

Dear Friends,

I was born completely deaf. That did not stop me from dreaming and as a very young child, even though I couldn't speak very well, I wanted to sing with all my heart. In 2003, my life changed. I was blessed with a BAHA implant. Thanks to your fundraising efforts, to Shriners Hospital here in Montreal and to the surgical skills of my friend Dr. Lucie Lessard, I can stand before you and speak today. Without your donations, it would have been impossible for me to be at the same school level as kids my age and I certainly could not be realizing my dream: the dream of signing. I am truly happy to be here and to have this opportunity to say thank you, because now, I can hear almost normally. Thank you for the hope you have given me and the hope you will give other children like me.

It is with great joy that I wish to recognize the incredible dedication and generosity of the Daughters of the Nile. Thanks to their dedication and hard work, I understand that they have raised 1 million \$ to be donated to Shriners Hospital for children here in Montreal.

To thank you with all my heart and to pay tribute to your incredible work, I will now perform two special songs. Once again, thank you to Dr. Lessard, to the Daughters of the Nile and to all of you who give so much for the children.

God bless you!

Jérémy Gabriel