

DeaFirst  
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***DeaFirst Mission.*** *DeaFirst is committed to developing an environment to inspire and promote Deaf Identity, Heritage and Culture. We believe in educating, informing, and celebrating the Deaf community in the Lubbock area. Our goal is to offer understanding and sensitivity to community.*



Dear Sir or Madam,

The city of Lubbock will be celebrating Deaf Awareness Week (DAW) during the month of October. This year marks the sixteenth anniversary that the Deaf community will have organized activities to spotlight this celebration. The highlight of our week of celebration will be our DeaFirst Event.



This year, DeaFirst Committee is excited to host our very first workshop with Mr. Alan R. Abarbanell on October 26, 2013. The goal of this event is to develop and educate the audience about American Sign Language (ASL). Certificated Interpreters, Deaf Educators, and ASL Instructors can earn Continuing Education Units (CEUs) for attending this workshop. This workshop will also be a great benefit for ASL students at the high school and college level, the Deaf community, parents of deaf children and many more. During evening entertainment, Mr. Abarbanell (also known as “Abababa”) will be our keynote speaker. Abababa’s sometimes hilarious, sometimes moving stories of navigating the many worlds of his youth have moved audiences from uproarious laughter, to heartfelt tears with the wave of a hand. Deaf and hearing audiences are raving about this uniquely entertaining theatrical experience.

The event will be a rewarding experience and provide wonderful insight into Deaf Culture for everyone in attendance. In the past, many organizations and individuals have helped to make this event a success through their generous contributions. In our continuing effort to expand our culture to all individuals South Plains, the DeaFirst committee would like to extend to you an opportunity to help by becoming a valued sponsor, either financially or by donating items for door prizes.

Furthermore, this event will serve as a fundraising opportunity. The funds raised will allow DeaFirst to be a sponsor in sending our Lubbock Deaf/Hard-of-Hearing youth to an educational leadership summer camp in Texas. This summer we are proud to send a 7-year old Deaf girl, Trinity Cavazo, to a summer program at Texas School for the Deaf. Our goal is to send three students – one each from elementary, secondary, and high school – if funds allow. Your financial sponsorship will have a great impact on the lives of our Deaf and Hard-of-Hearing youth in Lubbock.

DeaFirst – DAW, is a not-for-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code. Donations are tax-deductible to the maximum extent allowed by law. We will gladly accept contributions at any level. DeaFirst will recognize contributors by including their name/logo in the DeaFirst event PowerPoint slideshow. If you would like to make a contribution, please include your logo so we can recognize your generosity.

Thank you  
Lori Mallory  
*DeaFirst President*