



**Deaf West Theatre**  
**Ed Waterstreet**, Artistic Director  
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### **DEAF WEST THEATRE RECEIVES GRANT FROM TARGET FOR EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMING**

July 26<sup>th</sup> 2010 (North Hollywood) - Deaf West Theatre ("DWT") receives \$2,000 from Target through their annual charitable contributions. Since 1946, Target has given 5% of their income to various organizations in different communities, equaling more than \$3 million every week.

A long time supporter of DWT, funding from Target will help support the on-going efforts of DWT's Dramatic Gestures arts education programs for their 2010-2011 season. This program will benefit deaf and hearing students across the Los Angeles area. Dramatic Gestures offers intensive school residency workshops for elementary to high school students led by deaf teaching artists who collaborate with classroom teachers, ASL storytelling course-related readings presented in American Sign Language (ASL) to provide innovative access to literary works for elementary school students in their classrooms, and attendance at a professional production of a newly adapted work.

#### **About Deaf West Theatre**

Deaf West Theatre, Inc., (DWT) was founded in 1991 by Artistic Director, Ed Waterstreet, to improve and enrich the cultural lives of the 1.2 million deaf and hard of hearing individuals who live in the Los Angeles area. DWT is recognized as the premiere sign language theatre in the United States and has consistently set the standard for innovation in deaf theatre. It is the only resident deaf theatre in the western United States and only one of few successful sign language production companies in the country. DWT provides exposure and access to professional theatre, filling a void for deaf artists and audiences. Serving the cultural, educational, social and employment needs of its constituents, DWT is an institution for the discovery and exploration of artists' identities and stature as professionals in the performing arts. Through the medium of Sign Language Theatre, a legacy of deaf culture is created, shared, and preserved which greatly influences mainstream perspectives about the culture and ability of the deaf. [www.deafwest.org](http://www.deafwest.org)