WASHINGTON SEMINAR 2015

Holiday Inn Capitol, Washington DC

550 C Street, SW

Washington, DC 20024

(202) 479-4000

January 25–29, 2015

AGENDA

The Holiday Inn Capitol has undergone renovations and has changed the names of the meeting rooms. The Mercury Room is now located in room number 353. The phone number for the Mercury Room/Room 353 is now 410-406-7963. You will find the new names of the meeting rooms paired with each event followed by the former names to help with orientation.

**SUNDAY, JANUARY 25**

8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Parent Leadership Program
 House Room (Saturn/Venus)

This seminar, sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC), a proud division of the National Federation of the Blind, empowers parents with the critical leadership skills, advocacy tools, and Federation philosophy they need to build a strong state division of the NOPBC. If you wish to recommend a parent (or yourself) to participate, please contact Carlton Anne Cook Walker prior to the seminar at nopbcpres@gmail.com or (717) 658-9894 (cell).

**MONDAY, JANUARY 26**

7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. National Center Tour

 Lobby

Buses will load at 7:45 a.m. and will depart at 8:00 a.m. sharp.

Tours of the National Center will begin at 9:30 a.m. and buses will leave the National Center for the return to the Holiday Inn Capitol-Washington at noon.

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Accessibility for Target

 Lobby

Join the accessibility team from [Target.com](http://Target.com) and Mobile in the hotel lobby and help us build a better Target for everyone. Test and provide feedback on our site and apps, meet some of our accessibility professionals, and be a part of shaping the future of accessibility at Target.

8:00 a.m. – 9:00 a.m. National Association of Blind Students

 Winter Meeting Registration $5.00

 Capitol Ballroom Foyer (Columbia)

9:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. National Association of Blind Students

 Winter Meeting

 Capitol Ballroom (Columbia)

Attention students, teachers, and young professionals: Join NABS (National Association of Blind Students) for our annual Winter Meeting to learn about the current work of NABS; benefit from informative presentations on topics including jobs and internships, recreational activities, and scholarships; and participate in interactive discussion sessions on issues ranging from technology to self-advocacy in the classroom. Registration is $5.00 at the door. To bypass the long line, please register online here: <http://nabslink.org/events/2015-winter-seminar>.

If you have any questions or require further information, please contact Karen Anderson at (402) 319-7645 or kea.anderson@gmail.com

9:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Parent Leadership Program
 House Room (Saturn/Venus)

This seminar, sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC), a proud division of the National Federation of the Blind, empowers parents with the critical leadership skills, advocacy tools, and Federation philosophy they need to build a strong state division of the NOPBC. If you wish to recommend a parent (or yourself) to participate, please contact Carlton Anne Cook Walker prior to the seminar at nopbcpres@gmail.com or (717) 658-9894 (cell).

10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. NFB of DC 2nd Annual Career Fair

 Congressional II Ballroom (Discovery II)

Join us for the chance to meet employers, including federal agencies, which will be here to speak with you about job opportunities. For those interested in becoming entrepreneurs, we also have organizations that will provide information and resources.

For more information, please contact Janice Forbes at janiceforbes2012@gmail.com.

12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m. National Association of Blind Merchants:

 Planting New Grass/Pulling Less Weeds

 Congressional I Ballroom (Discovery I)

We will discuss taking strategic steps to growing our division in 2015 and will be joined by Jesse Hartle and Deanna Jones from the Rehabilitation Services Administration, Susan Gashel, legal counsel, National Association of Blind Merchants, and Terry Smith, Director of NFBEI.

(The Mercury Room - #353 is open 1:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.)

2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. Legislative Seminar
 Capitol Ballroom (Columbia)

Whether you are a Washington Seminar veteran or an enthusiastic rookie, we urge you to attend this seminar. The Government Affairs team of the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute will provide essential information about this year's issues on Capitol Hill. We will also engage in role-playing, giving participants an opportunity to present our positions just as they will on Capitol Hill and facilitating constructive feedback and dialogue. Experienced Washington Seminarians will share their D.C. dos and don'ts acquired through their years of experience. The fact sheets are available to download online at <https://nfb.org/washington-seminar>. Please review them carefully and come prepared with questions. If you are struggling with a concept in the fact sheets, you are probably not alone. The goal of this seminar is to engage in informative and interactive dialogue that prepares you to discuss the nuances of all of the issues with your members of Congress. Attending this seminar, as well as spending plenty of time thoroughly studying the fact sheets, is the best way to prepare for our critical work on Capitol Hill. Please join us for an informative discussion of this year's Washington Seminar issues.

5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. “The Great Gathering-In”

 Capitol Ballroom (Columbia Ballroom)

8:00 p.m. – midnight NABS Café

 Congressional Ballroom (Discovery Ballroom)

Come on out to see old friends, and make some new ones, while supporting your NFB students’ division! Enjoy great live music from some of our most talented Federationists while socializing and bidding on exciting items in our auction. There will be a cash bar as well as light snacks available throughout the evening. Come early to get a good seat, and to check out all the awesome auction items before they go up for bidding. Tickets are $5.00 in advance or $7.00 at the door. To pre-order, please see any member of the NABS Board any time before 7:30 p.m. on January 26. Please contact Karen Anderson at (402) 319-7645 or kea.anderson@gmail.com with any questions or for further information.

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 27**

(The Mercury Room - #353 is open 7:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.)

8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Accessibility for Target

 Lobby

Join the accessibility team from [Target.com](http://Target.com) and Mobile and help us build a better Target for everyone. Test and provide feedback on our site and apps, meet some of our accessibility professionals, and be a part of shaping the future of accessibility at Target.

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Congressional Reception

 Rayburn B339

This year the National Federation of the Blind is celebrating our 75th anniversary. In honor of this special occasion, we will be hosting a reception on Capitol Hill.

**WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28**

(The Mercury Room - #353 is open 7:00 a.m. – 5:45 p.m.)

6:00 p.m. Reviewing Our Day on the Hill

 Capitol Ballroom (Columbia Ballroom)

A meeting with John Paré, Lauren McLarney, Rose Sloan and Lou Ann Blake.

**THURSDAY, JANUARY 29**

(The Mercury Room - #353 is open 7:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.)