# **Dots and Dashes**

# **April 18, 2022**

## **Special Thanks Following Ukrainian Benefit Concert**

ACB thanks all those who joined in and donated for the April 16th “We’re With You” benefit concert for Ukrainians who are blind and impacted by the current conflict. Over 111 blind musicians and their allies performed for the event, which ran over 11 hours. The event has raised over $92k to date, including over $6k raised through the [www.acb.org/ukraine](http://www.acb.org/ukraine) website. The event will be rebroadcast on ACB Media. So stay tuned for information on how you can listen again to this historic event!

## **Getting Geared Up for Omaha**

ACB continues to celebrate its 60th anniversary this year with our 60-for-60 annual campaign. We’re all quite excited to return to an in-person event, while at the same time providing a wealth of virtual and hybrid content for those who may be unable to travel to Omaha. In celebrating our 60 years of success, we wanted to know what your own fondest memory may be from a past ACB convention. Share your story by emailing it to [media@acb.org](mailto:media@acb.org), and we’ll include it as we highlight past convention memories leading up to Omaha. You can also share it on your social media account and use the hashtag #ACB60. And as always, we welcome contributions to our 60-for-60 campaign. You can click the 60for60 button on our home page at [www.acb.org](http://www.acb.org). Your tax-deductible donation helps make future conventions a success! 

**Attention Affiliate Presidents!**

Now is the time for you to submit your delegate, alternate delegate and nominating committee representative information for this year’s ACB hybrid conference and convention. In-person convention dates are July 1st through 8th. The roll call of affiliates will take place at the opening session on Saturday, July 2nd. During these eight days, convention general sessions will take place both in-person and using Zoom for those attending virtually, and business and elections will be conducted. Zoom-only sessions will also be held the evenings of July 11th through 13th for discussion and voting on resolutions and bylaws not approved during the in-person portion of the convention. Your delegate and/or alternate delegate must be available for all of these sessions.

What I need from you:

* The name, email address, and telephone number(s) of your affiliate’s delegate, and if that person will be attending in person or virtually;
* The name, email address, and telephone number(s) of your affiliate’s alternate delegate, and if that person will be attending in person or virtually;
* The name, email address, and telephone number(s) of your affiliate’s representative to the nominating committee.
* Be sure to specify which affiliate you’re sending information for.

The nominating committee meeting will be held on Thursday, June 23, 2022, using the Zoom meeting platform. All nominating committee members will be contacted by committee chair Brian Charlson prior to the meeting.

Your delegate and alternate delegate can attend the convention in person or virtually. However, it is vital that we know how they will be attending so that we can get the Zoom information to them for roll call voting if they are attending virtually. It would also be helpful to know, if possible, which days the delegate will be casting the affiliate’s vote and which days the alternate delegate will be casting the affiliate’s vote.

The deadline date for sending this information to me is **Tuesday, May 10.** Please send your information to me at [colleyd1952@gmail.com](mailto:colleyd1952@gmail.com). If you have any questions, don’t hesitate to email me or call me at (360) 280-0077.

## **ACB Walk Site Now Live - Sign Up Today**

[Registration is now open for the 2022 ACB Brenda Dillon Memorial Walk](https://secure.qgiv.com/event/a2w/). Sign up now as an individual or team, or join an already existing team. Proceeds support ACB national along with state and special-interest affiliates. We’ll walk our way to the opening session of the 61st annual ACB Conference and Convention on July 3rd at 6 p.m. Central time, and there will be virtual walks across the country that evening as well. So, let’s all walk together wherever we may be as we raise awareness on the importance walking plays toward living a healthy and independent life.

## **What Unites Us with the Multicultural Affairs Committee**

Join the Multicultural Affairs Committee focus call this evening from 8:30 to 10 p.m. Eastern! We invite you to read Dan Rather’s book “What Unites Us: Reflections on Patriotism” (DB 90479/BR 22457), and to join us in a facilitated discussion led by Michael Garrett and Regina Marie Brink. Topics discussed in the book include public institutions such as parks and libraries, the drive for innovation, and more. Watch the lists for the Zoom and telephone information.

## **ACB Ohio Seeks Executive Director**

The ACB of Ohio has started a search for an executive director. The basic description is below; additional information is available. If you are interested, please send your resume to [acbo.director@gmail.com](mailto:acbo.director@gmail.com).

The executive director is responsible for the daily business operations of ACB-Ohio, including management of the assets of ACBO; hiring, training, discipline, and termination of employees; and maintaining the structure to manage ACBO. Additionally, the executive director administers an information and referral service in accordance with ACBO’s mission, provides information to the board, and oversees all programs of the organization. He/she reports directly to the president and maintains regular communication with all officers and directors. The executive director will live in the Columbus, Ohio, area.

**Educational and employment background:**

Ideally, the executive director has at least a bachelor’s degree, a minimum of two years’ work experience, and the ability to set up and follow a work schedule.

**Strengths:**

* good written and verbal communications skills
* organizational skills
* ability to think outside the box
* ability to work as part of a team

**Other helpful skills:**

* knowledge of technology
* ability to read and write braille

Those interested in applying for the position should submit a cover letter and resume to [acbo.director@gmail.com](mailto:acbo.director@gmail.com) in a Word or text document.

## **Invitation to Participate in a Focus Group Study**

We invite you to participate in a study at Columbia University that explores issues of trust in a type of

medical research called “precision medicine research.” This looks at a person’s genetics, environment, and lifestyle. It can help physicians improve prevention and diagnosis of diseases and develop new treatments.

You are invited because you are:

* A deaf or hard of hearing adult
* A blind or low vision adult
* An adult with a mobility disability

If you agree, you will be asked to join a 2-hour online focus group to share your thoughts about precision medicine. You do NOT need to have prior knowledge about precision medicine research to participate in this study. The study will help us understand what deaf or hard of hearing adults, blind or low vision adults and adults with mobility disabilities think about how precision medicine researchers and research institutions can be more responsive to the needs of persons with disabilities.

The focus group will be conducted using Zoom. It will be available in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language. CART Captioning will be available, as needed. You choose the language that works best for you. Focus group dates and times will be scheduled soon. You are offered a $50 gift card for participating in our focus group.

If you are interested, please contact Research Assistant, Madeleine Gibbons-Shapiro, at [msg2217@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:msg2217@cumc.columbia.edu). You will be asked to complete a short online survey about your background and convenient times for participation. If you need any accommodations, please let us know.

If you have any questions, please contact the Principal Investigator, Dr. Maya Sabatello, at [ms4075@cumc.columbia.edu](mailto:ms4075@cumc.columbia.edu).