

neighbors what pronouns they use? We define so much through labels; they help us organize the world around us, but they can be harmful and disrespectful. Inclusivity is not a trend or a fad. Pronouns are not just words on a page. In this candid discussion, BPI presents narratives from community members who embody the gender diversity in our rainbow. Join us as we delve into the deeper meaning of pronouns and why what we say matters.

8:00 pm – 9:45 pm: BPI Mixer -"Bobbing" into Omaha! (in-person only), HH Cozzens

Join BPI as we "Bob" into Omaha! As always, BPI welcomes convention with fun, mingling, and surprises. Bridge your way into our first ever hybrid convention; we invite you to start your convention experience by "Bobbing" with BPI!

10:00 pm – 11:45 pm: Open Mic Night with BPI, HH Cozzens

Shout loud and proud karaoke or comedy, poetry, or interpretive dance. Whatever your talent, the BPI Open Mic Night is where all the wonderful colors of our rainbow will gather and share our talents. Open

to all ACB members as we look forward to entertaining and being entertained by our family and allies. Think of this as ACB's "Cheers" with a mic and stand and cocktails, lol.

## **Monday, July 4**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: Blind Dating in a Sighted World:  
The Non-verbal Cues of Dating, CHI 208

As someone who lost sight mid-life, I am often asked about the visuals in the dating world. In this panel we turn the tables to a few sighted friends as they tell us the visual cues that they respond to and answer questions from our community to dispel the myths and offer advice to us on “Blind Dating.”

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Breath and Sound (in-person only),  
HH Cozzens

Join BPI as we explore the wonders of breath. What is the sound of breath? What can we do with our breath? Let's discover how breath resonates throughout our body, mind, and soul.

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: BPI: Colors of the Rainbow: What Is an Ally (in-person only), HH Cozzens

Allies of the LGBTQIA+ Community: Doing What's Right to Protect Civil Rights

What is an ally? What can allies do to support the LGBTQIA+ community? Make a donation? Sign a petition? Is it possible to be a silent supporter as times change in momentous ways?

With regressive legislation such as Florida Governor Ron DeSantis' "Don't Say Gay" law and Texas Governor Greg Abbott's directive authorizing child abuse investigations into parents whose children receive gender-affirming care, allies are standing up and speaking out. Guided by members of the community, they respond and take action.

Come join the discussion with a panel including Anthony Corona, Gabriel Lopez-Kafati, Margie Donovan, Vita Zavoli and Miss Ruth Williams.

Who is an Ally?

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: Wine Tasting - Sparkles and Fireworks (in-person only), \$25 HH Washington City

It's all about Sparkling! Join BPI's Sommelier extraordinaire, Gabriel Lopez Kafati as we go through the world of sparkling wines. From Brut to Demisec, from Blanc to Rose. We will learn to discover our vino type as we mingle and sip!

## **Tuesday, July 5, HH Washington City**

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm: Tannin Tuesday (in-person only)

If you are a red wine aficionado, this is the tasting for you! BPI's sommelier extraordinaire, Gabriel Lopez Kafati, will take us through different regions of the world in a wine tour. From Cabs to Malbecs, from Merlot to Pinot Noir, we will learn why certain regions are famous for each varietal as we mingle and sip.

## **Wednesday, July 6, HH Washington City**

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: Wino Wednesday (in-person only)  
\$25

This unique wine experience will take us through the full range. Join BPI's sommelier extraordinaire, Gabriel Lopez Kafati, in this adventure through sparklings, whites, and reds. We will go from sweet to

dry, from light to full. Join us and discover your vino type as we mingle and sip.

## **Council of Citizens with Low Vision International**

**President: Patti Cox**

**Program Chair: Terry Pacheco**

**Registration: \$15**

### **Friday, July 1, CHI 213**

4:00 pm – 6:45 pm: BITS/CCLVI IT Vendor Showcase

If you use a screen reader and/or magnification in our daily life, this showcase affords you the opportunity to see what is new in the Exhibit Hall later in the week. Several products will be demonstrated with time for some questions and answers. It also gives you the chance to prepare your questions for when you visit these vendors' booths, in-person or virtually, over the next several days.

### **Saturday, July 2**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: Fred Scheigert Scholarship

Winners Reception (in-person only), HH Cozzens

We finally have an opportunity to meet and greet several of the last few year's Scheigert Scholarship winners. These men and women with low vision are our future leaders.

We will also present the Bernice Kandarian Memorial Award during this special event.

### **Sunday, July 3, HH Washington City**

2:30 pm - 3:45 pm: Update Your Zoom Profile Pic

CCLVI has several members volunteering to assist in adding or updating your profile photo on your Zoom account. To take advantage of this opportunity, you will need to bring either your device on which you have your Zoom account or bring your username and password for your Zoom account so you can access it on another device. Remember this pic will then appear whenever you are on a Zoom meeting. So, business casual is probably appropriate.

### **Monday, July 4, CHI 211**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm Smart Home Living

A myriad of products that make your life and home more comfortable, cleaner, safer, and independent will be demonstrated and discussed. This is always a crowd pleaser. Whether you are with us in person or virtually, you won't want to miss this!

Sponsored by ACB Next Generation and CCLVI

## **Tuesday, July 5, HH Grand Ballroom A/B**

7:30 pm – 10:30 pm: Dance of the Ages (\$15)

Music for all ages will be provided by our DJ. Whether you like waltzes, line dances, or something in between, it will happen. We have also prepared an area for conversation while listening at a lower volume. Light snacks and a cash bar will be available. And plenty of door prizes.

Co-sponsored by AAVL, ACB Next Generation, and CCLVI

## **Friends-in-Art of ACB**

**President: Mike Mandel**

**Program Chair: Peter Altschul**

**Registration: \$10**

**Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm: AI in Music and Pictures

Explore how artificial intelligence interacts with music, pictures, and blindness.

7:30 pm – 8:45 pm: Prose and Poetry Reading

Share some of your original work or just come listen.  
Facilitator: Carla Hayes, McMurray, PA

Co-sponsored by FIA and ACB Next Generation

**Friday, June 24 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: You Gotta Have Harp

Relax while learning about the harp through presentations and performances. In honor of FIA past president Lynn Hedl.

Presenters: Nancy Pendegraph, Huntsville, AL; Jason Castonguay, Manchester, CT.



Co-sponsored by FIA and ACB Next Generation

10:00 pm – 11:15 pm: Showcase After Hours

Participate in our celebration of the Showcase with performers and those behind the scenes who put it all together.

**Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: The Art of Disability Culture: Non-Traditional Visually Impaired Artist Panel

Visually impaired artists from different creative springboards (pottery, graphical art, movement, and theater) will share their experiences presenting and working with curators to provide interactive and accessible connections to their work.

7:30 pm – 8:45 pm: FIA Writers' Workshop

Effortless Editing. Learn about the similarities and differences between self-editing and editing for others: how to know when to stop writing and start editing, how to maintain a good relationship with an

editing client, tools of the trade, and other biz tips.

Panelists: Kim Nova, "Our Special" editor, NBP; Mary-Jo Lord of Magnets and Ladders; Kathy King and Cheryl McNeil Fisher, Writing Works Wonders; Chris Kuell, Editor in Chief, Breath and Shadow Journal of Disability Literature; Ann Harrison Barnes, blogger, author and freelance editor, and Cachet Wells, ACB Voices blog contributor and member of ACB Board of Publications

### **Sunday, July 3, CHI 211**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: LUA: Up Close and Personal with NLS Director, Jason Broughton

Mr. Broughton presented at morning general session; here is your chance to learn more from him and ask questions about NLS.

Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL and FIA

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Not Your Mother's Library: The Modern Public Library - What Awaits You There.  
Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL, and FIA

## **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 215**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: Meet the Talking Book Narrator

This is your opportunity to hear more from and ask questions of our 2022 talking book narrator, Ray Foushee, American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, KY.

Cohosted by LUA, AABT, BRL, and FIA,

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: One Book, One ACB: “Their Plant Eyes: A Personal and Cultural History of Blindness,” by M. Leona Godin

Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL, FIA and MCAC

**Guide Dog Users, Inc.**

**President: Sarah Calhoun**

**Program Chair: Maria Hansen**

**Registration: \$15**

**GDUI registrants will be entered into a drawing.**

**Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

11:30 am - 2:15 pm: Guide Dog School Updates

A double session of the ever-popular updates from all the guide dog schools.

### **Friday, June 24 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm: Science for Superheroes: Video

Presentation and Discussion of Cryopreservation

Demonstrating how semen samples from male breeders are frozen and stored. Other topics touched on are genetic diversity, dual careers for dogs and superheroes for years to come. (We thank Bruno for the sample.)

Speaker: Zuhey Medina-Gonzalez, Director,  
Genetics, Reproduction, & Puppy Care, Southeastern  
Guide Dogs, Palmetto, FL.

2:30 pm - 3:45 pm: Supercomputers and Super Pups

Learn how a guide dog school has teamed up with North Carolina State University and IBM to use artificial intelligence and smart collars to increase the number of exceptional guide dogs available to provide our community with greater independence.

This panel will be facilitated by Carl Richardson,

President, Guide Dog Users of Massachusetts,  
Brighton, MA.

Panelists: Gerald Brenninkmeyer, Director of Canine Program Development, Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Yorktown Heights, NY; Melissa Carney, Community Outreach and Graduate Support Manager Guiding Eyes for the Blind, Yorktown Heights, NY; Jane Russenberger, retired, Guiding Eyes for the Blind; Lorraine Trapani, Executive Program Manager, Global Risk Management Import Compliance Office (ICO) IBM Government and Regulatory Affairs, Armonk, NY; Dr. Alper Bozkurt, Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC; Dr. David L. Roberts, Associate Professor, Computer Engineering and CIIGAR Lab Director (Canine Instruction with Instrumented Gadgets Administering Rewards), North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC.

## **Saturday, July 2, CHI 208**

11:30 am - 12:45 pm: Furry Tails - There have been so many “Furry Skilled Professionals” over the years who will always live in our hearts and memories. Sunday Edition and GDUI want to recognize some of these amazing guides. Join us as we remember and honor

these wonderful dogs and their handlers. (Anthony Corona).

### **Wednesday, July 6, CHI 215**

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: GDUI: Wrap-up and Awards

Margie Donovan, Awards Chair, Folsom, CA, will announce the winners of our drawing for the four plush pups in harness.

The blessing of past, present and future guide dogs, puppy raisers, handlers and those who love them will be hosted by Audrey Gunter and Laurel Jean Walden, Charleston, SC.

### **Independent Visually Impaired Entrepreneurs**

**President: Ardis Bazyn**

**Program Chair: Carla Hayes**

**Registration: \$10**

**Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

10:00 am - 11:15 am: IVIE Business Meeting

**Friday, July 1, room TBD**

9:00 pm – Midnight: RSVA/IVIE Mixer

## **Monday, July 4**

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm: “Selling Yourself: How To Put Your Best Foot Forward in the Evolving Employment World,” \$32 (\$35), CHI 213 (program begins at 1:00 pm)

Join Sara Freeman-Smith, HR professional on the ACB Employment Committee; Pam Shaw, an entrepreneur and IVIE member; and Kaila Allen, recent new hire and ACB Next Generation member, who will share their experience with written, verbal, and visual aspects of positioning yourself as the best job candidate and maximizing those networking opportunities. The panel will tackle these three aspects in each of their facets of the employment/networking processes.

Sponsored by IVIE, ACB Next Generation and the ACB Employment Committee.

2:30 pm – 5:15 pm: IVIE Business Expo (in-person only), HH Merchant

Blind and visually impaired business owners will

showcase their products and services and answer your questions.

## **Library Users of America**

**President: Judy Wilkinson**

**Registration: \$10: registrants will be eligible for door prize drawings**

### **Friday, June 24 (Zoom only)**

2:30 pm - 3:45 pm: LUA Business Meeting

### **Sunday, July 3, CHI 211**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: LUA: Up Close and Personal with NLS Director, Jason Broughton

Mr. Broughton presented at morning general session; here is your chance to learn more from him and ask questions about NLS.

Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL, and FIA

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Not Your Mother's Library: The Modern Public Library - What Awaits You There.



Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL, and FIA

**Tuesday, July 5, CHI 215**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: Meet the Talking Book Narrator

This is your opportunity to hear more from and ask questions of our 2022 talking book narrator, Ray Foushee, American Printing House for the Blind, Louisville, KY.

Co-hosted by LUA, AABT, BRL, and FIA

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: One Book, One ACB: “Their Plant Eyes: A Personal and Cultural History of Blindness” by M. Leona Godin

Co-sponsored by LUA, BRL, FIA and MCAC

**Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of America RSVA®**

**President: Dan Sippl**

**Convention Chair: Scott Eggen**

**ACB Program Liaison: Ardis Bazyn, Co-liaison  
Karen Blachowicz**

**Registration: \$40 (RSVA® registration includes a  
\$20 donation entitling registrants a ticket into a  
drawing occurring on Friday, July 23.)**

**Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 3:45 pm: RSVA Business Meeting

**Friday, July 1, CHI 215**

9:00 pm – Midnight: RSVA/IVIE mixer (in person only)

**Saturday, July 2 CHI 215**

1:00 pm - 2:15 pm: RSVA - “All About the Nebraska  
Business Enterprise Program”

This session will highlight the Business Enterprise Program in Nebraska so participants will learn how they train vendors, the types of facilities they have in the program, and some statistics of relevance: gross sales, number of facilities, number of vendors, etc. They will also learn how blind persons can become a vendor in the state.

Presenters: Eric Buckwalter, CVRCB, NBE

Coordinator, Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Lincoln, NE; Jim Jirak, Owner, Jirak Enterprises, Omaha, NE

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: RSVA - The Value of Randolph-Sheppard Business Enterprises as Career Opportunities.

Participants will learn the benefits of this career option as well as how states find recruits. They will also learn what skills are necessary as well as the education and training that is provided.

Presenters: Eric Buckwalter, CVRCB, NBE Coordinator, Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Lincoln, NE; John Gordon, Bureau Chief and Acting BEP Director, Illinois Department for the Blind, Chicago, IL; Patrick Martin, RSVF Vendor, Tallahassee, FL

Co-sponsored by RSVA and ACB Rehabilitation Task Force

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: RSVA “Outlook Enrichment Assistance”

In this session, Outlook Enrichment offerings will be explained. It will describe the differing technology and

other skills training that can assist those entering the vending program as well as other careers.

Presenter: Paulette Monthei, BSW, MPA, Enrichment Executive Director, Omaha, NE; Alex Curtis, Vendor Trainee, Omaha, NE

### **Sunday, July 3**

12:15 pm – 2:15 pm: RSVA® Awards Luncheon, CHI 215  
"Celebrating Over Fifty Years of Achievement and Advocacy"

Our speaker will be Deb Cook Lewis, ACB 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, retired technology specialist, Clarkston, WA

7:30 pm - 8:45 pm: 1st Act: Enjoy Some Laughs with RSVA® Comedian Willie Farrell, HH Blackstone B, (in-person only)

9:00 pm - 12:00 am: 2nd Act: Show Your Talent with RSVA® Karaoke!, HH Blackstone B (in person only)

### **Monday, July 4**

6:15 pm – Midnight: RSVA® Casino Trip

Take a break and enjoy visiting the Horseshoe Casino.

## **Visually Impaired Veterans of America**

**President: Tyson Ernst**

**Monday, July 4**

1:00 pm - 3:45 pm: VIVA Business Meeting, HH Hill  
(in-person only)

## **ACB Committee Meetings**

**ACB Women's Committee**

**Chair: Linda Porelle**

**Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm: Yoga with Leslie Spoone

Come and join Leslie Spoone, certified aerobics instructor and personal trainer, for yoga. Use a chair or be on the floor for some easy yoga.

## **Friday, June 24 (Zoom only)**

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm: Cardio Exercise with Leslie Spoone

Come and join Leslie Spoone, certified aerobics instructor and personal trainer, for cardio happy hour!

You can either dance around or be on your treadmill, stationary bike or your elliptical. Happy exercising!

## **Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm: Sister Power Happy Hour

Our very popular women's get-together returns with stories from two more amazing ACB women.

Belinda Collins, Assistive Technology Professional, St. Pauls, NC, and Audrey Schading, Academic Communications Instructor, Mount Vernon, NY.

Come join old friends on Zoom or listen in on ACB Media from home.

## **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 213**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Choosing Where to Live as You Age: Downsizing Part 1: How Can We Know When the Time is Right?

Our panel will offer expert guidance on making important decisions on where we might live as we grow older.

Presenters: Carrie A.B. Hoarty, MD, Physician, Assistant Professor, General Internal Medicine, Omaha, NE; Mary Ann Eusebio, Information & Assistance Division Director, Eastern Nebraska Office on Aging, Omaha, NE.

Co-sponsored by AAVL and ACB Women

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: Choosing Where to Live as You Age: Downsizing Part 2: How to Choose What's Right for Us.

A conversation with a panel of ACB members who have made a variety of choices about where to live as they grow older.

Presenters: Kate Chamberlin, freelance writer and retired elementary school teacher, Walworth, NY; Jean Mann, retired New York State employee, Albany, NY; Linda Yacks, widow, mother, and grandmother, Harrison, AR

Co-sponsored by AAVL and ACB Women

## **Advocacy Services Committee**

**Chair: Jeff Thom**

**Saturday, July 2, CHI 215**

11:30 am - 12:45 pm: AAVIA and Advocacy Committee:  
Civil Rights Panel

This session will discuss recent achievements, ongoing legal efforts, current risks, and opportunities in the courts concerning issues of importance to members of ACB.

Presenters: Matthew Handley, Partner, Handley Farah & Anderson, Washington, DC; Christina Brandt-Young, Supervising Attorney, Disability Rights Advocates, New York, NY.

Co-sponsored by AAVIA

**Monday, July 4, CHI 208**

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: Empowering Ourselves to Advocate for the Best Mental Health and Emotional Well Being Care



The world can be busy and its often our own self-care that is the first overlooked. With the medical field often more a business than care, knowing how to ask the right questions and advocate for ourselves is a learned and much needed skill set. Join our speakers for this empowering session.

## **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 208**

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: Me to the Third Power: Finding Myself, Working on Myself and Sharing Myself; Our Journey with Mental Health and Emotional Well-Being

It's been said we hear parts of our own stories in others and this panel of speakers will share their individual journeys through Emotional Well-Being. Therapy or counseling, 12-step and higher power are just a few of the topics our speakers will share with us as they share the highs and lows of their journeys.

## **Auction Committee**

**Chair: Leslie Spoone**

**Saturday, June 18, 6:00 pm (Zoom only)**

ACB Summer Auction

Come and enjoy the ACB Summer Auction where we

will be featuring jewelry, homemade baked goodies, technology, vacations and handmade quilts and crafts. We will kick it off with an Appetizer Auction on Thursday, June 16 and Friday, June 17.

## **Audio Description Project Committee**

**Co-Chairs: Kim Charlson and Carl Richardson**

### **Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: Audio Description, “Nothing About Us Without Us”: Blind Consultants Involvement in Creating AD

Panel Presentation: Moderator: Chris Snyder, Executive Producer/Head, Audio Production, Imagination Video Books, Phoenix, AZ; Tanja Milojevic, Voiceover Talent and AD Voicer, Peabody, MA; Satauna Howery, Award-Winning Voiceover Artist, Voice Actor, and Audio Description Advocate, Clifton Park, NY; Thomas Reid, Audio Producer, Voiceover Artist, Audio Description Narrator, Consultant, & Advocate, Stroudsburg, PA; Nefertiti Matos Olivares, Audio Description Writer, Narrator, and Voiceover Artist, New York, NY; Rick Boggs, Founder and General Manager, Audio Eyes, Voiceover Artist, Description Narrator, Audio

Producer, and Description Script Quality Expert, Los Angeles, CA; and Eric Troup, Description Script Quality Expert, and Audio Producer, Bend, OR

### **Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: ADP: Self-Description: Too Much or Just Enough – Blind Community Perspectives

In Favor: Renee Arrington-Johnson, Member, ACB ADP Steering Committee, Lyndhurst, OH; Gabriel Lopez Kafati, President, Blind LGBT Pride International, Miami Lakes, FL

Opposed: Mark Lasser, Founder, American Association of Blind Theater-Goers, New York, NY; Pat Sheehan, Chair, Audio Description Project Section 508 Sub-Committee, Silver Spring, MD; Audio Description Scholars: Professor Hannah Thompson, Royal Holloway, University of London, London, England; and Dr. Joel Snyder, Founder and Senior Consultant, American Council of the Blind, Audio Description Project, Takoma Park, MD

### **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 211**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: Take a Walk in the Park  
Get Up and Get Moving as You Explore our Midwest National Parks through the National Parks Service's

Healthy Parks, Healthy People Program. Discover how audio description plays a key part in making parks accessible. Learn how you can be a partner and advocate for equal access in our national parks.

Moderator: Jo Lynn Bailey-Page, Audio Description Project Coordinator, American Council of the Blind, Los Altos, CA; Holly Griesemer, Management and Program Analyst, National Park Service Midwest Region: Rivers, Rails, Conservation, and Accessibility Programs, Omaha, NE; Clark Rachfal, Director, Advocacy and Governmental Affairs, American Council of the Blind, Alexandria, VA

### **Wednesday, July 6, HH Flat Iron**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: Update and Audio Describe Your Profile Photo

Would you like a free, professional and audio-described portrait photo for your Social Media channels, email, and other formal correspondence? Dr. Brett Oppegaard of the UniDescription Project is studying the Audio Description of portraiture, and as a part of that research effort, he will take your photo and work with you to audio describe it. He will be analyzing the results of those efforts for his academic work, and you will be emailed

an electronic version of the image and the audio description for whatever purposes you wish. These photo sessions will be by appointment. They are expected to take about 15 minutes.

If you would like to book a slot, just send the time and date you would like to [brett.oppegaard@hawaii.edu](mailto:brett.oppegaard@hawaii.edu). Thanks for your interest!

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: ADP Get to Know More About the 2022 Audio Description Project Award Winner, CHI 215

This is a follow-up to ADP Award presentations July 5 at 10:30 am.

Through a meet-and-greet interview format and audience Q&A, we will learn more about what makes these people such wonderful and deserving award winners and advocates for audio description.

Hosts: Jeff Thom, Chair, Awards Committee of the Audio Description Project, Sacramento, CA; Jo Lynn Bailey-Page, ACB Audio Description Coordinator, Los Altos, CA; and Kim Charlson, Co-Chair, Audio Description Coordinator, Watertown, MA.

## **Thursday, July 7, HH Flat Iron**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: Update and Audio Describe Your Profile Photo

## **Friday, July 8, HH Flat Iron**

10:00 am - 3:00 pm: Update and Audio Describe Your Profile Photo

## **DKM First-Timers Committee**

**Committee Chair: Kenneth Semien Sr.**

## **Tuesday, July 5**

7:00 pm – 8:15 pm: DKM/JPMorgan reception  
(invitation only)

## **Wednesday, July 6, CHI 211 & Virtual**

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm: DKM Reception

Attend the 26<sup>th</sup> annual DKM First-Timers Reception to meet the Classes of 2020, 2021 and 2022. You also get to witness the first-ever induction ceremony of the Durward K. McDaniel (DKM) Leadership Select Honor Society.

## **Employment Committee**

**Chair: Brooke Jostad**

### **Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

11:30 pm - 12:45 pm: Do You Really Need Indeed? Indeed, You Might.

Learn about how you can leverage Indeed.com to jumpstart your job search.

Presenter: Don Horvath, Senior Instructor, Helen Keller National Center, Sands Point, NY.

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Social Security at Work. Learn about how to address the tensions between SSDI, SSI, and money earned while working.

Panelists: Lori Scharff, Certified Financial Incentive Professional, Waynesboro, VA; Chris Peterson, Founder, President and CEO, Penny Forward, Richfield, MN.

### **Saturday, July 2, CHI 211**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Pitch In an Elevator: Talking It Up When You're Going Down - Creating Your Personal Elevator Pitch Workshop

Many of us find it very difficult to talk about ourselves but being able to make a lasting impression in a few

short seconds is an integral part of networking and sometimes even landing that job opportunity. Join the ACB Employment Committee as we work with participants in a workshop setting to fine tune and share your elevator pitch.

Co-sponsored by the ACB Employment Committee and ACB Next Generation

### **Monday, July 4, CHI 213**

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm: “Selling Yourself: How to Put Your Best Foot Forward in the Evolving Employment World.” (Program begins at 1:00 pm)

### **Information Access Committee**

**Chair: Jeff Bishop**

### **Saturday, July 2, CHI 213 & Virtual**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: 411 from the IAC: Low-Tech, High-Tech Fitness Journey

The Information Access Committee in conjunction with the Get Up and Get Moving Campaign will present on both low-tech and high-tech options for exercise and tracking your fitness. You'll hear as



members share their journey to better fitness and the devices that helped them along the way. So whether it is a scale, blood pressure cuff, common household item, personal wearable, smart app, or the latest and greatest piece of exercise equipment, there is sure to be something for everyone to help you on your journey to better health.

Clark Rachfal, Alexandria, VA; Don Barrett, Arlington, VA; Koni Sims, Sioux Falls, SD; Jeff Bishop, Kirkland, WA; Leslie Spoone, Orlando, FL; Matt Selm, Louisville, KY; Amanda Selm, Louisville, KY; Satauna Howery, Clifton Park, NY; Sandra Sermons, Rockville, MD.

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: 411 from the IAC: Unlocking the Secrets of Shopping

We all do it. We all need to buy things and do it in a way that allows us to be independent and efficient. Come learn from top technology experts on tips and techniques that they have used both for in-person shopping and shopping on the internet. Whether you are looking for managing your store coupons, shopping via Shipt or Instacart, it doesn't matter. We reveal key things to consider as a part of making you more polished in achieving your everyday shopping tasks

Jeff Bishop, Kirkland, WA; Ray Campbell, Second

Vice President, American Council of the Blind,  
Springfield, IL; Myrna Votta, Brooklyn, NY; Judy  
Dixon, Arlington, VA; Jason Castonguay, Manchester,  
CT; Larry Gassman, Fullerton, CA

## **International Relations Committee**

**Co-Chairs: Maria Kristic and Meryl Shecter**

### **Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

10:00 am - 11:15 am: Reaching Beyond Their Borders:  
International Programs of US Schools for the Blind

Start your 2022 ACB convention by joining a program with an international flair! Did you know that some US organizations for the blind have thriving international programs? Come learn about what they do, who they serve, and hear about some of their successes.

Presenters: Mark Richert, International Program Coordinator, Overbrook School for the Blind, Arlington, VA; Katherine (Katie) Holland, Executive Director, Perkins International, Watertown, MA; Lee Kumutat, Vice President of Communications, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, San Francisco, CA.

## **Friday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: NLS expands its Foreign Language Collection

Come and hear from Kelsey Corlett-Rivera, NLS Foreign Language Librarian, and learn about the library's innovative projects and its implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty in the US.

Sponsored by the Multicultural Affairs Committee and the International Relations Committee.

## **Sunday, July 3, CHI 215**

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm Conversation with World Blind Union CEO, Marc Workman

Mr. Workman will speak at Sunday morning's general session. Here is a great opportunity to hear from and talk with him directly in a smaller, more intimate setting. Come learn about the challenges and opportunities facing blind people around the world and lessons we can apply in the United States.

Presenter: Marc Workman, Chief Executive Officer, World Blind Union, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Co-Sponsored by IRC and MCAC.

## **Monday, July 4, CHI 211**

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm: Voices From Around the World

Luncheon: \$34 (\$38)

A Tapestry of Stories: Overcoming Challenges and Achieving Success in the US.

We all know how difficult it can be to find successful employment as people who are blind or low vision. Come hear from a group of panelists who have achieved this success with the additional layer of being immigrants. Get ready to be motivated and inspired!

Presenters: Aditi Shah, Senior Data and Applied Scientist, Microsoft, Redmond, WA; Merisa Musemic, Interpreter, Language Line Solutions, Sterling Heights, MI; Gabriel Lopez Kafati, Access Resource Advisor, Miami Dade College, Miami, FL; Sajja Koirala, Contract Specialist, United States Air Force, Dayton, OH.

## **Leadership Training Committee**

**Chair: Rebecca Bridges**

### **Saturday, July 2, CHI 211**

10:00 am – 11:15 am: Berl Colley Leadership: Moving from Safe Spaces to Brave Spaces

This session will explore strategies to turn safe spaces into brave spaces that lead to thought-provoking and deep conversations that help you discover what it means to have an inclusive culture – and what it takes to sustain a culture that works for everyone. You will be challenged to break down barriers.

11:30 am – 12:45 pm: Berl Colley Leadership: You Belong Here: How to Create a Culture of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion: Hear from a panel of ACB leaders who will share conference strategies and best practices for engaging diverse communities.

## **Membership Committee**

**Chair: Ardis Bazyn**

### **Saturday, June 25 (Virtual)**

7:30 pm - 8:45 pm Keys to the Convention (Virtual)

## **Saturday, July 2 (in-person only), HH Hill**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: Keys to the Convention (in person only)

This is a session for first-time convention attendees and for people who have not attended a convention recently. Facilitated by Ardis Bazyn, ACB Membership Committee Chair.

Presentations will explain various sessions, business meetings and voting, as well as guide dog info, exhibit info, and some social events. Tips and hand-outs will be available in braille and large print.

## **Wednesday, July 6, CHI 213**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: ACB Membership Committee Seminar

Theme: Membership 101:

Panel 1: How to Recruit and Retain Members

Julie Brannon, President, Washington Council of the Blind, Puyallup, WA; Matt Selm, President, Kentucky Council of the Blind, Louisville, KY; and Danette Dixon, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President, Diabetics in Action,

Lynnwood, WA

This panel will suggest ways affiliates have retained members as well as what activities they have provided which brought prospective members.

## Panel 2: How to Give the Best Orientation to New Members

Gabriel Lopez Kafati, President, Blind LGBT Pride International, Miami Lakes, FL; Amanda Selm, President, ACB Next Generation, Louisville, KY; Meghan Parker, Chair, Diversity Committee, ACB of New York, Albany, NY; and Michael Garrett, Vice President and Membership Chair, ACB of Texas, Missouri City, TX

Members often remain members if they have received information which tells what the organization history is, what advocacy the organization has provided, and ways they can participate in the future.

## **Multicultural Affairs Committee**

**Chair: Cheryl Cumings**

## **Friday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

1:00 pm – 2:15 pm: NLS Expands its Foreign Language Collection

Come and hear from Kelsey Corlett-Rivera, NLS Foreign Language Librarian, and learn about the library's innovative projects and its implementation of the Marrakesh Treaty in the US.

Sponsored by the Multicultural Affairs Committee and the International Relations Committee.

## **Saturday, June 25 (Zoom only)**

4:00 pm: BPI MCAC/GDUI Candidate Forum

## **Sunday, July 3, CHI 215**

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm: Conversation with World Blind Union CEO, Marc Workman

Mr. Workman will speak at Sunday morning's general session. Here is a great opportunity to hear from and talk with him directly in a smaller, more intimate setting. Come learn about the challenges and opportunities facing blind people around the world and lessons we can apply in the United States.



Presenter: Marc Workman, Chief Executive Officer,  
World Blind Union, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

Co-sponsored by IRC and MCAC.

### **Monday, July 4, HH Grand Ballroom A**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: MCAC Social \$20 - \$23 (in-person only)

Come connect with MCAC, see old friends, make new friends, enjoy food, music and door prizes. Music provided by DJ Kevin Ratliff.

### **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 215**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: One Book, One ACB

Co-sponsored with LUA

### **Wednesday, July 6, CHI 213**

12:15 pm - 2:15 pm: MCAC Luncheon

Hear from two speakers about Nebraska's native American history, culture, and current issues. As MCAC's theme "One community coming together in ACB" expresses our aspiration for a community that is inclusive of all, this session presents a perspective of local communities.

Professor Margaret Huettl, PhD., Lincoln, NE; Donna L. Polk, PhD, LMPH, Omaha, NE.

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: A Candid Conversation About a Critical Concept

As we move toward Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in ACB, this panel will discuss the tenets of Critical Race Theory. CRT, what it is, what it isn't, and other terms.

Presenters: Steve Mendelsohn, retired lawyer, San Leandro, CA; Pam Shaw, Speaker, Author and Life Coach, Philadelphia, PA; Gabriel Lopez Kafati, President, Blind LGBT Pride International, Miami Lakes, FL.

### **Thursday, July 7, HH Grand Ballroom Foyer**

Thursday July 7, 9:00 pm – 11:00 pm: Get Up and Get Grooving to the Rhythms of Different Cultures from Around the World.

Music from hot sexy Latin, jamming reggae, British invasion and so many more in this 2-hour dance party that will make you sweat.

Collaboration with the Multicultural Affairs Committee

and ACB Get Up and Get Moving Campaign, so let's dance those calories off together.

## **Pedestrian Environment Access Committee**

**Committee Chair: Becky Barnes Davidson**

### **Sunday, July 3, CHI 211**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Updates on PROWAG (Public Right-Of-Way Accessibility Guidelines) Demystified

Whether you travel with a cane or guide dog, you won't want to miss this one, as these guidelines are required for everyone to travel safely. So come learn from the Access Board's Sarah Presley, who will tell us what is included in the PROWAG and update on where the DOT and DOJ are in formally adopting the Access Board's recommendations.

Speaker: Sarah Presley, Accessibility Specialist with the US Access Board Washington, DC

### **Monday, July 4, CHI 213**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Challenges Facing Pedestrians in 2022

You don't hear an audible pedestrian signal (APS) so you're not even sure whether there's a crosswalk, and there's no parallel traffic. ... This presentation will provide strategies you can use in challenging pedestrian situations, though there aren't always good ones. You'll learn about some new environmental modifications that have been shown to help — but your informed advocacy is needed to get them implemented.

Speaker: Beezy Bentzen, Director of Research at Accessible Design for the Blind, Anchorage, AK

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Yes, You Can! Local Success Stories

A panel of blind and visually impaired advocates will share their experiences successfully advocating for accessible pedestrian signals.

## **Rehab Issues Task Force Committee**

**Task Force Chair: Doug Powell**

### **Saturday, July 2, CHI 215**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: RSVA: The Value of Randolph-Sheppard Business Enterprises as Career Opportunities.

### **Monday, July 4, CHI 215**

4:00 pm - 5:15 pm: Unravelling Advocacy for Vision Rehabilitation Services

Explore innovative advocacy efforts wherein states can obtain funding under the Medicaid "Older Individuals who are Blind" program. This program provides an array of vision rehabilitation services; however, funding is extremely limited. Learn how to utilize the Older Individuals who are Blind and Medicaid programs.

Co-sponsored by AAVL and Rehabilitation Task Force

## **Resource Development Committee**

**Chair: Dan Dillon**

### **Tuesday, July 5, CHI 213**

5:30 pm - 6:45 pm: RDC “Two Scoops with No Calories.”

How sweet it is to deposit those walk checks and funds from MMS!

Presenter: Donna Brown, ACB board member, Romney, WV.

## **Sight and Sound Impaired Committee (SASI)**

**Co-Chairs: Karyn Campbell and Carl Richardson**

### **Sunday, July 3, HH Hill**

8 pm to 10 pm: Get Social with SASI

Meet people who share your unique issues related to DeafBlindness and learn about various ways to communicate in a relaxed atmosphere.

## **Scholarship Committee**

**Scholarship Committee Co-Chairs: Rebecca Bridges  
and Denise Colley**

### **Friday, July 1, CHI 215**

6:00 pm: Scholarship Winners Reception (by invitation only)

### **Sunday, July 3, Grand Ballroom A/B**

5:30 pm – 6:45 pm: ACB Scholarship Winners Reception (in person only)

## **Transportation Committee**

**Chair: Sheila Styron**

### **Sunday, July 3, CHI 211**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Updates on PROWAG (Public Right-Of-Way Accessibility Guidelines) Demystified

Whether you travel with a cane or guide dog, you won't want to miss this one, as these guidelines are

required for everyone to travel safely. So come learn from the Access Board's Sarah Presley, who will tell us what is included in the PROWAG and update on where the DOT and DOJ are in formally adopting the Access Board's recommendations.

Speaker: Sarah Presley, Accessibility Specialist with the US Access Board, Washington, DC

### **Monday, July 4, CHI 213**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Challenges Facing Pedestrians in 2022

You don't hear an APS, so you're not even sure whether there's a crosswalk, and there's no parallel traffic. ... This presentation will provide strategies you can use in challenging pedestrian situations, though there aren't always good ones. You'll learn about some new environmental modifications that have been shown to help — but your informed advocacy is needed to get them implemented.

Presenter: Beezy Bentzen, Director of Research at Accessible Design for the Blind, Anchorage, AK

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm: To Mobility and Beyond: Yes, You Can! Local Success Stories



A panel of blind and visually impaired advocates will share their experiences successfully advocating for accessible pedestrian signals.

## **Walk Committee**

**Chair: Donna Brown**

**Saturday, July 2**

Walking Everywhere!

Lace up your shoes, grab your water bottle, and be ready to be energized. Join the ACB Walk committee as we gather to raise money for ACB and its affiliates, get some exercise by traversing the halls of the convention hotel and the convention center, and make a grand entrance to kick off the opening general session of the convention.

## **Other Meetings and Programs**

### **Advocacy Issues**

**Friday, June 24 (Zoom only)**

2:30 pm — 3:45 pm En-Vision America: Accessible

## Prescription Labeling Advocacy: Board of Pharmacy Rulemaking vs. Legislation

### **Guide Dogs**

#### **Thursday, June 23 (Zoom only)**

2:30 pm – 3:45 pm: Seeing Eye Woofs and Wags  
Have you ever thought about partnering with a dog guide? Wondering what we've been up to this last year? Come and hang out with us and get your questions answered. Learn about The Seeing Eye's program and what we've been up to this last year. If you have a question you want to make sure we answer, send it to [whitec@seeingeye.org](mailto:whitec@seeingeye.org) before June 22, and we will make sure we answer it during our session.

#### **Sunday, July 3, CHI 213**

7:00 am - 8:15 am: GDB Breakfast

GDB grads connect with friends and staff; those considering the guide dog lifestyle welcome. If you'd like to join GDB for breakfast, please email Theresa at [tstern@guidedogs.com](mailto:tstern@guidedogs.com)