# Dots and Dashes: February 21, 2023

## ACB’s Accessible Currency Rally in Washington, DC

The US Treasury is currently redesigning the $20 bill to include a portrait of Harriet Tubman, and a 2008 Federal Court Order says that any new currency redesigns must include accommodations to individuals who are blind or low vision. The Administration is hoping to sneak through the redesign without making the bills accessible – they’re hoping we won’t notice or put up a fight. That’s why on March 10th – Harriet Tubman Day – we’re coming together for a rally in front of the White House with one clear demand: we need accessible and inclusive currency now! Learn more by visiting: <https://acb.org/currency-rally>. [Read the timeline of the key events of currency litigation](https://acb.org/currency-timeline).

## One Week Left to Register for ACB's 2023 Leadership Conference

ACB’s 2023 Leadership Conference will feature both a virtual and an in-person component. The ACB Presidents’ Meeting and Legislative Seminar will take place virtually from March 4-7, and will include a Fireside Chat on Sunday, March 5. The in-person portion of the Leadership Conference will take place at the Hilton Alexandria Old Town from March 9-12 in Alexandria, Virginia. During the in-person portion of the Leadership Conference, ACB will host an Accessible Currency Rally in Washington, DC. Attendees will also have the opportunity to take part in multiple exciting and informative tours around the DC area. The only way to participate in the virtual portion of ACB’s 2023 Leadership Conference is by registering. This event will not be aired live or replayed over ACB Media. However, registrants can participate in the virtual portion of the conference on Zoom or listen through an Alexa skill. The Zoom information as well as instructions on how to listen via Alexa will be emailed to all registered attendees in advance of the event. For more information, including conference agendas, legislative imperatives, and details on how to register for ACB’s 2023 Leadership Conference visit [acb.org/2023-leadership-announcement](https://acb.org/2023-leadership-announcement). The deadline to register is February 28. Please note, while the conference will not be broadcast live on ACB Media, the event will be released via podcast no earlier 30 days after the close of the conference.

## 2023 at ACB

This week on the ACB Advocacy Update, Clark and Swatha bring ACB Executive Director Eric Bridges and ACB President Dan Spoone back to map out the year ahead at the American Council of the Blind. Topics we cover include the Leadership Conference and Legislative Seminar in March, the Annual Conference and Convention in July, and the Fall Audio Description Awards Gala. [Visit this link to listen to the episode](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/50c90c7b/2023-at-acb).

## ACB’s 2023 ADP Awards

It’s time to honor the people and organizations who contribute to the quality, availability, and understanding of audio description! ACB’s Audio Description Project (ADP) advocates for access to arts, education, and information through the provision of audio description. The ADP Awards are one way we recognize outstanding contributions to the field. Nominate your favorites today! Find the award categories and criteria for selecting recipients at [www.acb.org/2023-ADP-awards](https://acb.org/2023-ADP-awards). The nomination deadline is Friday, May 5, 2023.

## ACB’s BADIE Awards: Lights, Camera, Description!

The American Council of the Blind’s Audio Description Project (ADP) and the Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP) are co-sponsoring an essay contest for blind and visually impaired young people (ages 7 to 21). It’s a great chance for students to engage with accessible learning materials, unleash their inner film critic, and compete for fun prizes. There will be first, second, and third place winners in each category, as well as a grand prize winner who will be awarded an iPad Mini and invited to read their essay at the American Council of the Blind's National Conference and Convention in July 2023. Learn more at: [www.acb.org/2023-BADIE](https://acb.org/2023-BADIE).  The deadline for contest entries is March 31, 2023.

## Consumer Electronics Show

On a two-part series of the ACB Advocacy Update, ACB’s Director of Advocacy & Governmental Affairs, Clark Rachfal, reviews the 2023 Consumer Electronics Show (CES). In Part 1, Clark is joined by Kat Zigmont, Deputy Director of the World Institute on Disability (WID) to discuss the evolution of accessible technology and why it is important to have disability inclusion at major industry conventions like CES. [Listen to Part 1 by visiting this link](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/1e0afd91/recapping-the-2023-consumer-electronics-show-part-i). In Part 2, Clark is joined by Greg Stilson, Head of Global Technology Innovation at the American Printing House for the Blind (APH) to discuss Greg’s impression of CES and experience as an exhibiter showcasing technology for APH. ACB, WID, and APH all participated in the Accessibility Leaders Roundtable at CES. [Listen to Part 2 by visiting this link](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/f76d9388/recapping-the-2023-consumer-electronics-show-part-ii).

## ACB Monthly Monetary Support Program

Have you signed up for ACB’s Monthly Monetary Support (MMS) program, or increased your monthly donation since the end of the 2022 conference and convention? If not, you might want to consider doing it by March 12. You could win a $250 Amazon gift card! Sign up by donating a minimum of ten dollars a month or increase what you’re already giving by at least five dollars per month. Up to 50 percent of what you donate can go back to an affiliate of your choice. What a great fundraiser! Call 888-999-3190 or email [askacbmms@gmail.com](mailto:askacbmms@gmail.com) by 11:59 p.m. Eastern Time on March 12; leave your name, phone number and/or email address, and we’ll get back to you. The drawing will take place after we’ve processed your information and received your first payment. Start calling now! We’ll be waiting to hear from you.

## DKM First Timers & ACB/JPMorgan Chase Leadership Fellows

We’re honoring the Legacy of Durward K. McDaniel (DKM) through our 2023 DKM First-Timers and 2023 ACB/JPMorgan Chase Leadership Fellows programs. To be eligible for consideration, each applicant must be age 18 or older, blind or low vision, and current on ACB membership dues. Additionally, DKM First-Timer applicants must never have attended an in-person ACB convention. For full details on the DKM First-Timers program, visit <https://acb.org/2023-first-timers>. To learn more about the ACB/JPMorgan Chase Leadership Fellows program, visit <https://acb.org/2023-leadership-fellows>. Access the 2023 Award Application by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/DKM2023>.

## The Palmetto State Needs You: Thursday, February 23 at 7pm ET

Jennifer Bazer is ready to revive the ACB affiliate in South Carolina. Her goal is to have an active affiliate in the Palmetto State for the national convention. If you know of individuals in South Carolina who may be interested in pushing up their sleeves to get this affiliate ready for the summer convention, if you are in South Carolina and wish to be a part of this exciting formation, or if you would like to assist or offer suggestions that may help the Palmetto state be a part of the ACB community, please join in this event! Contact Jennifer by email at [Jennifer.h.bazer@gmail.com](mailto:Jennifer.h.bazer@gmail.com) or dial 803-960-9977 to text or talk. On Feb. 23 at 7pm ET, [listen on ACB Media 5](http://www.acbmedia.org/5), join through [the Zoom link](https://acb-org.zoom.us/j/83561417978?pwd=UGlJRXMzWDZYaFZZNmRWMkJjbk1aZz09), or dial [+13126266799](tel:+13126266799) and enter the meeting ID: 835 6141 7978 and Passcode: 3850. One tap mobile: [+13126266799,,83561417978#](tel:+13126266799,83561417978).

## Dear Provider Letter

ACB, along with legal counsel, has created a Dear Provider Letter for blind and low vision individuals to use in health care settings like doctor’s offices and hospitals. The letter was created in response to the challenges experienced by our members and the broader community that were brought to the forefront during the COVID-19 pandemic. Access more information about the letter at <https://acb.org/dear-provider-resource>. If you are encountering inaccessible healthcare technology, patient information, or have had a negative patient experience related to being blind or low vision, please share it with ACB’s advocacy team by emailing: [advocacy@acb.org](mailto:advocacy@acb.org).

## GDB Summer Camp Program

Save the date for the 2023 Guide Dogs for the Blind’s summer camp program! Get ready for a weeklong deep dive into what it would be like to live and work with a guide dog. Mark your calendars for July 2023 and discover what it means to be ready for a guide dog, experience hands-on fun and unique activities with dogs, why your O&M skills are so important for a successful partnership with a guide dog, make new friends, and have a whole lot of camp fun! Camp GDB will be held July 24-28, 2023, for transition-age youth ages 14-17 who are blind or have low vision. Camp will be held at the [Hull Foundation & Learning Center](https://oralhull.org/) in Sandy Oregon which is seven miles from our Oregon Guide Dogs for the Blind’s training campus. Please visit the [Youth Programs Page](https://www.guidedogs.com/get-a-guide-dog/youth-programs) where you will find the 2023 Camp GDB Participant Application form. The deadline to submit your application is April 1, 2023, and GDB recommends you apply early as summer programs are popular and fill up quickly.

## New Spanish-Language Website for NLS patrons

The National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS) at the Library of Congress rolled out its Spanish-language website this week to broaden access to its programs and services for Hispanic communities across the United States. By visiting [www.loc.gov/nls/es/](http://www.loc.gov/nls/es/), those curious about NLS can learn how to apply for service and find information about the benefits of service, all *en español*. For current Spanish-speaking patrons, discovering the newest books in Spanish audio and braille formats is easier than ever. The site in Spanish features 24 different pages containing resources, application information, technical assistance, and book search tools. The Spanish-language roll-out coincides with the 4th anniversary of the US joining [the landmark Marrakesh Treaty](https://www.loc.gov/nls/about/organization/laws-regulations/marrakesh-treaty/) that is helping the NLS to significantly expand its collection of Spanish language materials, which currently boasts more than 8,000 books and magazines for all ages.