

# ***Help Communicate Through Connection***



***Better Hearing and Speech Month***

# Better Hearing and Speech Month

More than **1.5 billion**  
people worldwide are  
affected by hearing  
loss in at least one ear.



**3rd**  
ASL is the  
most commonly used  
language in the US, after  
English and Spanish.

More than **90%**  
of deaf people are born  
to 2 hearing parents



**1 in 8 people**  
(age 12 or older) has  
hearing loss in **both**  
ears in the US

# Types of Hearing Loss

## Sensorineural

Hearing loss stemmed from issues with the inner ear and/or acoustic nerve. This can be caused by loud noises, meningitis, certain harmful medications, genetics, or old age.



## Conductive

Hearing loss that prevents sounds from entering from the outer/middle ear to the inner ear. This can be caused by wax build-up, damage to the bones of the inner ear, damage to the eardrum, or can be presented as a birth defect.



## Mixed

Hearing loss that affects both the inner, and outer ear that can lead to more extensive hearing loss. A mix of Sensorineural and Conductive hearing loss.

## ANSD

Auditory Neuropathy Spectrum Disorder; A disorder that affects the way sound is transmitted to the brain through the acoustic nerve. This can be caused by damage to the acoustic nerve or due to genetic mutations.



**Better Hearing and Speech Month**



# Types of Speech Disorders

## Speech Apraxia

An issue that occurs when the brain fails to properly send messages to the muscles in the mouth to form words. This can be caused by a traumatic brain injury, stroke, neurological infection, or due to a genetic disorder.



## Stutter

The repetition of words, phrases, or syllables when speaking. This can be caused by anxiety, family history, or language development. It is believed that those with a stutter have a brain that functions differently in the language and/or auditory processing parts of the brain.



## Ankyloglossia

Also known as being "Tongue-Tied", this disorder occurs when the membrane that connects your tongue to the bottom of mouth is too short. This can lead to articulation issues with letter sounds such as t, d, n, l, s and z because the tongue can't reach the roof of the mouth.





# DID YOU KNOW?

Ulrich suffers from **Tinnitus** caused by noise exposure that is associated with hearing loss. **This condition affects the cochlea, or the inner ear and causes a ringing sound to come and go.**

**Metallica drummer Lars Ulrich is hard of hearing.**





# DID YOU KNOW?

**Football  
player  
Derrick  
Coleman,  
is deaf.**

**When Coleman  
was 3, he lost  
his hearing  
due to a  
genetic  
abnormality.  
From then on,  
he became one  
of the first  
deaf NFL  
players and  
the first Deaf  
offensive  
player in NFL  
history.**





# ***DID YOU KNOW?***

***Kotsur  
became  
the first  
deaf man  
to win an  
Academy  
Award for  
acting.***

***Actor, Troy  
Kotsur has  
been deaf  
since birth.***

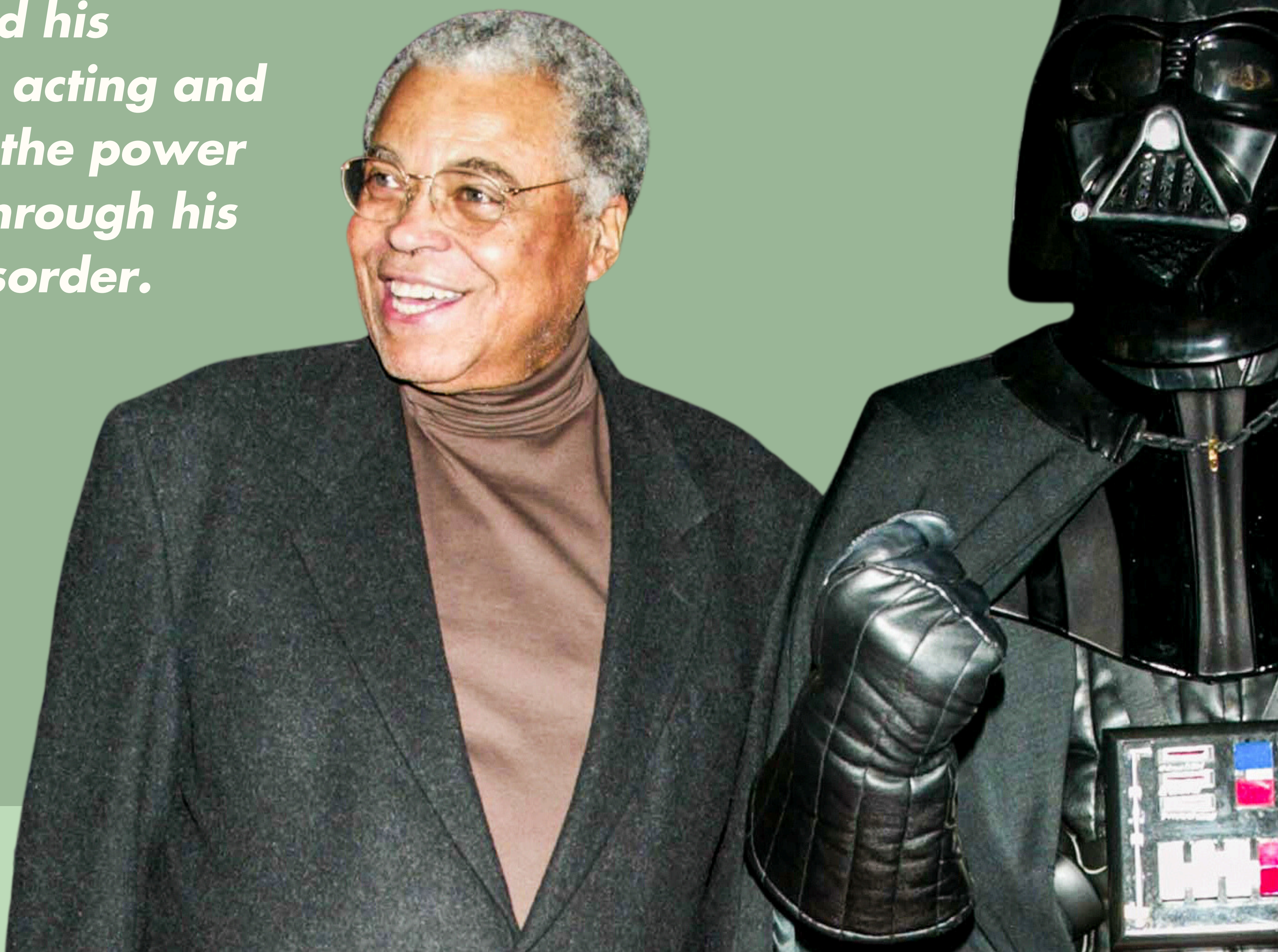




# ***DID YOU KNOW?***

***James Earl  
Jones has  
a stutter.***

*Well known as the voice of Darth Vader, James Earl Jones struggles with a **stutter**. He was mute for nearly 8 years due to his **stutter** during childhood. His interest in poetry kickstarted his interest in acting and gave him the power to work through his speech disorder.*





# DID YOU KNOW?

*Muscisian,  
Clairo,  
struggles  
with a  
lisp.*

*Known by her stage name, Clairo, Claire Cotrill, was afraid her lisp would get in the way of her performing live. She struggled with a lisp when she was young. Depsite that she began to record songs at age 13.*



# DID YOU KNOW?

After having trouble with his speech while on live TV because of his **apraxia**, Kamara had to step down from his position. On his road to recovery, he sees a speech therapist and practices coordinating speech exercises. Similar to a stutter, someone with apraxia has trouble pronouncing their words because they tend to slur. **This is due to a lack of connection between the muscles in the mouth and the signals from the brain.**



*Former soccer player and sports analyst, **Chris Kamara** suffers from speech apraxia.*

