

Director of Artistic Sign Language Presenters

Crom Saunders is currently an Associate Professor in the American Sign Language program in the School of Communication and Culture at Columbia College Chicago. Crom works extensively in translation, including PSA videos and children's stories, with organizations such as Fun4TheDisabled and Sally Is Sarah, LLC. Crom has interpreted dozens of plays, from children's theatre to musicals, including at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival and Steppenwolf Theater, and has taught dozens of ASL linguistics and theatrical workshops across the nation, in addition to working as a Director of ASL for several theatre companies across the nation. Crom also performs improv and his one person show, "Cromania!" internationally.



Crom is a white male with multiple earrings, glasses, bushy eyebrows, and a clean-shaven head is smiling at the camera. He is wearing a burgundy button-up shirt, against an orange-reddish background.

Josh Garrett, CI and CT, NIC, is the CEO of Access Consulting and the former CEO of JG Interpreting and Training Services, specializing in access through interpreting and captioning services. With over 27 years of experience, he has dedicated his career to advancing access for individuals who are Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing. Previously, he served as the Interpreter Coordinator at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He has taught interpreting at Goshen College and Purdue University and has led workshops, conferences, and training sessions across the U.S., Jamaica, Canada, and Bulgaria. As a mentor, he has supported interpreters through the CATIE Center at St. Catherine University and Columbia College Chicago. His professional contributions extend to board service and committee work with the Indiana and Illinois Chapters of RID, where he was honored with the Distinguished Service Award. In addition to three national interpreter certifications, he brings experience in business management, human resources, policy development, and operations. He is also passionate about advocating for Deaf children. He is also a proud member of the LGBTQIA+ community.



Josh is a Caucasian, cis male in his Mid 40s, with a brown beard and short hair standing arms crossed in a dark blue suit with a light blue button-down shirt.

Dr. Tina Childress is an audiologist, advocate, late-deafened adult, bilateral cochlear implant user fluent in ASL and self-proclaimed Communication Access Engineer. She is also an award-winning presenter, adjunct lecturer and mentor for children and adults, and is active on various local, state and national Boards and Committees as well as social media. She is renowned for her knowledge on assistive technology and accessibility, and creating shared resources at <http://TinaChildressAuD.com>.

She noticed many years ago that there were too many instances when patrons didn't understand their rights or that a certain accessibility option was available. This led her to numerous opportunities over the years to try various forms of accessibility equipment, provide feedback to venues, educate them about accommodations with a focus on assistive technologies and discuss effective ways to get this information to patrons. Dr. Childress has presented extensively on these topics and has also created resources for others to share and use.

In her "spare" time, she enjoys spending time with family and friends, especially if it involves partaking in the cultural arts or spontaneous singing and music enjoyment.



Tina is a brown-skinned woman with black and white shoulder-length hair, wearing colorful half-rim glasses and a striped black and white sleeveless top, smiling at the camera and against a plain, white background.

Susan Elizabeth Rangel has directed and coordinated ASL interpretations for theatrical productions for over twelve years. As the only Deaf and Latina Certified Deaf Interpreter in the state, she is also the founder of Faith Interpreting Services. Aside from matching interpreters to the story on the stage so that Deaf audiences can have the best theatrical experiences possible, she also enjoys interpreting for theatrical productions. Some of her favorites are Zulema at Goodman, Jane in the Jungle at Merle Reskin Theatre, La Ruta at Steppenwolf, How to Defend Yourself at Victory Gardens, and Carmela Full of Wishes at Chicago Children's Theatre. Susan Elizabeth also provides ASL consultations, mentoring, text and video translations.



Tan female, late 40's, with wavy black-brown hair, pulled back in a bun. Oval-shape earrings. Wearing long sleeves maroon jacket over a maroon turtleneck, taking a walk out in nature.