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Professor Jones

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PCA Reflection

I attended the second PCA event on November 16. I was very nervous about going because before this class I had no prior experience with American Sign language. I really did not know what to expect as far as how the day would go and what I would get out of it. Before this day, I had never spoken to anyone who only used sign language to communicate. It was really amazing to watch the teachers’ at the event communicate with each other so naturally and fluidly. It really surprised me how much we were able to say and understand using just what we had learned in class this semester. Even signs that we had not yet learned were sometimes easy to pick up the larger context of what they were telling us because we knew some of the signs, like when Sylvia was telling us about her kids. I enjoyed playing the games with them and learning some new signs from it like how to sign how many coins we had to the random animals and objects from the Hedbanz game. After this experience and getting to talk to people through ASL in real life and doing it naturally as opposed to following a script, I feel much less intimidated by it. It was a really eye opening experience and I am glad to have been able to participate in the event. I really appreciated how friendly all the teachers were and how patient they were with all of us being so new to sign language.