

## The ALDA Mission

To support the empowerment of deafened people.

## What is Late-Deafness?

Late-Deafened people includes people who are hard of hearing or deaf, or who have lost some or all of their hearing usually after acquiring the ability to use speech. Late-deafened people may have lost their hearing, suddenly or gradually, as a result of inherited causes, accident, illness, medications, surgery, noise, or unknown causes. They are unable to understand speech without visual aids such as speech reading, text reading, captioning, sign language, and/or gestures.

## Who We Are

ALDA was formed at a party in Chicago, Illinois in 1987. Most of those who gathered there were total strangers who had never met or talked to another deafened person, yet they found themselves wonderfully comfortable with one another. There was an unspoken feeling of understanding and patience with each other's communication difficulties. The marvelous sense of fellowship lasted and led to more social gatherings and self-help support groups, which swiftly evolved into the Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA). Today ALDA's membership is international in scope. ALDA works collaboratively with other organizations around the world serving the needs of late-deafened people. We extend a warm welcome to everyone, late-deafened or not, who supports our goals.

## ALDA Pledges

- To provide a support network and a sense of belonging for late-deafened people.
- To share our unique experiences, challenges, and coping strategies.
- To help one another find practical solutions and emotional support.
- To work with other organizations and service providers for our common good.

## What We Do

- **Networking** - ALDA provides networking opportunities through local chapters and groups, as well as the annual ALDA conference (ALDAcon).
- **Education** – ALDA educates persons who are late-deafened and professionals who work in the field of hearing loss about late-deafness.



Learning at the ALDAcon.

- **Outreach** - ALDA's goal is to reach out to as many late-deafened adults as possible.
- **Advocacy** – ALDA advocates on behalf of late-deafened people concerning related relevant legislation, rehabilitation programs, employment, awareness, and communication services.
- **e-Publications** – ALDA publishes **ALDA News** online, a witty and widely acclaimed newsletter that blends humor and sensitivity along with first-hand accounts of the frequent absurdities of deafened life.
- **Social Activities** – There are many opportunities to meet and mingle at our annual ALDAcon. Local ALDA chapter activities include parties, barbecues, captioned movies, sporting events, and museum trips which offer late-deafened adults a chance to socialize.

## ALDA Membership Form can be found at [www.alda.org](http://www.alda.org)

### Memberships (U.S. Dollars)

Regular Membership (age 61 or under)	\$30.00
Senior Membership (age 62 or older)	\$25.00
Veteran Membership	\$25.00
Business Membership	\$50.00
Lifetime Membership	
Bronze Level	\$500.00
Silver Level	\$1,500.00
Gold Level	\$3,000.00

### ALDA is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization.

Tax-deductible donations in any amount are welcomed. If desired, donations can be specifically made to either "ALDA Scholarships" or the "General Fund". "In Memory Of" donations can be made simply by including the name of the memorialized person with the donation.

For additional information, email ALDA at [Info@ALDA.org](mailto:Info@ALDA.org).

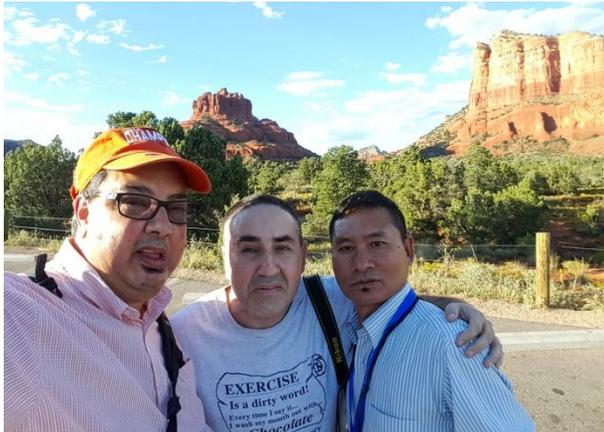
Thank you  
for your interest and support!



Enjoying making friends at ALDAcon.



ALDA members find joy through ALDA events.



ALDAns forge new friendships.

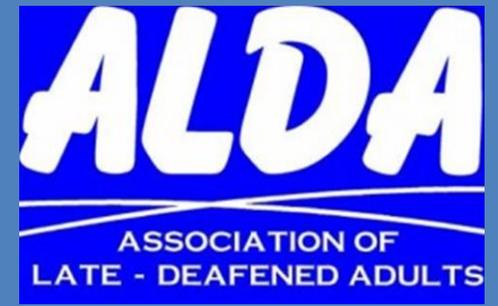


Karaoke at ALDAcon is always a hit!

All photos ©Ken Arcia



8038 Macintosh Lane  
Suite 2  
Rockford, IL 61107



Supporting individuals with acquired hearing loss.

WELCOME to ALDA!  
We are late-deafened.  
We support each other.