



"Education is all a matter of building bridges."

- Ralph Ellison, American Author

[RSD Building Bridges Newsletter - February 15, 2017](#)

RSD Building Bridges e-Newsletter (BBN): a digest of news and information for families and friends of [Rochester School for the Deaf](#), about our school and the Deaf community.

[Follow this Web link](#) for a PDF file version of this edition of Building Bridges. Find past issues in the RSD Web site [Media Center](#).

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Important links, dates, and information:

- February 20th: Presidents' Day - RSD is closed. Feb. 21-24: Presidents' Week Recess - No classes for students.
- **[February 2017 Lunch Menus](#)**
- **NEW!** **[March 2017 Lunch Menus](#)**
- **[RSD Employment Opportunities](#)**
- **NEW ANNOUNCEMENT!** ECC, Elementary and Middle-School parent/teacher conferences will be held March 10th. Please get in touch with your child's classroom teacher or set up a time with Brenda

Jamalkowski for ECC (bjamalkowski@rsdeaf.org) or Eileen Todesco for K-12 (etodesco@rsdeaf.org). Thank you. Nancy Perry, School Principal.

- **REMINDER!** - [RSD Parent-Staff Association](#) monthly meeting, Monday, March 6, starting at 6:30 p.m. **in the Westervelt Hall Learning Resource Center (LRC)**. Minutes of the Feb. 6th meeting have been posted to the [PSA Web page](#). The agenda for the March 6th meeting will be announced soon. Interpreting and childcare will be provided. All RSD parents and staff are welcome and encouraged to join the monthly PSA meetings. Any questions, email: mikekane83@gmail.com.

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WHAT'S NEW and UPCOMING?

- **REMINDER!** Today, Feb. 15th, is the deadline for **Jr. Deaf Rochester Film Festival** film submissions. [Click here for submission guidelines.](#)

- **RSD SPIRIT WEEK** Continues until Feb. 17 [Click here](#) to plan for your Spirit Week attire. ESDAA basketball championships Pep Rally, Thurs. Feb. 16th at 2:15 p.m. in the gym. Feb. 17-19: Girls Bball Championship at NJSD and Boys Championship at St. Mary's in Buffalo. [Click here](#) for championship schedules and school directions.

- **NEW! This week's Healthy Nibble: Parenting Tip:** Focus on Children's Actual Behavior, Not their Mood.

- **NEW! RSD Parent-Staff Association** Spirit Wear T-Shirt Design Contest. [Click here](#) to get the entry form and contest guidelines or visit the [RSD PSA home page](#) for the link to the contest form. Contest is open to all RSD K-12 students. Deadline for t-shirt design entries is March 1st. Good luck!

- **NEW! [ECC's Natural Playground & Outdoor Classroom Project](#)** recently received three major grants from generous foundations.

These gifts will enable the project to start development. To read more about it [click here](#).

- **NEW!** [Eye Emergencies](#): If something happens to your eyes, find out what your options are. Q & A in ASL with Dr. Jason Rotoli, URMC/Strong Emergency Dept. Thursday, Feb. 16 at 7 p.m. [RRCD, 1564 Lyell Ave. Rochester.](#)

- **NEW!** [Dyer Arts Center](#) Events: [Sunshine 2.0's People of Color in Shakespeare Contemporary Theatre](#), Friday, Feb. 17th from 5 to 7 p.m. [Black Deaf Expo 2017](#), Saturday, February 18th from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. [Wine and Painting Party with Jennifer Geller](#), Friday, Feb. 24th from 6 to 9 p.m. \$50/person. Hurry as seating is limited. Contact: dyerartscenter@gmail.com

- **NEW!** Now Enrolling! The National Center for Deaf Health Research (NCDHR) at the University of Rochester is now enrolling participants for [Deaf Weight Wise 2.0](#), a clinical trial that will focus on healthy lifestyle behaviors. To join, participants must be age 21-40, deaf and use ASL, have a body mass index (BMI) between 25 and 45. Health program sessions start in March – contact us today to schedule an appointment! DeafWeightWise@urmc.rochester.edu or call us, (585) 206-7474 VP. To learn more about Deaf Weight Wise, [check out our Web site](#).

- **NEW!** [Discovering Deaf Worlds 7th Annual Rochester, NY, Benefit](#), Friday, April 7th from 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. New location: Wintergarden by Monroe's, 1 Bausch and Lomb Place, downtown Rochester. \$50/person until March 31st, then \$60/person. [Click here for tickets](#).

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ONGOING

- [Signs for All Spring 2017 Session](#) registration is now open. [Click here](#) for information about RSD students' immediate family member classes. Registration deadline: March 28th.

- [TYKEs: Theatre Young Kids Enjoy](#) at the JCC Hart Theater, [1200 Edgewood Ave, Rochester](#), presents the following **stage shows with ASL interpretation: Gulliver's Travels - Sat. Feb. 18 at 3:30 p.m.;** Goodnight Moon - Sunday, April 9 at 4:30 p.m.; and, The Great DuBois - Sunday, June 4 at 4:30 p.m. [Click here](#) for show details and secure online ticket sales.

- [Hearts Night Party](#), Saturday, Feb. 18th; 6:30 p.m. at RRCD, 1564 Lyell Ave., Rochester. February is American Heart Month. 7 p.m.: Deaf Health Talk by Dr. Jason Rotoli on heart health and disease prevention. 8 p.m.: Fitness Tips by Janna Luksha, NASM-CPT & Boot Camp instructor; 8:30 p.m. Dance with Your Heart; \$15 admission includes DJ music, healthy snacks, games, socializing.

- [ASL Comedy Show with Facebook Stars](#), March 2-4, [Robert F. Panara Theater at RIT/NTID](#), LBJ Hall. [Go Deaf People United on Facebook](#) for information on tickets and show dates and times. Proceeds will benefit Deaf People United.

- [Deaf Rochester Film Festival](#), March 22 - 25, 2017. Festival details and online ticket purchasing on the [DRFF Web site](#). **Jr. Deaf Rochester Film Festival @ RSD, Thursday, March 23rd.**

- [Duds for Love Bugs 2017 Spring/Summer Sale!](#) March 31 - April 2 at RIT Inn & Conference Center, 5257 W. Henrietta Rd. This is Rochester's Premier Children's Consignment Event. [Register Today!](#) Clean out your closets & make some extra CA\$H!

- [ASL and Deaf Pride Parade](#), April 15th, 2017, in Washington, DC. Celebrate 200 years of American Sign Language, Deaf Culture and Deaf Pride in America. Marchers will assemble in front of [Gallaudet](#)

[University](#) and parade to the [Lincoln Memorial](#). For more information go to [Audism Free America](#) on Facebook.

- [Got Skills? Middle School Leadership and Sports Camp](#), June 24 - July 2, 2017, at Gallaudet University. Open to Deaf and hard of hearing students who are entering 6th-8th grades in the fall of 2017. Only 45 spaces are available and this camp is anticipated to be full by the end of December so register your child/children today.

- Did you know that the [National Association of the Deaf](#) (NAD), the nation's premier civil right organization of, by, and for Deaf and hard of hearing individuals, represents 48 Million deaf and hard of hearing citizens with just 13 staff and 14 board members? Your [membership](#) makes it possible for the NAD to protect the collective interests of the Deaf and hard of hearing community through advocacy efforts across a wide-range of issues. [Join the NAD today!](#)

- [R.O.C. - Rochester Open Captions](#) on Facebook is fast becoming the leading source for individuals in the Rochester area who prefer having major motion pictures in commercial movie theaters shown with English subtitles on-screen, rather than through special caption glasses. [Become a member](#) of this group on Facebook to vote on which movies to show with open captions and to receive the current schedule of open caption movies.

- To honor the life and volunteer service to RSD of the late Gilman Perkins, great-grandson of RSD's founders, Gilman and Caroline Perkins, Gil's children have established [The Gilman Perkins Fund for RSD Student Needs](#). This fund is intended to help RSD students overcome financial obstacles that may impede them from achieving academic, social or career success. [Click here](#) to learn more about The Gilman Perkins Fund and how you and others can contribute to it towards the success of all RSD students. Thank you.

- [The American Society of Deaf Children \(ASDC\)](#) is constantly seeking diverse families with Deaf and hard of hearing children and young adults

who are empowered to embrace full access to language-rich ASL and English environments. Individual and family memberships to ASDC are free and include: *The Endeavor* news magazine, information about conferences for families, free Described and Captioned Media Program membership, web site and social media channels with links and resources, monthly e-mail blast for members, and more. RSD families who are not yet members of the ASDC can [click here for a free](#) membership. RSD member families of ASDC can also use this form to extend your free membership yearly. Please join or renew today!

- [RIT/NTID Outreach Programs](#) for Deaf and hard of hearing youth. Programs include: Explore Your Future (EYF); techgirlz and techboys; Health Care Careers Exploration Camp; Math Competition; SpiRIT Writing Contest; Droids and Drones Camp; and, Digital Arts, Film & Animation Competition. [Click here](#) to express your interest in any or all of these programs for your middle or high school student.

- **RIT Libraries' NTID Reference Librarian Joan Naturale** continues to add topics and resources to her [Deaf Studies Archive](#). Bookmark this important link to access a deep and broad collection of various guides to Deaf history and culture, ASL resources, Deaf art and artists, Deaf technologies, diversity in the Deaf community; interpreter resources and so much more.

- [The Rochester Fire Department has SilentCall Smoke Detectors](#) available for City of Rochester residents for are Deaf or hard of hearing. The Shake-Up Kit includes a receiver with vibrator and a wireless smoke detector and transmitter. [Click here](#) for more information or call 585-428-1362.

- **When you #StartWithaSmile**, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Rochester School for the Deaf. Bookmark the link <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/16-0761231> and support RSD every time you shop.

- **If you give to United Way of Greater Rochester** consider directing your gift to support students at Rochester School for the Deaf. The Designation Number for RSD is **1162**. Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support.

- **[Deaf Rochy](#)** - Your Link to Events in the Deaf Rochester Community!

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- Find RSD

on **Facebook:** **www.facebook.com/rochesterschoolforthe deaf**

- Follow RSD on **Twitter:** **[@RSDeaf](#)**

- **RSD Photos & Videos on**

flickr: **www.flickr.com/photos/rsdeaf/sets** To get flickr apps for iPhone and Android devices **[click here](#)**.

- RSD **YouTube** Channel: **<http://goo.gl/zmj0JP>**

To join the Building Bridges distribution list, update your e-mail address or to opt out, contact Lauren via e-mail: **lashworth@rsdeaf.org**