



NYLE DIMARCO
FOUNDATION

Nyle DiMarco

1989-Present



Early Life

- Nyle was not the only person in his family to be deaf, but instead is a member of a multigenerational Deaf family whose deafness can be traced back to his great grandfathers.
 - 25 members of his extended family are Deaf, including his siblings (older brother a twin brother), parents and grandparents.
 - Nyle's twin is Deaf as well, and works as a DJ
- Nyle was taught both English and ASL from the start, and started his education at the Maryland School for the Deaf.
 - He then went on to earn his degree in Mathematics from Gallaudet University.



Nyle and his twin brother



Nyle's twin, his mom and him



Nyle's family

Early Career

- Even though he had a solid education, Nyle's physical attractiveness is what started his career.
 - Staring out as a freelance model, Nyle was discovered on Instagram when he was 25 by the producers of the Reality TV Show *America's Next Top Model*.
 - Nyle ended up being a fan favorite, and was the first Deaf winner.
- Nyle wasn't only known as a model, but was also on *Dancing With the Stars*.
 - Although Marlee Matlin was the first Deaf performer on the show, DiMarco was the first Deaf winner in 2016.
- Nyle can also be seen in the series *Difficult People*, *Switched at Birth*, and *This Close*, as well as some music videos.



A New Field



- Nyle jumped from the screen to the stage when he decided to become a producer for the show *Children of a Lesser God* on Broadway in New York City.
 - This is Nyle's first time being a producer, but he feels that it is important for Deaf artists to provide input for entertainment that focuses on the Deaf Community.
 - Nyle believes that Deaf actors should be used for Deaf characters, and that Deaf people should be involved in all areas of the creative process.
 - Nyle also believes that the Deaf should create content that they feel is missing in their culture. To help this, Nyle developed ASL tutorials for "*Children of a Lesser God*" so that the audience would receive a peek into the show's themes and languages.



Nyle DiMarco Foundation



- Along with modeling, acting, producing and advocating, Nyle became the founder of the **Nyle DiMarco Foundation**
 - The foundation is described on the Foundation's Website as *"a non-profit organization that exists as a national philanthropic resource for all organizations, institutions and individuals working to improve the lives of every Deaf person in the world."*
 - The organization is focused on Deaf children and their families, specifically with the bilingual education approach to early language and acquisition. This is built in with the foundation's broader belief that *"every child deserves love and language."*
- DiMarco is also a spokesman for **Language Equality and Acquisition for Deaf Kids (LEAD-K)**.



More Work to Do

- Even though Nyle's accomplished all of this at only 30 years old, he has accomplished an incredible amount- however, he still has much more that he plans to do. A quote that best describes his motivation, passion and accomplishments is

"I don't find not being able to hear an obstacle or a boundary. For me, for many of us, it is an advantage and it's part of my identity. It's a huge part of who I am."



Nyle DiMarco



Sources

Nyle DiMarco Web site: <http://www.nyledimarco.com>

Nyle DiMarco Foundation Web site: <https://nyledimarcofoundation.com/>

Deadline Hollywood Web site article, "Nyle DiMarco Went From *America's Next Top Model* to Broadway Producer: How *Children of a Lesser God* Paved the Way" <https://deadline.com>