

A stylized graphic of a notebook with a light blue background. On the left, there is a vertical orange strip representing the notebook's spine, featuring four black circular punch holes and four orange loops. To the right of the spine is a large white rectangular area representing the notebook's page, which contains the text.

ASL Mentorship

**Connecting L1 and L2 Students to ASLaY,
Upperclassmen, and the Deaf Community**

Outline



**ASL/Deaf
Community
Issue**



**Collaboration
and
Connection**



**Future
Directions**

ASL/Deaf Community Issue

Problem

Many lower-level signers don't know where to start when it comes to serving the Deaf community.

They assume they must attain ASL proficiency before connecting with the Deaf community.

Reality

- The most organic way to grow
- ASL skills is through
- interacting with the Deaf community and higher-level signers.

Objective

- Connect lower-level signers to
- projects they feel comfortable and confident with, teaching
- them to elevate Deaf experiences.

How?

- Pair lower-level signers with pre-existing projects that align with their interests
- Assist with research and project execution for L1 groups
- Provide easy access to volunteer opportunities that interact with the Deaf community

Collaboration

Bass Drop-Ins

- Every Tuesday
February - April
- Easy access point to
come discuss projects
- Helped pair lower-level
students with existing
projects
- Guided L1 research
projects

NEED HELP WITH YOUR SERVICE PROJECT?

Service Project Mentoring Hours

GET CONNECTED WITH AN L4 GROUP

Set up a meeting with Mallory to find a group with similar
interests or get help with your own project!

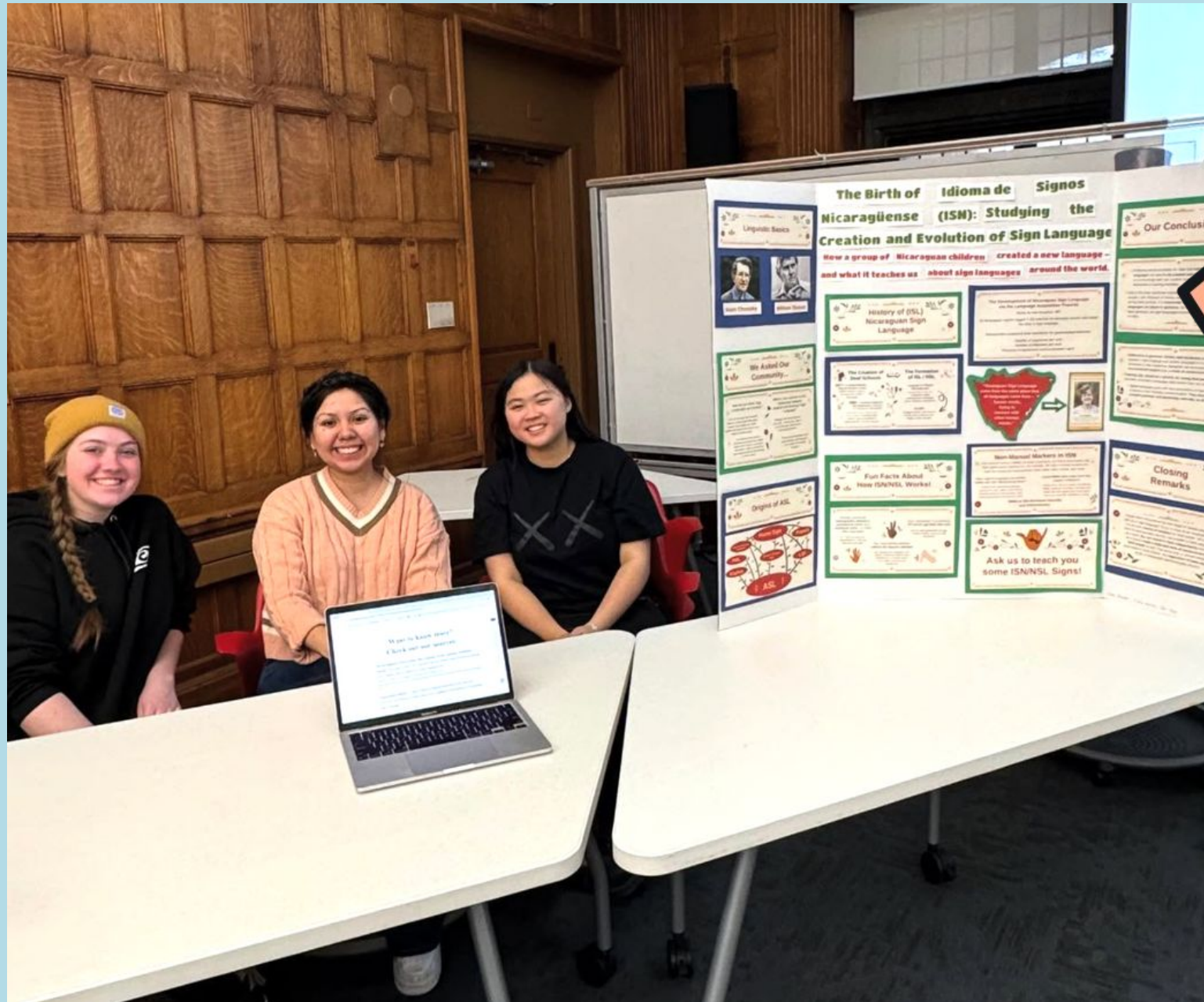


Or join Mallory's drop-in hours
Tuesdays 7-9 PM in Bass Cafe
to find a project group that's right for you!

Questions?
Email mallory.lester@yale.edu




Dani, Uyen, and Kiara



ISN Research Project

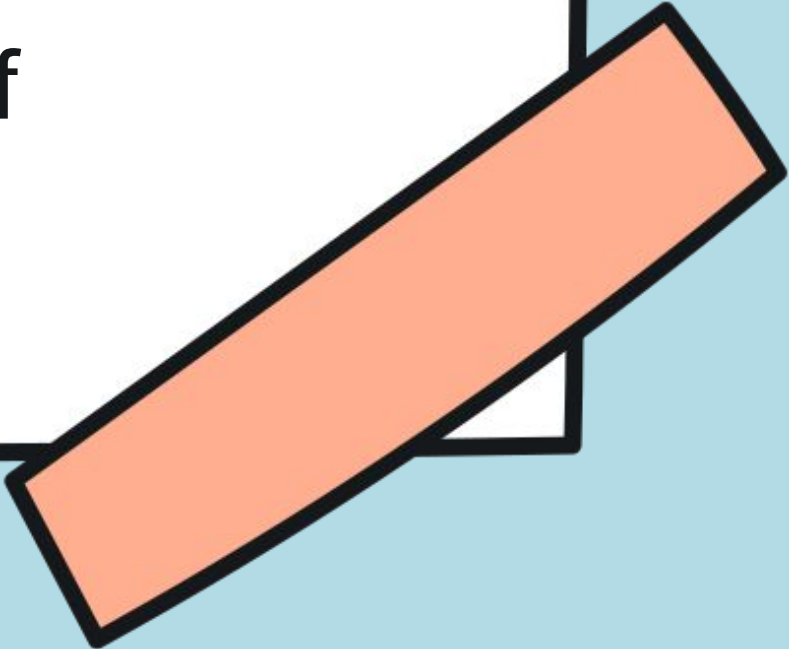
- Met and emailed consistently from February to the Open House
- Had previous interest in ISN from linguistics class, unsure how to research and elevate the Deaf perspective
- Worked together to narrow topic scope, find articles on the creation of sign language in Yale's Databases and Libraries, and create a compelling project

Mid-Semester Turning Point



Many lower-level students wanted to get involved in more activities on top of their service projects.

They needed more service hours and wanted to connect with the Deaf community in New Haven.



Connection



Volunteer Google Forms

Connected lower-level students to large-scale events that were already happening.

QR codes and quick Google

Forms allowed for easy sign-ups and communication, increasing volunteer turnout.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

4 WAYS TO GET INVOLVED



ASL for Library Professionals Workshop

Help with set up, group
facilitation, and tear down

April 9, 1:00 pm



ASL Open House

Present your ASL
project/research or help with set
up and tear down

April 10, 4-6 pm, Dow 100



ASL for Medical Professionals Workshop

Help with set up, group
facilitation, and tear down

April 16



ASL Variety Show

Sign up to show off your ASL
poetry, skits, art, music, and more!
Or, help with tech and lighting

April 17, 9:30 am-12:30 pm, SSS



Volunteers

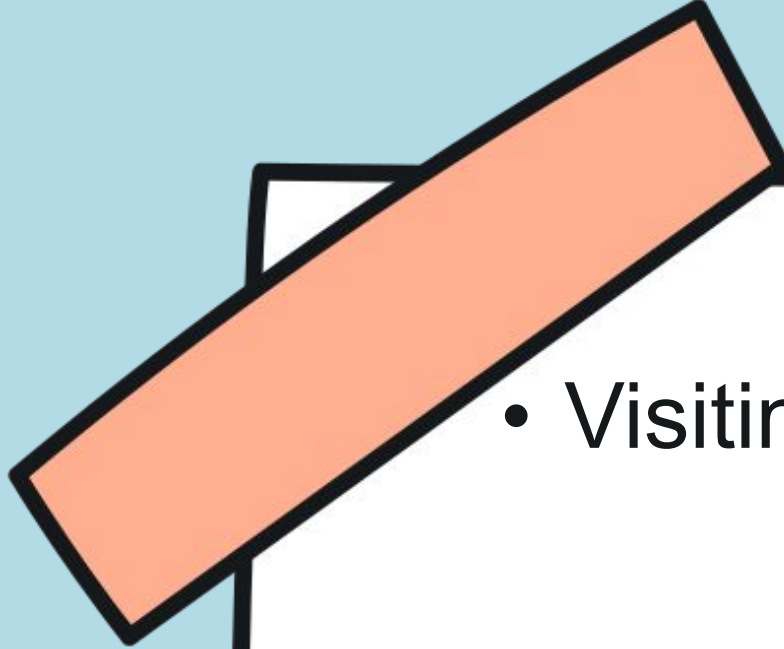
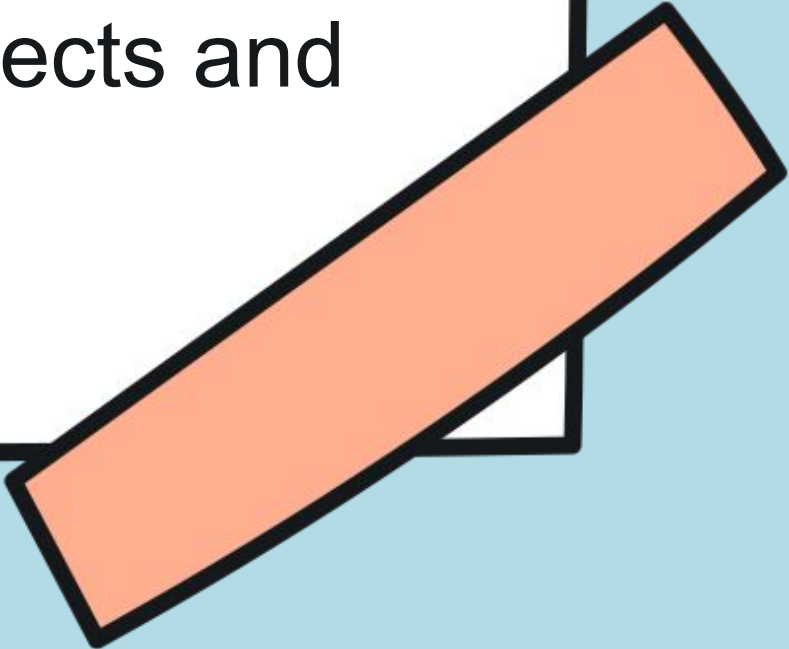


Students helped with set up, tear down, group facilitation, welcoming, lighting, sound tech, and more!



Between the Open House, Variety Show, Library Workshop, and Medical Professionals workshop, we had **over 20 lower-level students** sign up to volunteer.

Future Directions

- 
- Visiting lower-level classes in person to increase engagement
 - Making an email group or GroupMe to spread the word about volunteer opportunities
 - More connections between L3-L4 projects and lower-level signers
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Thank you!