The ADP Website

Described TV, Movies, DVDs, Streaming Videos, Performing Arts, Museums, and More!

Fred Brack, Webmaster

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History

- **March 2002:** Audio Description International (ADI) Conference in Washington DC; Barry Levine president
- **March 2003:** Fred Brack takes over as ADI webmaster
- **April 2009:** Barry Levine dies; Fred maintains website
- **May 2010:** ACB takes on the “Audio Description Project” as a sponsored initiative, with Joel Snyder as Project Director and Fred Brack as webmaster
- **2014:** Joel officially forms the ADP Committee to help guide the Project and Conference; subsequently six subcommittees formed
Overview

• Our site is intended for both users and providers of audio description worldwide, but primarily the USA
• We answer the questions what, how, who, where, and when about audio description in multiple media
• We primarily cover:
  o Current Cinema: first-run films with audio description
  o DVDs and Blu-ray discs with AD: commercial movies - purchase or rental
  o Audio Description on TV: what’s available and how to receive it
  o Streaming Video services offering audio description, like Netflix & iTunes
  o Performing Arts, Museums, and Tours which offer audio description
  o Providers of audio description services for both consumers and business
These buttons offer low-vision visitors alternative viewing options.
Options for Visitors with Vision Impairment

• Blind, using a Screen Reader
  o Alt text on all images
  o Headings used to help navigate page sections
  o Hidden “Skip Navigation” link on each page
  o Certain other hidden links (such as description of logo)

• Low Vision
  o Large font
  o Black text on white or light colored background
  o High contrast headings (white on purple)
  o Two additional options available (and remembered) via buttons at the top of every page:
    • Even larger font
    • Reverse colors
Popular Pages

• **Television** (3 pages)
  - Described TV series by network or by day
  - How to find described shows
  - How to access description on your TV
  - Cable companies and boxes, options, and usage

• **DVDs** (3 pages)
  - General information about description on DVDs and Blu-ray discs
  - This year’s releases, most recent first, updated weekly
  - Links to all previous years, alpha listing, children’s shows, and more
  - Plot summaries and link to Amazon for purchase (commission to ACB)

• **Streaming Services’ Described Videos**
  - iTunes
  - Netflix
  - Prime Video
3 Television Pages

• Described TV shows by Network
  o Broadcast Networks
    • Req’d: ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC
    • Voluntary: PBS, The CW
  o Non-Broadcast Networks
    • Required: Discovery [NEW], HGTV [NEW], History, TBS, USA
    • Voluntary: Disney, Nickelodeon, TCM, TNT (and a few other with minimal offerings)

• Daily listing of described shows

• About:
  o How to receive audio description
  o Who must provide audio description
  o What the cable providers offer
  o Links to more information
Popular Described Series

- **ABC**: American Housewife, black-ish, Modern Family, Shark Tank, The Goldbergs
- **CBS**: Blue Bloods, Criminal Minds, NCIS (all 3), The Big Bang Theory
- **FOX**: Bob’s Burgers, Brooklyn Nine-Nine, Family Guy, many new shows each year
- **NBC**: Chicago Fire/Med/PD, Law and Order SVU
- **Disney**: Andi Mack, Mission Force One, Sofia the First
- **HGTV**: Fixer Upper, House Hunters, Property Brothers
- **History**: Alone, American Pickers, Pawn Stars
- **TBS and TNT**: some new, plus reruns from other networks
- **USA**: Colony, Mr Robot, Suits; reruns of popular shows
- **Discovery … TBD!**
Listings for Description

- Two Listings options: TV Network and Independent
- Some Networks Offer Separate Pages
- Independent listing services
  - AFB
    - Advantage: very specific to your provider and time zone
    - Disadvantage: must make 4 menu selections first, and listing is very detailed and specific to one day
  - ADP’s offering (S Andrade-Miles)
    - Advantage: 2-weeks, all networks, in one list
    - Disadvantage: Must pass through low-interest shows (such as repeats) to find the one(s) you want
DVDs and Blu-ray Discs

- The only complete listing of every USA commercial movie released on DVD and/or Blu-ray since 1997
- Updated weekly with new releases (average 3/wk)
- Over 900 described videos available (about 150 per year expected from now on)
- Each listing has a cover photo, plot summary, link to Amazon to order (supports our website!), and comments (such as availability on iTunes)
- Pointers to additional sources for described DVDs (such as educational and international)
- Info on how to access the description track
Some 2018 DVDs w/AD

- Love, Simon
- A Wrinkle in Time
- Red Sparrow
- The 15:17 to Paris
- Black Panther
- Star Wars: The Last Jedi
- Downsizing
- The Shape of Water
- Thor: Ragnarok
- Coco
- Murder on the Orient Express
- Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri
In 1H18, there were 81 DVDs released; so projection is 150-160.
Streaming Video

• Three major providers (all are fee services):
  o Netflix started offering AD in May 2015 and has over 600 described programs (movies, documentaries, and TV series) – 40% for children
  o iTunes came onboard in 2016 and has over 750 new and old described movies
  o Prime Video began offering description in June 2017 and has over 400 movies and TV series

• Watch ABC App (free) includes description tracks for ABC TV series with description

• Under pressure to provide described programming: Hulu (being sued by the ACB)

• Our Streaming page covers the subject and lists other services not yet offering description
2018 Streaming Media

2018 Streaming Media Services Total Titles

- Amazon
- iTunes
- Netflix
Podcast

• We also have a podcast covering many of the same topics discussed here

• You will find subsets of the podcast on several pages (e.g., Television and DVDs)
Other ADP Site Features

• Learn all about audio description
  o What and how
  o Samples of description
  o Articles and blogs about description

• Training opportunities for describers, and how description is used in educational settings and in academic programs

• Description opportunities across the country in performing arts venues, museums, parks, etc.

• Information about description at movie theaters

• Pointers to providers of AD services

• International AD information
Other Media We Use

• **We’re on Facebook!**
  - “Like” **Audio Description Project**, as 2000+ others have
  - Primary use is to announce new described DVDs and iTunes / Netflix / Prime Video additions
  - Additional usage for pointers to site articles and to answer submitted questions

• **We’re on Twitter!**
  - Use handle **@ADPwebmaster** for “AD Project” (500+ followers)
  - We generally copy **#AudioDescription**
  - Primary use is to announce new described DVDs and streaming additions
  - Secondary use is to retweet new information about description

• **We Have a Listserv (Email Discussion List)!**
  - Share information on or ask a question about audio description
  - See the **About/Contact page** on our website to join or view
How YOU Can Help

1. If you represent an organization, **send us an article** for the website
2. If you find the ADP Website, Facebook page, or Twitter feed useful … **spread the word!**
3. Help support our site by **purchasing DVDs** or Blu-ray discs via our Amazon links
4. Help support our site by initiating **any purchases you choose to make from Amazon** via the link on our main page – and bookmark that link for future use!
5. Use the **DONATE** button at the top of each page!!!

Fred

Thank You!

Joel