Serving the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Community at Montgomery County Public Libraries

Library Services to People with Special Needs Section of IFLA March 9, 2017

Susan F. Cohen,
Project Coordinator,
Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library
Librarian II,
Montgomery County Public Libraries
Germantown, Maryland



MCPL Community



- The Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community
- Community Connections
- 21 library branches + Correctional Services Library





MCPL HISTORY

- 1976- TTY donations, programs
- 1982 Ad hoc Citizen Planning Committee
- 1985- Librarian II staff position
- 1986 2006: Special Needs Library
 - Central point of contact for collection, services, and programs
 - Materials on deaf culture, history, literature, arts, hearing loss, Deaf education, parenting
 - TTY service in 99% of the library branches
- 2017: Assistant Facilities and Program Manager, Accessibility Services





REFERENCE SERVICES

- Ask A Librarian Email Reference,
- Tweet a question
- Chat Reference Service
- TTY Access

 24/7 AskUsNow Chat Service (part of worldwide cooperative)

LIBRARY PROGRAMS AND ACCESSIBILITY

ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

- Visual Communications contract
 - ASL & PSE interpreters
 - Close vision and tactile interpreters
 - Cued speech transliteration services
 - Communication Access Real Time Translation (CART)
 - CDI Certified Deaf Interpreters
 - VRI Video Remote Interpreting
- Audio loops in meeting rooms at 9 library branches
- Portable FM system via County

BOOK DISCUSSION IN ASL







Book Group
Discussion in
American Sign
Language

10:15 a.m. to discuss

February 11, 2017 April 8, 2017 June 10, 2017 August 12, 2017 October 14, 2017 December 9, 2017 The Light Between Oceans by M.L.. Stedman Hands of My Father by Myron Uhlberg The Glass Castle by Jeannette Walls All the Light We Cannot See by Anthony Doerr Deaf in DC by Vasishta Madan Distance Between Us by Reyna Grande

Copies of each title will be distributed at each preceding book discussion meeting. For more information, email: MCPL.DeafAccess@montgomerycountymd.gov.

Germantown Library 19840 Century Blvd Germantown, MD 20874 240-777-0110



To request sign language interpretation or other deaf/hard of hearing services for library-sponsored programs, email MCPL.DeafAccess@montgomerycountymd.gov, preferably with three business days' notice. To request other accommodations, contact your local

montgomerycountymd.gov/library







LIBRARY PROGRAMS

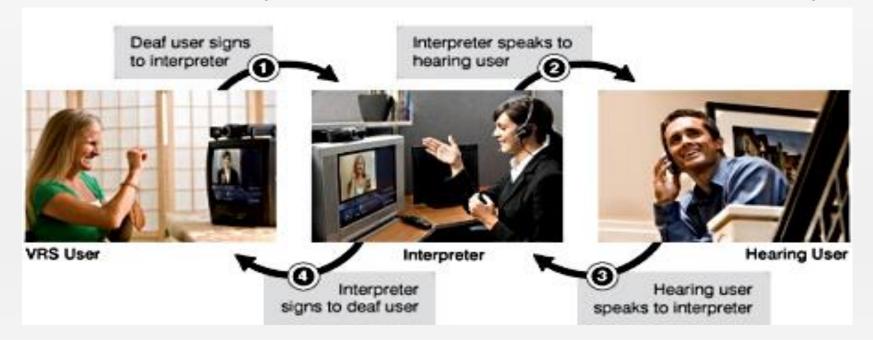
Programming collaboration with organizations and community partners

- ESL for Deaf Individuals
- ASL and Cued Speech classes, bi-annually
- Annual Deaf History Month observance
- ASL and tactile interpreted programs
- ASL Storytelling (pilot)
- Coping with Hearing Changes

TECHNOLOGY

VIDEO RELAY SERVICE

- Geographically distributed at four library branches
- Customers contact video interpreters through a Relay Center to help make telephone calls
- Customers call videophone users to communicate directly in ASL



AUDIO LOOPS

- Nine library locations
- Three work day lead time for requests
- Renovated and new construction projects
- Promote awareness
 - Placard
 - Website
 - ADA statement



COLLECTIONS

PHYSICAL COLLECTIONS

At many library branches or via ILL:

- Captioned entertainment DVDs, blue ray
- ASL Language Learning DVDs
- Print books and/or DVDs Deaf culture, history, ASL, adapting to hearing changes
- Large Type books for adults
- Braille Children's Books

ONLINE RESOURCES

 Book Flix and Tumble Book Library (online children's books with text)



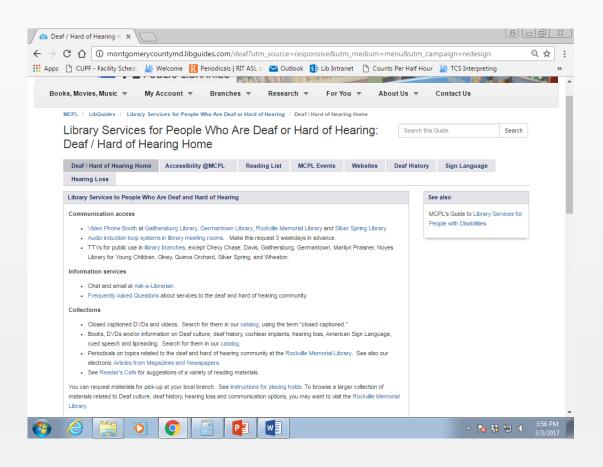


E-books on deaf culture, deaf history,
 ASL, cochlear implants, interpreting
 via Maryland Digital Library Consortium



• E-magazines (Flipster, Zinio)

LIBGUIDE – DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING SERVICES



http://tinyurl.com/jxqdans

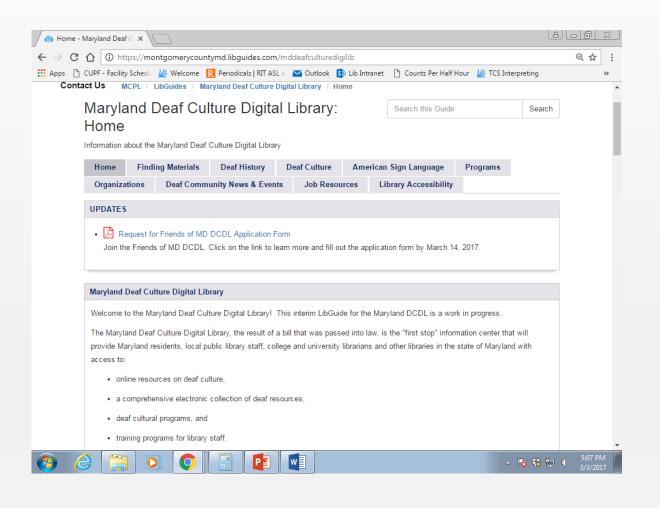
- Service to the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community
- Accessibility Services
- Reading List
- MCPL Events
- Websites
- Deaf History
- Sign Language
- Hearing Loss

MARYLAND DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY

- Maryland State Legislation, Section
- Funded by IMLS grant, utilizing staff resources of MCPL
- MCPL as host library in cooperation with Maryland DLDS and Maryland ODHOH
- Staffing
- Components
 - Website maintenance and development
 - Digital and non-digital collections
 - Outreach
 - Programming
 - Training
 - Partnerships
- Library Advisory Board
- Friends of the Library

MARYLAND DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY

MARYLAND DEAF CULTURE DIGITAL LIBRARY



Maryland Deaf Culture
Digital Library
http://tinyurl.com/hntqrq3

- Updates
- About MD DCDL
- Finding Materials
- Deaf History
- Deaf Culture
- American Sign Language
- Programs
- Organizations
- Deaf Community News & Events
- Job Resources
- Library Accessibility

CHALLENGES

- Limited resources for ESOL deaf community
- Marketing audio loops to target population

USER NEEDS

- Reference service via Videophone
- Applicability of RTTs in library services
- ASL vlogs
- ASL digital displays
- Streaming ASL stories (i.e. VL2 at Gallaudet)
- Streaming videos of ASL led or interpreted library programs
- Glass enclosed elevators
- Best practice for architectural design conducive to needs of deaf and hard of hearing customers

Contact for Questions

Susan F. Cohen
Librarian II - Head of Services to the
Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community
Montgomery County Public Libraries

Project Coordinator

Maryland Deaf Culture Digital Library

Voice/Videophone: 301-637-2964

Email: susan.f.cohen@montgomerycountymd.gov