National Federation of the Blind of Utah

Annual Convention

May 5th, 6th, and 7th, 2016

Your Mountain is Waiting,

so Get on Your Way



Provo Marriot Hotel & Conference Center

101 West 100 North

Provo, Utah 84601

Phone: 801-377-4700

[www.nfbutah.org](http://www.nfbutah.org)

If you are using social media during our convention, please use the following hashtag:

#NFBU16

National Federation of the Blind of Utah

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The Not a Raffle, Raffle!

Purchase popcorn and be entered into a drawing for a brand new Apple iPad Pro! 1 ticket for $10, 3 tickets for $20

NFB of Utah Welcomes our Special Guests

NFB National Representative and Special Guest:

Amy Buresh

Growing up, Amy Buresh had few positive blind role models and limited contact with her blind peers. During her teenage years she first participated in youth programs sponsored by the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired (NCBVI), where she gained many valuable skills and met her future husband. Whether at home or at school, participating in music, academics, or athletics, Amy was successfully working and competing with her sighted peers. Following high school graduation, Amy began conquering her fears and seeking answers to these nagging questions by attending the Orientation and Training Center of the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired in Lincoln. There she was first introduced to the underpinning philosophy of the National Federation of the Blind and, equally important, to kind and inspirational Federationists. Armed with newfound confidence and skills, Amy enrolled in Peru State College, graduating with a BS in psychology, sociology, and criminal justice. During the years at Peru State College Amy began working with women and children who experience domestic violence, a field to which she still devotes time when she can. In 1993 the NFB of Nebraska established a scholarship program, and Amy won that first scholarship. Since those early days in the Federation, Amy has held a number of chapter and affiliate positions in Nebraska. In 2003 she was elected to serve as affiliate president, and in the summer of 2006 she was elected by the national convention to the board of directors of the National Federation of the Blind. Amy and her husband Shane (a leader and dedicated Federationist in his own right) live in Lincoln with their son Noah (born May 2, 2006). She is employed as a rehabilitation counselor with the Nebraska Commission for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Special Guest:

Carlton Anne Cook Walker

Carlton Anne Cook Walker serves as the Manager of Braille Education Programs for the National Federation of the Blind Jernigan Institute. She was drawn to Braille and non-visual skills instruction by the needs of her daughter, Anna Catherine, now a ninth grade honors student who loves science, math, and books. Ms. Cook Walker earned her Masters of Education in Visual and Multiple Disabilities from Salus University and served as a Teacher of Students who are Blind/Visually Impaired in Cumberland and York counties in Pennsylvania for more than six years. Ms. Cook Walker also holds a Master of Business Administration and a law degree. She has been a licensed attorney in Pennsylvania since 1996, and she maintains a part-time solo law practice. Ms. Cook Walker serves as Vice-Chair of the Advisory Committee for the Blind of Pennsylvania. She is past president of the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children and of the Pennsylvania Parents of Blind Children division.

Special Guest:

Dr. Edward Bell

Dr. Bell is the director of the Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness at Louisiana Tech University. He has extensive experience in the area of rehabilitation for the blind and visually impaired. He has presented widely throughout the United States and Europe. Dr. Bell has earned degrees in Rehabilitation Education and Research, Educational Psychology, and Human Development. In addition, he also possesses certification in educational statistics and research methods, rehabilitation counseling, and orientation and mobility. He is also the Secretary/Treasurer of the National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB), which provides professional credentials in the area of Orientation and Mobility, braille, and rehabilitation teaching.

Special Guest:

Don Mitchell

Don was born in Bakers Field California and spent his growing years in Oregon. In 1954 Don started his education at the Oregon State School for the Blind in Salem, Oregon. In 1969, after high school graduation, Don began studying music at Lane Community College in Eugene, Oregon. After two years of college, Don changed to a vocational track and attended the Emil Fries Piano Hospital and Training Center in Vancouver, Washington. Upon graduation from the training program in 1973, he was asked to stay on as a piano tuner technician for the school…in 1988 Don was promoted to Director of instruction. Don is a musician playing guitar with a performing trio “Three Together" The trio performs hit tunes from the 50's and 60's and anything we all enjoy. Don joined the NFB in 1995 where he has served as a chapter president, vice-president, secretary, and has led the piano technology division for the last 20 years.

The NFB of Utah wishes to thank our convention sponsors this year!

Title Diamond Sponsor

Uber Utah

Gold Sponsors

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Silver Sponsor

Milenio Vision Inc.

Thursday May 5, 2016

6:30-8:00 pm: Cat in the Hat Welcome Reception

Join us for a FREE Mexican buffet in honor of Cinco de Mayo!

Location: Arches Ballroom

8:00-9:00 pm: Early bird registration available for conventioneers arriving early.

Location: Hotel foyer.

8:00-11:00 pm: NFB Utah Spanish Division Salsa Night

Come learn to salsa dance the night away at this fun event sponsored by the NFB of Utah Spanish Division.

Donations encouraged.

Location: Aspen Conference Room

Friday May 6, 2016

7:00 am: Convention registration. Your name will NOT be included in the door prize drawings until you have registered. Please try to arrive early to prevent long lines.

Location: Conference room foyer

7:45-8:45 am: Butter Battle Board Breakfast

Enjoy breakfast and hear from the members of the NFB of Utah board of directors.

Location: Arches Ballroom

Friday Morning General Session

Location: Bryce/Zion Ballroom

9:00 am: Call to order and welcome ceremony.

Color Guard Presentation - Nathan Ostergaard, United States Navy (Seabees) Retired. Salt Lake Chapter,

U.S. National Anthem: Don Mitchell

Mexican National Anthem: Laura Vincent &

Moises Bettancourt NFBU Spanish Division

Invocation: Steven J. Phelps Utah Valley Chapter

NFB Pledge: Jerry Nealey, Weber-Davis Chapter

9:20 am: National Report, Amy Buresh, Board Member of the National Federation of the Blind.

9:50 am: State of the State Report, Everette Bacon, President of the NFB of Utah, NFB National Board of Directors.

10:10 am: USOR Report, Darren Brush, Executive Director of the Utah State Office of Rehabilitation.

10:25 am: DSBVI Report, Steve Winn, Director of the Division of Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired.

10:40 am: You are the guy who'll decide where to go: Why I’m a Federationist. Ian Reed Computer Programmer, Treasurer Red Rocks Chapter.

10:55 am: So, open your mouth lad, for every voice counts: The future of accessible voting, Sherry Newton, advocate for accessible voting, Utah Disability Law Center.

11:10 am: Community collaborations, Moderator: Willie Black, business owner, board member Weber/Davis chapter.

Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Richard Robito

AT Guys, J.J. Meddaugh

HumanWare, Kevin Hughes

11:40 am: Horton hears a piano: The art of piano tuning and more, Don Mitchell, Director of instruction, teacher, and piano tuner technician at the School of Piano Technology for the Blind.

11:55 am: Auction item announcement.

12:00 pm: Adjourn

Lorax Luncheon

12:00-1:30 pm

Location: Arches Ballroom

Lunch Invocation: Karl Smith, NFBU Board of Directors, owner Axis Technology

5th Annual NFB of Utah Descriptive Fashion Show:

Cartoon Couture

You don’t want to miss the annual NFB of Utah descriptive fashion show featuring fashion director: Deja Powell, Salt Lake Chapter member, state board of directors. Cane travel instructor at DSBVI.

Emcee: Diane Powell, owner, Dance Biz Utah,

Friday Afternoon Session

Location: Bryce/Zion Ballroom

1:45 pm: Congratulations! Today is your day!

NFBU Scholarship Finalists for 2016, Deja Powell, chair of the NFBU scholarship committee.

1:55 pm: You’ve got brains in your head, and feet in your shoes: Higher education disability resources,

Pola Morrison, Utah Valley University disability services office.

2:10pm: Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better, it’s not: Preparing professionals. Dr. Edward Bell, director of the Professional Development and Research Institute on Blindness at Louisiana Tech University

2:25 pm: Special recognition of our Diamond Sponsor

Eric Schroeder, General Manager, Uber Utah.

2:30 PM: Oh the places you’ll go: Sharing the NFB philosophy in the Caribbean, Adam Rushforth, Director of DSBVI training and adjustment, member Utah Valley Chapter.

Deja Powell, cane travel instructor at DSBVI, board of directors NFB of Utah.

2:50: pm: A persons a person, no matter how small: NFB partnering with schools for the blind.

Carlton Cook Walker, parent advocacy at the NFB Jernigan Institute, parent of a blind child.

3:10 pm: Take every chance, drop every fear: How a state rehabilitation agency can partner with their NFB affiliate. Amy Buresh, Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor at Nebraska Commission for the Blind.

3:30 pm: I know, up on top you are seeing great sights, but down here at the bottom, we too should have rights: The rights of the disabled in Utah, Christine Passey, Salt Lake City Coordinator of Disability Rights.

3:45 pm: Adjourn

Friday Evening

4:00-7:00 pm: NFBU 2016 Vendor Fair

Location: Breakout rooms and conference room foyer.

We would like to thank all of our exhibitors who have donated to be a part of our Vendor Fair!

\*Special door prizes for vendor fair attendees.

Exhibitors include:

AT Guys

Axis Technology

DSBVI Low Vision Services

Envision America

JW.org

Lion’s Club of Utah

NFB of Utah Spanish Division

Rocky Mountain Low Vision

Uber Utah

United States Peace Corps

Utah Credit Union for the Blind

Utah State Library for the Blind

Vanda Pharmaceutical

8:00-10:00 pm: How the Grinch stole the spotlight: Project STRIVE ice cream and karaoke social, ALL Who’s of Whoville are invited for a night of food, fun, music, and games!

Location: Aspen Room

Saturday May 7, 2016

7:30 am: Convention registration

Location: Conference room foyer

7:45 am: Green Eggs and Ham Chapter Breakfast

Location: Arches Ballroom

Come enjoy breakfast and hear from all the chapters, divisions, clubs, and groups of the NFB of Utah.

Moderator: Mark Turley

Invocation: Mark Turley

Reports from Chapter and Division Presidents:

Aaron Timm, Cache Valley

Barbie Elliot, Weber/Davis

Mark Turley, SLC Chapter

Kirt Manwaring, Utah County

Robert Olsen, Red Rocks

Jerry Phelps, UPBC Division

Ulvia Guadarrama, Spanish Division

Michael Duane Ausband, NABS

Kirt Manwaring, UABS Division

Ken Duke, NFB Book Club

Deja Powell, Club SILVER

Saturday Morning Breakout Sessions

9:00 am-Noon: Oh the things you can think up if only you try: NFBU breakout sessions.

\*Refer to list below for times and locations of breakout sessions.

9:00-10:00 am: Breakout 1: Assistive Technology with the AT Guy, Come and check out some of the latest and greatest devices from the expert creators of Blind Bargains and Apple Visionaries.

Location: Birch Conference Room

Breakout 2: NFB Philosophy 101: What is the NFB philosophy, and why does it matter?

Join an interactive discussion about all things blindness with Dr. Norman Gardner, college professor and blindness leader, and Dr. Brian Dulude, director Vocational Rehabilitation Services at DSBVI, and Treasurer of the NFB of Utah.

Location: Juniper Conference Room

Breakout 3: Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Richard Robito

Do you have trouble sleeping? Come and get information on the Non 24 medication that could change your sleeping habits and your life.

Location: Elm Conference Room

10:00-11:30 am: Breakout 1: Parent division meeting. If you are a parent of a blind and visually impaired child, come learn more about the important issues that affect your life, and learn from other parents of blind children. The conference will be lead by the Utah Organization of Parents of Blind Children President, Jerry Phelps. Also hear from special guest Carlton Walker from Baltimore, Maryland, who is a parent of a blind child, and helps run programs for blind children at the national level. Karl Smith, of Axis Technology, will also be on hand to talk about assistive technology and the new Braille Note Touch. \*All parents attending will receive a SPECIAL GIFT.

Location: Cedar Conference Room

Breakout 2: KID’S CLUB ACTIVITY: Cat in the Hat Comes Back for Kid’s Club.

Come relax and get creative Dr. Seuss style. Activities include Dr. Seuss original cartoons, crafts, and games. Both blind and sighted youth ages 3 through 12 are invited to join in the fun. This session runs concurrent with the Parents of Blind Children meeting so that parents can have some time to network and participate without worry. Children participating must be toilet-trained and be able to operate in a large group as our volunteers are limited. Snacks are not provided so be sure to come on a full stomach. For more information, please contact Jennifer Kennedy at [msjenniferkennedy@gmail.com](mailto:msjenniferkennedy@gmail.com).

Location: Meet in hotel lobby.

Breakout 3: Student division meeting.

All blind and visually impaired college students are invited to attend this informative meeting ran by UABS president, Kirt Manwaring. The conference will also include information from the National Association of Blind Students regional representative, Michael Duane Ausband. Karl Smith will be on hand to talk about assistive technology available to college students, and the new Braille Note Touch. You will also hear from Dr. Edward Bell about educational opportunities related to working with blind children and adults. Stay the whole time to cast your vote in elections, and hear from this year’s NFB of Utah scholarship finalists.

Location: Juniper Conference Room

Breakout 4: Utah Lion’s Club. Discussion led by Lion’s Club member, Milton Taylor. Learn more about what the Lion’s Club is all about, and how you can become a member/advocate.

Location: Elm Conference Room

11:00 am-Noon: Breakout 1: Assistive Technology with the AT Guys

Come and check out some of the latest and greatest devices from the expert creators of Blind Bargains and Apple Visionaries.

Location: Birch Conference Room

Breakout 2: Sighted significant other’s panel. This is a discussion panel ONLY for sighted spouses, partners, and significant others, who are part of the lives of blind or visually impaired partners. The panel will be led by Daniel Ashman, Angela Peters M.D., and Mrs. Judy Olsen—all who have spouses who are blind.

Location: The Amphitheater

Noon-1:30 pm: Lunch and NFBU Auction

Location: Arches Ballroom

Red Fish, Blue Fish Auction Luncheon

Noon in the Arches Ballroom

Invocation: Kara Campbell, Utah Valley Chapter member

NFB auction moderator: Willie Black

Items to bid on include: Four one-way tickets on Jet Blue Airlines anywhere they fly, a private wine education class for six people with the Fox School of Winery, a week long time share…and much more!

Saturday Afternoon General Session

Location: Bryce/Zion Ballroom

1:45 pm: Kid, you’ll move mountains! Panel of blind children doing big things.

Chase Creer, blind gymnast, Weber/Davis Chapter member.

Quinlynn Madelyn Benally, blind girl scout, Red Rocks Chapter member.

2:00 pm: KNFB Reader for iPhone and Android

Quintin Williams, KNFB reader state representative, Technology Trainer, Utah School for the Deaf and Blind. \*\*Be present for a chance to win a free copy of the KNFB Reader App!

2:15 pm: The Project STRIVE Sneetches, Moderators: Barbie Elliot and Cheralyn Creer, co-directors of Utah’s own Project STRIVE.

2:45: pm: You're never too old, too wacky, too wild, to pick up a book and read braille as a child: Utah Bell Academy, Wendy Bybee, Director and coordinator of Utah Bell Academy; Carlton Cook Walker, National Bell Academy Coordinator.

3:00 pm: If you never did you should. These things are fun and fun is good: Why I am a Federationist.

Jennifer Kennedy, second vice president of Salt Lake Chapter

Daniel Ashman, Salt Lake Chapter member

Jerry Phelps, President Utah Parents of Blind Children

3:30 pm: The more that you read, the more things you will know. NFB Newsline and Library Services, Michael Harris, member Salt Lake Chapter

3:45 pm: Oh the things you can find if you don’t stay behind.

Peace Corps volunteer, Steve Price, member Salt Lake Chapter.

3:55 pm: United States Access Board, Sachin Pavithron, Chair of the U.S. Access Board, appointed by President Obama, Board Member of the NFB of Utah.

4:10 pm: Resolutions report, Dr. Brian Dulude, NFBU Resolutions Chair

4:30 pm: Treasurers Report, Dr. Brian Dulude NFB of Utah Treasurer

4:40 pm: Board Elections

5:00 pm: Adjourn

6:15pm – 9:00pm

NFBU 2016 Annual Banquet

Oh the Places You’ll Go…

Your Mountain Is Waiting!

Master of Ceremonies

Everette Bacon

Invocation

Robert Olsen

Banquet Address

Amy Buresh

PAC Plan Presentation

Kevin Ledford Salt Lake Chapter

Presentation of NFB of Utah Scholarship Winners

Deja M. Powell

\*Following the banquet, everyone is welcome to join us, no matter your talent level, for an informal musical jam session.  Here is a great opportunity to socialize with your Federation family through music and fun!

