Last Friday’s ASL Festival with the 175th Anniversary Dinner was fantastic! Performer Justin Perez entertained all the students and staff with a morning Visual Vernacular (VV) show. Then the Middle and High School students participated in a workshop and learned to use VV techniques, as the teachers also did in a workshop later that day. Our Anniversary Dinner was delicious (thank you to Local Joe’s BBQ in Cave Spring!) and a fun social time—wonderful to see alumni and GSD families there! The evening community VV performance was a big hit! Thank you to everyone who came out to celebrate with us. And huge thanks to performer Justin Perez, the 175th Anniversary Committee, GSD administration, and the volunteers who made the ASL Festival a success! More pictures and videos on social media.

Justin Perez performs.  Audience participation: evening show (left) and student performance.  Marie with her former student!

In the workshop, students created then performed a group VV story. L to R: Middle School groups 1-3 and High School Group 1

Jeremiah practices.  All students with Justin  Justin explains the history of VV.  Justin works with some Middle School students.  Raul leads his group.

What is Visual Vernacular? VV is a form of visual storytelling developed by Bernard Bragg and Giuseppe Giuranna that draws heavily on cinematic techniques. No ASL signs are used—the story is told with body movements, facial expressions, gestures, classifiers, eye movement, etc. It is amazing to watch! Curious? Look up “visual vernacular” and/or “Justin Perez VV” videos on the internet or social media!
Awesome volunteers Donna and Heather serve dinner.

More great volunteers—Rebekah the greeter and Soibhan the tech queen!

Jose Brito’s family

Alum Daniel Turner with Justin

Abe Herston with dad (and GSD teacher) Steven.

Tony Heredia and his mom

Diego Olvera’s family and Raul Real

Alumni and former staff

Students really enjoyed the workshop! They worked in small groups to develop VV skills.

Miss GSD Pageant

Miss GSD Pageant winners:
Miss GSD: Rusia Saidi
Junior Miss GSD: Parris McCrory
Little Miss GSD: Amaya Mason
Petite Miss GSD and Miss Congeniality: Holly Adkins

All of the poised and pretty Miss GSD contestants!
Contestants in each category, clockwise from left: Petite Miss GSD, Little Miss GSD, Miss GSD, and Junior Miss GSD.

Photographer: Katherine Kennedy
High School Leadership

Congratulations to juniors Trell Moorman and Raul Real! They completed the High School Leadership Rome program, which is a year-long program hosted by the Rome Floyd Chamber of Commerce to develop leadership skills and community awareness. Students apply and are selected from all local schools. They participate in monthly events focused on different topics, such as economic development, education, health care, and government. Last Thursday, Trell and Raul attended the Graduation Dinner at the Coosa Country Club. Raul was one of four students asked to share about his experience in the program; he shared how the Stop the Bleed lesson really impacted him. The students were awarded glass plaques. We are all very proud of Raul and Trell, as this was the first year GSD has ever participated! Trell and Raul have shared with current freshman and sophomores about the program and several students plan to apply to be in the program next year.

For the ASL Festival, all students and staff wore 175th Anniversary shirts! Dana’s class took some pictures to celebrate the anniversary!

L to R: class with Dana and Tracy, Jaydon, Brody at the performance, Cameran

Lots of beautiful spring art!

Pre-K/K students are learning to classify so they made a tool tree map!

Welcome, Colton! We are glad you are here!

Upcoming Events
- 4/25-29 EOG Testing (ES & MS)
- 4/26 & 4/27 Dorm shopping at DG
- 4/28 Academic Bowl trip
- 4/29 Progress reports sent home
- 5/2-6 EOC testing (HS)

5/4 Elem/MS Boys dorm trip
5/11 HS Boys dorm trip
5/17 Graduation 2 pm
5/19 Homegoing
5/24 Kindergarten Graduation 1:30 pm
5/25 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL!
Events 2022

April 16: ASL Day at the Atlanta History Center
April 30: ASL Day at Zoo Atlanta
May 7: DeafNation Expo
May 15: Deaf Awareness Day at Atlanta Braves
June 11: Co-ed Softball Tournament Fundraiser
July 7: GCDHH Birthday Celebration
July 17 - 22: Camp Juliena
August 6: ASL Night with Atlanta United
September 18 - 24: Follow the Sign 5K Fundraiser
October 8: Wild Adventures at Valdosta
October 22: ASL Day at Six Flags
November 5: ASL Day at the Georgia Aquarium

Follow us! @GCDHH @gcdhh89 @GCDHHtweets

This FREE STEM camp for high school students will be awesome but space is LIMITED!!! It will be at Georgia State University and the cost is being paid by GA Voc Rehab! Applications will be sent home with students. Don’t delay—send in your application ASAP (deadline to apply is May 16).

STEM CAMP 2022

Are you interested in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math? Do you want to make new friends and have fun learning about STEM?

This event is for you!
This is a one week camp designed for high school students with hearing loss.

When: June 12 - 17, 2022
Where: Georgia State University

At camp you will do hands-on activities, give presentations, build leadership skills and learn about empowerment while experiencing college life!

REGISTRATION IS LIMITED TO 13 STUDENTS ONLY!
Deadline to apply is May 16th, 2022

For more information or questions, contact Erica Lipscomb-Capel
elipscomb@gcdhh.org
Georgia School for the Deaf

Georgia Milestones End of Grade Testing starts April 25!

<table>
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<th>Grade</th>
<th>Monday April 25</th>
<th>Tuesday April 26</th>
<th>Wednesday April 27</th>
<th>Thursday April 28</th>
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Make up days are Thursdays and Fridays of both weeks

Georgia Milestones End of Course Testing starts May 2nd!

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<td>5/6/22</td>
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</tbody>
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Be on time for school.
Get plenty of rest.
Eat a good breakfast.
Try your best.
Relax, you got this!
High school families, did you receive the book pictured (left) from author and financial advisor Rick Knight? Mr. Knight was contracted by the State Schools district to offer his book and 4 virtual workshops for our families along with access to his robust online course.

SAVE THE DATE - Wednesday, May 4 at 7:00 PM is the initial presentation.

His work focuses on life-planning, benefits, financial planning and programs for families with members who have disabilities. The book and course are offered to all GSD families once their children are in 8th grade. Though especially beneficial for those whose children will not live independently as adults, the course has a variety of modules with very useful information for everyone. The links below explain in detail.

Mr. Knight also hosts the YANA (You Are Not Alone) podcast, dedicated to the special needs communities.


YANA Nation website: http://yananation.com/