A logo with text and colorful hands

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# 2025 National Convention Agenda

**New Orleans, Louisiana   
July 8 to July 13  
#NFB25**

Welcome to the 85th Annual Convention   
of the Blind People’s Movement

Mark A. Riccobono, President

National Federation of the Blind

200 East Wells Street

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

John Berggren, Chairman

Convention Organization and Activities

Pam Allen, President

National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

*Marriott New Orleans*

555 Canal Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

855-821-4288

Thank you for being here. Together we transform dreams into reality.

## The Power of Blind People

It’s time for the world’s largest annual event of the organized blind movement. The convention week offers countless opportunities to learn, connect, and share the lived experiences of blind people through both formal sessions and social gatherings.

## New This Year – Agenda Refresh!

Find the information you need and explore new opportunities with our moderately refreshed agenda layout. Explore all sections to discover what’s available to you.

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## Big Easy Essentials for Your Schedule

Plan time for the following must-visit areas, available during listed hours.

### Check-In: Convention Registration and Packet Pickup

Registration opens at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Wednesday in Salons A, B, and C for on-site registration and banquet ticket sales and in Salon D for packet pickup for online registrants. Beginning on Thursday, registration will move as listed throughout the agenda.

### Meet Leaders: Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites

All attendees are welcome to come to the Presidential Suite (room 4022) in the River Tower and the Host Affiliate Suite (room 2164) in the Quarter Tower for open conversations and social connections. Appointments to meet directly with President Riccobono may be made at the Presidential Suite.

#### Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites Open Hours:

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

### Visit: Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

The Exhibit Hall, the Independence Market, and Federation Free Reads Table are located in the Sheraton in the Napoleon Ballroom.

#### Exhibit Hall Open Hours:

* Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Friday: Noon to 1:45 p.m. and 5:00 to 9:00 p.m.

#### Independence Market and Federation Free Reads Open Hours:

* Wednesday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Thursday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
* Friday: Noon to 1:45 p.m.
* Saturday: Noon to 1:45 p.m.

### Attend: Welcome First-time Attendees!

#### Rookie Roundup—What to Know

Join us from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 8, in the Acadia Ballroom. President Riccobono, the Jernigan Fund Committee, and Federation leaders will welcome you and preview the week’s activities. Please encourage all first timers to attend this session.

#### Reminders for Your First Convention

* Access the First Timer’s Guide at nfb.org/convention
* Kenneth Jernigan Convention Scholarship Recipients, please visit the Galerie Registration Counter on July 9 and 10 between 4:00 and 5:00 p.m.
* Your presence here is important.

## Inclusivity, Diversity, and Code of Conduct

Thank you for cultivating an atmosphere of mutual respect where attendees can learn, network, and share with each other. The National Federation of the Blind is committed to diversity, equity, and the free expression of ideas as outlined in our Code of Conduct. We recognize a shared responsibility to create and uphold that atmosphere.

Prohibited behaviors, such as harassment, retaliation, and sexual misconduct, will not be tolerated and may result in removal from the convention and/or other consequences. To report an incident at the convention, call 410-659-9314, extension 2475, or email [code@nfb.org](mailto:code@nfb.org). You can submit a formal report using our online form. All formal reports will be investigated per our Code of Conduct.

The full Code of Conduct, resources, and report form are at [nfb.org/codeofconduct](http://nfb.org/codeofconduct).

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.

## Access and Accommodations

The National Federation of the Blind holds itself to the highest standards of accessibility. Alongside the listed ways to access, standard convention features include accessible physical spaces, agenda materials in multiple formats, and on-site verbal, non-visual navigation (also known as talking signs).

### Attendee Hub: Mobile App and Web Portal

The NFB25 Attendee Hub platform is available beginning June 17 for both iOS and Android devices and a web portal for desktop use. All registrants 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 join streamed sessions with the click of a button for those participating virtually.

### Virtual Experience and Broadcasting

The board meeting, general sessions, and banquet are available via streaming on the Nation’s Blind YouTube, NFB-NEWSLINE®, or by asking your Amazon device to play "Nation's Blind." Additionally, the broadcasted sessions and all NFB25 Virtual Experience activities can be accessed via Zoom.

#### NFB25 Zoom Details

Zoom via Web: nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891

Zoom One Tap Mobile: US: +16469313860,,92019487891#

Zoom Meeting ID: 920 1948 7891

### Closed Captioning

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

### Assistive Listening Devices

The Amateur Radio Group 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 the Acadia Ballroom. 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.

### Spanish Interpretation

Broadcasted sessions will have Spanish available through the Zoom platform and via the assistive listening device.

### Scent-Free Environment

All attendees, please refrain from wearing or using excessive fragrances, including perfumes, colognes, and scented personal-care products. Some attendees have allergies to fragrances, the effects of which may be dangerous.

Thank you for maintaining a safe, inclusive environment for all.

## Relief and Support

The following designated locations are available as needed.

### Guide Dog Relief Areas

At the Marriott, the area is in the porte cochère. Exit the lobby doors by the concierge desk and cross the valet parking lanes to the relief area.

At the Sheraton, the relief area is at the corner of the hotel property along Canal Street. Exit the front doors of the hotel and turn right. Walk to the corner of the building, continue across the Sheraton driveway entrance, and find the iron-gated relief area immediately to your right.

### Quiet Room

The Quiet Room is located in Bacchus and is a dedicated calm space. Please be mindful to keep conversations to a minimum. While all are welcome, this space is intended for people who may need a moment of rest, including nursing parents, people with sensory sensitivities, or those experiencing migraines.

### Survivor Safe Space

Our Blind Survivors Group provides a safe space for survivors and individuals who have been impacted or harmed by sexual misconduct and other forms of abuse. Contact the group for confidential peer support, to discuss questions/concerns about ongoing safety and support measures, and to access resources for additional support. Group members will be available virtually Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday from 5:00 to 6:00 p.m. Email [survivors@nfb.org](mailto:survivors@nfb.org) or call 410-659-9314, extension 2238 to receive Zoom details. 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.

### Information Desk

Attendees with questions or in need of assistance can visit the Federation information desk outside Acadia Ballroom from Wednesday morning through Sunday or find a convention ambassador stationed throughout the hotel meeting area.

## Tuesday, July 8 – Seminar Day

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention). Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 7:15–8:00 a.m. Amateur Radio Group: Emergency Preparedness

Studio 8

Discuss convention frequencies, hotel architectural features, and distribution of special FM receivers for our hard-of-hearing and Spanish-speaking attendees.

David Chan, Chair

### 7:30–8:45 a.m. NOPBC Youth Track: Registration

Studio 2

Be sure you take a moment to register your youth ages 11-18 for the NOPBC Youth Track. There is no cost to attend.

### 7:30 a.m.–4:30 p.m. NOPBC Educate Seminar

Registration until June 30: adults $35, families $50. On-site registration is available. For more details visit nopbc.org. Sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC). Cassandra McKinney, President

#### 7:30–8:45 a.m. – Registration (Studio 2)

#### 9:00–10:30 a.m. – Opening Session (Studio 2)

#### 10:45 a.m.–12:00 p.m. – Workshop Group A

* IEP 101 – Learn the Basics (Studio 1)
* Let’s Play (Studio 2)
* Picking Up on Social Cues – It’s Not Just Visual (Studio 3)
* Family Dynamics – Getting Everyone on Board for Competence and Independence (Studio 4)

#### 12:00–1:00 p.m. – Lunch

#### 1:45–3:00 p.m. – Workshop Group B

* Don’t Bubble Wrap Your Child (Studio 1)
* Meet the Advocates (Studio 2)
* My Body Belongs to Me! (Studio 3)
* Blind Kids Can Do STEM! (Studio 4)

#### 3:15–4:30 p.m. – Workshop Group C

* Getting a Fair Evaluation When Your Child Has Additional Disabilities (Studio 1)
* Get Your Baby’s Wiggle On (Studio 2)
* Age/Stage Appropriate Skills and Chores (Studio 3)
* Guide Dog? Cane? I Use Both! (Studio 4)

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

Studio 9

The National Blindness Professional Certification Board presents the only annual national conference focused on structured discovery teaching and education for the blind. Update best practices and learn about teaching to make a difference. Register at nbpcb.org. Registration is $100 before June 15 and $115 afterwards. There will also be in-person registration.

Joni Martinez and Colin Wong, Conference Co-Chairs, National Blindness Professional Certification Board

### 8:00–9:00 a.m. Ambassadors Committee

Studio 8

Volunteer to be a talking sign! If giving directions, answering questions, and welcoming people to convention are activities that appeal to you, come join us. We will use this time to assign times and locations as well as share experiences from our last time in New Orleans.

Corbb O'Connor and Dan Burke, Co-Chairs

### 8:00–9:00 a.m. Soar into the Future with the Monarch

Studio 4

Curious about new developments for the Monarch? If yes, then join APH to learn more about the Periodic Table app, new Monarch Chess features, and screen-reader support for multi-line Braille displays. We will also share exciting possibilities for WingIt, an app launching soon!

Jennifer Wenzel, Greg Stilson, and Jason Martin, American Printing House for the Blind

### 8:00–9:30 a.m. Comparing Apples and Androids

Galerie 3

Do you own a smartphone? Have you wondered whether the grass might be greener on the other side? Join the CENA team as they compare the experience of using an iPhone running VoiceOver, and an Android device running Talkback.

Karl Belanger and Kennedy Zimnik, Nonvisual Access Technology Specialists, and Jonathan Mosen, Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind

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

Balcony K

Preregistration by June 15 is required. After that, it will be on a “Space Available” basis. For further information, see Resources and Reminders.

### 9:00–10:00 a.m. Target: Accessible Self-checkout for All!

Bonaparte

Try Target's new accessible self-checkout kiosk, designed with and for blind users. Explore the tech, meet the team, ask questions, and sign up for user testing throughout the convention. Check our sponsor ad in the agenda or convention app profile for additional session times.

Steve Decker, Sr. Manager Accessibility, Target

### 9:00–10:45 a.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Introduction to your NFB Convention and Youth Track Activities. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

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

Galerie 1

Annual meeting of the NFB Employment Committee. Learn about what we've been working on for the last year and what's in store for the year ahead.

Lia Stone, Chair

### 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Online Registration Packet Pickup

Salon D

### 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. On-Site Registration ($30) and Banquet Ticket Sales ($85)

Salons A, B, and C

### 9:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m. National Volunteer SSP Training and Meet Up

Galerie 4

The National Federation of the Blind DeafBlind Division welcomes everyone to the 2025 volunteer SSP training and meet up. Please come join this year's other volunteer SSPs. Please arrive by 9:30 a.m., and the meeting will begin promptly at 10:00 a.m.

Maurice Mines, President

### 10:00–11:30 a.m. What's New with AI

Galerie 3

AI services are constantly improving, bringing new features and exciting improvements for the blind community. We will discuss the latest features in Chat GPT, Google Gemini, and Claude, including how to generate tactile graphics and create text descriptions of YouTube videos.

Karl Belanger and Kennedy Zimnik, Nonvisual Access Technology Specialists, and Jonathan Mosen, Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind

### 11:00 a.m.–12:15 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Planning Your Convention. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 1:00–4:00 p.m. Seeking Success Seminar

Galerie 2

Job seeker seminar with new time and new format! Come to a large group session and then break into smaller groups focusing on exploration and advanced employment topics. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.

Lia Stone, Chair

### 1:00–4:00 p.m. What's New with HumanWare: Products for All

Galerie 6

Join HumanWare for demonstrations of a variety of devices across our product portfolio. Learn about Prodigi for Windows software and experience an exclusive opportunity to test drive multi-line Braille support with screen readers on the Monarch Dynamic Tactile Display.

Peter Tucic, Director of Strategic Partnerships, HumanWare

### 1:00–5:00 p.m. Empowerment and Advocacy for Guide Dog Users

Galerie 5

Come learn about the current developments with rideshare companies since the NFB rally, hear the latest updates from training programs, and learn tips and tricks needed to care for aging guide dogs.

* 1:00-2:00 p.m. Registration and networking
* 2:00-5:00 p.m. Seminar

Stacie Gallegos and Paul Sandoval, NAGDU Seminar Co-Chairs

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

Studio 6

Free art activities for everyone! Make tactile drawings, color pictures, sculpt clay, fold origami, code SVG, build with LEGOs, and complete puzzle activities! Teachers are in the room. Enjoy the art exhibit and tactile picture books. Drop in anytime. Stay as long as you like.

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 1:30–4:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Tactile Art and More. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 1:30–5:00 p.m. Stepping into Independence for Blind Seniors

Galerie 1

Tips and tricks for traveling more independently. Bring your cane, there will be an opportunity for short cane travel lessons.

Glenn Crosby, President

### 2:00–4:00 p.m. Accessible Device Showcase

Galerie 3

Join the NFB's Center of Excellence in Nonvisual Accessibility as we showcase new and exciting access technology. This will be a great opportunity to get your hands on new Braille display, tactile graphic, smartphone, and other access technology.

Karl Belanger and Kennedy Zimnik, Nonvisual Access Technology Specialists, and Jonathan Mosen, Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind

### 2:00–4:00 p.m. Live Your Life DeafBlind Seminar

Galerie 4

This year we will have staff from our National Federation of the Blind affiliated training centers and someone from the National Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program presenting. INCC (NDBEDP) is on hand to help seminar participants work on building and living the lives they want.

Maurice Mines, President

### 4:00–5:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Career Mentoring Fair. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 5:00–6:00 p.m. Ringbearer: Quest for the Adaptive Bag

Galerie 4

Journey with FEELDOM designer to forge the ultimate bag for the blind. Engaging activities immerse you in the creative process. Hands-on demos of the CITY BLOCK Backpack, NAVi-Badge, and more. All attendees have a chance to win FEELDOM gear or a discount at the exhibit booth.

Adrianne Mascho, Chief Designer

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

Riverview 1

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

### 6:30–8:00 p.m. Swing Dance Workshop (Admission $5)

St. Charles and Lafayette

Have you always wanted to try partner dancing but never mustered up enough courage? Join us for this highly verbal beginner lesson in a judgment free zone and take the first step onto the dance floor. All are welcome—no partner or experience needed!

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

**6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Technology Exhibitors Showcase  
Salon 2**

Join us to learn about low- to high-tech products, from hardware to software and more. Hear the latest from our vendors at this session.

Mark Jones, Coordinator

**7:00–9:00 p.m. Sports and Recreation at the Movies  
Salon E**

Thunder Rolls: The World of Blind Baseball follows the Indy Thunder Beep baseball team and their coach in their quest for a World Championship. Narrated by Jesse Eisenberg,   
the documentary is a powerful, uplifting story blending sports and social impact.   
$5 suggested donation.

Richie Flores, President

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

Studio 5

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.

Ronza Othman, Moderator

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

Studio 10

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.

Stacie Leap and Seyoon Choi, Moderators

### 8:00–9:30 p.m. Rookie Roundup

Acadia and Bissonet Ballrooms

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

### 8:30–10:30 p.m. Student Networking

Galerie 2 and 3

Blind students: kick off your convention right by joining our national student division to mix and mingle. Whether you are new or returning, we can't wait to welcome you!

Lauren Chaya Altman, President

## Wednesday, July 9 – Resolutions Day

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention). Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 8:00–9:00 a.m. Digital-Accessibility Professionals Meetup

Studio 7

We designed this informal networking session for those working full time in digital accessibility for corporations and nonprofits. We'll share best practices, trends that uniquely affect us as blind people, and suggestions for growing the Federation's brand in the field.

Jonathan Mosen, Executive Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind

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

Galerie 4

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 a.m.–5:00 p.m. Online Registration Packet Pickup

Salon D

### 9:00 a.m.–5:00 p.m. On-Site Registration ($30) and Banquet Ticket Sales ($85)

Salons A and B

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

Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton

### 9:00–10:00 a.m. Selvas BLV Product Showcase

Galerie 5

Join us for a demonstration where we'll share the power and versatility of the HIMS family of products. See firsthand how our connectivity-enabled features like YouTube search, Wiki search, NFB-NEWSLINE®, and more empower, inform, and entertain our users.

### 9:00–11:00 a.m. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee

Galerie 6

Hear of the progress that we, as an organization, are making in the areas of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). 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.

Shawn Callaway and Kenia Flores, Co-Chairs

### 9:00–11:00 a.m. NOPBC Cane Walk

Balcony L

Wondering if your child would benefit from using a cane? Curious about how a cane works? Learn and experience the Structured Discovery Method of travel at this special session. Parents, teachers, blind children, and sighted siblings welcome.

National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC)

### 9:00–11:00 a.m. Membership Committee

Studio 4

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. Explore NFB-NEWSLINE® at our Open House

Studio 10

Unlock a world of information with this free audio and Braille service. Access more than five hundred publications via phone, web, app, or Alexa. Sign up, retrieve codes, or get answers to your questions with hands-on help. Stop by and learn what’s new!

Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, National Federation of the Blind

### 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. US Access Board Town Hall

Acadia and Bissonet Ballrooms

The Access Board invites the public to share their insights on accessibility barriers and progress. Those who wish to speak during the event must register in advance by emailing their full name and organization (if any) to [events@access-board.gov](mailto:events@access-board.gov). This is a unique opportunity to engage directly with board members and representatives from federal agencies about accessibility efforts in Louisiana and beyond.

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

Galerie 1

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

### 10:00–11:00 a.m. The Power of AI for the Blind Community

Studio 2

Join Microsoft's AI experts as they demonstrate how AI is transforming products for the blind community, simplifying user experiences, and creating new possibilities for productivity and play.

Microsoft Accessibility Team

### 10:00–11:00 a.m. Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder

Studio 3

Learn why there is a high prevalence of Non-24 in the blind community, how it could impact sleep, and why it is often misdiagnosed. We will discuss the symptoms and how to start a conversation with a healthcare provider.

Jennifer Lyman, RN, Clinical Nurse Educator, Vanda Pharmaceuticals

### 10:00–11:00 a.m. AI + JAWS at 30: Built to Empower You

Studio 9

Join Ryan Jones as we celebrate thirty years of JAWS and look ahead! Discover how JAWS and AI are driving breakthroughs like FSCompanion, image labeling, and multiline Braille. See how we’re breaking barriers and shaping the future of accessibility.

Ryan Jones, VP Software and Product Management, Vispero

### 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. LGBT+: A Mid-Year Review

Studio 8

Join the NFB's LGBT+ group to discuss current events, relevant civil rights laws, advocacy efforts, and enforcement opportunities for people of all backgrounds. Allies welcome. Community centered.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

### 11:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. What's New in Google Accessibility

Galerie 5

Join us for an update on the newest accessibility tools and features from Google, designed to enhance the user experience for the blind and low-vision community.

### 11:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Launch Your Career with Screen Reader Skills

Studio 7

Ninja screen-reader user? Struggling to find work? Stop struggling and start launching your career in digital accessibility! It’s simple. You get trained, you get certified, you get a job. Learn all about the CAT Program and your direct path to employment with AccessAbility Officer.

Heather Burns, Chief Delivery Officer and Co-Owner, AccessAbility Officer

### 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Microsoft Copilot for Work

Studio 2

Learn how AI enhances skills and productivity for the blind community. Discover Copilot tools that streamline workflows, foster collaboration, and equip the community with digital skills for the modern workplace.

Microsoft Accessibility Team

### 11:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m. Non-24: A Quiet Crisis in Sleep Health

Salon C

Millions live with Non-24 without a name for what they’re experiencing. Discover how early screening, increased awareness, and better tools can change that.

CaryHealth

### 12:00–1:00 p.m. Slack Demonstration and Feedback Session

Galerie 6

The team at Slack will talk through how we collaborate with blind people to design, build, and refine how Slack works. We will demonstrate some of the successful results (and likely some imperfections) using common workflows in Slack. We welcome your questions and feedback.

Todd Kloots and Chris Xu, Slack

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

Acadia and Bissonet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: [nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891)

1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

Donald Porterfield, Chair

### 1:00–2:00 p.m. What's New with Amazon Devices?

Studio 9

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, Smart Home, the new Alexa, and more.

Peter Korn, Director of Accessibility, Amazon Devices and Services

### 1:00–2:00 p.m. Wells Fargo Bank of Doing

Studio 4

Wells Fargo provides a range of products and services that can help you make your financial journey from security to wealth protection. Join Wells Fargo representatives   
to discuss these topics and answer any questions you may have about what we can do   
for you.

Lawrence Bowdish, Insights Lead, Financial Health, Wells Fargo

### 1:00–4:00 p.m. Career Fair

Galerie 2 and 3

Come to meet national and regional employers including many of our convention sponsors and Louisiana employers. This is your first step to a great career! Preregister by June 8 to get the full benefits of attending. Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee.

Lia Stone, Chair

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

Studio 6

Free art activities for everyone! Make tactile drawings, color pictures, sculpt clay, fold origami, code SVG, build with LEGOs, and complete puzzle activities! Teachers are in the room. Enjoy the art exhibit and tactile picture books. Drop in anytime. Stay as long as   
you like.

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 2:00–5:00 p.m. Explore NFB-NEWSLINE® at Our Open House

Studio 10

Unlock a world of information with this free audio and Braille service. Access more than five hundred publications via phone, web, app, or Alexa. Sign up, retrieve codes, or get answers to your questions with hands-on help. Stop by and learn what’s new!

Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, National Federation of the Blind

### 2:15–3:15 p.m. Making Amazon Shopping Easier

Studio 9

Explore the latest accessibility features that make navigating and shopping on Amazon faster and more intuitive for everyone. We'll show how new AI-powered tools and improved navigation features help customers find products and information more efficiently and accessibly.

Kiran Kaja, Principal Product Manager, Amazon Worldwide Stores Accessibility

### 3:30–4:30 p.m. Accessibility at Prime Video

Studio 9

Join the Amazon/Prime Video Accessibility team to hear more about our journey to introduce new features and improve existing accessibility options. Learn about our initiatives to improve the discovery and experience for customers.

Amazon

### 3:30–5:00 p.m. Start a Digital Accessibility Business

Studio 7

Whether you are a social enterprise or a hungry entrepreneur wanting to hire blind people, this session teaches you how we grew our million-dollar digital accessibility business with blind testers and DARTSuite. From closing deals to managing projects, you won’t want to miss it! Includes a live Q&A.

Heather Burns, Chief Delivery Officer and Co-Owner, AccessAbility Officer

### 4:00–5:00 p.m. Navigating the US Immigration System

Galerie 4

Join us to hear from panelists sharing their personal experiences navigating the complexities of the United States immigration system as a blind person, as well as how they advocated for equitable access.

Seyoon Choi, Moderator

### 4:00–5:00 p.m. AI, Wearables, and Community-Driven Innovation

Studio 4

Discover how AI and wearables are revolutionizing independence for the blind/low-vision community! Join us to explore AI progress, demo EchoVision smart glasses (try live!), and hear user stories proving tech’s power when co-created WITH users.

Xiaoran Wang, CEO, and Kevin Chao, Chief Visionary and Evangelist, AGIGA, Inc.

### 4:00–5:30 p.m. Introduction to Investing

Galerie 1

Get a clear overview of investing basics, learn how investing can help you build long-term financial security, and explore how blind and low-vision people can confidently navigate the investing world.

Chris Peterson, AFC®, Founder and CEO, Penny Forward

### 4:15–5:45 p.m. Twenty-Fifth NABL Mock Trial (Admission $10)

Salon E

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

### 4:30–6:00 p.m. Aira: The AI Visual Interpreter

Galerie 6

An opportunity to experience an AI visual interpreter in real time! Exciting updates from Aira and how blind people are directly influencing the future of visual interpreting!

Everette Bacon, Chief, Blindness Initiatives, Aira

### 4:30–6:30 p.m. Interest Drives the Action

Studio 8

Youth are our future leaders. Learn how your affiliate's strengths and skills can develop your youth programs. Hear about innovative activities happening across the country, talk about how they started, and imagine new ways to help blind youth live the lives they want.

Karen Anderson, NFB Education Programs Coordinator, and Ashleigh Moon, STEM2U Program Coordinator

### 4:45–5:45 p.m. Get More Out of Reading with Kindle’s Accessibility Features

Studio 9

Reading can be a magical experience, and digital reading can make it possible to read in ways that were previously not possible with just paper. Come see how Kindle is making reading more accessible.

Jon Hu, Sr. Product Manager, Tech, Amazon

### 5:00–6:30 p.m. Seminario Hispano

Studio 3

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

Aleyda Santos, Coordinadora

### 5:00–6:30 p.m. SSI and SSDI 101: What You Need to Know

Studio 2

Ever wonder what the difference is between Blind Work Expenses and Impairment-Related Work Expenses? 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

### 5:00–6:45 p.m. NOPBC Exhibitor Fair

Galerie 5

This special exhibit will feature items of special interest to blind children and their families.

National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC)

### 6:00–7:30 p.m. *Access On* Live

Studio 7

Join Jonathan Mosen and an expert panel for a live edition of the NFB's *Access On* technology podcast. Bring your tech questions, comments, and opinions.

Jonathan Mosen, Executive Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind

### 6:00–8:00 p.m. Blind Greek and Masonic Group

Salon C

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

Galerie 4

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

Linda Mentink, Chair

### 6:00–9:00 p.m. Building Our Village

Studio 1

Learn how to build your village at this year’s Blind Parents group. The first hour will contain topics for children under five. The second hour will have topics dedicated to all ages. The third hour will contain topics for older children.

Lisamaria Martinez, Chair

### 6:00–9:00 p.m. Legal Office Hours

Audubon

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns. Reservations are required. To reserve your appointment, email [legal@nfb.org](mailto:legal@nfb.org) or call 410-659-9314, extension 2440, no later than Friday, June 27.

### 6:00–10:00 p.m. Student Division Business Meeting

Galerie 2 and 3

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

Lauren Chaya Altman, President

### 6:00–10:00 p.m. Working for Yourself, but Not by Yourself

Galerie 1

Experience how professional training, systems-based practices, personal development, and superior Nikken Japanese-wellness technologies are revolutionizing professional network marketing. Imagine the joy of working with successful mentors to earn through serving others.

Mary Ellen Gabias and Paul Gabias, Independent Nikken Wellness Business Consultants

### 7:00–9:00 p.m. Advancing Our Advocacy: Legislative Meetup

Studio 9

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

Jesse Shirek, Justin Young, and Kyle Walls, Government Affairs, National Federation   
of the Blind

### 7:00–9:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

What is a resolution? Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

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

Studio 3

Join us as we hear from the staff of JBI Library as they describe the rebranding, new staff, and new programs. This is your chance to find out all that JBI Library offers.

Stewart Prost, Chair

### 7:00–9:00 p.m. NOPBC Spanish Welcome Session

Galerie 6

We welcome our Spanish-speaking families with blind children. Network, ask questions, and learn about resources for our children.

National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC)

## Thursday, July 10 - Board Meeting Day

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](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 ($85)

Salons A and B

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

Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton

### 9:00–11:30 a.m. NFB Board Meeting

Acadia and Bissonet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: [nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891)

1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

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

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

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

Galerie 2

Enhancing nonvisual access to information technology and improving the ability of blind information and computer technology professionals to compete in today's world. Register at [web.nfbcal.org/nfbcsreg.html](https://url.us.m.mimecastprotect.com/s/OBV3C2k16yIpMMXKFnfYU5djfM?domain=web.nfbcal.org).

Brian Buhrow, President

### 1:00–2:30 p.m. Writers’ Division Business Meeting and Workshop

Studio 5

Come join us for our business meeting and find out the results of our 2024 Writing Contest. Stay for a workshop that will help improve your writing skills.

Shelley Alongi, President

### 1:00–4:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Exhibit Hall Challenge. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

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

Salon D

With the decline of the RS Program, is it time to expand our division? We have changed the name of blind vendors to blind entrepreneurs. Is it time to change the name of the division? We will discuss the possibility of a national nominee and more.

Nicky Gacos, President

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

Galerie 6

Come join a space where your belief in the success of all blind people can reach great heights with an infusion of ideas, solutions, and tools. This is where those of us working in blindness rehabilitation find strength and knowledge. You won't want to miss this year’s lineup.

Amy Porterfield, President

### 1:00–4:00 p.m. NOPBC Annual Business Meeting

Studio 9

Address by the 2025 Distinguished Educator of Blind Students, skills for success, educational opportunities, kid power, parent power, elections, and more.

Cassandra McKinney, President

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

Galerie 4

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

Cayte Mendez, President

### 1:00–5:00 p.m. DeafBlind Division Annual Meeting

Studio 7

Come to a dynamic and inspiring annual business meeting. Please see the agenda. Jennifer Wenzel and Jason Martin from APH will talk about Monarch. Cash dues at 12:30 p.m. before the meeting that begins at 1:00 p.m.

Maurice Mines, President

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

Galerie 1

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. NFB Seniors Division Meeting

Studio 2

Registration will open at 1:00 p.m. The program will begin at 1:30 p.m. Dues are $5 and can be paid at the door if you haven't paid before the convention.

Glenn Crosby, President

### 1:00–5:00 p.m. Performing Arts and Self-Advocacy Workshop

Studio 6

Come to our annual business meeting followed by an interactive workshop all about self-advocacy in performing arts and beyond. 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

### 1:00–4:30 p.m. National Association of Blind Lawyers Annual Meeting

Galerie 3

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).

Ronza Othman, President

### 2:00–4:00 p.m. Professionals in Blindness Education

Studio 8

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

### 3:00–5:00 p.m. Teaching Tech That Builds Confidence

Galerie 5

This is your division—let’s talk purpose. Are we building a resource group, or a community of role models? We’ll share real strategies, from structured discovery to emerging tools like AI, plus NBPCB’s new NCATB cert. Come for the insight. Stay to shape what’s next.

Brett Boyer, President

### 4:30–6:30 p.m. Braille Book Fair

Riverview 1 and 2

A book lover's dream! Browse table after table of FREE new and used Braille and print/Braille books.

* 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.

### 4:30–6:30 p.m. National Association of Blind Lawyers Reception

Salon F

Ticketed reception for NABL division members and seminar participants only; to promote networking and fellowship within our membership. Hors d'oeuvres and cash bar are available.

Ronza Othman, President

### 5:00–6:00 p.m. ABLE Accounts: What You Need to Know

Studio 1

Join us to learn about ABLE Accounts - what they are, how they work, ways you can benefit from having them, and who qualifies. Attendees also will have the opportunity to ask ABLE questions.

Mark Raymond, Jr., National Outreach Lead, ABLE today

### 5:00–6:00 p.m. Non-24 Hour Sleep Wake Disorder

Studio 3

Learn why there is a high prevalence of Non-24 in the blind community and how it could impact sleep, why it is often misdiagnosed, and how to start a conversation with a healthcare provider.

Shauna Jatho, RN, Clinical Nurse Educator, Vanda Pharmaceuticals

### 5:00–6:30 p.m. Fifth Annual Blind Muslims Group Seminar

Salon C

Diverse in Culture United in Faith: Our struggle in finding our space in the blindness movement. Join us for a presentation by Dr. Don Winiecki (Handid Braille Services), winner of the Dr. Jacob Bolotin Award, followed by a discussion and social. Contact [nfbmuslims@gmail.com](mailto:nfbmuslims@gmail.com).

Tasnim Alshuli, Chair

### 5:00–7:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Veterans Division

Galerie 4

Please join us for our division meeting open to veterans and friends of veterans. We will start the event with a mixer and a chance to get to know each other. Catch up with friends and make new ones. Followed by a board meeting with elections.

Roy Stinson, President

### 5:00–7:00 p.m. Preserving and Telling Blind-Centered Stories

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

Touch and hear real history! Explore an exhibit showcasing some of the rich stories held in the NFB's library and archives and learn about how we will showcase those stories in the Museum of the Blind People's Movement. Visit anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

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

Galerie 6

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.

### 6:00–7:00 p.m. Learn More - Bay Bridge Run for Chapters

Studio 8

Chapter and affiliate leaders are invited to come and learn about how to support the NFB at the 2025 Bay Bridge Run. Hosted by NFB Outreach and NOPBC.

Rachel Held, Outreach Coordinator, National Federation of the Blind

### 6:00–7:30 p.m. A Day at the Colorado Center for the Blind

Studio 7

From your first cup of coffee to your trip home to your apartment, come discover what a day of training is like. Learn about all of our classes and see what we do. Hear from our instructors, current students, and alumni. Build your skills and take charge with confidence!

Julie Deden, Executive Director

### 6:00–7:30 p.m. Guide Dogs for Youth: The Mira USA Model

Galerie 2

This session examines Mira Foundation USA's groundbreaking work providing guide dogs to blind or visually impaired children between the ages of 11 and 17. Learn about their candidate requirements, partnership with Foundation Mira Canada, and success stories.

Bonnie Archibald, Chief Development Officer

### 6:00–8:00 p.m. Accessibility Jeopardy, Live!

Studio 2

Mix in comedy, A11y Trebek, celebrities, and accessibility experts with hilarious questions that go past the keyboard, and you’ve got Accessibility Jeopardy. Plus, one contestant   
will be chosen live from the audience. To play, register at the AccessAbility Officer exhibit hall booth.

Tanner Gers, CEO and Co-Owner, AccessAbility Officer

### 6:00–9:00 p.m. Legal Office Hours

Audubon

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns. Reservations are required. To reserve your appointment, email [legal@nfb.org](mailto:legal@nfb.org) or call   
410-659-9314, extension 2440, no later than Friday, June 27.

### 6:00–10:00 p.m. NAGDU Annual Business Meeting

Studio 9

Come join NAGDU to get informed about our legal and advocacy efforts pertaining to guide dog users, including airline and rideshare travel. Find out what NAGDU has been up to over the past year and elect our leaders!

* 6:00-7:00 p.m. Registration and networking
* 7:00-10:00 p.m. Meeting

Raul Gallegos, President

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

Galerie 5

Hello friends of the NOBBL! Registration will take place 6:00–7:00 p.m. Come join our division annual business meeting and hear inspirational presentations by Black members from the National Federation of the Blind.

Shawn Callaway, President

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

Studio 6

* 6:30 p.m. Registration
* 7:00 p.m. Meeting

Learn about getting children involved in STEM and inclusivity through podcasts, making biochemistry labs accessible with universal design, and other topics concerning the blind access to STEM.

John Miller, President

### 7:00–8:30 p.m. White Cane Committee and Fundraising Seminar

Galerie 1

Come and learn how to make the BIG ASK! At this seminar we will go over a brand new planned giving toolkit produced by our NFB Outreach team! This is your chance to become a major fundraising specialist!

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

### 7:00–10:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Game Tournament. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

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

Studio 5

All convention attendees interested in getting or remaining clean and sober are welcome to our confidential meeting. For more information, call 318-548-7895.

### 8:00–10:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Government Employees

Studio 4

Join employees, former 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

## Friday, July 11 – Opening General Session

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention). Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 7:45–8:45 a.m. Overview of the Access Board and the Architectural Barriers Act

**Studio 9**

Participants will gain an understanding of the Access Board’s key functions, which include enforcement of the Architectural Barriers Act (ABA), the law requiring all federal facilities to be accessible to people with disabilities. A brief outline of the requirements in the ABA Standards will also be provided.

Alison Levy and Sarah Presley, Presenters

### 8:00–8:45 a.m. Devotions

Studio 10

### 8:15–8:45 a.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($85)

Salon A

### 8:15–8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

### Opening General Session (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

Zoom meeting ID: [nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891)

1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

#### Call to Order and Invocation

President Riccobono gavels the session to order; religious member offers an invocation.

#### Presentation of Colors and Pledge of Allegiance

National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind; Goodyear, Arizona

#### Who Dat: A Welcome from the Louisiana Federation Family

2025 National Convention Host Committee: The National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

#### Celebration of Freedom: Veterans Recognized

Roy Stinson, President, National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind; Goodyear, Arizona

#### Roll Call of States and Appointment of Nominating Committee

Affiliate announcements of delegate, nominating committee appointment, and future convention plans.

#### Reports and Resolutions

President Riccobono delivers important information and convention business as time allows.

### 12:00–1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

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

Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton

### 12:15–1:15 p.m. Unlocking Human Potential with Wearable AI

Galerie 6

Discover how wearable AI technology is revolutionizing the way we live, work, and interact with the world around us. Explore the latest features of the Ray-Ban Meta Smart Glasses and learn how they are empowering people to enhance their daily routines and unlock new experiences.

Meta

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. AFB Update: New Research and Opportunities

Studio 8

Join leaders from AFB's Public Policy and Research Institute as they share opportunities on the horizon and the latest research impacting our community, including AFB's groundbreaking work on the impact of AI. Learn how to get involved.

Stephanie Enyart and Dr. Arielle Silverman, American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. Access Board Section 508 Activity and Information Updates

Studio 9

Join the Access Board to learn about Section 508 accessibility requirements and our latest activities to improve accessibility of federal Information and communication technology across the government.

Kathy Eng, Presenter

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. Uber Town Hall

Studio 2

Meet with members of Uber's Accessibility team to share your experiences and hear updates about new features.

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

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

Studio 7

Since 1985, LCB has been a place where blind people build confidence, grow skills, and shape futures. Connect with our vibrant community—students, alumni, instructors, and our team from the Institute on Blindness at Louisiana Tech—and check out the programs that make it all happen!

Pam Allen, Executive Director and the LCB Crew

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. NOPBC Board Meeting

Studio 6

Join the NOPBC Board of Directors as they recap the 2025 NOPBC Seminar and plan for the 2026 event.

Cassandra McKinney, President

### 12:30–1:30 p.m. Islamic Friday Prayer

Salon D

### 12:45–1:45 p.m. Google's AI Accessibility Tools

Galerie 5

Discover how Google is leveraging the power of AI to create innovative tools and features that support and empower the blind and low-vision community.

### 1:15–1:45 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and *Final* Banquet Ticket Sales ($85)

Salon A

### General Session II (2:00–5:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

Zoom meeting ID: [nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891)

1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

#### Call to Order

President Riccobono gavels the session to order.

#### Presidential Report

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

#### “Access On” through Collective Action: Mobilizing Leadership through Blind-Centered Technology Perspectives

Jonathan Mosen, Executive Director for Accessibility Excellence, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

#### Accessibility, AI, and Community Engagement: A Growing Relationship Between Meta and the Organized Blind Movement

Maxine Williams, Vice President, Head of Accessibility and Engagement, Meta; Menlo Park, California

#### Copiloting Accessibility in Partnership with the Blind: Reflections on the Past Decade and the Future at Microsoft

Jenny Lay-Flurrie, Vice President, Chief Accessibility Officer, Microsoft; Redmond, Washington

#### Meaningful Social Security for Blind Americans: A New Era of Opportunities

Frank Bisignano, Commissioner, Social Security Administration; Washington, District of Columbia

#### Reports and Resolutions

President Riccobono delivers important information and convention business as time allows.

### 5:00–9:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall

Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton

Final opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall.

### 5:15–6:15 p.m. NFB in the Kitchen Group

Studio 2

Sometimes you need a little spark of inspiration to change your cooking routine. As a community of cooking enthusiasts strengthening confidence, let’s talk food, tools, and cooking trends. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm. Come and taste a few bites from “The Café”!

Regina Mitchell, Chair

### 5:15–6:15 p.m. Public Right-of-Way Accessibility Guidelines (PROWAG)

Studio 9

Participants will be provided with an overview of PROWAG, with an emphasis on the guidelines for pedestrian access routes, detectable warnings, accessible pedestrian signals, roundabouts, and other components that are of particular interest to people who are blind or who have low vision.

Sarah Presley, Presenter

### 5:15–9:00 p.m. Inclusive Fitness with Sports and Recreation Division

Salon D

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

Richie Flores, President

### 5:30–6:30 p.m. Packaging Accessibility: Sharing Amazon’s Learnings

Galerie 6

Amazon has conducted cross-disciplinary research with disabled customers to enhance packaging accessibility. This led to principles for designers and engineers to improve both printed information and package structure. We'll share findings on making packaging more user-friendly.

Di Wu, Sr. Creative Program Manager, Amazon

### 6:00–8:00 p.m. Imagining Our Museum: The Museum of the Blind People’s Movement

Studio 1

Participate in a discussion to share your input about the themes and stories that will make up the Museum of the Blind People's Movement. You will learn about the plans for the museum and contribute your own ideas. (Note there is a maximum capacity limit in this session.)

Alison Tyler, Museum Project Lead, National Federation of the Blind

### 6:00–9:00 p.m. Sexual Health Education Q&A

Galerie 1 and 2

This event features information on reproductive anatomy, identity, healthy relationships, pregnancy, parenting, contraception and family planning, STIs, and sexual pleasure.

* 6:00–7:00 p.m. Youth ages 14-22 ONLY
* 7:00–9:00 p.m. Adults ages 18+

Mika Baugh, PhD, MPH

### 6:30–7:30 p.m. Accessibility at Oracle

Galerie 5

Oracle’s journey with accessibility is ongoing. We lead by example by collaborating on accessibility standards and building industry partnerships. Oracle is proud to provide solutions that benefit our customers which meet the needs of our diverse community.

Kent Boucher, Senior Director, Oracle Accessibility Program Office, Oracle

### 6:45–10:00 p.m. NOPBC Crafts and Games Night

Studio 8

For ages 5 to 12. Please note that this activity is available ONLY for children whose parents are attending NOPBC evening workshops.

National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC)

### 7:00–8:00 p.m. Making Work More Accessible for More People

Studio 2

The unemployment rate for people who are blind or have low vision is 75 percent globally. We all—governments, businesses, the blind community, Be My Eyes and its partners—must do more. Learn how we, and our customers, are helping make a step change in the accessible workplace.

Mike Buckley and Bryan Bashin, Be My Eyes

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

Galerie 4

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

### 7:00–9:00 p.m. News Alert: NFB-NEWSLINE® now on Android!

Studio 9

Join our seminar to master the new NFB-NEWSLINE® Android app! Learn to access 500+ publications, including newspapers, magazines, and breaking news, for the blind. Get hands-on training to navigate this free audio news service.

Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, and Jack Mendez, NFB-NEWSLINE® Deputy Director, National Federation of the Blind

### 7:00–9:45 p.m. NOPBC Educate Seminar

Registration until June 30: adults $35, families $50. On-site registration available. For more details visit nopbc.org. Sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children. Cassandra McKinney, President

#### 7:00–8:15 p.m. – Workshop Group D

* Technology Goals, Gadgets, and Game Changers (Studio 3)
* Talking to your Pre-Teen (ages 8 to 13) (Studio 10)

#### 8:30–9:45 p.m. – Workshop Group E

* Mock IEP (Studio 3)
* Talking to your Teen (ages 14 and up) (Studio 10)

### 7:00–10:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track Session (ages 11-18)

Balcony L

Finding Our Power. Refer to the Youth Track agenda for activity details.

### 8:00–10:00 p.m. Minnesota Center for the Blind Trivia Night

Galerie 6

Join the Minnesota Center for the Blind for a fun night of trivia! Come solo or with a team. We'll share updates on our transition from BLIND Inc. to MCB, what’s ahead, and how you can support our mission. Alumni, future students, and friends are all welcome.

Briley O'Connor, Executive Director, Minnesota Center for the Blind

## Saturday, July 12 – Business General Session

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention). Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 8:00–8:45 a.m. Devotions

Studio 10

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

Salon A

### 8:15–8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

### General Session III (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

Zoom meeting ID: [nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891](https://nfb-org.zoom.us/j/92019487891)

1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

#### Call to Order and Invocation

President Riccobono gavels the session to order; religious member offers an invocation.

#### Financial Report

President Riccobono presents the annual financial report, including a discussion of the current financial circumstances.

#### Elections

Presentation of nominating committee report and elections for open board positions for the National Federation of the Blind.

#### Collective Action through Financial Technology: Utilizing Disability Wisdom to Build Meaningful Innovations

John Ciocca, Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Purple; New York, New York

#### America's Library for the Blind: An Update on Continued Collaboration with the Organized Blind Movement

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

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

#### Reports and Resolutions

President Riccobono delivers important information and convention business as time allows.

### 12:00–1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

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

Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton

Final opportunity to visit the Independence Market.

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. Lyft’s New Service Animal Feature

Studio 2

Learn about Lyft’s new opt-in service animal feature that just launched across all US markets. Join us as we walk through the feature, describe how it works, and explain how to opt-in. We will also save time for a Q&A to answer any remaining questions!

Brenna Rivett, Community Safety Policy Manager, Lyft

### 12:15–1:45 p.m. Committee on Federation Website Coordination

Studio 8

Our agenda includes introductions, updates on changes to Drupal, exploring interest in upcoming trainings, discussion of CiviCRM forms, and questions and answers.

Steve Cook, Chair

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

**Salon A**

### General Session IV (2:00–5:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

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1CapApp Event: [ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb](https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb)

#### Call to Order

President Riccobono gavels the session to order.

#### Building a Constellation of Opportunities: A Blind Astronomer Researching the Cosmos with Multisensorial Perception

Wanda Díaz-Merced, Astronomer and Director of Science in Braille Global Office of Excellence; Gurabo, Puerto Rico

#### Equal Protection Under the Law Demands Collective Action: The Blind and Our Right to Live in the World

Eve Hill, General Counsel, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

#### Power by the People: A Progress Report on Our Collective Advocacy Achievements

John G. Paré Jr., Executive Director for Advocacy and Policy, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

Jesse Shirek, NFB Government Affairs Specialist, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Legal Program Coordinator, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

Justin Young, NFB Government Affairs Specialist, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

#### Reports and Resolutions

The Resolutions Committee shares its report and policy matters are considered.

### 5:00–7:00 p.m. Preserving and Telling Blind-Centered Stories

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

Touch and hear real history! Explore an exhibit showcasing some of the rich stories held in the NFB's library and archives and learn about how we will showcase those stories in the Museum of the Blind People's Movement. Visit anytime between 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

### 5:15–9:00 p.m. Inclusive Fitness with Sports and Recreation Division

Salon D

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

Richie Flores, President

### 5:30–6:30 p.m. Best Practices for Accessible CLIs

Galerie 4

Test drive a prototype of the AWS CLI and help Amazon validate their proposed best practices for CLI accessibility. The prototype focuses on CLI output. Your feedback will help raise the bar on CLI accessibility. Bring your assistive tech and tell us what you think!

### 6:00–7:00 p.m. DEI Book Club

Studio 3

This year’s book is *Crying in H Mart* by Michelle Zauner, available on Bookshare and BARD. Come prepared to discuss the book and engage in conversation with members of the DEI Committee about how their intersecting identities impact their lived experience as blind people.

Stacie Leap and Dan Frye, Moderators

### 6:00–7:00 p.m. Creating Community for Blind Human Services Professionals

Studio 10

Join us as we discuss strategies for rebuilding and revitalizing the Federation's Human Services Division. We'll assess challenges, brainstorm new initiatives, and set a direction for the future. Those working or aspire to be working in helping professions are urged to attend.

Sarah Patnaude, Coordinator

### 6:00–7:30 p.m. What's New at NLS?

Studio 7

Join the National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled to learn about the new online Patron Enrollment form, which will allow potential patrons to apply for NLS via the web! During the session, you will be able to test the new enrollment form and provide feedback.

### 6:30–8:00 p.m. Title II and Web Access: Advocate Early and Often

Studio 6

Join NFB’s legal team to discuss changes to the ADA regarding public web accessibility, how those changes affect you, and the importance of advocating now to ensure a smooth transition later.

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

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

Studio 5

All convention attendees interested in getting or remaining clean and sober are welcome to our confidential meeting. For more information, call 318-548-7895.

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

Galerie 1, 2, and 3

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

## Sunday, July 13 - Final General Session and Banquet

Any agenda changes made after Braille and print production can be accessed on the NFB25 app or at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention). Changes will be marked with an asterisk (\*).

### 6:30–7:30 a.m. Roman Catholic Mass

Studio 2

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

Studio 10

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

Salon A

### 8:15–8:45 a.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

### General Session V (9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

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#### Call to Order and Invocation

President Riccobono gavels the session to order; religious member offers an invocation.

#### Blind-Centered Innovations through JAWS for Windows: Celebrating Thirty Years and a Commitment to Leadership into the Future

Ryan Jones, Vice President Software Product Management, Vispero; Clearwater, Florida

Glen Gordon, Software Fellow, Vispero; Clearwater, Florida

#### Accessible Independent Check-Out: Blind-Centered Leadership Makes All the Difference

Jake Konerza, Director of Digital Accessibility, Target; Minneapolis, Minnesota

#### A Commitment to High Expectations: Leadership through Reflecting the Hopes of Blind People in Education

Anne Lancaster, Vice President, Innovation and Strategy, American Printing House for the Blind; Louisville, Kentucky

#### Sexual Health Education and Research: A Community-Centered Approach Driven by the Blind

Mika Baugh, PhD, Indiana University Bloomington School of Public Health; Bloomington, Indiana

#### Museum of the Blind People's Movement: Building Support to Shatter Misconceptions

#### Reports and Resolutions

President Riccobono delivers important information and convention business as   
time allows.

### 12:00–1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

Acadia Ballroom Foyer

Final opportunity to exchange banquet tickets prior to banquet.

### 12:15–1:15 p.m. Raffles and Drawings

Salon B

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

Salon C

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.

David Chan, Chair

### General Session VI (2:00–5:00 p.m.)

**Grand Ballroom**

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#### Call to Order

President Riccobono gavels the session to order.

#### The Eighteenth Annual Dr. Jacob Bolotin Awards

Everette Bacon, Chairperson, Dr. Jacob Bolotin Award Committee, and Second Vice President, National Federation of the Blind; Salt Lake City, Utah

#### The Quest for Equal Access: Innovating Blind-Centered Maps and Diagrams

Brandon Biggs, Chief Executive Officer, XR Navigation; Gilroy, California

#### From My Story to Our Story: A Life Shaped by Collective Action

Chris Danielsen, *Braille Monitor* Editor, National Federation of the Blind; Baltimore, Maryland

#### Lived Experience in Action: Blind Leadership Comes to the Lighthouse Guild

Thomas Panek, Chief Executive Officer, Lighthouse Guild; New York, New York

#### Perspectives on Growing Pains in the Organized Blind Movement: A Panel of Student Leaders

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

Panel: Manahil Jafri, Staten Island, New York; Gene Kim, Cupertino, California; Kinshuk Tella, Miamisburg, Ohio

#### Reports and Resolutions

President Riccobono delivers important information and convention business.

### 7:00 p.m. Banquet

**Grand Ballroom**

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#### 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

**Helpful Convention Resources and Reminders**

**Information Desk and Ambassadors**

Reminder: The Federation information desk is outside the Acadia Ballroom Wednesday through Sunday for attendees with questions or in need of assistance. There are volunteers, known as Ambassadors, helping throughout the convention. Ambassadors assist in creating a welcoming and empowering experience for all by sharing information, providing directions, and helping to resolve any issues that may arise. Ambassadors are typically talking signs stationed throughout the convention hotels and ready to help!

**Banquet Tickets and Exchange for Group Seating or Dietary Needs**

*Before Banquet*

To sit with a specific group (family or friends) or to have a specific dietary meal during the banquet, you must visit the banquet ticket exchange with the original, unexchanged banquet ticket(s). Banquet tickets are $85 at registration until 1:45 p.m. on Saturday.

How it works: The banquet ticket exchange, located in the Acadia Ballroom foyer, allows you to:

* Reserve seating for yourself or up to ten people by turning in the original ticket(s) and receiving assigned tickets with table numbers.
* Request a vegetarian, vegan, gluten-free, kosher, or halal meal by 1:45 p.m. on Friday.

*Banquet Ticket Exchange Open Hours:*

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

*At Banquet*

A purchased banquet ticket regardless of exchange is required to enter the ballroom and will be checked at the doors. Attendees who have unexchanged tickets will be seated at available open tables.

**Portrait Studio with a Photographer**

The portrait studio is located in the Acadia Ballroom foyer. Get a personal or small group photo taken! Photos are also stored for official communications of the National Federation of the Blind. We use images in the *Braille Monitor*, on websites, and to build the movement through authentic representation. We will email photos after convention to those who would like to have them.

*Portrait Studio Open Hours:*

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

**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. Childcare services provide morning and afternoon snacks, but parents are required to provide lunch for their child(ren) every day. A late fee of $10 per quarter-hour per child will be assessed for late pickups. If you have questions about NFB Camp, email [nfbcamp@nfb.org](mailto:nfbcamp@nfb.org).

*NFB Camp Open Hours:*

* Tuesday, July 8: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Wednesday, July 9: Closed
* Thursday, July 10: 8:30 a.m. to noon and 12:45 to 5:30 p.m.
* Friday, July 11: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Saturday, July 12: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Sunday, July 13: 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.
* Sunday, July 13 (Banquet): 6:30 p.m. to thirty minutes after banquet adjourns.

**Announcement Requests**

Requests for announcements to be made by President Riccobono during General Sessions must be submitted in Braille.

**Divisions, Committees, and Groups**

The National Federation of the Blind advances its mission through the active work of its affiliated divisions, committees, and groups—all listed in the agenda. These networks offer meaningful ways to get involved. We invite you to explore these networks and find the spaces where your voice, experience, and energy can help shape the movement.

***Divisions***

Divisions of the National Federation of the Blind focus on shared interests, life stages, or career fields, creating formal spaces for advocacy and leadership development 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: William Stinson, President
* Writers: Shelley Alongi, President

***Committees***

Committees of the National Federation of the Blind are appointed by the President, except for the nominating committee, and guide the organization on key issues and initiatives to build the organization at all levels.

* Advancement and Promotion of Braille: Jennifer Dunnam, Chair
* Ambassadors: Dan Burke and Corbb O’Connor, Co-Chairs
* Blind Educator of the Year Award: Robin House, Chair
* Committee on Federation Website Coordination: Steve Cook, Chair
* Communications: Liz Wisecarver, Chair
* Distinguished Educator of Blind Students Award: Carla McQuillan, Chair
* Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: Shawn Callaway and Kenia Flores, Co-Chairs
* Employment: Jennifer Wenzel and Lia Stone, Co-Chairs
* Federation Website Coordination: Steve Cook, 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
* White Cane and Affiliate Finance: Everette Bacon, Chair

***Groups***

Groups of the National Federation of the Blind, led by appointed chairs, connect members around specific topic areas to strengthen the resource network of the organization.

* Amateur Radio: David Chan, Chair
* Blind Christians: Linda Mentink, Chair
* Blind Crafters: Tracy Carcione, 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
* NFB in Judaism: Stewart Prost, Chair
* NFB in the Kitchen: Regina Mitchell, Chair
* NFB LGBT+: Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

## Sponsors and Sponsor Ads

### Platinum:

* Google
* Meta
* Microsoft
* Vanda - Non-24-Hour Sleep-Wake Disorder
* Wells Fargo
* WhyAmIUp

### Gold:

* Amazon
* Be My Eyes
* Oracle
* Salesforce
* Target
* Vispero

### Silver:

* Brown, Goldstein & Levy, LLP
* CVS Health
* Market Development Group
* Uber

### Bronze:

* American Printing House
* C&P-Chris Park Technology
* Centene Corporation
* Guiding Eyes for the Blind
* HumanWare
* Lyft
* Mobile Voting
* National Industries for the Blind
* Spectrum
* United Airlines

### White Cane:

* Aira
* AccessAbility Officer
* AGIGA, Inc.
* ABLE today at the National Association of State Treasurers
* American Foundation for the Blind
* Computers for the Blind
* Democracy Live
* En-Vision America
* Envision-US
* Feeldom, LLC
* Govivid
* HapWare
* IKE Smart City
* Independence Science
* Innosearch AI, Inc.
* Jackson Walker LLP
* Leader Dogs for the Blind
* McGraw Hill
* Mohawk Group
* Penny Forward
* Personal.ai
* Saavi Services for the Blind
* Sam’s Club
* Selvas BLV
* VitalSource

## Sponsor Ads

### Platinum

#### Microsoft:

Microsoft is a proud sponsor of the 2025 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. Images include the Microsoft logo, and a person using a Braille display.

#### Vanda - 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 the misalignment between the internal master body clock and the 24-hour day. Come visit us at our 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](https://www.Non-24.com). Images include the Vanda logo, Non-24 logo, and a blind man walking through a building with his guide dog.

#### 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. Images include the Wells Fargo logo, and three adults walking across a courtyard, one using her guide dog.

#### WhyAmIUp:

Up at night. Exhausted by day. You’re not alone, and it’s not just in your head. If you’re living with blindness or low vision and struggle with sleep, you could have Non-24. It’s a serious circadian rhythm disorder—but it’s also treatable. Get screened today at WhyAmIUp.com. Better sleep is possible for as low as $0 per month. Scan to start your screening now. Images include a person looking through the curtains in their bedroom, and a QR code linking to WhyAmIUp.com.

### 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. Images include the Amazon logo written in print, Braille, and sign language icons, as well as three images of disabled people using Amazon devices.

#### Be My Eyes:

Making Good Business Accessible. Be My Eyes. Using the power of AI for a more accessible world.

#### Oracle:

Collaboration is at the heart of what we do at Oracle. Oracle is proud to provide solutions that benefit our customers and meet the needs of our stakeholder community. We lead by example, collaborating on accessibility standards, building relationships with advocacy organizations and our customers. In collaboration with the National Federation of the Blind, we amplify the impact for all persons globally. Together, we empower users to see data in new ways, discover insights, and unlock endless possibilities. Learn more at oracle.com/accessibility. Images include two hands holding up a small group of people.

#### 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: Visit target.com/circle to learn about all the benefits of a Target Circle membership. Target provides free Aira service to assist you in all Target stores nationwide and while shopping online at Target.com. Learn more at aira.io/target. Target is excited to launch the first accessible self-checkout in the U.S. Designed with the blind, by the blind, for the blind, it will be rolling out to Target stores nationwide this year! Find us in the Bonaparte room throughout the convention to try it for yourself, ask questions, and sign up to participate in research. Images include a cartoon image of two people and dog sitting on the Target bullseye, with the word “Digital” written below in print and Braille.

### Silver

#### 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. Brown, Goldstein & Levy, let us tell your story. 120 East Baltimore Street, Suite 2500, Baltimore, MD 21202. 410-962-1030. [browngold.com](http://browngold.com). 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Suite 555 South, Washington, DC 20004. Images include black and white headshots of Brown, Goldstein & Levy employees.

#### CVS Health:

CVS Health is a proud sponsor of the 2025 National Federation of the Blind National Convention.

#### Market Development Group:

Best Wishes to the National Federation of the Blind for a successful 2025 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana. Market Development Group, Inc. A full-service marketing company. John Alahouzos, Executive Vice President. 7220 Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 210, Bethesda, MD 20814, USA. 202-298-8030, [www.MDGinc.org](http://www.MDGinc.org)

### Bronze

#### American Printing House:

Feel the Future of Museums. Immerse yourself in a world where everyone can explore. Live differently. Spread change. Learn more at [TheDotExperience.org](http://TheDotExperience.org). Images include The Dot Experience logo, and a hand exploring a piece of art.

#### C&P-Chris Park Technology:

The world’s first invention of iPhone, iPad, Chrome Book, Microsoft Surface/other Smart devices compatible video magnifier. You can use the full power of AI technology with the best image quality Video Magnifier at the same time. New true transportable i-loview MAX, i-loview16 and more! Smart Plug and Play! No hassle with software installation. Please check new premium designer canes by Mr. Chris Park! C&P, known as Chris Park Technology, develops products for people with vision loss. C&P is the real manufacturer of video magnifiers, canes, cameras, software for Optelec, Enhances Vision, Baum, HumanWare Europe, AI-Squared, NFB & other organizations. We have been working with nonprofit projects worldwide to help people. [Sales@ChrisParkDesign.com](mailto:Sales@ChrisParkDesign.com). Images include a student and group of adults using a magnification device, and a man walking with a cane.

#### Guiding Eyes for the Blind:

Guiding Eyes for the Blind provides guide dogs to people with vision loss. We are passionate about connecting exceptional dogs with individuals for greater independence. Guiding Eyes is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization with all services provided completely free of charge. Stop by our table in the exhibit hall for more information on our services – including our Specialized Training and Running Guide Programs! Images include the Guiding Eyes for the Blind logo, and a guide dog in a harness.

#### Mobile Voting:

Our mission is to expand voting options to include secure, accessible mobile voting so any voter, regardless of ability, can vote from anywhere. Electronic remote ballot delivery and return options are needed so voters can vote independently and privately from home. We continue to stand with the National Federation of the Blind to expand voting options. Learn more at [mobilevoting.org](http://mobilevoting.org). Images include the Mobile Voting logo.

### White Cane

#### AccessAbility Officer:

Want a remote job making $25 an hour? Here’s how the CAT Program works. It’s free for vocational rehab clients. If you train & get certified... You’re hired as an accessibility tester! To sign up for the CAT Program, call 518-718-2383.

#### AGIGA, Inc.:

EchoVision, the smart glasses for the blind and low vision. With cutting-edge AI technology, EchoVision offers real-time audio descriptions, enabling users to hear text read aloud, receive detailed descriptions of their surroundings including people nearby, access remote assistance and so much more. Join our booth for a free demo and attend our on-site presentation to learn more. Images include the AGIGA logo and QR code to the AGIGA website.

#### ABLE today at the National Association of State Treasurers:

Financial empowerment for people with disabilities. A+ ABLE today. ABLE accounts are savings and spending tools, but specifically for people with disabilities, that allow them to save money while helping to protect benefits such as Medicaid and SSI. Learn more about ABLE accounts: [abletoday.org](http://abletoday.org). Images include a blind woman with her cane.

#### American Foundation for the Blind:

Your voice matters. AFB leads groundbreaking research that charts a future of greater independence and inclusion in society. But we can’t do it without the valuable input of people like you. Participate today! Email our team at [research@afb.org](mailto:research@afb.org). [Afb.org/research](http://Afb.org/research). Images include AFB logo, and graphs under a magnifying glass.

#### 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 2.2AA 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).

#### En-Vision America:

Visit Us! Accessible Medication Labeling. 1-800-890-1180, [www.envisionamerica.com](https://www.envisionamerica.com). Images include En-Vision American logo, ScripTalk device saying, “Take Two Capsules Daily,” and a person reading their medication labels.

#### Envision-US:

Where innovation meets independence. At Envision’s Vision Rehabilitation Center (EVRC) and Research Institute, we’re reimagining what’s possible for people who are blind or visually impaired. Through cutting-edge research, personalized rehabilitation services, and nationally recognized expertise, we provide life-changing care and empower individuals to navigate life with confidence and independence.

From clinical breakthroughs to daily living support, EVRC is driving progress at every level of vision health. Discover more at [envisionus.com](file:///C:\Users\Suzanne%20Shaffer\Downloads\envisionus.com)

#### Feeldom, LLC:

Feeldom low-vision backpacks, cane pouches. 15% off NFB25. [www.FeeldomLife.com](https://www.FeeldomLife.com). Images include a cartoon animal using a cane and backpack, and a QR code linking to feeldomlife.com.

#### Govivid:

Go Big. Go Bold. Govivid.

#### IKE Smart City:

Meet IKE. IKE Smart City proudly supports the National Federation of the Blind and its mission. IKE Smart City pioneers innovative technology to improve lives in cities. Discovery, mobility, equity. Images include a pedestrian using an IKE digital kiosk on the sidewalk in Houston to discover nearby restaurants.

#### Independence Science:

Independence Science is your one-stop-shop for accessible STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics). We boldly champion STEM content: our blind and low vision scientists specialize in physics, chemistry, biology, computer science, data science, and more. We have extensive content knowledge and lived experience. We offer pre-employment transition service STEM programs, talking laboratory tools, virtual and on-site consulting, and custom classroom STEM experiences to promote science access for the blind. Contact us today to start your journey in STEM success!

#### Innosearch AI, Inc.:

Innosearch.ai. E-commerce for the Blind & Low Vision. Accessible Digital Services empowering the underserved online. 100% Accessible; 500,000 Retailers, Billions of Products; Grocery, Food Delivery, Flight Booking. Call us: +1 855-SHOP-GPT (1-855-746-7479). Check us out at: [www.innosearch.ai](http://www.innosearch.ai)

#### 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. Follow the Leader: Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Flickr, YouTube, LinkedIn. Images include the Leader Dogs for the Blind logo, and an icon of a person walking with a long white cane.

#### Saavi Services for the Blind:

Expect more. Expand your success with non-visual training at Saavi Services for the Blind in Arizona. Achieve more. Quickly gain the confidence and skills to unlock countless possibilities. Become more. Set your personal goals; we empower you to reach them. Images include Saavi logo, and QR code linking to saavi.us.

#### Sam’s Club:

Join a research session during the convention! Help us shape the future of the in club experience. Please scan the QR code to complete this brief survey to see if you’re a great fit for our session. [Bit.ly/SamsClubResearchNFB](http://Bit.ly/SamsClubResearchNFB). We value your time. As a thank you, invited participants will receive a Walmart gift card! Images include the Sam’s Club logo, and a QR code linking to [bit.ly/SamsClubResearchNFB](http://bit.ly/SamsClubResearchNFB).

#### Selvas BLV:

At Selvas BLV, we believe accessibility should be seamless, empowering, and built for the modern world. Come to our booth to get your hands on Selvas BLV’s Braille Tablets, Smart Braille Displays, Multimedia Players, and more! Exclusive promotions will be offered at our booth—don’t miss out! [www.selvasblv.com](http://www.selvasblv.com).

## Navigate the Hotel: Locations and Descriptions

Find the meeting rooms and common areas in the Marriott and Sheraton.

### Quick Guide: Meeting Room Locations

* Balcony I-N, Bonaparte, Regent, Bacchus, and Iberville meeting rooms – fourth floor (access only from River Tower elevators or double set of stairs on River Tower side of third and fourth floors)
* Exhibit Hall, Independence Market, and Federation Free Reads Table – the Sheraton Hotel third floor
* Galerie meeting rooms (Galerie 1-6) – second floor, River Tower side
* Grand Ballroom (Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet) – third floor, Quarter Tower side
* Preservation Hall breakout rooms (Studios 1-10) – second floor, Quarter Tower side
* Salon meeting rooms (A-H) – third floor, River Tower side

### New Orleans Marriott Description

The New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, fills an entire city block at the edge of the French Quarter. It has two main towers: Quarter Tower (twenty-one floors) and River Tower (forty-one floors).

#### Entering the Hotel

* Main entrance: on Canal Street, through double doors, and up a few steps to the lobby
* Right side: front desk, River Tower escalators and elevators (A–G), FedEx office
* Left side: Quarter Tower escalators and elevators (H–K), ATM

#### In the Lobby

* Concierge, bell stand, and lobby seating
* 55 Fahrenheit bar (with seating area), Canal Street Pantry (grab-and-go food and drinks)
* 5Fifty5 restaurant and M Club entrance
* Past M Club, revolving door to parking and wheelchair-accessible entrance (ADA paddle doors)

#### Second Floor Rooms

* Quarter Tower side: Preservation Hall Studios 1–10 (arranged in a horseshoe layout)
* River Tower side: Galerie Rooms 1–6
* Galerie 2 and 3 are accessed through a hallway behind the Quarter Tower elevator lobby

#### Third Floor

* Quarter Tower side: Grand Ballroom (Acadia, Bissonet, Carondelet)
* River Tower side: Salon Rooms A–H
* A hallway connects the ballrooms and salons, with restrooms near the River Tower elevators

#### Fourth Floor Rooms

* Smaller meeting rooms: Balcony I–N, Bonaparte, Regent, Bacchus, Iberville
* Access via River Tower elevators or Salon staircases from the third floor

#### Fifth Floor Rooms

* Outdoor pool deck and fitness center
* Meeting rooms: Audubon, Beauregard, Galvez, Jackson (River Tower side)

#### Forty-First Floor Rooms

* Napoleon, Lafayette, St. Charles, Riverview 1 and 2

#### Marriott Elevators (Smart Elevators)

* No floor buttons inside the elevator
* Tap room key card outside elevator below accessibility button to go to your floor, system will announce the elevator you should take (labeled A–K)
* Press the accessibility button to access the list of meeting room floors; press button again to scroll through list of meeting room floors, Presidential Suite, and Host Affiliate Suite
* Volunteers will be available to assist in busy elevator lobbies

### Sheraton New Orleans Description

The Sheraton Hotel, 500 Canal Street, is located directly across from the Marriott. When leaving the Marriott entrance on Canal Street, head northwest to the crosswalk and cross over Canal Street.

#### Entering the Hotel

* Entrance: from Canal Street into a bright atrium
* Right: Starbucks
* Left (one level down): Pelican Bar
* Straight ahead: escalators and elevator lobbies
* Left at the back of the lobby: registration desk and motor lobby entrance

#### Meeting Spaces by Floor

* Third floor: Napoleon Ballroom – location of Exhibit Hall and Independence Market
* Floors 2-5: main meeting rooms
* Eighth floor: some meeting rooms, plus pool and fitness center

#### Sheraton Elevators (Smart Elevators)

* Two elevator banks: lower floors (1–29) and upper floors (1–8, 29–49)
* Twenty-ninth floor: transfer point between the two elevator groups
* All elevators stop at lobby and meeting floors
* No floor buttons inside the elevator
* Use a keypad in the lobby to enter your floor
* The system assigns you an elevator car
* Accessibility mode available: press the accessibility button first for spoken instructions