# **Dots and Dashes**

# **November 21, 2022**

## **Markey, Eshoo Introduce Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility Act**

On Nov. 17, Sen. Edward J. Markey (D-Mass.) and Rep. Anna G. Eshoo (D-Calif.) introduced the Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility Act in both the United States Senate and the House of Representatives. Once passed, this legislation would update existing regulations to ensure people who are blind, low vision, and DeafBlind may access the accessible video content of their choosing, from the video service provider of their choosing, and use the video conferencing service of their choosing. Learn more at [https://www.acb.org/CVTA-introduction](https://youtu.be/6t-ZwnCsbkY).

## **2022 Audio Description Awards Gala**

Details are out for the 2022 Audio Description Awards Gala brought to you by ACB on November 29th, 2022 at 7:30 p.m. ET. Come help us celebrate the importance of audio description with host Thomas Reid, Audio Description Voice Talent Nefertiti Matos Olivares, and our special celebrity guests Stevie Wonder, Ewan McGregor, Nesta Cooper, Camryn Manheim, Shayla Brown, and the cast of iCarly! [Mark your calendar](https://log.concept2.com/challenges/holiday?action=TEMPLATE&tmeid=MGVwNGlpaWgwZWI3aWs0bnJvODkzMTdpODMgYWNibmF0aW9uYWwzNjVAbQ&tmsrc=acbnational365%40gmail.com) for the 2022 ACB Audio Description Awards Gala, airing on [YouTube](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rideshare-Denial), [Pluto TV](https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20221031005927/en/), [ACB Media 1](https://www.acb.org/ergdata-app) and [www.adawardsgala.org](https://adp.acb.org/tv.html) on Tuesday, November 29th at 7:30 p.m. ET. For more information, please visit [acb.org/2022-AD-Awards-Gala](https://calendar.google.com/calendar/event).

## **ACB is Hiring: Audio Description Project Coordinator**

The Audio Description Project Coordinator is key to the success of ACB’s [Audio Description Project](https://www.youtube.com/c/AmericanCounciloftheBlind) (ADP). ADP works to promote and advocate for the use of high-quality audio description in television, movies, performing arts, museums, educational materials and other venues where the presentation of visual media is critical to the understanding and appreciation of the content. ADP sponsors a broad range of activities designed to build awareness of audio description among the general public as well as its principal users, people who are blind or have low vision. This position is full-time and can be performed remotely. Learn more about this position by visiting: [https://acb.org/jobs#AudioDescriptionProjectCoordinator](https://pluto.tv/#AudioDescriptionProjectCoordinator).

## **Holiday Auction Coming Soon!**

The 11th Annual ACB Media Holiday Auction will be held Sunday, November 27th at 7 p.m. Eastern. And there will be two days of the Sneak A Peek Appetizer Auction on Friday, November 25 and Saturday, November 26 to whet your appetite. For instructions on how to register, visit: [www.acb.org/register-2022-holiday-auction](http://www.acbmedia.org/1). This year’s auction will be filled with lots of wonderful gifts for the holidays. For the Sneak A Peek Appetizer Auction item list, visit [www.acb.org/2022-holiday-appetizer-auction](https://www.acb.org/CVTA-introduction). For the main ACB Media Holiday Auction item list, visit: [www.acb.org/2022-holiday-auction](https://tinyurl.com/2myjn3e6). Please contact Leslie Spoone at (407) 678-4163 or email [lesliespoone@cfl.rr.com](https://adp.acb.org/) if you have any other holiday auction questions.

# **Support ACB by Exercising this Holiday Season**

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Each year, ACB’s partner Concept 2 conducts a [Holiday Challenge](https://acb.org/jobs) to raise money for charitable organizations. This year, ACB is one of five organizations selected to benefit from the Concept 2 Holiday Challenge due to the work of [ACB members to make the Concept 2 Erg Data application more accessible for people who are blind and low vision](http://www.adawardsgala.org/). The challenge runs from American Thanksgiving through midnight on Christmas Eve. (This year, the dates are November 24 to December 24 — that's 31 days total). To participate in the Concept 2 Holiday Challenge, individuals will need to create a free account in the Concept 2 Log Book. Once an account is created, you will be able to join the Holiday Challenge and select ACB as your charity of choice. Then, workout this holiday season and record the meters that you row, bike, and ski in the Concept 2 Log Book through entering your workouts manually, or by connecting your smartphone via the Erg Data application wirelessly to a Concept 2 rowing machine, bike or ski erg. More info on the logistics of the challenge can be found here: [https://log.concept2.com/challenges/holiday](https://acb.org/2022-holiday-auction)

## **Guide Dog Rideshare Denial Survey**

ACB and our affiliate Guide Dog Users Inc. want to hear from you! We are conducting a survey to collect information from guide dog users who’ve been denied rides by rideshare drivers due to the presence of their guide dog. We will send the survey data to the United States Department of Justice (DOJ), per their recommendation, to draw attention to this frustrating civil rights violation and highlight the severity of this ongoing problem. We ask that you fill out the survey every time you are denied a ride from the date of the survey launch on November 2nd until the survey closes on December 31st at 11:59 p.m. ET. If you wish to submit responses over email or phone, contact ACB’s Advocacy team at either advocacy@acb.org or (202) 467-5081. To access the survey, visit [www.surveymonkey.com/r/Rideshare-Denial](https://youtu.be/iKSkWXs7hsg).

## **Accessible Insulin Pump Taskforce Joint Statement**

The inaccessibility of insulin pumps is an international issue facing people living with sight loss and diabetes around the world. As part of Diabetes Awareness Month, the Accessible Insulin Pump Taskforce is working with stakeholders and allies across North America to advocate for accessible insulin pumps and glucose monitors. The taskforce is a collaboration between the American Council of the Blind (ACB), the National Federation of the Blind (NFB), and the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) to ensure people who are blind or partially sighted can use their insulin pumps safely and independently to manage their diabetes. Learn more by reading the Accessible Insulin Pump Taskforce Joint Statement at: [www.acb.org/World-Diabetes-Day-2022](https://acb.org/register-2022-holiday-auction).

## **Accesibilidad del Telescopio Espacial James Webb con STScI**

ACB’s James Webb Space Telescope event with the Space Telescope Science Institute (STScI) is now available in Spanish. To access the event in Spanish, visit: [https://youtu.be/XeJviyn1FUg](https://acb.org/2022-holiday-appetizer-auction). To access the Event in English, visit: [https://youtu.be/6t-ZwnCsbkY](http://acb.org/2022-AD-Awards-Gala).

## **2022 Convention Cartridges**

The ACB Media team has been working diligently to prepare the information for the cartridge. If you ordered the 2022 convention cartridge on the convention registration form, you should receive it by the end of November. If you didn’t pre-order the cartridge, it’s not too late! The cartridge includes all general sessions, the ACB banquet, ACB primetime evening events, special-interest and committee programming, presentations from our sponsors and other business partners, our exhibitors’ channel, and many of our audio-described tours. For just $45, all this programming will come to you on a cartridge or a thumb drive. Got questions? Call our Brooklyn Center office at (612) 332-3242.

## **When the Air Is an Orchestra**

"It is October, fall is falling, and Susan Glass sets her morning coffee down on her patio, anticipating the flutter of feathers. She is awaiting the arrival of the golden-crowned sparrows from Alaska, which will keep her company through the winter. 'My listening to birds when the sun comes up is what sunrise is to you,' says Glass, who was born blind. 'I just love following those sounds around.” Susan Glass is a member of the American Council of the Blind. Read about her passion for nature and poetry in this article: [https://tinyurl.com/2myjn3e6](mailto:lesliespoone@cfl.rr.com).

## **Roots of American Culture**

"Roots of American Culture: A Cross-Country Visit with Living Treasures of Folk & Traditional Arts" is a documentary film by the National Endowment for the Arts that looks into the lives of highly accomplished folk and traditional practitioners and highlights their most treasured traditions and artistic practices. The artists and creators featured in this documentary are integral to ensuring our country’s vibrant diversity of cultures — music, dance, crafts, and oral expression — and making them available to generations to come. Access the audio described video, available with captions at: [https://youtu.be/iKSkWXs7hsg](https://www.concept2.com/news/holiday-challenge-2022-starts-november-24).

## **Macy’s Thanksgiving Day Parade**

The 96th Annual Macy's Thanksgiving Parade, airing at 9 a.m. ET with an encore presentation at 2 p.m. ET Thursday, November 24, will once again air with live audio description on NBC by Descriptive Video Works. For more information, please read this [press release posted on Bloomberg](http://www.acb.org/World-Diabetes-Day-2022). If your local affiliate does not reliably pass through audio description (also known as Network SAP), please contact them as soon as possible. The [Audio Description Project's TV page](https://youtu.be/XeJviyn1FUg#problems) has information on one way of finding your local affiliate's contact information.