

# Deaf Education Alliance Summit 2017

**Better Together-Students Improve When We Improve**  
**January 27-28, 2017**

**SIGNING TIME**  
Family Concert  
(SAT-27<sup>th</sup> - 3:30p-4:30p)  
**TICKETS SOLD**  
**SEPARATELY GO TO:**  
<http://m.bpt.me/event/2582514>  
**ONE FREE TICKET**  
**AVAILABLE TO**  
**The FIRST 30**  
**REGISTERED**  
**For both days**

## LOCATION

LSU Health Sciences Center  
411 South Prieur  
New Orleans, LA 70112

Questions:  
Contact Rana Ottallah  
[dea.chair@deaffocus.org](mailto:dea.chair@deaffocus.org)

## SUGGESTED HOTELS

Hotel information  
will be announced soon.

Early Bird  
Special  
\$10 Off  
Ends Dec. 9th

## REGISTRATION

**REGULAR RATE (2 days): \$150 (deadline January 22)**

**Daily Rate: \$85**

**At the door: \$185**

**No refunds after December 10, 2016**

**Lunch is provided both days. Parking is on your own \$10 per day**

For more information and to register go to [www.deaffocus.org](http://www.deaffocus.org)



**Rachel Coleman**

### Keynote Friday

**Early Childhood Bilingualism with Deaf & Hard of Hearing Students & Impact on Student Outcomes**

Rachel Coleman – With Signing Time Foundation, is an American musician and Emmy nominated actress. In 1998, Rachel and her husband Aaron discovered that their daughter Leah was deaf. In 2000 their daughter Lucy was born with spinal bifida and cerebral palsy. In 2001, Rachel teamed up with her sister Emilie to create Signing Time! – a children's video series that teaches basic ASL vocabulary to children of all abilities. She produces, directs and stars in Signing Time, Baby Signing Time, and Rachel & The Treeschoolers. Rachel is a mentor, an advocate and role model for families raising children with disabilities. Signing Time is often one of the first resources families seek out when they discover their child has hearing loss, Down syndrome, autism or communication delay.

**CEUs applied for**



### Friday - January 27, 2017

8:00a – Registration  
Announcements  
9:00a **Keynote – Rachel Coleman**  
12:30p – Lunch  
1:15p Mock IEP Dr. Angela Trahan  
2:45p **Breakout Sessions**  
Graduation Pathways  
Nannette Olivier  
Educational Interpreting  
Denise Crochet/Nicky Gilles  
DeafBlind Support Services  
Michael Norman

### Saturday – January 28, 2017

8:00a – Registration  
Announcements  
8:45a **Keynote – Paula Rodriguez**  
11:00a **Bullying – Ari Latino**  
**Identify, Prevent & Report**  
**Student Presentation**  
11:45a – Lunch  
12:30p **Breakout Sessions**  
Early Intervention  
Linda Frantz  
Visual Learning  
Robby Porter  
**Federal and State Laws**  
**Related to DDBHH**  
John Veezay  
**Communication Plan &**  
**IEP Development**  
Melodie Sparks & Ashley Argrave  
2:00p **Breakout Sessions**  
**CI as a tool for success**  
Shelley Chesney/Theresa Nicholls  
**High School Transition**  
Melissa Bayham  
**Educational Audiologist &**  
**Their Role in Student Success**  
Wendy Jumonville  
**Parent Advocacy &**  
**Student Self-Advocacy**  
Jill Guidry  
3:15p **Ends**



**Paula Rodriguez**

**Keynote Saturday**

**'When Deaf Kids Thrive'**



Paula Rodriguez, MSW, LCSW, BACS founded Deaf Focus Services in 2009 to bridge the gap in service between the deaf and non-deaf community and to provide direct communication and counseling support for the Deaf community and families who have children who are deaf or hard of hearing. A graduate of Southeastern Louisiana University and LSU, Paula is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and a Board Approved Clinical Supervisor specializing in child and family therapy and behavior management and intervention. Paula is familiar with deafness and the impact of hearing loss on families. She is a nationally certified sign language interpreter with over 25 years of experience. She has worked as a sign language interpreter, school social worker, and therapist. She provides consultation to teachers and counselors. She also provides trainings and workshops related to deafness, sign language, and behavior management. Paula serves on the Governor's Council of Disability Affairs and was awarded the GOLD Service Provider of the Year Award in 2016.