



**"Education is all a matter of building bridges."**

- Ralph Ellison, American Author

### **RSD Building Bridges Newsletter - December 12, 2018**

**RSD Building Bridges e-Newsletter (BBN):** a digest of news and information for families and friends of [Rochester School for the Deaf](#), about our school and the Deaf community.

[Follow this Web link](#) for a PDF file version of this edition of Building Bridges. Find past issues in the RSD Web site [Media Center](#).

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### **IMPORTANT LINKS, DATES, AND INFORMATION:**

- RSD family members not attending the PSA Holiday Party dinner, Thursday, December 13, are still welcome to attend, without RSVP, the Holiday Bookfair, starting at 6 p.m. in the Learning Resource Center (LRC)

and the Holiday Drama Club performance starting at 7 p.m. in the school auditorium.

- December 24, 2018 - January 1, 2019: Winter Recess - No school for students. Classes resume on Wednesday, January 2. RSD is closed December 24-25 and January 1. RSD business and administrative offices are open December 26-28 and December 31 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

- The BBN will not be issued on Wednesday, December 26.

- [December 2018 Lunch Menus](#)

- [Lunch Services at RSD](#) has posted the School Year 2018-2019 Letter to Parents, Application form, and new policies regarding Meal Charges & Prohibition Against Meal Shaming and Wellness. [Click here](#) to review this information.

- [RSD Employment Opportunities](#)

- [RSD School Year 2018-2019 Academic Calendar](#)

- RSD has updated its [Wellness Policy](#), and parents/guardians of our current students are encouraged to [read](#) and familiarize themselves with it for the safety and well being of their child/children who attend(s) RSD. As a part of the updated [wellness policy](#), a wellness committee will be established to meet at least two times a year, to participate in the

development, review, update, and implementation of the school wellness policy, and to ensure that the goals of the wellness policy are implemented and monitored. If anyone is interested in joining the wellness committee, please contact [Sally Atkins](#) in the Business Operations Department.

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## WHAT'S NEW?

- **RSD OPPORTUNITY!** The RSD Custodial Department is in need of part-time sub as needed custodians to clean our buildings. Daytime hours 6 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Evening hours 2:30 p.m. - 11 p.m. Contact Mike Kaiser, RSD Facilities Director: 585-336-5829 (V); 585-286-2847 (VP); E-Mail: [mkaiser@rsdeaf.org](mailto:mkaiser@rsdeaf.org). Thank you.

- **NEW!** This week's Nibble: Pediatricians Issue Cautions About Chemicals in Plastics & Food Packaging. [Here are some steps you can take to limit your family's exposure.](#)

- **NEW!** [Deaf Health Care Open Forum](#), Wednesday, January 23, 2019, Panara Theater, LBJ Hall, RIT/NTID Campus, 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. This open forum is for Deaf people to get up-to-date information on health care and to discuss ways to develop better relationships between Deaf people and hospitals, clinics, and medical professionals.

- **NEW!** Save the Dates: June 20-23, 2019 - [Reach Out! Supporting Deaf Refugees Conference](#), LBJ Hall, RIT/NTID Campus. This shared gathering hopes to develop an accurate understanding of the realities and needs of Deaf refugees, as well as vulnerable Deaf migrants nationally and globally.

- **NEW!** [Wine Tour to support NAMI](#) - National Alliance on Mental Health, Saturday, January 12, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. \$100/person and limited to 20 people. Travel in a Limo Bus to 5 wineries and 1 brewery for tastings; lunch included. E-mail: [info@mcdhub.org](mailto:info@mcdhub.org) to reserve your spot and make a payment.

- **NEW! Save the Dates:** February 8-10, 2019, for the Eastern Schools for the Deaf Athletic Association (ESDAA) Girls Division II Varsity Basketball Tournament at RSD! More information coming soon.

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## **ONGOING**

- **REGISTER!** [Winter 2019 Session Signs for All \(SFA\)](#) Community Member classes information as well as online registration and a printable registration form are now available. Class registration and book payment deadline are January 2, 2019.

- **FAMILY MEMBERS! Signs for All (SFA) Winter 2019** [printable registration](#) form for **RSD Family Members** is now available. Deadline to register and pay in full is January 2, 2019. RSD Family Members may [click here](#) to download and print the registration form. Online registration on the [SFA Web page](#) is for Community Members only. The RSD Family Member printable registration is also linked to the [SFA Web page](#).

- Your RSD Wildcats Athletics Department has now posted the Winter 2018-2019 athletic season schedules & rosters for [Girls Varsity](#), [Boys Varsity](#), and [Middle School](#) Basketball games. All games are also posted to the [RSD Web site events calendar](#) and can be exported in iCalendar/Outlook format.

- [ECC ASL Storytime Videos](#) playlist on the RSD YouTube Channel has added 7 (seven) brand new stories complete with color illustrations, ASL narration, classifiers, vocabulary, and ASL chants! 18 (eighteen) ASL Storytime Videos to learn from and enjoy! [Check them out today!](#)

- [City of Rochester Break Week Discovery Programs](#) - Explore and play during school break weeks. Ages: 6-13. Monday-Friday: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. \$100 city residents; \$145 non-city residents per week. Where? Genesee Valley Park Field House.

- Partners in Deaf Health, Inc. [Deaf Health Talk: 'Tis the Season! ...For Diabetes](#) presented by Dr. IV Mirus, Thursday, December 13, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Center for Disability Rights/Regional Center for Independent Living, [497 State St, Rochester](#). Free parking & admission. Healthy snacks provided!

- **[ASL Storytime](#)** at the Irondequoit Public Library, [1290 Titus Ave., Rochester](#), is Saturday, December 15 at 10:15 a.m. - recommended for children ages 1-5.

- **[ASL Tours of the Monet Exhibit](#)** at Rochester's Memorial Art Gallery - Saturday, December 15 at 1:00 p.m. Tours will be led by Deaf MAG Docent Jackie Schertz and are limited to 15 individuals. RSVPs are required. Contact Mary Ann Monley [mmonley@mag.rochester.edu](mailto:mmonley@mag.rochester.edu) 585-276-8974 to reserve your place. ASL tours are included with MAG admission. See the [flyer](#) for more information.

- **[MCDHub Events](#)**: Holiday Event, Saturday, December 8; Youth Performance Training, January 26--27; Pre-Super Bowl Party, Saturday, February 2. [Click here](#) for event locations and tickets.

- Deaf Hang Out, where Deaf and hearing mingle - [Fall Deaf Trivia Night](#) at Uno Pizzeria & Grill, [1000 Hylan Dr, Henrietta, NY 14623](#) - December 18.

- **[Cromania!](#)** Sunday, February 24, 2019, at 7:30 p.m., [Lyric Theater, 440 East Ave., Rochester](#). Cromania is Crom Saunders' one-man show featuring skits that incorporate pop culture, impersonations, improvisation, American Sign Language, puns, and physical feats into one big laugh fest. Crom came up with the idea for this show based on his love of books, theatre, and movies. He draws a lot from contemporary film and theatre, but also pays homage to the classics like Shakespeare and classic horror movies. \$20 Adults; \$15 Seniors. [Click here](#) for show information and tickets.

- [The National Susan B. Anthony Museum & House](#) in Rochester will be offering ASL Tours on Sundays starting at 1:00 p.m., January 20; February 24; and, March 31, 2019. ASL Tours are included with the price of museum & house admission. Reservations for ASL Tours must be made in advance and by 5:00 p.m. the Friday prior to the scheduled ASL Tour. E-mail: [programs@susanb.org](mailto:programs@susanb.org) or call 585.235.6124 ext 1 to make an ASL Tour reservation. If an ASL Tour is canceled a 48-hour notice will be provided to those holding an ASL Tour reservation.

- [RIT/NTID Performing Arts 2018-2019 Theatrical Season](#) includes four stage productions - three on the Robert F. Panara stage and one in the new MAGIC Spell Studio. All shows will be fully accessible using captions, ASL or ASL interpretation.

- National Center of Deaf Health Research (NCDHR) [Deaf2 Informational Video Library](#) - Current video topics in ASL include Sexually Transmitted Infections, Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV), and Safe Sex Practices.

- TAP 2020 students and advisers have another fundraiser underway called "**Shoes With Heart.**" From now until June 1, 2019, TAP students are collecting gently worn, used and new shoes that are clean and dry and still have some life left in them. "Shoes With Heart" collection stations will be found around RSD. Don't throw out your old shoes. Give them to TAP students to support their trip to England and France in 2020. Thanks again!

- [iGive.com](#) is donating \$3 for each new person supporting Rochester School for the Deaf through [iGive](#). No purchase necessary. Supporters shop at over 1,900 great stores. An average of 3 percent is donated to RSD

via [iGive](#), and when you shop often that adds up quickly. The \$3 donation to RSD offer ends November 30. Thanks!

- If you give to the **United Way of Greater Rochester** consider directing your gift to support students at Rochester School for the Deaf. The Designation Number for RSD is **1162**. Thank you for your generous and thoughtful support.

- **[TOPS in Education!](#)** Shop at TOPS Friendly Markets and support RSD. Simply [register](#) your TOPS Bonus Plus card or key tag, select Rochester School for the Deaf as your school to support, and TOPS will contribute up to 5% of your TOPS brand items purchased to RSD. The more you buy, the more TOPS supports RSD.

- [Introducing eScrip.com](#) where over \$400 million is given back to schools and nonprofits like Rochester School for the Deaf. [Sign up securely today](#), get the app and start shopping. As you shop locally or online or dine out you make a difference when you choose to support Rochester School for the Deaf. [Watch this quick video](#) to learn more.

- Shopping on Amazon Smile can also be a bonus to RSD, and we have made it easy. [Just click here](#) to go to the "Shopping Supports RSD" page and shop through Amazon Smile or eScrip. You get what you want easily and conveniently and RSD gains additional funds to enhance and enrich educational programs for our students.

- [The American Society of Deaf Children \(ASDC\)](#) is constantly seeking diverse families with Deaf and hard of hearing children and young adults

who are empowered to embrace full access to language-rich ASL and English environments. Individual and family memberships to ASDC are free and include: The Endeavor news magazine, information about conferences for families, free Described and Captioned Media Program membership, website and social media channels with links and resources, monthly e-mail blast for members, and more. RSD families who are not yet members of the ASDC can [click here for a free, membership](#). RSD member families of ASDC can also use this form to extend your free membership yearly. Please join or renew today!

- To honor the life and volunteer service to RSD of the late Gilman Perkins, great-grandson of RSD's founders, Gilman and Caroline Perkins, Gil's children have established [The Gilman Perkins Fund for RSD Student Needs](#). This fund is intended to help RSD students overcome financial obstacles that may impede them from achieving academic, social or career success. [Click here](#) to learn more about The Gilman Perkins Fund and how you and others can contribute to it towards the success of all RSD students. Thank you.

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- Find RSD on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/rochesterschoolforthe deaf](http://www.facebook.com/rochesterschoolforthe deaf)

- Follow RSD on Twitter: [@RSDeaf](https://twitter.com/RSDeaf)

- Follow RSD on Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/rochesterschoolforthe deaf/>

- RSD Photos & Videos on flickr: [www.flickr.com/photos/rsdeaf/sets](http://www.flickr.com/photos/rsdeaf/sets)

- <http://deafrochy.com/> is back and better than ever! Events - Calendar - Job Postings - Advertising! Check it out!

- To join the Building Bridges distribution list, update your e-mail address or to opt out, click on the Google Group link below or contact Lauren via e-mail: [lashworth@rsdeaf.org](mailto:lashworth@rsdeaf.org)