**Dots and Dashes**

**April 17, 2023**

# **ACB’s Virginia Office Move**

ACB’s Virginia office is moving! ACB’s new office address is 225 Reinekers Lane, Suite 660, Alexandria, VA 22314. Please note: the Virginia office staff will be performing the office move from Monday, April 24 to Friday, April 28. During this time, you may have difficulty reaching us by phone or email. Please contact the Minnesota office staff at (612) 332-3242 if you need immediate attention.

# **ACB Applauds ScripTalk Talking Label Pilot at Wegmans**

ACB is pleased to share the announcement of the ScripTalk Talking Prescription Label pilot program at Wegmans Food Markets. Wegmans is offering the ScripTalk system that allows blind or low vision patients the ability to audibly hear important prescription label information, ensuring their medication independence and safety. The chain will offer the service at five of its New York locations. [**Learn more by reading our press release**](https://acb.org/Wegmans-ScripTalk-pilot). If you’d like this service added to your Wegmans or want more information about ScripTalk, call [**En-Vision America**](https://www.envisionamerica.com/) at 1-800-890-1180.

# **ADP Awards Deadline Coming!**

ACB’s Audio Description Project (ACB-ADP) advocates for access to arts, education, and information through the provision of audio description. The ADP Awards are one way we recognize outstanding contributions to the field. Nominate your favorites today! The nomination deadline is **May 5, 2023.**

You can find the criteria and a list of past award recipients at [**www.acb.org/2023-ADP-awards**](https://acb.org/2023-ADP-awards).

Submit your nomination through the [**online nomination form**](https://tkenlon.wufoo.com/forms/zj46xgl1g1jqmp/), or [**download the nomination form**](https://acb.org/sites/default/files/2023%20ADP%20Awards%20Nomination%20Form.docx) and email the completed form to **tkenlon@acb.org****.**

# **City of Chicago Held in Violation of the ADA**

A federal judge in Chicago held the City of Chicago liable for violating the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act by failing to provide accessible pedestrian signals at signalized intersections throughout the city to those who are blind or have low vision. ACB of Metro Chicago, an Illinois Council of the Blind chapter, filed the suit in 2019 alleging discrimination against blind and low vision individuals by the city. [**Read the full DOJ press release.**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsImJ1bGxldGluX2lkIjoiMjAyMzA0MDUuNzQ2OTEwODEiLCJ1cmwiOiJodHRwczovL3d3dy5qdXN0aWNlLmdvdi9vcGEvcHIvY2l0eS1jaGljYWdvLWhlbGQtdmlvbGF0aW9uLWFtZXJpY2Fucy1kaXNhYmlsaXRpZXMtYWN0In0.apls_864jd8g2ImG6M09NuL9V0Ku_E3CyveHJ6rKkRA/s/485398740/br/157449777667-l)

# **Interested in Kids Club?**

In the past, ACB has offered our Kids Club to convention attendees for children ages 5 to 13.  Last year we ended up canceling at the last minute due to extremely low attendance.  Before we confirm the hiring of Kids Club leaders and begin scheduling events, I’d like to determine if there is enough interest in holding Kids Club. If you are considering bringing your children to Schaumburg, please email Janet by April 20th at **Janet.dickelman@gmail.com**, or call her at (651) 428-5059.

# **Marketplace at Convention**

Are you an entertainer or author with CDs or books to sell? Do you sell crafts, cosmetics, toys, etc.? Is your affiliate looking for a fundraiser? Do you have information to distribute before a specific general session? Consider ACB’s Marketplace! It will be located near the ACB Café and general session, and is one of the highest traffic areas at convention. It is open before each morning general session begins and is filled with something new and exciting every day. Space is limited; tables will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. Tables are $25 each, and you may reserve space for one or two days only; specify the days you prefer when registering. No food items may be sold at Marketplace.

# **Make Your Hotel Reservations Now!**

Make your hotel reservations for the 2023 ACB Conference and convention today! Room rates at the Renaissance are $98 per night double occupancy (with an additional $10 charge for up to four people), plus tax, which is currently 15%. To make reservations online, visit

[**https://book.passkey.com/go/AmericanCounciloftheBlind2023**](https://book.passkey.com/go/AmericanCounciloftheBlind2023).

For telephone reservations, call (800) 468-3571. This is a central reservations number, so be sure to indicate you are with the American Council of the Blind 2023 conference and convention at the Renaissance Hotel in Schaumburg, IL.

Rooms must be reserved by June 8th to guarantee the convention rate — book now so you don’t forget!

# **Tell Us What You Think about the ADP Website**

The Audio Description Project team wants to know what you love and what you’d change about our website and social media. We’re here for you, so let us know how we’re doing by [**taking a short survey**](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/GV5NNY8). Thanks in advance – we can’t wait to hear from you as we continue to make the ADP even better!

# **Public Service Announcement on Uncontrolled Dogs**

Don’t you wish pet owners would understand how important it is to keep their dogs on leash and under control?

You can help them understand! Share GDUI’s new audio [**Public Service Announcement**](https://guidedogusersinc.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/GDUI-Public-Service-Announcement-1.mp3) with your local media! And share the announcement yourself, with family and friends on all the social media you visit!

We encourage you to share our audio message widely. The more people who understand how important it is to control their dogs, the safer all of us will be!

# **DCMP Nominated for Webby Award**

The Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP) has been a leader in the field of media accessibility for over 30 years. DCMP develops and adapts new technologies to create and distribute educational media for students with disabilities — and their teachers and parents. In partnership with top content creators, DCMP streams fully accessible media through its targeted distribution to schools. The Webby Awards is the leading international award honoring excellence on the Internet. Established in 1996, The Webbys is presented by the International Academy of Digital Arts and Sciences (IADAS), a 2,000+ member judging body. DCMP’s work has been singled out by IADAS as one of the five best in the world in the category of Websites and Mobile Sites – Accessible Technology. [**Vote for DCMP to win The Webby People's Voice Award**](https://vote.webbyawards.com/PublicVoting#/2023/websites-and-mobile-sites/responsible-technology/accessible-technology)!

# **Last Chance to Help NJIT Make VR Music Concerts Accessible!**

This week is your last chance to help the Department of Informatics at New Jersey Institute of Technology to make VR music concerts accessible for the visually impaired! They deeply appreciate our ACB members who have participated so far, and would like more members to share their opinions, needs, and experiences. Your insights will greatly influence the development of a prototype for inclusive VR music concerts. If you are over 18, please participate by following this link: [**https://8ere.short.gy/VRconcerts**](https://8ere.short.gy/VRconcerts). The survey closes on Saturday, April 22.

# **Brand-New Mom Seeks Your Advice**

I am Daisy Russell Kadlik, and I am a brand-new blind mom. When I first became pregnant and was searching for
resources for blind parents, I found support groups and a handful of podcasts and articles here and there, but nothing as comprehensive as I’d like. There is no manual for parenting, but I am writing a book full of tricks and techniques I learn as I go, and learn from parents like you. If you are willing to answer some interview questions and share your own insights about topics such as travel, healthcare, safety, feeding, diaper changing, socializing, and organization, please send me your email address. I appreciate your insight and assistance with this project. I plan to gather as many perspectives as possible to give other blind parents a resource full of tried-and-true techniques and tools. If you contribute to this book, you will be credited in the acknowledgements. Contact me via email, **daisy.kadlik@gmail.com**.

# **Seeking Blind People Ages 18 to 30**

A group of international researchers has put together a fully accessible online survey to gather information from individuals throughout the world between 18-30 years old with visual impairments. Complete the survey by **May 1, 2023.** The survey is available in multiple languages:

 English: [**https://forms.office.com/r/MsGe3j4HzN**](https://forms.office.com/r/MsGe3j4HzN)

 Spanish: [**https://forms.office.com/r/CW2PWBkBsX**](https://forms.office.com/r/CW2PWBkBsX)

 French: [**https://forms.office.com/r/przCfFCzNR**](https://forms.office.com/r/przCfFCzNR)

 Dutch: [**https://forms.office.com/r/6ejfuvd0qB**](https://forms.office.com/r/6ejfuvd0qB)

 Arabic: [**https://forms.office.com/r/aGzAcU5Eha**](https://forms.office.com/r/aGzAcU5Eha)

Those who complete the survey will be invited to attend an in-person event on June 29, 2023 in Huizen, The Netherlands. Virtual events will be held on June 28 from 13:00 PM UTC to 15:00 PM UTC and June 29 from 07:00 AM UTC to 09:00 AM UTC. At these events we will share survey findings and encourage discussions between those in attendance.