



Signing Time! Academy is partnering with mom-based businesses to bring classes near you

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Thanks to the success of [Signing Time! videos and DVDs](#), created by Rachel Coleman, parents the country (and world!) over are looking for more ways to incorporate signing into their lives.

This is why [Carissa Martos](#), Associate Director for the Northwest Region, has partnered with others to create [Signing Time! Academy](#) to offer classes for parents and children to learn sign language. Ms. Martos said "I'm the mother of, and advocate for, two hearing children with special needs, one of whom communicates mostly through sign language." She is one of ten Associate Directors of this nation-wide partnership.



Carissa Martos and children

The ten areas cover as follows:

Northwest Area: Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, North Dakota, South Dakota. Also: South Korea, China, Mongolia. (Contact Associate Director [Carissa Martos](#))

Pacific Region: Northern California, Alaska, Hawaii. Also: Micronesia including New Guinea, Australia, New Zealand. (Contact Associate Director [Christine Fitzgerald](#))

Southwest Region: Southern California, Nevada, Utah. Also: Mexico and South America. (Contact Associate Director [Lonna Leghart](#))

Midwest Region: Nebraska, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arizona. Also: Indonesia, including Burma, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia. (Contact Associate Director [Kyle Stielow](#))

Central Region: Missouri, Texas, Tennessee. Also: Russia, Middle-Eastern countries includnig Tureky, India, Saudi, and Iran. (Contact Associate Director [Kimberly Schaefer](#))

Upper Midwest Region: Minnesota, Michigan, Iowa, Ohio, Illinois, Kentucky, Indiana, Wisconsin. Also: Africa. (Contact Associate Director [Ronaj](#))

Southeast Region: Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, North Carolina, South Carolina. Also: All Caribbean Islands. (Contact Associate Director [Kimberly Fries](#))

Central Atlantic Region: Maryland, Delaware, Pennsylvania, Washington D.C., Virginia, West Virginia. Also: British Isles (England, Scotland, Ireland), Norway, Denmark, Sweden, Finland, Greenland, Iceland. (Contact Associate Director [Jennifer Lloyd](#))

Atlantic Northeast Region: Rhode Island, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire, New Jersey. Also: Europe. (Contact Associate Director [Kate Sutherland](#).)

Canadian and Upper Atlantic Region: Canada, New York, Maine. Also: the North Pole! (Contact Associate Director [Ashlea Weber](#))

According to [a press release](#) "Among the 200 certified instructors, the Academy has now expanded to include instructors from Canada, Germany, Australia, South Korea, Japan, China, Taiwan, and the Philippines. Many more have applied from other countries and are now in the process of becoming instructors, and so the number of countries with Signing Time Academy instructors is growing each week. "

To find a class near you, click [here](#)



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Thanks to Carissa Martos for bringing this to the attention of myself and my readers!

Please feel free to leave questions and comments below.

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Heather Sedlock is an Examiner from the National Edition. You can see Heather's articles at: "<http://www.Examiner.com/x-10560-Special-Needs-Kids-Examiner>"

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