



Youth Programs

**Deaf Youth Pride
Gallaudet University
June 28-July 5, 2023**

Dear Rehabilitation Counselor for the Deaf/Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor:

Every summer, Gallaudet University, through its Youth Programs office, hosts several camp programs for deaf, hard of hearing, and hearing youth. This year's camps are scheduled for June 20-27, 2023, and June 28-July 5, 2023, on our picturesque campus in Washington, D.C. Our Summer Youth Camps are designed for middle and high school students up to the age of 19. The camps provide stimulating summer learning and experiential opportunities that blend education, excitement, and enjoyment in a bilingual environment, rich in cultural diversity, located just minutes from the U.S. Capitol.

Gallaudet University is the world's only university designed to be barrier-free for deaf and hard of hearing students. For more than 150 years, Gallaudet University has led advances in education for deaf and hard of hearing students and deaf rights worldwide. Today, students from across the United States and around the globe, diverse in perspective, backgrounds, interests, and communication styles, form an exciting learning community as they prepare for dynamic careers and a lifetime of growth.

We want to call your attention to the Deaf Youth Pride camp. It is designed for deaf and hard-of-hearing students entering grades 9-12. Campers will attend workshops and activities with their peers to learn more about themselves and their various identities.

Deaf Youth Pride will benefit campers in developing their understanding of themselves and preparing them for post-high school success. The Deaf Youth Pride camp will enable campers to return to school equipped with additional skills, knowledge, and abilities applicable to preparing for their future career development. The following activities have been developed to support our goal of preparing our campers both personally and professionally:

- Experience what it is like to be a student on the Gallaudet University campus.
- Learn new skills to become an advocate for themselves and others in the LGBTQIA+ community.
- Meet with deaf people from diverse backgrounds and people from national LGBTQIA+ youth organizations.
- Attend fun and educational field trips to explore Washington, D.C.: attractions include the Washington Monument, the Lincoln Memorial, the Smithsonian museums, The National Holocaust Memorial Museum, Union Station, and many other world-famous sights.

Deaf Youth Pride meets the goals of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Pre-Employment Transition Services (Pre-ETS/PETS) program in the following areas:

- Campers receive information on post-secondary educational opportunities.
- Campers understand the importance of self-advocacy through career classes, leadership seminars, educational field trips, team-building activities, workshops, and group discussions.

Deaf Youth Pride will take place from June 20-June 27, 2020. **There is a \$375 fee for this camp.** Campers are also responsible for their own transportation costs to and from Washington D.C./Gallaudet University, and this is something that VR can assist with. We will provide round-trip transportation to and from Union Station or Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). Campers are encouraged to bring their own spending money as well.

We look forward to collaborating with you to support deaf and hard of hearing youth, and to start early in preparing for their future. For more information about our Summer Youth Camps, please see <http://www.gallaudet.edu/youth-programs/summer-youth-camps> . Also, feel free to contact me at chanel.bonheyo@gallaudet.edu if you have any questions.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Chanel Bonheyo
Manager, Youth Programs