

# Level One ASL Class



When: Wednesdays 4-5pm PST for 8 weeks  
October 2, 2024 to November 20, 2024

Time: 4:00 – 5:00 pm PST (California)  
Where: Zoom

Many people in everyday life come into contact with Deaf consumers, clients, or may even be students in schools and even family members. How can those who come into contact with Deaf people gain a better understanding of how to communicate with them and build bridges? The best way is to learn ASL and speak their language. Learning ASL will open your eyes to a new way of communicating using your hands and facial expressions and will enable you build new connections with Deaf people.

**Learning Objectives:** The Lead Instructor will lead group discussions to help Participants benefit from the book **“Signing Naturally, Level 1”** to learn the 5 parameters of ASL. They will be trained to master handshapes, use specific movements, locations where to put their hands, and be aware of the palm orientation required. They will also learn the nuances of using facial expressions to add more information. In addition to this, they will learn how to make introductory comments to start conversations, learn emergency signs, and other signs that will help them interact at home and at school and in the community. This will be taught in a safe and supportive environment. We **recommend** purchasing the book **“Signing Naturally, Level 1” Student Workbook, Units 1-6, by Cheri Smith, Ella Mae Lentz, and Ken Mikos**. You may purchase a digital PDF online as well.



#### **Lead Instructor: Dioris Carmona BA**

Dioris was born deaf, but did not have access to sign language and education fully, until he was nineteen years of age. This has proven to be a unique asset for him as a Deaf Interpreter, enabling him to provide incredibly accurate, interpreting services for individuals who have had little access to education and use a family developed home sign language. As a Deaf Interpreter, he is also experienced and skilled in working with Deaf-Blind individuals. He has a Bachelors degree in Language Studies and is a member of the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID). He is fluent in Dominican Sign Language and American Sign Language (ASL). Additionally, he studied and is conversational in Jamaican Sign Language. In recent years, his experience includes working as an ASL Teacher online at a Charter High School in California and serving as a Deaf Interpreter, Interpreter Educator and Consultant with CCSLI INC.



#### **Instructor: Obedi Mwanza**

Obedi is a native Deaf instructor, who grew up in South Africa, and has since then relocated to Canada, now currently works as an ASL instructor and Deaf Language mentor for CCSLI the last 2 years. He is fluent in three sign languages, which has enabled him to have a firm grasp on what is needed to ensure the overall message is expressed clearly in sign language. He has extensive experience as a language mentor over the years helping new and intermediate students build confidence through weekly one on one sessions and group discussions. Additionally, from 2016 to now, he also works as a translator and language consultant to ensure language accuracy and clarity for international educational centers that provide material in signed language, opening up equal access to education for the Deaf on a wide variety of educational topics.

**Registration only \$45.00!**

This workshop will be held in ASL. All accommodation requests must be submitted in writing fourteen (14) working days in advance.

**To Register: [www.ccsli.net/mentoring](http://www.ccsli.net/mentoring)**

(Zoom Meeting ID and password will be provided with registration confirmation)

**All Registrations Final – No Refunds**

Minimum of 10 people are needed to activate this class

This workshop will foster an environment of mutual respect and inclusion that is free from harassment, bias and discrimination based on race, ethnicity, religion (creed) hearing status, gender expression, age, disability, marital status, or any other difference