

ACB/Audio Description Project – 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

as of June 29, 2020

All times EST

See below for registration details and new information on
the Audio Described Tours Channel

- Friday, July 3, 2020 – 6:00 pm-8:30 pm

6:00 pm-8:30 pm - Airing of the 2020 Academy Award winning Best Picture “Parasite” soundtrack with audio description. “Parasite” follows the members of a poor family who scheme to become employed by a wealthy family by infiltrating their household and posing as unrelated, highly qualified individuals. The film received unanimous critical acclaim and was considered by many critics as the best film of 2019 as well as one of the best films of the 2010s.

- Saturday, July 4, 2020 – 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm and 9:00 pm-9:30 pm

7:30 PM to 9:00 PM - Go Behind the Scenes with Disney’s Pick of the Litter Join the Audio Description Project and Guide Dog Users Inc. for this interesting program featuring ACB’s Advocacy and Outreach Specialist Claire Stanley who was profiled in two episodes of “Pick of the Litter”.

We will be listening to Episode 3: Training Begins After returning to Guide Dogs for the Blind, the dogs begin formal training; and Episode 5: Meet Your Match

The dogs in advanced training take their final exams in the hopes of being matched with clients. Claire will answer questions and tell us some behind-the-scene stories of what it was like filming the episodes.

9:00 pm-9:30 pm FIREWORKS! Listen to this exciting display via an audio described version of the 2019 Fireworks on the Mall in Washington, DC. Joel Snyder, PhD, ADP Director, Takoma Park, MD

- Monday, July 6, 2020 – 4:30 pm-5:45 pm and 7:30 pm-9:30 pm

4:30 pm-5:45 pm Features and Functions of the ADP Website – Learn how to find information about described TV, movies, DVDs, streaming videos, performing arts, museums, and more! Fred Brack, ADP Webmaster – Fred Brack, ADP Webmaster, Raleigh, NC

- Monday, July 6, 2020 – 7:30 pm - 9:30 pm

An Evening with ACB: ADP Industry Update (Entertainment and Media) – A review of the opportunities for Audio Description at the movies, on broadcast television, via

streaming or by smart phone apps. Moderator: Carl Richardson, Audio Description Project Steering Committee Co-Chair, Boston, MA Panelists: John Sweet, Charter Communications, Denver, CO; Tom Wlodkowski, Comcast, Philadelphia, PA; Susan Mazrui, AT&T, Seattle, WA; Josh Miele, Amazon, San Francisco, CA; Mitch Ginsburg, Disney+, San Francisco, CA; Sarah Herrlinger, Apple, Cupertino, CA; and Allison Smith, Netflix, Los Angeles

- Tuesday, July 7, 2020 – 12:30pm-1:00 pm and 3:00 pm-4:15 pm

12:30 pm-1:00 pm Announcement of 2020 ACB-ADP Audio Description

Achievement Award winners (part of the ACB Morning General Session) - Jeff Thom, ADP Awards subcommittee chair, Sacramento, CA; **Audio Description Project Update** – Kim Charlson, Co-Chair, ADP Steering Committee, Watertown, MA and Joel Snyder, PhD, ACB ADP Director, Takoma Park, MD

3:00 pm-4:15 pm Audio Description: Legislative Update -- What's the status of FCC regulations for audio description on broadcast television? Is planning underway for a refresh of the 21st Century Video Accessibility and Communications Act? What about the ADA's provisions regarding audio description? Moderator: Clark Rachfal, ACB Director of Advocacy and Governmental Affairs, Alexandria, VA. Panelists: Suzy Rosen Singleton, Chief, Disability Rights Office, and Will Schell, Attorney Advisor, Disability Rights Office, Federal Communications Commission, Washington, DC; Claire Stanley, ACB Advocacy and Outreach Specialist, Alexandria, VA; and Carl Richardson, ADP Steering Committee Co-Chair/ADA Coordinator, Massachusetts State House, Boston, MA

- Wednesday, July 8, 2020 – 3:00 pm-4:15 pm

4:30 pm-5:45 pm The National Park Service and Audio Description – An outline of the myriad access features incorporated with the National Park Service's hundreds of locations. Moderator: Denise Decker, PhD, ADP Performing Arts/Museums/Parks subcommittee chair, Washington, DC - Panelists: Michele Hartley, National Park Service, Harpers Ferry, WV; Ray Bloomer, National Center on Accessibility, Bloomington, IN; Brett Oppegaard, The UniDescription Project, University of Hawaii, Manoa, HI

- Thursday, July 9, 2020 – 3:00 pm-4:15 pm

3:00 pm-4:15 pm Strategies for Cord-Cutting or Do You Stream? – A review of the current status of network description via broadcast and/or the multitude of streaming services or apps. Moderator: Kim Charlson, ADP Steering Committee Co-Chair, Watertown, MA. Panelists: Carl Richardson, ADP Steering Committee Co-Chair/ADA Coordinator, Massachusetts State House, Boston, MA; Judy Dixon, National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled, Washington, DC; Timothy Wynn, ADP Media subcommittee, Miami, FL; Fred Brack, ADP webmaster, Raleigh, NC

- Friday, July 10, 2020 – 3:00 pm-4:15 pm and 8:00 pm

3:00 pm-4:15 pm Audio Description and Quality Control—the Hiring of Description Producers/Describers and Audio Editors Listen to the decision makers among content producers in charge of contracting audio description services. Moderator: Joel Snyder, PhD, Director, ACB Audio Description Project, Takoma Park, MD. Panelists: Margo Tone, Deluxe Entertainment, Los Angeles, CA; Rick Boggs and Chris Snyder, Audio Eyes, Los Angeles, CA; Brian Williams, WGBH Media Access Group, Boston, MA; Daniel Kocmarek, amazon, Seattle, WA.

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm ACB’s banquet speaker: Roy Samuelson – Audio Description Narrator, Los Angeles, CA With audio description narration credits from over 600 network, streaming, and big budget films, and hundreds of additional voice over projects, including national commercials, video games, and promos, billions of ears have heard Roy’s voice. He is a leading and well-respected Hollywood Voiceover artist and advocate for audio description. He’ll be sharing how his firm informs, inspires, and recruits relevant organizations into a new initiative in blind audience empowerment.

The Audio Described Tours Channel

For the first time on ACB Radio and at an ADP Conference, we have assembled a set of audio described tours of museums and National Park Service sites from around the nation, courtesy of Q Media Productions and Audio Description Associates, LLC.

All tours will be streamed on “Treasure Trove” on ACB Radio at www.acbradio.org

Times shown are Eastern time. Tours will be replayed at 9:00 PM, 3:00 AM and 9:00 AM.

Friday, July 3 and Tuesday, July 7

Tour 1: 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Holocaust Museum Houston – length: two hours

This award-winning interpretive and audio described tour, titled Bearing Witness: A Community Remembers, was produced in 2019 for Holocaust Museum Houston. The tour is narrated by Oscar-winning actress Christine Lahti, the daughter-in-law of Otto Schlamme, one of the museum’s founders and a holocaust survivor. It also includes recorded testimonies from local Houston survivors. Written and produced by Q Media Productions; audio description voiced by David Kaplan. Special thanks for Dr. Kelly Zuniga, CEO of Holocaust Museum Houston, for permission to include this tour for the ACB Conference.

Tour 2: 5:00 pm – 5:30 PM

The United States Holocaust Memorial and Museum – length: 27 minutes

Produced by the American Council of the Blind's Audio Description Project and funded by the D.C. Aid Association for the Blind, this tour encompasses two large areas of the Museum—the Hall of Witnesses and the Hall of Remembrance. Courtesy: Audio Description Associates, LLC; written and voiced by Joel Snyder, PhD

Tour 3: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

The Bell Museum of Natural History, University of Minnesota – length: 90 minutes

This interpretive and audio described tour, titled Minnesota Journeys, was produced in 2019 for The Bell Museum of Natural History in Minneapolis. Beginning with the formation of the universe through modern-day bio-science research, the history of Minnesota is told through the exploration of science, nature, and art. Written and produced by Q Media Productions; narrated by Adriana Colon and Raimund Kirstein.

Saturday, July 4 and Wednesday July 8

Tour 1: 3:00 PM – 4:48 PM

Mount Rushmore National Memorial, Mount Rushmore Society – length: 108 minutes.

This award-winning interpretive audio tour, titled Mount Rushmore: A Living Memorial, was first produced in 2006 and audio described in 2018. The tour shares the history of the memorial's origin and artistic achievement as well as the significance of its location in the Black Hills. Narrated by Chris Hurt and Lisa Lindsey, the tour also includes interviews with park rangers and other subject matter experts as well as historic recordings and dramatic readings. Written and produced by Q Media Productions. Special thanks to the Mount Rushmore Society for including this tour for the ACB Conference.

Tour 2: 5:00 PM – 5:52 PM

The National Portrait Gallery of the Smithsonian Institution – length: 52 minutes

Presidential portraits including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson (two paintings), Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, John F. Kennedy, Richard M. Nixon, Jimmy Carter and William J. Clinton. Courtesy: National Portrait Gallery

Tour 3: 6:00 PM – 6:35 PM

The White House – length: 35 minutes

Produced by the American Council of the Blind's Audio Description Project, this is the first-ever audio described tour of public areas of The White House (White House tours have always been self-guided). It is voiced by legendary Washington, DC radio

personality the late Ed Walker, totally blind since a very young age. Courtesy: Audio Description Associates, LLC; written by Joel Snyder, PhD

Tour 4: 6:35 PM – 6:53 PM

The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner – length: 25 minutes

The first-ever audio described tour of one of the most visited exhibits at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. It features the actual flag that Francis Scott Key saw flying over Baltimore Harbor during the War of 1812. Courtesy: Audio Description Associates, LLC; written and voiced by Joel Snyder, PhD

Sunday, July 5 and Thursday, July 9

Tour 1: 3:00 PM –4:25 PM

Wright Brothers National Memorial Visitor Center, National Park Service – length: 85 minutes

The Wright Brothers National Memorial's audio described tour was produced in 2019 for the National Park Service Visitor Center in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. The center's exhibits tell the story of Wilbur and Orville Wright's historic achievement—man's first powered flight—in the place where it occurred. Written and produced by Q Media Productions; narrated by Mary Oelkers and George Orlando.

Tour 2: 4:30 PM – 4:56 PM

The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner – length: 26 minutes

The first-ever audio described tour of one of the most visited exhibits at the Smithsonian Institution's National Museum of American History. It features the actual flag that Francis Scott Key saw flying over Baltimore Harbor during the War of 1812. Courtesy: Audio Description Associates, LLC; written and voiced by Joel Snyder, PhD

Tour 3: 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM

Natchez Trace Parkway – length: two hours

This audio described tour accompanies you through excerpts of the Parkway, also known as the "Old Natchez Trace", a historic forest trail which extends roughly 440 miles from Nashville, Tennessee, to Natchez, Mississippi, linking the Cumberland, Tennessee, and Mississippi rivers. Courtesy: National Park Service

Monday July 6 and Friday, July 10

Tour 1: 2:45 PM—2:53 PM

Audubon Animated - The Audubon Experience – length: 8 minutes

At the Bell Museum of Natural History at the University of Minnesota, this tour features an exhibit about John James Audubon, an audio description of a one-room, three-wall animation of birds in a swamp environment, a wilderness teeming with life. Courtesy: Bell Museum of Natural History and Fred Brack

Tour 2: 2:53 PM – 4:00 PM

The Insect Zoo – length: 67 minutes

Produced by the American Council of the Blind's Audio Description Project and funded by the D.C. Aid Association for the Blind, this recording takes you through the exhibits that comprise the Smithsonian Institution's Insect Zoo at the National Museum of Natural History. Courtesy: Audio Description Associates, LLC; written by Sarah Studer and voiced by Joel Snyder, PhD

Tour 3: 4:00 PM—5:30 PM

Klondike Gold Rush Museum, National Park Service – length: 90 minutes

This audio described tour was produced in 2017 for Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park's Visitor Center located in Skagway, Alaska. In 1897 and '98, Skagway was one of two starting points where 20- to 30,000 gold-seeking stampeders set off on an epic and dangerous 600-mile trek to seek their fortunes. Written and produced by Q Media Productions; narrated by Bev Standing and David Caplan.

Tour 4: 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM

Oconaluftee Visitor Center, Great Smoky Mountains National Park – length: 90 minutes

Located in the Great Smoky Mountains, the Oconaluftee Visitor Center's interpretive and audio described tour was produced in 2011 for the National Park Service. The visitor center's exhibits and audio tour tells the story of life in the mountains, from native Americans and early European settlers through the Civilian Conservation Corp and development of the national park. Written and produced by Q Media Productions; narrated by Mary Sarah Agliotta and Tim Gehlson.

Register via ACB – Only \$25 for all of the American Council of the Blind and Audio Description Project virtual on-line activities.

Your \$25 registration fee includes admission to all of the Audio Description Project events outlined above.

If you have already registered for the convention each evening you will receive a list of all sessions with zoom information and ACB radio streams for the following day.

If you have not yet registered you must telephone our Minneapolis office, you are not able to register online—phone registration will open on July 2. To register:

call 612-332-3242. (Convention registration hours are Thursday, July 2, noon to 5:00 PM EST and Friday, July 3rd through Thursday, July 9th, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 PM.)

Please feel free to contact Janet Dickelman with any questions either via phone (651) 428-5059 or email: janet.dickelman@gmail.com

For more information on the Audio Description Project events listed above, contact Joel Snyder, PhD at jsnyder@audiodescribe.com or jsnyder@acb.org or by phone at 301 467-5083.