**Dots and Dashes**

**May 15, 2023**

# **Convention Registration for ACB Members Opens This Week**

Attention all members! ACB’s 2023 Conference & Convention registration opens for members this Thursday, May 18th, with registration opening for all on May 25th. The virtual portion of convention begins June 19 with the Call to Order. Resolutions will take place from June 20-22, and Constitution and Bylaws will take place on June 23. The hybrid 2023 convention begins June 30 and ends on July 7, with all in-person sessions taking place in Schaumburg, IL. [**Find instructions on how to register here**!](https://www.acbconvention.org/?p=95)

# **Catching Up with ACB’s Interim President & Convention News**

On a [**two-part episode of the ACB Advocacy Update**](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/574f68c3/catching-up-with-acb-s-interim-president-convention-news) we catch up with ACB’s new Interim President, Deb Cook Lewis. Then, we turn to ACB’s Convention Coordinator, Janet Dickelman, for more information about the 2023 Conference and Convention in Schaumburg, IL. Convention registration for ACB members opens this week! Learn more at [**www.acbconvention.org**.](http://www.acbconvention.org/?fbclid=IwAR1wdmb2jTSPn4Oglc7lHTFgL96uM8z49Ht15h2u5LYCOUqZPQsJbFuZTmk)

# **Chicago APS Federal Court Case**

On two episodes of the ACB Advocacy Update, ACB’s advocacy team reviews a recent federal court case regarding Chicago’s failure to install accessible pedestrian signals (APS) for its blind and low vision residents and visitors at its more than 2,800 signalized intersections. In the [**first episode**](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/ef083a38/accessible-pedestrian-signals-in-the-city-of-chicago-part-1), they speak with Madeleine Reichman, an attorney with Disability Rights Advocates (DRA), about this case which involved both DRA and the American Council of the Blind of Metropolitan Chicago, a chapter of the Illinois Council of the Blind. In the [**follow-up episode**](https://acb-advocacy-update.pinecast.co/episode/7d6dc50c/accessible-pedestrian-signals-in-the-city-of-chicago-part-2), they speak with the advocates on the ground in Chicago, including Illinois Council of the Blind President, Ray Campbell; ACB of Metropolitan Chicago President, Debbie Watson; and two other named plaintiffs and ICB members, Ann Brash and Maureen Heneghan. [**Learn more about this federal court case on AP News**](https://apnews.com/article/blind-pedestrians-safer-crosswalks-signals-chicago-61d62685127d3e2228e91860e2c998b2).

# **2023 Leadership Conference MMS Winner**

The MMS Committee would like to announce the winner from our 2023 Leadership Conference member drive: Cathy Long from Pennsylvania! She’ll be receiving a $250 Amazon gift card.

Be prepared to sign up or increase your monthly donation during this summer’s convention and have your name entered in a drawing to win one of four Amazon gift card prizes: 1st prize, $300; 2nd prize, $250; 3rd and 4th prizes, $100.

# **Description of Coronation**

Did you watch the coronation of King Charles III? If so, the Audio Description Project would like to hear from you. Let us know whether the audio description was available in your city, and if so, what channel you were viewing it on. Also, please provide any positive feedback, or any constructive input that we can share with the networks and Descriptive Video Works, the company providing the description for the event. Send your comments to **tkenlon@acb.org**.

# **AAPD Fall Internship Program**

The [**2023 AAPD Fall Internship Program Application**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=eedc2be91e&e=4d81ac9ee4) is now open. The application is due **Thursday, June 8, 2023 at 11:59 p.m. Eastern.**

The fall internship will be fully virtual. AAPD will select eight interns, who will complete remote internships at pre-selected placement sites. Interns will work part-time (15 to 20 hours a week), for 10 weeks, from Oct. 2 to Dec. 8.

For more information, visit the [**Fall Internship Program webpage**](https://aapd.us13.list-manage.com/track/click?u=08dab5cd58ad9250c3f56519f&id=5ad33d5391&e=4d81ac9ee4). If you have any questions, please email **internships@aapd.com**or call (202) 975-0241. You can also join a virtual information session on **Thursday, May 18 from 4:00-4:30 p.m. Eastern** to learn more about the program and the application process. The session will be recorded and available on the AAPD website.

# **DREDF Survey on Accessibility in Hotels**

Ever frustrated because a hotel website doesn’t provide enough — or any — information to reserve the accessible room you need? Tired of having to call and get the run-around just to find out which room has the right accessibility features?

DREDF wants to hear about your experiences! They would like to include as many stories as possible about the realities of traveling while disabled — specifically, how hard it is to make hotel reservations and secure a room with accessibility features because of a lack of information about accessible features on the website. Take the survey at [**https://forms.gle/fg3REajZo6nbU7ZB7**](https://forms.gle/fg3REajZo6nbU7ZB7) before June 30, 2023.

# **Calendars from NLS**

NLS will be providing print/braille calendars starting this summer. The first calendars will cover a half year plus the first month of 2024. Near the end of this year, subscribers will receive 2024 calendars.

Calendars are available in two sizes. The larger wall-type calendar will be print/braille. The smaller pocket-sized calendar will probably be in braille.

To receive a calendar, contact your network library and subscribe. You can request one or both calendars.

# **British Vogue in Braille**

A recent Yahoo! lifestyle article includes details of the braille edition of British Vogue’s latest issue, which is focused on disability, highlighting notable advocates in the space. The piece includes quotes from Kim Charlson, noting that the issue is a “game changer,” as fashion and design publications lack accessibility. It’s fantastic to see Kim mentioned in this piece alongside other leading advocates for individuals who are blind or have visual impairments. Read the article, “[**British Vogue is available in braille. Blind 'fashionistas' react.**](https://www.yahoo.com/lifestyle/british-vogue-released-braille-edition-223429656.html)”