



## **October 2010 Interviewed:**

### **Questions & Answers**

**Both your English Equivalents ASL Workshop and The Hearing World Around Me show went over exceptionally well. Why perform at Mill Neck? Is there anything special about Mill Neck for you?**

It is truly an honor to present my workshop and perform my show at Mill Neck School, not once but twice. I appreciate the opportunity to expand students' understanding of English Equivalents and Deaf culture - particularly, how it feels to be a successful Deaf person. Mill Neck School is such a beautiful and safe campus, where Deaf children can get a great education and enjoy rich social opportunities. It is absolutely and always a pleasure to be there for the Deaf, Interpreting, and Hearing communities. Thank you, Mill Neck School, for giving me an opportunity to share my heartfelt storytelling.

**Tell me about your background. I understand you are a comedienne, actress, workshop presenter and ASL teacher. WOW!! Anything you don't do?!**

Growing up in my lively family, moving through my educational journey, and becoming a professional business woman and performer have been wonderful and I've enjoyed every single minute. During my spare time, I enjoy taking photos with my Nikon D70 camera. My favorite way to relax is to sit down with a cup of hot cocoa! Getting out to appreciate nature - flowers, sunny days, sunsets and beaches - also refreshes me. And I love to meet friends - new and old, as well as to take some time to write poetry, share storytelling, and research new projects.

**How long does it take you to put together such a show, from initial ideas to writing your script? How many workshops/performances do you take on a year?**

Running my business for the last 12 years has slowly put me into the spotlight, which has been very rewarding. During the first year of my business, everything was so new to me - I couldn't expect it to succeed overnight. With support from my family, friends, fans, mentors, interpreters, and participants, I've found myself enriched and have been able to keep my business going strong. At one time, I was faced with criticism from linguists. I had to decide whether I should keep my business going or just quit everything. I decided to take online linguistics courses, as well as other training. I also worked with mentors. All of this helped me grow. As a result, my business has expanded exponentially and the future looks even more promising. I am glad that I am not a quitter and I have exercised a lot of patience to keep my business on track.



**Are you hosting any new shows in the coming months?**

I have set up special upcoming events at my coffee shop: October 28, 2010: Trix's Chocolate Day!, November 13, 2010: Visible Words: The Art of Storytelling With Classifiers, and December 10, 2010: Hot Cocoa Happy Hour with Trix! Sometime next year, I would love to train police officers and firefighters in your neighborhood. If you would like to know more details about these upcoming events, please let me know.

**You are an accomplished performer. Many of our Deaf students attending Mill Neck Manor School for the Deaf act in school plays, and hope to pursue the field in college and beyond. Any advice for them, or any hearing or Deaf performer wishing to become an actor/actress?**

Follow your dreams, and listen to your heart. Be persistent, never give up, and do your best! "Practice" is the word I preach to everyone! Practice all the time. The more you practice, the greater your confidence and belief in yourself. You'll get there!