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# 2022 National Convention Agenda#NFB22 New Orleans, Louisiana July 5 to July 10

Welcome to the

82nd Annual Convention of the

National Federation of the Blind

Mark A. Riccobono, President

National Federation of the Blind

200 East Wells Street *at Jernigan Place*

Baltimore, Maryland 21230

John Berggren, Chairman

Convention Organization and Activities

Pam Allen, President

National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

*Marriott New Orleans*

555 Canal Street

New Orleans, Louisiana 70130

855-821-4288

## Welcome!

Welcome to the world’s largest gathering of the organized blind, the National Federation of the Blind’s annual convention, where expectations are raised and lives literally transformed. The excitement surrounding our eighty-second convention is due in no small part to the fact that it has been three years since Federationists have come together in person to showcase the power and strength of our movement, to celebrate, to inspire, and to be inspired. More than just a list of the myriad of sessions you can attend, the agenda contains a wealth of information about the week including our safety protocols, our community expectations of one another, and descriptions of the hotel layouts. Read thoroughly and plan your week. Take every opportunity to explore, make new friends, and live the life you want at #NFB22.

### Rookie Roundup

All first-time convention attendees are cordially invited to attend a reception from 8:00 to 9:30 p.m. on Tuesday, July 5, in the Acadia Ballroom. President Riccobono and other Federation leaders will be on hand to welcome you to the convention and preview the week’s activities. Veteran conventioneers should urge all first-timers to attend this special event. We cannot wait to welcome you! In anticipation, check out our First Timer’s Guide at <https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/first-timers-guide>.

### Inclusivity, Diversity, and Code of Conduct

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

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

### Convention Safety Protocols and COVID-19 Testing

We ask that everyone do their part to keep our Federation family healthy and safe in this era of COVID-19. We are implementing new systems to minimize risk and ensure our community can comfortably enjoy an empowering convention experience. Please thoroughly review our 2022 National Convention Safety Protocols (<https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/2022-national-convention-safety-protocols>) and our National Convention COVID-19 Testing Protocols (<https://nfb.org/get-involved/national-convention/2022-national-convention-safety-protocols/covid-testing-protocols>). These documents, along with the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) answers on the testing protocols page, will provide a wealth of information.

Most importantly, please help us by fully masking in all meetings, the exhibit hall, and other public hotel spaces when not actively eating or drinking. Attendees should also practice social distancing throughout convention whenever possible. It is also important that all attendees self-monitor and seek a COVID-19 test if experiencing symptoms of COVID-19.

To participate in any convention activity, an attendee must produce a negative COVID-19 test result from a test performed not more than seventy-two (72) hours prior to checking in at the hotel. Any FDA-approved test is suitable, whether a molecular test such as a PCR test or an antigen test such as an at-home rapid test. A time-stamped photo of your negative test result, a smartphone screen shot, an electronic document, or paper documentation are acceptable. Documentation may be emailed to testresults@nfb.org or presented in person.

Those attendees unable or choosing not to test in advance can be tested at the Marriott. The NFB has engaged a third-party testing organization to administer COVID-19 rapid tests on site beginning at noon on July 4. In order to avoid waiting lines, attendees are STRONGLY encouraged to test and send results prior to arrival.

Upon confirmation of a negative COVID-19 test result, whether submitted in advance or produced on site, each attendee will receive a “Together in NOLA 2022” wristband. Attendees MUST have a wristband before proceeding to convention registration. When participating in any convention activity, attendees are expected to wear either their wristband or convention name badge and are invited to wear both.

### Convention Registration

As indicated in the safety protocols, you must show your “Together in NOLA 2022” wristband to register or pick up online registration materials. To ensure attendees are ready to participate in convention activities as they begin, registration will be available earlier than usual, opening at 8:00 a.m. in Salon E on both Tuesday and Wednesday and closing at 5:00 p.m. Beginning on Thursday, registration will move to Salon A for the remainder of the week as listed throughout the agenda. Onsite registration and packet pickup for those who registered online will both be available in the above locations. All convention attendees (both local and from out of town) are asked to register. Convention registration is a requirement for door prize eligibility and a number of other convention activities. We condition rates for hotel rooms on proof of registration, including the showing of an NFB registration badge, if requested.

### Exhibit Hall and Independence Market

The Exhibit Hall and the NFB Independence Market are located in the Sheraton Napoleon Ballroom, across the street from the Marriott at 500 Canal Street.

#### Exhibit Hall hours of operation are:

* 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 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.
* Saturday Noon to 1:45 p.m. (final opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall)

#### Independence Market hours of operation are:

* 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. (final opportunity to visit the Market)

### Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites

The Presidential Suite (room 4022) and the Host Affiliate’s Suite (room 633) are open during much of the convention. All are welcome to come to these suites to visit. Appointments to meet with President Riccobono may be made at the Presidential Suite. The Presidential and Host Affiliate Suites will be open during the following times:

* 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 1:00 p.m. and 6:00 to 8:00 p.m.
* Thursday 7:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and 5:00 to 6:30 p.m.
* Friday 7:00 a.m. to 10:45 a.m.
* Saturday 7:00 a.m. to Noon

### Survivor Safe Space

As a part of our ongoing efforts to provide safety, support, and inclusion within the National Federation of the Blind, the Blind Survivors Group is providing a safe space for survivors and individuals who have been impacted or harmed by sexual misconduct and other forms of abuse within the NFB and affiliated programs/events. We welcome you to drop in for confidential peer support, to discuss questions/concerns about ongoing safety and support measures within the NFB, and to access resources for additional support. The safe space, in the Regent meeting room on the fourth floor, will be available Monday through Friday from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday and Sunday from noon to 1:45 p.m.

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

## Monday, July 4, 2022

### Noon - 6:00 p.m. COVID Testing

**Salon D**

## Tuesday, July 5, 2022

### 7:15 - 8:00 a.m. Amateur Radio Division—Emergency Preparedness

**Galerie 5**

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

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

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

### 7:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Sharing Our Core Values: Creating Opportunities and Raising Expectations

**Studio 2, 3, 4, and 5**

Registration: adults, $30; two or more adults, $50; children (ages 0-18), free.

Sponsored by the National Organization of Parents of Blind Children Division (NOPBC). For more details, visit <https://nopbc.org/2022-nopbc-conference>.

Carlton Anne Cook Walker, President

* 7:30 - 9:00 a.m. Registration
* 9:00 - 10:30 a.m. Opening Session
* 10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session I STEM/Math Accessibility (Studio 2)
Independent Movement and Travel: From Foundational Skills to GPS (Studio 3)
Advocacy in Difficult Times (Studio 4)
CVI (Cortical/Cerebral Vision Impairment) (Studio 5)
* 1:45 - 3:00 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session II
Remote Braille Instruction (Studio 2)
Building the Foundation for Learning and Developing (Studio 3)
What’s Available Out There? Resources, Education, Development, and Recreation (Studio 4)
Stepping Back/Letting Go: Raise Your Expectations and Defeat Your Fears (Studio 5)

* 3:15 - 4:30 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Workshops, Session III
Blind Kids and Robots (Studio 2)
SSI/ABLE: Planning a Financial Future for Your Blind/Low Vision Child (Studio 3)
Tactile Exploration (Studio 4)
Independent Living Skills (Studio 5)

### 7:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Contemporary Issues in Rehabilitation and Education for the Blind—21st Annual Rehabilitation and Orientation and Mobility Conference

**Studio 9**

Register online before July 1 at

<https://nbpcb.org/members/login.php?r=/members/er.php?eid=493>)Before June 21 — $100 for in-person attendees; $50 for virtual attendees.

After June 21 — $115 for in-person attendees; $65 for virtual attendees.

Sponsors: National Blindness Professional Certification Board (NBPCB) and the Professional Development & Research Institute on Blindness (PDRIB) at the Louisiana Tech University.

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

**Galerie 5**

### 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Jernigan Institute Technology Seminars

**Galerie 4**

* 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. A Structured Discovery Approach to Access Technology Training and Curriculum
Enrique Mejia, Iowa Department for the Blind
* 10:00 - 11:30 a.m. Advocating for Accessibility
Matt Hackert, National Federation of the Blind
* 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. Accessibility of Chromebooks
Karl Belanger, National Federation of the Blind
* 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Producing Tactile Graphics and 3D Models: Nonvisual and Collaborative Workflows

Chancey Fleet, New York Public Library

### 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($75)

**Salon E**

### 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. COVID Testing

**Salon D**

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

Preregistration by June 20 was required. Please see convention note 11 for further information.

### 8:30 - 11:30 a.m. What’s New with Jaws, Fusion, and Zoomtext

**Galerie 6**

Join Eric Damery for his annual User Group meeting. We’ll demonstrate and discuss the recent developments and look at what's coming in 2023. Join the fun as we kick off the 2022 Convention with the JAWS teams from Training, Sales, and Marketing. Receive a gift for attending.

Eric Damery, Vice President, Software Product Management, Vispero

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

**Studio 1**

Annual meeting of the NFB Employment Committee. Learn about past and current events and committee initiatives. What is the future of remote employment? Interesting employment-related presentations. Ask questions and influence the committee’s work.

Dick Davis, Chair

### 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. The State of Digital Accessibility in 2022

**Studio 10**

Digital accessibility is becoming an increasing priority for companies across the United States. In this session, we’ll look at how business perspectives are changing, new standards and regulations, accessibility in new technologies, and what we can expect in the years to come.

Tom Babinszki, Vice President of Accessibility, eSSENTIAL Accessibility

### 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Sports and Recreation Division Breakout Sessions

**Studio 7**

* 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Making Health and Fitness a Lifestyle
Learn all about LEAN as we share how to make health and fitness an integral part of your day-to-day life.
* 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Nutrition and Fitness Resources Roundtable

Come share the apps and resources you love for eating well and staying fit. Learn about other offerings from new friends during our roundtable discussion.

### 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Target Accessibility Q&A and Feedback

Galerie 5

Drop by for an open forum and meet members of Target’s digital accessibility team. Ask questions about shopping target.com, our mobile apps, and in-store experiences. We welcome feedback on what you like and how we can improve our accessibility efforts.

Steve Decker, Lead Accessibility Consultant, Target

### 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. Considerations for Members with Intersecting Disabilities

**Studio 8**

Are you interested in learning about members who have intersecting disabilities beyond blindness? Come for resources, membership involvement, networking, and understanding. Many members have other disabilities within the NFB, and an environment of inclusion is important.

Doula Jarboe and Jessica Beecham, Coordinators

**1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Glad to Be Back: News from HumanWare**

**Galerie 6**

Join HumanWare as we look at updates to our Braille products including the BrailleNote Touch Plus and the BI X series Braille displays. Time will also be dedicated to what is new in our low-vision portfolio, and to the demonstration of a new and exciting GPS product.

Andrew Flatres, Customer Service, and Peter Tucic, Director of Strategic Partnerships, HumanWare

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Job Seeker Seminar

**Galerie 1, 2, and 3**

Pick a room and the interactive discussion leaders come to you. Topics are Job Search as if You Are Getting Paid, Marketing Yourself in Every Aspect of Your Life, and Interactive Interview Skills and Practice. Just beginning? Choose Job Search Fundamentals 101 and stay put.

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee. Dick Davis, Chair

### 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tactile Art and Picture Books

**Studio 6**

Drop-in art making and reading activities, free for all ages. Bring your friends and meet new people. Read picture books with tactile pictures. Make raised-line drawings and sculptures inspired by the stories in the books or inspired by the stories within you!

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 1:30 - 5:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

### 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. NAGDU: Awareness Is Everybody's Business

**Galerie 5**

Come join the National Association of Guide Dog Users for our annual seminar. Participants will learn strategies for becoming their own best advocate, gain a better understanding of legal matters pertaining to guide dog users, get updates from training programs, and much more.

Stacie Gallegos and Paul Sandoval, NAGDU Seminar Committee Co-chairs

### 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Website Coordinators and Contributors Meeting

**Studio 8**

Whether you currently have a role or someday want to contribute, we know everyone can get involved in NFB affiliate/division websites from content to code. Join us to learn about the progress of our Drupal transition and help build upcoming training sessions for others.

Corbb O'Connor, Chair

### 5:00 - 7:30 p.m. Mix-and-Mingle Reception for Rehabilitation Professionals

**Riverview 1**

### 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Diversity, Language, and Barriers

**Studio 4**

Language is important to our identities. How do we develop inclusive and consensual language when communicating? Learn practices for becoming language conscious, engaging in respectful dialogue, and using inclusive language to connect with Federationists of diverse backgrounds.

Shannon Cantan, Coordinator

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

**Beauregard**

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns regarding employment, technology, education, voting, travel, COVID tests, housing, parental rights, and more. Schedule your appointment by emailing [vyingling@nfb.org](file:///C%3A%5CUsers%5Csskaarer%5CDropbox%5C2020%20convention%5Cagenda%5Cvyingling%40nfb.org). Please request your appointment by June 23.

### 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. NOPBC Family Game Night

**Riverview 2**

Relax, chat, meet new families and teachers, and connect with old friends. Veteran attendees will be on hand to welcome you and provide information. We’ll have games available to play and we’ll demonstrate easy ways to adapt games at home for accessibility.

### 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. Technology Evaluation Committee Exhibitor's Showcase

**Studio 7**

All are invited to join the Technology Evaluation Committee’s Exhibitor’s Showcase to learn about low- to high-tech products from vendors. From hardware to software and more. You can hear the latest from everyone at this meeting. You do not have to be on the committee to attend.

Mark Jones, Chair

### 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. NFB in Judaism Meeting

**Studio 3**

Join us as we discuss ways that people who are blind and Jewish can be integral members of the Jewish community. We will also discuss ways that members of the NFB can reach out to bring other blind people who happen to be Jewish into the Federation.

Stewart Prost, Chair

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Independence Science SciDot

**Studio 1**

Independence Science and Tactile Engineering are leaders in science access for the blind. We develop accessible data collection tools. Come see our newest product, the SciDot, which involves real-time access to refreshable Braille graphics technology. See our products in action.

### 7:30 - 9:30 p.m. NABS Student Networking

**Galerie 1, 2, and 3**

Blind students, kick off your in-person 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!

Trisha Kulkarni, President

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

**Acadia Ballroom**

First-time convention attendees—don’t miss this event! President Riccobono and former rookies will be on hand to welcome you and answer questions about 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

## Wednesday, July 6, 2022

### 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($75)

**Salon E**

### 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. COVID Testing

**Salon D**

### 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

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

**Studio 10**

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

### 8:45 - 10:15 a.m. Mujeres of the Federation

**Studio 7**

This bilingual celebration of blind Latina excellence features dynamic speakers. Come for an environment of inspiration, mentorship, and strategies for success to the next generation of blind Latina trailblazers.

Rosy Carranza, Coordinator

### 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Blind and Mena: A Different Type of Brown

**Studio 1**

Members who are American Arab, North African, Middle Eastern, South Asian, Muslim, and Sikh face unique challenges in post-9/11 America. Join us to learn about community identities and stereotypes as well as resources available to members with these intersectionalities.

Ronza Othman, Coordinator

### 9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Cultivating Asian American and Pacific Islander Identities

**Studio 3**

Connect with blind Asian members to discuss cultural practices and to share strategies for approaching vision loss. Provide your insight on delivering culturally relevant outreach, including producing materials, messaging techniques, and identifying needed resources.

Michell Gip, Coordinator

### 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Orientation to Career Fair

**Galerie 1**

Introduction to this year's Career Fair. Last-minute information for registered employers and job seekers. Meet the employers and learn exactly what they are looking for.

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee. Dick Davis, Chair

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

**Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton**

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

**Studio 4**

Affiliate membership chairs, membership committee members, chapter presidents,
and all Federationists are invited to join us in finding creative ways to build our membership. Share best practices to take our chapters, affiliates, and our national organization to the next level.

Denise Avant and Tarik Williams, Co-chairs

### 10:00 - 11:00 a.m. Common Digital Accessibility Barriers

**Studio 8**

Learn about the most frequently encountered digital accessibility barriers on the web and in mobile apps. We’ll share how we help companies identify, prioritize, and fix them. We’ll also look at the most common issues cited in demand letters and litigation.

Tom Babinszki, Vice President of Accessibility, eSSENTIAL Accessibility

### 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. Colorado Center for the Blind Open House

**Galerie 3**

Get the inside scoop from our vibrant Colorado Center staff and dedicated students! Learn about new apps for your phone, get some favorite recipes, and use a click rule. Hear about our enrichment classes including tactile art, yoga, challenge recreation, and employment.

### 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee Meeting

**Studio 2**

Come hear about the progress that the National Federation of the Blind’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is making. What questions do you have? How can we drive DEI efforts across the Federation together? Get answers about state committees, networking, and much more.

Shawn Callaway and Colin Wong, Co-chairs

### 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Code of Conduct Listening Session

**Bacchus**

Meet individually with members of the NFB Code of Conduct Feedback Committee to share feedback and suggestions regarding the NFB Code of Conduct. The focus is on both improving the participant experience and socializing the Code. Schedule your appointment by emailing Codefeedback@nfb.org or calling 410-659-9314, extension 2475. Please request your appointment by June 30.

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

**Acadia Ballroom**

Sharon Maneki, Chair

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

**Galerie 4, 5, and 6**

Our first in-person career fair since 2019. Come meet employers who are interested in hiring you, including many of our convention sponsors. This is your first step to a great future. Preregistration required. (Sorry, no walk-ins.)

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee. Dick Davis, Chair

### 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Tactile Art and Picture Books

**Studio 6**

Drop-in art making and reading activities, free for all ages. Bring your friends and meet new people. Read picture books with tactile pictures. Make raised-line drawings and sculptures inspired by the stories in the books or inspired by the stories within you!

Ann Cunningham, Coordinator

### 2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Apple, Amazon, or Alexander Graham Bell

**Studio 7**

In this session you will learn how to enjoy NFB-NEWSLINE®, a free, easy-to-use audio and Braille accessible library of information, available anytime, anywhere, using a touch-tone telephone, iPhone/iPad/iPod mobile app, or an Amazon smart speaker.Scott White, Director of Sponsored Technology Programs, National Federation of the Blind

### 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. NFB in the Kitchen Group

**Studio 8**

Sometimes all you need to change up your regular cooking routine is a little spark of inspiration and a few tools. As a community of cooking enthusiasts strengthening confidence, come, let’s talk all things food, tools, tech, and kitchen. Bring your ideas and enthusiasm.

Regina Mitchell, Chair

### 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

### 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. Second Annual NFB Muslims Group Seminar

**Studio 1**

Diverse in culture, united in faith: finding our space in the blindness movement. Join us to learn about our group and our involvement in the NFB. Participate in a discussion on intersection between faith and blindness, access, inclusion, diversity, identity, and advocacy.

Tasnim Alshuli, Chair

### 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sports and Recreation Division Breakout Sessions

**Studio 5**

* 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Mindfulness and Meditation
Join us as we explore and practice mindfulness and share useful resources you can use to further your practice.
* 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Sports and Fitness Recovery Techniques

One of the most important aspects of athletic performance and stress management is proper recovery. Learn to foam roll, check out a massage gun, explore trigger point techniques, and learn stretches to take your recovery to the next level.

### 4:30 - 6:00 p.m. Learn to Host an NFB Youth Program!

**Studio 3**

Youth programs can be a great way to introduce new families to the Federation. If you are curious about what it takes to host an NFB BELL® Academy, STEM2U, or other NFB youth program, come hear from experienced program coordinators about what has helped make their events successful, fun, and full of learning.

Karen Anderson, Education Programs Coordinator, National Federation of the Blind

### 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. Dream Makers Circle and Planned Giving Q&A

**Studio 4**

Are you wondering about planned giving and our Dream Makers Circle Legacy Society? Do you want to learn how easy it is to join? Come and ask all your questions.

Patti Chang, Director of Outreach, National Federation of the Blind

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

**Beauregard**

Meet with a disability rights attorney to discuss blindness discrimination concerns regarding employment, technology, education, voting, travel, COVID tests, housing, parental rights, and more. Schedule your appointment by emailing vyingling@nfb.org. Please request your appointment by June 23.

### 6:15 - 10:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Students (NABS) Annual Business Meeting

**Galerie 4, 5, and 6**

Join our vibrant national student division as we reflect on lessons learned from the pandemic and pave our path forward! Only members who have completed our membership process before June 30 will be eligible to participate in official business.

Trisha Kulkarni, President

### 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Greek and Masonic Group

**Studio 10**

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

### 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. LGBTQ+ Educational Workshop

**Studio 1**

Join members of the LGBTQ+ Group to discuss factors that impact our inclusion in society. This is an educational workshop focused on eliminating popular misconceptions and addressing prevalent misinformation, especially those issues
that affect blind Federationists.

Kaden Colton, Coordinator

### 7:00 - 8:30 p.m. White Cane Committee & Fundraising Seminar

**Studio 8**

Join us for a seminar. Our state conventions and access to our members have value. Learn how to gain financial support from things we already do. Do you want to maximize donor support based on our visibility and our import or have general fundraising questions to ask?

Everett Bacon, Chair

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

**Galerie 2**

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

Michael Dalto, Social Security Expert

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

**Galerie 3**

A recap of Washington Seminar, a rundown of priorities, and an opportunity for legislative directors and others interested in advocating for the rights of the nation's blind to exchange strategies to move our legislative priorities at the local, state, and federal levels.

Kyle Walls, Jeff Kaloc, and Justin Young, Government Affairs Team, National Federation of the Blind

### 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Blind Parents Group

**Studio 2**

There are many books on how to be the best parent, but not many on how to be the best blind parent. Meet the people writing the pages of the book on how to be a blind parent by simply living and not letting blindness hold them back from raising families. You won't want to miss this meeting!

Lisamaria Martinez, Chair

## Thursday, July 7, 2022

### 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($75)

**Salon A**

### 8:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. COVID Testing

**Salon D**

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

**Acadia and Bissonet Ballroom**

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp captioning link: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

**Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton**

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

**Acadia Ballroom Foyer**

### 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. NOPBC Youth Track

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

### 1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Amateur “Ham” Radio Division Annual Meeting

**Studio 10**

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

Corbb O’Connor, President

### 1:00 - 3:30 p.m. Community Service Division Celebration

**Salon B**

The party starts here with the Community Service Division! Who dat? We are a division with willing workers serving beyond the six dots. The Big Easy is known to celebrate culture and community. Hence, our division is enthusiastically shouting, "Let the good times roll!”

Jeanetta Price, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Blind Rehabilitation Professionals Division

**Studio 2**

Come join your peers working in blind rehabilitation fields as we support each other through presentations and discussions on professional development, employment ideas, and resources for supporting well-rounded rehabilitation programs.

* 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Networking opportunity

Amy Porterfield, President

### 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. NFB DeafBlind Division Business Meeting

**Galerie 1**

Join the first-ever NFB DeafBlind Division expo emphasizing relationship building, communication challenges, and deafblind-friendly alternative techniques. Get updates on deafblind issues, the division’s business, and elections.

* 1:00 p.m. Registration (dues are $10)

Alice Eaddy, President

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

**Galerie 6**

This year, 2022, is the year of the tiger. The tiger embodies courage, bravery, and strength. We will feature presentations by Lauren McLarney and Michael Dalto, who will discuss self-employment and Social Security.

Nicky Gacos, President

### 1:00 - 4:30 p.m. Writers Division Business Meeting

**Studio 5**

Come join the Writers Division for our annual business meeting. Come learn our contest winners, enjoy readings, participate in a Writers Round Up 2.0. Registration will be $10 in person or online.

Shelley Alongi, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Senior Division

**Studio 7**

Join us for our Senior Division meeting where you can help plan for: our winter virtual senior retreat; brainstorm discussion topics for the coming year’s conference calls;

and meet Jessica Beecham to teach us about exercise and healthy living.

Judy Sanders, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. NFB in Communities of Faith

**Studio 3**

Publishers of faith-based literature will provide an update regarding the work of their respective organizations. Other speakers will describe how their faith has helped them to overcome challenges. Division business will be conducted.

Tom Anderson, President

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

**Galerie 4**

Current and aspiring tech trainers: join us for professional development, networking, and fellowship. We’ll explore what it takes to become a great trainer, how to help our students build sustainable digital literacy skills, and strategies for remote training.

Chancey Fleet, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. Performing Arts Division and Voice Acting

**Galerie 2**

Come prepared to network with other performers! Join us for our annual business meeting followed by a workshop all about voice acting and voiceover work.

Katelyn MacIntyre, President

### 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. NFB in Computer Science

**Galerie 5**

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

Brian Buhrow, President

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

**Galerie 3**

Examine legal issues arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic for the blind; address ongoing struggles to gain equal access to websites, employment, legal texts, and exams; share practice tips and technology tools for blind lawyers. Please go to [www.blindlawyers.net](http://www.blindlawyers.net) to register for the meeting.

* 12:30 p.m. Registration
* 5:00 p.m. Ticketed reception

Scott LaBarre, President

### 1:00 - 3:45 p.m. National Organization of Parents of Blind Children (NOPBC) Annual Meeting

**Studio 9**

Mix and mingle with vendors, blind mentors, and other parents. Learn about cutting-edge products and programs for our kids. Experience Parent Power. Participate in our business meeting, elections, and much more!

Carlton Anne Cook Walker, President

### 1:30 - 4:00 p.m. National Organization of Blind Educators Division

**Studio 6**

Blind teachers and educators discuss techniques they use in their classrooms. Participants meet in groups specific to grade level and content area to create a network of colleagues and mentors. If you teach or are considering a career in teaching, please join us.

Cayte Mendez, President

### 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. Diabetes Action Network Annual Meeting

**Studio 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

### 2:00 - 5:00 p.m. National Association of Blind Veterans Meeting

**Studio 4**

All veterans are invited. We will conduct our annual business meeting after a short networking period. We will not be holding elections this year. Remember your dues must be paid in full to vote.

* 2:00 p.m. Networking
* 3:00 p.m. Business meeting

Vernon Humphrey, President

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

**Salon C**

If you have a passion for people, we invite you to join our meeting! We will discuss strategies for meeting needs of diverse populations, conduct self-care activities, and problem-solve issues related to human services. Register here: <https://forms.gle/yrDJsKqERJUdFmva8>.

Candice Chapman, President

### 3:30 - 5:00 p.m. Sports and Recreation Division Meeting

**Studio 10**

Come move, learn, share, have fun, and get down to business with the Sports and Recreation Division at our annual business meeting.

Jessica Beecham, President

### 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. New Aira Desktop App Enhances School and Work

**Studio 6**

Aira is secure and professional visual interpreting for your smart phone and now desktop computer. Learn about the new desktop release and how we’re supporting the community with Aira at no cost at universities, as a job seeker, as a small business owner, and at Aira Employment Partners.

Troy Otillio, CEO, and Sandra Marcus, Vice President of Marketing, Aira

### 5:00 - 6:30 p.m. American Action Fund for Blind Children and Adults Braille Book Fair

**Riverview 1**

Browse tables of new and used Braille and print/Braille books. We have fiction, nonfiction, and early readers through multi-volume novels, cookbooks, and more
—all offered at no cost. Volunteers will box and prepare selections to be shipped to your home via free matter. Donations accepted.

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

**Galerie 6**

All state affiliate presidents and treasurers are asked to attend this session. We will discuss issues related to tracking affiliate finances and other aspects of organization administration. Participants can discuss state issues with facilitator Bridgid Burke.

### 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Professionals in Blindness Education Division

**Galerie 4**

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

### 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. National Association of Guide Dog Users Division

**Studio 9**

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

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

**Studio 3**

Learn about several interactive graphics methods, blind-friendly math education methods, the NFB SABER project for students, the Pearson Nemeth Code Curriculum, and Science and Engineering Division mentoring.

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

John Miller, President

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Sports and Recreation Division Breakout Sessions

**Studio 8**

* 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Anytime Anywhere Fitness
Join us to learn and practice body weight exercises that can be done anywhere, any time! Use them to build workouts that you can take with you wherever you go!
* 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Anytime Anywhere Fitness

Join us for an advanced High Intensity Interval Training Workout. This is a workout designed for those who regularly engage in intense physical activity and have a basic foundation in body weight exercises.

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Upward Mobility Seminar

**Galerie 1**

You are employed, but what comes next? Step out of your comfort zone with some innovative ideas about career advancement and entrepreneurship. Brainstorming is always welcome.

Sponsored by the NFB Employment Committee. Dick Davis, Chair

### 7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Black Leaders Serving for Advancement

**Galerie 5**

Celebrate the numerous contributions of black Federation leaders. This meeting will serve to establish the foundation for a proposed division to inspire the next generation of black blind leaders through program activities to mentor and build the diversity of the movement.

Shawn Callaway, Coordinator

### 7:30 - 10:00 p.m. Blind Government Employment Meeting

**Studio 4**

Join employees, retirees, and applicants for employment of federal, state, and local government entities, including pseudo-government entities, as we reorganize and merge the Blind Public Employees Division and Blind Government Employment Committee. We will discuss solutions to issues faced by blind public servants.

Ronza Othman and Everette Bacon, Co-chairs, Blind Government Employment Committee

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

**Studio 1**

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

### 8:00 - 9:00 p.m. Affiliate Historians: An Introduction

**Studio 7**

Join us as we give a brief introduction to the role of affiliate/division historians and how to approach saving items of importance from the start. A Q&A will follow. Open to anyone. Affiliate presidents and historians encouraged to attend.

Nichole Chrissis, Archivist, National Federation of the Blind

### 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. Training Champions with the BLIND, Inc. Team

**Galerie 2**

Join the staff of BLIND, Inc. for this interactive event sure to help you learn how attending blindness skills training will help you become an all star!

### 8:00 - 10:00 p.m. Blind Survivors Group

**Studio 6**

Join the newly established Blind Survivors Group for our inaugural kickoff meeting where we will reflect, support, and plan for future survivor and victim-centered programming within the Federation. Please email survivors@nfb.org with any access needs ahead of the event!

Kathryn Webster and Danielle Montour, Co-chairs

### 9:00 - 11:00 p.m. LGBT+: Let's Talk About the Plus

**Salon B**

Come one, come all! We warmly welcome you to a hybrid event for our LGBT+ Group. Not sure if you belong? Well, let's talk about that plus! Note that a Zoom link will be published as we get closer.

Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair

## Friday, July 8, 2022

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

**Studio 1**

### 8:45 - 9:15 a.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and Banquet Ticket Sales ($75)

**Salon A**

### 8:45 - 9:15 a.m. Banquet Exchange

**Acadia Ballroom Foyer**

## Opening General Session (Friday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>
1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

### 9:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

##### **Call to Order and Invocation**

##### **Welcoming Ceremonies: Back Together on the Bayou**

###### 2022 National Convention Host Committee: National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana

##### **Celebration of Freedom: Veterans Recognized**

###### Vernon Humphrey, President, National Association of Blind Veterans, a Division of the National Federation of the Blind; Mauk, Georgia

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

##### **Reports and Resolutions**

##### **Adjourn**

### Noon - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Acadia Ballroom Foyer**

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

**Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton**

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. What's New with Amazon Accessibility

**Studio 2**

Join us for demos and discussion of accessible Amazon products including Alexa and Smarthome, Fire TV at home and in your car, Fire tablets for school and work, audio description on Prime Video, books and shopping, and of course, exciting Amazon prizes for lucky attendees.

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

**Galerie 1, 2, and 3**

Please join us to learn about our transformative programs! Reconnect with alumni and staff! Find out more about graduate degrees at Louisiana Tech University! Discover how LCB training will help you live the life you want!

Pam Allen, Executive Director

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Leader Dog Meet and Greet

**Studio 4**

Meet Leader Dog team members and learn about the free services provided at Leader Dogs for the Blind! Participants can ask questions and hear about the free orientation and mobility program, virtual learning opportunities, and the new podcast, *Taking the Lead*!

David Locklin, Chief Program Officer, and Tina Goedertier, Manager of Training, Leader Dogs for the Blind

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. What's New in Google Accessibility?

**Galerie 6**

Get the latest on what’s happening with Google and accessibility.

### 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. New Aira Desktop App Enhances School and Work

**Galerie 5**

Aira is secure and professional visual interpreting for your smart phone and now desktop computer. Learn about the new desktop release and how we’re supporting the community with free Aira at universities, as a job seeker, as a small business owner, and at Aira Employment Partners.

Troy Otillio, CEO, and Sandra Marcus, Vice President of Marketing, Aira

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. Finding Ms. Blind Diva Empowerment Pageant

**Studio 1**

Do you identify as a fabulous female? Well, this is the session for you! Join the Finding Ms. Blind Diva Empowerment Pageant Tour this year! Learn how you can take home the title and win $1,000 cash and prizes and more. No pageant or model experience is required.

Krystle Allen, President, Eyes Like Mine, Inc.

### 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Islamic Friday Prayer Services

**Studio 9**

The NFB Muslims Group is offering the Islamic Friday prayer services for all Muslims. Non-Muslims are also welcome to attend.

### 1:15 - 1:45 p.m. Registration ($30), Packet Pickup, and *Final* Banquet Ticket Sales ($75)

**Salon A**

## General Session II (Friday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

##### **Call to Order**

##### **Presidential Report**

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

##### **Giving Wings to Transformation: The Magic of Partnership with the Blind Movement**

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

###### Bruce Miles, Chief Executive Officer, HumanWare; Drummondville, Québec, Canada

##### **Accelerating Our Blind Driver Challenge: Raising Expectations at 211.43 mph**

###### Dan Parker, Blind Machinist and Racecar Driver; Columbus, Georgia

##### **Owning Our Future: Continuous Revolution in Training through the Organized Blind Movement**

###### Joanne Wilson, Founder, Louisiana Center for the Blind; Ruston, Louisiana

###### Pam Allen, Executive Director, Louisiana Center for the Blind; Ruston, Louisiana

###### Julie Deden, Executive Director, Colorado Center for the Blind; Littleton, Colorado

###### Jennifer Kennedy, Executive Director, Blindness: Learning in New Dimensions (BLIND), Inc.; Minneapolis, Minnesota

##### **Federation SAFE: Blind Survivors, Leadership, and Our Shared Commitment**

###### Kathryn Webster, Co-chair, Blind Survivors Group; Boston, Massachusetts

###### Danielle Montour, Co-chair, Blind Survivors Group; Brooklyn, New York

##### **Reports and Resolutions**

##### **Adjourn**

### 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. Research and Academic Professionals Meeting

**Salon C**

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

### 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. NFB Code Process Discussion with Tonya Baña

**Studio 8**

NFB Code of Conduct external investigator Tonya Baña will share information about the process used to investigate reports of sexual misconduct in the NFB.

Ronza Othman, Chair, NFB Code of Conduct Feedback Committee; Kathryn Webster and Danielle Montour, Co-chairs, NFB Survivors Group

### 6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Pinot and Pups

**Studio 7**

Parents: we are so excited about our growing K9 Buddy program here at GDB! We believe that a dog can make a remarkable difference in any child's life by fostering a sense of caring, companionship, and a sense of responsibility. Come enjoy a glass of wine with me and learn more.

Jane Flower, Youth Outreach Specialist, Guide Dogs for the Blind

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Exhibit Hall

**Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton**

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

**Studio 2**

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

Liz Wisecarver, Chair

### 7:00 - 9:45 p.m. NOPBC Concurrent Sessions: IEP Night

**Studio 3 and 4**

* 7:00 - 8:15 p.m. Getting the Lay of the Land: Blindness-Specific IEP Tips (Studio 3)
Braille Is Fun! Learning Braille through Games (Studio 4)
* 8:30 - 9:45 p.m. Alternatives to Due Process (Studio 3)

Braille Displays and Braille Embossers: What’s Available and What Are They Good For? (Studio 4)

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

### 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. Welcome Dance and Reception

**Galerie 1, 2, and 3**

*Laissez les bon temps rouler!* Let the good times roll! Your Louisiana krewe invites you to enjoy live music and dancing! Connect with friends and make new ones! Come join us for a fun-filled event!

## Saturday, July 9, 2022

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

**Studio 1**

### 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 (Saturday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

##### **Call to Order and Invocation**

##### **Financial Report, Including the Honor Roll Call**

##### **Elections**

##### **Living the Life She Wants: Staying Grounded and Shooting for the Moon with Federation Philosophy**

###### Denna Lambert, Lead for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility, Early Stage Innovations and Partnerships (ESIP), Technology Mission Directorate, National Aeronautics and Space Administration; Greenbelt, Maryland

##### **Living the Life He Wants: Stoking Employment Opportunities through Movies, Sports, and Achievement**

###### Jack Chen, Assistant General Counsel, Meta (Facebook); New York, New York

##### **Reports and Resolutions**

##### **Adjourn**

### Noon - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Acadia Ballroom Foyer**

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

**Napoleon Ballroom, Sheraton**

Final opportunity to visit the Exhibit Hall and Independence Market.

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Dan Parker’s World Record Corvette

**Porte Cochère (Valet Entrance)**

Five years ago, Dan Parker acquired a 2008 Corvette C6 and set about repurposing the gutted car to seek a Guinness World Record. He took it to New Mexico in March of this year for that attempt. Come check out the car that Dan built to go over 211 mph—shattering the record.

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. NOPBC Brainstorming Session

**Salon B**

Please share your ideas with us. What did you like at this convention? What resources would help you stay connected throughout the year? What workshops might you like to see us offer next year? Be a part of this valuable conversation.

Carlton Anne Cook Walker, President.

### 12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Code of Conduct Listening Session

**Bacchus**

Meet individually with members of the NFB Code of Conduct Feedback Committee to share feedback and suggestions regarding the NFB Code of Conduct. The focus is on both improving the participant experience and socializing the Code. Schedule your appointment by emailing Codefeedback@nfb.org or calling 410-659-9314, extension 2475. Please request your appointment by June 30.

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. How the Blind Community Can Shape NFTs

**Galerie 4**

What are NFTs and how can you get involved? Learn and discuss how the blind community can and should play a role in evolving economic opportunities in crypto. Suman Kanuganti, CEO and Founder of Personal.ai

### 12:45 - 1:45 p.m. What's New with Instagram and Facebook Family

**Studio 3**

Learn about new accessibility features in Instagram, Facebook, and others in the family of apps at Meta.

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

**Salon A**

## General Session IV (Saturday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

##### **Call to Order**

##### **A Champion for Equal Opportunities: Making a Difference from Louisiana’s Second Congressional District**

###### The Honorable Troy Carter, United States House of Representatives, Second Congressional District; New Orleans, Louisiana

##### **Who Owns This Story: Audio Description as Art Not Charity**

###### Moderator: Everette Bacon, President, National Federation of the Blind of Utah; Salt Lake City, Utah

Elisa Beniero, Dubbing Title Manager, Netflix; Los Angeles, California

###### Rick Boggs, CEO and Founder, Audio Eyes; Los Angeles, California

###### Roy Samuelson, Founder, The Audio Description Network Alliance, and Kevin’s Way; Los Angeles, California

##### **Owning the Change We Want: A Report from the Federation's Advocacy and Policy Department**

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

###### Jeff Kaloc, NFB Government Affairs Specialist; Baltimore, Maryland

###### Justin Young, NFB Government Affairs Specialist; Baltimore, Maryland

##### **Reports, Resolutions, and Other Business**

##### **Adjourn**

### 5:15 - 7:00 p.m. Dan Parker’s World Record Corvette

**Porte Cochère (Valet Entrance)**

Five years ago, Dan Parker acquired a 2008 Corvette C6 and set about repurposing the gutted car to seek a Guinness World Record. He took it to New Mexico in March of this year for that attempt. Come check out the car that Dan built to go over 211 mph—shattering the record.

### 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Advanced Screening of *Surpassing Sight*

**Salon D**

Join us for an advanced screening of the film *Surpassing Sight*, which parallels the journey of Jack Chen and Dan Berlin, high-level blind businessmen and competitive athletes to tackle the toughest cycling race in the world, racing from California to Maryland.

### 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Digital Accessibility Professionals Meetup

**Salon B**

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.

Corbb O’Connor and Matt Hackert, Facilitators

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

**Balcony L**

Registration required. Email NOPBCpres@gmail.com for details.

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

**Studio 1**

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

### 8:00 - 11:00 p.m. Twentieth 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 with questions or to sign up.

## Sunday, July 10, 2022

### 7:30 - 8:45 a.m. Islamic Eid al-Adha Holiday Prayer Services

**Studio 9**

In observance of Eid al-Adha holiday, the NFB Muslims Group is offering the Islamic Eid al-Adha holiday prayer services for all Muslims. Non-Muslims are also welcome to attend.

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

**Studio 1**

### 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 (Sunday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

##### **Call to Order and Invocation**

##### **Owning Your Creative Content: Cryptocurrency, Accessibility, and the Organized Blind Movement**

###### Suman Kanuganti, CEO, Personal.ai; San Diego, California

##### **Building the Future Together: A Report from Our Jernigan Institute**

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

##### **Stretching the Dimensions of Nonvisual Learning: Blind-Led Youth Programming and Engineering**

###### Natalie Shaheen, Project Director, NFB SABER Project and NFB EQ Programs, and Assistant Professor, Illinois State University; Normal, Illinois

###### Madeline Mau, Student, NFB EQ Online 2021; Princeton Junction, New Jersey

###### Robert Eggleston, Student, NFB EQ 2021; Virginia Beach, Virginia

###### Maura Loberg, Student, NFB EQ 2019; Lincoln, Nebraska

###### Gabriel Mendez-Frances, Student, NFB EQ 2019; Birmingham, Alabama

###### Andrea Cataquiz, Student, NFB EQ 2021; Glendale Heights, Illinois

###### Abby Duffy, Student, NFB EQ 2019 and NFB EQ Online 2020; Concord, New Hampshire

##### **Accessibility Awareness on a Global Scale: Bringing Tech Professionals to Our Movement of Equality**

###### Jennison Asuncion, Co-founder, Global Accessibility Awareness Day, and Vice Chair, GAAD Foundation; Sunnyvale, California

##### **Creating Content with Accessibility as the Default: Celebrating Drupal's Olivero Theme and Calling for More Blind Contributors**

###### Mike Gifford, Senior Strategist, CivicActions, and Drupal Core Accessibility Maintainer; Lafayette, California

##### **The Right to Participate Fully in Twenty-First Century America: Civil Rights Advancement at the United States Department of Justice**

###### Anne Raish, Principal Deputy Chief, Disability Rights Section, United States Department of Justice; Washington, District of Columbia

##### **Leading through Literacy: A New Library Director Committed to Partnership with the Organized Blind Movement**

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

##### **Reports and Resolutions**

##### **Adjourn**

### Noon - 1:45 p.m. Raffles and Drawings

Studio 10

### 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. National Library Service: Help Us Shape the Future

**Galerie 4**

Join us to provide your input, sign up for beta test opportunities, and see the latest
NLS technology including both eReaders. This session is hosted by the newly formed Patron Engagement Section, and we are seeking your feedback.

### 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Contribute to Making Drupal Even More Accessible

**Salon B**

Mike Gifford spearheads Drupal’s accessibility. Many of Drupal's advances in accessibility have been inspired by blind developers. Learn how you can be involved, even if you aren't a developer. Many open source projects depend on volunteers, and you, too, can contribute.

Mike Gifford, Senior Strategist, CivicActions, and Drupal Core Accessibility Maintainer

### Noon - 1:45 p.m. Banquet Exchange

**Acadia Ballroom Foyer**

Final opportunity to exchange banquet tickets prior to banquet.

## General Session VI (Sunday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

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

##### **Call to Order**

##### **The Fifteenth Annual Dr. Jacob Bolotin Awards**

###### Everette Bacon, Chairperson, Dr. Jacob Bolotin Award Committee, and Board Member, National Federation of the Blind; Salt Lake City, Utah

##### **Transformation in Employment: Smart Partnership to Build the Future Together**

###### Regina Kline, CEO and Founder, SmartJob, LLC; Alexandria, Virginia

##### **Diversity at Kellogg: A Commitment that Raises Expectations for Blind Empowerment**

###### Wilson Ray, Sr., Director, Retail Sales Operations, Kellogg Company; Kalamazoo, Michigan

##### **Engineering a New Response: Transforming At-Home Testing through Partnership with the Blind**

###### Jill Heemskerk, Deputy Director, National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering, National Institutes of Health; Bethesda, Maryland

##### **Going My Way: Driving Accessibility through Innovative Autonomous Transportation**

###### Michelle Peacock, Global Public Policy Director, Waymo; Mountain View, California

##### **Supreme Action to Shatter Low Expectations: Living Blind and Serving on the Bench**

###### Supreme Court Justice Richard Bernstein, Michigan Supreme Court; Lansing, Michigan

##### **Owning Our Stories: Raising the Impact of Individuals by Sharing the History of Our Movement**

###### Peggy Chong, The Blind History Lady; Aurora, Colorado

##### **Reports and Resolutions**

##### **Adjourn**

## Banquet (Sunday)

Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet Ballrooms

Zoom meeting ID: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

1CapApp: <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>

Special thanks to our Elite convention sponsor, Kellogg Company.

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

###### Master of Ceremonies: Pam Allen

###### Introductions and Presentations

###### Banquet Address: Mark Riccobono

###### Scholarship Awards

## Convention Notes

### Note 1: Information Desk

A Federation information desk is in the Acadia Ballroom foyer from Wednesday morning through Sunday in case you have questions or need assistance.

### Note 2: Hotel Room Rates

Room rates at both the Marriott and the Sheraton are: singles and doubles, $109; triples and quads, $119. In addition, the combined sales tax and tourism support rate is 16.2 percent, and there is a hotel occupancy fee of $3.00 per night.

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

### Note 3: Banquet Tickets

Banquet tickets may be purchased for $75 at convention registration. No tickets will be available after 2:00 p.m. on Friday. At the banquet ticket exchange table, located in the Acadia Ballroom foyer, you may make arrangements to reserve a specific seat for yourself or for a group of up to ten people. On the evening of the banquet, tickets will be required to enter the ballroom and will be collected at the tables. Tickets may be exchanged for vegetarian, kosher, or halal meals at the banquet ticket exchange table if done so by 2:00 p.m. on Thursday.

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

* Thursday 11:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
* Friday 8:45 to 9:15 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.

### Note 4: Guide Dog Relief Areas

There is a guide dog relief area at both the Marriott and the Sheraton. 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.

### Note 5: Announcement Requests

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

### Note 6: NFB Treasurer Information

Individuals needing to conduct business with the NFB treasurer may do so by going to the Galerie Registration Desk on Friday between 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. or on Saturday between noon and 2:00 p.m.

### Note 7: CrowdCompass Platform

The convention agenda can be accessed via the CrowdCompass platform beginning June 27. Mobile apps are available for both the iOS and Android platforms (<https://crowd.cc/s/4kq4c>). A web portal is also available (<https://crowd.cc/nfb22>). CrowdCompass allows users to customize a personal agenda, chat with other CrowdCompass convention goers, and to join streamed sessions with the click of a button for those participating virtually.

### Note 8: Portrait Studio

The portrait studio wants and needs a photo of your gorgeous face! Because it has been three years since we have been in person, everyone's photo is out of date. We use images in the *Braille Monitor*, on websites, and for other types of publication. Having a current photo on file is important even if you are not writing an article or sitting on your chapter board. We will email photos after convention to those who would like to have them. Please visit the portrait studio outside the Acadia Ballroom during the following hours:

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

### Note 9: Raffle Tickets

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

### Note 10: FM Receivers Pick Up

The Amateur Radio Division coordinates the distribution of special FM receivers for our hard of hearing and Spanish-speaking attendees. Any interested attendee may pick up a receiver at a table in the back 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. Batteries for the receiver will be provided.

### Note 11: NFB Camp (Child Care)

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

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

### Note 12: Zoom and Ways to Access

For sessions on Zoom, there are multiple options for access.

Zoom via web: <https://zoom.us/j/96287762142>

Zoom One Tap Mobile: US: +13017158592,,96287762142# or +13126266799,,96287762142#

Zoom via phone by location:

+1 408 638 0968 US (San Jose)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

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Zoom Meeting ID: 962 8776 2142

Closed captions will be provided on the Zoom platform, and you may also
access the closed captions/transcript through 1CapApp at <https://ECS.1capapp.com/event/nfb>. More details for streaming available at [nfb.org/convention](https://nfb.org/convention).

### Note 13: Divisions

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

### Divisions:

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

Amateur Radio: *Corbb O’Connor, President*

Assistive Technology Trainers: *Chancey Fleet, President*

Communities of Faith: *Tom Anderson, President*

Computer Science: *Brian Buhrow, President*

Community Service: *Jeanetta Price, President*

DeafBlind: *Alice Eaddy, President*

Diabetes Action Network: *Debbie Wunder, President*

Human Services: *Candice Chapman*, *President*

Educators: *Cayte Mendez, President*

Guide Dog Users: *Raul Gallegos, President*

Krafters: *Tammy Freitag, President*

Lawyers: *Scott LaBarre, President*

Merchants: *Nicky Gacos, President*

Parents of Blind Children: *Carlton Anne Cook Walker, 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: *Judy Sanders, President*

Sports and Recreation: *Jessica* *Beecham, President*

Students: *Trisha Kulkarni, President*

Veterans: *Vernon Humphrey, President*

Writers: *Shelley Alongi, President*

### Committees:

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

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

Ambassadors: *Dan Burke, Chair*

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

Blind Government Employment: *Ronza Othman and Everette Bacon, Co-chairs*

Code of Conduct Feedback Committee: *Ronza Othman, Chair*

Communications: *Liz Wisecarver, Chair*

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

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion: *Shawn Callaway and Colin Wong, Co-chairs*

Employment: *Dick Davis, Chair*

Evaluation of Technology: *Mark Jones, Chair*

Jacobus tenBroek Award: *Pam Allen, Chair*

Jacobus tenBroek Memorial Fund: *Kathryn Webster, Chair*

Kenneth Jernigan Fund: *Tracy Soforenko, Chair*

Membership: *Denise Avant and Tarik Williams, Co-chairs*

PAC Plan: *Scott LaBarre and Ryan Strunk, Co-chairs*

Resolutions: *Sharon Maneki, Chair*

Scholarship: *Cayte Mendez, Chair*

Spanish Translation: *Daniel Martinez, Chair*

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

### Groups:

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

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: *Kathryn Webster and Danielle Montour, Co-chairs*

NFB in Judaism: *Stewart Prost, Chair*

NFB in the Kitchen: *Regina Mitchell, Chair*

NFB LGBT: *Sanho Steele-Louchart, Chair*

NFB Lions: *Milton Ota, Chair*

NFB Webmasters: *Corbb O’Connor, Chair*

## Navigating the Hotel

### New Orleans Marriott

New Orleans is a city rich with traditions and celebrations. Honoring that tradition, let's approach the layout of the New Orleans Marriott by imagining a birthday celebration for a two-year-old. We're going to present this young birthday celebrant with a square four-layer cake with two candles. Since this cake is imaginary, you can make it any flavor and choose your favorite frosting. Rather than placing the candles in the middle of the cake, we'll place them near the two front corners of our cake. And don't sneak a taste of the frosting! You can celebrate when we're done with our tour of the hotel.

Now let's put our analogy to work. The Marriott takes up an entire square city block on the edge of the French Quarter, New Orleans' oldest neighborhood. Picture the hotel as our layer cake, with each square layer placed directly on top of those below it. There are two towers of sleeping rooms. The birthday candle on the left rises twenty-one floors and is called the Quarter Tower, named for the French Quarter. The birthday candle on the right is known as the River Tower, given the hotel's proximity to the mighty Mississippi River. It contains forty-one floors. The lobby takes up much of the first layer of the cake. The second, third, and fourth layers are filled with meeting space. The roof of the fourth floor is, figuratively speaking, the icing on the cake in more ways than one—on the fifth floor between the two birthday candles are the hotel's two rooftop swimming pools.

The Marriott's main entrance is on Canal Street, roughly in the center of the hotel. Stepping through the two sets of doors, you will walk up several steps to find yourself in the hotel's bustling lobby. Turn to the right and you will immediately find the line for the front desk on your right, running along the Canal Street wall. Unless you arrive late at night, you can expect this to be a busy and crowded area. Working your way through the crowd, as you approach the end of the reservation desk, you will find the River Tower escalators to your left positioned perpendicularly to the registration desk. These escalators run to the second and third floors of the meeting space. Also on your left, just beyond the escalators is the FedEx business office, a helpful place to go if your chapter or affiliate has shipped something to the hotel. Past the registration desk and the business office, you will enter the River Tower elevator lobby. In this elevator lobby, you will find seven elevators labeled A through G in a clockwise pattern. Elevators A, B, and C are on your left, elevator D is on the wall in front of you, and elevators E, F, and G are on the right. These elevators stop at all meeting room levels, the fifth floor for the pool and the fitness center, and the River Tower sleeping rooms. There is more to say about the elevators at the hotel, but we will save that for the end of the tour.

Let’s return to the top of the front door steps where we began. If we continue walking straight, heading across the lobby, we pass on our left the bellstand and the concierge counter. On the right is a large lobby bar called 55 Fahrenheit. The bar itself is far to the right, backed up against the River Tower escalators. The majority of the space between you and the bar is filled with a variety of tables and comfortable seating clusters. Continuing our walk across the lobby brings you to the entrance of 5Fifty5, the hotel's main restaurant. Just to the right is the entrance to the M Club for qualified Marriott Bonvoy members. To your left is a large revolving door that exits to the porte cochère and parking garage. Wheelchair users will want to use this entrance and exit as there are also ADA paddle-operated doors at this location. Some of you arriving via airport transportation may enter the hotel through these doors. If instead we turn to the right at the 5Fifty5 entrance, walking with the side of 55 Fahrenheit on our right, we will reach the Canal Street Pantry. The Pantry, in the far right corner of our first layer, offers prepackaged foods, fresh fruit, salads, made-to-order pizzas and sandwiches as well as a selection of beer, wine, and liquor.

Now let’s return once more to the top of the stairs where we first entered the lobby. If we were instead to turn left, we would find ourselves headed towards the Quarter Tower escalators that run parallel to Canal Street. These serve the second and third floors of the meeting space. To the right of the escalators is the Quarter Tower elevator lobby. All passenger elevators—H, I, J, and K—are on the right side of the lobby. On the left are two service elevators. These elevators stop at all floors except the fourth floor. On the wall in between the Quarter Tower escalators and elevators is an ATM.

Let’s take the Quarter Tower escalators to the second floor. There are two meeting room clusters on the second floor: the Preservation Hall Studio breakouts are on the Quarter Tower side while the Galerie meeting rooms are closer to the River Tower side.

As we step off the escalators on the second floor and turn to our right, with Canal Street now at our backs, we are facing Preservation Hall with its collection of breakout meeting rooms. As we approach the Preservation Hall entrance, the Quarter Tower elevators are on our right. There are also restrooms, men’s to the left and women’s to the right, just before we enter the Studios foyer. The meeting rooms vary in size and are arranged in a horseshoe. Down the left side are Studios 1 through 5, Studio 6 is at the very back, and Studios 7 through 10 work their way back to the foyer entrance on the right side.

The other second floor meeting room cluster hosts Galerie 1 through Galerie 6. If we were to have made a U-turn at the top of the escalator, we would be heading back towards the River Tower elevators with Canal Street on our right. On the left is Galerie 1. Further down the corridor is Galerie 4. Galerie 2 and 3 are stacked behind Galerie 1 while Galerie 5 and 6 are stacked behind Galerie 4. Turning left around the corner of Galerie 4 will take us down a hallway with entrances to Galeries 4, 5, and 6 on our left. On the right we will pass the River Tower elevators and the River Tower escalators. Further down this corridor on the right is another set of restrooms and the Galerie registration desk.

You may have noticed that I did not talk about the entrances to Galeries 2 and 3. This is a bit tricky. You will remember when we first arrived on the second floor, we passed the Quarter Tower elevators. Stepping through the elevator lobby you will find a narrow hallway extending to the left away from Canal Street. Down this hallway on the right are entrances to Galeries 1, 2, and 3.

Let’s go back to the Quarter Tower escalators and take them up one more level to the third layer of our birthday cake. As with the second floor level, the third floor has two meeting clusters. The large ballrooms that will house our largest sessions, collectively called the Grand Ballroom—Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet—are on the Quarter Tower side while Salons A through H are on the River Tower side.

And as with the second floor, turning to our right off the escalators, with Canal Street at our back, we stand in the Grand Ballroom foyer facing the doors to the Acadia ballroom. Beyond Acadia is Bissonnet and further yet is Carondelet.

Again, as with the second floor, if we were to have made a U-turn at the top of the Quarter Tower escalators, we would be heading back towards the River Tower elevators. With Canal Street on our right, we will pass the entrance to a hallway that runs perpendicular to Canal Street and between the ballrooms and the salons. Down this hallway are entrances to the ballrooms on the left and entrances to Salons D, E, and H on the right. Continuing along the Canal Street wall, we pass entrances to Salons A, B, and C. Turning left at the end of the corridor and heading towards the back side of our layer cake, the River Tower elevators and escalators are on the right while entrances to salons D, E, and F are on the left. The third floor restrooms are just past the escalators.

There is still one more layer to our cake. There are only a small number of meeting rooms on the fourth floor, and many of you will not have need to visit them. The primary means of access to the meeting rooms is the River Tower elevators. As you step out of the River Tower elevator lobby on the fourth floor, the Canal Street hallway serving Balcony rooms I, J, and K is just off to the left. Turning right out of the elevator lobby, we pass four meeting rooms on the right: Bonaparte, Regent, Bacchus, and Iberville. At the end of the corridor on the left is a hallway parallel to Canal Street, containing entrances to Balcony L, M, and N. Pro tip: there are two small set of stairs across from Bonaparte and Iberville that run between the third and fourth floors.

As you now know, the fifth floor is our frosting. The elevator lobbies in either tower provide direct access to the pool deck, which sits between our two birthday candles. There are four meeting rooms on the fifth floor accessible from the River Tower elevators. Turn right when exiting the elevator lobby and walk down the hallway. On the right are four small meeting rooms: Audubon, Beauregard, Galvez, and Jackson. On the left are sleeping rooms, and at the far end of the hallway is the health club.

There is one more small meeting cluster on the 41st floor of the River Tower. Here you will find Napoleon, Lafayette, Saint Charles, Riverview 1, and Riverview 2.

You may now enjoy a slice of imaginary cake. Mine is yellow cake with chocolate frosting.

#### Operating the Elevators

You now have the layout of the New Orleans Marriott birthday cake. I did promise more information about the elevators. Both the Marriott and the Sheraton have installed smart elevators. This means that you will find no floor buttons on the inside of the elevator cabs. That's correct. Just "Open Door" and "Alarm" buttons. In the elevator lobby, hotel guests punch their desired floor number into a keypad, and the software running the elevator system determines the most efficient elevator to take. Here’s how it works. On each side of the elevator lobbies is a keypad much like that of a touchtone phone—the traditional three by four keypad with 123 across the top followed by 456, 789, and the fourth row with a zero in the middle. There is a fifth row containing one wide button for accessibility mode. Pressing the accessibility button before keying in your destination floor number will cause the keypad to speak your floor and the elevator letter you should take. When your elevator arrives, the elevator will announce its arrival by letter. When your elevator arrives at your destination floor, the elevator will also announce the floor.

If all goes smoothly, this process should be accessible to our attendees. However, matters will be further complicated when there are several dozen Federationists in an elevator lobby chatting about what they have been doing for the last three years. When possible, Ambassador Committee members and/or volunteers will be stationed in the lower elevator lobbies. Bear in mind that this process will require practice and, more importantly, patience.

#### New Orleans Marriott Meeting Room Locations

* Balcony I-N, Bonaparte, Regent, Bacchus, and Iberville meeting rooms – 4th floor (access only from River Tower elevators or double set of stairs on River Tower side of 3rd and 4th floors.
* Galerie meeting rooms (Galerie 1-6) – 2nd floor River Tower side
* Grand Ballroom (Acadia, Bissonet, and Carondelet) – 3rd floor Quarter Tower side
* Preservation Hall breakout rooms (Studios 1-10) – 2nd floor Quarter Tower side
* Salon meeting rooms (A-H) – 3rd floor River Tower side

### The Sheraton New Orleans

Walking through the front doors of the Sheraton New Orleans from Canal Street, you find yourself in a large, bright two-story atrium. Almost immediately to your right is the main attraction for many, a Starbucks coffee shop. To your left, a few steps below the lobby level, is the expansive Pelican Bar. As you continue further forward into the hotel, you will pass on your right a set of escalators connecting the second floor. Beyond the Pelican Bar and the escalators, you arrive at an intersection of sorts. If you were to turn right, you would find the FedEx business center on the right. If you were to continue straight ahead, the Sheraton’s two elevator lobbies are on the right. And finally, turning left leads you into a wide registration area with a long registration desk on your right, running parallel to Canal Street. Beyond the registration desk are the doors to the Sheraton’s motor lobby. Those of you arriving to the hotel from the airport may be dropped off at this entrance, making the registration desk readily accessible. The bellstand is also conveniently located between the registration desk and the doors to the motor lobby.

In the Sheraton, the meeting space is primarily on floors two through five. Floors six and seven contain only administrative offices for the hotel. The eighth floor contains a modest number of meeting rooms but, more importantly, is also home to the fitness center and the swimming pool.

Let’s return to the lobby escalators and take them up to the second floor. Stepping off the escalators, you arrive at an intersection similar to the downstairs lobby. Turn to the right and head towards the escalators that serve meeting rooms on floors two through five. If you were to continue straight ahead, the Sheraton's two elevator lobbies are again on the right. Immediately to the left is the entrance to Roux Bistro, the Sheraton's Creole restaurant with tables along two sides of the hotel, overlooking the lobby below.

I mentioned that there are two elevator lobbies. One set of elevators serves the low sleeping room floors and the other serves the higher floors. All elevators stop at the lobby and all meeting levels. The first elevator lobby, the one closest to the Canal Street entrance, contains the elevators that take guests to floors one through twenty-nine. The second set of elevators serves floors one through eight and twenty-nine through forty-nine. You'll note that the twenty-ninth floor is a common floor where guests can switch between lower and higher floors without traveling all the way down to the lobby. The Sheraton uses the same smart elevator system as described in the above section.

The NFB’s Exhibit Hall and Independence Market are in the Napoleon Ballroom throughout the week. The Napoleon Ballroom is on the third floor. Its entrance is just a few short steps from both elevator lobbies and only a few steps further from the meeting room escalators.

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

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Follow or join the conversation using #BetterDays. For more information, please visit [kelloggs.com/betterdays](http://www.kelloggs.com/betterdays).

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At eSSENTIAL Accessibility, we’ve spent 14 years working to ensure equal access to online information. Our purpose is to help organizations design and develop digital experiences that are accessible to all.

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Together, we will continue creating a future full of opportunity. <http://www.essentialaccessibility.com/>

**Horizon Therapeutics – Going to incredible lengths**

Horizon is proud to support the National Foundation of the Blind. Horizon is focused on researching, developing and commercializing medicines that address critical needs for people impacted by rare, autoimmune and severe inflammatory diseases. Our pipeline is purposeful: we apply scientific expertise and courage to bring clinically meaningful therapies to patients. At Horizon, we believe science and compassion must work together to transform lives. <https://www.horizontherapeutics.com/>

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**Microsoft - Empowerment**

Microsoft is a proud sponsor of the 2022 National Federation of the Blind Convention. Microsoft’s mission is to empower every person and every organization on the planet to achieve more. This includes creating and delivering technology that is accessible and functional for everyone.

<https://www.microsoft.com/accessibility>

**Vanda Pharmaceuticals**

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](http://www.non-24.com).

**Vispero**

Vispero is a proud sponsor of the National Federation of the Blind. Learn more about our innovative technology for the blindness and low vision, and the passionate team behind it at vispero.com!

We’re excited to see you again—in person! Please visit us in the exhibit hall and during our presentation—we have many convention specials and a free gift just for visiting us!

What’s New with JAWS, Fusion, and ZoomText – Tuesday, July 5, 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. Join Eric Damery for his annual User Group meeting. All skill levels are welcome. We’ll demonstrate and discuss the recent developments and look at what’s coming in 2023. Bring your questions and join the fun as we kick off the 2022 Convention with the JAWS teams from Training, Sales, and Marketing.

<https://www.vispero.com>

**Wells Fargo**

Together, there are no limits to what we can do. At Wells Fargo, we value the unique capabilities and contributions of each of our employees and appreciate the strength that diversity brings to our organization. Working here, you’ll find an inclusive environment for everyone, including employees with medical restrictions or disabilities. We’re dedicated to providing all of our employees with the opportunity to be successful in their Wells Fargo careers. Our dedicated workplace accommodations team – a group of multi-disciplinary professionals who have expertise in occupational health and psychiatric nursing, vocational rehabilitation, behavioral/mental health, ergonomics, disability management, human resources, employee relations, benefits and leave administration - works to provide successful solutions and reasonable accommodations, helping employees with disabilities or medical restrictions to successfully perform their jobs.

Wells Fargo is a proud sponsor of the National Federation of the Blind Convention.

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* DiversityInc magazine has ranked Wells Fargo No.2 on the list of the 2022 Top Companies for People with Disabilities. DiversityInc also ranked Wells Fargo No. 29 on the Top Companies for Diversity, and No. 1 Top Companies for LGBTQ.
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* Learn more at: [wellsfargojobs.com/accessibility](http://www.wellsfargojobs.com/accessibility) and [wellsfargo.com/about/diversity/accessibility](http://www.wellsfargo.com/about/diversity/accessibility)

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### Gold

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<https://browngold.com/>

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We welcome your feedback, thoughts, and suggestions. Email the Accessibility team: accessibility@target.com

Here are two new ways you can access all Target has to offer:

* Explore same day services allowing you to customize how you shop all of our products in the manner best fitting your lifestyle. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/tgt-same-day>
* Aira service is available for free to assist you in all Target stores nationwide and while shopping online at Target.com. Learn more: aira.io/target

Are you curious to hear more about Target's digital accessibility? Have questions about our apps, website, or stores? Stop by our open session listed in the agenda to share feedback, ask questions, and meet some of our experienced accessibility consultants.

**Waymo**

Waymo is proud to support the National Federation of the Blind. Together, we’re paving the way to a better future. [www.waymo.com](http://www.waymo.com).

### Silver

**Aira – Visual Information On Demand**

Aira is proud to continue our partnership with the National Federation of the Blind. New to Aira? Download our app and try visual interpreting while visiting Starbucks in the New Orleans Marriott. [www.aira.io](file:///%5C%5Cwn-fs1%5C%21SShaffer%5CConvention%5C2022%20New%20Orleans%5CAgenda%5CSponsor%20Ads%5Cwww.aira.io)

**APH ConnectCenter**

Connecting the vision loss community to a world of resources. The APH ConnectCenter offers FREE curated advice and resources to assist children, parents, adults, and job seekers who are blind and low vision, and their associated professionals.

* APH Information & Referral Hotline: free information, assistance, and resources.
* FamilyConnect: for families of children who are blind or low vision.
* CareerConnect: for job seekers with vision loss or blindness.
* VisionAware: for adults and seniors who are living with vision loss.
* ConnectCalendar: for use by the entire blindness field to find and promote events.
* APH ConnectCenter Transition Hub: information about transition programs that emphasize empowerment, career exploration, and work experiences for teens and young adults who are blind and low vision.

800-232-5463 - connectcenter@aph.org - [aphconnectcenter.org](http://www.aphconnectcenter.org) - [familyconnect.org](http://www.familyconnect.org) - [aphcareerconnect.org](http://www.aphcareerconnect.org) - [visionaware.org](http://www.visionaware.org)

**Cruise**

Building the world’s most advanced autonomous vehicles. Proud Sponsors of the 2022 Blind Driver Challenge. [GetCruise.com](http://www.GetCruise.com).

**HumanWare – See things. Differently.**

Our Brailliant (TM) BI X series of Braille displays help students and professionals who are blind to stay connected, take notes, send text messages, and listen to and download books from online libraries. With the new text-to-speech feature and built-in mobile options this is the Brailliant idea all users are looking for.

Up to 10% savings on selected HumanWare products during the convention! Visit HumanWare’s exhibit to learn more! 1-800-722-3393 | [humanware.com](http://www.humanware.com).

**JPMorgan Chase & Co.**

Commitment to Access and Inclusion. At JPMorgan Chase we want to help empower people with disabilities to grow their careers, develop job skills, reenter the workforce and gain expanded access to well-paying careers.

We proudly support the National Federation of the Blind for its developing innovative education, technology and training programs and legislative advocacy that create pathways to independence and success for their constituents. [jpmorganchase.com/odi](http://www.jpmorganchase.com/odi)

**Market Development Group**

Best Wishes to the National Federation of the Blind for a successful 2022 National Convention in New Orleans, Louisiana.

Market Development Group, Inc. A full-service marketing company. John Alahouzos, Executive Vice President. 1834 Connecticut Avenue, NW | Washington, DC 20009 | USA. 202-298-8030 | [www.mdginc.org](http://www.mdginc.org).

**Pearson**

Pearson, the world’s leading learning company, is proud to be a sponsor of the National Federation of the Blind’s 2022 National Convention. Pearson is committed to making education accessible for all. Please visit <https://accessibility.pearson.com/research/2022studies/> for information on participating in our 2022 research studies.

### Bronze

**American Printing House for The Blind**

An Accessible World with Opportunity for Everyone. APH’s vision to create an accessible world with opportunity for everyone, guides us in our efforts to innovate technology solutions that enable people who are blind and low vision to conquer their challenges and pursue their dreams. Visit the APH booth to check out our newest innovations and the classic products you know and love.

**Spectrum**

The broader our perspective, the more we can accomplish. Spectrumis proud to support the 2022 NFB National Convention.

**Tusk Philanthropies – 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 with disabilities 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://www.mobilevoting.org)

**VitalSource**

Designed with all learners in mind. <http://get.vitalsource.com/>.

### White Cane

**The Chicago Lighthouse**

Looking to find a job? WE CAN HELP! Offering workforce training, placement and assistive technology guidance for people who are blind, have low vision or other disabilities, or are Veterans.

Employment Services: Martha Younger-White 312-447-3251 | employmentservices@chicagolighthouse.org

Assistive Technology: Patrick Andrade 312-997-3649 | store@chicagolighthouse.org

Now Hiring: [chicagolighthouse.org/careers](http://www.chicagolighthouse.org/careers)

**Clusiv**

Clusiv is the world's first accessible e-learning platform built for & by blind and visually impaired people. We solve the global problem of blind inclusion in the workforce, higher education, and society as a whole by empowering the blind learner through accessible education and up-skilling. Our content creators use our experience to provide a space for you to learn from other blind individuals. You will learn what pitfalls to avoid, as well as tips and tricks to make work and school life easier and more efficient. In doing so, you will perform at your best and have more time outside of work to do what you love.

We can work with your state’s Vocational Rehabilitation or Blind Commission to get you access to all of our content. In the meantime, you can check out a sample lesson by visiting [www.clusiv.io](http://www.clusiv.io). We look forward to answering your questions both virtually, in the exhibit hall, or in-person throughout the convention.

**D2L Corporation**

D2L – Where Learning is Inclusive. D2L’s accessible learning platform empowers everyone to participate in and contribute to the teaching and learning experience intuitively. Find out more at [D2L.com/corporate](http://www.D2L.com/corporate).

**Democracy Live - Accessible Voting Technologies. Anytime. Anywhere.**

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 2.1 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 4,000 elections, serving 3,000 jurisdictions, in 27 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 | [www.democracylive.com](http://www.democracylive.com).

**En-Vision America**

Visit our booth! Accessible prescriptions anywhere & everywhere. [www.envisionamerica.com](http://www.envisionamerica.com).

**HIMS, Inc.**

Please stop what you are doing right now. We need your attention in this time-sensitive matter. If you are at the NFB National Convention, go immediately to the HIMS booth to secure the lowest price on the BrailleSense 6 and BrailleSense 6 mini notetakers. These prices are the lowest they will be this year. Guaranteed.

**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://www.leaderdog.org/programs) for more details.

**McGraw Hill**

McGraw Hill Unlocks the Potential for All Learners. McGraw Hill believes that the best learning materials should be accessible to students of all abilities. We are building an inclusive culture that considers the needs of every learner from the outset and we are making every effort to ensure that all new educational content and technology follows the WCAG AA guidelines and best practices.

To learn more about the McGraw Hill commitment to Accessible Learning visit [mheducation.com/about/accessibility](http://www.mheducation.com/about/accessibility).

**National Industries for the Blind**

National Industries for the Blind is proud to partner with the National Federation of the Blind to advance the interests of people who are blind. Learn more at [NIB.org](http://www.NIB.org).

**Personal.ai**

Bringing the creative potential of AI to everyone. A personal AI is a true digital extension and reflection of you and your memories. Imagine a world where everyone has their own personal AI they can tap into to amplify their knowledge and creativity. Imagine being able to share your AI with others to unlock new ways to collaborate and exchange view and ideas with each other. That day is here.

Want to create your own personal AI? Go to [personal.ai](http://www.personal.ai) to get started and visit our seminar on July 9 for inspiration!

**Rosen, Bien, Galvan & Grunfeld, LLP – Trial and Appellate Advocates**

RBGG is proud to support the National Federation of the Blind so that blind people may live the lives they want. Advancing justice and solving problems on behalf of individuals and businesses for over 30 years. [rbgg.com](http://www.rbgg.com)