



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF INTERPRETERS IN EDUCATION

## **2021 Leilani Johnson Leadership Award**

### **Colleen Ticherich**

#### **Nominator: Devon Dunson**

I would like to nominate Colleen Ticherich for the Leilani Johnson Leadership in Educational Interpreting Award.

She has always demonstrated leadership in the field of educational interpreting. Not only by her ASL expertise, skill and proficiency with quality interpreting but also her relentless pursuit of accountability and change among Ohio Educational interpreters.

Colleen is not satisfied with the status quo in Ohio and has been actively involved in numerous committees that have been pursuing a transformation within the Educational system as it pertains to interpreters. Colleen doesn't shy away from shedding light on the issues in Ohio and promoting the stance that educational interpreters need standards and valid accountability. She is a strong advocate for D/deaf children and their right to have quality competent interpreters. I can't wait to see the fruits of her labor as lawmakers get on board.

Colleen wears many hats and since I am restricted by 300 words, I won't get into great detail of her other accolades. Briefly, she has mentored numerous interpreting practicum students and spearheaded/ran an amazing annual Deaf art show, while interpreting full time and pursuing her Masters degree.

In a nutshell, I hope you candidly consider Colleen Ticherich and all of her accomplishments that have greatly impacted and benefited educational interpreters and the D/deaf community on a whole.



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#### **Nominator: Cindy Koontz**

Colleen Ticherich is an Educational Interpreter with an amazing passion for our profession. She serves several committees and various programs, all so that she can help to make an active difference in the field of Educational Interpreting and benefit the lives of Deaf/HOH young people.

Colleen is one of the ambassadors for NAIE for the State of Ohio. She is a NAIE PD summer camp planner, OCRID Educational Interpreter Committee Chair, and WOU Masters of Interpreting Program.

Colleen goes out of her way to mentor parents with Deaf/HOH children. She has made herself available to provide early intervention, teaching/tutoring little ones in language acquisition. Her passion is so profound that I sometimes want to tell her to settle down, can we not talk shop while we're chilling on the beach!

I love Colleen as a person, as an Interpreter, and as a blessed friend. I believe that her passion and heart for our Deaf children has made a profound impact in Ohio. She continues in her efforts to rally the Interpreters around the state so that we can unite in a way that brings continuity, unity and support for one another.

I truly feel that many Deaf and hearing alike would share my sentiments about Colleen. She is a gift from above, sent here to be the change that is needed in this field. She unselfishly sacrifices her time, talents, knowledge, and resources to make a difference in the field of Educational Interpreting. Colleen shares workshops, interesting articles, studies, and interpreted videos on social media platforms because she values growth and continuous improvement for herself and for all of us. She truly goes above and beyond the call of duty. I strongly recommend Colleen Ticherich for this prestigious award because she is, in a myriad of ways, most deserving.