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# 2024 National Convention Agenda #NFB24 Orlando, Florida July 3 to July 8

Welcome to the

84th Annual Convention of the

National Federation of the Blind

Mark A. Riccobono, President

National Federation of the Blind

200 East Wells Street *at Jernigan Place*

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

John Berggren, Chairman

Convention Organization and Activities

*Jorge Hernandez, President*

National Federation of the Blind of Florida

*Rosen Centre*  
9840 International Drive

Orlando, Florida 32819

800-204-7234

## Welcome!

Welcome to the world’s largest gathering of the organized blind, the National Federation of the Blind’s annual convention. Federationists and friends will come together to showcase the power and strength of our movement, to celebrate, to inspire, and to be inspired. More than just a list of the myriad of sessions you can attend, the agenda contains a wealth of information about the week including our community expectations of one another; a description of the hotel layout; and hours for the presidential and host affiliate suites, the exhibit hall, and the Independence Market. Read thoroughly and plan your week. Take every opportunity to explore, make new friends, and live the life you want at #NFB24.

### Our Belief Message

The National Federation of the Blind advances the lives of its members and all blind people in the United States. We know that blindness is not the characteristic that defines you or your future. Every day we raise the expectations of blind people, because low expectations create obstacles between blind people and our dreams. Our collective power, determination, and diversity achieve the aspirations of all blind people.

### Our Core Values

Believe in blind people

Lead courageously

Champion collective action

Foster inclusion

Dream big

### Rookie Roundup

We welcome all first-time convention attendees to join us for an exciting event from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 3, in Grand Ballroom C. President Riccobono and other Federation leaders along with members of the Jernigan Fund Committee will be on hand to welcome you to the convention and preview the week’s activities. Veteran conventioneers, please encourage all first timers to be part of this special event. We cannot wait to meet you! In anticipation, check out our First Timer’s Guide at <https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/first-timers-guide>.

### 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 found at <https://nfb.org/codeofconduct>.

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. 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 call 410-659-9314, extension 2238, during the convention hours listed in this agenda. Thank you for your commitment to the safety and support of the blind community.

### Convention Registration

Registration activities take place in the Prefunction foyer outside of the Grand Ballroom beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday and Thursday. At 9:00 a.m. on Friday and at other times as listed throughout the week, registration activities will be located at Registration Desk 1 near the Grand Ballroom. All convention attendees (both local and from out of town) are asked to register. Those who registered for convention online may pick up their registration packets in the area designated “Preregistration.” Those who did not register online can do so at the area designated “Registration.” Please have your payment method ready as you approach the cashier. Convention registration is a requirement for door prize eligibility and a number of other convention activities. We condition rates for hotel rooms on proof of registration, including the showing of an NFB registration badge, if requested.

### Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

The Exhibit Hall and the NFB Independence Market are located across the second-floor skywalk in West Hall A1 of the Orange County Convention Center (OCCC). Please note that the hours for the Exhibit Hall have changed this year.

### Exhibit Hall hours of operation are:

* Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Saturday Noon to 1:45 p.m. and 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. (final opportunity

to visit the Exhibit Hall)

### Independence Market hours of operation are:

* Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Friday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Saturday Noon to 1:45 p.m.
* Sunday Noon to 1:45 p.m. (final opportunity to visit the Market)

### Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites

The Presidential Suite (2455) and the Host Affiliate Suite (to be announced) are open during much of the convention. All are welcome to come to these suites to visit. Appointments to meet with President Riccobono may be made at the Presidential Suite. The Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites will be open during the following times:

* Tuesday 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
* Wednesday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
* Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.
* Friday 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and Noon to 7:00 p.m.
* Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., Noon to 1:45 p.m., and 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
* Sunday 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m., Noon to 1:45 p.m., and 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.
* Monday 7:00 a.m. to 8:45 a.m. and Noon to 1:45 p.m.

Suite numbers will be shared via social media, posted in the convention mobile app, announced at the board meeting, and publicized in a number of other ways.

### Survivor Safe Space

As a part of our ongoing efforts to provide safety, support, and inclusion within the National Federation of the Blind, the Blind Survivors Group is providing a safe space for survivors and individuals who have been impacted or harmed by sexual misconduct and other forms of abuse within the NFB and affiliated programs/events. We welcome you to drop in for confidential peer support, to discuss questions/concerns about ongoing safety and support measures within the NFB, and to access resources for additional support. The safe space, in meeting Salon 18, will be available Wednesday through Monday, from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m.

If you are not able to participate in the survivor safe space and need additional support or have further questions during the convention, you may email [survivors@nfb.org](mailto:survivors@nfb.org) or call 410-659-9314, extension 2238. A member of the Blind Survivors Group will respond to calls within six hours between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. during the week of convention.

### Quiet Space

In the National Federation of the Blind, we recognize that attending such a busy and bustling event like national convention can be overwhelming. That's why we've created a Quiet Room/Low Sensory Space in Salon 19 for those who need a break from the stimulation and noise of the convention. This space is designed to provide a calm and peaceful environment. We ask that all visitors respect the quiet atmosphere by using headphones, refraining from conversations and phone calls, and engaging in activities that may disturb others.

## Wednesday, July 3, 2024

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 7:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

Registration outside NOPBC Conference; for youth 11-18; free of charge. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Dreams, Creativity, and Skills: The Recipe for Success

**Salon 12**

Registration until June 30: adults $35, families $50, children (0-18) free. Registration is available on-site. For more details, visit <https://nopbc.org/all-events>. Sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC).

Cassandra McKinney, President

7:30 - 8:45 a.m. Registration

9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Opening Session

10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session I

Empowering Parents of Kids with Additional Disabilities (Salon 12)

Independent Movement and Travel: From Crossing the Street to Going Abroad (Salon 13)

Grounding the Helicopter (Salon 14)

Access Leads to Success (Salon 15)

1:45 - 3:00 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session II

Blaming It on Blindness (Salon 12)

Age- and Stage-Appropriate Cooking (Salon 13)

Moving to the Beat of Your Own Drum (Salon 14)

Having Fun with Braille (Salon 15)

3:15 - 4:30 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session III

Integrating Print and Braille: A Recipe for Literacy (Salon 12)

Raising a Problem-Solver (Salon 13)

Aaagghh—My Baby Is Blind/Low Vision! Where Do I Begin? (Salon 14)

Monarch—The Future of Braille Textbooks and Tactile Graphics (Salon 15)

### 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Contemporary Issues in Rehabilitation and Education for the Blind—23rd Annual Rehabilitation and Orientation and Mobility Conference

**Salon 9**

Participate in the only annual national conference focused on structured discovery teaching and education for the blind. Learn about the various professional certifications, partnerships, and opportunities the NBPCB has to offer. Registration (<https://nbpcb.org/members/er.php?eid=564>) is $100 before June 15, $115 afterwards. Registration available on-site.

Sponsored by National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) and the

Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness (PDRIB) at the Louisiana Tech University.

### 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Ambassadors Committee Meeting

**Salon 8**

### 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Jernigan Institute Technology Seminars

**Salon 3**

8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Reporting Inaccessibility Self-Advocacy Toolkit

Learn about the new online toolkit that walks users through the process of self-advocating for accessible software. There will be an open discussion on personal experiences related to self-advocacy.

10:00 - 11:30 a.m. How Companies Are Implementing Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Discover how companies like Google, Amazon, and Microsoft are using AI in their products and services.

1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Accessibility in Video Games

Explore accessible video games with live demos of the Xbox Series S and PS5 consoles.

Presenters: Kennedy Zimnik and Karl Belanger, CENA Staff, National Federation   
of the Blind

### 8:30 a.m. NFB Camp

**Salon 21**

Preregistration by June 15 was required. Please refer to convention note 11 for further information.

**9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($80)**

**Grand Ballroom Prefunction Foyer**

### 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Employment Committee Meeting

**Salon 16**

Annual meeting of the NFB Employment Committee. Learn about past and current  
events and committee initiatives. This year our meeting is combined with an orientation to the Career Fair. Come to learn more!

Jennifer Wenzel and Lia Stone, Co-Chairs

**9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. SSP Training**

**Salon 5**

Do you know a deafblind person? Have you ever wondered how you could assist a

deafblind person navigate around our national convention? The DeafBlind Division   
is pleased to offer our first annual volunteer SSP training. All SSPs are encouraged   
to attend.

Maurice Mines, President

### 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Target Accessibility: Meet the Team and Q&A

**Salon 2**

Learn how Target’s Digital Accessibility team ensures our apps, website, and other digital experiences are accessible to all. We welcome any accessibility questions and feedback. We will share several times throughout the hour, so come when you like and stay as long as you want.  
Hai Nguyen Ly, Sr. Accessibility Consultant, Target

### 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Digital Braille: Charting the Path Ahead

**Grand Ballroom D**

Interested in APH's future plans for Monarch, eBraille, and refreshable Braille devices? Join Greg Stilson and his team to see what's in store for Braille readers in the   
coming year.

Greg Stilson, Senior Director, Global Innovations, American Printing House for the Blind

### 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Sleep & Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder

**Salon 7**

Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder, or Non-24 for short, is a condition common in blind patients. Come learn more about circadian rhythms, sleep, and Non-24.

Vanda Pharmaceuticals Nurse Educators

### 1:00 - 1:45 p.m. Amazon Devices Accessibility Overview

**Grand Ballroom A**

Amazon obsesses about customer delight, and that includes customers with disabilities. In this session, Amazon accessibility experts will discuss the latest accessibility features for Fire TV, Fire tablet, Echo Show, Kindle, Smart Glasses,   
and more.

Peter Korn, Director of Accessibility, Amazon Devices & Services

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Career Fair

Executive Ballroom H

Come to meet national and regional employers including many of our convention sponsors and Florida employers. This is your first step to a great future! Preregistration required. Sorry, no walk-ins. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.  
Jennifer Wenzel and Lia Stone, Co-Chairs

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. HumanWare Product Discussion and Updates

**Salon 4**

Bring your questions and feedback to our yearly user group sessions. We will discuss and demonstrate updates to our existing products and introduce new ones.

Peter Tucic and Joel Zimba, HumanWare

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. NAGDU Annual Seminar

Salon 2

You’re invited to join NAGDU for our annual seminar. Explore advocacy, veterinary insights, and community updates all in one comprehensive event. Join us as we empower and support each other on our journey with our guide dogs.

Stacie Gallegos and Paul Sandoval, NAGDU Annual Seminar Co-Chairs

### 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Drop-In Art Room

Salon 10

Free tactile art exhibition and art activities for everyone! Come with friends or come and meet new people. We will be teaching, at different times, raised line drawing, coloring, sculpting, origami folding, SVG coding, and LEGO building. We will also have tactile picture books!

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 1:30 - 4:30 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

For youth 11-18. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 2:00 - 2:45 p.m. Audio Description at Prime Video

**Grand Ballroom A**

Prime Video has been working with customers and advocacy groups to make our content more accessible by improving the availability and quality of audio descriptions. We will present our learnings and the evolving mental models on quality across scripts, mixing, and voicing of AD.

Chris Nooney, Principal Product Manager for Prime Video, Amazon

### 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Blind Professional Journalists Meet & Greet

Salon 16

Share tips for building a journalism career. Come join the Blind Professional Journalists Group as we discuss how we work in an exciting, dynamic profession. Let’s exchange ideas on technology and blindness skills to help us move forward.

Elizabeth Campbell, Chair

**2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Seniors Taking Charge: Managing in a Disaster**

**Salon 5**

Learn how to manage in a disaster using advice from experts in disaster preparedness and the use of nonvisual tools.

Glenn Crosby, President

### 3:00 - 3:45 p.m. Building for A11y with AWS Cloudscape

**Grand Ballroom A**

Cloudscape, the Amazon Web Service (AWS) design system, forms the foundation   
of AWS services and products. In this session, AWS accessibility and design experts will dive into the process of creating the Cloudscape Design System with accessibility in mind.

Samantha Barry, Marwa Abdalrazeq, and Akanksha Garg, Amazon

### 3:30 - 4:30 p.m. Unlock Financial Freedom with Penny Forward

**Salon 6**

Learn to manage income and expenses while receiving SSI and SSDI, maintain records, and handle overpayments. Discover ABLE accounts to save $100K without risking SSI. Join our courses and workshops for practical financial skills.

Chris Peterson, Founder and CEO, Penny Forward

### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Accessibility Features—Andriod & Chrome OS

**Grand Ballroom D**

Learn about A11y features for low-vision and blind users on the Android device and Chromebook.

Nimer Jaber, Leonid Prazdnik, Siri Gubba, and Jay Prabhunathan, Google

### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Living with Multiple Disabilities

**Salon 16**

New bonds are built and understanding strengthened by bringing together members who share the unique experiences and challenges that come with living at the intersection of various disabilities and blindness. Join us with an open heart and willingness to connect with others.

Moderators: Bobbi A. L. Pompey and Doula Jarboe

### 5:15 - 7:30 p.m. NBPCB Reception: Networking/Mix & Mingle

Salon 11

Come network and speak with professionals following the NBPCB Rehab Conference. Hear about the newest certificants who are newly SD certified and about job opportunities across the nation. Cash bar and light snacks will be available.

### 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Seminario Hispano

Salon 2

Ven a conocer a la federación, nuestras historias y recursos valiosos en español. Te esperamos en el evento más importante para conocer, conectar y compartir con nuestra comunidad hispanohablante.  
Nota: El seminario será completamente en español. Aleyda Santos, Coordinadora

### 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Technology Evaluation Exhibitors Showcase

Grand Ballroom A

Join the Technology Evaluation Committee’s Exhibitors Showcase to learn about low- to high-tech products, from hardware to software and more. Hear the latest from our vendors at this free session. You do not have to be a committee member to attend.

Mark Jones, Chair

### 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Blind and MENA: A Different Type of Brown

**Salon 13**

Members who are American Arab, North African, Middle Eastern, Muslim, and Sikh face unique challenges in post-9/11 America, especially around blindness and access to services. Learn about identity, stereotypes, challenges experienced by, and resources for these individuals.

Moderator: Ronza Othman

### 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. NOPBC Family Games Night

**Salon 1**

Sponsored by National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC).

### 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. Rookie Roundup

**Grand Ballroom C**

First-time convention attendees: don’t miss this event! President Riccobono and other Federation leaders, along with members of the Jernigan Fund Committee, will be on hand to welcome you to the convention and preview the week’s activities.

Pam Allen, Chair and First Vice President, National Federation of the Blind; President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana; Director, Louisiana Center for the Blind

## Thursday, July 4, 2024

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting

**Salon 7**

Hear of the progress that we, as an organization, are making in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion. How can we drive DEI efforts across the Federation in fulfillment of our movement’s strategic priorities? Bring your questions, feedback, and concerns to the committee.

Moderators: Shawn Callaway and Kenia Flores

### 8:30 - 11:00 a.m. Committee for Advancement and Promotion of Braille

**Salon 16**

The committee will discuss developments in the teaching and delivery of Braille, research priorities, Braille-related policy, strategies for bringing improvements where needed, and resources and activities across our organization. All are welcome!

Jennifer Dunnam, Chair

### 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. AI for Accessibility

**Salon 3**

Join Microsoft technologists and explore the ways AI is transforming our assistive technologies, from screen readers to assistive applications. This session will introduce select AI features and products and demo their daily applicability for blind and low-vision users.

Microsoft Accessibility Team

### 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Membership Committee Meeting

**Salon 12**

Members represent our most powerful asset. All those who are interested in joining the membership committee to discuss innovative ideas to grow, nurture, and sustain membership in the organized blind movement are welcome.

Denise Avant, Chair

### 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Seeking Success: Employment, Exploration, and Entrepreneurship

**Salons 1 and 2**

Job seeker seminar with new time and new format! Come to a large group session and then break into smaller groups focusing on career exploration and the pros and cons of starting your own business. Give feedback on future topics.

Jennifer Wenzel and Lia Stone, Co-Chairs

### 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. NFB Sports and Recreation Business Meeting

**Salon 11**

Learn about adaptive sports, inclusive fitness and recreation opportunities, and build community at our annual business meeting. Let’s move to keep the movement alive!

Richie Flores, President

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($80)

**Grand Ballroom Prefunction Foyer**

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

**WA1, Convention Center**

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Drop by the JAWS AI Suite

**Salon 5**

Get hands-on training with some of our newest AI-powered features including Picture Smart AI and Face in View and bring your JAWS questions. You will also have an exclusive opportunity to try out and give us feedback on a preview of our newest upcoming feature!

### 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. HIMS Product Showcase

**Salon 9**

Come join us to learn how to be more informed, organized, and entertained with products such as the BrailleSense 6, BrailleSense 6 Mini, QBraille XL, the SensePlayer, and the new Braille eMotion.

### 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Intro to OrCam's Latest Tech: MyEye 3 and Read 3

**Salon 4**

OrCam's newest innovations, the MyEye 3 and Read 3, are here. Come learn about the latest “Just Ask” feature, an AI assistant that provides immediate responses to all your questions!

Josue Rivera, Area Sales Manager, Florida

### 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. LGBT+ Group: A Meeting for Community Members

**Salon 14**

Open to all community members and allies. Join us to learn about being LGBT+ in the NFB, how to get involved, and various advocacy efforts throughout the United States.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

### 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Accessible Products for Life, Work and Play

**Salon 3**

Microsoft’s VIP experts showcase our suite of accessibility features tailored to the needs of blind and LV users. Join our team for interactive demo sessions showcasing new products and exciting updates to our community’s well-established favorites.

Microsoft Accessibility Team

### 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Navigating the Future: Unveiling AI-Powered Innovations in JAWS

**Grand Ballroom D**

Join Ryan Jones to discuss what has been going on with JAWS and ZoomText over the past year and how AI is helping us break down barriers. You don’t want to miss learning about Picture Smart AI, Face in View, and what we are doing next! Let’s join together and explore our future.

Ryan Jones, VP Software & Product Management, Vispero

### 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Mujeres of the Federation

**Salon 13**

Join blind Latina women to network, share successes, and tackle challenges together and help develop the next generation of Latina leaders in the National Federation of the Blind.

Moderator: Kenia Flores

### 1:00 p.m. Resolutions Committee

**Grand Ballroom C**

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

Donald Porterfield, Chair

### 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Drop-In Art Room

**Salon 10**

Free tactile art exhibition and art activities for everyone! Come with friends or come and meet new people. We will be teaching, at different times, raised line drawing, coloring, sculpting, origami folding, SVG coding, and LEGO building. We will also have tactile picture books!

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. LGBT+: Education for Everyone

**Salon 14**

What does being LGBT+ have to do with blindness? How do blind LGBT+ people live, work, and love? Sincere questions will be answered in kind. This session is offered courtesy of our LGBT+ members who seek to educate separately from our primary meeting.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

### 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. Blind Survivors Group Meetup

**Salon 16**

Celebrate the spirit of survival on this Independence Day. Let’s talk about the struggle and the quest for resilience, and support each other in our individual, unique journeys.

Christine Faltz Grassman, Chair

### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Wells Fargo: Banking on Your Future

**Salon 9**

Join members of Wells Fargo in conversation about the importance of accessibility to pursue financial goals.

Andrew Holbrook, PhD, Chief Accessibility Officer, Wells Fargo

### 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Aira: Visual Interpreting and Access AI

**Salon 12**

Aira presents Access AI! The only collaborative AI experience where the human visual interpreter can verify image descriptions! Come and meet many members of the   
Aira team!

Troy Otillio, CEO, and Everette Bacon, VP Blindness Initiatives

### 4:15 - 5:45 p.m. Twenty-Fourth NABL Mock Trial (Admission: $5)

**Executive H**

Federation lawyers oppose each other to enact a case addressing the civil rights of blind people, and the audience serves as the jury. The subject matter is serious, but the courtroom portrayers are very entertaining.

Ronza Othman, President, National Association of Blind Lawyers

### 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Fourth Annual Blind Muslims Group Seminar

**Salon 14**

Diverse in Culture United in Faith: Our struggle in finding our space in the blindness movement. Join us to network and to learn about our group and our involvement. Connect via listserv [nfb-muslims@nfbnet.org](mailto:nfb-muslims@nfbnet.org) or email the chair, Tasnim Alshuli, [nfbmuslims@gmail.com](mailto:nfbmuslims@gmail.com).

Tasnim Alshuli, Chair

### 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

For youth 11-18. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Greek and Masonic Group

**Salon 7**

Are you a member of a national Greek organization, the Masons, or the Eastern Star? Help build our relationships with Greek letter organizations to ensure inclusion and participation, to engage in fundraising, and to serve as a resource for the blind considering membership.

Shawn Callaway, Chair

### 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Blind Christians Group

**Salon 16**

Publishers of Christian literature will provide an update regarding the work of theirrespective organizations. Learn about ministries in which blind people are involved in their local communities.Linda Mentink, Chair

### 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. NABS Annual Business Meeting

**Grand Ballroom A**

All are welcome to join our lively division as we dive into all things blind students! Registration begins at 6:00, followed by programming at 7:00. Only members who have completed our membership process before June 30 will be eligible to participate in official business.

Lauren Altman, President

### 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Blindness in AAPI Communities

**Salon 13**

Join us to explore the intersection of Asian-American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) identity and blindness. Discuss unique challenges faced by our community, gain insights, celebrate diverse experiences, foster inclusive communities, and explore pathways to empowerment.

### 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. SSI and SSDI 101: What You Need to Know

**Salon 9**

Ever wonder what the difference between Blind Work Expenses and Impairment Related Work Expenses is? Afraid you might go over the SSDI earnings cliff? Hear from an expert on these programs and have all your questions answered.

Michael Dalto, Social Security Expert

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. NFB in Judaism Meeting

**Salon 8**

Join us as we hear from Rabbi Larry Sarko as he shares his Braille Sefer Torah Scroll. We will also hear from Livia Thompson, Executive Director, JBI International, on what that outstanding organization is working on. We will also have some time to meet each other.

Stewart Prost, Chair

### 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. Advancing our Advocacy: Legislative Meet Up

**Salon 12**

An opportunity for members interested in advocating for the rights of the nation’s blind to interact with our government affairs specialists and exchange strategies to advance our legislative priorities at the local, state, and federal levels.

Jesse Shirek, Jeff Kaloc, and Justin Young, Government Affairs Specialists, National Federation of the Blind

## Friday, July 5, 2024

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($80)

**Registration Desk 1**

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

**WA1, Convention Center**

### 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. NFB Board Meeting

**Grand Ballroom**

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

### 11:30 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

### 12:15 - 4:00 p.m. National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC) Annual Meeting

**Salon 1**

Hear from the Distinguished Educator of Blind Children and our technology exhibitors; learn about cutting-edge products and opportunities for our kids. Experience Parent Power; participate in our business meeting, elections, and much more!

Cassandra McKinney, President

### 12:15 - 4:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

For youth 11-18. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 12:30 - 5:00 p.m. NFB in Computer Science

**Salon 3**

Enhancing nonvisual access to information technology and improving the ability of blindinformation and computer technology professionals to compete in today’s world.

Brian Buhrow, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Writers Division Business Meeting and Author Round Up

**Salon 6**

Join us and meet fellow self-published and mainstream published authors who can help you to improve your own skills. Come prepared to be creative. The cost for attendance is $10. We will see you there and may have some surprises in store.

Shelley Alongi, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Merchants

**Grand Ballroom D**

Innovation 24: Innovation—the driving force behind progress, creativity, inspiration, problem solving and the exploration of new ideas. Innovation requires courage and a commitment to excellence. Join the merchants/entrepreneurs to discuss building relationships and partnerships and developing opportunities in the Randolph-Sheppard Program and small business.

Nicky Gacos, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Rehabilitation Professionals

**Salon 12**

Join your peers in blind rehabilitation as we share ideas, resources, and gather tools for this year’s rehab toolbox. Together we will energize each other as we raise expectations for skills, positive blindness philosophy, and of course, confidence, independence, and jobs.

Amy Porterfield, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. National Organization of Blind Educators

**Salon 13**

Educators who are blind teach sighted and blind students from infants to adults working toward post-graduate degrees. If you are blind and an educator, or are considering a career in teaching, come join us to share strategies, tips, and tools of   
the trade.

Cayte Mendez, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. DeafBlind Division and Business Meeting

**Salon 15**

Come join us for exciting updates and news about I Can Connect, Braille displays, Cochlear implants, and more. Make sure your dues are paid before the meeting to be able to vote in the elections for board members. If necessary, you may pay dues before the meeting.

Maurice Mines, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Diabetes Action Network Meeting

**Salon 10**

Come learn about blind diabetics who are self-sufficient, manage their disease, and work for the development of technology equivalent to that available to other diabetics. Join with those who have overcome being scared and who have embraced the challenge of this disease.Debbie Wunder, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Performing Arts Division and Audition Workshop

**Salon 2**

Join us for our annual business meeting followed by an interactive workshop ($5 entry) all about auditioning with confidence. Time for networking included. Renew your membership by July 1 to ensure you can participate in all business at the meeting by visiting [www.nfb-pad.org](http://www.nfb-pad.org).

Katelyn MacIntyre, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Seniors Division Meeting

**Salon 4**

1:00 p.m. Registration

1:30 p.m. Annual meeting of the National Federation of the Blind Seniors Division

Glenn Crosby, President

### 1:00 - 6:30 p.m. National Association of Blind Lawyers Division

**Salon 9**

Examine challenges and opportunities for blind attorneys and law students; learn about legal updates impacting the blind; share practice tips and technology tools for blind lawyers. Register at [www.blindlawyers.net](http://www.blindlawyers.net).

1:00 p.m. Division meeting

4:30 p.m. Ticketed reception

Ronza Othman, President

### 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. Assistive Technology Trainers Division

**Salon 14**

Current and aspiring tech trainers: join us for professional development, networking, and fellowship. We’ll explore what it takes to become a great trainer, how to help our students build sustainable digital literacy skills, and what’s new in the world of AT.

Chancey Fleet, President

### 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Professionals in Blindness Education Division

**Salon 7**

All professionals serving students from birth through age twenty-one are welcome and encouraged to join our informative and interactive meeting. Come network and collaborate, sharing and learning with colleagues and future educators.

Emily Gibbs, President

### 2:30 - 5:00 p.m. Human Services Division Annual Meeting

**Salon 8**

Do you have a passion for working with people? If so, we invite you to join our meeting! We will have dynamic speakers, important discussions, and a fun activity or two. Join us for a time of professional development and networking!

Sarah Patnaude, President

### 3:00 - 7:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Veterans Meeting

**Signature 2**

3:00 p.m. Reception

4:00 p.m. Sit-down meal

5:00 p.m. Business meeting with guest speakersVernon Humphrey, President

### 4:00 - 8:00 p.m. Sexual Health Education Open House: Learn on Your Terms

**Grand Ballroom A**

In collaboration with Indiana University School of Public Health, the NFB Board of Directors invites you to the first blind-led, blind-centered sexual health education event. This open house features information on reproductive anatomy, identity, healthy relationships, pregnancy, parenting, contraception and family planning, STIs, and sexual pleasure. Blind facilitators with expertise will be available to support your learning as you navigate this self-paced, exhibit-hall-style event. Drop in any time. This event is for adults only. Contact Mika Baugh ([mikabaug@iu.edu](mailto:mikabaug@iu.edu)) for more information.

### 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. Braille Book Fair

**Executive H**

New/used Braille and print/Braille books—fiction, nonfiction, early readers, cookbooks, and more—all free!

4:30 p.m. Blind children only

5:00 p.m. Open to all

Volunteers box and ship books Free Matter. Donations welcome. Sponsored by National Organization of Parents of Blind Children and American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults.

### 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. Sleep & Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder

**Salon 1**

Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder, or Non-24 for short, is a condition common in blind patients. Come learn more about circadian rhythms, sleep, and Non-24.

Vanda Pharmaceuticals Nurse Educators

### 5:30 - 7:00 p.m. Affiliate Presidents and Treasurers

**Salon 12**

All state affiliate presidents and treasurers are asked to attend this session to discuss affiliate finances and other aspects of organization administration with facilitators Valerie Warrington and Bridgid Burke.

### 5:45 - 7:00 p.m. A Celebration of Shabbat (the Sabbath)

**Suite 2456**

Join with other Federationists who happen to be Jewish in welcoming Shabbat (the Sabbath) with perhaps some wine, bread (challah), lighting the Shabbat candles, and perhaps a short Friday evening service before people go off to other events.

### 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Blind Parents Group: 0 to 5 Years Old

**Salon 14**

This year, the Blind Parents Group will host two separate sessions for blind parents. This session will focus on parents with children under 5. Come prepared with questions. Kids welcome.

Lisamaria Martinez, Chair

### 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Ready for Adventure at the Colorado Center

**Salon 4**

Come to Colorado, change your life! Through structured discovery, you will gain belief in yourself. Hear from staff, students, and alumni—their stories will inspire you. Arrive at 6:00 p.m. The program will begin promptly at 6:15 p.m. Challenge yourself and create opportunities.

Julie Deden, Executive Director

### 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Legal Office Hours

**Salon 16**

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns. Reservations are required. To reserve your spot, email [legal@nfb.org](mailto:legal@nfb.org) or call 410-659-9314, extension 2440, by June 21.

### 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. National Organization of Blind Black Leaders Division

**Grand Ballroom D**

Happy anniversary NOBBL! Registration with complimentary snacks will take place 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Come join our division annual meeting and hear an inspirational presentation by Black leaders from the Florida affiliate. Theme: Rooted in Passion, United in Purpose.

Shawn Callaway, President

### 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. National Association of Guide Dog Users

**Salon 3**

Come learn how to make an informed choice when deciding to get a guide dog. Get current updates from our legal counsel about matters pertaining to guide dog users’ airline and rideshare travel. Find out what NAGDU has been up to over the past year and elect our leaders!Raul Gallegos, President

### 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Sports and Recreation Division: Adaptive Fitness Activity

**Junior Ballroom G**

Accessible yoga, body weight training, inclusive movement exercise to keep the body loose and healthy throughout convention.

Richie Flores, President

### 6:30 - 10:00 p.m. Science and Engineering Division

**Salon 11**

6:30 p.m. Registration

7:00 p.m. Meeting

Learn about one person’s experiences with the Orbit Research Graphiti interactive tablet display, new developments at Orbit Research, effective methods for completing college STEM courses, and other topics concerning the blind access to STEM.

John Miller, President

### 7:00 p.m. Dad’s Night Out

All dads, sighted and blind, are welcome to come. Call Chris Butler at 571-606-6868 for location. Sponsored by National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC).

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Government Employees

**Salon 8**

Join employees, retirees, and applicants for employment of federal, state, and local government entities, including pseudo-government entities, as we explore barriers and opportunities related to access, employment, and benefits.

Ronza Othman, President

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Ignite NFB-NEWSLINE® across Your State!

**Salon 10**

NFB-NEWSLINE coordinators, unleash NFB-NEWSLINE’s potential in your state. Join us for marketing strategies and success stories. Let’s amplify information accessibility together. This event is geared toward NFB-NEWSLINE coordinators, but all are welcome! Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, National Federation   
of the Blind

### 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. White Cane Committee and Fundraising Seminar

**Salon 13**

Let’s put the FUN back in Fundraising! Come and participate in an interactive session and share ideas on how to plan and implement an affiliate fundraiser. State presidents, please send a representative from your state.

Everette Bacon, Chair, and Patti Chang, Director of Outreach, National Federation of the Blind

### 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Friends of Recovery Meeting

**Salon 15**

All convention attendees interested in getting or remaining clean and sober are welcome to our confidential meeting. For more information, call 828-505-0338.

### 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Blind Parents Group: Kids over 5 years old

**Salon 14**

This year, the Blind Parents Group will host two separate sessions for blind parents. This session will focus on parents with children in elementary school and beyond. Come prepared with questions. Kids welcome.

Lisamaria Martinez, Chair

## Saturday, July 6, 2024

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Devotions

**Salon 14**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($80)

**Registration Desk 1**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

## Opening General Session (Saturday)

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

### 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### 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

### In the Federation We Trust: Welcoming the Family Back to Florida

###### National Federation of the Blind of Florida Board of Directors

### 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

### 12:00 - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

### 12:00 - 1:45 p.m. Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

**WA1, Convention Center**

### 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. All Aboard to Talk with Amtrak about Accessibility

**Salon 14**

Amtrak wants to hear from all blind travelers to help improve the system. Amtrak would appreciate knowing what is working, what needs fixing, and any suggestions on how to advance the system for the future.

Dr. David Handera, Vice President, Stations, Facilities, Properties, and Accessibility, Amtrak

### 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. What’s New in Google Accessibility

**Salon 9**

This session will provide a high-level overview of the latest accessibility features and initiatives from Google. This will include updates on products and services such as Android, Chrome, and Chromebook.

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Louisiana Center for the Blind Open House

**Signature 2**

Join us to learn about our transformative programs. Meet our dynamic staff and students. Find out more about innovative graduate programs in the field of blindness at Louisiana Tech University. Connect with alumni who are living the lives they want. Dream without limits!

Pam Allen, Executive Director

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Oracle’s Commitment to Inclusivity

**Salon 11**

We will discuss strategies from our customer’s perspective, information about employee accessibility HR accommodations, and future endeavors in our inclusive design process.

Kent Boucher, Senior Director, Oracle Accessibility Program Office

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Uber Town Hall

**Salon 10**

Uber representatives will hold a town-hall-style breakout session where Uber may hear from Federationists about ways to update the service. Accessibility updates will be provided at the beginning of the session.

Briana Gilmore, Head of Public Policy, Accessibility & Marginalized Communities, Uber

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Join the Voyage for Inclusive Digital Maps

**Salon 12**

Inclusive digital maps from Audiom by XR Navigation are now at your fingertips!   
From university campuses to congressional districts, learn how to explore and get dynamic maps for any adventure on your phone or computer. Come join the map revolution now!

Brandon Biggs, CEO, XR Navigation

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Leader Dogs for the Blind Meet and Greet

**Salon 15**

Leader Dogs for the Blind is more than guide dogs. Come meet our team including our new CEO, Melissa Weisse, to learn about the free programs offered including free Orientation and Mobility, Teen O&M, Teen Summer Camp, and Guide Dog!

Melissa Weisse, Chief Executive Officer

### 1:15 - 1:45 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and *Final* Banquet Ticket Sales ($80)

**Registration Desk 1**

## General Session II (Saturday)

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

### 2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

### Call to Order

### Presidential Report

###### Mark Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

### Leading Courageously with Higher Expectations: Braille, Teacher Preparation, and the Continued Influence of the Organized Blind Movement

###### Casey Robertson, Faculty, Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness, and Educational Advocate; Ruston, Louisiana

### Dreaming Big Together: The Monarch and the Butterfly Effect of Partnership

###### Craig Meador, President, American Printing House; Louisville, Kentucky

###### Bruce Miles, General Manager, Professional Solutions, and Head of HumanWare, EssilorLuxottica Canada; Montréal, Québec, Canada

###### Katie Carlock, Parent of Blind Child; Porterdale, Georgia

###### Kennedy Carlock, Blind Student; Porterdale, Georgia

###### Gina Fugate, Teacher of Blind Students, Maryland School for the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

### Living a Life Dedicated to Justice: Raising Expectations at the Calgary Police Service

###### Robert Fenton KC, Director of Legal Services, Calgary Police Service, and Chair, Board of Directors, Canadian National Institute for the Blind; Calgary, Alberta, Canada

### Inclusion by Example: Adventures of a Blind Woman Navigating the Oceans of STEM Professionals

###### Amy Bower, Physical Oceanography Senior Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution; Woods Hole, Massachusetts

### Reports and Resolutions

### Adjourn

### 5:00 - 9:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall

**WA1, Convention Center**

Final opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall.

### 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Research and Academic Professionals Meeting

**Salon 9**

The NFB Blindness Initiatives Research Advisory Council invites interested individuals to discuss current research, publication in the *Journal of Blindness Innovation and Research* (*JBIR*), and ideas for increasing the research and academic presence of the NFB.

### 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Legal Office Hours

**Salon 16**

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns. Reservations are required. To reserve your spot, email [legal@nfb.org](mailto:legal@nfb.org) or call 410-659-9314, extension 2440, by June 21.

### 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Adaptive Fitness Activity

**Junior Ballroom G**

Accessible fitness exercise to keep the body healthy throughout convention—yoga/body weight strength/adaptive exercise.

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Communications Committee

**Salon 10**

Join chapter, affiliate, and division leaders to learn best practices in communications.We’ll explore the tools available to us through our national office and exchange ideas.Learn to effectively use communication to build the Federation. Everyone is welcome!

Liz Wisecarver, Chair

### 7:00 - 9:45 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops

**Salons 14 and 15**

7:00 - 8:15 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session IV

What Does a Good IEP Look Like and How Do I Get There? (Salon 14)

Little Ones, Play, and Learning (Salon 15)

8:30 - 9:45 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops Session V

IEP Soft Skills (Salon 14)

Transitioning into Adult Life (Salon 15)

Sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC).

### 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

For youth 11-18. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

## Sunday, July 7, 2024

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass

**Salon 10**

Those who wish to assist as Eucharistic ministers, or in other ways, should come thirty minutes early. Contact Louis Maher (713-444-7838 or [ljmaher03@outlook.com](mailto:ljmaher03@outlook.com)) if you have questions.

### 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Devotions

**Salon 14**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Registration ($30) and Packet Pickup

**Registration Desk 1**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

**General Session III (Sunday)**

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

### 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### Call to Order and Invocation

### Financial Report, Including the Honor Roll Call

### Elections

### Expanding Access to the World’s Knowledge: An Update on Library Services Centering the Blind

###### Jason Broughton, Director, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled; Washington, District of Columbia

### Indoor Navigation: Access to Information and Blind-Led Innovations

###### Moderator: Mike May, Member, National Federation of the Blind of Nevada

###### Panel:

###### Charlie Meredith, Chief Technology Officer, GoodMaps; Louisville, Kentucky

###### Tom Pey, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Waymap; Bromley, England

### Reports and Resolutions

### Adjourn

### 12:00 - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

### 12:00 - 1:45 p.m. Independence Market

**WA1, Convention Center**

Final opportunity to visit the Independence Market.

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. National Voter Registration Help Desk

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

Are you uncertain about the process to register to vote in your state? Do you have questions about the various registration deadlines? Stop by our voter registration help desk to learn more about the voting process and the various deadlines in your state.

Government Affairs Team, National Federation of the Blind

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Website Coordinators and Contributors Meeting

**Salon 14**

Learn from other affiliates and divisions about their approaches and implementation of visually compelling and content-rich websites. Join the effort to build a roadmap for how the group can support you in the next year.

Corbb O’Connor, Chair

### 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Museum Q&A: Who Tells Our Stories? We Do!

**Salon 10**

Please join us, the designers and producers of a revolutionary museum, to ask your questions about the Museum of the Blind People’s Movement. From conceptual to tactical, let’s have an open conversation about a museum built by the blind that centers our stories and experiences.

Prime Access Consulting (PAC) and Origin Studios, Presenters

### 12:30 - 1:45 p.m. NOPBC Brainstorming Session

**Salon 15**

Come and share your ideas for making next year’s NOPBC sessions even better. Cassandra McKinney, President

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. NFB in the Kitchen Group

**Salon 9**

Homemade happiness! Let’s talk strengthening independence and encouraging creativity in the kitchen. Delfina Rodriguez from CCB joins Chef Regina Mitchell as they share tips, techniques, and ease in the kitchen. Bring your brilliant thoughts, questions, and enthusiasm.

Regina Mitchell, Chair

### 1:15 - 1:45 p.m. Registration ($30) and Packet Pickup

**Registration Desk 1**

**General Session IV (Sunday)**

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

**2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

### Call to Order

### Reflections on Collective Action: Fifty Years after 504 and the Value of Nothing Without Us

###### Shawn Callaway, Board Member, National Federation of the Blind, and President, National Federation of the Blind of the District of Columbia; Washington, District of Columbia

###### Dennis Billups, Lifelong Blind Advocate; San Francisco, California

### Putting Our Values into Action: A Report on Twenty Years of Innovative Research and Training Driven by the Blind

###### Anil Lewis, Executive Director for Blindness Initiatives, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

### We Belong: A Report on Our Collective Progress toward Equality in America and Beyond

###### 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**

### 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. National Voter Registration Help Desk

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

Are you uncertain about the process to register to vote in your state? Do you have questions about the various registration deadlines? Stop by our voter registration help desk to learn more about the voting process and the various deadlines in your state.

Government Affairs Team, National Federation of the Blind

### 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Discrimination in the Workplace: Now What?

**Salon 15**

Do you have a job? Do you want one? Join us to learn about your rights and responsibilities as a blind employee. Participants will learn every step in the process from requesting a reasonable accommodation to filing a federal complaint and beyond.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Esq., Legal Program Coordinator, National Federation of   
the Blind

### 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. DEI Book Club

**Salon 12**

Join us for the launch of the NFB DEI Book Club. The July pick is *Blind Ambition: One Woman’s Journey to Greatness* by Ever Lee Hairston. Come prepared to discuss the book and engage in conversation with the author and members of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee.

### 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. AFB Presents: Using Research to Drive Change

**Salon 9**

Join AFB’s Stephanie Enyart, Arielle Silverman, and Tony Stephens for a session on how knowledge and research can help drive change. The presenters will share findings from AFB’s latest research initiatives and provide valuable resources to aid advocates and consumers.

Stephanie Enyart, Dr. Arielle Silverman, and Tony Stephens, American Foundation for the Blind

### 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Screening of *unseen* (audio described)

**Executive Ballroom H**

The documentary chronicles the story of an aspiring blind, undocumented social worker. Through experimental cinematography and sound, *unseen* reimagines a cinema accessible for blind and low-vision audiences, while exploring the intersections of immigration, disability, and mental health. Q&A session to follow.

### 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Salon 17**

For youth 11-18. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Inclusive Sports and Recreation Night

**Junior Ballroom G and Surface Lot**

All conventioneers please consider joining us for a carnival of inclusive sports and adaptive fitness/recreation activities. There will be a suggested donation of ten dollars to help pay for premium exhibits.

National Federation of the Blind Sports and Recreation Division

### 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. DEI: What It Is and How You Can Play a Role

**Salon 10**

Join our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee to learn about DEI, why it is important, and how our identities inform the work we do inside and outside of the Federation. Discuss best practices for keeping blindness top-of-mind when strategizing workplace DEI initiatives.

Mary Fernandez, Moderator

### 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Friends of Recovery Meeting

**Salon 15**

All convention attendees interested in getting or remaining clean and sober are welcome to our confidential meeting. For more information, call 828-505-0338.

### 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. Twenty-Second Annual Showcase of Talent

**Executive Ballroom I**

Join us for a night of great performances! Whether you take the stage or support your friends from the audience, it’s always an enjoyable evening of entertainment.Performers $10; admission $5. Cash prizes awarded. Email [nfbpad@gmail.com](mailto:nfbpad@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up.

Katelyn MacIntyre, President, National Federation of the Blind Performing Arts Division

**Monday, July 8, 2024**

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB24 app or at <https://nfb.org/convention>. Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 8:00 - 8:45 a.m. Devotions

**Salon 14**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Registration ($30) and Packet Pickup

**Registration Desk 1**

### 8:15 - 8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

**General Session V (Monday)**

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

### 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

### Call to Order and Invocation

### Raising Expectations at Social Security: The Influence of the Organized Blind in Improving and Modernizing Essential Programs

###### Roderick Hairston, Deputy Associate Commissioner for the Office of Electronic Services and Technology, Social Security Administration; Washington, District of Columbia

### Shaping Twenty-First Century Rehabilitation Systems: Leadership, Partnership, and High Expectations

###### Moderator: Anil Lewis, Executive Director for Blindness Initiatives, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

###### Panel:

###### Cassondra Williams-Stokes, President, National Council of State Agencies for the Blind; Little Rock, Arkansas

###### Stephen Wooderson, Chief Executive Officer, Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation; Washington, District of Columbia

### Leading Courageously in Art: Poetry, Sensibility, and Aesthetics of Sharing Our Unseen Stories

###### Set Hernandez, Filmmaker and Community Organizer, Director/Producer of the Film *unseen*; San Fernando Valley, California

### All the Barriers We Cannot See: A Behind-the-Scenes View on Authentic Representation of the Blind in Film

###### Joe Strechay, Accessibility Consultant for Film and Television, Producer and Consultant for the Apple TV+ Series *Se*e; Fayetteville, West Virginia

### Centering on Disability Talent and Employment: Making Space by Controlling Our Own Pathways to Success

###### Keely Cat-Wells, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Making Space; Los Angeles, California

### Dreaming Big: The Influence of Blind-Centered Experience and Direction on Artificial Intelligence

###### Bryan Bashin, Vice-Chair, Be My Eyes; Berkeley, California

### Fostering Inclusive AI: Bridging the Gap between Lived Experiences and Artificial Intelligence

###### Suman Kanuganti, Chief Executive Officer, Personal.ai; San Diego, California

### Reports and Resolutions

### Adjourn

### 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Raffles and Drawings

**Salon 10**

### 12:00 - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Grand Ballroom C Prefunction Foyer**

Final opportunity to exchange banquet tickets prior to banquet.

### 12:15 - 1:15 p.m. ABLE United 101: Everything You Need to Know

**Salon 12**

During this session, individuals will learn all about ABLE United, Florida’s qualified ABLE program. The session will include an overview of Florida’s disability savings program, who it is for, how it works, and its benefits.

John Finch, Director, ABLE United

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. IRS Accessible Services and Simple Notice Effort

**Salon 11**

Come join IRS executives to hear about their accessible services as well as efforts to simplify notices for taxpayers. You’ll have the opportunity to experience new redesigned notices and provide feedback.

Maria Cheeks, Director Distribution, and Carrie Holland, Chief Diversity Officer, Internal Revenue Service

### 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Amateur “Ham” Radio Group Meeting

**Salon 15**

Talking with people around the world, responding to emergencies, and tinkering with electronics are just some of the benefits of becoming a licensed ham radio operator.Join us in a discussion about the hobby and plans for a permanent ham radio station at the Jernigan Institute.

Corbb O’Connor, Chair

**General Session VI (Monday)**

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

**2:00 - 5:00 p.m.**

### Call to Order

### The Seventeenth 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

### Leveraging Collective Wisdom: Updates on Building a Blind-Centered Platform Integrating Human and Artificial Intelligences

###### Troy Otillio, Chief Operating Officer, Aira Tech Corp; Carlsbad, California

### From Blind-Centered to Inclusion Leader: Improving Health Management through Equal Access

###### Andy Burstein, Chief Executive Officer, Accessible Pharmacy Services; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

### Telling Our Stories: A Conversation about Blindness, Justice, and Shattering Misconceptions from the Federal Bench

###### David Tatel, Retired Federal Judge, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit, and Senior Counsel, Hogan Lovells; Washington, District of Columbia

###### Deepa Goraya, First Vice President, National Association of Blind Lawyers; Washington, District of Columbia

### Closing the Door on Discrimination: Championing the Blind in Society through Civil Rights Protections at the Department of Justice

###### Kristen Clarke, Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, United States Department of Justice; Washington, District of Columbia

### Reports and Resolutions

**Adjourn**

## Banquet (Monday)

Grand Ballroom

Zoom meeting ID: 977 2977 7580

1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com)

##### **7:30 p.m.**

### Banquet

###### Invocation

###### Master of Ceremonies: Pam Allen, Chairperson of the Board, National Federation of the Blind, and President, National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana; Ruston, Louisiana

###### Introductions and Presentations

###### Banquet Address: Mark A. Riccobono, President, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

###### Scholarship Awards

## Convention Notes

### Note 1: Information Desk

The Federation information desk is outside Grand Ballroom C from Friday morning through Monday for attendees with questions or in need of assistance.

### Note 2: Hotel Room Rates

Room rates at the Rosen Centre, Rosen Plaza, and Rosen Shingle Creek are $129 for singles and doubles and $139 for triples and quads. In addition, the combined sales and hotel occupancy tax rate is 13.5 percent.

Proof of convention registration is necessary, including the showing of an NFB registration badge, if requested. Otherwise, regular hotel rates must be paid. Hotel sleeping rooms are non-smoking; smoking is permitted only in specified areas.

### Note 3: Banquet Tickets

Banquet tickets may be purchased for $80 at convention registration. No tickets will be available after 1:45 p.m. on Saturday. At the banquet ticket exchange table, located across from the Grand Ballroom C Prefunction foyer, you may make arrangements to reserve a specific seat for yourself or for a group of up to ten people. On the evening of the banquet, tickets will be required to enter the ballroom and will be collected at the tables. Tickets may be exchanged for vegetarian, vegan, kosher, or halal meals at the banquet ticket exchange table if done so by 2:00 p.m. on Friday.

Banquet ticket exchange will be available at the following times (also listed in   
the agenda):

* Friday 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
* Saturday 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. and Noon to 1:45 p.m.
* Sunday 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. and Noon to 1:45 p.m.
* Monday 8:15 to 8:45 a.m. and Noon to 1:45 p.m.

### Note 4: Guide Dog Relief Areas

There are two guide dog relief areas at the Rosen Centre. The hotel’s permanent, real grass animal relief area can be found by exiting the main lobby through the front doors and following the sidewalk to the right (heading mostly east) to the end of the guest room wing. There is a second relief area, also on the ground level, through the exit doors across from Grand Ballroom D, near the meeting room elevator. The relief area is on the right side of the sidewalk.

### Note 5: Announcement Requests

All requests for announcements by President Riccobono during General Sessions must be submitted in Braille.

### Note 6: NFB Treasurer Information

Individuals needing to conduct business with the NFB treasurer may do so by going to

Registration Desk 4 on Saturday between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. or on Sunday between noon and 2:00 p.m.

### Note 7: NFB Convention Mobile App and Web Portal

The convention agenda can be accessed via the Attendee Hub platform beginning June 17. Mobile apps are available for both the iOS and Android platforms and a web portal for desktop use. All registrants will receive an email invitation with links for both the mobile apps and web portal. The Attendee Hub platform allows users to customize a personal agenda, chat with other Attendee Hub convention goers, and to join streamed sessions with the click of a button for those participating virtually.

### Note 8: Portrait Studio

The portrait studio wants and needs a photo of your gorgeous face! We use images in the *Braille Monitor*, on websites, and for other types of publications. Having a current photo on file is important even if you are not writing an article or sitting on your chapter board. We will email photos after convention to those who would like to have them. Please visit the portrait studio across from Grand Ballroom A during the following hours:

* Friday 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
* Saturday 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.
* Sunday 12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
* Monday 5:45 to 6:45 p.m.

### Note 9: Raffle Tickets

Raffle tickets will not be sold in the registration area, and no raffles or other such drawings will take place during convention sessions or at the banquet. The single exception will be that national divisions may (if they request it in advance) conduct drawings during the sessions or at the banquet. Groups or affiliates wishing to conduct their drawings (or any person wishing to know the winners) may go to Salon 10 at noon on Monday.

### Note 10: FM Receivers Pick Up

The Amateur Radio Division coordinates the distribution of special FM receivers for our hard-of-hearing and Spanish-speaking attendees. Any interested attendee may pick up a receiver at a table in the rear of Grand Ballroom C. A deposit of $40 in cash is required, and exact change is appreciated. The deposit will be returned if the receiver is brought back to the checkout table in good condition by the end of the banquet or within thirty minutes of adjournment of the last convention session the borrower plans to attend.

### Note 11: Muslim Prayer Space

The Blind Muslims Group has a daily prayer space at convention in Salon 21 from 1:00 p.m. until midnight from July 3 to July 8. This space will also be available for Friday prayer. Please consider joining us.

### Note 12: NFB Camp (Childcare)

NFB Camp for children between the ages of six weeks and twelve years is available during convention sessions, most meetings, and the banquet. Preregistration and payment by June 15 are required for this childcare service. NFB Camp is organized and supervised by co-directors Carla McQuillan, the executive director of Main Street Montessori, and Harriet Go. Please note that childcare services provide morning and afternoon snacks, but parents are required to provide lunch for their child(ren) every day. Times listed are the opening and closing times. A late fee of $10 per quarter-hour per child will be assessed for late pickups. NFB Camp hours are:

* Wednesday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Thursday Closed
* Friday 8:30 a.m. to Noon and 12:45 to 5:30 p.m.
* Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Sunday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Monday 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Banquet 6:30 p.m. to 30 minutes after the banquet adjourns

### Note 13: Zoom and Ways to Access

For sessions broadcast on Zoom, there are multiple options for access. All convention times are in the eastern time zone.

Zoom via web at <https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/97729777580>.

Or One tap mobile:

+13017158592,, 97729777580# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968,, 97729777580# US (Chicago)

Or Telephone:

Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location):

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 646 876 9923 US (New York)

+1 408 638 0968US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

Webinar ID: 977 2977 7580

International numbers available: <https://nfb-org.zoom.us/u/acMFTIlKsS>

Closed captions will be provided on the Zoom platform, and you may also access the closed captions/transcript through 1CapApp at 1CapApp Event: [https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/In6gC4xYgATBg3gBtO4Qjj?domain=ecs.1capapp.com). More details for streaming available at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention).

### Note 14: Divisions, Committees, and Groups

The Federation carries on its business through the affiliated divisions, committees, and groups listed in this agenda.

#### Divisions:

Divisions of the National Federation of the Blind are organized around a specialized interest area usually related to employment or a major stage in life (e.g., parents or students). Divisions serve as a formal vehicle for building the organization at the national level.

Assistive Technology Trainers: *Chancey Fleet, President*

Black Leaders: *Shawn Callaway, President*

Computer Science: *Brian Buhrow, President*

DeafBlind: *Maurice Mines, President*

Diabetes Action Network: *Debbie Wunder, President*

Human Services: *Sarah Patnaude*, *President*

Educators: *Cayte Mendez, President*

Government Employees: *Ronza Othman, President*

Guide Dog Users: *Raul Gallegos, President*

Lawyers: *Ronza Othman, President*

Merchants: *Nicky Gacos, President*

Parents of Blind Children: *Cassandra McKinney, President*

Performing Arts: *Katelyn MacIntyre, President*

Professionals in Blindness Education: *Emily Gibbs, President*

Rehabilitation Professionals: *Amy Porterfield, President*

Science and Engineering: *John Miller, President*

Seniors: *Glenn Crosby, President*

Sports and Recreation: *Richie Flores, President*

Students: *Lauren Altman, President*

Veterans: *Vernon Humphrey, President*

Writers: *Shelley Alongi, President*

#### Committees:

Committees of the National Federation of the Blind are appointed by the President, with the exception of the nominating committee, and serve to advise the organization’s leadership on important matters and to carry out projects to build the organization at   
all levels.

Advancement and Promotion of Braille: *Jennifer Dunnam, Chair*

Ambassadors: *Dan Burke, Chair*

Blind Educator of the Year Award: *Robin House, Chair*

Communications: *Liz Wisecarver, Chair*

Distinguished Educator of Blind Students Award: *Carla McQuillan, Chair*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: *Shawn Callaway, Colin Wong, and Kenia Flores,   
Co-Chairs*

Employment: *Jennifer Wenzel and Lia Stone, Co-Chairs*

Technology Evaluation: *Mark Jones, Chair*

Jacobus tenBroek Award: *Pam Allen, Chair*

Jacobus tenBroek Memorial Fund: *Kathryn Webster, Chair*

Kenneth Jernigan Fund: *Tracy Soforenko, Chair*

Membership: *Denise Avant, Chair*

PAC Plan: *Marilyn Green, Chair*

Resolutions: *Donald Porterfield, Chair*

Scholarship: *Cayte Mendez, Chair*

Shares Unlimited in NFB (SUN): *Sandy Halverson, Chair*

Technology Evaluation Committee, *Mark Jones, Chair*

White Cane and Affiliate Finance: *Everette Bacon, Chair*

#### Groups:

Groups of the National Federation of the Blind serve as a resource to members around specific topic areas. Groups are coordinated by a chairperson appointed by the President and are intended to connect members across the country to strengthen the resource network of the organization.

Amateur Radio: *David Chan,* *Chair*

Blind Christians: *Linda Mentink, Chair*

Blind Fraternal Greek and Masonic: *Shawn Callaway, Chair*

Blind Muslims: *Tasnim Alshuli, Chair*

Blind Parents: *Lisamaria Martinez, Chair*

Blind Professional Journalists: *Elizabeth Campbell, Chair*

Blind Survivors: *Christine Grassman, Chair*

Krafters:

NFB in Judaism: *Stewart Prost, Chair*

NFB in the Kitchen: *Regina Mitchell, Chair*

NFB LGBT+: *Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair*

NFB Website Coordinators: *Corbb O’Connor, Chair*

## Navigating the Hotel

The description of the Rosen Centre was written by our own Mary Ellen Jernigan for our 2013 convention with only minor edits reflecting layout changes through the years.

Looking down from an airplane flying high above the Rosen Centre Hotel you would see a long, tall structure oriented in a mostly east-west direction. It would appear to be very slightly V-shaped. Extending from the point of the ‘V’ you would see a long low structure oriented in a mostly north-south direction. Toward the south end of the low structure, you would see a covered bridge about the length of a football field extending toward the west and connecting into the West Building of the Orange County Convention Center, a second very large low structure with a mostly east-west orientation. Your pilot might quibble a bit with you about your notions of north-south and east-west. If so, just tell the pilot that they will do quite nicely for navigation from the hotel lobby to the Exhibit Hall, even though they might end you up on the wrong continent if you were flying across the Atlantic. So, put away your compass and enjoy the convention.

Back on the ground as you enter the hotel through the revolving doors at the main entrance you will be facing south. You will be at about the center of the twenty-four-story east-west wing of the hotel. The main hotel elevators will be directly ahead of you in a U-shaped elevator lobby. Slightly to your right (west) of the opening into the elevator lobby is the entrance to the long two-story north-south wing of the hotel. Turning slightly to your left (east) takes you to the hotel check-in desk, which is located on the south wall of the east-west wing. Opposite the hotel check-in desk on the north wall of the east-west wing is the bell stand and the concierge desk.

All of the sleeping rooms are located in the twenty-four-story east-west wing. The first three elevators on each side of the U-shaped elevator lobby serve floors 2 through 15. The last two elevators on each side serve floors 2 and 16 through 24. A short passageway on the west side of the elevator lobby between the third and fourth elevators serves as a shortcut between the elevator lobby and the north-south wing. It also serves as a convenient landmark to separate the low-floor elevators and the high-floor elevators. When you exit the elevator lobby on the sleeping room floors, the rooms ending in numbers 1 through 32 are east of the elevator lobby, and the sleeping rooms ending in numbers 33 through 64 are west of the elevator lobby.

West of the main entrance along the north wall of the east-west wing is Smooth Java, a full-service coffee bar featuring Starbucks coffee. Beyond the coffee bar across the end of the wing is the entrance to the Spa and Fitness Center. The hotel gift shop is located on the south wall just before the Spa and Fitness Center.

All of the hotel meeting rooms, restaurants, and other food and beverage areas are located in the two-story north-south wing. (There are a few meetings which will take place in hotel hospitality suites, which are located on the second floor of the east-west wing.)

As you enter the north-south wing from the north end and head south, Sam & Bubbe’s, which serves “New York deli noshes” as well as beverages, is located on the west side. Beyond Sam and Bubbe’s are many doors leading to the outside deck, pool area, and the tropical Harry’s Poolside Bar and Grille. On the east side is the 98Forty Tapas and Tequila Bar featuring forty premium tequilas and Spanish and Mexican specialties. Just beyond 98Forty is the Banshoo sushi bar followed by Red’s Deli. This deli is open twenty-four hours a day and is a combination of convenience store and quick-service restaurant. The restaurant part of the operation opens at 6:30 a.m. and continues until midnight, offering hot and cold deli-style sandwiches, salads, pizza, hot entrees, and desserts, either for dine-in or takeout to your room or the outside eating area near the pools. Continuing south beyond Red’s Deli you will find the hotel’s two full-service restaurants—Café Gaugin (which is open for breakfast, lunch, and dinner) and Everglades (which is open for dinner only).

Opposite the Everglades Restaurant you will find the grand staircase. Two separate curved flights merge into one on a landing and continue in a single flight to the second-floor meeting rooms. When you enter the curved stairs from the lobby level you are heading west. The single flight from the landing reverses direction so that when you come off the stairway onto the second floor, you are facing east.

Continuing south beyond the grand staircase the floor surface changes from terrazzo to carpet, and you enter the Ballroom Prefunction foyer. (NFB preregistration, registration, banquet ticket sales, and information desk will be located here.)

Along the east side are seven sets of doors leading into the Grand Ballroom. Opposite the fifth set of doors are escalators and a staircase leading to the second-floor meeting rooms and to the covered bridge walkway to the West Building of the Convention Center. The staircase is between the two escalators. The “up” escalator is on the west side of the staircase. The “down” escalator is on the east side of the staircase. Beyond the escalators and staircase is an elevator to the second floor. Just before the elevator on the west wall of the Grand Ballroom Prefunction foyer is an exterior door leading to the dog relief area closest to the meeting rooms.

Just beyond the Grand Ballroom are two additional, smaller ballrooms, one on each side of the Prefunction foyer. Each of these ballrooms is split into two sections. The Junior Ballroom is located on the east side of the Prefunction foyer. There are two sets of doors into Section F of the Junior Ballroom followed by two sets of doors into Section G. The Executive Ballroom is opposite the Junior Ballroom on the west side of the Prefunction foyer. Similarly, there are two sets of doors into Section H followed by two sets of doors into Section I of the Executive Ballroom. The Prefunction foyer ends with doors to the outside just beyond the ballrooms. The exterior doors lead to the Rosen Centre surface lot and parking garage.

The second-floor meeting rooms consist of twenty-four salons numbered 1 through 24 and the Signature 2 meeting room. Salons 1 through 12 are located along both sides of a U-shaped east-west corridor found immediately opposite the opening to the Grand Staircase. The numbering system begins with Salon 1 starting on the left (north) side of the corridor as you enter it continuing consecutively through Salon 6 on the north side, crossing over to Salon 7 on the south side and running back up the “U” through Salon 12 on the south side of the “U,” which is opposite Salon 1 at the entry point into the “U” on the north side.

Leaving the “U” you are facing west. Turning left (south) the first salon on the east side of the north-south corridor is Salon 13. Salons 14 through 24 follow consecutively south along the east side of this corridor. If when leaving the “U” you turn right (north), you are headed toward the intersection of the north-south second floor meeting room corridor with the east-west corridor of the twenty-four-floor sleeping room wing. Turning left (west) at this intersection takes you to a number of hospitality suite parlors, where some meetings are scheduled. The numbering system of the hospitality suites follows the same pattern as the numbering for sleeping rooms. Turning right (east) at the intersection takes you to the elevator lobby serving the sleeping rooms. All ten elevators in the main bank of elevators serving the sleeping rooms have a stop on the second floor.

Salons 13 through 24 are located directly above the Grand and Junior Ballrooms along the east side of a north-south corridor that is above the north-south Ballroom Prefunction foyer. The escalators and staircase originating in the Ballroom Prefunction foyer opposite the fifth set of Grand Ballroom doors terminate on this second-floor corridor opposite Salon 19. The Signature 2 meeting room is located opposite Salon 17 west of the escalators and staircase. The entryway to the covered bridge to the Convention Center West Building is located west of these escalators.

The covered bridge walkway to the West Building of the Convention Center is 343 feet—slightly longer than the length of a football field. It connects to the second level of the West Building. You enter the West Building at the extreme east end of the West Concourse running from east to west.

The doors to our Exhibit Hall and Independence Market are on the south side of the West Concourse in WA1, across from the doors where you enter the Convention Center. We are also using meeting rooms W202 (which divides into three sections) on the north side of the concourse.

The full length of the West Concourse from east to west is a few feet more than a half mile. The Rosen Plaza Hotel is located just beyond the west end of the concourse. The Exhibit Hall and meeting rooms we are using extend only about a fourth of the way along the concourse toward the termination at the west end. It is possible to leave the Rosen Plaza Hotel, walk the entire distance through the air-conditioned concourse to the covered bridge walkway to the Rosen Centre Hotel, and travel across the walkway to the meeting room level of the Rosen Centre Hotel. The exterior doors of the Convention Center at the Rosen Plaza end will be open for entry from 6:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. The exterior doors of the Convention Center at the Rosen Centre end will be open for entry from 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. Doors at both ends will be open for exit twenty-four hours daily.

## The National Federation of the Blind acknowledges with gratitude our convention sponsors listed below. Their messages follow.

### Platinum:

Google

Microsoft

Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder (Non-24)

Oracle

Vispero

Waymo

Wells Fargo

### Gold:

Amazon

Target

### Silver:

Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP

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### Bronze:

American Printing House

AmGen

Centene Corporation

Charter Communications

Cruise

CVS Health

Guiding Eyes for the Blind

HumanWare

United Airlines

Zoox

### White Cane:

ABLE United / ABLE Today

Aira

AllyADA

American Foundation for the Blind

C&P-Chris Park Technology

Central Intelligence Agency

Computers for the Blind

Democracy Live

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Envision, Inc.

GoodMaps

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National Industries for the Blind

National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled

OrCam

Penny Forward

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Saavi Services for the Blind

Selvas BLV, formerly HIMS Inc.

Sensotec

Tactile Engineering / Independence Science

## Sponsor Ads

### Platinum

Google: Check out the “What’s new in Google accessibility” video series that is highlighting the latest accessibility updates from Google! Tune in today on [g.co/a11y/playlist](http://g.co/a11y/playlist). Sign up for Google’s Accessibility Newsletter. Join an ever-growing community of accessibility enthusiasts by subscribing to our newsletter and getting the latest Google accessibility news to your inbox. Sign up today on [g.co/a11y/news](http://g.co/a11y/news). The Google Disability Support team is available to support users from the disability community with Google products. Support includes accessibility features, functionalities, and assistive technology. Connect with a specialist on [g.co/disabilitysupport](https://g.co/disabilitysupport). Are you an avid user of Google products, passionate about providing feedback, and excited about improving accessibility? Sign up to become an Accessibility Trusted Tester on [g.co/a11ytt](http://g.co/a11ytt). Images include the Google logo written in print, Braille, and ASL.

Microsoft: Unique unites us. Microsoft is a proud sponsor of the 2024 National Federation of the Blind Convention. Microsoft is committed to empowering people with disabilities through accessible technology, expanded skilling and hiring opportunities, and working with others to amplify our collective impact. [Microsoft.com/accessibility](http://Microsoft.com/accessibility). Images include a man using a computer with large print, and the Microsoft logo.

Vispero: Proud sponsor of the 2024 NFB National Convention. Introducing Picture Smart AI. Making graphical content more accessible with Picture Smart AI. A groundbreaking feature in JAWS screen reading software, Picture Smart AI, uses artificial intelligence to provide detailed descriptions of images, infographics, diagrams, and more – navigate the digital world with the same ease and depth as everyone else. Training suite hours: Thursday July 4, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Friday July 5, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Training suite 2 days only! Visit us at the JAWS AI training suite during NFB. Learn how to get in-depth Picture Smart AI training and demos by visiting our booth. Exhibit hall hours: Thursday July 4, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Friday July 5, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM; Saturday July 6, 12:00 PM – 1:45 PM and 5:00 PM to 9:00 PM. Contact us to learn more at 1-800-444-4443 or [www.vispero.com](http://www.vispero.com). Images include the Vispero and Freedom Scientific logos, and the JAWS logo on a computer screen.

Wells Fargo: Coming together is the beginning of great things. It’s amazing what we can achieve when a community unites. We salute the National Federation of the Blind for defending the rights of blind Americans. Let’s celebrate the NFB National Convention. Come visit us at our booth. [Wellsfargo.com/impact](http://Wellsfargo.com/impact). Images include the Wells Fargo logo, and a photo of three adults walking together, one using a guide dog.

Vanda Pharmaceuticals - Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder (Non-24): Vanda Pharmaceuticals is dedicated to raising awareness of Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder (Non-24) and supporting the blindness community. Non-24 is a rare circadian rhythm disorder affecting up to 70% of people who are totally blind. People living with Non-24 experience excessive daytime sleepiness and nighttime sleeplessness, which leads to impaired social and occupational functioning. This is due to a misalignment between the internal master body clock and the 24-hour day. Come visit us at out booth to learn about Non-24 and sign up for additional information. Call a health educator toll-free at 1-855-856-2424. 24 hours a day, every day. Visit us online at [www.non-24.com](http://www.non-24.com). Images includes the Vanda Pharmaceuticals logo and a photo of a man walking with his guide dog.

Oracle: Your perspective is priceless at Oracle. To tackle the world’s most important problems, our workforce must be reflective of the billions of people who use our technology. That’s why Oracle is a place where all kinds of people can succeed without barriers. Learn how we embrace diverse abilities at [oracle.com/diversity](http://oracle.com/diversity). Create the future with us. Images include the Oracle logo, and a graphic of a hand lifting one group of people up to reach another.

### Gold

Amazon: We’re building a more accessible future. Amazon’s vision is to become Earth’s most customer-centric company. That means making our devices and services accessible to everyone – especially people with disabilities. Attend our session and learn more at [amazon.com/accessibility](http://amazon.com/accessibility). Images include three individuals using Amazon devices. The Amazon logo is written out in American Sign Language, Braille, and standard print.

Target: Target for all. Target’s purpose is to help all families discover the joy of everyday life. Whether it’s in our store or shopping online, we believe every blind person has the right to an equal experience. Learn more about Target’s accessibility efforts at [target.com/accessibility](http://target.com/accessibility). We appreciate all feedback, thoughts, and suggestions! Email the Accessibility team at any time using [accessibility@target.com](mailto:accessibility@target.com). Here are two ways you can explore what Target has to offer: Explore same day services allowing you to customize how you shop all of our products in the manner best fitting your lifestyle. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/tgt-same-day>. Target provides free Aira service to assist you in all Target stores nationwide and while shopping online at [Target.com](http://Target.com). Learn more at [aira.io/target](http://aira.io/target). Are you curious to hear more about Target’s digital accessibility? Have questions about our apps, website, or stores? Join our seminar and meet some of our experienced accessibility consultants as they share our team's efforts continuing to make Target an accessible shopping experience for all. Images include cartoon people sitting on the Target bullseye logo, the word “Digital” written in Braille and print.

### Silver

American Printing House: It’s time to soar! Spread your wings and fly high with the Monarch. Sales open September 1. Learn more at [aph.org/meet-monarch](http://aph.org/meet-monarch). Images include the APH logo, and a photo of someone using a Monarch device.

Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP: We’re all in. Proud to support the NFB’s mission to advance the rights of blind individuals across the country. 120 E Baltimore St, Suite 2500, Baltimore, MD 21202. 410-962-1030. [Browngold.com](http://Browngold.com). 1300 I St NW, Floor 8, Washington, DC 20005. Images include the Brown, Goldstein & Levy logo, and headshot photos of their lawyers.

Delta Airlines: Climbing toward a more just and equitable world. Proud to support the 2024 National Federation of the Blind National Convention. Images include the Delta logo and a photo of a plane taking off.

JPMorgan Chase & Co: Commitment to access and inclusion. At JPMorgan Chase we strive to empower people with disabilities to grow their careers, develop new job skills, enter, or re-enter the workforce and gain equitable access to well-paying careers. We proudly support the National Federation of the Blind for developing innovative education, technology, training programs and legislative advocacy that create pathways to independence and success for their constituents. [JPMorganChase.com/odi](http://JPMorganChase.com/odi). Images include the JPMorgan Chase & Co. logo and a hand on a Braille sign.

Market Development Group: Best wishes to the National Federation of the Blind for a successful 2024 National Convention in Orlando, Florida. Market Development Group, Inc. A full-service marketing company. John Alahouzos, Executive Vice President. 1834 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20009, USA. 202-298-8030, [www.mdginc.org](http://www.mdginc.org).

### Bronze

Spectrum / Charter Communications: Together we are making our community a better home for all. Spectrum is proud to serve alongside you in support of National Federation of the Blind’s 2024 Convention. Images include the Spectrum logo.

Cruise: Building the world’s most advanced autonomous vehicles. Cruise is proud to work with and support the National Federation of the Blind. Learn more at [GetCruise.com/accessibility](http://GetCruise.com/accessibility). Images include the Cruise logo and a red and white Cruise car.

United Airlines: Arriving soon: a more inclusive flying experience. Braille signs are coming to the interiors of all United mainline aircraft by 2026. Images include the United logo, and a photo of the label of an overhead bin with Braille.

### White Cane

ABLE United / ABLE Today: Financial Empowerment for People with Disabilities. A+ ABLE today. Learn more on the ABLE today podcast at [abletoday.org/podcast](http://abletoday.org/podcast). [Abletoday.org](http://Abletoday.org).

Aira: Access is a human right. Download the Aira explorer app & try the new access AI! [www.aira.io](http://www.aira.io). Images include the Aira logo and a QR code linking to the Aira explorer app.

AllyADA: AllyADA; an inclusive web for all. We use manual testers to audit websites for ADA accessibility compliance. By changing the way e-commerce does accessibility, we’re changing the way blind and visually impaired users do e-commerce. Accessibility. Equity. Independence. Only 2% of websites are truly accessible to blind and visually impaired consumers. We’re improving all that. Changemaker. Disrupter. Ally. Stop by our booth. Learn about becoming a tester. Allyada.com. Images include the AllyADA logo, and a graph showing only 2% of websites are fully accessible, 48% are semi-accessible, 50% are inaccessible, and over thirty-three thousand sites have been tested.

American Foundation for the Blind: Leadership Conference: Leading in the digital age. Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, MN, September 23 – 25, 2024. Join us as we look to the future of leadership impacting Americans who are blind or have low vision. The 2024 AFB Leadership Conference convenes thought leaders, advocates, corporate partners, and government representatives as we work together with the blind and low-vision community to shape a more inclusive world. [Act.afb.org/LC24](http://Act.afb.org/LC24). Images include the AFB logo and a picture of skyscrapers within a city skyline.

Central Intelligence Agency: Envision working at CIA. CIA has opportunities for people who are blind, have low-vision, and everyone else. Find your mission at [cia.gov/careers](http://cia.gov/careers). Images include the CIA logo.

Computers for the Blind: Conference special: $50 plus tax laptop, free Windows 11 upgrade, refurbished 250GB SSD, 8GB RAM, Jaws, or ZoomText free for 1-year. Offer applied to individuals only. [Computersfortheblind.org](http://Computersfortheblind.org), 214-340-6328. Images include the Computers for the Blind logo.

C&P-Chris Park Technology: The world first invention of iPhone compatible video magnifier. New true transportable i-loviewMAX, i-loview16 and more! C&P, known as Chris Park Technology, develops products for people with vision loss. CP is the real manufacturer of video magnifiers, canes, cameras, software for Optelec, Enhances Vision, Baum, HumanWare Europe, Ai Squared, NFB and other organizations. We have been working with non-profit projects worldwide to help people. [Sales@chrisparkdesign.com](mailto:Sales@chrisparkdesign.com). Images include the C&P logo, a man using a cane, and various technology available.

Democracy Live: In too many states, voters with disabilities don’t have equal access to voting independently and privately from home. Fortunately, there are new accessible at-home voting technologies now available. The Democracy Live OmniBallot accessible at-home voting system is a fully ADA Section 508, WCAG compliant remote ballot marking solution. The system has been tested to meet the accessibility requirements of over 90 combinations of browsers, operating systems, screen readers and devices. OmniBallot has been deployed as an accessible absentee tool since 2008, in over 5,000 elections, serving more than 2,500 jurisdictions, in 34 states and 96 countries around the world. OmniBallot has been tested and reviewed by members of most every leading disability organization in the nation. For further information, please contact Democracy Live: 855-655-VOTE (8683) Toll Free; Email: [info@democracylive.com](mailto:info@democracylive.com); [www.democracylive.com](http://www.democracylive.com). Images include the Democracy Live logo.

Envision: Envision is a competitive employment leader providing opportunities for people who are blind or visually impaired in Wichita, Dallas, and military bases across the nation. Nationwide, people can benefit from our career mentoring for blind students and adults and our accessible remote cybersecurity program. Visit our booth or join us at the career fair for more details and to start your journey with Envision. Images include the Envision logo.

GoodMaps: You can demo the GoodMaps app in the lobby of the Rosen Hotel. Scan the QR code below or download the app from the Apple or Google store by searching for GoodMaps (one word). We have a booth in the exhibit hall and would love to answer your questions. [community@goodmaps.com](mailto:community@goodmaps.com). Images include the GoodMaps logo and a QR code linking to the app store.

Jackson Walker LLP: Jackson Walker proudly supports the National Federation of the Blind National Convention. Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth, Houston, San Angelo, San Antonio. [JW.com](http://JW.com).

Leader Dogs for the Blind: Did you know Leader Dogs for the Blind also offers free O&M training? Visit us – [LeaderDog.org/programs](http://LeaderDog.org/programs) for more details. Images include the Leader Dogs for the Blind logo and logos for Facebook, Instagram, YouTube, and LinkedIn.

McGraw Hill: McGraw Hill unlocks the potential for all learners. McGraw Hill believes that the best learning materials should be accessible to students of all abilities. We are building an inclusive culture that considers the needs of every learner from the outset and we are making every effort to ensure that all new educational content and technology follows the WCAG AA guidelines and best practices. To learn more about the McGraw Hill commitment to accessible Learning, scan or visit [mheducation.com/about/accessibility](http://mheducation.com/about/accessibility). Images include the McGraw Hill logo.

National Industries for the Blind: National Industries for the Blind (NIB). NIB is a nonprofit organization focused on enhancing the opportunities for economic and personal independence of people who are blind, primarily through creating, sustaining, and improving employment. NIB and our associated nonprofit agencies across the country offer employment opportunities in a variety of professional fields and help people who are blind build successful careers through award-winning training and development programs. Visit [NIB.org](http://NIB.org) to learn more. Images include the NIB logo.

OrCam: OrCam is proud to partner with the National Federation of the Blind. Our devices respond to your unique needs and assist in performing everyday tasks like reading print or digital text, scanning product barcodes, managing invoices, identifying and handling money. Visit OrCam at NFB. Stop by our booth for a free device demonstration. Attend our on-site presentation to learn about our newest technology and devices. [Usorcam@orcam.com](mailto:Usorcam@orcam.com), 1-800-404-4886. Images include the OrCam logo and an OrCam My Eye device.

Selvas BLV, formerly HIMS Inc.: New! Braille eMotion: Go with that feeling! 40-Cell Braille Display. Crisp, clear Braille cells. Quality text-to-speech. Long lasting battery. Visit Selvas BLV for a demo today! New Braille Display! Seamlessly connect to multiple devices. Selvas BLV internal applications. Compact, ergonomic, and portable. [www.selvasblv.com](http://www.selvasblv.com), 888-520-4467, [sales@hims-inc.co](mailto:sales@hims-inc.co).

Sensotec: Solutions for a visual challenge. Your partner for innovative assistive technology solutions. Solutions for audiobooks, TV, mobility, and smartboard. [www.pro.sensotec.com](http://www.pro.sensotec.com); [sales@sensotec.com](mailto:sales@sensotec.com). Images include the Sensotec logo, a photo of a person sitting and watching TV with large print captions, and a QR code linking to the Sensotec website.

Tactile Engineering/Independence Science: Cadence Tactile Graphics Tablet. Visit Tactile Engineering's exhibit hall booth to experience multi-line braille, animated tactile images, and our Video Arcade for the Blind! [www.tactile-engineering.com](http://www.tactile-engineering.com). Visit Independence Science's exhibit hall booth to learn about our employment transition services and our science access solutions! [www.independencescience.com](http://www.independencescience.com). Images include the Tactile Engineering and Independence Science logos.

## Dream Big

Contribute to the Give $25 Drive for a chance to win a Monarch! [nfb.org/give25](https://nfb.org/give25). National Federation of the Blind logo and tagline Live the life you want.