Georgia Institute of Technology
Participant Permission Form

**Project Title:** ASL Learning Software Testing

**Principal Investigators:** Professor Thad Starner, Valerie Henderson-Summet and Kimberly Weaver

You are being asked to participate in a research study. This study’s purpose is to investigate American Sign Language (ASL) interfaces for desktop and mobile applications. Many deaf children are born to hearing parents who may not know ASL. However, children must be exposed to language at a very early stage of life. This study will help us to understand different, nontraditional ways to incorporate ASL learning into everyday life.

The goals of this study are:
1. To better understand the intrinsic difficulty of ASL vocabulary words.
2. To better understand the rate at which individuals learn ASL on different platforms.
3. To better understand how American Sign Language (ASL) can be incorporated into mobile applications.

You are eligible to participate if you are over the age of 18 and have no prior knowledge of ASL beyond fingerspelling.

**Description:**
The study will consist of a series of tests of a set of 80 ASL signs. You will be presented with a Flash-based computer game which shows a short video of a sign in ASL and then a multiple choice selection of English translations. You will be asked to click the English word corresponding to the sign video.

Data will be used in scholarly publications and presentations. Your identity will not be revealed in any publication or presentation of the results of this research. However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed; your personal information may be disclosed if required by law. To ensure this research activity is being conducted properly, Georgia Institute of Technology’s Institutional Review Board has the right to review study records. However, confidentiality will be maintained to the extent allowed by law.

There is no direct benefit to you by participating. However, this project may help us discover ways to motivate people to build language skills and develop linguistic memory more easily.

The risks involved are no greater than those involved in daily activities such as using a computer.

You will receive $10 for each hour of participation.

Reports of injury or reaction should be made to Thad Starner (Principal Investigator) at (404) 894-3152.
Neither the Georgia Institute of Technology nor the principal investigator has made provision for payment of costs associated with any injury resulting from participation in this study.

You have rights as a research volunteer. Your participation in this study is voluntary. You do not have to be in this study if you don’t want to participate. You have the right to change your mind and remove yourself from the study at any time without giving any reason and without penalty. You will keep all money you have already earned. Any new information that may make you change your mind about participating in this study will be given to you.
You do not waive any of legal rights by signing this permission form.
Consent for Participation:
Your signature below indicates that the researchers have answered all of your questions to your satisfaction and that you agree that you will participate in this study.

Name (print): __________________________________________________________

Signature: __________________________________ Date: __________

Contact Persons:
If you have any questions about the research, call or write to the following

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If you have questions about your rights as a research volunteer, call or write:
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A second copy of this form is included for you to keep for your records.