

NCDA Conference 2010

Presenter Bios

Norman D. Bauman, M.A.

Norman is a graduate of Gallaudet University with a Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling and School Guidance and Counseling. Norman currently works as a School Counselor at the Kansas School for the Deaf. He provides personal and group counseling services to K-12 students and coordinates the implementation of the school-wide Bullying Prevention Plan. He previously worked as a Program Manager and Career Education Teacher Supervisor at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf and the Florida School for the Deaf and Blind, where he was also involved with discipline action plans for students.

Evon Black, M.S

Storyteller, Evon Black is nationally acclaimed performer, workshop leader, keynote and motivational speaker.

Evon combines her belief in the power of story with an inborn talent for teaching and performing. Her infectious enthusiasm and dynamic energy revitalize audiences and empower participants in her workshops.

Holding a B.S. in psychology and a Masters in Educational Technology, Evon Black has been performer since 1986. She uses folktales from around the nation in a non-didactic way to teach values, elevate understanding and acceptance of other cultures. Professional associations find Evon to be a lively and inspiring speaker.

At Gallaudet University as a college student, Evon was the first Black deaf student held a higher position as Student Body Government Vice President since Gallaudet founded 1868. Evon survived through all obstacles and struggles in order to open the doors for the black students on campus. Evon made a pathway for student of colors in different organizations.

Evon has worked primarily in the Deaf student development area for approximately 22 years ranging from Deaf residential schools to Gallaudet University. Prior to Sprint as Alabama Relay Account Manager, she was the Senior Admissions Counselor and handled 21 states for National Technical Institute for the Deaf. Evon is now a Statewide Coordinator of Technology Services for Deaf, Hard of Hearing and Deaf Blind Services with Alabama Department of Rehabilitation Services.

She currently resides in Birmingham AL with a precious 13 years old son, known as "DJ".



Cindi Cassady, Ph.D.

Dr. Cassady is currently the Clinical Director of Mental Health Services at Deaf Community Services in San Diego. Dr. Cassady has worked in the field of mental health and deafness for over eighteen years as a court-approved psychologist providing forensic testing, psychological evaluations, and clinical treatment for Deaf and Hard of Hearing clients throughout San Diego County. Dr. Cassady received her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the California School of Professional Psychology in San Diego.

Chriz Dally, NCC

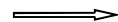
For over 16 years, Chriz Dally gained diverse experiences in providing advocacy, community education and counseling services to Deaf children, youth, adults, and their parents or families within school settings, community-based agencies and mental health agencies throughout Northern California. Currently, she provides consulting services to organizations serving Deaf people. Chriz has a MA in School Counseling from Gallaudet University, is certified as a National Certified Counselor through NBCC, and is registered as a MFT intern.

Stefanie Day, M.A

Stefanie Day is a mental health counselor at the Ohio School for the Deaf. She provides counseling, supervision, and program management for the counseling department. Ms. Day graduated from Gallaudet University with a Masters in Mental Health Counseling and a Masters in Administration. She has worked in the field of mental health and deafness in residential, community, and school settings since 1997.

Melissa Higginbotham, M.S.

Melissa Higginbotham has over 13 years experience working in education; she has served as a school counselor, educational interpreter, and currently as a FACS Teacher at the Arkansas School for the Deaf. Ms. Higginbotham holds a M.S. degree in Rehabilitation Counseling with an emphasis on Deafness. She was instrumental in establishing an interagency Transition Team at ASD which focuses on reviewing and planning strategies within the school to implement a transition-focused school climate. Melissa is passionate about improving transition planning, services, and post secondary outcomes for youth who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing. In addition, Melissa conducts training on the 9 Essential Skills of Love and Logic which encourages students to own and solve their own problems.



Emily Jordan, MSW

Emily Jordan is a mental health counselor at the Ohio School for the Deaf. She provides counseling to the students and their families. Mrs. Jordan graduated from Ohio State University with a Masters in Social Work. She has worked in the field of mental health and deafness in community and school settings since 2001.

Beth Keller, MA

Beth Keller has been with PEPNet (Postsecondary Education Programs Network) since January 2007. She is an Outreach Specialist for the PEPNet-Midwest region, which serves 13 states. Beth has a BA degree in Psychology from Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., and a MA degree in Community Psychology from Springfield College in Manchester, New Hampshire.

She worked as a Deaf and Hard of Hearing Specialist with Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services at Northern Essex Community College in Haverhill, MA for five years before relocating to St. Paul, Minnesota.

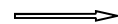
At PEPNet, she provides trainings for personnel preparation on such topics as Transition, iTransition online training, Community Rehabilitation Program online training courses, Accommodations for students who are Deaf or Hard of Hearing, and also provides technical assistance to secondary and postsecondary programs.

Ashley Koe

Ashley is the Community Advocate at Dove Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Women and Children where she focuses on the Teen Dating Violence Program. Ashley started as a Volunteer Advocate at ADWAS in Seattle in 2003. Later was hired as the Children's Advocate for the Transitional Housing Program. Ashley moved to Colorado in 2008. In her spare time, she loves hanging out with great company, exploring nature, and traveling anywhere life takes her.

Gabriel I. Lomas, PhD

Dr. Gabriel Lomas is currently a professor of counseling at Western Connecticut State University. He has experience in both clinical settings and in public school programs for the deaf. He has presented both nationally and internationally on the role of school counselors with deaf students. He has published widely and is currently the editor of the Journal of the American Deafness and Rehabilitation Association (JADARA).



Greta Palmberg, M.Ed

Greta Palmberg is Transition Specialist with PEPNet-Midwest and also works as a Transition Instructor for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students at Intermediate District 287 in Plymouth, MN. She has been responsible for transition training at a local level, collaborates on transition initiatives at the state level, and works nationally with PEP-Net Outreach Staff to provide professional development and technical assistance in the area of transition. Ms. Palmberg has extensive teaching and training experience. She earned a M.Ed. in Educational Administration and a BS in Special Education and has teaching certification in the areas of Deaf/Hard of Hearing, Learning Disabilities, Emotional/Behavioral Disorders, and Developmental Cognitive Disabilities. In addition, Ms. Palmberg is the parent of a college-aged son who is deaf.

Nancy Quinn, M.A

Since 1988, Nancy has worked as school counselor at the Arkansas School for the Deaf. She has her Masters in Counseling from University of Arkansas and a degree in Deaf Education. She has worked in a variety of arenas including Vocational Rehabilitation, Independent Living Services, and the Office for the Deaf and Hearing Impaired. Nancy is a member of many organizations including the Arkansas Association of the Deaf, School Counselors Association, American School Counselors Association, Arkansas Education Association, and the National Counselors of the Deaf Association (served as President, Vice President, and Secretary). She has also served on the board of the National Deaf Academy.

Wendy Schlitz

Wendy has been a counselor in treatment and school settings for 30 years. Currently, she is both a school counselor in a mainstream elementary school and a Masters student at Gallaudet University. In the school settings she averages 12 groups a week using the approach described in the workshop. She grew up Deaf without services so has a passion for assuring high quality, researched based services for Deaf children.

Irvine Stewart, MSW, ASW

Irvine Stewart is currently a mental health therapist at Deaf Community Services in San Diego, California. Mr. Stewart became deaf at the age of three and learned sign language at an early age. Mr. Stewart has worked in the field of mental health and deafness for over fifteen years as a school social worker, clinician, and statewide service coordinator. Mr. Stewart graduated from Gallaudet University with his MSW and an emphasis on school social work.