**Dots and Dashes**

**June 26, 2023**

**Last Day to Submit Nominations for the Audio Description People’s Choice Award**

It’s the last day to submit nominations for the 2023 Audio Description People’s Choice Award! The winners will be revealed during the [2023 ACB Audio Description Awards Gala](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001tvOyULHpOX2f6cpZLGyNvtH_IoRGYRbpVWK6HKRkwexE7O9omr3G9wC9hKETrNpm-ubmaTm0gPaNq1DwqqUZxrCloh9vmMgpGZI0IHiEqNYv_LiEMLgWa69iZmpxyIegc6aAEpAQzKbXK5UIA8Cqgw==&c=g0eU5ChGUlndBf2ewJyCDeR9AC4PqJdwRO0ib7LiQ0eGeJjjFyjHUA==&ch=fX1eHN4sRNZcndJzKQlAktulIxLDj-6L9bNo5OKt67iR5NOQVoDbog==), which will take place virtually on November 14 at 7:30 p.m. Eastern.

The selection process for the Audio Description People’s Choice Award takes place in two phases. First, ACB will accept nominations in two categories, film and series, through close of business today. Second, the top titles in each category will compete for the grand prize during a two-week voting period from July 25 to August 8.

Nominee selections must follow the [nomination criteria](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001tvOyULHpOX2f6cpZLGyNvtH_IoRGYRbpVWK6HKRkwexE7O9omr3G999s4HnIRldmJyHryxtYXgfkuTjlbbIBz-X8WowbcI7F8h9hEHIbXwonMhw0JyN8Io9iWC9RzL9CHDr3HqLu0YexiCXHzkf7_tavLv8wO0O2T6thAdQezs1lfJNVU3YURteeDMpiPh2M&c=g0eU5ChGUlndBf2ewJyCDeR9AC4PqJdwRO0ib7LiQ0eGeJjjFyjHUA==&ch=fX1eHN4sRNZcndJzKQlAktulIxLDj-6L9bNo5OKt67iR5NOQVoDbog==) to be eligible for the finalist vote. The nomination form is available at [**https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ADAwards-Nominations2023**](https://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001tvOyULHpOX2f6cpZLGyNvtH_IoRGYRbpVWK6HKRkwexE7O9omr3G999s4HnIRldmEXfK-nYtbJ3Ks-gY8BEnRFQCq2HyLfI78xD-KlGqJl1bygyV9wCh980neeTxVISJOP9Z3pgWyMM26SVgXr59HihEt8BRycG1e9Sx8SBYuY_0dDmszdYxut5p9JYk-JP7&c=g0eU5ChGUlndBf2ewJyCDeR9AC4PqJdwRO0ib7LiQ0eGeJjjFyjHUA==&ch=fX1eHN4sRNZcndJzKQlAktulIxLDj-6L9bNo5OKt67iR5NOQVoDbog==). To submit your nomination by phone, call (202) 596-7041.

# **2023 Scholarship Recipients**

The American Council of the Blind (ACB) and the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) have partnered to offer educational scholarships ranging from $2,500 to $7,500 for legally blind students attending a technical college or who are an entering freshman, undergraduate or a graduate student. This program awards students with scholarships to help with post-secondary education financial needs such as tuition, fees, room and board and other additional costs associated with assistive technology. Congratulations to our 2023 scholarship recipients! [**Find the full list of recipients here**](https://acb.org/2023-scholarships).

# **Audio Description Institute Registration Now Open**

Registration is open for the Audio Description Project’s 22nd Audio Description Institute! Sessions will be held virtually from 1 to 5 p.m. Eastern, Monday, August 14, through Friday, August 18. Join us to learn about the art and science of audio description through a mixture of lecture, discussions, and collaborative writing sessions. [**Register now for the Audio Description Institute**](https://acb.org/2023-ADI).

# **Accessible Air Travel and the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization**

On the ACB Advocacy Update, ACB’s advocacy team speaks with Heather Ansley, Associate Executive Director for Government Relations at Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA), about opportunities to improve air travel experiences for people with disabilities within the ongoing Federal Aviation Administration reauthorization process in Congress. They discuss key items of interest to the disability community, including how advocates can keep in touch with the rapidly moving reauthorization process and ensure provisions that would make air travel much more accessible and enjoyable remain in the final version of the FAA Reauthorization Act. Listen to the episode: [**Accessible Air Travel and the Federal Aviation Administration Reauthorization**](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/0aa18e8d/accessible-air-travel-and-the-federal-aviation-administration-reauthorization).

# **DOJ Files Proposed Order to Require San Juan to Make Its Sidewalk System Accessible**

On Friday the Justice Department filed a proposed [stipulated order](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDAsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lmp1c3RpY2UuZ292L21lZGlhLzEzMDE5MjEvZGw_aW5saW5lIiwiYnVsbGV0aW5faWQiOiIyMDIzMDYyNi43ODc4NjQxMSJ9.I_GShK6Oi0dK8-EVAIWdlIIZrFnjHSzAmw-gD50vfWc/s/2143193055/br/207980500130-l) that will require the Municipality of San Juan, Puerto Rico to take critical steps towards making its public sidewalk system accessible to individuals with disabilities. The proposed order was filed jointly with San Juan and private plaintiffs and pauses the department’s lawsuit against San Juan while requiring it to conduct a comprehensive assessment of sidewalk accessibility and to begin fixing accessibility barriers. The department’s lawsuit alleges that San Juan has violated the ADA and Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act (Section 504) by failing to provide people with disabilities equal access to the municipality’s sidewalks, curb ramps, crosswalks, and other pedestrian facilities. For more information, click [**here**](https://lnks.gd/l/eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiJ9.eyJidWxsZXRpbl9saW5rX2lkIjoxMDEsInVyaSI6ImJwMjpjbGljayIsInVybCI6Imh0dHBzOi8vd3d3Lmp1c3RpY2UuZ292L29wYS9wci9qdXN0aWNlLWRlcGFydG1lbnQtc2VjdXJlcy1hZ3JlZW1lbnQtc2FuLWp1YW4tcHVlcnRvLXJpY28taW1wcm92ZS1wdWJsaWMtc2lkZXdhbGsiLCJidWxsZXRpbl9pZCI6IjIwMjMwNjI2Ljc4Nzg2NDExIn0.Fn5zpAiomvGECoGXVQuya87d_FUyBcF8w5W5LMr82VY/s/2143193055/br/207980500130-l).

# **Got Your Braille Forum Raffle Ticket Yet?**

If not, don’t delay! Tickets are selling fast. We may even sell out before convention! You can purchase one by calling the Minnesota office at (612) 332-3242. Tickets are $50 each and can be purchased by individuals, chapters, affiliates or with up to five people.

The third place winner will receive $500; second place, $1,000; and the first place winner will receive a whopping $5,000!