

## Contributors

Yerker Andersson was born and spent his childhood in Sweden; he later attended Gallaudet University and received his PhD from the University of Maryland. In addition to teaching sociology and establishing the Deaf Studies Department at Gallaudet University, Dr. Andersson presented lectures at universities and national organizations of the deaf in many countries around the world. At present he maintains correspondence with deaf and hearing writers.

Brenda Jo Brueggemann is Professor of English and Disability Studies at Ohio State University. She is the author of two books, co-author of a writing textbook, and editor or co-editor of five edited collections. She initiated the “Deaf Lives” series for Gallaudet University Press and currently co-edits the journal, *Disability Studies Quarterly*.

Susan Burch, PhD, is an associate professor in the Department of American Studies at Middlebury College and the director of the Center for the Comparative Study of Race and Ethnicity. She is also a cofounder and board member of the Disability History Association and has served on the Society for Disability Studies’ board of directors. Her work has been acknowledged with several awards, including Andrew W. Mellon Foundation grants and a Fulbright lecturing award. She is the author of *Signs of Resistance: American Deaf Cultural History, 1900 to World War II*; the coeditor of *Women and Deafness: Double Visions*; the coauthor of *Unspeakable: The Story of Junius Wilson*; and the editor in chief of the *Encyclopedia of American Disability History*.

Nirmala Erevelles is Associate Professor of Education and Instructional Leadership in Educational Leadership, Policy, and Technology Studies at the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Dr. Erevelles’ teaching and

research are in the areas of disability studies, sociology of education, multicultural education, feminist theory, postcolonial theory, and qualitative research methodologies.

Lakshmi Fjord lives in Berkeley and works at University of California San Francisco where she continues her research on disablement effects throughout the life course, the ethical imperatives thought locally required after disability diagnoses, and disability arts. She feels immense gratitude to the generous people over the years in several countries who have opened their hearts and minds, their homes and professional work places, for research and, more significantly, for the deep, sustaining friendships and collaborations that she is privileged to enjoy.

Michele Friedner is a PhD candidate in the Joint University of California at Berkeley/University of California at San Francisco medical anthropology doctorate program. Her dissertation research looks at how deaf young adults in urban India circulate through different spaces in search of what she calls “deaf development.”

Kristen Harmon is Professor of English at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C. Born deaf, she was mainstreamed and happily discovered the Deaf community as a young adult. She has published both creative and academic works.

Alison Kafer is Assistant Professor of Feminist Studies at Southwestern University. Her work on gender, sexuality, and disability has been published in several journals and anthologies, including *The Journal of Women's History*, *Gendering Disability*, *Feminist Interventions in Ethics and Politics*, and *That's Revolting: Queer Strategies for Resisting Assimilation*.

Jessica Lee is a PhD candidate at the University of Colorado at Boulder. She conducted her research with the support of the National Science Foundation and Fulbright. Jessica has an MA in Deaf Studies from Gallaudet University. Currently she is advising the U.S. government on the East and Horn of Africa.

Leila Monaghan has a PhD in linguistic anthropology from UCLA based on work with the New Zealand Deaf community. She has taught anthropology, linguistics, Deaf studies and disability studies in Los Angeles, Mississippi, Philadelphia, Indiana, Wyoming and online and has numerous publications on international Deaf cultures and other topics. She is the co-editor of *Many Ways to be Deaf* and *HIV/AIDS in Deaf Communities*.

Soya Mori was born deaf and is the first Deaf president of the Japanese Association of Sign Linguistics. He also works as a development economist for the Institute of Developing Economies, where he is intensively involved in disability and development research.

Gina Oliva is an independent consultant and writer. She retired in 2009 from Gallaudet University, where she served in several capacities over thirty-seven years, most recently as a professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation. She received a BA in Psychology from Washington College in 1972, an MA in Counseling from Gallaudet College in 1976, and a doctorate in Recreation and Leisure Studies from the University of Maryland (1994). Her career at Gallaudet has included work in student activities, outreach/community development, and health/fitness prior to her appointment to the faculty. Gina published her first book, *Alone in the Mainstream: A Deaf Woman Remembers Public School* (Gallaudet University Press) in 2004. Her current research interests include deaf-hearing friendships and alliances, and the development of social capital in summer and weekend programs for deaf, hard of hearing, and cochlear implanted youth.

Joan Ostrove is Associate Professor of Psychology at Macalester College in St Paul, Minnesota. Her research concerns the connections between individual psychology and social structure, and she is particularly interested in the ways in which our positions in the social structure (specifically with respect to gender, social class, and disability) shape our individual psychological experiences. She has published articles on women's midlife personality development, socioeconomic status and health, social class and the college experience, and alliances across differences of social identity. Her current projects

focus on the ways in which social class background shapes people's experiences in graduate school, and on friendships and alliances between white people and people of color and between Deaf and hearing people. Joan is currently on leave from Macalester and is enrolled in the ASL/English Interpreter Preparation Program at Ohlone College in Fremont, CA.

Corbett Joan O'Toole is a longtime, internationally influential disability rights activist, a writer, filmmaker and director of the Disabled Women's Alliance, which focuses on networking and advocacy for women with disabilities around the world.

Lindsey Patterson earned a master's degree in Deaf Studies at Gallaudet University. She is currently a doctoral candidate in Women's and Modern U.S. History at The Ohio State University.

Khadijat Rashid has been a member of the Gallaudet faculty since 1994 and currently serves as Chair of the Department of Business. Dr. Rashid served on the board of the World Deaf Leadership Program when it was first created, guiding development projects for the deaf communities in South Africa and Thailand. She has also worked with and trained people from several deaf communities in Africa as part of Gallaudet-initiated leadership training programs.

Tavian Robinson earned a BA in History and a MA in Deaf Studies with a concentration in Deaf History from Gallaudet University. He is currently a PhD candidate in the Department of History at the Ohio State University. His dissertation is a study of the history of the American deaf community's campaigns against peddling and vagrancy. His research interests include women's and gender history, disability studies, and deaf history.

Constanze Schmalning studied African linguistics and sign language studies in Hamburg, London and Kano (Nigeria), and has published work on sign languages, Deaf culture, and Deaf HIV/AIDS in Africa. She has extensive teaching experience including training sign language interpreters in The Gambia and teaching sign language linguistics in Nigeria, Germany and the UK. She presently teaches Hausa at an American government institution.