



Setting Language in Motion: Family Supports and Early Intervention for Babies Who are Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Introduction and Overview

About the Actor

Michelle A. Banks



Michelle A. Banks was the actor in the introduction to this product as well as in Module 2 (Understanding Hearing: How the Ear Works and How to Test Hearing in Infants), Module 4 (Launching Communication and Language Through Sign), and Module 7 (Parenting a Child Who is Deaf or Hard of Hearing). She is a native of Washington, D.C., and an award-winning actress, writer, director, producer, choreographer, motivational speaker, and teacher. Her acting credits include the Showtime series “Soul Food,” UPN’s “Girlfriends,” Lifetime’s “Strong Medicine,” *See What I’m Saying*, and *Compensation*. She credits Jadolphus C.W. Fraser, an independent filmmaker, for introducing her to filmmaking and co-directed his feature debut, *Always Chasing Love*. She was also chosen as one of 13 actors for New York City’s 2008 ABC Diversity Talent Showcase. Banks has appeared on stage in *Big River*, *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow is Enuf*, and in her one-woman show, *Reflections of a Black Deaf Woman*. Other achievements include acting as artistic director of the Onyx Theatre Company; as sign master for Broadway plays, Arena Stage, and Centerstage; and as director of plays such as *Guys and Dolls*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and *Z: A Christmas Story*. Most recently Banks danced with the Kankouran West African Dance Company, and produced and directed *In Sight and Sound: De(a)f Poetry I and II* and Richard Graham’s one man show, *What It’s Like: One Veteran’s Tale of Addiction, Survival, & PTSD*.

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