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## Regional Signature winner announced

**Action Deafness in Leicester proudly announced that a British Sign Language (BSL) student on their Signature course has won the prestigious Signature Learner of the Year award**

Ellah Kandi, who also volunteers with the charity, has been learning BSL with Action Deafness Books Knowledge Programme and recently passed her Level One exams.

Ellah sings with the Emmanu'EL Apostolic Gospel Academy, based at DeMontfort University and uses her sign language skills to sign the hymns and songs that they sing.

Ellah said, "A few years ago, whilst at my church, a colleague noted that I displayed some sign language potential. This ignited a desire in me to sign and have the opportunity to make a contribution to my community by making a difference to the lives of D/deaf people. I am very interested in further increasing my knowledge and skills in signing."

Signature said, "The awards are designed to recognise and reward those who have made, in their own way, a significant contribution toward achieving a society in which deaf and deafblind people have full access.



Ellah Kandi, pictured on the right, signing with the EAGA choir

"Ellah's story is inspiring and motivational and she is a worthy winner of the Regional Heats."

Ellah will now go to the National Awards Night being held in London on 12 November.

Signature Chief Executive, Jim Edwards, said, "We've been thrilled by the variety of teachers and learners nominated for the Signature Annual Awards this year. These individuals are truly remarkable and have clearly made a huge impression on the people who nominated them. It will be hard to pick a winner."

People can study for Signature qualifications at more than 700 locations and the organisation also administers the National Registers for Communication Professionals working with Deaf and Deafblind people.

**For more information about services and courses, contact Lauren Francis at Action Deafness, call 0116 257 4800 or SMS 07949 632 644.**