



## *Can interpreters and Deaf people create synergy?*

It's amazing to see how deaf people are receiving various educational opportunities, whether by mainstreaming or at day programs or at schools for the deaf. In each of these educational settings, interpreters and teachers make a difference! My workshops offer these interpreters and teachers a chance to update their skills. As I was on the road, one interpreter shared her thoughts about her experience in my workshop. She mentioned that having a "Deaf presenter offers a better outlook (and is really) what we are looking for." This gave me pause, realizing that there is a balance in learning opportunities with presenters who are Deaf and those who are hearing.

One interpreter told me that even though she is a certified interpreter, and had worked for many years in the field, joining my workshop gave her a new experience, working with a Deaf presenter for the first time. Really? It's true, there are so many hearing presenters out there. These presenters are often wonderful. However, perhaps it's worth a shot to seek an enriched presentation experience by finding a Deaf presenter.

Here I am!

Keep in mind, though, that it is necessary to schedule events that appeal to interpreters on different dates, so that interpreters can attend more than one event without a time conflict. It isn't good business for me to travel to a location to present to interpreters, while, at the same time, in the same area, another event has been set up to appeal to interpreters. My presentations are booked six to nine months in advance. My goal is to make sure interpreters have a chance to attend each and every wonderful learning opportunity! When I've booked months in advance, and then some other presenter appealing to the same audience jumps in at the last minute, it leaves interpreters with a dilemma. Which presentation will they attend? Presenters and Interpreters all benefit when skill-development events are planned for different dates, allowing each event to draw strong participation. I am grateful for the opportunity to make presentations that allow interpreters to reach their dreams of accomplishment in the interpreting field.

Having two events that appeal to the same audience, scheduled at about the same time, is not customer-friendly.

Always looking forward to working with interpreters, sharing my discoveries, notes, and professional development suggestions!

*Remember - I'm here for you!  
HUGS!  
Trix*