

# NJDMAVA Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Belonging



Happy birthday to Marlee Matlin who turns 58 on August 24<sup>th</sup>! Matlin is an American actress, author, and activist. She is the recipient of numerous awards, including an Academy Award, a Golden Globe Award, and a Screen Actors Guild Award. In 2009, she received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

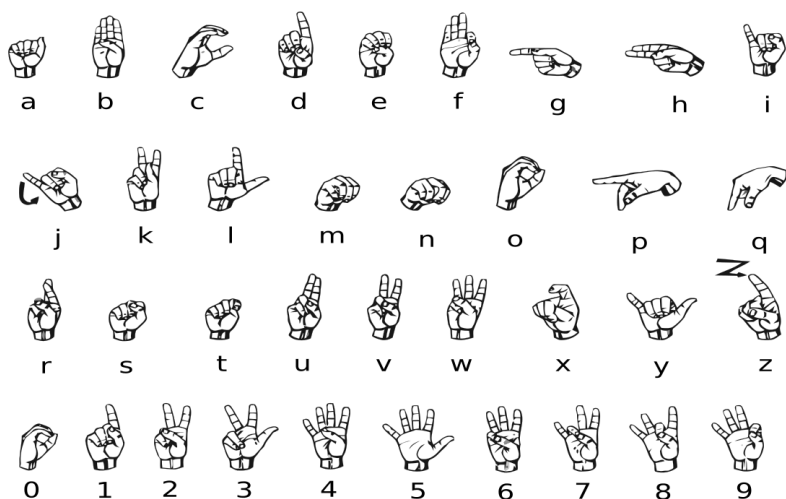
Matlin has been Deaf since she was 18 months old due to illness and fevers. She made her acting debut in the 1986 film *Children of a Lesser God*, winning the Academy Award for Best Actress. She is the first deaf performer to win an Academy Award, as well as the youngest winner in the Best Actress category.

Matlin uses American Sign Language to communicate and has a full time interpreter who has been her teammate since the beginning of her career.

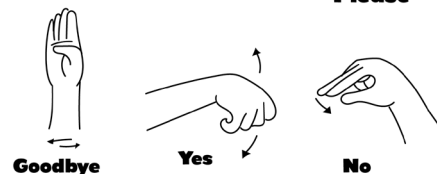
Let's learn some American Sign Language!

*\*Please keep in mind this is a 3D language of movement. We did the best we could to find images that depict each word. Feel free to stop by the Lawrenceville DEIB Office for an in-person lesson!*

## American Sign Language Alphabet



wpilpart.com - public domain images



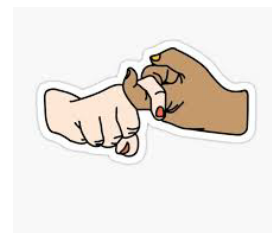
America



flag



friend



military



work

