



Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind
Office of Superintendent Annette Reichman

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Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind Historic Arizona Landmark Dedication Ceremony

Dedication Ceremony Culmination of Two-Year Effort to Recognize ASDB's
Important Place in Arizona History

Phoenix, AZ, October 17, 2016—Today, Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind (ASDB) Superintendent Annette Reichman proudly announced that ASDB will be hosting its Historic Landmark Dedication Ceremony at the ASDB Tucson Campus on October 20, 2016 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. ASDB will be dedicating two of its original buildings built in the 1920s—the Bath House (1926) and Superintendent's House (1927)—as Arizona landmarks of historic significance. Over 500 guests are expected to attend, including local, state and national elected officials, students, staff, alumni and dignitaries from many state agencies and organizations for the deaf and for the blind.

The organized effort to officially recognize ASDB's important place in Arizona history began in 2014 and resulted in the passing of (in 2015) "House Memorial 2001: Urging the Arizona State Parks Board to designate the Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind in Tucson as a historic place." Tucson-based State Representative Macario Saldate was the prime sponsor of the house memorial which unanimously passed the state house with a vote of 59-0.

HM 2001 was then referred to the Secretary of State and subsequently reviewed and approved by the Arizona State Parks Board and the Arizona Historical Society. These approvals paved the way for the creation of two historic landmark plaques that will be dedicated at Thursday's ceremony.

"The unanimous passing and support of HM 2001 powerfully symbolizes the importance Arizona has placed on the education of the deaf and the blind for over 100 years," stated ASDB Superintendent Annette Reichman. "These historic landmarks that we are dedicating help preserve ASDB's important role in Arizona history—so that the transformative work ASDB has undertaken on behalf of thousands of students who are deaf and students who are blind will not soon be forgotten."

Arizona's support of education for the deaf and the blind predates statehood. In 1895, the Arizona Territorial Legislature first passed legislation which called for the education of the deaf and the blind. Similar language was later adopted into the Arizona Constitution. In 1912, Arizona passed legislation which created the Arizona State School for the Deaf and the Blind. ("School" was later changed to "Schools.") Arizona's first state governor, George W.P. Hunt, appointed ASDB's first (deaf) principal, Henry C. White. On July 15, 2016, Annette Reichman was selected as Arizona's first Deaf superintendent and its first superintendent with vision limitations in ASDB's 104-year-history.

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The ASDB Historic Landmark Dedication Ceremony has drawn statewide attention from important local, state and national dignitaries and from the people at the heart of ASDB's mission: its students, alumni, staff, the deaf community and the blind community.

More information on the October 20 Historic Landmark Dedication Ceremony follows.

WHO: Over 500 guests are expected to attend this historic, once-in-an-institution-event, including national, state and local elected officials, students, ASDB alumni, staff and former staff, prominent guest speakers and other important community participants

WHAT: ASDB Historic Landmark Dedication Ceremony

WHERE: ASDB Tucson Campus
Berger Performing Arts Center (BPAC)
1200 W. Speedway Blvd
Tucson, Arizona 85745

WHEN: Thursday, October 20
10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Dedication Ceremony (BPAC)
12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Reception (Museum Patio)

WHY: Dedicating ASDB's Superintendent's House and Bath House as AZ Historic Landmarks

Photo/

Video Opp: Hundreds of excited blind and deaf students, staff, alumni, dignitaries (see next page)

LIST OF SPEAKERS

U.S. Congressman Raúl Grijalva
State Superintendent of Public Instruction (and ASDB Board Member) Diane Douglas
Governor's Senior Policy Advisor for Education and Strategic Projects Dawn Wallace
Arizona State Representative Macario Saldate
Tucson City Councilman Richard Fimbres
ASDB Board Secretary Lynne Davison
ASDB Superintendent Annette Reichman
ASDB Museum Curator Polly Brady-Garcia

LIST OF OTHER PUBLIC OFFICIALS IN ATTENDANCE

*U.S. Congresswoman Martha McSally (*meeting with Superintendent Reichman immediately before event for 45 minutes but will be unable to attend ceremony)

State Senator Steve Smith
State Representative Charlene Fernandez
State Representative Rosanna Gabaldon
State Representative Sally Ann Gonzales
State Representative Lisa Otondo
State Representative Bruce Wheeler
Pima County Supervisor Ray Carroll
Pima County Supervisor Richard Elias

Clerk of the Superior Court of Santa Cruz County Juan Pablo Guzman (ASDB Alumnus)
Arizona State Parks Director Sue Black
State Historic Preservation Officer Kathryn Leonard
ASDB Board of Directors

The [Arizona State Schools for the Deaf and the Blind \(ASDB\)](#) was founded in 1912 – the year of Arizona’s statehood. ASDB serves over 2,000 children who are blind, visually impaired, deaf, hard-of-hearing, multisensory disabled or deafblind from birth to age 21. ASDB operates two schools for the deaf, one school for the blind, a statewide birth-to-three early childhood and family education program and five regional cooperatives. ASDB is dedicated to empowering young children and students with the educational opportunities necessary to succeed in college, career and life. For more information contact Ryan Ducharme at ryan.ducharme@asdb.az.gov or 602-771-1092.

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