

## REGION III 2010 CONFERENCE COMING TO MINNESOTA

The RID Region III 2010 Conference will be taking place in Minnesota and MRID will serve as the host affiliate chapter. Mark your calendars for July 21-24. The conference will be held at the Hotel Sofitel, a five star hotel in Bloomington. The hotel has many wonderful amenities including a shuttle to and from the Mall of America!

Plans are well underway to bring in presenters who will focus on the future of interpreting, as it pertains to diversity in language and culture with a variety of interpreting workshops relating to the conference theme, "Passport to Possibilities".

Promoting a global perspective and working with New American Deaf populations is one of the conference programming goals; it will consist of hands on skill workshops as well as advanced topic workshops. This goal will encompass promoting the inclusion of members who are culturally, racially and ethnically diverse. It will also provide a plethora of opportunities for attendees, presenters, conference interpreters (especially CDI's) and conference support staff to network and learn from one another.

Another goal will be to incorporate a visually supportive environment by having conference committee members and regional board members sign during the conference in all common areas. Workshops will be conducted in ASL only, Spoken English or a mixture of both. Integrating the above within the conference experience will allow for a Deaf friendly environment and inclusion of all members and attendees.

There will be plenty of opportunity to explore and enjoy the summer venues with friends and families close to the conference site such as the Mall of America, Water Park of America, restaurants, museums, theaters and much more. For those of you who are outdoor baseball fans, the Minnesota Twins will be playing at home in their new stadium. Plans are underway to include a Deaf day at one of these locations and the conference promises to have some great entertainment!

Check out [www.mrid.org](http://www.mrid.org) or the Region III web page at [www.rid.org](http://www.rid.org) for conference details.

Jimmy Beldon  
Co-Chair  
[jimmyjr25@aol.com](mailto:jimmyjr25@aol.com)

Lynn Joa Wander  
Co-Chair  
[wanderstpaul@aol.com](mailto:wanderstpaul@aol.com)