# Dots and Dashes: January 24, 2022

## ACB’s Action Request for Accessible At-Home Rapid Testing

On Friday, January 21, ACB President Dan Spoone sent a letter to the Biden-Harris Administration to request immediate action be taken for accessible rapid testing options for our community. This is as direct result of the challenges raised by our ACB Members and the inaccessibility of current testing options. To read President Dan Spoone’s letter and for current COVID test options, please visit: [http://ow.ly/iMk050HAgEe](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=http%3A%2F%2Fow.ly%2FiMk050HAgEe%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3ztgerX6qy9-XDHThU798NRctduA-WLXrojkupywbnepuf3TJ267WTpH4&h=AT2L4y4qqed-UcG9eTD4xwk2_r0-ceMA7nCtzv75a22QQPVJBVz1nyzKLGXEqEqWhDtEAp8DMYdyZ0CnC0hkyWFMN2fDnDHm3gautc332kmmFcA2-qOMg8i_z6oHeUNh5UExdg&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT1An90kTjUjiFjfGRJGp_jrDfej7yum1LtEfVoys2q9n1o-zZKGfIYWuzs5rgYnTUxuAFrfOR1047VU4ZWx1k_YDzyW-wCK0eNxGBKsPgQgO3dxwYdfXtgNuqh2hN-fgnD6r09-cvKkBvRtLZKMGldG3bt-c61ApenMJckSFSXJuEo3H1_ebrdy51EerlkdXlR7jP1hfL5hBg). If you would like to share your experience with accessible healthcare issues throughout the pandemic, please email advocacy@acb.org.

## DC Leadership Meetings: Registration Opens January 25th

The [DC Leadership Meetings](https://acb.org/2022-virtual-leadership-meetings) will be held virtually from Saturday, March 12 to Tuesday, March 15. Registration is $20 for ACB members and $30 for non-members. All ACB members will be sent a registration discount code via email on January 24th. If you are an ACB member and did not receive your code, please call the Minneapolis office at 612-332-3242 for help. Registration opens on January 25th at: <https://tinyurl.com/2022-DC-Leadership-Meetings>.

## Audio Description Institute Registration Now Open

ACB’s ADP Audio Description Institute will be held virtually from Monday, March 21 to Friday, March 25, 2022 at 1:00pm - 5:00pm Eastern each day. Audio Description (AD) makes visual images accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. Using words that are succinct, vivid, and imaginative, media describers convey the visual image from television and film that is not fully accessible to a significant segment of the population. Learn more by visiting: <https://acb.org/2022-ADI>. Register by visiting: <https://bit.ly/3AphOeH>. Visit <https://acb.org/2022-ADI-agenda> to view the agenda.

## ACB’s Scholarship Deadline Quickly Approaches

The American Council of the Blind (ACB) and the American Foundation for the Blind (AFB) have partnered together to offer educational scholarships ranging from $2,000 to $7,500 for students attending technical college, entering freshman, undergraduate, and graduate students. The ACB scholarship program awards students with scholarships to help with post-secondary education financial needs such as tuition, fees, room and board, or assistive technology. Scholarships are available for both full-time and part-time students, as well as those who are working and attending school. Applications will be accepted through February 14th, 2022. For more information on eligibility and how to apply, visit: [https://acb.org/scholarships](https://l.facebook.com/l.php?u=https%3A%2F%2Facb.org%2Fscholarships%3Ffbclid%3DIwAR3ixTv6p01k1LBFb6qTRPmH1E_X6S8ru2Oz8LUYa19lOoektLmQck4vRB8&h=AT1b705Yw34At7vN89xNJoG0_5d3HdNSC9eOuBbTMGnB-c6Xh6yzLfHTYkiZYUc_j0RWKvVTBftnk__IZujqWCyQHDzEG9ZRRS8_Mt747qt580CqqGgsL7vZXlWyOwsEmeOZRQ&__tn__=-UK-R&c%5b0%5d=AT2GQ2UTCV4YQcMKDtQN8cVdwnEFzYHGzjTO5WuAxej9UrHJE2duGY6-9xgxvcBgheRtwhn9rnNsVJV5LZz4sDtWI6H1iMHe0SDgdLgF5dmZOofNTKmJFBedW3X8de7hd9QoieLYNObRTZ6UNWtdFhyRcw).

## Black History Month on ACB Voices

February is Black History month and begins with the celebration of the Lunar New Year. We invite ACB members to submit a blog post about your experience, commemoration or celebration of the Lunar New year and/or Black History month to the ACB Voices blog by sending an email to voices@acb.org.

## New Year, New Goals – DEI Edition

On the ACB Advocacy Update, ACB Advocacy & Outreach Specialist Swatha Nandhakumar continued the New Year mini-series with [Blind LGBT Pride International (BPI)](https://blindlgbtpride.org/) President Gabriel Lopez Kafati and ACB [Multicultural Affairs Committee (MCAC)](https://acb.org/committee-mcac) Chair Cheryl Cumings. They discussed plans BPI and MCAC have for the year ahead as well as goals both organizations have for making ACB a more welcoming and inclusive place for people who are blind and have low vision. Listen by visiting: [http://ow.ly/MGPq50HuLvs](http://ow.ly/MGPq50HuLvs?fbclid=IwAR07ycpp0O60KMw6Jo6OJBMDYaAoQAo_wwjFROUG3DBiqGlj004-aDblM5E).

## Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Last week, we celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day. ACB Multicultural Affairs Committee Chair Cheryl Cumings wrote an ACB Voices blog post in honor of Dr. King and in celebration of this important day. Read Cheryl’s post by visiting: <https://tinyurl.com/yck4rrbc>. ACB Board Member Ray Campbell wrote an ACB Voices article about our advocacy work and how it relates to what Dr. King stood for. Read Ray’s post at: <https://tinyurl.com/3nf33zkk>.

## ACB Executive Director Eric Bridges on Cooking Without Looking

Cooking Without Looking TV Show hosts Allen Preston and Annette Watkins welcomed American Council of the Blind Executive Director Eric Bridges, his wife, Rebecca, and their son, Tyler, as they gave tips on parenting when you are totally blind and your children are sighted. Eric provided tips on cutting and staying safe in the kitchen while Tyler showed off his cutting skills and sliced potatoes for their favorite roast potato recipe. Rebecca also showed how to prepare Eric's favorite dish, Spicy Roasted Chicken Legs. Watch by visiting: [http://ow.ly/gueY50Hv2YT](http://ow.ly/gueY50Hv2YT?fbclid=IwAR0p8gzgwd3OqPGWDa-WtXElJ74n53fFWLKXoOhQh4TQVA92xUG5dJ6BBuU). Rebecca's recipe for Spicy Roasted Chicken Legs is available at: [http://ow.ly/wN1R50Hv2YX](http://ow.ly/wN1R50Hv2YX?fbclid=IwAR1dLid8qTnDqbX-pgQG6enDew1HmhOt4ntdwH2kbhQ_Iq4kiACjyfqqqQk).

## Accessible Tech at the Consumer Electronics Show

Last week on the ACB Advocacy Update, Clark speaks with Steven Ewell, Executive Director, [Consumer Technology Association (CTA)](https://www.cta.tech/Who-We-Are/CTA-Foundation) Foundation, and Matt Ater, Vice President, [Vispero](https://vispero.com/), about the accessible tech innovations at the 2022 Consumer Electronics Show (CES). ACB attended CES as a guest of the CTA Foundation as part of the organization’s tenth year inviting accessibility leaders to CES. Tune in to hear about how consumer companies, both big and small, are making their products more accessible and useable for everyone. Listen by visiting: <http://ow.ly/XmC650HAbMs>. For a transcript of this episode, visit: <http://ow.ly/aRl750HAbMt>.

## Happy Exercising!

Happy New Year! We should start our fitness journey, so let’s all Get Up and Get Moving. You can enjoy this journey with a buddy, so you don’t get discouraged if you miss a day. There are many challenges in our busy lives these days, so make a challenge to yourself or your buddy that you will come to one of Leslie Spoone’s classes in the [community](https://acb.org/acb-community-events) or take a walk around your house or maybe try to go to your mailbox. Even if you get off track, you can always pick yourself back up and start this journey over. Learn more about ACB’s Get Up and Get Moving Campaign by visiting: <https://acb.org/GUGM>.

## Making Digital Confetti Accessible

In 2021, podcaster Allison Sheridan was interviewed by ACB members Tyson Ernst, Jason Castonguay, and Katie Fredrick on the ACB Community call “Magic Mac” about the missing accessibility and sound of Rogue Amoeba’s digital confetti. As a result of that conversation, Allison contacted the developers of the confetti feature at [Rogue Amoeba](https://rogueamoeba.com/), and they made a successful small change in their software accessibility by adding sound. Check out our members impact and read the blog below which mentions ACB. Great job team! Sometimes it’s about the small victories (with confetti): <https://tinyurl.com/3vpxwrj2>.

## What Is O&M

What Is O&M is the first in a series of podcasts presented by the [ACB Special Education Task Force](https://acb.org/content/special-educationschools-blind-task-force), designed for anyone who is responsible for the free and appropriate public education of a child who is blind or visually impaired, delving into the multileveled learning experience that orientation and mobility brings to these children outlining methods to insure that it is individualized for each child to bring about the best possible outcome. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/4d2t42es> to listen to the episode.

## Casting Call: Visually Impaired Actress

A visually impaired actress is needed for lead role in a new TV series: BLINDSIDED. Lindsay Chag Casting isseeking a female for the role in their early 30s to mid 40s, Any Ethnicity, MUST BE visually impaired. The character is an intelligent, wry-humored, confident, strong-willed, stubborn, first-rate Los Angeles police detective. Learn more: <http://ow.ly/cHKx50HAmOf>

## AFB Workplace Technology Study

The [American Foundation for the Blind (AFB)](https://www.afb.org/) announced the release of the Workplace Technology Study, a new report examining how technology in the workplace influences the experiences of workers who are blind, have low vision, or are deafblind. Learn more by visiting: [http://ow.ly/YJFu50HtiV9](https://t.co/hQtWU74Nx2).

## Bookshare Survey

Bookshare makes reading easier. People with dyslexia, blindness, cerebral palsy, and other reading barriers can customize their experience to suit their learning style and find virtually any book they need for school, work, or the joy of reading. If you interested in helping to make Bookshare better to serve the community by sharing your feedback, whether you are a current, past or non-Bookshare member, please take the following survey. While taking the survey, you can check a box to indicate your interest in participating in a focus group. Take the survey at: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6620292/Adult-Members-Feedback>.