



# IFHOH JOURNAL

*July 2014*

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*The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH) is an international non-governmental organization representing the interests of more than 300 million hard of people worldwide.*

*IFHOH is registered as a charitable organization at Vereinsregister Amtsgericht, Hamburg, Germany  
- Nr. 69 VR 10 527.*

*IFHOH Journal includes information about IFHOH activities, world news related to hearing loss, articles written by IFHOH members, and much more. It is published four times a year and posted on IFHOH's website, [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org). The Editor can be reached at [journal@ifhoh.org](mailto:journal@ifhoh.org).*

*All the views expressed in IFHOH Journal are those of the individual writers, and do not necessarily reflect the views of IFHOH.*

# From the Editor's Desk

## From the Editor's Desk



**Carole Willans, Editor**

Dear IFHOH friends,

IFHOH and its member organizations naturally engage in cross-cultural communication. We are all people from differing cultural backgrounds and yet we have found a variety of ways to communicate effectively, in similar and different ways among ourselves. It is fascinating to think that we do this in spite of having a communication-based disability! Actually, I think that we all agree that it is our shared experience with hearing disability that helps us communicate across cultures.

The instinctive way that we communicate, with much mutual respect, patience and empathy, has enabled IFHOH to successfully attain many achievements. This includes IFHOH's work to promote *the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)* for our community, and taking on a leadership role within the International Disability Alliance (IDA). Much of IFHOH's efforts are also centered on the communication and leveraging of information, such as the Toolkit on the UN CRPD, and the papers on Education Policy and on Cochlear Implants.

IFHOH is all about cross-cultural communication! You will find examples of this throughout this issue of *IFHOH Journal*.



Photo Credit: culturegeeks.com

# IFHOH President's Message



**Ruth P. Warick, IFHOH President**

With a new two-year mandate from the IFHOH Biennial General Meeting in Jerusalem on April 7, I am thrilled, honored and humbled to serve as President of IFHOH. Thank you for this opportunity to continue our important work to improve hearing awareness, accessibility and human rights.

We welcome to the board a new member, Louise Carroll, who comes to us with a wealth of experience from her years as Chief Executive Officer of The National Foundation for the Deaf, Inc. in New Zealand, a position she continues to hold. Louise will be our lead on the human rights file, a role that she assumed last year. Recently, she was the chief author of IFHOH's Human Rights Toolkit which was adopted in principle at the BGM. The final version will be posted on the website soon.

Louise joins returning board members Avi Blau of Israel, Vice-President, Hanh Phuong Duong of Vietnam, General Secretary and Niklas Wenman of Finland, Treasurer. All of them are serving a second two-year term so are still relatively new to the Board. Joining us on the Board is EFHOH President Marcel Bobeldijk who continues to be dynamo of energy and knowledge.



IFHOH Board: (front row) Duong Phuong Hanh, Ruth Warick, Avi Blau (back row) Louise Carroll, Niklas Wenman, Marcel Bobeldijk

Highlights from the BGM were:

- Adoption of the Education Policy Paper
- Adoption of a reduced membership fee in IFHOH for organizations from countries designated by the United Nations to be least developing countries. The amount will be half of the fee for the relevant membership category.
- Adoption of a motion to encourage more organizations of hard of hearing persons to become IFHOH members. We will waive the fee in the year in which an organization joins IFHOH (so join early to take full advantage of this offer).
- Remarks by Neeta Keshary Bhattarai of Nepal, the 2014 recipient of the Marcia Dugan Memorial Grant (see her report and photos elsewhere in this issue of *IFHOH Journal*).
- Adoption of the BGM Report and the 2014-2016 Action Plan (published in the spring 2014 issue of *IFHOH Journal*).

The nominating process went off smoothly thanks to the work of Katja Vis (chair), Finland, Paul Zylberberg, France and Kees Twilt, The Netherlands. Paul reported on behalf of the Committee and Jürgen Schäding expertly guided us through the election process. Eija Isaksson of Finland was elected Chair of the Nominations Committee for 2014-2016 with member Paul Zylberberg of France.



Enjoying festivities in Jerusalem! (Photo 1) Jürgen and Ritva-Liisa Schäding (Photo 2) Ritva-Liisa Schäding, Karina Chupina and Eija Isaksson

Earlier in the BGM weekend we were treated to specially produced videos about hearing loss by the Irish Hard of Hearing Association, and they generously are making them available to us. You will find an article and links elsewhere in this issue of *IFHOH Journal*.

I want to give thanks to Bekol and our V-P Avi Blau for their excellent work in organizing a wonderful weekend for IFHOH and EFHOH. It was a memorable venue and a well-organized series of events.



Avi Blau, Ruth Warick, and Ahiya Kamara  
– thanks to our current V-P and our past V-P  
for a great IFHOH event in Jerusalem!

In order not to lose any ground as we move forward, your IFHOH Board has held a Skype meeting in continuing this newly established means of governance. In the past we would usually had to wait until an in-person meeting in mid-October; now we can get going immediately with our priorities and plans. At our June meeting I was absolutely thrilled with how board members stepped up to take responsibility for different parts of the action plan.



By the way, this isn't to say that holding an in-person meeting is not valuable; it is, and our first of the new term will be October 24-26, 2014 when Hanh hosts us in Hồ Chí Minh City, Vietnam.

We realize that we have an ambitious agenda for the next two years but it is also realistic. Key commitments are:

- develop a policy paper on hearing aids
- establish a global Hard of Hearing Awareness Day for UN adoption
- embark on a speech-to-text (also known as captioning) project



The next IFHOH Congress and BGM will be hosted in cooperation with Hearing Loss Association of America from June 23-26, 2016 in Washington, D. C. Read more about it in this issue.

So, would you like to get involved and help us? Please do. Just drop us a line at my email address below or [info@ifhoh.org](mailto:info@ifhoh.org).

With best regards and have a wonderful summer,

Ruth Warick  
IFHOH President  
Email: [president@ifhoh.org](mailto:president@ifhoh.org)

CHECK OUT OUR FACEBOOK PAGE! [WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/IFHOH/](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/GROUPS/IFHOH/)





# IFHOH World Congress 2016

The **HEARING LOSS ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA** has been selected by the [International Federation of Hard of Hearing People](#) (IFHOH) to host the next Congress in 2016. The Congress will be held in Washington, D.C. at the [Washington Hilton](#), June 23-26, 2016.

HLAA and IFHOH welcome people with hearing loss from around the world to share in outstanding educational workshops, a trade show with state-of-the-art hearing technology, and fun social events for all ages. Frank R. Lin, M.D., Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery, Geriatric Medicine, Mental Health, and Epidemiology at Johns Hopkins, will moderate and present during the Research Symposium on Friday, June 24, 2016.



Dr. Lin's research focuses on how hearing loss impacts the health and functioning of older adults and the role of different treatment modalities (hearing aids, cochlear implantation) in mitigating these effects. In particular, he explores how hearing loss may be mechanistically associated with cognition, dementia, functional decline, and social isolation.

All workshops, sessions, and Exhibit Hall will be held at the Washington Hilton, located in the neighborhood of DC known as Dupont Circle. Enjoy walking to some of the top restaurants, shopping and nightlife. The Washington Hilton is the perfect

home base for sight-seeing, located only four blocks from the Dupont Circle Metro, so plan to stay a few extra days!



The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA), founded in 1979, opens the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, advocacy and support. In addition to its annual Convention, HLAA publishes *Hearing Loss Magazine*, produces the Walk4Hearing, and advocates for the rights of people with hearing loss. HLAA has an extensive network of chapters and state organizations.



HLAA's contact about the Congress is Nancy Macklin, Director of Events and Marketing, 301.657.2248, Extension 106, [nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org). Further information will be available following Convention 2015. For more information about HLAA visit [www.hearingloss.org](http://www.hearingloss.org).

The IFHOH BGM will be held on Wednesday, June 22, just preceding the Congress. Further information will be provided about the BGM by IFHOH in the months preceding it. For more information about IFHOH visit [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org).



# IFHOH Human Rights Report



**Louise Carroll**

IFHOH congratulates the following candidates who have been elected to the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN Committee on the CRPD):

<b>Country</b>	<b>Name</b>
Colombia	Carlos Alberto PARRA DUSSAN
Denmark	Stig LANGVAD
Germany	Theresia DEGENER
Lithuania	Jonas RUSKUS
Mauritius	Coomaravel PYANEANDEE
Nigeria	Danlami Umaru BASHARU
People's Republic of China	Liang YOU
Republic of Korea	Hyung Shik KIM
Serbia	Damjan TATIC

These newly elected members will begin their term in January, 2015 and their mandates will expire in December, 2018.

The UN Committee on the CRPD is composed of 6 women and twelve men with their geographical distribution as follows:

- 3 from Latin America and the Caribbean
- 3 from Africa
- 3 from Eastern Europe
- 4 from Asia-Pacific and
- 5 from Western Europe and other States

There is one person who is hard of hearing on this Committee: Mr. Laszlo Lovaszy from Hungary.



Laszlo Lovaszy

### **UN Committee on the CRPD - Important Dates 2014**

The next UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities meeting where they will review government responses and persons with disabilities shadow reports from New Zealand, Mexico, Korea, Belgium, Denmark, Ecuador and Germany is being held from September 15 to October 3, 2014.

Then, from October 6 to 10, 2014, the countries list of issues from Croatia, Czech Republic, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Dominican Republic, Turkmenistan and Mongolia will be identified by the Committee.

If your country is listed in the paragraph above and your organisation is a member of IFHOH and would like our assistance to ensure the needs of people who are hard of hearing are recognised by the UN Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities please do email us at: [humanrights@ifhoh.org](mailto:humanrights@ifhoh.org) . We can support you to connect with your representative on the Committee and identify how you can contribute to your country's shadow report.





# IFHOH Biennial Conference 2014

By Neeta Keshary Bhattarai, President, SHRUTI  
(National Association of the Hard of Hearing and Deafened, Nepal)

The IFHOH Biennial Conference was held April 5 to 7, 2014 in Jerusalem, Israel. It was sponsored by IFHOH, Bekol, and EFHOH.



IFHOH



Bekol  
Organization of Hard of  
Hearing People in Israel



European Federation of Hard of Hearing People

EFHOH

I was grateful to receive financial support to attend the conference thanks to IFHOH's Marcia Dugan Fund. I am from Nepal, one of the least developed countries in Asia. Our organisation, SHRUTI, is small and faces many issues. However, it was a founding member of the Asia Pacific Federation of Hard of Hearing and Deafened.

It is not easy to influence policy-making in Nepal. Our law distinguishes between deaf and hard of hearing in terms of definitions, but when it comes to advocacy and policy-making, hard of hearing persons are mixed with deaf people. In the deaf community, hard of hearing people cannot use their speaking abilities and their accessibility needs are not met.

At the IFHOH Conference, I learned about many technologies and different types of hearing aids. The conference was accessible for me thanks to the captioning. I enjoyed hearing from Rachel Azaria, Deputy Mayor of Jerusalem. I also learned a lot from Louise Carroll's presentation on human rights and the CRPD. Nepal has ratified the CRPD but there is no implementation for hard of hearing and deafened people.



Rachel Azaria, Mayor of Jerusalem



A view of Jerusalem, Israel

There were many excellent presenters on a wide variety of topics, including the impact of hearing loss within the armed forces, the role of audiologists, the experiences of children with cochlear implants and hearing aids. IFHOH President Ruth Warick presented IFHOH's paper on Education Policy.

I found that in addition to the actual conference, the meetings and discussions were very important. I met many educated and experienced hard of hearing and deafened people with whom I am now networking and taking guidance from.



Neeta Keshary Bhattarai



Hanh Duong Phuong, Ruth Warick & Neeta Keshary Bhattarai

I was called upon to give a speech on getting Marcia Dugan Fund and shared my experience of Nepal's movement for the hard of hearing and deafened. I spoke of my experiences in SHRUTI (National Association of Hard of Hearing and Deafened in Nepal). Attending the 2014 IFHOH biennial conference was a dream come true for me! I hope to attend in Washington, D.C. in 2016.



# IFHOH Building Towards Post-2015 Era

The United Nations' Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) period is expected to wrap up in 2015. Goals ranging from halving extreme poverty rates to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS, as well as providing universal primary education, have been worked on for the past decade and longer. Some success has been achieved but more remains to be done. What will happen next?

The Post-2015 Development Agenda is being prepared by the UN working with governments, civil society and other partners to build on the momentum generated by the MDGs. Whereas the MDGs did not include persons with disabilities, the International Disability Alliance (IDA), of which IFHOH is a member, is working hard to ensure that, this time, disability is an important part of the Post-2015 framework. These efforts have been on-going for the past year.

On July 8, Ruth Warick, IFHOH President and Second Vice-President of IDA, is to participate in a UN panel discussion about "What can the Post-2015 development agenda achieve for persons with disabilities?" in New York.



Ruth Warick

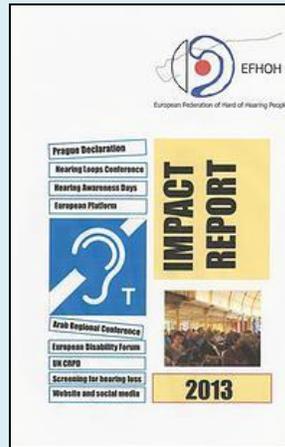
The session is to be moderated by Corrine Woods, Director of the UN Millennium Campaign and among other speakers will be Pekka Haavisto, Minister for International Development of Finland, Adjima Ghangou, Minister of Social Action and National Solidarity, Burkina Faso, and Yoka Brandt, Deputy Executive Director of UNICEF. The session provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of reducing poverty and promoting the equal rights and inclusion of persons with disabilities. Persons will not be left behind in the Post-2015 era.



# EFHOH News



Marcel Bobeldijk, EFHOH President



Dear friends,

The EFHOH Board is proud to show the impact of all our work for Hard of Hearing People in Europe. You can read all about it in our *Impact Report 2013*. The report features the Prague Declaration; the Hearing Loops Conference; Hearing Awareness Days in Brussels; the European Disability Forum; the European Platform of Deafness, Hard of Hearing and Deafblindness; the first Regional Conference of Arab Deaf and Hard of Hearing Persons in Tunisia; and many other highlights. [To download, click on the link here.](#)

We are also delighted with the appointment of Mr. Guido Gybels as our expert working on the EU Mandate M/473 following the *Design for All principles*.



Guido Gybels

Arnoud van Wijk will also participate in this expert workgroup in the European Disability Forum. Arnoud and I represented EFHOH at the Insign presentation at the European Parliament in Brussels, Belgium hosted by two Members of the European Parliament, Ádám Kósa and Werner Kuhn. Insign is designed to enable communication between deaf and hard of hearing persons with representatives from the European Union, the European Commission and other European institutions.



Ádám Kósa

EFHOH has welcomed a new board member, Janna Linna from Finland. Lidia Best was elected as the new EFHOH Vice-President for the period 2014-2016. Special thanks to Knut Magne Ellingsen of Norway for all his work on behalf of EFHOH.

Keep your diaries free for the next EFHOH Annual General Meeting 2015, April 10-12, in Essen, Germany!



Did you know that you can follow EFHOH and also some Board members on Twitter?

EFHOH: @efhoh

Marcel Bobeldijk: @marbob32

Lidia Best: @best\_lidia



You can also follow us via our EFHOH Facebook page.

# EFHOH Conference & AGM 2015

April 10-12, 2015 in Essen (Germany)



Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund e.V. (DSB), the association for hard of hearing people in Germany, invites all EFHOH members and interested hard of hearing people from all over Europe to Essen, Germany for the EFHOH Conference and Annual General Meeting 2015. The conference theme will be **"CRPD and Inclusion – Exchange of experiences with the implementation in the several European self-help associations"**. The Mayor of the City of Essen will welcome the participants and open the AGM. The conference day is under the patronage of the Commissioner for Disabled People of the German Government. Some Members of the European Parliament have already announced their intention to attend.

Essen is the biggest city of the Ruhr region with more than half a million people.



It is a shopping destination, business location and university town, urban on the one hand, rural on the other. It has one of the best opera houses in Germany, the Folkwang University of the Arts known for its outstanding artistic standard. The Ruhr gebiet region is also known for its industrial heritage. The coal mine 'Zeche Zollverein', now closed, was named an UNESCO World Heritage Site in 2001.

The presentations at the conference will start with a keynote address on the CRPD, followed by the plenary presentations on health care, accessibility, assistance, and the job market. In the afternoon the key themes will be continued in workshops with participation of Members of the European Parliament. EFHOH members will be able to explain their experiences with the implementation of CRPD in their respective countries. The goal is to work out a declaration and to turn these over to politicians for consideration and next steps.

# Animated Videos on Hearing Loss



The Irish Hard of Hearing Association (IHHA) asked its members to help it produce an animated video for people with hearing loss and the public in general. "We wanted to know what needed to be said to make hearing loss part of the conversation, not something to be ignored and hidden," says Maggie Fitzgerald.



Joan Tully, a C.I. user, in the recording studio



Maggie Fitzgerald & Carla Maria Tighe in script review

After developing the content, the IHHA went to the Irish Institute of Art, Design and Technology and employed the services of the Director of Animation and their top graduate team to help it create a video made up of five separate short stories about hearing loss, its effects on the individual, some common causes and how the public might help those affected.



The IHHA was lucky to get Stephen Rea, an Irish Oscar-nominated actor, to voice some of the videos along with members of our association affected by hearing loss and a cochlear implant user.

The Irish Hard of Hearing Association is delighted with the results. "We hope that many of our sister associations will utilize these videos and make hearing loss part of the conversation on Facebook and Twitter," says Maggie. The videos can be accessed at [www.hearttodayfilms.com](http://www.hearttodayfilms.com).

## CCAC News on Captioning



Captions Capture the Votes! 2014 is an important election year in the USA (as well as in other countries). A captioning advocacy campaign raises awareness by addressing political campaigning and asking candidates to caption their media messages, as well as their live public speeches. The flyer (seen on the next page) is being used by citizen volunteers for this non-partisan effort across the USA. Updates on the campaign, suggested strategies and more information are posted regularly on a webpage for the campaign: <http://ccacaptioning.org/captions-capture-the-votes/> and also on a dedicated Facebook page. As our membership is international, other countries are invited to edit the flyer for local use. Email [CCACaptioning@gmail.com](mailto:CCACaptioning@gmail.com) to discuss collaborations anytime.

Another newer advocacy project is CCAC Sponsorship of CART, also called Text Interpreting. Thanks to members' donations, we created the sponsorship to pay a qualified Provider for 3 hours of service, for eligible organizations. We hope to see this program grow. Learn more here: <http://ccacaptioning.org/captions-capture-the-votes/>

The website of the CCAC now shows that 59 countries have visited our pages. There are numerous resources related to captioning education, advocacy, and special topics such as inclusion of captioning in education, and in the world of employment. CCAC welcomes international members. We are solely a captioning advocacy organization (charity), not a captioning company.

Warm regards to all,  
Lauren E. Storck, President, <http://CCACaptioning.org>

# Captions Capture the Votes!



## CANDIDATES

20% or more of your constituency experience hearing loss or language differences. Caption all your media and live events. Ensure that your message reaches every voter.

Add your name to the list of candidates who caption messages, media and live events. Email us at [CapturetheVotes@CCACaptioning.org](mailto:CapturetheVotes@CCACaptioning.org).

## VOTERS

Ask all candidates for access. Understand the issues. Plan in advance. Request captioning soon. Your voice counts!

Send your name or the name of your local group for regional efforts, press, and collaborations with the CCAC:

[CapturetheVotes@CCACaptioning.org](mailto:CapturetheVotes@CCACaptioning.org).

This message is from the Collaborative for Communication Access via Captioning (CCAC), a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, volunteer citizen advocates. Need captions? Use CaptionMatch, a service of the CCAC. [www.CaptionMatch.com](http://www.CaptionMatch.com), [Info@CaptionMatch.com](mailto:Info@CaptionMatch.com)



# Calendar of Events

## Calendar of Events



\* \* \* \* \*

### August 21-25, 2014 - The 2014 IVSS Churchear International Conference for Pastoral Care among Hard of Hearing

Location: Kraków, Poland

Website: [www.churchear.org](http://www.churchear.org)



The conference theme is inspired by the biblical parable of the sheep that was lost and found again. It is the guiding principle for the 2014 conference, because we think that hearing impaired persons are greatly at risk to feel excluded from the parish fellowship.

\* \* \* \* \*

### October 8-12, 2014 - ALDAcon 2014



Location: Norfolk, Virginia, U.S.A.

Website: [www.alda.org](http://www.alda.org)

Contact: <http://goo.gl/6JWv3b>

The Association of Late-Deafened Adults (ALDA, Inc) invites you to its annual conference, ALDAcon 2014. This year's theme is *Inspiration on the Waterfront*.



### November 23, 2014 - IFHOHYP AGM

Location: **Strasbourg, France**

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOHYP/](http://www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOHYP/)

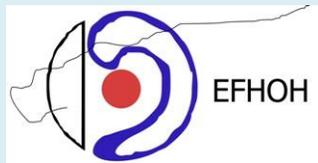
*Hot off of IFHOHYP's Facebook:* The International Federation of Hard of Hearing Young People (IFHOHYP) is expected to hold its AGM 2014 on November 23 at the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, France.

\*\*\*\*\*

### April 10-12, 2015 - EFHOH Conference & AGM

Location: **Essen, Germany**

Website: <http://www.efhoh.org/>



European Federation of Hard of Hearing People



Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund e.V.

Deutscher Schwerhörigenbund e.V. (DSB), the association for hard of hearing people in Germany, invites all EFHOH members and interested hard of hearing people from all over Europe to Essen, the Centre of the Ruhr gebiet (region). The theme will be *CRPD and Inclusion - Exchange of experience with the implementation in the several European self-help associations.*

\*\*\*\*\*



## 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress on Ear and Hearing Care

India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, India

12<sup>th</sup>-14<sup>th</sup> February, 2015



Location: **New Delhi, India**

Website: [www.sh2030worldcong.org](http://www.sh2030worldcong.org)

Contact: [secretariat@sh2030worldcong.org](mailto:secretariat@sh2030worldcong.org)

The theme of the Congress is *Action towards Better Hearing*, focusing on sustainable community ear and hearing care.



**June 23-26, 2016 –  
IFHOH World Congress**

**Location: Washington,  
D.C. (U.S.A.)**

The Congress will be held in conjunction with the annual conference of the Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)

# News Bytes News Bytes

## **ANSI/IEC WORK WITH RAYOVAC TO DEVELOP NEW WIRELESS HEARING AID BATTERY TESTS**

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) worked with hearing aid battery manufacturer Rayovac to extend standard hearing aid battery testing protocols. Both ANSI and IEC set benchmarks to cover the quality and reliability of hearing aid batteries. But recent advances in hearing aid technology resulted in increasing strain on hearing aid batteries, a factor not previously covered by ANSI/IEC hearing aid battery testing guidelines. Many modern hearing devices now include 'wireless' functionality. This feature can increase the demand on the battery by up to 300%, so it is important that consumers know if batteries are suitable for their devices. Rayovac worked with the ANSI/IEC to develop two new testing protocols which cover wireless performance, ensuring that Rayovac hearing aid batteries can handle the demands of current hearing devices. Info: [www.rayovac.eu](http://www.rayovac.eu).



## PHOTO CONTEST FOR DEAF AND HARD OF HEARING



The Third "FB Cup" International Photography Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing



The China Association of Persons with Hearing Disabilities is holding the 3<sup>rd</sup> "FB Cup" International Photography Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. The themes of this contest include (1): Highlighting positive images of persons with hearing disabilities in daily life, rehabilitation, education, culture, sport, social environment and social activities in various countries in the documentary manner; (2) Introducing natural landscapes, folk customs and sceneries presenting ancient charms and modern features of various regions and various ethnic groups.

Info: <http://www.cphoto.net>. Deadline: August 20, 2014.

Chinese Submission URL: <http://www.cphoto.net/article-138033-1.html>

English Submission URL: <http://www.cphoto.net/article-138034-1.html>

# Thank you IFHOH Gold Sponsors!



## **IFHOH JOURNAL**

The deadline for submissions for the next issue is September 19, 2014.

**Contributions are welcome!**

The preferred length for articles is one page (400 to 500 words). Short and long articles, from 25 to 1,500 words, may also be accepted. News bytes and announcements of coming events are appreciated, including photographs and illustrations. Please send pictures in jpeg format and files as rich text or word documents. Many thanks!

Carole Willans, Editor, *IFHOH Journal*, email: [journal@ifhoh.org](mailto:journal@ifhoh.org)

**Website @ [www.ifhoh.org](http://www.ifhoh.org)**

**Facebook @ [www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOH/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/IFHOH/)**

**The International Federation of Hard of Hearing People (IFHOH)** is an international non-governmental organization representing the interests of more than 300 million hard of hearing people worldwide. IFHOH is registered as a charitable organization at Vereinsregister Amtsgericht Hamburg, Germany (Nr. 69 VR 10 527) and is also an International Non-Governmental Organization having special consultative status with the United Nations' Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC). IFHOH is a member of the International Disability Alliance (IDA) and works closely with the UN system using the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities as a tool for change.



**IFHOH Board: (front row) Duong Phuong Hanh, Ruth Warick, Avi Blau (back row) Louise Carroll, Niklas Wenman, Marcel Bobeldijk**

### **IFHOH Board**

President, Ruth Warick (Canada)

Vice-President, Avi Blau (Israel)

General Secretary, Duong Phuong Hanh (Vietnam)

Treasurer, Niklas Wenman (Finland)

IFHOH Representative, Marcel Bobeldijk (The Netherlands)

Member at Large: Louise Carroll (New Zealand)