

On September 15, Cat Brewer, the film director of the award-winning documentary, Sign the Show, came to visit California School for the Deaf. Sign the Show is a film about the importance of access to various forms of entertainment for the Deaf community, such as concerts, theater, comedy, and music festivals. While making the film, Cat Brewer was the person behind the camera interviewing Deaf people while they shared their experiences about going to performances—when they had access to the show through masterful ASL interpretation and when they were deprived of the opportunity to experience the show due to lack of access to ASL.



FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2022
6:10 - 8:10PM @ HOLY NAMES UNIVERSITY

DIRECTOR/CAST
TALK/SIGN BACK





Cat Brewer presenting at the Oakland International Film Festival, at the Holy Names University campus.



CSD students had the opportunity to learn about Cat Brewer's filming and writing experience.

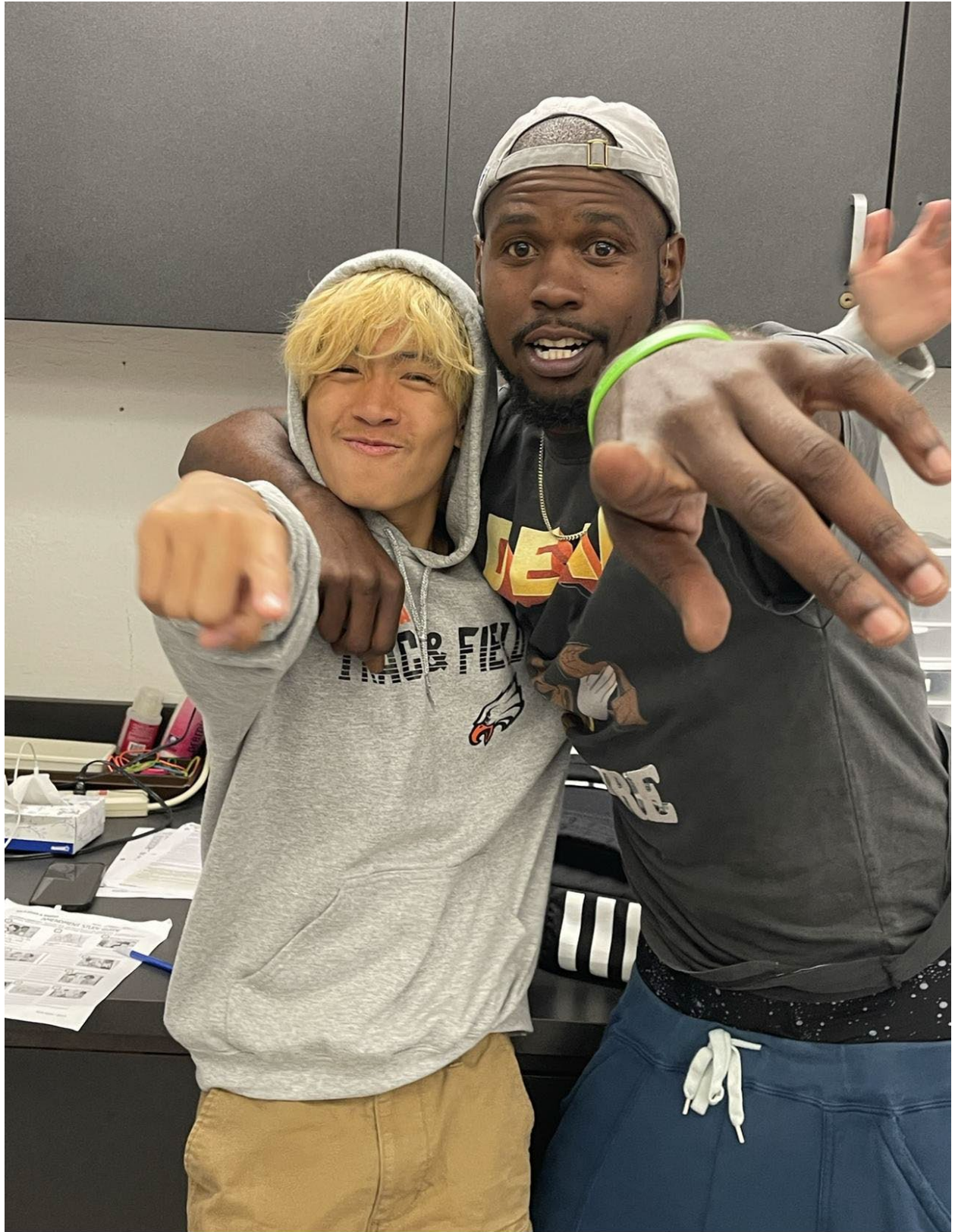
Also visiting our school that day was Matt Maxey— who is an influencer on social media and a good role model for our students to look up to. When Matt toured the school with us, the students at CSD loved him! They recognized Matt as the owner of the Deafinitely Dope business. As co-producers of the documentary, Sign the Show, Matt Maxey worked with Waka Flocka and others to help raise funds to make the documentary a reality. One of CSD's staff, Julie Rems-Smario, is a consultant for the film. Cat and Matt did a tour of the campus with Julie, where they had the opportunity to meet the students. They also visited the digital media class where Matt did a presentation on how to develop social media branding. The kids were fascinated with Matt's presentation and asked excellent questions. After the tour, Cat showed excerpts from Sign the Show to the high school students at the Klopping Theater, located on the California School for the Deaf campus. Before the day ended, Cat and Matt met with CORE and Instructional Management Team staff to discuss how the film industry can support Deaf education.



Matt Maxey and Cat Brewer, Executive Producer and Film Director of Sign the Show



Cat Brewer and Matt Maxey presented to Lorraine Flores' ethnic studies class.



One of many students who enjoyed learning from Matt Maxey about developing branding in social media.



Cat Brewer and Matt Maxey with CSD's Digital Media class.



After sharing excerpts of Sign the Show, Cat and Matt answered CSD students' questions about the film.



Director of Instruction Sulghi Hong with Matt Maxey after a productive discourse with CSD Leadership.

Cat's next goal is to have the film ready for streaming by 2023, so she and her team are currently working on raising the money to do the necessary final editing to make the film ready. Last February, Matt, Cat, and Julie flew to the Santa Fe Film Festival for the first screening of the Sign the Show film and to take part in a panel discussion. Since February, the film has been screened in several film festivals across the nation, winning several awards.

During their trip to the Bay Area, Cat and Matt, along with the CORE staff, went to California State University, East Bay where the accessibility office and the Department of Communications, along with social justice nonprofit, Cofusion Group, sponsored a screening of the documentary to a good-sized audience. A panel discussion followed.



Julie Rems-Smario, Matt Maxey, and Cat Brewer hosting a panel at the CSUEB screening for Sign the Show to answer questions from the audience.

The next evening, September 16th, Oakland International Film Festival donated five exhibit booths to nonprofits of the Deaf community. Booths at the festival included California School for the Deaf; Deaf Plus Adult Community; California Association of the Deaf; NorCal Services for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Cofusion Group; Bay Area Deaf Black Advocates; and San Francisco Deaf Club. San Francisco Deaf Club donated 25 free tickets for Deaf community members to attend the screening of Sign the Show.



San Francisco Deaf Club made it possible for many to join the Oakland International Film Festival to watch the Sign the Show.



CSD CORE staff, Trina Licht and Lilly Crisman at the Oakland International Film Festival exhibit event.



Cat Brewer, Matt Maxey, and Julie Rems-Smario answered questions from the audience about the screening of Sign The Show at the Oakland International Film Festival.