

Dear NJAD and NJRID Members,

NJAD President Lao and NJRID President Rosenberg would like to make an announcement regarding the possibility of another joint conference.

While joint conferences in 2015 and 2017 were overall successful and learning experiences, our boards feel that joint conferences were not beneficial for either organization. We have listened both to each other and to our boards and looked at goals for our organizational members. We recognize that our missions are on different paths with distinct crossover and have decided that it is in the best interest of both NJAD and NJRID to have separate conferences. This would give our organizational members the opportunity to pursue their skills at their own pace. We also want to make sure that members of the Deaf community have access to workshops catered for them in a specifically ASL rich environment.

This separation of conferences does not mean that NJAD and NJRID will stop working together. Both organizations support the goals and rights of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Community. We want to ensure members of NJAD and NJRID that we will strive to continue to build a positive working relationship between our two organizations. We are hoping to foster a more interactive partnership through planning of various joint events.

At this time, NJAD President Lao is proud to announce that Laura Schultz has been chosen as a chairperson for the solo 2019 NJAD Conference. The conference committee is already appointed and eager to work on planning the conference. The venue and date will be announced this summer.

NJRID will, soon send out an announcement recruiting for a chairperson(s) and committee for the 2019 NJRID Conference.

With the goal of giving support to both organizations, NJAD and NJRID will e-blast flyers to our members. Please check both NJAD and NJRID websites for updates on workshops and events.  
[www.deafnjad.org](http://www.deafnjad.org)  
<http://nj-rid.org/>

We look forward to working with you all!

Very Truly Yours,

NJAD President  
*Khank Lao*

NJRID President  
*Audrey Rosenberg*