# **Dots and Dashes**

# **January 9, 2023**

# **ACB Welcomes New ADP Coordinator**

We are excited to announce that Tabitha Kenlon will join our staff to fill the newly created position of Audio Description Project (ADP) Coordinator. The ADP Coordinator will help facilitate the day-to-day activities of the Audio Description Project program. In this role, Tabitha will report to Clark Rachfal, the Director of Advocacy and Governmental Affairs, and will assist with public policy related to audio description; build and maintain partnerships and relationships with external stakeholders; and advocate to expand access to audio description and the necessary access technologies. Learn more about Tabitha at [**https://acb.org/2023-employee-announcements**](https://acb.org/2023-employee-announcements).

# **ACB Seeking HR/Payroll Specialist**

The American Council of the Blind is seeking a Human Resources/Payroll Specialist. Applicants must have a bachelor’s degree (preferred), or an associate’s degree in HR or a related field; five years of previous relevant experience; previous experience processing payroll; and be proficient in Microsoft Office 365. To view the complete job description, visit <https://www.acb.org/jobs>.

# **2023 Golden Globe Awards**

NBC will be hosting the 80th Annual Golden Globe Awards with live audio description provided by Descriptive Video Works on Tuesday, January 10 at 8 p.m. Eastern. The network has been hosting the award ceremony since 1996, which recognizes the best and brightest in film and television, as selected by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association. For more details about the 2023 Golden Globe Awards, visit [www.nbc.com/nbc-insider/2023-golden-globes-details](http://www.nbc.com/nbc-insider/2023-golden-globes-details).

# **Apply to Become a DKM First-Timer or a JPMorgan Chase Leadership Fellow**

We’re honoring the Legacy of Durward K. McDaniel (DKM) as we announce that we are now accepting online applications for the Class of 2023 DKM First-Timers and Class of 2023 ACB/JPMorgan Chase Leadership Fellows. To be eligible for consideration, each applicant must be age 18 or older; blind or visually impaired; current on ACB membership dues, and never have attended an in-person ACB conference and convention. For full details, see the articles in the January 2023 Braille Forum and February E-Forum. Access the 2023 Award Application by visiting

<https://forms.gle/L9qQ2JQ18haNjdB86>.

# **Assistive Technology Month Workshops with our friends at Braille Institute**

Join Braille Institute as we celebrate Assistive Technology Month! Participate in workshops, live demonstrations, and get hands-on experience with some of the devices.

**Wednesday, January 11, 2023, 10:00 – 11:00 AM PT:** [Register here to hear Sam Seavey the founder and creator of The Blind Life YouTube channel.](https://bit.ly/3BGirSZ)

**Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 AM PT:** [Register here for this hybrid event about OrCam Devices.](https://bit.ly/3uQ3XMJ)

**Wednesday, January 18, 2023, 1:30 – 3:00 PM PT:** [Register here to experience the Fusion Software – Remote and how you can trial it for free.](https://bit.ly/3W3N9gY)

**Wednesday, January 25, 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 AM PT:** [Register here to Experience the BlindShell Classic 2 Phone during this Hybrid event with a BlindShell representative.](https://bit.ly/3Pssocx)

**Thursday, January 26, 2023, 10:00 – 11:30 AM PT:** [Register here to Get Going with Mike May and GoodMaps for this Hybrid event.](https://bit.ly/3hrMTJG)

# **New Items at the Mini Mall!**

The ACB Mini Mall is proud to announce the addition of several new exciting items:

* A new ACB Hooded Sweatshirt in navy blue with a white ACB logo embroidered on upper left, available in sizes M-3XL and sell for $40.
* A new ACB Full Zip Hoodie in navy blue with a white ACB logo screen printed on the upper left, available in sizes M-2XL and sell for $55.
* A new Rubbermaid Chug Tritan Bottle. These 24-ounce bottles are translucent aqua with the black ACB logo. They sell for $20.
* A white plastic LED Safety Clip with an LED neon green light, and the ACB logo in black. The plastic safety clip helps improve visibility and is perfect for walking, running, or cycling at night. The clips can attach to the back of your shoe, around your wrist, belt loop, or even on a dog’s collar or harness. They come with 2 CR3032 replacement batteries, work for approximately 70-100 hours, and sell for $12.

The ACB Mini Mall is open 24/7 at <https://acbminimall.org>, where you can shop and buy your ACB items when it’s convenient for you. If you try to purchase any of these new items online and the item is out of stock, please call (612) 332-3242 so we can reserve the item for you when a new order is received.

# **Elf Pets: A Fox Cub’s Christmas Tale**

On December 24th, ACB & The Lumistella Company aired a special audio described broadcast of the animated holiday special, “Elf Pets: A Fox Cub’s Christmas Tale,” to make holiday cheer more widely available to all. This holiday program also featured an audio described production of Rory Hoffman’s “The Twelve Days of Christmas”, a visit from Santa himself and phone calls from kids. To access the event recording, visit: <https://youtu.be/ChV63ieuu5s>.

# **Touch of Genius Prize Application Deadline Looms**

The Touch of Genius Prize for Innovation from National Braille Press (NBP), an annual award of $10,000, recognizes a project, or group of projects, that demonstrate “the most innovative idea in the field of braille and tactile literacy.” Applicants submit projects related to professional software and apps, educational software and apps, gaming software or apps, and braille or tactile-related hardware or learning items. This is the only award that fosters and rewards “innovation in the area of braille and tactile literacy for the blind and deaf blind communities.” Award winners have included innovators worldwide in education, technology, engineering, tactile graphics, and literacy. Applicants need to demonstrate in their narrative what their innovation/project is, how it shows innovation, measurements of success, challenges and limitations experienced, and other criteria outlined in the application materials.  Applications may be submitted electronically or via mail by the **January 13, 2023 deadline**. For more information, [download the Touch of Genius Prize application here](https://dhbgebb.r.af.d.sendibt2.com/tr/cl/qm7tsI_q0xRsaCjvkQPxnw7W0lslDLuWDgJdZvOefWs_XwkeRej5cSwVtK0Yw7hTL4aybebvTW6HM3Lm2yzx9IxP88ifMnAQkdb9oxxYSNUKDjsIB8fRc73xgSPpdVs-5LVMmr09QxjSgKIPnudQXiHB93-aAPvBH-T0c22dWH1ekD3Jz8Vhval4PsqnGRURMDm89BijdoPJg0nDH9Jh2P8sSGJcWZs_Y1tuaa2DCsz4n7WeTHhmEA_uValx7bn_p0YZSMN7dQY5O8i8_PwnsuWhMrLVUTSSPbRpYoz1wC2rhnDxu9WRYZE4vjWvNoYkvYVUPo6CM12cxEq3vowvaIMRkm2m0jYBHQ_Xmw).

# **Apply for the $2,000 Friends In Art Annual Scholarship**

Friends-in-Art (FIA), a nonprofit organization with the mission of creating spaces where visually impaired artists and audiences thrive and an affiliate of the American Council of the Blind (ACB), offers an annual $2,000 scholarship to college students who are legally blind.

If you are a high school senior or a college student engaged in the fields of music, art, drama, graphic arts, and/or creative writing, and are blind or visually impaired, we encourage you to apply!

In addition to being legally blind, applicants must:

* Maintain a 3.0 GPA;
* Be a full-time student or work 32 or more hours per week while attending college part-time; and
* Be involved in their school/local community.
* To find out more or to apply, please visit <https://acb.org/scholarships>

Be sure to highlight your arts-related activities while completing the application form so that we will know you are interested in applying for the FIA scholarship. Please also note that completion of the application process will make you potentially eligible for other ACB scholarships.

**Deadline: February 14, 2023**

Please direct any questions to Peter Altschul, FIA Scholarship Chair, at [creatingcommonground@outlook.com](mailto:creatingcommonground@outlook.com)

# **Furry-Tails Is Back!**

Sunday Edition and Guide Dog Users, Inc. have partnered to recognize some amazing guide dogs. Sunday Edition will collect nominations from March 1st until May 15th. Then a committee from GDUI and Sunday Edition will select 10 Furry-Tail recipients to be awarded at the convention program. Submissions should include a written testimonial of 500 to 750 words, including the story of the guide dog with anecdotes and accomplishments. Please include any memorable moments from the life of the nominee. Also be sure to note who is the handler and who will represent the handler and nominee at convention. If you have one, send along a photo of the nominee and the team. And include any folks who wish to share stories and memories of the nominee.

Please send your nominations (no earlier than **March 1st**) to [**SundayEditionAC@gmail.com**](mailto:SundayEditionAC@gmail.com), and use the subject: Furry-Tails Nominee.

# **Museum Audio Description**

Expanding the descriptions of artworks on museums’ websites and audio tours is perhaps the most significant way these institutions are becoming more accessible to people with a range of vision conditions, from partially sighted to completely blind. At the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, which includes the Legion of Honor and de Young Museum, a traditional artwork audio descriptionruns about 250 words, while the expanded texts may be as many as 330. In several Bay Area museums, work on making those descriptions more inclusive is a priority. [**Learn more by reading this San Francisco Chronicle article**](https://datebook.sfchronicle.com/art-exhibits/expanded-museum-audio-descriptions-help-the-sight-impaired-envision-the-art).