



# ADAPT

DEAF  
DIGITAL  
PLATFORM

OUR GOAL IS TO  
CREATE A PLACE THAT  
WILL ENHANCE THE  
HUMAN EXPERIENCE

ADAPT EBOOK  
ISSUE NO 1, 2022



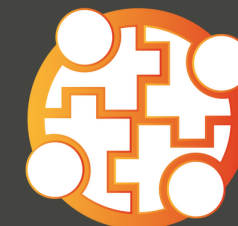
SCIENCE



ENTREPRE-  
NEURSHIP



ECOLOGY



CULTURE



ART

# DEAF HISTORY



Socrates

No one knows exactly when sign language first appeared, and it is impossible to know exactly when and where the first deaf person tried sign language, but we do know that the first written record of sign language comes from ancient Greece. In 422 B.C., the philosopher Socrates said, "If we possessed neither voice nor tongue, and yet wished to communicate to each other, should we not, like those who are at present mute, try to express



Plato

our meaning by our hands, our heads, and other parts of the body?" Another philosopher, Plato, wrote the dialogue *Cratylus*, in which he quoted Socrates' words. It took many years to prove that sign language was indeed a language and not just a collection of signs. In 1960, William Stokoe, a hearing professor at Gallaudet University (USA), published a book that clearly proves that sign language is an independent system.



William Stokoe

He claimed that American Sign Language is a distinct system with its own grammar and syntax and is not a translation from English. Since then, American Sign Language has been recognized as an important national language. Sweden was the first country to officially recognize sign language as the native language of the deaf (1981). Today, sign language is recognized as the native method of communication and education for the deaf. No one knows exactly how many sign languages there are in the world today, but almost every country in the world has unique sign methods.

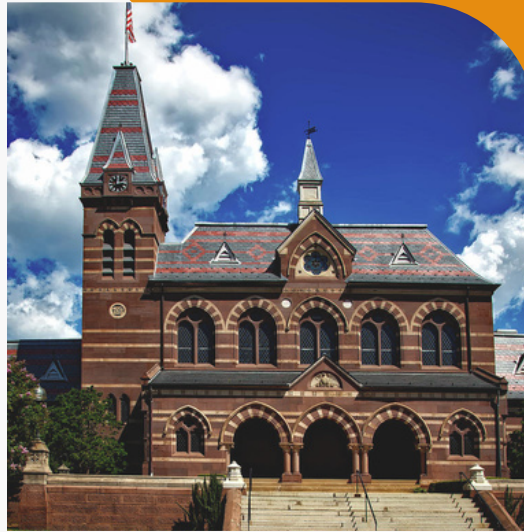
Aside from these few references to opportunities for the deaf to express their thoughts in sign language, their lives have been severely limited for many centuries. Just think of ancient Egypt, where the deaf were respected and revered. In contrast, in ancient Greece, the deaf were considered a burden on society and were killed. The first people who tried to teach the deaf were priests or medical doctors. The education of deaf children was usually organised by the family. The goal was to teach the deaf to communicate with other people orally or in writing.



# FIRST SCHOOLS

With the advent of the Renaissance in Europe, the first schools for the deaf were opened. The first school for the deaf was opened in Paris (France) in 1760 - the National Institute for the Deaf and Dumb - by Charles-Michel de l'Épée. Two years later it was opened to the public. The school focused on language acquisition through sign language. In 1760, a Scottish teacher - Thomas Braidwood - founded the Braidwood Academy for the Deaf and Dumb in Edinburgh. The educational approach was a "combined system" that included sign language, articulation, speech, and lip reading.

The third school for the deaf was opened in 1778 by Samuel Heinicke in Leipzig, Germany. Heinicke's school focused on teaching deaf children to lip-read and produce speech. The first school for the deaf in the United States opened in Hartford, Connecticut, in 1817.



Gallaudet University (Washington, USA), the only university in the world where all programmes and services are specifically designed for deaf and hard-of-hearing students, was founded in 1864 by an act of Congress (its charter) signed by President Abraham Lincoln. From a school of 12 students in 1857 to over 1,500 students in 2020, Gallaudet has always been a growing and evolving university.





# GALLAUDET UNIVERSITY

Students at the College can choose from more than 40 fields of study leading to a Bachelor of Arts or Bachelor of Science degree. Graduate programs at Gallaudet University are open to deaf, hard of hearing and hearing students and offer certificates and Master of Arts, Master of Science, doctoral and professional degrees in a variety of fields that include professional services for the deaf and hard of hearing.

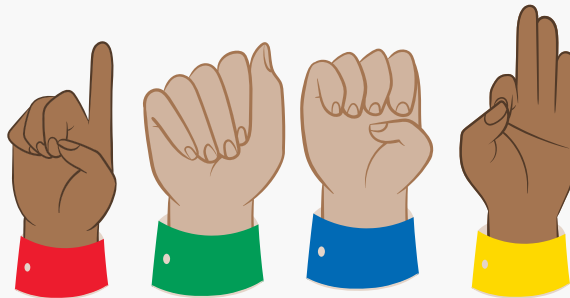


# SILENT GAMES

The first games, known as the International Silent Games, were held in Paris in 1924. They were the idea of Eugène Rubens-Alcais, himself deaf and president of the French Deaf Sports Federation. At a time when society everywhere regarded the deaf as intellectually inferior and linguistically impoverished, Monsieur Rubens-Alcais saw an international sporting event as the best answer.

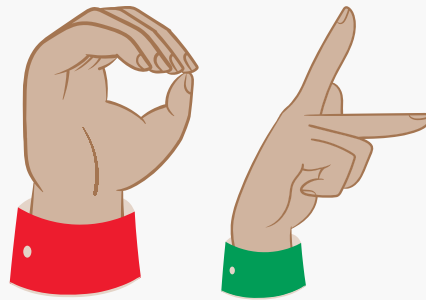
# INTERNATIONAL SILENT GAMES

Antoine Dresse, a young deaf Belgian, helped him realise his dream. 148 athletes from 9 European countries participated in the first games.



After the first Games in Paris, leading Deaf athletes founded the International Committee for Silent Sports (CISS), later renamed the International Committee for Sports for the Deaf (ICSD). The ICSD represents the essence of Olympism for the deaf population and has its own motto: "Equality through Sport". Since 2001, the games have been called the Deaflympics. Only deaf and hard of hearing athletes can participate in the summer or winter Deaflympics, world championships, regional championships and other ICSD sanctioned competitions.

The Deaflympics are held every four years, except for an interruption due to World War II. The logo, designed in 2003 by graphic designer Ralph Fernandez, is a positive and strong symbol of the international Deaf sports community. It combines strong elements: sign language, Deaf and international cultures, unity and continuity.



The handshapes "ok," "good," and "great" intersecting in a circle represent the original sign for "deaflympics." Together, the hand shapes represent the sign for "united." The center of the logo represents the iris of the eye, which defines deaf people as visual; they must use their eyes to communicate.

The logo picks up the four colors of the world's national flags. Red, blue, yellow and green represent the four regional federations - the Asia-Pacific Deaf Sports Federation, the European Deaf Sports Organization, the Pan American Deaf Sports Organization and the Confederation of African Deaf Sports.



# LET'S HAVE SOME FUN!

## Deaf History: Puzzles

<https://edpuzzle.com/media/6188e092a23e04413e833dcc>



## Deaf History: Quiz

<https://jeopardylabs.com/play/deaf-history-25>



## Deaf History: Questions and answers

<https://create.kahoot.it/share/deaf-history/83628bb5-0607-40de-aece-eba52dd2ab69>



## Deaf History: Video

<http://www.e-adapt.eu/component/sppagebuilder/?view=page&id=129>





# INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROJECT

The deAf DigitAl PlaTform (ADAPT) project aims to develop the first e-magazine aimed at deaf teenagers aged 13 to 21. Indeed, in this age group, students learn to become independent, to advocate for their interests, and needs become crucial.



Using pedagogical elements that are easy for deaf students to understand, the ADAPT Consortium aims to help middle and high school teachers foster students' interest in school learning, open deaf youth to the world, spark their curiosity, develop their knowledge, and provide them with opportunities to communicate with those around them, including family and friends.

The logo represents an open book from which the mouse arrow comes out. The book is grey, because it is an object, but the arrow is orange, thus colourful and vivid, showing the benefits of accessible digital learning materials.

deAf DigitAl PlaTform  
"ADAPT"

Erasmus+ Project  
KA201 - Strategic  
Partnerships for School  
Education

Project number:  
2020-1-RS01-KA201-065366



# MEET THE PARTNERS



Colegio Gaudem  
(Madrid, Spain)



Istituto Dei Sordi di Torino  
(Pianezza, Italy)



ISTITUTO DEI SORDI  
DI TORINO



Educational Center for  
Deaf & Hard of Hearing  
of Lithuania (Vilnius, Lithuania)



LIETUVOS KURČIŲJŲ IR  
NEPRIGIRDINČIŲJŲ  
UGDYMO CENTRAS



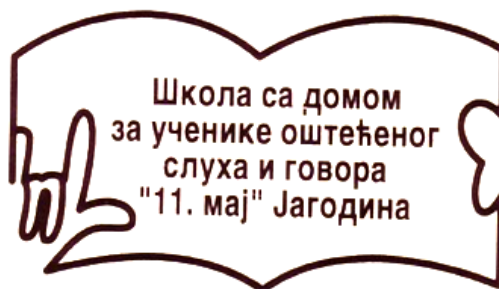
# MEET THE PARTNERS



Specjalny Ośrodek Szkolno  
Wychowawczy dla Niesłyszących  
(Kraków, Poland)



Škola sa domom za učenike  
ostecenog sluha i govora „11.maj”,  
(Jagodina, Serbia)



Liceul Tehnologic Special pentru  
Deficienti de Auz  
(Cluj-Napoca, Romania)



# END OF ISSUE ONE

