

## Presenter Bio



**Antonio Goodwin** has based his education on dealing with this notion of difference and diversity. His work in law school dealt with understanding the legal system beyond ontological criminality of African Americans. His work in divinity school focused on religion and the public sphere, African American political ethos and advocacy, masculinities, social injustice regarding prison systems, and the politics of difference.

As a sign language interpreter, Antonio has been in a variety of group setting: having interpreted at the National Black Deaf Advocacy conference for three of their past four conferences; having served as president of the National Alliance of Black Interpreters, Inc.; having served on the RID Diversity Council for two terms and having penned the draft of the current published RID Diversity Statement, this topic is part and parcel of Antonio's life.

In his 14 years of professional interpreting, he has worked at three VRS companies, totaling 8 and half years. He has taught college level American Sign Language for one year and half and developed a theoretical application of performance theory to American Sign Language interpreting. The development resulted in a coauthored article published in the VIEWS December 2004 edition. He is nationally certified with the Certificate of Interpretation (CI) and the Certificate of Transliteration (CT) from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc. (RID).

Plan to have an amazing time with engaging these topics in his Keynote: "Developing a Better You: Good, Better, Best" and his interactive workshops: "I Am Not My Hair: Diversity at its best!" and "The Interpreted Life: Creating a life you love!"



**William F. Ross III**, a child of Deaf parents, has been interpreting for more than 30 years and holds dual certification (CI/CT) from the Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf. He has a Master of Science Degree in Special Education from Missouri State University. Currently, Bill is an Associate Professor in the Carlstrom Interpreter Training Program at North Central University in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mr. Ross was previously employed as the Director of the Communication Access Support Services Department at North Carolina School for the Deaf (NCSd); where he established the NCSd Mentorship Project and Distance Learning

Mentoring Program to provide ongoing support to educational and freelance interpreters. He is passionate about building mentoring relationships, studying ASL and accompanying interpreters on the journey of interpreting. Formerly, Bill held the member-at-large board position with Minnesota Registry of Interpreters of the Deaf and the fund raising chair.



**Joshua Pennise** is an RID certified interpreter (CI and CT, NIC Advanced) with seventeen years of practice experience in a wide variety of settings. He has worked in management for Sorenson Communications for ten years, where he currently serves as the National Director of Community Interpreting. Josh holds a master's degree in applied linguistics from Old Dominion University where his research focused on ASL usage of Deaf people with intellectual disabilities. He previously taught interpreting at Tidewater Community College for over ten years both part and full-time and currently chairs the advisory committee for this program. Josh has

been heavily involved in the advancement of the interpreting profession contributing a combined 15 years of board and committee service, currently as RID Secretary. He has traveled extensively throughout the United States and Canada to present on the semantics and pragmatics of interpreting, interpreting for Deaf people with a typical cognition, leadership and American Queer culture.



**Kellie Mills Stewart** is the Program Chair of the ASL and English Interpreter Education Program at Central Piedmont Community College in Charlotte, NC. A practicing interpreter with over 30 years of experience, Kellie has taught within bachelor and associate degree programs for 26 years specializing in designing and teaching interpreting skills-related courses, team interpreting, ethical practice, ethical leadership, team interpreting and business skills for students and practitioners. She has presented on a number of topics during national conferences, workshops

and in the classroom. She holds a master's degree in education and is currently a doctoral student at Northeastern University's Teaching, Learning, Curriculum and Leadership program. Her research interests include exploring the phenomenon of *interpreter attitude*, implicit and explicit attitudes and bias, stereotyping, hearing and interpreter privilege, as well as, other topics associated with ethics and ethical decision-making.



**Bethany Hamm-Whitfield**, has been a licensed interpreter since 2005, is the NCRID representative to the Board, and became the chair to the NCITLB in December 2015.



**Catherine Johnson**, has been a licensed interpreter since 2005, and represents ITP programs, she is a sign language instructor at Wilson Community College, and became co-chair to the Board in 2015.



**Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan** (Writer, Producer and Director) graduated with a BFA degree in film production from one of the world top film schools at Tisch School of the Arts, New York University.

Jade has years of experience in show business, producing films, talent management, event coordinating, fundraising, and marketing research, as well as teaching, writing, theater directing and business administration. She is the founder of DeafVision Filmworks, Inc. and Jade Films and Entertainment, LLC. Under the auspices of her production company, Jade Films and Entertainment, she has plans to form an agency exclusively focused on producing fashion shows, music videos, feature films, commercials, coordinating model recruitment, managing talent and special project developments.

Jade produced and directed award winning documentaries, "Listen to the Hands of Our People," "On and Off Stage: The Bruce Hlibok Stories," and "911 Fear in Silence: The Forgotten Underdogs."

Jade has completed her first feature, "If You Could Hear My Own Tune," formerly known as "Somalia: A Love Story," which toured the festival circuit from 2010-2012. She worked tirelessly on the film for 9 years.

"The Shattered Mind" is a new short film she has recently complete this year in 2014 and is currently going through the festival circuit.

She's also developing two TV pilots, "The Two Essences" and "The Innocent Project" for 2016 to increase positive representation of Deaf People of Color in television and film. She anticipates that it will be the highlight breakthrough of her filmmaking career.

**Jana Owen** is a sign language interpreter who has over twenty years of experience in a wide array of interpreting settings with a specialty in legal interpreting. She began her interpreting career in Portland, Oregon and later moved to Washington, D.C. where she learned her craft at Sign Language Associates, first as a staff interpreter and later as Vice President for Professional Staff. She has served in local and national leadership roles in the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf (RID) and is currently President of the NYC Metro RID Chapter. Jana moved to New York in 2009 and is now in private practice providing interpreting and consulting services. She is certified by the RID and holds certifications in Interpreting, Transliterating and the Specialty Certification: Legal.

**Beth Cali** is the Director and Forensic Interviewer at the Burke County Child Advocacy Center. Beth has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Lees-McRae College and is currently pursuing a Masters in Clinical Mental Health Counseling from Montreat College. Prior to joining South Mountain Children and Family Services at the Director at the Burke CAC Beth worked in mental health for many years in a variety of settings and positions. Beth holds the state recognized credential of Qualified Professional within child mental health services. Since taking the position of Director at the Burke County CAC Beth has been trained and certified in two nationally recognized interview protocols; RADAR (Recognizing Abuse Disclosure Types and Responding) and National Child Advocacy Center Forensic Interviewing of Children. Both of these intense trainings as well as monthly peer review, and additional local and state level symposiums and trainings help ensure that Beth can conduct interviews of children in a way that are legally sound, non-leading, and assist her multidisciplinary team with their investigations. In addition to her duties as interviewer she also chairs the weekly multidisciplinary team meetings, provides victim advocacy, and works toward prevention of child abuse through community involvement.

**Beth Browning** is currently a certified Family Nurse Practitioner and the Director of Medical Services for South Mountain Children and Family Services. She has been a loyal employee of South Mountain for over 25 years. Beth Browning began her work at South Mountain as a foster parent and then later in her career she became involved and passionate about the Child Advocacy Centers and was integral in the development of South Mountain's first Child Advocacy Center in Burke County in 1998. Beth Browning is currently a Certified Family Nurse Practitioner. Prior to her Master's degree in Nursing Beth became a Registered Nurse and also obtained the certifications of SANE- A and SANE-P, (Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner- Adolescents and Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner- Pediatrics). These credentials and trainings have allowed Beth to provide Child Medical Exams to children through South Mountain's Children Advocacy Centers in order to not only assist the child and family to determine needed medical treatment, but to also assist with the child abuse investigations. Beth Browning is known across the state for the quality of her Child Medical Exams and her photo documentation. Beth Browning is a

certified forensic interview who is trained in three nationally recognized forensic interview protocols including RADAR, National Children's Advocacy Center- Forensic Interviewing of Children, and Cornerhouse Forensic Interview Protocol. Beth not only attends numerous yearly trainings and symposiums to ensure her ability to provide the highest quality of medical services to children at the 4 Children's Advocacy Centers as well as the foster care community for South Mountain Children and Family Services.