

# You asked for it *Deaf activities*

Date: August 14, 2008 12:13:58 PM EDT  
 To: inyc@timeoutny.com  
 Subject: question?

I was wondering if you could share info pertaining to the deaf and hard-of-hearing population. My boyfriend is deaf and we are often looking for deaf events and places to go in NYC!

Kelly  
 Staten Island

## On stage

The **Met Opera** has created a custom-designed captioning system called Met Titles; the individual viewer-controlled screens on seat backs, stanchions and standing-room rails (along with wireless sound-amplification headsets) are available during all opera performances, including the current run of Donizetti's *Lucia di Lammermoor* (Columbus Ave at 65th St; 212-362-6000, [metoperafamily.org](http://metoperafamily.org)).

For a little song and dance, **Hands On** ([handson.org](http://handson.org)) provides sign-language interpretation to theaters in NYC. The organization's website lists events, such as three performances of the upcoming **Radio City Music Hall's A Christmas Extravaganza** (1260 Sixth Ave at 50th St; 212-247-4777, [radiocity.com](http://radiocity.com)). The group's website also offers a full monthly calendar of interpreted events around the city, including the **Theatre Development Fund's** open-captioned performance of *The Lion King* on Thu 4 (1515 Broadway between 44th and 45th Sts; 212-307-4100, [disney.go.com](http://disney.go.com)).

For a more intimate experience, the **League for the Hard of Hearing** puts on a comedy night featuring sign interpretation each spring ([lh.org](http://lh.org)), while the **ASL Poetry Slam** at the **Bowery Poetry Club** encourages participation from signing wordsmiths; the next event is November 29 (308 Bowery between Blecker and Houston Sts; 212-614-0505, [bowerypoetry.com](http://bowerypoetry.com)).

## On screen

The movie-finding site **Fomdi** ([fomdi.com](http://fomdi.com)) is getting mixed reviews from the deaf community, but it is still a good resource for zoning in on theaters with closed and rear-window captioning. **Local Regal, AMC** and **UA** theaters offer the service at various screenings, but it's always recommended to call ahead for confirmation.



## On display

The **New York Botanical Garden** offers sign-language-interpreted tours every third Saturday of the month (Bronx River Pkwy at Fordham Rd, Bronx; 718-817-8700, [nybg.org](http://nybg.org)). Indoors at the **Museum of Modern Art**, Brown Bag Lunch Lectures encourages attendees to bring their own munchables to eat during talks that occasionally feature sound amplification or sign language; alternately, the Interpreting MoMA program, which supplements a private gallery sign-language-interpreted talk with wine and cheese, will be about the "New Photography 2008" exhibit on November 13 (11 W 53rd St between Fifth and Sixth Aves; 212-708-9400, [moma.org](http://moma.org)).

## On the mat

Did you know there are only a handful of deaf certified yoga teachers in the United States? This fact has been noted by the **DeafYoga Foundation**, which launched a fund-raiser this past summer to train five deaf yogis. On November 7, an



introductory class for deaf and signing community members will cover the history, benefits and basics of the practice (900 Easton Ave between Foxwood Ave and John F Kennedy Blvd, Somerset, NJ; [deafyoga.org](http://deafyoga.org)).

## On tap

Sure, you may slur some signs, but since when did that become a crime? The monthly **Deaf Professional Happy Hour** meets at a different bar every month, which is announced on the group's blog ([nycdphh.blogspot.com](http://nycdphh.blogspot.com)); the **NYC ASL Meetup Group**, a great venue for sign-language newcomers to practice, is scheduled three times each month ([asl.meetup.com/13](http://asl.meetup.com/13)). For more social activities, try the **Brooklyn Society for the Deaf**, where monthly poker nights are supplemented by special events, such as a Thanksgiving soiree featuring door prizes on November 8 (13th St between Aves O and P, Midwood, Brooklyn; [brooklyndeaf.com](http://brooklyndeaf.com)). —Llanor Alleyne



## City library

Books being read by New York politicians on the ballot  
 Tue 4

**The Man Time Forgot: A Tale of Genius, Betrayal, and the Creation of Time Magazine** by Isaiah Wilner, being read by Daniel L. Squadron (D), running for state senator (25th district)

**How the States Got Their Shapes** by Mark Stein, being read by John G. Chromczak (R), running for state senator (25th district)

**The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court** by Jeffrey Toobin, being read by Saul J. Farber (R), running for member of the assembly (75th district)

**Sway: The Irresistible Pull of Irrational Behavior** by Ori Brafman and Rom Brafman, being read by Liz Krueger (D), running for state senator (26th district)

**Nickel and Dime: (Not) Getting By in America** by Barbara Ehrenreich, being read by José M. Serrano (D), running for state senator (28th district)

**The Predator State: How Conservatives Abandoned the Free Market and Why Liberals Should Too** by James K. Galbraith, being read by Jerrold L. Nadler (D), running for representative in Congress (8th district)

**John Adams** by David McCullough, being read by Deborah Glick (D), running for member of the assembly (66th district)

The world's largest group of masochists gathers for the ING New York City Marathon Sun 2 ([ingnycmarathon.org](http://ingnycmarathon.org)).



Gentleman-about-town Tim Gunn gives a lecture on, we assume, making it work (oh, and "Quality, Taste and Style") at the New School Mon 3 ([newschool.edu](http://newschool.edu)).