



# 2026 SERID Conference

## Biloxi, Mississippi

**Sunday  
October 25**

6:00pm - 10:00pm

### AGENDA

**SERID Board Meeting**

**Monday  
October 26**

**TBD**

#### Pre-Conference Workshops

9:00am - 12:00pm

**State Coordinator for the DeafBlind (SCDB) Meeting** | Ship Island A

9:00am - 12:00pm

**State Coordinator for the Deaf (SCD) Meeting** | Ship Island C

12:00pm - 1:00pm

**Lunch**

SCD & SCDB | Ship Island B

1:00pm - 5:00pm

**State Coordinator for the DeafBlind (SCDB) Meeting** | Ship Island A

1:00pm - 5:00pm

**State Coordinator for the Deaf (SCD) Meeting** | Ship Island C

12:00pm - 6:00pm

**Exhibitor Registration** | Round Island B

*Additional setup time - Tuesday October 27 | 7:30 - 9:00am*

**Exhibitor Set-up** | Deer Island Ballroom

3:00pm - 8:00pm

**Hotel Check-In**

3:00pm - 6:00pm

**Attendee Registration** | Round Island B

6:00pm - 8:00pm

**President's Welcome Reception** | H2O Pool

*Grand Ballroom if inclement weather*

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# 2026 SERID Conference

## Biloxi, Mississippi

**Tuesday  
October 27**

**8:00am - 10:00am**

**10:00am**

**10:45am - 11:00am**

**11:00am - 12:00pm**

**12:00pm - 1:00pm**

**1:00pm - 2:15pm**

**2:15pm - 2:30pm**

## AGENDA

**Attendee Registration** | Round Island B

**Welcome to SERID** | Grand Ballroom

MDRS Executive Director - Billy Taylor

SERID President - Denee Smith

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**Keynote Speakers** | Grand Ballroom

Scott Lehmann and Shayna Unger

**Lunch On Your Own** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Charity Reedy Warigon**

*"Connecting IDEA, WIOA, and Employment: Understanding the School-to-VR Process"*

Ship Island C - **Kasee Stratton-Gadke**

*"Communication and Educational Needs for Persons with CHARGE Syndrome"*

Petit Bois - **Miranda Beard**

*"From Voice to Power: Centering DeafBlind Leadership in Decision Making"*

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

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# 2026 SERID Conference

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**Tuesday  
October 27**

**2:30pm - 3:45pm**

### AGENDA

#### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Charity Reedy Warigon**

*"The Invisible Curriculum: Teaching the Soft Skills That Lead to Employment Success"*

Ship Island C - **Charlene J. Crump**

*"Language Dysfluency and Language Deprivation in Community Based Settings"*

Petit Bois - **Cindy Camp**

*"Riding the Wave of Accessibility: Best Practices for Virtual Meetings with Deaf Participants"*

**3:45pm - 5:00pm**

#### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Shonna Magee**

*"Good Intentions Are Not Enough"*

Ship Island C - **Nicky Gillies**

*"The Usher Syndrome Career Mentoring Program: A Novel Pilot"*

Petit Bois - **Candice Tate and Kelly Sterling**

*"Policy, Power, and Succession: Building State-Level Deaf Services in a complex System"*

**5:00pm**

Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**6:00pm**

Dinner On Your Own

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# 2026 SERID Conference Biloxi, Mississippi

**Wednesday  
October 28**

**9:00am - 10:30am**

**General Session** | Grand Ballroom  
Wyatt Hall  
*"Language Deprivation"*

**10:30am - 10:45am**

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**10:45am - 12:00pm**

**Breakout Sessions**

Ship Island A - **Shonna Magee**  
*"Interpreting in Emergency Management Settings"*

Ship Island C - **Caroline Solomon**  
*"A synthesis: The Current Landscape of STEM Education for Deaf, DeafBlind, and Hard of Hearing Students"*

Petit Bois - **Cindy Camp**  
*"Creating Classroom Access for All Through Captioned, Described and Signed Videos"*

**12:00pm - 1:00pm**

**Lunch** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**1:00pm - 2:15pm**

**Breakout Sessions**

Ship Island A - **Marilyn C. Trader, MSW**  
*"Riding the Waves Together! Collaborative Approach Working with Current and Future DeafBlind Job Seekers Requiring Additional Complex Support Needs"*

Ship Island C - **Trisha Zyrowski and Mariann Christman**  
*"Ensuring Quality Practitioners and Leaders in Deaf Education: Advancing Excellence Through the Quill Model Competencies and Certification Pathways"*

Petit Bois - **Amanda Gerson**  
*"Welcome to Gally-Land: Supporting Gallaudet Students Through Sweet Successes and Sticky Situations"*



# 2026 SERID Conference

## Biloxi, Mississippi

**Wednesday  
October 28**

**2:45pm - 4:00pm**

### AGENDA

#### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Dawn Sonntag**

*"From Accommodation to Belonging: What Communication Access Looks Like When It Actually Works"*

Ship Island C - **Adam Garfinkel**

*"The Benefits of Dual Enrollment for Deaf and Hard of Hearing High School Students: Bridging the Gap to Postsecondary Success"*

Petit Bois - **Amanda Gerson**

*"Welcome to Gally-Land: Supporting Gallaudet Students Through Sweet Successes and Sticky Situations"*

**6:30pm - 8:00pm**

**Awards Banquet** | Grand Ballroom

Dinner Provided

**Thursday  
October 29**

**9:00am - 10:15am**

#### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island A - **Roger Williams**

*"Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Real Life Applications of Demand Control Schema to Ethical Decision-Making"*

Ship Island C - **Mariann Christman, Rylina Dey, Holly May, Aileen Welch**

*"Language, Identity and Well-Being: Addressing the Long Term Effects of Language Deprivation"*

Petit Bois - **Todd A. Czubek**

*"ASL Skills and Their Impact on Academic Success"*

**10:15am - 10:45am**

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom



# 2026 SERID Conference

## Biloxi, Mississippi

**Thursday  
October 29**

**10:45am - 12:00pm**

### **AGENDA**

#### **Breakout Sessions**

Ship Island A - **Roger Williams**

*"Where the Rubber Meets the Road: Real Life Applications of Demand Control Schema to Ethical Decision-Making"*

Ship Island C - **Mary Lundy Meruvia, Kambree Chickaway**

*"Providing Services to Native American Individuals with Disabilities"*

Petit Bois - **Erin Salmon, Jasmine Lowe, Kelly Spell**

*"Deaf and What: Reframing Our Works and Its Impact on the Intersectionality of the Deaf and Developmental Disability Communities"*

**12:00pm - 1:00pm**

**Lunch** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**1:00pm - 2:15pm**

#### **Breakout Sessions**

Ship Island A - **Ashley Benton, David Volper**

*"Dive In: Exploring the DeafBlind Experience-An Introduction to DeafBlind Community Needs and HKNC Services!"*

Ship Island C - **Dara Baril, Laura Robison, Candice Tate**

*"Waves of Change: What North Carolina's Listening Sessions Reveal About Improving Mental Health Access"*

Petit Bois - **Dorothy Young**

*"The EMERGE Center"*

**2:15pm - 2:45pm**

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**2:45pm - 4:00pm**

#### **Breakout Sessions**

Ship Island A - **Dawn Sonntag**

*"Beyond the Bot 2.0: The Human Behind Accessibility-Becoming the Advocate in the Age of AI"*



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## Biloxi, Mississippi

**Thursday  
October 29**

**2:45pm - 4:00pm**

### AGENDA

#### Breakout Sessions

Ship Island C - **Rylina Dey, Aileen Welch**

*"Reframing Self Advocacy: A Global Inclusion Approach for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students"*

Petit Bois - **Michelle Montelongo**

*"Promoting Ethical Practice: Nevada's DC-S Supervision Model as a Blueprint for Addressing Interpreter Development, Isolation, Burnout, Attrition and Retention"*

**4:00pm - 5:00pm**

**Break** - Visit Vendors | Deer Island Ballroom

**5:00pm**

**Dinner On Your Own**

**7:00pm**

**Dancing Through The Decades Party** | Costume Contest  
Grand Ballroom

**Friday  
October 30**

**8:00am - 10:00am**

**Farewell Breakfast** | Grand Ballroom

**10:00am - 11:00am**

**General Session**

Grand Ballroom - **JC Jerome Smith**  
*Closing Keynote*

**11:00am - 11:30am**

**Welcome to SERID 2027 - Kentucky**

**11:30am**

**Adjourn** | Safe Travels!

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