

# DSSO NEWSLETTER

## OSF recognized for access

*Jim Amberg and Radawna Wallace honored for their work*  
by Amy Richard, OSF Media & Communication Manager

The Oregon Shakespeare Festival Access Coordinator Jim Amberg and Audience Services Manager Radawna Wallace were selected to receive a 2011 John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Leadership Exchange in Arts and Disability (LEAD) Award for Emerging Leaders.

Betty Siegel, director of VSA and Accessibility at the Kennedy Center, in a recent email to Amberg and Wallace wrote, "Let me extend my congratulations to you both for taking inspiration from LEAD and for advocating for people with disabilities and building up the access services, such as captioning, at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. You are both an excellent example of what emerging leadership in the field of disability and cultural arts can do."

"Jim and Radawna have accomplished amazing work in the past few seasons, expanding and improving the accessibility offerings," said Mallory Pierce, director of marketing and communications. "Their work supports OSF's commitment to inclusion, and The Kennedy Center Award is a much-deserved acknowledgment of their efforts."

During the 2011 season, OSF will sign interpret nine plays for its deaf patrons, audio describe approximately 100 performances for its blind and visually impaired patrons, and open caption 37 performances for its hearing impaired patrons. OSF is one of the very few theatre companies in the country that provides audio description and open captioning on request. In addition, OSF distributes about 10,000 assistive listening devices per season for patrons with moderate hearing loss.

The LEAD award was created in 2008 to acknowledge arts administrators who are motivated by the LEAD conference to become an advocate for accessibility within their own organizations and communities. These individuals have successfully applied what they learn at the conference to open doors to and shape opportunities that are inclusive of people with disabilities and older adults in the cultural arts.

Amberg and Wallace will attend the LEAD awards dinner at the Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts on Saturday August 20th in Louisville. More information about the award can be found at:

[www.kennedy-center.org/accessibility/education/lead/awards.html](http://www.kennedy-center.org/accessibility/education/lead/awards.html)

### CHILI COOKING CONTEST AND DSSO MEETING

Sheila Schatz, event chairperson, would like to inform those who want to cook for the contest that the deadline for entry is September 1<sup>st</sup>. You can contact her at [cinderellasparkle@gmail.com](mailto:cinderellasparkle@gmail.com).

Again, if you want to cook for the contest, the deadline is September 1<sup>st</sup>.

We have the flyer for this - check it for entry fees and other info.

The contest is on September 17 at 4:30 p.m. The DSSO meeting is at 6 p.m.

Both the contest and meeting are at the same location - Southern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Center on Holly Street (parking is behind the Center on Grape).

## OPTIONS FOR SUCCESS

Options for Success is a two day workshop and exhibition for disabled persons looking for help in getting jobs. If you register, let them know that you need sign language interpreters.

Options for Success absolutely will provide interpreters and all other assistive aid to deaf and hard of hearing participants.

Registration deadline is September 16. You can register online or by phone. We have a flyer. For more information and registration, go to [www.optionsforsuccess.net](http://www.optionsforsuccess.net).

## SOUTHERN OR. BOWLING ASSOC. FOR THE DEAF (SOBAD) STARTS ON SEPT. 10

We need 8 bowlers for SOBAD. Just call us on VP if you want to join a team. Thomas Spears - League President at 541-248-2092 and Edie Ross - League Secretary/Treasurer at 541-727-0881. SOBAD will start at Lava Lanes in Medford. The league meeting is at 9:30 a.m. and start bowling at 11:00 a.m.

## REPRINT OF WELLS FARGO SETTLEMENT

On May 31, 2011, Wells Fargo & Company (Wells Fargo) entered into a settlement agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice. The Agreement requires Wells Fargo to compensate (pay) certain individuals who experienced disability discrimination in violation of Title III of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) when trying to call Wells Fargo or Wachovia, visit one of Wells Fargo or Wachovia's banks or retail stores, or otherwise access Wells Fargo or Wachovia's services before May 31, 2011.

Any person who experienced disability-based discrimination that happened before May 31, 2011 in violation of Title III of the ADA based on something Wells Fargo or Wachovia did or didn't do may be eligible for compensation under this Settlement Agreement. All types of disability discrimination can be claimed; for example, physical inaccessibility at bank branches, policies that cause barriers to equal access by individuals with dis-

abilities, and refusal to accept relay calls are just a few types of discrimination based on disability.

The deadline to file a claim for compensation is January 29, 2012. If you or someone you know may be eligible, it is important that you or that person file a claim for compensation by January 29, 2012. No claims will be accepted after January 29, 2012.

You can begin the process of filing a claim by sending your name, address, email address, and day and evening telephone numbers by email to [WFclaims@usdoj.gov](mailto:WFclaims@usdoj.gov) or by leaving a message at 1-866-708-1273 (voice mail) or 1-866-544-5309 (TTY).

This claims process also helps us identify ADA violations to be fixed by Wells Fargo – i.e., physical inaccessibility at retail stores and policies that cause barriers to equal access by individuals with disabilities. Please visit [www.ada.gov/wells\\_fargo/](http://www.ada.gov/wells_fargo/) for more information about the settlement or the claims process.

**ACT QUICKLY!** The time period for filing a claim, established by the settlement agreement, ends on January 29, 2012.

(With thanks to Rosemary DiSiervi at Disability Rights Oregon for this alert)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

We at DSSO are planning for Halloween in October - the date is not set yet.

We are still working on the annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner set for November 19<sup>th</sup> at the Lions Center.

If you want to have a Christmas party, please come to the DSSO meeting on September 17 at 6 p.m.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3
4	5 Labor Day	6	7	8	9	10 SOBAD
11	12	13	14	15	16	17 Chili Contest DSSO Meeting
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Ice Cream Social
25	26 Newsletter out today	27	28	29	30	

Everybody is welcome. These ongoing activities are open to all members of the deaf/hard-of-hearing/hearing impaired community including interpreters, students, teachers, family and friends.

For further info, please contact Janice VanDomelen, Event Coordinator, at [jicvand@charter.net](mailto:jicvand@charter.net).

September

September 17<sup>th</sup> - DSSO Meeting; 6 p.m. Lions Center

September 17<sup>th</sup> - Chili Cooking Contest; 4:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. Lions Center

September 24<sup>th</sup> - Ice Cream Social Night - Dairy Queen, 1078 Morrow (off Biddle), Medford; 5 p.m. to close

October

October 14<sup>th</sup> - *The African Company Presents Richard III*, OSF: 8 p.m.

October 15<sup>th</sup> - DCC - Rogue Valley Mall from 5 p.m. to close

October 15<sup>th</sup> - *The Imaginary Invalid*, OSF: 8 p.m.

October 16<sup>th</sup> - *Julius Caesar*, OSF: 1:30 p.m.

November

November 12<sup>th</sup> - DSSO Meeting; 4 p.m. Lions Center

November 19<sup>th</sup> - DSSO Annual Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner

December

DSSO Officer Elections, if any



# Options for Success

EMPOWERMENT. EQUALITY. EMPLOYMENT.

## 2-Day Conference

Empowering people with disabilities to enter and stay in the workforce with confidence! Packed with information about:

- Marketing yourself to employers
- Work incentive programs
- Assistive technology
- Local resources
- Local employment opportunities

**September 26-27, 2011**

To register, call 541-776-6035  
or register on-line at:  
[www.optionsforsuccess.net](http://www.optionsforsuccess.net)

# Chili Cooking Contest

**September 17**

Southern Oregon Lions Sight and Hearing Center  
Holly Street (parking behind the Center on Grape)

4:30 to 6 p.m.



Side dish potluck dinner - chili theme  
DSSO will provide cheese and cornbread

\$5 per person, \$3 per senior citizen, \$10 family  
12 years old and under - FREE

Water and soda pops sold

For info or to cook chili for contest, contact Sheila Schatz, event  
chairperson at [cinderellasparkle@gmail.com](mailto:cinderellasparkle@gmail.com).



**2011 SIGN INTERPRETED EVENTS AT THE OREGON SHAKESPEARE FESTIVAL**



**MAY 27, 8:00**



**Interpreted by:**  
Robin Mills, Dan Veltri  
and Pam Parham  
Linda Bove is the sign coach for the above three performances.

**MAY 28, 8:00**



**Interpreted by:**  
Patty Lessard, Joe Quinn  
and Charlotte Toothman

**MAY 29, 1:30**



**Interpreted by:**  
Anne Del Vecchio  
and Jeff Wildenstein

**JULY 14, 8:30**



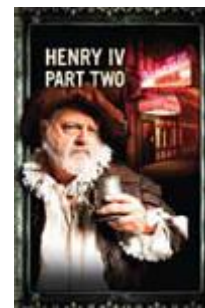
**Interpreted by:**  
Pam Parham, Felice Shays  
and Jeff Wildenstein  
Billy Seago is the sign coach for the above three performances.

**JULY 15, 8:30**



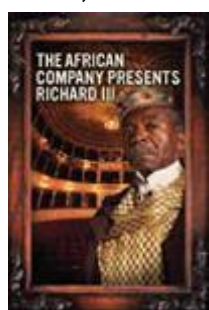
**Interpreted by:**  
Aaron Brace, Sharon Neumann  
Solow and Charlotte Toothman

**JULY 16, 8:30**



**Interpreted by:**  
Patty Lessard, Janet  
Maxwell and Joe Quinn

**OCT. 14, 8:00**



**Interpreted by:**  
Suzanne Lightbourn  
and Robin Mills  
Howie Seago is the sign coach for the above three performances.

**OCT. 15, 8:00**



**Interpreted by:**  
Pam Parham and  
Charlotte Toothman

**OCT. 16, 1:30**



**Interpreted by:**  
Janet Maxwell and  
Dan Veltri

**Complimentary interpreted prologues will be presented each night beginning one hour prior to each interpreted performance. Interpreted backstage tours are available on request. Tickets for the backstage tour may be purchased on line, through the Box Office, or directly through Jim Amberg at [jima@osfashland.org](mailto:jima@osfashland.org)**

Tickets are subject to availability. For sign interpreted seating contact the Box Office via Oregon Telecommunication Relay Service (OTRS); dial 711, or email Access Coordinator Jim Amberg at [jima@osfashland.org](mailto:jima@osfashland.org).

OSF Box Office (541)482-4331

Access Coordinator (541)482-2111 ext. 425

[www.osfashland.org](http://www.osfashland.org)



**D.S.S.O. Staff and Newsletter Information:**

**President:** Bobby Coleman

**Vice President:** Bobo Schultz

**Treasurer:** Missy VanDomelen [misbo23@aol.com](mailto:misbo23@aol.com)

**Secretary:** Jacque Wattles [dreamcatcher1993@gmail.com](mailto:dreamcatcher1993@gmail.com)

**Newsletter Editor:** Bill Drobkiewicz [drobkiewicz@gmail.com](mailto:drobkiewicz@gmail.com)

**Event Coordinator & Newsletter writer:** Janice VanDomelen

**Fundraising Coordinator & Newsletter writer:** Sheila Schatz

**Board of Trustees:** Dennis Kane; Janice VanDomelen; Bill Drobkiewicz; Dennis Ross

**D.S.S.O. Mailing Address:** D.S.S.O. PO Box 4535 Medford, OR 97501

**D.S.S.O. E-mail:** [info@dssso.org](mailto:info@dssso.org)

**WWW:** <http://www.dssso.org>

**Newsletter Policy:** Deadline: Last Sunday every month. Exactly 6 p.m. is the closing time for the newsletter. We will publish on last Monday every month.

Contact the newsletter at (541) 245-2549 (voice/TTY) or [newsletter@dssso.org](mailto:newsletter@dssso.org)

**Newsletter mailing address:** D.S.S.O. Newsletter c/o Bill Drobkiewicz 2432 Fox Run Medford OR 97504-6358

**Subscription Information:** If you wish to subscribe to the Newsletter, you will need to pay the \$20 subscription fee. Mail the \$20 fee to the above Newsletter address. For more information, contact either Bill Drobkiewicz or Bobby Coleman. All subscriptions renew every August. **Contact us if you move or have a new address. Please!**

**Advertising Policy:** Advertising in the newsletter is \$10 per month. A year's worth of advertising is \$100 (two months free). Advertisements can be text, flyer or a combination of both. Any pictures or photos must be camera-ready as we use a printer and a scanner. You can send the monies and advertising to the above Newsletter address.

Pastor Ken Bell is the deaf pastor with services in Medford and Grants Pass.

Rogue Valley Deaf Christian Fellowship  
Pastor Ken Bell  
922 West Harbeck Road  
Grants Pass OR  
VP: 541.787.4687  
Voice: 541.226.2391

Every Saturday Deaf Service 4 p.m.  
Every Saturday Bible study 3 p.m.

Medford:  
Rogue Valley Fellowship Church  
Pastor Ken Bell  
2399 South Pacific Highway  
Medford, OR  
[www.roguevalleyfellowship.com](http://www.roguevalleyfellowship.com)

Every Sunday Bible Study 9:45 a.m.  
Be sure to show up at 9:30 a.m.  
Childcare provided by RVF  
Every Sunday Deaf Service 10:30 a.m.

This is from Rick Sutherland at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses.

You are warmly invited to the following Bible education programs held at the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, 489 Cheney Loop, Central Point, Oregon:

Saturdays  
2:00 PM Bible Based Discourse in ASL  
2:35 PM Bible Discussions, new topic each week

Upcoming discussions: check with us

Free Bible DVD's now available Matthew through Hebrews (ASL)

No collections

For questions or free home Bible Studies contact:  
Rick Sutherland 541-227-4402 or  
[medfordslc@gmail.com](mailto:medfordslc@gmail.com)