 2009, 2011, Deaf Film Posters

Diary-Ahira Webster



CONTACT INFORMATION

- Joan Naturale, Deaf Studies Archive Instructor
Email: JXNWML@rit.edu
Office: 5-1422 Hours: 9-5 or by appointment
Voice/Videophone: 585-286-4635
- Becky Simmons and Jody Sidlauskas, Archivists
Email: RASWML@rit.edu and JASWML@rit.edu
Voice Phone: 585-475-2557 and 585-475-4613
Archives: 5-3660
Hours 9 am-12 pm and 1 pm-4:30 pm

