

Myisha Blackman of Los Angeles, California **Friday, April 17**



Myisha J. Blackman, MA, CI/CT discovered sign language when she was 11 years old. Since then she has been actively involved in the Deaf community. She holds a BA in Deaf Studies from California State University, Northridge, and an MA in Interpretation from Gallaudet University. When she is not interpreting, she teaches ASL and interpreting at El Camino College. She is the owner of In Good Hands, LLC. It is through this company's Manual Music™ that she travels internationally interpreting music and teaching others how to do so. It is also through her company's Interpreter Boot Camp educational series that she hopes to inspire competence, professionalism and accountability among religious interpreters. She is the former president of the Southern California chapter of the National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc. Currently, she is working on a DVD sign language version of her first book, *So You Want to Be a Christian? A Firm Foundation in the Fundamentals of the Faith*.

Myisha will be presenting . . .



Friday morning:
*The ABCs of
Serving as a
Christian Interpreter*
and
Friday afternoon:
*Majestic Manual
Music*

Dawn Caudill of Cincinnati, Ohio **Saturday, April 18**

Dawn Caudill has been a professional interpreter for the past 23 years. She received her CI/CT and obtained NAD Level 5 in 1995-96. Her areas of interpreting expertise include religious, theatrical/platform, cruise/vacation, medical, legal, and educational interpreting. She serves as chairperson of the Interpreter Training Program at Cincinnati State Technical and Community College, a position she has held for 12 years. Teaching specialties include religious, theatrical, ASL linguistics, transliterating, and the code of professional conduct. She has taught community-based signing classes in religious and other venues for the past 23 years. Dawn holds an AAS in Interpreter Training and a BS in Deaf Education/Bible. Other undergraduate and Masters work includes studies in Music, ASL Linguistics, and Business Administration. She is currently working towards her PhD in ASL Linguistics.

Dawn is married to the love of her life, Jason, and they have two sons (some refer to them as "dogs"), a 12-year-old poodle named Sharky, and a six-month-old shih tzu named Dexter. She enjoys traveling and considers Maui her second home.

Dawn is presenting . . .

Saturday morning:
*The Ten Commandments of
ASL Linguistics*
and Saturday afternoon:
*To Be or Not to Be:
Theatrical Interpreting in
Religious Settings*
and
*Interpret a Joyful Noise:
A Hands-on Workshop
with Feedback on Musical
Interpretation*



Julie Gariss of Joplin, Missouri **Thursday, April 16 • Banquet Speaker**



Julie Gariss comes from Joplin, Missouri, where she and her husband, Randy, have worked with the College Heights Christian Church for the last 27 years. Julie is involved with the congregation teaching women's Bible studies, Sunday School and working on the women's ministry team. Randy and Julie also are involved in the missions work of their church and have traveled extensively to overseas mission points for teaching, counseling and encouraging. Julie has a passion for teaching the Word of God and has traveled all over the United States speaking at women's retreats, conventions and banquets. She has spoken at both the North American Christian Convention and the National Missionary Convention.

Randy and Julie still feel their greatest accomplishment in life has been raising three wonderful Christian children - Troy, Katie and Megan. And the joy of their lives now? Grandparenting!

Workshop Descriptions . . .

ABC's of Serving as a Christian Interpreter

The Christian who would successfully serve in deaf ministry as an interpreter has a title (the Ambassador), is given a task (the Bridge), and possesses what is necessary to carry it out (the Credentials). The stakes are high, and the need is great. The execution is rewarding, yet the road takes commitment. The language is addicting and her people often mistreated. Interpreting in church is not just any XYZ, for in your hands consider their eternity.

Majestic Manual Music

Music in deaf ministry is not misery. No! It's majestic. The Christian interpreter encounters music in three ways, each with its own marvelous means of manifestation: praise and worship, choir or solo selections, or his/her own personal presentation of praise. In this edge-of-your-seat workshop you'll be equipped with time-tested tricks of the trade to treat all three.

The Ten Commandments of ASL Linguistics

This workshop will discuss ten fundamentals of American Sign Language linguistics as they apply to Scripture, religious context, and songs. Join us in a creative, easy-to-follow session which takes the fear out of a complex language, and makes it fun and applicable.

To Be or Not To Be: Theatrical Interpreting in Religious Settings

This workshop will explore the application of theatrical interpreting concepts in religious situations. Many churches perform skits, plays and musicals, and hold other dramatic events. We, as religious interpreters, must match intent, mood and spirit in this unique genre. Partner work, role shifting and script analysis will be discussed and practiced. Come ready to try your "hand" at theatrical interpreting!

Interpret a Joyful Noise: A Hands-on Workshop with Feedback on Musical Interpreting!

Have you ever wanted a professional's point of view/feedback on your musical interpreting and transliterating? Do you enjoy peer learning? Do you want a positive environment in which to improve your ability to sign music? Then this is the workshop for you! Bring a CD with a song that you have been working on, sign it for the workshop, and receive productive, positive feedback and enhancement suggestions on your work! If you don't want to sign a song, still come and reap the benefits of watching others!

Other great workshop leaders . . .

**Chad Entinger • Brent Welsch • Mary Alice Gardner • Stuart Theissen
Linsay Darnall, Jr. • Jennifer Borgaila • Jose Abechuchan**

Other great workshop topics . . .

**Serving Those with Minimal Language Skills • Making Bible Terms Relevant
What Does That Look Like -- Work with Classifiers • Code of Professional Conduct
Voicing Like You Mean It • How to Use the ASL Bible • SignWriting**

CEUs will be offered for most every workshop!

Conference Schedule . . .

Thursday, April 16

2:00 - 5:30 Registration at Deaf Missions
Deaf Missions Tours
6:00 p.m. Opening Banquet
with Julie Gariss and
entertainment from local deaf people

Friday, April 17

8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast available
9:00 - noon Keynote Address -- Myisha Blackman
Noon - 1:00 Lunch (included in registration cost)
1:00 - 5:30 Elective Classes
(another opportunity to hear Myisha)
5:30 - 7:00 Rest/Dinner on your own
7:00 p.m. Deaf Ministry Panel Discussion

Saturday, April 18

8:30 a.m. Continental breakfast available
9:00 - noon Keynote Address -- Dawn Caudill
Noon - 1:00 Lunch (included in registration cost)
1:00 - 5:30 Elective Classes
(another opportunity to hear Dawn)
5:30 - 7:00 Rest/Dinner on your own
7:00 p.m. Deaf Storytelling
(emphasis on church experiences)

Sunday, April 19

Opportunity to visit a deaf church OR
Opportunity to visit a hearing church with
an active deaf ministry
12:30 p.m. Lunch at Spaghetti Works
(included in registration cost)
Discuss/debrief/evaluate
2:30 p.m. Have a safe trip home!