

Sunny Southeast Region Newsletter - June 2020

1 message

NAI Sunny Southeast Region <naimail@interpnet.com>  
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Fri, Jun 12, 2020 at 11:02 AM



Dear [REDACTED]

Welcome to *Southern Exposure*, the newsletter of the National Association for Interpretation's Sunny Southeast Region.

Photo: Interpreter Tori Duval, photo by Candace Thomson, Western North Carolina Nature Center.

**NOTES FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR**

"In these uncertain times..."

That's a phrase we've heard all too often these past few months. It seems to be everywhere we turn, in speeches from leaders, in emails from administrations, and in the commercials on TV. I've even begun hearing it in my sleep! Recently, a joke emerged at work that we missed "certain times", but upon reflection I began to wonder "Is anything we do actually certain?"

As interpreters, we work in an ever-changing field. Regardless of our chosen focus, we are learning new things every day that

**June 2020**

- NOTES FROM REGIONAL DIRECTOR
- AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN
- STILL SEEKING A REGIONAL SECRETARY
- CIG/CIT WORKSHOPS IN OUR REGION

**Save the Date**

[NAI National Conference](#)  
St Augustine, FL  
November 10-14, 2020

Sunny Southeast Workshop  
Spring 2021  
Could be your location!

NAI 2021 National Conference  
November 30 - December 4, 2021  
Palm Springs, CA

NAI 2022 National Conference  
November 28 - December 3, 2022  
Cleveland, OH

change what we present and the way we present that information. Be it a formal or informal setting, one thing is certain: everything we know today could change tomorrow. Researchers are unearthing new historical artifacts, biologists are discovering new species, astronomers are locating new stars. New information is constantly being made



available and consequently reshaping interpretation as we know it. As interpreters, we know how to think on our feet and weave these changes into our work. The thing that makes my job so interesting is that I never know what will happen next!

However, since the advent of the current COVID-19 pandemic, life has been changing a little faster than we may be used to. In the various social media groups I belong to, I watched questions fly back and forth as various states and countries began locking down, usually with no definitive answers forthcoming. "What are you doing with your program participants?" "Is anyone providing childcare and, if so, how are you protecting your staff?" "I'm homeschooling a high schooler...does anyone remember how algebra works??" The idea of normal had been redefined and was continuing to change every day.

But as time went on, answers began emerging. Tips for disinfecting and attaining PPE were shared, students and parents adapted to working from home, and digital interpretation, hitherto a virtually unknown resource, exploded onto the scene.

I have watched in awe as you, the Sunny Southeast, have taught yourselves and your colleagues this new (and sometimes frustrating) style of interpretation. Equipment has been tried and tested, tutorials have been shared, and the virtual programming movement has flourished! It has been difficult to adapt to a new interpretive style during a worldwide pandemic, but you have risen to the challenge and, with your usual flair, surpassed all expectations. I cannot begin to express how proud I am of this region and of all of you! We do not know what the future holds, but I am sure you will continue to be the excellent interpreters I know you to be. If you need any help or support at all, reach out to us; your friends are here for you. And that is certain.

Submitted by Christine Lawson, our new regional director

**AWARDS AND SCHOLARSHIPS NOW OPEN**

## Regional Officers

**Director**  
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**Deputy Director**  
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## Southern Exposure

**Next submission deadline:**

August 1 for publication in September

**Editor**  
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**Photos**  
Want to showcase your site or highlight a recent event? Send photos on jpg to Rhana when you submit your information! Your photos may be used as the masthead or within the body of your article. Remember: if children are recognizable, you will want to have a photo release from the parents or guardians.

## Regional Chairpersons

**Awards & Scholarships**  
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**Finance**

Scholarship Applications and Award Nominations are being accept until June 19, 2020 by emailing them to [jessica.goodrich.cig@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.goodrich.cig@gmail.com)

There are TWO \$700 scholarships available this year! The scholarship application is [here](#) and the Scholarship Policy can be found [here](#).

Awards nominations for all of our awards and Excellence Invitation are being accepted until June 19, 2020 by emailing them to [jessica.goodrich.cig@gmail.com](mailto:jessica.goodrich.cig@gmail.com).

While we are not 100% sure when and where the awards will be presented, it will happen (even if it has to be over Zoom)!

[Here](#) are the descriptions and requirements for all of the Sunny Southeast Awards.

Submitted by Jessica Goodrich Watts, Awards and Scholarships Chair

### STILL SEEKING A REGIONAL SECRETARY

Contact Chris Smith at [Christopher.smith@naturalsciences.org](mailto:Christopher.smith@naturalsciences.org) if you are eager and willing to help out the greatest region in NAI!

### CIG/CIT WORKSHOPS IN OUR REGION

Visit [www.interpnet.com/certification](http://www.interpnet.com/certification) for information.

#### Virtual Certified Interpretive Guide Courses

June 15-July 2, 2020

Instructor: Brian Mast, Tuscaloosa, AL

#### In-Person Certified Interpretive Guide Courses

September 28-October 1, 2020

Birmingham, AL

Birmingham Zoo

September 28-October 1, 2020

Clermont, KY

Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest

October 19-22, 2020

Pensacola, FL

Florida Public Archaeology Network Center

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