

CHRISTOPHER D. JOHNSON

Personal Portfolio

MISSION & OBJECTIVE:

I ground myself in compassion in all I do, while expressing my fearless passion for empowering students with a commitment to learning, growing and leading. My goal(s) are not limited to:

- Create opportunities with within the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion and stakeholders: Academic Affairs, Student Success and Academic Quality and more
 - Foster relationships with internal student-led stakeholders, emerging signers, and students of color

EDUCATION:

Gallaudet University, Washington, District of Columbia

Master's of Art, Sign Language Education, August 2019

University of West Georgia, Carrollton, GA

Bachelor's of Science, Sport Management, July 2013

EXPERIENCE:

CEO/FOUNDER, CREATIVE MINDS, L.L.C.

OCTOBER 2021

- A language and culture mentoring platform with the ultimate goal of providing deaf interpreting and translation service with an opportunity to support the undying compassion towards the intersection of leaders in the Black and Brown deaf community. Creative Minds aims to strengthen the rapport between communities through accessibility and mentorship in the workplace, schools to improve social belonging global-wide. Website: <https://www.deafcreativeminds.com/>

ADJUNCT INSTRUCTOR, HOWARD COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2021 – PRESENT

- Responsibilities may include teaching courses in one or more American Sign Language (ASL) course
- Committed to academic success of students

COMMUNITY RELATIONS MANAGER, GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

MARCH 2021 – PRESENT

- Develop and manage relationships with internal and external organizations, such as the National Association of the Deaf, National Black Deaf Advocates, Council de Manos, and serve as a link between these organizations and the office of the University of Communications.
- Serves as the Gallaudet Ambassador of the mission and vision of the University, sharing the story and goals of the organization with a global audience.
- Creates a network and collaborates with key internal and external stakeholders, including committees that include administrators, faculty, staff, and student leaders to promote a positive on-campus experience for students.

- Worked with DEDI to identify communication plan(s) that supports Antiracism strategic plan: Equity and Belonging Initiatives.
- Coordinated with programs under Intercultural Alliance to keep Alumni well informed of resources made available such as Turn the Page T book club.
- Facilitates a community awareness with knowledge of, respect for cultures, backgrounds, sexual orientations, and gender identity.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR, UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA-DULUTH

JULY 2020 – MARCH 2021

- Responsibilities may include teaching courses in one or more of the following areas: American Sign Language level , and a selected course from Deaf Studies, serving on various committees, and other duties as assigned by the department head.
- Developed, implemented and coordinated the campus-wide event “2021 Black History Month Celebration” for the Deaf Studies program.
- Provide support and guidance to all students, including students of color, LGBTQ+, and members of the marginalized community.

ASL PALS, GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

MARCH 2020 – JULY 2020

- Provided language mentorship for ASL I - ASL V students. The ASL Professional Studies Online courses are offered two times per semester during Fall, and Spring, and ASL I and ASL II courses are offered one time during the Summer.
- Provide support and guidance to all students, including students of color, LGBTQ+, and members of the marginalized community.

DEAF COMMUNITY ADVOCATE, MISSOURI COMMISSION FOR THE DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING

AUGUST 2019 - JULY 2020

- Provided and coordinated presentations, public awareness activities, workshops and training sessions concerning a variety of topics, including hearing loss, deafness, American Sign Language, the legal rights of individuals who are deaf or hard of hearing, services available for persons with hearing loss.
- Supported programs and services, in collaboration with other community organizations, designed to promote and support the engagement of individuals of color, LGBTQ+ community, and those with other cultural backgrounds.
- Promoted diversity and inclusion social media posts such as Black History Month awareness, Kwanzaa, and other commemoration.
- Led sponsorship requests and maintained stewardship with potential donors for all Deaf and Hard of Hearing events.
- Remained intact with the d/Deaf and hard of hearing Missourians and share immediate critical updates from the state and community leaders.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE INSTRUCTOR, NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

JANUARY 2019 - MAY 2019

- Taught American Sign Language (ASL) and Interpreter Education (INT) courses at the Annandale campus of Northern Virginia Community College (NOVA).
- Provide support and guidance to all students, including students of color, LGBTQ+, and members of the marginalized community.

AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE TUTOR, NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

NOVEMBER 2018 - DECEMBER 2019

- Provided tutoring services to ASL/Interpreting students and assisted with department projects.
- Assisted with a variety of administrative ASL/INT department projects Sign Language Proficiency Testing (SLPI).

PRACTICUM/INTERNSHIP, NORTHERN VIRGINIA COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SEPTEMBER 2018 - DECEMBER 2018

- Demonstrated theoretical knowledge and displayed competence in classroom settings regarding methodological and socio-political issues involved in sign language teaching, curriculum development, and assessment.
- Provide support and guidance to all students, including students of color, LGBTQ+, and members of the marginalized community.

GRADUATE ASSISTANT, GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

AUGUST 2018 - MAY 2019

- Assisted with the development of a training program for residential advisors such as planning and implementation of in-service training and residence hall programming.
- Maintained residence hall paperwork including payroll, creating staff schedules, and assist with the selection and placement of at least six (6) resident advisors.
- Oversees several projects ensuring RAs meets their assigned theme to keep Residents entertained.
- Provide support and guidance to all students, including students of color, LGBTQ+, and members of the marginalized community.
- Assisted other members of the SubRA interview committee in selecting staff for the year 2020 - 2021.
- Provided equity in communication between resident advisors and the Ballard West residents.

YOUTH SERVICE WORKER I, TENNESSEE SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

AUGUST 2016 - MAY 2018

- Provided recreation activities and guidance in performing domestic practices to deaf students.
- Facilitated and implemented Cup of Wisdom Club (C.O.W.) for high school residential students.
- Developed, strategized, and coordinated fundraising events and community engagement opportunities with local undergraduate and graduate students.
- Pursued additional funding opportunities, such as grants and donations, to enhance C.O.W.'s programming and goals.
- Maintained and monitor several projects such as completing food order and maintenance reports.

RECREATION DIRECTOR, GEORGIA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF

NOVEMBER 2014 - FEBRUARY 2016

- Conducted recreational activities for students grades pre-k - 12th.
- Facilitated field trips for K-12 residential students.
- Provided coordination of schedule with the local recreation department to establish sporting events.

REFEREE, SOUTHERN BASKETBALL OFFICIALS

DECEMBER 2012 - AUGUST 2016

- Officiated recreation basketball games for youth teams ages 5 - 14 years old in the following cities: Bremen, Carrollton, Tallapoosa, Temple, and Villa Rica.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

- August 2016 - May 2018: Cup of Wisdom (C.O.W.) Founder, Knoxville, TN

- June 2015: The Mike Glenn Foundation Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing Basketball Camp, Atlanta, GA
- April 2013: NCAA Men’s Basketball Final Four Tournament, Atlanta, GA
- March 2013: Calvin Johnson, Jr. Foundation “Catching Dreams” Wide Receiver Football Camp, Atlanta, GA

THEATER BACKGROUND:

- **New York Deaf Theatre**
 - Narrator of *The Seven Principles of Kwanzaa* (December 2021)

PRESENTATIONS / WORKSHOPS:

- **Sustaining Voice Through Deaf Leadership: How Individuals Reclaim Recognition of One’s Voice Through Music**
 - Moderator (February 2021) – University of Minnesota-Duluth
- **Black History Month: The Importance of Valuing Our African American/Black Interpreters (Via Zoom)**
 - Panel moderator (February 2021) – DEAF, Inc. in St. Louis, Missouri
- **The Night Before The Inauguration: Looking Back and Ahead (via Zoom)**
 - Panelist (January 2021) – Gallaudet University
- **Class of 2020 Graduates of Tennessee School for the Deaf (via Zoom)**
 - Commencement Speaker (October 2020)
- **Youth Leadership in a Pandemic: Black Lives Matter (via Zoom)**
 - Presenter (September 2020) – National Association of the Deaf
- **4th Annual Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Symposium: Disabilities A Multidimensional Experience For All (via Zoom)**
 - Panelist (September 2020) – Kansas Medical Center Office of International Programs
- **Juneteenth: History & Purpose of the Celebration (via Zoom)**
 - Presenter (June 2020) – Bay Area Black Deaf Advocates
- **Black Deaf Men in Crisis: what can we do about it?**
 - Presenter (June 2019) - National Deaf Education Conference at Texas School for the Deaf
- **Engage**
 - Curriculum: ASL at Work - Alexandria, Virginia (January 2019 - February 2019)
- **US Army Corps of Engineers & Humphries Engineer Center Support Activity**
 - Curriculum: Intercultural Communication/Deaf Awareness/ASL - Alexandria, Virginia (October 2018 and November 2018)
- **Bon Appetit**
 - Curriculum: ASL I - Gallaudet University (October 2018 - November 2018)

COMMITTEE / CONFERENCE / SYMPOSIUM:

- 2020 Strategic Planning Committee Member: College of Education and Human Service Professions (University of Minnesota-Duluth)
- 2020 Virtual Deaf and Hard of Hearing Empowerment Symposium Chairperson (Kansas City, St. Louis, Springfield, Fulton)
- 2020 Committee & Sub-committee Member: Deaf & Hard of Hearing Leadership Development Program (Governor's Council on Disability - Missouri)
- 2019 Committee Member: Missouri Interpreter Conference (Lake of the Ozarks)

AWARDS / RECOGNITION:

- 2020: Susan M. Daniels Disability Mentoring Hall of Fame
- 2018 - 2019: Ken Miko's Scholarship Recipient - Gallaudet University
- FALL 2012, 2013: Dean's List - University of West Georgia

ORGANIZATION:

- District of Columbia Black Deaf Advocates
 - [President](#) (2022 – 2024)
- Center for Black Deaf Studies (CBDS) - Gallaudet University
 - [Advisory Board Member](#) (2020 - 2022)
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) - Duluth, MN
 - [Member](#) (2020)
- American Sign Language Teaching Association (ASLTA)
 - [Associate Member](#) (2020 – 2021)
- American Sign Language Honor Society (ASLHS)
 - [Membership Coordinator](#) (2020 – 2021)
- Minnesota Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (MRID)
 - [Associate Member](#) (2020 - 2021)
- Dr. Glenn B. Anderson Scholarship
 - [Committee Chairperson](#) (2018 - 2020)
- Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated
 - Spring 2019
- Collegiate Black Deaf Student Leadership Institute (CBDSLII)
 - Assistant Director (2018 - 2019)

- District of Columbia Area Black Deaf Advocates (DCBDA)
- Black Deaf Youth Leadership Coordinator (2018 – 2019)