



HANDS &  
VOICES

# Hands & Voices New Mexico

May 2013

*"What works for your child is what makes the choice right."*

## 2013 Summer Programs

New Mexico School for the Deaf Programs and More!

### **New Mexico Challenge: Explore. Pursue. Accomplish!**

**June 16 - 28**

Specifically designed to provide deaf and hard of hearing children with the unique opportunity to open their eyes and experience new ideas, situations, people and cultures.

Tuition and room and board for this two-week adventure are provided free of charge to eligible children and youth from New Mexico who will be in grades Preschool -12 this fall.

### **Family To Family Weekend June 15 - 16**

Provides parents, siblings and extended families the opportunity to learn together.

### **ASL Immersion Week**

**Two Sessions Offered!**

**July 23 -26 or July 30 - August 2**

Immersion program in American Sign Language (ASL) with periods of instruction, including modeling, creative invention, mime, vocabulary, and of course, sentence structure.

Participants leave with a more complete understanding of Deafness and an improved ability to communicate in ASL.

*For additional details and registration information on the NMSD Summer Programs visit:  
[www.nmsd.k12.nm.us/outreach/summerprog.php](http://www.nmsd.k12.nm.us/outreach/summerprog.php)*

### **Other Camps for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Children**

**Various Dates**

There are many camps for the D/HH Children throughout the US. Some are specialty camps, such as the NASA Space Camp & Aviation Challenge in Alabama, while others are camps based on communication modality, such as camps specifically for cued speech.

Some have scholarships available. Before registering your child, you should check to make sure that your child's communication mode is fully supported.

*For a comprehensive list of camps organized by state visit:  
[www.gallaudet.edu/x17375.xml](http://www.gallaudet.edu/x17375.xml)*

## HVNM Teen Camp Report

*Written by Audri Underhill*

In July 2012, I spent two weeks at Gallaudet University for their summer program called "Knowledge for College" (KFC). I learned a lot about the value of education and friendship. I learned how to prepare for the ACTs and what to study for while at the same time I made lots of new friends. The University took us on a campus tour where I learned where some of the classes are held. We also spent a weekend touring the D.C. area. Visiting Gallaudet University was a great experience for me. There were students my age that came from around the world. I now have friends I can connect with, hearing and Deaf, from Canada and France as well as throughout the US. It was well worth it to be able travel a thousand miles from home to be a part of their summer program. Best of all, the financial cost of this experience was reduced thanks to my school district's willingness to pay a portion of the fees.

*Note: HVNM does not endorse any one particular camp, our intent is to share information so you can decide "what works for your child."*

Please complete and mail in survey and 2013 dues!

## Sports and Hearing Devices

Excerpt from <http://hearchloe.blogspot.com/>  
Written by Chloe Madsen Keilers

"Runners, to your mark," said the starter. "Get set..." Then a blast and the runners are off to run eight laps, or 3200 meters. You might be thinking, "Eight laps! Who would be crazy enough to do that?!!!" The answer is hard-core cross-country runners, including me.

It is not hard to play a sport with a hearing loss. Just get your running or swimming gear and get out there. Of course, there will be lots of sweating whether you have a hearing loss or not.

By now you might be thinking, "Wait. I wear hearing devices, and my mom won't let me out to play unless I wear them." Not to worry, my mom does the same thing, but I am still out there running eight laps. Here's the secret. You can wear your hearing devices anywhere, as long as there is no large pool of water involved.

For the rest of blog: [www.HearChloe.blogspot.com/](http://www.HearChloe.blogspot.com/)

## 2013 Membership

Please be sure to join HVNM Chapter:

Parent/Family: \$25 per year  
Professional: \$40 per yearH

Benefits to you:

- Receive *The Communicator*, a Headquarters H&V quarterly newspaper
- Receive quarterly HVNM Chapter newsletter
- Information on workshops, resources, events
- Informational support for you and your family
- Opportunities for parents and professionals working together to help children who are D/HH

Scholarships are available if you wish to become a member but cannot afford the dues, please contact us. Thank you.

## Supporting Families Without Bias

Written by Lisa McNiven

Janet DesGeorges, Executive Director of H&V Headquarters, presented "Supporting Families without Bias" at the 2013 Family Leadership in support of the diversity of different communication modes within our community, such as American Sign Language, Total Communication, Cued Speech, and Auditory/Oral training. A key point was to be aware of your own Personal Belief System (PBS) and to always question your intentions. What's motivating them? Do we have an outcome in mind when you work with a family? What are your preconceived notions, and how are we predisposing the family you are working with to your 'truth'? What is informing your 'truth'?

When we shift from sharing the benefit of our experience and knowledge into influencing a family, we've crossed the line into bias. The most important point for H&V is to truly be supportive of families with communication modes different than your own. Remember this statement "what works for your child is what makes the choice right."

### Board Members

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### Staff

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If you have a personal story, ideas for future articles, or if you know of an upcoming event that would benefit our readers, please let us know:

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