**Dots and Dashes**

**July 17, 2023**

# **Accessible Credit Reports**

The nation’s three major consumer credit reporting companies, Equifax, Experian, and TransUnion, have reaffirmed their commitment to provide accessible credit reports for people who are blind or have low vision. The initiative, crafted with the American Council of the Blind (ACB) and several blind consumers, will help protect the credit information of individuals who cannot read a standard print credit report. This initiative includes a renewed commitment to provide credit reports in braille, large print, and audio formats, and to design online credit reports and related web pages in accordance with the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) 2.1 Level AA. [**Learn more by reading the accessible credit report press release**](https://acb.org/accessible-credit-reports).

# **2023 ADP Award Winners**

The ADP Awards honor the people and organizations that make outstanding contributions to the quality, availability, and understanding of audio description. [**Check out the ADP Awards ceremony video**](https://youtu.be/FEr9a7uBlRQ). It's got all the 2023 winners, from theatres to museums, from the kitchen to outer space. Plus, the grand prize winner of the Benefits of Audio Description in Education contest reads her essay critiquing the AD in the series Wednesday. Enjoy!

# **ACB Advocates for Accessible Autonomous Vehicles**

In June, ACB and 14 other disability rights advocacy organizations sent a letter to the House Energy and Commerce Committee advocating for legislation to create a national framework for the research, development, testing, and deployment of accessible autonomous vehicles. This legislation would alleviate transportation barriers for people with disabilities and provide opportunities for independence and ease of access that have so far been out of reach for far too many people in the United States. [**Read the letter to the House Energy and Commerce Committee**](https://acb.org/Energy-Commerce-Committee-letter-AV).

# **White House Roundtable Discussion**

This week, Vice President Kamala Harris and Transportation Secretary Pete Buttigieg hosted a White House Roundtable discussion on accessible transportation for people with disabilities to commemorate the upcoming anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Swatha Nandhakumar, ACB’s Advocacy & Outreach Specialist, was in attendance. [**Listen to the White House Roundtable discussion**](https://www.youtube.com/live/mqXWUZei85I?feature=share).

# **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).

# **Audio Description Makes Theatre, TV, and Movies Accessible**

If you think the visual performing arts are only for sighted people, you’re missing out on a world of entertainment. That’s because audio description turns theatre, television, and movies into inclusive experiences. It provides narration for the visual elements of a production, such as scene changes, settings, costumes, physical movement, and more. ACB Past President Kim Charlson discusses the history and importance of [**audio description in this APH VisionAware blog post**](https://visionaware.org/blog/visionaware-blog/audio-description-makes-theatre-tv-and-movies-accessible).