

Cal State LA  
Office for Students with Disabilities  
Ability Awareness Week Program  
ASI Proposal Fall 2020



## Office for Students with Disabilities

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Fall 2020

### Ability Awareness Week

#### **Program Description**

Ability Awareness Week (AAW) was spurred by the National Disability Employment Awareness month (October), which emphasized the importance of creating a more inclusive workforce by hiring individuals with disabilities. Typically, AAW was one day where Office for Students with Disabilities (OSD) at Cal State LA collaborated with CCOE, the Career Development Center and the Veterans Resource Center to host the annual Career Fair for Individuals with Disabilities. Since then the program has grown to incorporate a weeklong program hosted by OSD to highlight the significant achievements of individuals with disabilities.

#### **Purpose of Ability Awareness Week**

The purpose of AAW is to allow students, faculty, staff and community the opportunity to become more aware of the issues faced by people with disabilities. It is also designed to call attention to and highlight their abilities versus focusing on what a person with a disability cannot do. Every five years, this program also pays homage to the anniversary of the passing of the American with Disabilities Act, which this year celebrates its 30<sup>th</sup> year.

#### **Request**

We seek **\$5,200** from the Associated Student Inc. (ASI) to support OSD's Ability Awareness Week program beginning Monday, October 26 through Friday, October 30. During AAW the goal is to inspire participants to become more aware of challenges faced by individuals with disabilities while at the same time eliminate deficit thinking and reduce stigma surrounding the word disability and the people who have them. The programs are facilitated primarily by individuals with disabilities that include both off campus and on campus presenters. At least two days are facilitated by current or recently graduated OSD students. ASI's support will allow us to continue to hire presenters with an expertise in specific areas surrounding disabilities as well as provide participants with rewards for their participation. During this time of a global pandemic it is more than essential that we provide our Golden Eagles with campus mementos to continue to make them feel connected to Cal State LA while they are unable to visit the campus or participate in these activities in person.

**Budget Narrative for the Ability Awareness Week Program**

<b>Person/Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Cost Description</b>
Presenter, Amanda McDonough	\$1300.00	Presenter fee in addition to copies of her book to give to OSD student participants
Presenter, Nina G	\$1023.00	Presenter fee in addition to copies of her book to give to OSD student participants
Presenter, Beatriz Guterrez (student)	\$150.00	Presenter fee
T-shirt	\$1,300	100 T-shirts
Race Bib	\$75.00	100 Race bibs
Race Medal	\$1046.00	100 Completion Medals

**GRAND TOTAL COSTS: \$5,194**

## AAW Program Overview

<b>Date/Time</b>	<b>Activity</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Monday, October 26</b> 12:30-1:30 p.m.	<b>Lunch &amp; Trivia with OSD</b>	Get to know the OSD team over lunch and a game of trivia. Share your experiences using accommodations and ask about support services. Test your knowledge of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and disability accommodations for a chance to win prizes.
<b>Tuesday, October 27</b> 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.	<b>Physical Distancing Does Not Mean Social Isolation</b>	How do you and your friends or loved ones connect while physical distancing? Come and enjoy a discussion on how to turn physical distancing into social engagement. Share your experiences and tips with others.
<b>Tuesday, October 27</b> 3 – 4:30 p.m.	<b>Student Panel: Thanks to the ADA: Access, Inclusion and Employment</b>	Students with experience working and searching for jobs or internships will share their successes and how they navigated disability-related challenges.
<b>Wednesday, October 28</b> 3 – 4 p.m.	<b>Bee’s Kitchen: Cooking in the Dark</b>	Meet Beatriz Gutierrez, a Cal State LA student with a visual impairment, a love of cooking and a YouTube channel. She increased her self-confidence and stayed positive while navigating her kitchen with her own recipes. Ms. Gutierrez will show clips from her channel and engage in a short discussion.
<b>Thursday, October 29</b> 5 – 6 p.m.	Nina G: “Stutterer Interrupted: The Comedian Who Almost Didn't Happen”	Do people constantly finish your sentences? Ask if you’ve forgotten your own name? Nina G. will share her personal experiences as a stuttering woman in a non-stuttering world and how she went from 20 years of

		<p>hiding her voice to performing on stage.</p> <p><i>* OSD student participants who pre-register and complete a survey will be entered into a raffle to win one e-text version of Nina G.'s book.</i></p>
<p><b>Friday, October 30</b> <b>11 a.m. - 12 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>Amanda McDonough</b> <b>"Ready to Be Heard"</b></p>	<p>"Ready to Be Heard: How I Lost My Hearing and Found My Voice" is the story of Amanda McDonough, who taught herself to speak again, lip-read, and sign after becoming deaf. She writes about how she discovered a new culture, language and managed to finish college.</p> <p><i>* Participants who complete a survey will receive a free hard or electronic copy of Amanda's book, "Ready to Be Heard: How I Lost My Hearing and Found My Voice."</i></p>
<p><b>Friday, October 30</b> <b>1 p.m. - 2 p.m.</b></p>	<p><b>OSD Virtual 2K —</b> <b>Happy 30th ADA!</b></p>	<p>Join us as we wrap up Ability Awareness Week with a compilation reel featuring the videos and photos submitted by people who participated in the Virtual 2K, in honor of the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.</p> <p><i>*Participants who confirm registration and liability form will be eligible to receive race swag pack.</i></p>

