

Amanda McDonough

ACTRESS, AUTHOR, & INSPIRATIONAL SPEAKER

Amanda McDonough is a skilled inspirational speaker, author and actress who communicates fluently in English and American Sign Language. Amanda is described as having an infectious positive personality, a quick wit, and a great sense of humor!

Her new book "Ready to be Heard" is the story of how Ms. McDonough (mc-duh-nuh) lost her hearing, taught herself to speak after becoming deaf and mute, taught herself to lip-read, and to sign. Amanda explains how she discovered a new culture, language, and most importantly, herself. In this memoir, the author narrates how she managed to finish college after becoming deaf. How she garnered straight A's in school, entered the workforce, enjoyed a successful Hollywood acting career (Freeform's *Switched at Birth*, ABC's *Speechless*, NBC's *Bad Judge*, Google, 7UP, Deaf West/ Pasadena Playhouse's *Our Town*, etc.), fought for her independence, and found her purpose. "**Ready to be Heard: How I Lost My Hearing and Found My Voice**" tells about the author's inspiring journey to find a balance between the hearing world she was raised in and the Deaf culture to which she now belonged.

Amanda has been a speaker and resilience trainer for organizations and companies such as: The US Airforce, Cal Poly Pomona, UC Riverside, Saddle Ranch Church, Diamond Ranch High School, and many more! Follow this strong, independent, thought leader and consider her as your speaker at your next event!



Segment/Story Ideas:

- 10 Ways to handle life challenges, loss and unexpected change.
- Lets talk: Bullying, Discrimination, and Diversity.
- The cochlear implant argument: Why it is so controversial.
- How to find the strength to overcome your obstacles and help others.
- Losing your hearing? How to navigate hearing loss and live your best life.
- #ReadyToBeHeard movement.
- 5 ways to communicate effectively with a Deaf person when you don't know sign language.
- How to become the hero of your own life story.
- September is Deaf Awareness Month!
- Inclusion: Where are actors with disabilities in the Hollywood diversity & inclusion movements?
- The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990: Why do people with disabilities still have to fight for accessibility options required by law?

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