

# Seeking Submissions for the 2020 Issue of *Odyssey*

**THEME: Diversity and Fostering Inclusive Learning**



The 2020 issue of *Odyssey* will focus on how schools, professionals, and families are working together to create and foster inclusive environments for all deaf and hard of hearing children and students.

Commitment to inclusive practices has become a mainstay of American education in response to rapidly changing demographics. Schools and programs are rising to the challenge of meeting the needs of diverse populations of students who may come from homes and families that vary by race, ethnicity, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, socio-economic status, locality, age, level of education, disability, and language use. How are families and professionals in deaf education programs responding to those needs? How do we ensure the inclusion of social justice and social-emotional growth along with high academic expectations for deaf and hard of hearing children? We want to know:

- How do schools and programs recruit and train personnel who reflect the students they serve? And what do schools and programs do when the personnel do not reflect those they serve?
- What strategies and practices are being developed to close the achievement gap for students of color as well as for deaf and hard of hearing students with disabilities?
- How do we ensure a supportive educational environment for students who are LGBTQIA (or whose families may be) or who come from multiracial, blended, or adoptive families?
- How do deaf education programs and schools prepare students to respond to issues of social justice for themselves and for others?
- How do families work with teachers and professionals to foster inclusive learning? What types of communication, activities, and programming do families find ideal for supporting inclusivity with schools and programs? How do families support their children's needs, making sure they are included not only at home but also in their school and community?

The Clerc Center seeks articles from families and professionals sharing their stories and experiences—the strategies they used, the challenges they faced, and the outcomes they achieved in their quest to enhance inclusion and equity for their children or students.

Please e-mail your ideas to [Odyssey@gallaudet.edu](mailto:Odyssey@gallaudet.edu). We will begin accepting submissions on June 1, 2019, and continue until October 4, 2019, or until the magazine reaches capacity. Contact us via e-mail at any time with questions or to discuss your ideas.

