# 2023 National Convention Virtual Experience

Mark A. Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind  
John Berggren, Chairman, Convention Organization and Activities  
Norma Crosby, President, National Federation of the Blind of Texas

## Welcome!

Welcome to the world’s largest gathering of the organized blind, the National Federation of the Blind’s annual convention, where expectations are raised and lives literally transformed. For many years, we have streamed several components of convention; this year we are enhancing the online space to include this virtual experience that will surely showcase the power and strength of our movement, to celebrate, to inspire, and to be inspired. The agenda contains information about the week including our community expectations of one another. Take every opportunity to explore, make new friends, and live the life you want at #NFB23.

## Inclusivity, Diversity, and Code of Conduct

We are committed to providing a welcoming, safe, and healthy environment for everyone. Thank you for cultivating an atmosphere of mutual respect in which participants from diverse backgrounds can learn, network, and share with each other. We are committed to diversity, equity, and the free expression of ideas. These principles have been outlined in our Code of Conduct.

We recognize a shared responsibility to create and uphold that atmosphere for the benefit of all. Prohibited behaviors include harassment, retaliation, and sexual misconduct. Prohibited behavior will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the convention and/or other consequences. For assistance or to report an incident at the convention, please call 410-659-9314, extension 2475, or email [code@nfb.org](mailto:code@nfb.org). Formal reports can be submitted at <https://nfb.org/about-us/history-and-governance/code-conduct/report-form>. All formal reports will be fully investigated according to the steps in our Code of Conduct. For support or guidance, connect with our Survivors Group at [survivors@nfb.org](mailto:survivors@nfb.org) or extension 2238. Thank you for your commitment to the safety and support of the blind community.

## Convention Registration

Registration for the virtual experience is free and open through Thursday, July 6, 2023. Registering gives access to exclusive activities, door prizes, and more. [Register for the 2023 Convention Virtual Experience!](https://nfb.org/civicrm/event/register?reset=1&id=573)

## Pre-Convention Activities & Social Media

Join us before convention in the following events and on social media.

* Resolutions 101: Wednesday, June 21, 2023, 8:00 p.m. [Zoom meeting ID 963 6181 5274](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/96361815274)
* Sponsor Preview: Tuesday, June 27, 8:00 p.m. eastern [Zoom meeting ID 973 2565 2029](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/s/97325652029)
* Exhibitor Preview: Wednesday, June 28, 8:00 p.m. eastern [Zoom meeting ID 922 2296 5861](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/s/92222965861)

Share your excitement by posting on social media using the hashtag #NFB23. Follow the conversation, ask questions, and share fun expectations.

## Convention Zoom & Access Details

All times listed below are for central time and the following Zoom details are for events July 1 through July 7. For sessions on Zoom, there are multiple options for access.

### Web

Zoom via web: <https://zoom.us/j/91684968543>

### Phone

Zoom One Tap Mobile: US: +13017158592,,91684968543#  or +13126266799,,91684968543#   
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+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)  
+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)  
Zoom Meeting ID:  916 8496 8543

### 1CapApp

Closed captions will be provided on the Zoom platform, and you may also access the closed captions/transcript through 1CapApp at [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ecs.1capapp.com/event/nfb).

### Stream

All general sessions, board of directors meeting, resolutions committee meeting, and the banquet will be streamed on YouTube and on Amazon devices by asking your devices to play “Nation’s Blind”.

*All times listed below are for central time:*

July 1, 2023

12:00 p.m. Exclusive Welcome to NFB23 Virtual Experience

July 2, 2023

11:00 a.m. Exclusive Division Showcase  
12:30 p.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
1:00 p.m. Resolutions Committee Meeting

### July 3, 2023

8:30 a.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
9:00 to 11:30 a.m. Board Meeting  
12:00 p.m. Exclusive Meet & Greet with Dan O’Rourke

### July 4, 2023

8:30 a.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. General Session I

* Call to Order and Invocation
* Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance
* National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind
* Deep in the Heart of the Federation: Welcome from the NFB of Texas
* 2023 National Convention Host Committee: The National Federation of the Blind of Texas
* Celebration of Freedom: Veterans Recognized
  + Vernon Humphrey, President, National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind; Mauk, Georgia
* Roll Call of States and Appointment of Nominating Committee
* Reports and Resolutions
* Adjourn

1:30 p.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show   
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. General Session II

* Call to Order
* Presidential Report
* Mark Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland
* Showing Heart on Route 66: A Ride for Literacy; Dan O'Rourke, National Hockey League Referee; Atlanta, Georgia
* Reflections on Four Decades and Growing Hope for the Future: Celebrating Parents of Blind Children within the Organized Blind Movement
  + Barbara Cheadle, President Emeritus, National Organization of Parents of Blind Children; Catonsville, Maryland
  + Carla Keirns, President, National Organization of Parents of Blind Children; Kansas City, Missouri
* The Braille Flyway: Giving Wings to Literacy through Partnership with Monarch
  + Craig Meador, President, American Printing House; Louisville, Kentucky
  + Bruce Miles, Chief Executive Officer, HumanWare; Drummondville, Québec, Canada
* Unlocking the Power of Our Stories: Imagining a Museum and Building Our Future
* Reports and Resolutions
* Adjourn

### July 5, 2022

8:30 a.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. General Session III

* Call to Order and Invocation
* Financial Report, Including the Honor Roll Call
* Elections
* Building the Movement: Achieving Our Dreams through Strategic Investments
* Members of the National Federation of the Blind Strategic Planning Steering Committee
* Transforming Corporate America from the Inside: Leadership, Blindness, and a Journey of Opening Doors; Susan Mazrui, Director, Global Public Policy, AT&T Services, Inc.; Seattle, Washington
* Shattering Injustice and Raising Expectations: Dedication to Equality by a Blind Attorney; Karla Gilbride, Civil Rights Attorney; Silver Spring, Maryland
* Reports and Resolutions
* Adjourn

1:30 p.m. Nations Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. General Session IV

* Call to Order
* Securing Equal Protection under the Law: The Essential Role of the Organized Blind Movement; Eve Hill, General Counsel, National Federation of the Blind, and Partner, Brown, Goldstein, and Levy; Baltimore, Maryland
* A One-Hundred-Year Legacy at the American Foundation for the Blind: What Will Be Different in the Decade Ahead? Eric Bridges, President and CEO, American Foundation for the Blind; Arlington, Virginia
* Thousands of Voices Lift a Shared Agenda: A Report from the Federation’s Advocacy and Policy Department
  + Moderator: John G. Paré Jr., Executive Director for Advocacy and Policy, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland
  + Jeff Kaloc, NFB Government Affairs Specialist; Baltimore, Maryland
  + Jesse Shirek, NFB Government Affairs Specialist; Baltimore, Maryland
  + Justin Young, NFB Government Affairs Specialist; Baltimore, Maryland
* Reports, Resolutions, and Other Business
* Adjourn

### July 6, 2022

### 8:30 a.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. General Session V

### Call to Order and Invocation

* Leveraging Personal AI to Build the Organized Blind Movement; Suman Kanuganti, CEO, Personal.ai; San Diego, California
* Artificial Intelligence Directed by the Blind: Progress and Possibilities with Be My Eyes; Mike Buckley, Chairman and CEO, Be My Eyes; San Francisco, California
* Together Living Blindfully: Perspectives on the Wisdom of the Shared Blind Community; Jonathan Mosen, CEO, Workbridge, and Producer and Presenter, Living Blindfully; Wellington, New Zealand
* Rebuilding What I Should Have Known: Reflections on My Journey to be Accountable to the Blind Community; Shir Ekerling, Co-CEO and Co-Founder, accessiBe; New York, New York
* Defining Meaningful Access and Consumer Control: The Blind and the Evolution of Overlays; Curtis Chong, Nonvisual Access Technology Consultant; Aurora, Colorado
* Tired of Waiting: Perspectives on Ride Denials from Uber; Liza Winship, Director of Driver Operations for the US and Canada, Uber; San Francisco, California
* Full Participation of the Disabled in America: Nothing without Us; Andrés Gallegos, Chairman, National Council on Disability; Washington, District of Columbia
* Expanding the Reach of the National Library Service: A Commitment to High Expectations for Blind Patrons; Jason Broughton, Director, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled; Washington, District of Columbia
* Reports and Resolutions
* Adjourn

### 1:30 p.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. General Session VI

* Call to Order
* The Sixteenth Annual Dr. Jacob Bolotin Awards; Everette Bacon, Chairperson, Dr. Jacob Bolotin Award Committee, and Board Member, National Federation of the Blind; Salt Lake City, Utah
* Transformation of Jobs in the AbilityOne Program: Disability Advocacy, Leadership, and the Power of Concentrated Action; Chai Feldblum, Vice Chairperson, United States AbilityOne Commission; Rehoboth Beach, Delaware, and Fort Lauderdale, Florida
* By Us for Us: A Report on the Federation’s Research, Training, and Partnership Programs; Anil Lewis, Executive Director for Blindness Initiatives, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland
* We Have Work to Do: Reflections on Changing the Blind Employment Paradigm; Mary Fernandez, Lead Disability Inclusion Consultant, Cisco Systems; Silver Spring, Maryland
* Working Together to Elevate the Blind in America: A Leader and Partner of the Organized Blind Movement; The Honorable Sheila Jackson Lee, United States House of Representatives, Eighteenth Congressional District; Houston, Texas
* Digital Access for All: Leading the Way in Advancing the Right to Live in the Twenty-First Century; The Honorable Tony Coelho, Former Congressman, United States House of Representatives, and Author, Americans with Disabilities Act; Doylestown, Pennsylvania
* Reports and Resolutions
* Adjourn

6:30 p.m. Nation’s Blind Podcasters Pre-show  
7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Banquet

* Invocation
* Master of Ceremonies: Pam Allen
* Introductions and Presentations
* Banquet Address: Mark Riccobono

## Continue the #NFB23 Experience: Virtual Seminars Presented by Our Sponsors

### How to make STEM accessible for blind students, Presented by Independence Science

We will discuss the use of the Tactile Adaptations Kit and the Lab Gear Kit and how they can make STEM more accessible. We will cover how to learn measurements of liquids and solids, mathematics, weight of materials, and more!

**Date & Time:**7/10/2023 from 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m. ET  
**How to Join:**Please email [aneybert@independencescience.com](mailto:aneybert@independencescience.com) to register.

### Leader Dogs for the Blind: We’re more than guide dogs! Presented by Leader Dogs for the Blind

Leader Dogs for the Blind has more than guide dog programs! We offer orientation and mobility programs, a Teen Summer Camp and Youth O&M. Along, with these free programs Leader Dog has virtual learning opportunities, Collaboration Events and a podcast, Taking the Lead. Join us as we provide an update and answer your questions!

**Date & Time:**7/12/2023 from 3:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. ET  
**How to Join:**<https://leaderdog-org.zoom.us/j/84006879478?pwd=eGIxQlNRUEgzOHVraTJpcVZqZWhmUT09>  
**Meeting ID:** 840 0687 9478  
**Passcode:**474914  
**One tap mobile:**  
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### United Airlines Customer Journey Before Takeoff Session, Presented by United Airlines

Share feedback on upcoming developments from United Airlines to improve the customer journey before the plane takes off. This session will have the opportunity for feedback and interaction with different United Airlines business teams.

**Date & Time:** 7/18/2023 from 11:00-11:45 a.m. CT  
**How to Join:** <https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/ebe80f67-fe52-48a9-8998-4ca8a97bc03c@1146cf6d-9b72-4828-bd04-9f1ccb305586>

### AI and Digital Accessibility: Opportunities and Challenges, Presented by UserWay Inc.

A frank discussion of Artificial Intelligence’s (AI) role in eliminating digital barriers, as well as potential pitfalls and complexities we need to navigate. We will demonstrate how AI and automation when mixed with good old human expertise promise to improve digital accessibility at scale. Bring your questions, we are here to listen and respond.

**Date & Time:**7/20/2023 from 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET  
**How to Join:** <https://userway.zoom.us/my/userwayroom?pwd=Ulo2bVB3SFFiVWNYbHNlbXp2dEw2UT09>

### Spoken Rx Presentation, Presented by CVS Health

This will be a brief presentation highlighting Spoken Rx™. Spoken Rx™ tells you which prescription you’re holding and how to take it. All you need is a smart tagged prescription and the CVS Pharmacy® mobile app

### Date & Time: 7/20/2023 at 2:00 p.m. ET How to Join: <https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTgxZDIxZTctYTA3OS00YTIwLTliMzEtMGFmZjk4OWFhODA3%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%22fabb61b8-3afe-4e75-b934-a47f782b8cd7%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22296bfbe4-8c84-4b9f-950f-8f09d65f067b%22%7d> Meeting ID: 275 736 715 852 Passcode: s8ZZW4 Or call in (audio only): +1 860-785-4641,,104610878# Phone Conference ID: 104 610 878#

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