

National Literary Society of the Deaf

A Reading Promotion Partner of the
Center for the Book at the Library of Congress
“One Book” Reading Promotion Project

Deaf America Reads

March 13, 2008 – March 13, 2010

Planning Your Community Programs:

Coordinated by Alice L. Hagemeyer, MLS
<http://www.folda.net/lib/reading.html>

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A. Introduction

Librarians, library programmers and program sponsors – novice and veteran alike –will find the following four resources useful and helpful when planning community programs in their area. They are available by means of free downloads on FOLDA web site.

www.folda.net.

1. One Book One Community: Planning Your Community – Wide Read, compiled by the Public Program Office of the American Library Association. 2003 44 pages

Librarians and program directors across the continent have sent their materials and talked about their program. Such input has been helpful to the office when working on its guide. <http://publicprograms.ala.org/orc/pdfs/onebookguide.pdf>

Note: State-by-state listing of past and current “one book” programs appears on. <http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/onebook/>

2. Celebrate Deaf Legacy @ your library: National Deaf History Month Kit: 2004-2006, developed by the National Association of the Deaf Ad Hoc Committee on National History Month 2004-2006 January 2006 20 pages plus two posters.

The committee consists of Alice L. Hagemeyer, Chair, Thomas Harrington, Joan Naturale, Abigail Noland, and Gary E. Wait who all have the expertise in the area of deaf resources and library services. Andrew Lange was the NAD liaison.

<http://www.folda.net/lib/index.html>

3. Four Directories @ your library

ONGOING project online initiated by Alice L. Hagemeyer in 2006

Deaf Community Contacts

Books About and By Deaf Persons

Speakers and Storytellers Sign

Deaf People Work

Such directories list organizations, books and/or individuals that have special interests in promoting deaf culture, books and literacy in local communities.

<http://www.folda.net/contacts/directories.html>

4. Got Deaf Culture @ your library? Ask a Librarian! Series

ONGOING project online initiated by Alice L. Hagemeyer in 2007

Purpose: To familiarize the nation’s libraries and librarians with deaf related membership organizations, their history and resources

<http://www.folda.net/mail/issues.html>

B. What is “one book” Reading promotion Project?

On March 13, 2008, the National Literary Society of the Deaf (NLS), a reading promotion partner of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, unveils its “One Book” Reading Promotion Project called “Deaf America Reads: March 13, 2008-March 13, 2010.”

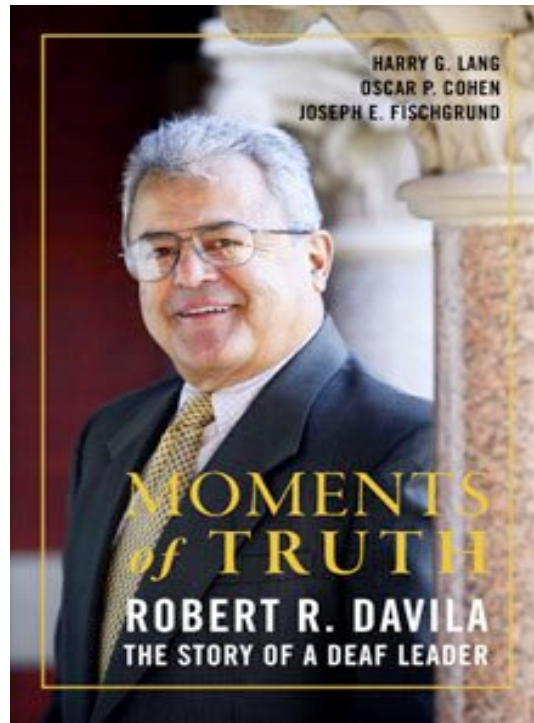
The book selected for “one book” is **Moments of Truth: Robert R. Davila, the Story of a Deaf Leader**, by three co-authors: Harry G. Lang, Oscar P. Cohen and Joseph E. Fischgrund and is published in 2007 by RIT PRESS in Rochester, NY.

The program purpose is to broaden and deepen an appreciation of reading and to compel the national deaf community to share experience while reading the same book.

Ricardo Lopez, NLS D president said, “This project is a wonderful opportunity for the national deaf community to get together to discuss the same book during the two-year project.”

Julie Bourne, National Association of the Deaf board member, who has prepared her speech in advance for the program but due to an unforeseen emergency, she could only make it in spirit, agrees. “We must emphasize the importance of local and state level deaf-related organizations collaborating with local libraries across the nation to promote books and reading,” she said.

C. What is the book about?



A biography of Robert R. Davila, the book chronicles his life from the barrio to the board room. He experienced childhood poverty in a migrant farming family; in 1943 at age 11 he became profoundly deaf due to an illness. Yet he persevered to become one of the first deaf persons in history to earn a doctorate, presiding over several institutions and organizations, including a presidential appointment as official in the U.S. government at the Department of Education. He is a remarkable leader and an inspiration to deaf people for his hard work and courage.

In January 2007, he was invited to assume the presidency of Gallaudet University in a time of crisis. A year later, Davila was named the Deaf Person of the Year by Deaf Life Press. http://wally.rit.edu/cary/CP_publications/CP_Davila.html

D. How are the nation's libraries and the deaf community connected?

***The Red Notebook: Deaf Awareness Begins @ your library* ®**

This library resource was originated by Alice L. Hagemeyer in 1979 as a starting point for librarians and libraries to “look up information regarding the deaf community and library services.” A size that fits all, this loose-leaf binder contains fact sheets and reprints related to deaf culture, sign language, kinds of hearing loss, auxiliary aids and adaptive services. Subscribers are free to print out appropriate topics for inclusion in their print copy by means of free downloads on FOLDA web site. <http://www.folda.net/> For those libraries and other organizations wishing to become subscribers or needing new binders: please check <http://www.folda.net/contacts/orderinginfo.html>

E. Who is your target audience?

Deaf Community -- Individuals who share common characteristics of hearing loss and/or deaf culture. They live, work, go to school and/or visit in all parts of the United States, District of Columbia, and US territories. <http://www.folda.net/diversity/index.html>

F. What is deaf culture?

For our purposes, this term includes ways of living, use of visual language, shared history and stories, and common values among deaf people with diverse characteristics within family, school, school, work, and social circles.

<http://www.folda.net/diversity/index.html#culture>

G. Program Dates

Reading promotion activities may be held at any time during the two years between March 13, 2008 and March 13, 2010 and they be held in observance of deaf-related annual events, such as Deaf History Month, March 13 – April 15; International Week of the Deaf, the last full week of September; and Clerc-Gallaudet Week, the first full week of December that includes the 10th (Human Rights Day).

<http://www.folda.net/crossroads/index.html#deaf>

1. Proclamation for Deaf History Month, March 13 – April 15

In 2006, the American Library Association (ALA) and the National Association of the Deaf (NAD) proclaimed March 13 to April 15 as Deaf History Month.

In preparation for observing Deaf History Month in **2009**, ALA and NAD encourage local and state level deaf-related organizations to collaborate with local libraries across the nation and to seek recognition and support from state and local officials (governor, mayor, or county executive) to proclaim and celebrate Deaf History Month during that time. Such nationwide recognition on the state and local levels will help support our efforts to obtain a national Deaf History Month proclamation.

Two sample proclamations can be found at

<http://www.folda.net/lib/index.html#resolution> and
<http://www.folda.net/contacts/DCCpublic.html> (under “2001 D.C. Public Library”)

H. Partnerships

Organizations and businesses with special interests in promoting deaf culture, books and literacy at national library conferences through programs and exhibits are welcome to form partnerships with the National Literary Society of the Deaf. As partners, they will be regularly receiving e-mail news regarding library issues and resources. If interested to form partnerships with NLS, please go to <http://www.folda.net/nls/about.htm#partners>

I. Library Sponsors

Deaf-related local and state level organizations (non-profit, government-funded and businesses) with interests in promoting deaf culture, books and literacy in local communities are encouraged to sponsor programs and activities of local public libraries. <http://www.folda.net/contacts/dcc.html>

Some reading promotion partners of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress may also want to be involved. <http://www.loc.gov/loc/cfbook/partners.html>

NLS will provide assistance to library sponsors in their need to access quality books, magazines, ASL videos and others.

J. Publicity

Public libraries and their sponsors wishing to have NLS publicize their deaf cultural programs are urged to fill out the form: <http://www.folda.net/nls/news.htm#eventform>

The Red Notebook subscribers may ask for permission to include NLS logos, including “Deaf History Month, March 13-April 15” and “Deaf America Reads” in their posters, public releases, handouts, bookmarks and/or other promotional items.
NLS1907@aol.com

K. Acknowledgments

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Ready, Set, Go!

Have comments? Questions? Please feel free to email them to nls1907@aol.com

A journey of a thousand miles must begin with a single step.

Lao Tzu c.604 – c531 b.c

The first step is the hardest. Marie de Vichy-Chamroad, Marquise du Deffand,
1697-1780

