



**The American Council of the Blind's  
Audio Description Project  
Announces Call for Nominations for the  
Twelfth Annual ADP Awards-2020**

The Audio Description Project (ADP) is a wide-ranging audio description promotion and production initiative with goals that include-

- building advocacy on behalf of audio description;
- offering a range of educational resources and working to establish nationally acknowledged user-focused guidelines for quality description in its various genres as well as a professionally recognized certification program for audio describers;
- encouraging growth of audio description with an emphasis on the involvement of AD users/consumers, especially youth;
- disseminating information on audio description and provide general support for regional, state, and local forums;
- encouraging studies on audio description particularly with respect to its efficacy as a technique for conveying visual images and its impact on literacy for children and others.

One part of the project involves the recognition of outstanding contributions to the field of audio description.

**Application Categories**

This year's ADP Awards include a call for nominations in six categories:

- Achievement in Audio Description - Media
- Achievement in Audio Description - Performing Arts
- Achievement in Audio Description - Museums/Visual Art/Visitor Centers
- Achievement in Audio Description - International
- Dr. Margaret Pfanstiehl Memorial Award in Audio Description - Research and Development

## **- Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description**

The call for nominations ends on Friday, May 29, 2020, with winners announced during a plenary session of the American Council of the Blind Conference and Convention and at the Audio Description Project Conference, July 2020 in Schaumburg, IL (outside Chicago).

Nomination material, criteria and more information follows and is also available at: [www.acb.org/adp](http://www.acb.org/adp)

### **The Awards and Criteria for Selection of Recipients**

- Achievement in Audio Description - Media
- Achievement in Audio Description - Performing Arts
- Achievement in Audio Description - Museums/Visual Art/Visitor Centers
- Achievement in Audio Description - International
- Dr. Margaret Pfanstiehl Memorial Award in Audio Description - Research and Development
- Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description

The Achievement Awards are made to individuals and/or organizations for outstanding contributions to the establishment and/or continued development of significant audio description programs in each of three areas: media, performing arts, and museums. The Dr. Margaret Pfanstiehl Memorial Award for Research and Development is made to an individual or organization for outstanding research that leads to the advance of audio description.

With the exception of the International Achievement Award and the Dr. Margaret Pfanstiehl Memorial Award for Research and Development only US-based organizations or individuals are eligible.

The Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description has been established as a tribute to the late Barry Levine, the highly-respected moderator of the Audio Description listserve, administered by the American Council of the Blind (ACB). Barry was not only an avid description user in both media and performing arts; he served so many others as the President of Audio Description International. He was a trusted friend and valued mentor; when he passed away suddenly in May 2009, the nation lost a forceful and impressive advocate for audio description.

The Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description recognizes an individual for outstanding contributions to the field of audio description over an extended period of time, leading, inspiring or providing significant service to others.

### **Past Recipients**

**- Achievement in Audio Description - Media**

2009- Maria Diaz and Closed Caption Latina  
2010- WGBH and Media Access Group  
2011- Harry A. Jessell, TV News Check  
2012- Described and Captioned Media Program  
2013- Hollywood Access Services  
2014- Diane Johnson and Descriptive Video Works  
2015- Netflix  
2016- Fred Brack  
2017- ABC Digital  
2018- Rooted in Rights  
2019- Microsoft/Xbox

**- Achievement in Audio Description - Performing Arts**

2009- Lisa Helen Hoffman and Geva Theater  
2010- Paper Mill Playhouse  
2011- Mimi Smith and Amaryllis Theater Company  
2012- Kentucky Center for the Arts  
2013- Steppenwolf Theatre  
2014- Adrienne Arsht Performing Arts Center  
2015- Jesse Minkert and Arts and Visually Impaired Audiences  
2016- Arts Access  
2017- Lori Ward, Tennessee Performing Arts Center  
2018- MindsEye Radio/Marjorie Moore  
2019- Hunter Gullickson and The Guthrie Theater

**- Achievement in Audio Description - Museums/Visual Arts/Visitor Centers**

2009- Elisabeth Axel and Art Education for the Blind  
2010- Beth Ziebarth and Smithsonian Institution  
2011- Rebecca McGinnis and Metropolitan Museum of Art  
2012- National Park Service  
2013- The White House  
2014- Sandy Malmquist and the Connecticut Children's Museum  
2015- Meadows Museum of Art at the Southern Methodist University  
2016- Dole Institute of Politics/Audio Reader  
2017- none  
2018- Tennessee School for the Blind and Julia Cawthon  
2019- Hannah Goodwin and the Museum of Fine Arts-Boston

**- Achievement in Audio Description - International**

2009- Joan Greening and the Royal National Institute of Blind People, U.K.  
2010- Bernd Benecke and Bayerischer Rundfunk, Germany  
2011- 20<sup>th</sup> Century Fox International, U.K.  
2012- Track One Communications, India  
2013- Accessible Media, Inc., Canada  
2014- Steph Kirkland and the VocalEye Descriptive Arts Society, Canada  
2015- Anne Hornsby, Mind's Eye, U.K.

**2016- Bos Soluções e Serviços Ltda., Sao Paulo, Brazil**

**2017- ABLE, New Zealand**

**2017- Dr. Anna Jankowska, Poland**

**2018- Amos Be'er, Central Library of the Blind, Israel**

**2019- Vera Arma, Italy**

**- Special Recognition Achievement in Audio Description**

**2015- Sebastian Andrade-Miles - Glendale, CO**

**2016- Alice Austin, Eliot, ME**

**Mark Messersmith, The Visual Voice - Mountain View, CA**

**2017- Timothy Wynn**

**2018- Antonio Vazquez Martin, Aristia Producciones, Spain**

**2019- Montclair State University - Montclair, NJ**

**- Dr. Margaret Pfanstiehl Memorial Award in Audio Description - Research and Development**

**2009- none**

**2010- American Foundation for the Blind**

**2011- Dr. Joshua A Miele and the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute**

**2012- Dr. Philip Piety**

**2013- Ryerson University and Dr. Deborah Fels**

**2014- Dr. Louise Fryer**

**2015- Accessible Media, Inc. "AMI Player"**

**2016- Disney / Pixar "Disney Movies Anywhere App"**

**2017- Actiview**

**2018- Dr. Francisco Lima**

**2019- Dr. Brett Oppegaard**

**- Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description**

**2009- Jim Stovall (Narrative Television Network)**

**2010- Gregory Frazier and Audio Vision**

**2011- Dr. Barry Cronin**

**2012- Dr. Alan Woods**

**2013- Rick Boggs**

**2014- Dr. Joel Snyder**

**2015- Dr. Pilar Orero**

**2016- Dr. Francisco Lima**

**2017- Diane Johnson, Descriptive Video Works**

**2018- The Carl and Ruth Shapiro Family National Center for Accessible Media at WGBH (NCAM)**

**2019- Jon P. Skaalen**

**How to Nominate**

We urge you to recognize someone who has contributed significantly to the growth of audio description. Submitting a nomination is easy! It's a three-step process:

- 1--Tell Us About the Nominee
- 2--Tell Us About Yourself
- 3-- Support Your Nomination

Fill out the form below OR make your nomination on-line at:

<https://jsnyder42.wufoo.com/forms/p11kfpnq0173rr3/>

**Nomination Form**

**2020 Annual Audio Description Project Awards**

- You may submit as many nominations as you wish (one nomination/form).
- Self-nominations are permitted.
- **DEADLINE FOR NOMINATIONS: May 29, 2020**

Make your nomination on-line at:

<https://jsnyder42.wufoo.com/forms/p11kfpnq0173rr3/>

If using the form below, submit your nominations to:

[kim.charlson@perkins.org](mailto:kim.charlson@perkins.org)

or to:

Kim Charlson, Co-Chair  
Audio Description Project Steering Committee  
American Council of the Blind  
1703 N. Beauregard St., Suite 420  
Alexandria, VA 22311

**1) TELL US ABOUT THE NOMINEE**

**Award for which you're making a nomination (choose one):**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Achievement in Audio Description - Performing Arts**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Achievement in Audio Description - Media**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Achievement in Audio Description - Museums/Visual Art/Visitor Centers**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Achievement in Audio Description - International**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Dr. Margaret R. Pfanstiehl Achievement Award in Audio Description -  
Research and Development**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio  
Description**

**Name of Nominee:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City-State-Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**2) TELL US ABOUT YOURSELF:**

**Your Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Street Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City-State-Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Fax:** \_\_\_\_\_

**3) Support Your Nomination**

**For Achievements Awards in Media, Performing Arts, or Museums, attach (or type below) a 350 words or less statement that illustrates how your nominee has made outstanding contributions to the establishment and/or continued development of significant audio description programs in media, performing arts, or museums.**

**For the Dr. Margaret R. Pfanstiehl Award in Research and Development, attach (or type below) a 350 words or less statement that illustrates how**

**your nominee has conducted outstanding research that has led to the advance of audio description.**

**For the Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description, attach (or type below) a 350 words or less statement that illustrates how your nominee has made outstanding contributions to the field of audio description over an extended period of time, leading, inspiring or providing significant service to others.**

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**or to:**

**Kim Charlson, Co-Chair  
Audio Description Project Steering Committee  
American Council of the Blind  
1703 N. Beauregard St., Suite 420  
Alexandria, VA 22311 St. Louis, MO 63109**