

**CALIFORNIA TRANSCRIBERS  
AND EDUCATORS FOR THE  
BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

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**CALIFORNIA TRANSCRIBERS AND EDUCATORS  
FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED**

Cover photo by [Thomas Morse](#) on Unsplash.



## **PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

**WE GATHER AGAIN, VIRTUALLY!** Special welcome to those of you who are new to The California Transcribers and Educators for the Blind and Visually Impaired, known as CTEBVI. Welcome back to the many of you who have been a part of our rich history as attendees, presenters, and as volunteers.

Our organization mission is to support those who work with students, kindergarten through high school, to ensure accessible education, training in technology, advocacy, and academic skills enabling our students to reach for whatever goals fit their dreams. We have assembled excellent presenters, many nationally renown, some even internationally known. Most speak with passion, many from the heart, but all with a kinship felt in our niche world of vision loss.

I want to interact with your brain for a minute. Use your hands to pull back the cobwebs, dust off the synapses, and look for the beginnings of why you are here today. Some of you are low vision or blind and had someone early in your life mentor you in such a way that you were encouraged to view your future with an open mind. Some of you knew someone who had lost their vision and you were motivated to be that person who knew your destiny and the lives of those with vision challenges would be your calling. Some of you read a book, article, saw a movie, watched a play, or had a conversation about how amazing it would be to support a young

person to excel. I suppose some of you were thrown into this world without any sense of what was happening. Today you are a part of a special occupation that is part cheerleader, part motivator, part coach, part innovator, and maybe part drill sergeant. Smile if you recall the path that led you here.

In case you are not able to attend all of the sessions you signed up for or were unable to attend more than one at the same time, we have a way to accomplish that. Members, and we hope many of you are or will become members, have the ability to watch and re-watch all of the sessions following the conference. We will upload the workshops with captioning, described visuals, and any materials the presenters provided during the sessions. We have about 80 archived workshops from 2021 and will add another 60+ from this conference.

We hope all of you have a wonderful virtual conference, whether viewing from around the corner or around the world. Whether you are following the transcriber, educator, paraeducator, navigator, youth, or parent strands we hope you learn or relearn skills and benefit from what you participate in. Thank you again from the CTEBVI Board.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jonn Paris-Salb". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Jonn Paris-Salb**  
CTEBVI President

# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

APRIL 7 - APRIL 9, 2022

## THURSDAY, APRIL 7

EXHIBIT HALL ( April 7-9th)..... 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

All Exhibitors will be available through Saturday, April 9th. After April 9th only exhibitors opting to advertise with CTEBVI will be available for accessing. If you click on a specific vendor you will see the times they will be available, but you can always leave them a message or tour their website.

Zoom Link for Exhibit Hall: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82881306520?pwd=M3YyZzZPcnJHY3FMQmFVeWI0b2g0dz09>.

Dial in meeting id: 828 8130 6520; 780622

## FRIDAY, APRIL 8

General Session .....9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

Zoom Link for General Session: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84771614996?pwd=d1RN-SHQxOUI6bTdJY1FsbTlxTks4UT09>.

Dial in meeting id: 847 7161 4996; passcode 756494

- **2022 CTEBVI Conference Welcome**  
Jon Paris-Salb, President
- **Awards 2022**

### Distinguished Member: Sharon Anderson

Introduction by Sarah Esajian

*Criteria:* The Distinguished Member Award is presented to individuals that have enhanced CTEBVI as an organization over time.

*Award:* Certificate in recognition of receiving the Distinguished Membership

*Nominee:* Sharon Anderson

*Basis for the Nomination:* Sharon Anderson has been the treasurer of CTEBVI for at least 15 years, a job that is very detailed and cause for accuracy as a 501(c)(3) non-profit. Sharon has upheld her duties in an exemplary manner and is highly regarded by board members.

**Distinguished Member: Judi Biller**

Introduction by Sue Reilly

*Criteria:* The Distinguished Member Award is presented to individuals that have enhanced CTEBVI as an organization over time.

*Award:* Certificate in recognition of receiving the Distinguished Membership

*Nominee:* Judi Biller

*Basis for the Nomination:* Judi Biller has been on the board for many years serving in many capacities. For the past eight years she has worked with Sue Reilly to read, accept, and coordinate all conference workshops.

**Innovator Award: Bill McCann**

Introduction by Richard Taesch

*Criteria:* The Innovator Award is given to vendors/inventors/creators of a product or service unique to blindness and has contributed to the improvement in the lives of those with vision loss.

*Award:* Plaque specifying the awardee and his/her contribution

*Nominee:* Bill McCann

*Basis for the Nomination:* Bill McCann created Dancing Dots so that transcribers and others can create music scores, music sheets, and other associated music for students. Bill provides workshops, training, and has written extensively about music education specific for students with vision loss.



Since we are not able to be together in person this year, we've adopted [Slack](#) to support the vibrant CTEBVI community outside of our scheduled conference events.

Slack is where we can have casual conversations, trade contact info, get announcements, and ask questions. Think of it as the hotel corridor outside the workshop sessions, or the café where you bump into a long-time colleague or make a new connection.

Slack sign-up link:

[https://join.slack.com/t/ctebvi/shared\\_invite/zt-nu9dybjq-Sw8l8lg-m9x~oBb2sP0BGWA](https://join.slack.com/t/ctebvi/shared_invite/zt-nu9dybjq-Sw8l8lg-m9x~oBb2sP0BGWA)

**Special Recognition: Dr. Amanda Lueck**

Introduction by Dr. Yue-Ting Siu

*Criteria:* This award is presented to people who were recognized for a special talent or skill brought to CTEBVI or the field of blindness.

*Award:* Plaque naming the awardee and phrase noting the achievement

*Nominee:* Dr. Amanda Lueck

*Basis for the Nomination:* Amanda has led the research and shared information regarding a diagnosis of Cortical Vision Impairment (CVI). She is an internationally known speaker and advocate on the topic. Amanda had led many workshops at CTEBVI and other venues to share her research and best practices.

**Fred Sinclair: Dr. Sharon Sacks**

Introduction by Adrian Amandi

*Criteria:* The Fred Sinclair Award is given to individuals who have contributed to the field of blindness over their careers.

*Award:* Plaque naming the awardee and phrase noting the achievement

*Basis for the Nomination:* Sharon has been involved in the field of vision loss her entire professional career. Sharon has contributed to textbooks used nationally in the training of teachers for the visually impaired, contributed to research in the field of blindness, was a past staff member of the California School for the Blind - including a stint as the Superintendent. Sharon has presented at many national conferences and for many government agencies regarding the services for students with vision impairment.

**Wall of Tribute at APH Hall of Fame: Grant Horrocks**

Introduction by Jonn Paris-Salb

*Award:* Inscribed stone to be placed in the Wall of Tribute.

*Nominee:* Grant Horrocks

*Basis for the Nomination:* Grant has been a member of CTEBVI for over 20 years, past president for two terms, conference chair for twelve years, Executive Director for five years, and the face of CTEBVI regarding conferences and the organization as a whole for other like national organizations.

- **Keynote Speaker**



**Bill McCann**

*Founder and President,  
Dancing Dots Braille Music Technology, L.P.*

Introduction by Richard Taesch

**William R. McCann** worked from 1982 through 1991 at the Sun Company, where he advanced from Associate Systems Analyst to Systems Analyst III while remaining an active, part-time professional trumpeter and composer. This graduate of Philadelphia's University of the Arts (1980, cum laude) holds a certificate of Computer Science earned in 1982 at University of Pennsylvania's Center for Information Resources.

In 1992 Bill McCann launched Dancing Dots Braille Music Technology (DDBMT). Dancing Dots seeks to offer disabled individuals access to information that can widen opportunity and enrich lives. McCann envisions GOODFEEL® as just the first of a number of high-tech solutions to benefit people with disabilities. Dots Braille Music Technology, L.P., was founded in 1992 to develop and adapt music technology for the blind.

- **Featured Speaker**

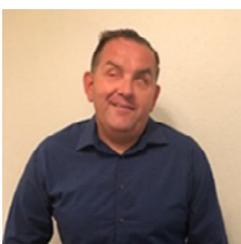


**Michael Glacken**

*CTEBVI West Coast Re-entry Grant Recipient*

Introduction by Jayma Hawkins

- **Featured Speaker**



**Richard Rueda**

*Digital Content Manager: APH ConnectCenter*

Introduction by Chris Fendrick

- **Tribute**

### **In Memoriam: Wayne Siligo**

Introduction by Maureen Reardon



### **In Memoriam: Wayne Siligo**

**June 6, 1943 - February 15, 2022**

A longtime resident of Alameda and Alameda Elks lodge member, Wayne was a prolific professional musician who played a multiplex of instruments, guitar being his number one love. Wayne was known throughout the Bay Area and played at many top restaurants and events. He was most proud of his 39 years spent teaching at California School for the Blind where, among other subjects, he shared his passion for music and teaching with his students. Many of his students play in bands and perform professionally.

Some of Wayne's fans may not have even known he was blind, but his ears were as keen as an eagle's vision. During one of his last driveway performances for his neighbors, Wayne shared that he never appreciated his blindness being referred to as a disability. He viewed it as a blessing, as his hearing adapted to notice the little delights that most take for granted. His distinct ability to add subtle touches to his music made it come alive and bring people to tears.

# CONFERENCE SPONSORS

Join us in saying “THANK YOU” to our 2022 conference sponsors! Check out each sponsor’s website linked below, and be sure to visit our [2022 Conference Virtual Exhibit Hall!](#)



[NewCo Foundation](#)



[Transcribing Mariners](#)



[NorthState Assistive Technology](#)



[Liberty Braille](#)



[Google](#)



[Perkins School for the Blind](#)



[Wayfinder Family Services](#)



[American Thermoform](#)



[Braille Institute](#)



# CONFERENCE WORKSHOPS

**APRIL 8 - APRIL 9**

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**

**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PST**

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## **101 T- AND P- PAGES: WALKTHROUGH OF THE TRANSCRIBER GENERATED AND PRELIMINARY PAGES**

**Amy Furman**

During this session we will be walking through T- and P- pages, discussing and correcting common mistakes on transcriber-generated and front matter pages.

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## **102 BOUNDARIES: A CASE FOR ACTIVE CONSENT-SEEKING BEHAVIORS OF ADULTS ENGAGING WITH CHILDREN**

**Erika Fundelius**

Students who are blind or visually impaired are often 'handled' with consideration neither to their boundaries nor to their preferences or wishes. SNAAP is a set of strategies that can help people who are engaged with student with disabilities curb their potentially intrusive behaviors, and actively seek consent while teaching self-determination to students at all ability levels.

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## **103 ACCESSIBYTE OVERVIEW**

**Joe Jorgenson**

Accessibyte Overview - Totally Audible, Highly Visual, Fully Remote Apps for Typing, Study,

& Games: Learn how easy it is to integrate Accessibyte's unique online platform into your curriculum, all accessibility right in the browser, with no complicated outside software required. Students can log in from school or home, with the same simple navigation on any device. Teachers and parents can monitor progress, tweak settings, and send custom lessons from anywhere.

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## **104 WHAT'S NEW IN ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY FOR STUDENTS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS**

**Adrian Amandi, Alma Gaona, Guadalupe Gonzalez, Crystal Hurst**

Zoom and Google Meet forced teachers to innovate in our practices and to find creative new solutions to meet the needs of our students even with school back in person. Chromebooks and iPads, along with virtual learning platforms, are in abundance as tools for students to access content and assignments. Times have officially changed and digital accessibility is now a must. The lens of vision teachers to provide ideas and access solutions for our students can be the difference between them fitting in or falling behind. In addition to providing extensive resources in What's Available in Assistive Technology, we will provide recommendations in using standing technology available to students and justifications when upgrades are necessary.

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## **105 CLASSROOM MATH SOLUTIONS USING BRAILLE AND SPEECH FOR THE MODERN JAWS USER**

**Ronald Miller, Ian Ramos**

During this session, we will be discussing the newer capabilities of JAWS by demonstrating how it enables students to read and study math problems contained in web pages and Microsoft Word documents using both speech

and braille. Learn how JAWS can now provide spoken, natural-language descriptions of math expressions using the same terms a teacher would use to explain them in a classroom. This enables students using JAWS to read mathematical expressions as their sighted peers do. When a refreshable braille display is connected, JAWS now shows math expressions on the display using the Nemeth Braille code, a widely used system for reading math in braille.

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## **106 FVA REPORT WRITING: LET'S MAKE IT APPTASTIC!**

**Tracy Keys, Dr. Yue-Ting Siu**

The FVA Report...we love the information and dread the time it takes to produce a quality report. But what if there's an app for that?! Come see a demo of a developing app designed to produce more consistent, quality FVA reports. All workshop participants will be invited to try the app and produce your own reports and give feedback on how the app can be improved. Let's reach higher grounds by improving how FVA data are communicated to support parents and IEP teams!

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## **107 USING THE NEW LOUIS DATABASE OF ACCESSIBLE MATERIALS**

**Linda Turner**

Have you seen the updated Louis website? We designed it for you. Learn how transcribers, TVIs, and others can use the new Louis Database to find accessible materials. We will introduce you to the new look and functionality of the website including format and grade range filters, an advanced search feature, and much more.

## **108 STEP-BY-STEP METHOD: TEACHING BRAILLE READING AND WRITING USING ACTUAL TACTUALS UEB PRACTICE SENTENCES**

**Roberta Becker, Tamara Black, Lori Scharff**

This workshop will focus on braille literacy by introducing UEB contractions and symbols, presented in a sequential, easy-to-understand manner. It will allow attendees to have a clearer understanding of UEB rules. Topics covered: changes in contraction and symbol use, determining IEP goals, maximizing braille learning, and maximizing Expanded Core Curriculum goals. Exceptions to the rules are excluded.

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## **109 SHOWCASING PROJECT INSPIRE'S RESOURCES FOR YOU!**

**Tina Herzberg, Sara Larkin, Susan Osterhaus, L Penny Rosenblum**

The Project INSPIRE (Increasing the STEM Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille) team has developed resources for TVIs, transcribers, and middle school braille readers. We will introduce you to our five courses that cover Nemeth Code and methods and materials from preschool through middle school. Once tested, our courses are available on Paths to Literacy. We have created "Nemeth in a Box," a set of seven lessons, for students in grades 6-8 to build their skills along with "Mission INSPIRE," an activity in which students build rockets and collect data. The student materials are ready for you to use!

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**

**11:15 AM - 12:15 PM PST**

**201 HAPPINESS IS HIKING WITH FRIENDS:  
A ROUNDTABLE COMPARISON OF SCHOOL  
AND AGENCY TRANSCRIPTIONS**

**Amy Furman, Joan Treptow**

We will discuss the differences in the approach towards transcription of materials in both agency and school settings. Please send samples to [amy@hopebraille.com](mailto:amy@hopebraille.com) to be included in workshop discussions.

**202 COLLEGE SPACES AND FINDING  
COMMUNITY: REIMAGINING THE  
COLLEGE EXPERIENCE AND CREATING  
CONNECTIONS IN UNEXPECTED WAYS**

**Jamey Gump, Daisy Soto**

Connection, community, and mentorship. These are only a few of the words that come to mind when we think of all that makes up the college experience. Beyond attending classes and completing projects, students gain immeasurably from the connections made with peers and mentors while walking through campus or during a conversation at a school café. With the many changes brought about during the COVID-19 pandemic, much of the college experience became virtual, subsequently leading to students longing for ways to continue establishing valuable relationships. One of the many innovative programs born from this mutual experience has been a student-led virtual group for blind and low-vision undergraduate students (College Spaces from Different Places), allowing students the opportunity to find community and strengthen leadership skills as they plan and lead these virtual gatherings themselves. Audiences will hear first-hand accounts from

a panel of student leaders about how their involvement in creating and leading this group has increased confidence, emotional well-being, and a feeling of community, as well as the creative process that led to the development of the group during an unpredictable time.

**203 FOCUS ON HEALTH: CREATIVE  
CONNECTIONS ACROSS THE ECC IN  
HEALTH AND SEXUALITY EDUCATION**

**Erika Fundelius, Manda Nordes**

The session will identify National Health and Sexuality Standards and highlight creative ways to embed instruction linked to core curriculum standards while covering as many ECC areas as possible. Participants will learn of age and developmentally appropriate and applicable activities, SMART goal connections, and be given resources and references.

**204 NEW BRAILLENOTE TOUCH+  
FEATURES ENHANCE STUDENT  
PRODUCTIVITY**

**Rachel Feinberg, Robert Sweetman**

The BrailleNote Touch+ continues to offer simplicity and productivity. The File Manager has been redesigned for more intuitive navigation. It is easier than ever to save files to a folder on the local storage drive, or directly to Google Drive, Dropbox, or OneDrive. The BrailleNote now offers the capability to read a complex document in a brand new way in the word processor, navigating by specific elements such as headings or links. We will demonstrate a brand new application called KeySlides, which allows a user to read a PowerPoint file very easily without requiring PowerPoint.

## 205 DIGITAL MATH IN A FLASH

**Adrian Amandi, Vanessa Herndon**

Braille and auditory learners can both read and input math efficiently using computers and braille notetakers. In this workshop we will provide attendees a snapshot into tools and methods available for teachers to provide accessible math to students and for students to produce print math to turn in. Our goal is that you will leave this workshop with efficient ways to digitize math in a flash.

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## 206 INTERVENERS FOR STUDENTS WITH DEAFBLINDNESS: THEIR UNIQUE ROLE, INTERVENTION OUTCOMES, AND TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

**Julie Maier**

A trained intervener is an essential piece of a successful educational program for many students with deafblindness. An intervener is a 1:1 paraeducator with specialized knowledge and skills in deafblindness who, under the supervision and guidance of a credentialed teacher(s), provides access and support to a student who is deafblind. This presentation will provide information about the unique role and responsibilities of an intervener, positive outcomes of effective intervention, determination of the need for an intervener, and various training pathways to prepare interveners for their role.

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## 207 CTEBVI RESOURCES

**Jonn Paris-Salb**

CTEBVI has a new website that includes many exciting additions. Access to our Specialists, calendars, events, and affiliations are on the main page. The new members-only section

includes our two publications; The *JOURNAL* and "To Be Continued" newsletters, about 80 recorded workshops from 2021 (and 60 more when the 2022 conference is over), and a database of many items that will be helpful for anyone in the field of blindness.

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## 208 O&M/SENSORY SKILLS WITH AUDIOJACK

**David Tobin**

Attendees will learn how Audiojack is being used in O&M as well as sensory perception. Then they will all participate in an Audiojack and share their experiences. A Q&A session will take place in the remaining time.

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**  
**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PST**

## 301 MAKING MUSIC...IN BRAILLE! BRAILLE MUSIC BASICS SESSION I

**Pamela Lorenz, Jennifer Rice**

Introduction to braille music transcription. Understanding basic music theory and how music is translated into braille.

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## 302 THE TROUBLE WITH TABLES

**Cindi Laurent**

Is it columns or is it a table? How can you tell and are there differences in the rules about transcribing them? This workshop will provide insight into how to handle material printed in columns of all kinds and sizes.

### **303 SESSION 1: AHHH...JUST...RIGHT! CREATING SPACE WHERE EVERYTHING A STUDENT DOES IS JUST RIGHT, WHERE PUTTING IN EFFORT MEANS THEY ARE WORKING HARD ENOUGH AND FAST ENOUGH. ANYONE CAN LEAD IT, AND EVERYONE HAS FUN.**

**Marisa Smith**

As our VI students and children move through their day, messages can trickle through their awareness, implicit or explicit, that what they do is not enough, that they are not working hard enough, fast enough, or completing a task well enough. But what if there were space in the schedule where everything a student does is right, feels like more than good enough, and where just putting in effort means that they are working hard enough and fast enough? This interactive workshop offers a practical intervention guide to promote feelings of success and confidence and to develop emotional awareness and mindfulness.

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### **304 SUCCESSFUL COLLEGE PREPARATION FOR THE FUTURE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE**

**Enjie Hal, Richard Rueda**

Hear from an experienced panel of experts in the field of blindness/visual impairments. A panel composed of a parent of a student who is blind/visually impaired, individuals who are blind/visually impaired, and specialists from disability offices will present information about vital accessibility issues facing students who are blind/visually impaired when preparing for and actively attending college/university. Once the issues are identified, the panel will use the stories of two different students' experiences with the support they received while at a community college versus a four-year college/university. These stories will guide the

discussion and presentation about accessibility issues and resources available to support students who are blind/visually impaired. The quality and level of support these unique students receive can make the difference between success and failure.

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### **305 SESSION 1: UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE ACCESS FOR LEARNERS WITH CVI**

**Stephanie Steffer**

During this session, we will walk step by step through a variety of ways to utilize the ten visual and behavioral characteristics within a digital activity to ensure your learners participate with their peers. We will put into action the strategies that have been shared from researchers in the field, such as Christine Roman-Lantzy, Matt Teitjen, and others. We learn about finding the visual target and consider what additional modifications are necessary. After this session, participants will have a better understanding of how they can use the digital age to support their learners with CVI.

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### **306 SESSION 1: ADDRESSING THE WHEN AND HOW -- INTRODUCING REFRESHABLE BRAILLE TECHNOLOGY USING BRAILLE LEARNING TABLES FROM BEGINNER TO LINGUIST**

**Rachel Feinberg, Kevin Hughes, Peter Tucic**

Whether you are introducing refreshable braille technology for the first time, or teaching a foreign language, this presentation will outline how BANA Method 3 language tables and Duxbury braille learning tables based on widely used braille teaching curricula can help learners easily master new braille codes.

### **307 REVISING THE PROGRAM GUIDELINES: YOUR SUPPORT IS NEEDED!**

**Adrian Amandi**

The Guidelines for Programs Serving Students with Visual Impairments were last updated in 2014. The implementation of a new braille code, the recent passage of AB-947, updates to the Teaching Credential Standards and Performance Expectations, new assessment techniques, and the upcoming effort to codify the Expanded Core Curriculum came along so it is time to revisit and consider updating the Program Guidelines. It is important to have varied input from our field. This session will review the current Guidelines and begin brainstorming potential revisions with current content focused on the unique educational needs of students with visual impairments.

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### **308 CREATING COMMUNICATION-RICH ENVIRONMENTS: PRACTICES AND STRUCTURES THAT SUPPORT EMERGING COMMUNICATORS**

**Julie Maier**

The ability to effectively communicate with others is necessary to form relationships, learn, and achieve. Children with deafblindness and/or multiple disabilities face unique challenges related to the development of communication skills. It's vitally important that families and professionals believe in every child's capacity and desire to communicate and encourage and support effective skill development in this area. This presentation focuses on building communication-rich environments that provide children with many opportunities for and reasons to communicate and connect with others. Practices and supports to increase a child's confidence and skills in communicating with others in their environment will be highlighted.

### **309 DIGITAL MATH: WHAT WORKS**

**Crystal Hurst, Scott Jaffray, Yurika Vu**

Teaching math to students with a visual impairment can be a daunting task. In some cases, students need to develop their auditory, tactual, and braille skills, as well as develop the same basic math concepts as every other student. Once they have these abilities, students can move on to Digital Math. This session will quickly introduce a reliable method of teaching the math and braille skills needed for digital math, and then look at some case studies as we talk about the different tools for creating digital math. Case studies will include a student at a functional math level, a beginning academic student, and an advanced academic student. After this session, math may not be as daunting as you thought!

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**  
**3:30 PM - 4:30 PM PST**

### **401 MAKING MUSIC...IN BRAILLE! BEYOND MUSIC BASICS SESSION II**

**Pamela Lorenz, Jennifer Rice**

Building on topics covered in Session I participants will be introduced to methods employed when transcribing bar-over-bar music.

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### **402 TOWARDS AN ECC MANDATE**

**Adrian Amandi, Brenda Naimy, Manda Nordes, Jeff Thom**

Presenters will discuss proposed legislative efforts in California to assure that pupils with visual impairments have access to evaluation and instruction as needed in all nine areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). This will include a summary of the ECC, current laws, provisions of the recently drafted California

law, and a summary of the legislative process. Presenters will solicit feedback on how to adjust the draft of the new law to better meet the needs and wishes of students, parents, and educators (TVIs and O&Ms).

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**403 SESSION 2: AHHH...JUST...RIGHT! CREATING SPACE WHERE EVERYTHING A STUDENT DOES IS JUST RIGHT, WHERE PUTTING IN EFFORT MEANS THEY ARE WORKING HARD ENOUGH AND FAST ENOUGH. ANYONE CAN LEAD IT, AND EVERYONE HAS FUN.**

**Marisa Smith**

As our VI students and children move through their day, messages can trickle through their awareness, implicit or explicit, that what they do is not enough; that they are not working hard enough, fast enough, or completing a task well enough. But what if there were space in the schedule where everything a student does is right, feels like more than good enough, and where just putting in effort means that they are working hard enough and fast enough? This interactive workshop offers a practical intervention guide to promote feelings of success and confidence and develop emotional awareness and mindfulness.

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**404 LISTEN UP! AUTHENTIC ECC LEARNING THROUGH THE IT'S MY JOB PODCAST**

**Christine DaLee, Richard Rueda, Rebecca Sheffield**

In this interactive session featuring students and professionals, presenters will share how the student-led **It's My Job** podcast came to be and how this ongoing collaborative effort creates authentic ECC learning experiences for diverse

students. Attendees will learn a variety of ways that professionals and students can access and participate in podcast episodes. Please join us and contribute your questions and suggestions!

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**405 SESSION 2: UTILIZING TECHNOLOGY TO PROVIDE ACCESS FOR LEARNERS WITH CVI**

**Stephanie Steffer**

During this session, we will walk step by step through a variety of ways to utilize the ten visual and behavioral characteristics within a digital activity to ensure your learners participate with their peers. We will put into action the strategies that have been shared from researchers in the field, such as Christine Roman-Lantzy, Matt Teitjen, and others. We learn about finding the visual target and consider what additional modifications are necessary. After this session, participants will have a better understanding of how they can use the digital age to support their learners with CVI.

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**406 SESSION 2: ADDRESSING THE WHEN AND HOW -- INTRODUCING REFRESHABLE BRAILLE TECHNOLOGY USING BRAILLE LEARNING TABLES FROM BEGINNER TO LINGUIST**

**Rachel Feinberg, Kevin Hughes, Peter Tucic**

Whether you are introducing refreshable braille technology for the first time, or teaching a foreign language, this presentation will outline how BANA Method 3 language tables and Duxbury braille learning tables based on widely used braille teaching curricula can help learners easily master new braille codes.

#### **407 THE TACTILE GRAPHICS PARTNERSHIP: THE LIGHTHOUSE, CTEBVI, AND YOU**

**BJ Epstein, Greg Kehret, Naomi Rosenberg, Frank Welte**

Tactile Graphics Literacy (Graphicacy) is an important skill that will contribute to the success of today's blind and visually impaired students, both inside and outside of the classroom. Learn how the LightHouse for the Blind, CTEBVI, and the Accessible Graphics Consortium can support your efforts to build your students' Graphicacy.

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#### **408 INTEGRATING TECH INTO CLASSROOM ROUTINES: SMALL STEPS, BIG GAINS**

**Jessica McDowell**

Our students need assistive technology to access their curricula but there is so little time to work on the extra skills our students need. When and how can we integrate technology into classroom routines? Let's discuss considerations for assessment of environments, collaboration, and routines and uncover options for use of technology in general and special education classes and at home. These topics will be illustrated with many practical, real-world situations and strategies for learners in different settings.

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#### **409 TOWARDS AN ECC MANDATE**

**Brenda Naimy, Jeff Thom, Adrian Amandi, Manda Nordes**

Presenters will discuss proposed legislative efforts in California to assure that pupils with visual impairments have access to evaluation and instruction as needed in all nine areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). This will

include a summary of the ECC, current laws, provisions of the recently drafted California law, and a summary of the legislative process. Presenters will solicit feedback on how to adjust the draft of the new law to better meet the needs and wishes of students, parents, and educators (TVIs and O&Ms).

**FRIDAY, APRIL 8**  
**4:30 PM - 5:30 PM PST**

#### **SFSU SOCIAL**

**Dr. Yue-Ting Siu**

All are welcome to join the SF State social! Come say hi if you are SF alumni, a current student, potential employer, or simply want to learn more about our VI and O&M programs. We will have information available about recruitment initiatives and program updates. Hope you will join us for this **BYOB Happy Hour** from the comfort of your own home!

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**  
**10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PST**

#### **501 I'M CERTIFIED, NOW HOW DO I GET EXPERIENCE?**

**Amy Furman**

It is so hard to get work in the transcription industry when you don't have any experience! Hope Braille, LLC, in conjunction with Dial-A-Brailist and Braille Police, is starting a mentorship program to help you get the experience you need to get that transcription position you are looking for. Get all the information you need and ask questions here!

**502 WHAT IS AN INDEPENDENT LIVING CENTER?****Jacob Lesner-Buxton**

Every county in California is covered by an Independent Living Center. These non-profits provide services that give people with all types of disabilities the ability to live independently in the community. In this workshop, you will learn about the legacy of Independent Living Centers as well as some of the services that these organizations offer to you.

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**503 PUTTING YOUR BEST FOOT FORWARD: A WORKPLACE READINESS MODEL FOR TRANSITION-AGE YOUTH****Allison Burdett, Julie Parrish**

“Putting Your Best Foot Forward” (PYBFF), developed by the National Technical Assistance Center on Blindness and Low Vision at Mississippi State University, is a job search skills training program for transition-age youth who are blind or have low vision. In a 2021 Summer program pilot, Wayfinder Family Services completed pre- and post-testing with youth participants after implementing PYBFF in a four-week in-person program to improve their employment readiness skills. The training model, curriculum, and outcomes will be discussed as a component for helping youth learn the skills to prepare for and find a job and succeed in the workplace.

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**504 THE BRAILLESense 6 FOR SUCCESS IN THE CLASSROOM****Thomas Simpson, Robert Sweetman**

The BrailleSense 6 is a powerful tool for students. Teachers can prepare math assignments using the math editor in Microsoft Word. Students can then open these assignments on the BrailleSense. Intuitive file management allows students to manage their

assignments efficiently. They can download assignments from Google Drive and then upload their work when done or they can share assignments using the Email application. Students can work with Word documents, PDF files, PowerPoint documents, and braille documents. We'll review the new Bookshare application and the DAISY Reader. We will also demonstrate the free dictionary app and the Google and Wiki search engines. We will show how the built-in recorder allows students to record lessons and name them for future reference.

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**505 REACHING THE NEXT LEVEL IN CLASSROOM ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY: THE NEW RUBY 10 AND ONYX PRO****Joseph McDaniel, Ian Ramos, Mike Wood**

During this session, we will be demonstrating the advanced capabilities of the newest classroom solutions from Freedom Scientific, the Ruby 10 and Onyx Pro. Learn how the new Ruby 10 can maximize productivity by incorporating the 10-inch touchscreen and three dedicated cameras. Students can now take advantage of cutting-edge magnification features with industry-leading OCR to maximize the classroom experience. Find out how the new Onyx Pro can empower success by utilizing modern tablet technology, coupled with the best distance viewing camera to bring classroom learning to a whole new level.

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**506 CATCHING UP WITH THE APH CONNECTCENTER IN 2022****Olaya Landa-Vialard, Richard Rueda**

The APH ConnectCenter offers curated advice and resources to assist children, parents, adults, job seekers who are blind or visually impaired, and their associated professionals, leading to greater independence and success

in their lives. It connects agencies to those seeking information and services through its website, information and referral service, Directory of Services, training programs, and more. Learn more about this hub serving the field of blindness and visual impairment, and how your agency can partner with us to improve your connections.

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## 507 THE IMAGE ADVANTAGE/HOW TO MAKE TACTILE PICTURES WORK FOR YOU AND YOUR STUDENTS

**Ann Cunningham**

A hands-on exploration of how to make pictures that will more precisely and efficiently share information with your students. Learn about techniques and tools to get pictures into your students' hands. The presentation will cover images that have proven to be useful in art classes at the Colorado Center for the Blind and events at the National Federation of the Blind STEAM Programs. Every time students who are blind get an opportunity to touch a tactile graphic, they develop more skills. You can get started quickly and inexpensively. No artistic skills are needed.

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## 508 LANGUAGE OF LINES

**Vanessa Herndon, Jerry Kuns**

Tactile literacy is an intrinsically important developmental process facilitating success in math, science, and appreciation of the arts. This presentation will highlight the developmental implications, suggested interventions, and workflows to support this important literacy goal.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**  
**11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PST**

## 601 CONQUERING A MOUNTAIN OF MATH

**Amy Furman**

We will be going over actual math examples from transcribers. Please send examples to [amy@hopebraille.com](mailto:amy@hopebraille.com) for possible inclusion in the workshop!

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## 602 GETTING PAID TO CHANGE THE WORLD

**Jacob Lesner-Buxton**

Community organizing is a profession that often gets overlooked when students are thinking about careers. This is due to a lack of information about the field or the assumption that the pay is not enough to live on. However, the field of community organizing can be rewarding for those students who have a passion for advocacy. In this workshop, three people with low vision who are community organizers (both paid and unpaid) will share their experiences in the field. Learn about the accommodations they use in their work and how you can prepare your students to get paid to change the world.

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## 603 ELEVATING INCLUSIVITY THROUGH A CRITICAL ANALYSIS OF PICTURE BOOKS FEATURING FICTIONAL CHARACTERS WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENT

**Elizabeth Bolander, Michelle Chacon, Ann Cunningham, Loana Mason**

Culturally responsive literature featuring characters with visual impairment fosters awareness, empathy, inclusion, and acceptance. However, when used

inappropriately, negative stereotypes are perpetuated, thereby further marginalizing or stigmatizing those with impaired vision. This presentation will describe strategies for evaluating inclusivity tenants of picture books to promote blindness positivity. Using a rubric, books were evaluated for stereotypes, quality of relationships, psychosocial adjustment, appropriate interdependence, acceptance, equality, and diversity. Furthermore, essential elements of high-quality children's books (such as character and plot development, illustrations, and prose) were evaluated. Considerations for appropriate use of books featuring characters with visual impairments will be discussed.

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#### **604 WHAT'S NEW WITH JAWS AND MODERN CCTVS**

**Andy Roberts, Robert Sweetman**

We will highlight new features that have been added in JAWS 2022. We will then show how JAWS for Windows can be used to send and receive email messages using Gmail in standard view. We will demonstrate the use of "hybrid" CCTVs, video magnifier units that share the computer monitor, and show how these CCTVs fit in the modern classroom.

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#### **605 ELEDIT FOR WINDOWS: THE NEW, EASY-TO-USE BRAILLE AND TEXT EDITOR THAT TRANSLATES, PRINTS, EMBOSSSES, AND MANAGES FILES!**

**Zhi Huang, Ian Ramos**

Join Zhi Huang and Ian Ramos from Access Ingenuity as they introduce the new EEdit application to increase productivity with braille and print files while using Windows.

#### **606 2022 CAMP BLOOMFIELD: A SUMMER RESIDENTIAL CAMP FOR ALL AGES**

**Mark Lucas, Andrew Martinez**

Camp Bloomfield is a summer residential camp operated by Wayfinder Family Services, [www.wayfinderfamilyservices.org](http://www.wayfinderfamilyservices.org). Wayfinder Family Services (formerly the Junior Blind of America) operated its summer residential camp on property in Malibu, however, the property was destroyed in 2018 during the Wolsey fire. In 2022, Wayfinder Family Services will lease the site of Pathfinder Ranch, [www.pathfinderranch.org](http://www.pathfinderranch.org), in Mountain Center, CA. With the fires behind us and with the opportunity to conduct a face-to-face residential camp again, Wayfinder Family Services is pleased and excited to serve campers in three different sessions for three to four nights for children/teens, adults with low vision, and families during a family camp session.

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#### **607 4TO24 - A TRANSITION APP FOR PARENTS AND STUDENTS**

**Karla Antonelli, Jennifer Cmar, Anne Steverson**

The 4to24 app developed by the National Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision provides information and resources to parents and students to help them build success over time. It addresses transition topics but spans so much more - providing information on building skills starting at age four and all the way through young adulthood. Covering topics like academics, independent living skills, social skills, technology, and travel skills, its focus is on preparing young people for successful employment as an adult. Success starts early with the 4to24 app!

## 608 RESOURCES FOR LEARNING AND TEACHING NEMETH CODE WITHIN UEB CONTEXTS

**Tina Herzberg, Sara Larkin, Susan Osterhaus**

The presentation will be packed with the latest resources currently available to learn and then teach Nemeth Code within UEB Contexts to students from pre-K through high school and beyond. These will include free online step-by-step curricula, focused lessons, Nemeth library, plus tools and materials available through APH quota funds, high-tech translation apps, and more.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**  
**12:30 PM - 1:30 PM PST**

## ANNUAL MEETING CALIFORNIA ASSOCIATION FOR PARENTS OF CHILDREN WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS (CAPVI)

**Judith Lesner, Anne Ward**

This is the annual CAPVI general meeting. Parents and grandparents are especially welcome to discover what CAPVI does. We are dedicated to supporting families of children with visual impairments in California. Teachers and paraprofessionals are also welcome.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**  
**2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PST**

## 701 REFRESHING BRAILLE AND ACCESSIBILITY BASE CAMP

**Kyle DeJute**

Does your braille knowledge feel a little...low? Does organizing or sharing your accessibility expertise feel as challenging as climbing Mount Everest? Let APH's Braille Refresher Questions energize you while using APH's Accessibility Hub as a base camp for climbing the

accessibility mountain. We'll share information about the Braille Refresher Questions Program and preview its fun questions. If you aren't already signed up, you can do so right in the presentation. We'll thoroughly explore and explain the Accessibility Hub website so you can utilize its resources to help yourself (and your climbing team) reach new heights of accessibility.

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## 702 TOWARDS AN ECC MANDATE

*(Moved to 402)*

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## 703 PRACTICE WHAT YOU TEACH: HOW OBJECTIVEED'S REINFORCEMENT LEARNING SYS IMPROVES STUDENT OUTCOMES

**Marty Schultz, Jason Stewart**

You spend months helping your student master an IEP goal, only to discover months later that the student's use of the skill has deteriorated. Learn how you can use ObjectiveEd's gamified Reinforcement Learning System to reduce skill fade and improve your student's outcomes in O&M, A.T., braille literacy, and pre-ETS.

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## 704 GOOGLE DRIVE AND DOCS WITH JAWS

**Zhi Huang, Ian Ramos**

While Google Drive and Docs have grown in popularity over the past few years, this is not necessarily the case for many JAWS users. The reason is likely because some specific set up is required to work with these Google products on Windows with assistive technology. While this is documented in Google's help, unfortunately, not everybody reads this information. Join Zhi Huang and Ian Ramos from Access Ingenuity to explore key settings and tips to better work with Google Drive and Docs with JAWS.

## 705 THE 10 TRUTHS ABOUT IMPERATIVE MOVEMENT

**Mark Lucas**

Imperative Movement is non-negotiable. Why? Our students, clients, employees and, yes, you must move and re-create our bodies EVERY DAY! What is your agency/school doing to ensure your students, clients, and staff are moving? Does your organization/school have a roadmap to achieve short- and long-term goals for establishing or expanding adapted recreation, sports programs, and leisure time activities for your students, clients, and staff? With more than 35 years of experience planning and implementing sports and recreation programs for people with low vision, Mark Lucas, Camping & Recreational Programs Manager for Wayfinder Family Services and CEO of Imperative Movement Consulting, LLC, will share and interact with attendees because it is imperative to “keep moving.”

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## 706 USING ACCESSIBLE MEDIA WITH STUDENTS WHO ARE BLIND AND LOW VISION

**Cindy Camp**

Research has shown that the use of multimedia is beneficial to all students. However, it is not always easy to find educational media with high quality audio description. The Described and Captioned Media Program is a federally funded program, which provides accessible educational media for students and professional development for educators. Learn about this free resource of over 9,000 online videos. There are videos to teach all academic areas as well as self-advocacy, career exploration, and much more. We'll discuss how to use accessible media in your student's classroom and at home.

## 707 STORIES OF O&M IN ALASKA: THE FROZEN CHOSEN!

**Sarah Moreau, Mary Tellefson**

A trip to a remote Alaskan village to supervise an O&M intern, where cultural aspects appear to hinder acceptance of a cane, results in a newly published children's book called Two Canes on the Tundra. Part travelogue with photos of the village and the story that inspired the book, part cultural sensitivity training, and part anecdotal stories from a current O&M instructor is sure to tickle your funny bone.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 9**

**3:30 PM - 4:30 PM PST**

## 801 TOOLS FOR CREATING TACTILE GRAPHICS FOR STEM SUBJECTS

**John Taylor**

In this session attendees will learn how to create and emboss tactile graphics using the powerful tools of the Tactile View tactile graphics software, with an emphasis on creating tactiles for Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM).

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## 802 MOVING TO HIGHER GROUND BY ELIMINATING INVISIBLE OBSTACLES

**Ramona McLaughlin**

Introducing new ideas to administrators, IEP team members, parents, and students can be hard. Most of us think the best way to win people over is not to introduce new ideas at all or to push new ideas harder. In this workshop we explore research suggesting that shifting our focus to consider the invisible obstacles of others around us may help us move forward.

### **803 USING EMBOSSERS TO CREATE FUN STUDENT ACTIVITIES**

**Rachel Bishop, William Freeman, Karen Poppe**

In this presentation, participants will learn how to use their APH embossers to create fun tactile graphic-based activities for their students. We will go over how to create these activities using free tools and how to use them in the classroom. Participants will also learn about the difference between the PixBlaster and PageBlaster embossers, view and hear descriptions of the graphics made by each, as well as samples of braille. They will be introduced to the Tactile Graphics Image Library and how free graphics can be downloaded and created from this site.

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### **804 IS YOUR SCHOOL WEBSITE ACCESSIBLE? CAN IT BE NAVIGATED WITH JAWS AND THE FOCUS 40?**

**Zhi Huang, Michael Parker**

School websites are now a hub of important school information – including academics, class schedules, counseling, school calendars, activities, and much more. However, many school websites are still not fully accessible to users of assistive technology. This presentation will review the key aspects of an accessible website and what obstacles JAWS and FOCUS 40 braille display users may encounter.

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### **805 PREVENTING SUMMER SLIDE WITH THE BRAILLE AND TALKING BOOK LIBRARY OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA**

**Laura Kellen, Mike Marlin**

The Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) of Northern California, as a nationwide partner of the Library of Congress, National Library

Service for the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS), offers free audiobooks, magazines, descriptive videos, and braille to eligible California patrons and institutions. This presentation will cover the basics of free, accessible library service, with an emphasis on what BTBL offers for K-12 students.

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### **806 MAKING KITS AND THEIR INSTRUCTIONS ACCESSIBLE THROUGH ADAPTATION**

**Riane Lapaire, Ka Li**

Explore methods for adapting commercial kits to make them accessible. We'll discuss factors to consider when adapting the instructions and included components of a kit. We'll share our successes and lessons learned as well as ways to involve users throughout the process.

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### **807 SIGHT-READING BRAILLE FOR A NEW GENERATION**

**Cindy Camp, John Romeo**

Braille represents competency, independence, and equality for students who are blind and low vision. When parents, teachers, and even peers learn to sight-read braille it provides an added level of support to these students. The Described and Captioned Media Program has developed a free online training module to help students and adults learn to sight-read braille and practice their skills. This workshop will introduce the training and give you free access to this exciting new program. We are looking to pursue further development of the program through discussion topics and collaboration.

# PARENT INSTITUTE

VIRTUAL - SATURDAY **APRIL 9**

## Theme: Enhancing Independence

**SESSION 1: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PST**

### **MOBILITY & ORIENTATION SAFELY**

**Jaye Shupin - Orientation & Mobility Instructor**

Navigating where you want to go, and having the approval and confidence for parents to letting go and experience your future. The session will be interactive and include cane skills, mobility apps, indoor navigation, and how to plan orientation and mobility for a place you have never been

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**SESSION 2: 11:30 PM - 12:30 PST**

### **LIVING SKILLS AND INDEPENDENCE**

**Allison Burdett - Associate Vice President, Visual Impairment & Developmental Disabilities Services**

**LisaMaria Martinez - Assistant to APH ConnectCenter**

**Julie Parrish - Administrator, Wayfinder Family Services**

As children age to adolescents, to young adults, and eventually as adults new skills and levels of independence become important. This session follows the Extended Core Curriculum (ECC) of skills beyond curriculum.

**SESSION 3: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PST**

### **ADVOCACY AND LETTING GO**

**Christian Knox, Attorney as a Special Education Hearing Officer**

**Judith Lesner, CAPVI, Co-President**

Geared to parents new to vision loss, but also meeting the needs of all parents as their children take on more of the advocacy for themselves. The session will be interactive and include legal issues and resources as youth grow to take on more of their advocacy, and how parents learn to let go in that process.

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**SESSION 4: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM PST**

### **TECHNOLOGY**

**Dr. Yue-Ting Siu: Program Director, TVI Program at SFSU**

In addition to access to curriculum, this workshop will involve using technology to access social media, transportation/mobility, and the internet.

# YOUTH INSTITUTE

VIRTUAL - SATURDAY **APRIL 9**

*Moderated by Chris Fendrick*

**SESSION 1: 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM PST**

**ADVENTURES THAT BUILD SKILLS FOR SUCCESS** (*Younger Youth*)

**Jamey Gump - Youth Director San Francisco Lighthouse**

**Panelists: Nikki Dadlani, Shane Ditmar, and Maria Scott**

San Francisco LightHouse Youth Service Coordinator Jamey Gump will lead participants through a conversation with other blind and low vision mentors about how one can develop advocacy skills, self-confidence, and other lifelong skills by participating in recreation programming and having fun while learning. Whether that is learning how to white-water raft with other blind and low vision peers, exploring a new hobby with their family members or sighted peers, or trying new activities can help open the door to so many opportunities both inside and outside of school.

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**SESSION 2: 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM PST**

**INDEPENDENCE AND. OPTIONS** (*All Ages*)

**Jane Flowers, Guide Dogs for the Blind  
Tony Fletcher, San Francisco Lighthouse**

Learn how to effectively become independent with travel, choices in future decisions, and transition to being a successful adult.

**SESSION 3: 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM PST**

**THE WHAT, WHEN, AND WHERE OF GAINING INDEPENDENT LIVING SKILLS** (*Older Youth*)

**Daisy Soto - Youth Services Coordinator, San Francisco Lighthouse**

**Panelists: Abby Moreno, Gene Kim, Tiffany Taylor, and Xianna (Diana) Rodriguez**

Description: We always hear about living skills and their importance, but where do we learn them? LightHouse Youth Services Coordinator Daisy Soto will guide a discussion with a panel of blind and lo-vision young adults, who will share their varied experiences gaining lifelong living skills after high school. Participants will hear firsthand about experiences from various living skills programs, as well as personal anecdotes from students about everything from cooking independently to gaining financial management knowledge. Panelists will discuss how learning these skills has increased their confidence, independence, and improved their experiences as they begin college or enter the workforce, and participants will have time to join the conversation, share their thoughts, and ask panelists their questions.

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**SESSION 4: 3:30 PM - 4:30 PM PST**

**ADVOCACY AND RESILIENCE FOR SELF** (*Older Youth*)

**Deyanire Villichica & Moses Babafemi, California Department of Rehabilitation**

Skills of advocacy and how they build confidence in independence, training, employment, and options for your future beyond high school.

# CONFERENCE PRESENTERS

**A**

**AMANDI, ADRIAN**

**Director of the California Education Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired - California School for the Blind**



Adrian Amandi is Director of the California Education Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired at the California School for the Blind. Adrian has a multitude of experiences

ranging from coordinating the Assistive Technology Center at CSB to in-home infant services at BCLC. He has worked in self-contained classrooms and itinerant settings and is presently working to provide consultation, assessment, and technical assistance throughout the entire state of California.

**ANTONELLI, KARLA**

**Research Scientist I, Mississippi State University**



Karla Antonelli received her doctoral degree in cognitive science from Mississippi State University. At the National Research and Training Center on Blindness and Low Vision, she was the

principal investigator for a NIDILRR-funded (National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research) project focusing on developing a transition information

**B**

**BECKER, ROBERTA**

**President/CEO, Actual Tactuals Braille**



TVI for 31 years in New York, Author of Unified English Braille (UEB) Practice Sentences, Certified Literary Braille Transcriber, Vision Rehabilitation Teacher, SFSU Summer Program Instructor

1991-1994, Co-Author with Phil Mangold on Literary Braille Practice Sentences.

**BISHOP, RACHEL**

**Braille Product Manager, American Printing House**



Rachel Bishop began her career at APH in 2015 as a research assistant and then moved into the role of Braille Project Manager in 2018. She has been the project manager for several recent

APH products, including Fun with Braille UEB, Math Symbol Reference Booklets, Paint Pot Palette UEB, Quick Pick Braille Contraction Cards, and the PageBlaster embosser. She is an NLS certified braille transcriber and a member of AER and the National Braille Association.

**BLACK, TAMARA**

**Teacher of Students with Visual Impairments, San Ramon Valley Unified School District**



TVI for 12 years, General Education Teacher for 13 years, teaching all grades kindergarten through 6th grade for 13 years, Mentor Teacher for Student Teachers from San Francisco State

University's Vision Program, Teacher Induction Program Mentor for the San Ramon Valley Unified School District

**BOLANDER, ELIZABETH**

**Itinerant TVI, Albuquerque Public Schools**



Elizabeth Bolander is currently an itinerant teacher of students with visual impairments for the Albuquerque Public Schools and a doctoral student at New Mexico State University.

She also has experience teaching students, particularly those with multiple impairments, in a center-based braille program. In addition, she is a teaching assistant where she co-teaches classes for prospective teachers of students with visual impairments in New Mexico State University's Visual Impairment Program.

**BURDETT, ALLISON**

**Associate Vice President, Visual Impairment and Developmental Disabilities Services - Wayfinder Family Services**



Allison Burdett has worked in the field of disability services since 2008 and liaisons with numerous government agencies and community partners including school

districts and the CDE, the Department of Rehabilitation, Regional Centers, DDS, and the Los Angeles Department of Children and Family Services. Ms. Burdett oversees Wayfinder's programs that span Northern and Southern California including rehabilitation and training programs for transition-age youth and adults with visual impairments, a non-public K-12 Special Education School, residential Group Homes for regional center clients, Early Intervention Programs, and Camp Bloomfield. Ms. Burdett holds a M.A. in Special Education from San Francisco State University and is certified through ACVREP as an Orientation and Mobility Specialist.



**CAMP, CINDY**

**Marketing and Communications Specialist, Described and Captioned Media Program**



Cindy Camp is the Marketing & Communications Specialist with DCMP. She holds an M.A. in English, is a nationally certified interpreter, and C-Print captionist and trainer. She

has provided access services for over 30 years.

**CHACON, MICHELLE**

**Itinerant TVI, Denver Public Schools**



Michelle Chacon is currently an itinerant teacher of students with visual impairments and certified orientation and mobility specialist with the Denver Public Schools. In addition to

teaching, she has mentored interns in New Mexico State University's Visual Impairment Program, coordinated countless Braille Enrichment Language and Learning (BELL) summer camps, and been the life skills

instructor at the Colorado Center for the Blind and the Alamogordo Orientation Center. She also holds her administrator's license.

## CMAR, JENNIFER

**Assistant Research Professor, Mississippi State University**



Jennifer Cmar is an Associate Research Professor at the National Research & Training Center (NRTC) on Blindness & Low Vision at Mississippi State University. She is also a

Certified Orientation and Mobility Specialist. At the NRTC, Jennifer conducts research that focuses on improving employment outcomes for individuals who are blind or have low vision. She is particularly interested in improving post-school outcomes for transition-age youth.

## CUNNINGHAM, ANN

**Owner, Sensational Books! / Art Teacher, Colorado Center for the Blind**



Ann Cunningham is an author, artist, and innovator recognized by; the Independent Book Publishers Association (Benjamin Franklin Award), the Denver Botanic Gardens (Sydney

Parkinson Award) and the National Federation of the Blind (Jacob Bolotin Award for significant contributions through innovation). Her work spans these diverse areas as she develops connections for people to fine art through touch. Her tactile artwork can be seen in public works of art across the United States and Canada. She works in bronze and stone, durable materials, that can stand up to the rigors of many hands exploring the surface for meaningful information. Ann began investigating

tactile art in the early 1990s and received her first public artwork commission in 1998 for the State of Colorado, Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind. Since then, she has completed many significant projects including a second commission for Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, the Iowa Department for the Blind, the County of Santa Cruz, CA, a life-sized monument of Carolyn Morton for the Arbor Day State Park, and three exhibits for the National Federation of the Blind, Baltimore, MD. Cunningham passionately believes that tactile access to properly formatted art can play the same role for people who are blind that visual art plays for people who are sighted. She states, "As we communicate increasingly more information through images, it is becoming increasingly important that all people have access to that imagery to understand cultural references and complex information." She has had many art exhibits in shows across the US. Cunningham is an investigator on a National Science Foundation ITEST Grant, run through the University of Colorado, to engage youth who are blind or visually impaired in STEM technology. She is working on an NSF SABER Grant teaching drafting techniques to blind high school students. She has been teaching art at the Colorado Center for the Blind since 1999. Ann organized three symposia for the National Federation of the Blind on Tactile Art and Tactile Graphics. She aims to create community, build awareness, and share techniques to make tactile/multi-sensory images available to everyone who wants or needs tactile access. She was awarded an Arts in Society grant to pioneer an "Art Teacher and Graphic Artists Training Program" for artists who are blind. Cunningham is currently working on an accessible bird book for an InSITE award from RedLine Gallery and the Andy Warhol Foundation. Sensational Books will be releasing three new accessible children's books in 2022.

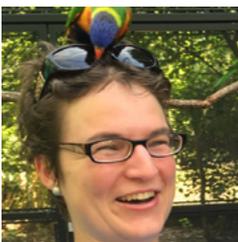
**D DALEE, CHRISTINE**  
**Transition Teacher, Colorado Springs School for the Deaf and Blind**



Christine is currently working as a Transition Teacher with 18- to 21-year-old adults at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind. After earning an M.S. in Health Economics, with a 3.78 GPA, she has

been afforded the opportunity to teach in a variety of settings. The combination of experiences teaching at university, K-12, and in after-school community programs has helped her develop an interest in pursuing a special education degree. She has worked to support students with multiple disabilities and severe needs for five years. The combination of education and experience in education provided her with an opportunity to work as a transition teacher at the Colorado School for the Deaf and Blind. She is case managing adults who are blind or visually impaired between the age of 18-21 improving their employment and independence outcomes by developing job opportunities and exploring community integration.

**DEJUTE, KYLE**  
**Braille Trainer, American Printing House**



A Certified Braille Transcriber, Kyle has a passion for the study and use of braille codebooks and a weakness for silly jokes. As the Braille Trainer at APH, she supports employees who are studying

braille at all levels. She creates and presents trainings on software, agency specifications, and braille codes and she replies to braille-related questions from across the company. Kyle is also a member of the board of the National Braille Association, “Momma” to a

creative five-year-old, and “spouse” to a hard-working small business owner.

**E EPSTEIN, BJ**  
**Senior Designer, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



BJ Dietz Epstein has been an accessibility consultant for over 14 years and brings that experience to her work in the MAD Lab at the LightHouse for the Blind. BJ designs and creates tactile maps and

graphics for the MAD Lab. Her design work on the Accessible BART Station Maps won a 2016 MTC Excellence in Motion Award for improving mobility for blind and visually impaired transit riders. She is also passionate about tactile literacy training and wants to teach everyone to read the Language of Lines.

**F FEINBERG, RACHEL**  
**Blindness Product Specialist, Humanware, Inc.**



Rachel Feinberg has worked in the Access Technology field for over 10 years. She graduated with a B.A. in Counseling from Bob Jones University in South Carolina. She holds an A+ technology

certification, as well as a certification in Assistive Technology from California State University, Northridge. She has extensive experience teaching braille, assistive technology, and presenting at various regional, national, and international educational and technological conferences. She has hosted various personalized online workshops for educational groups and service providers, discussing and demonstrating HumanWare products that benefit all manner of users.

**FREEMAN, WILLIAM**

**Tactile Technology Product Manager,  
American Printing House**



William Freeman, BA English Writing, Tactile Technology Project Manager, focuses on the places where braille, tactile graphics, and technology collide. This includes braille displays, embossers, and much more. He is a certified braille transcriber, former quality assurance tester with a focus on screen readers and braille support. He is the representative for the United States to the International Council on English Braille technical committee and chair of the Computer-Assisted Transcription Committee for the National Braille Association.

He is a certified braille transcriber, former quality assurance tester with a focus on screen readers and braille support. He is the representative for the United States to the International Council on English Braille technical committee and chair of the Computer-Assisted Transcription Committee for the National Braille Association.

**FUNDELIUS, ERIKA**

**TVI, COMS, Doctoral Candidate, Florida  
State University**

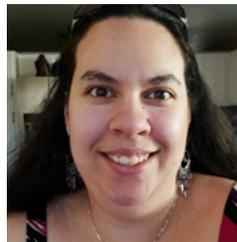


Erika is a TVI/COMS who is a graduate of SFSU. She is a third-year doctoral candidate at Florida State University working on her dissertation while also teaching TVIs-to-be at FSU's BS/MS visual disabilities program. She continues to provide vision services to local districts and non-profits through her company, Shade of Sight LLC. Erika is active in professional organizations in the field of visual impairments from coast to coast and is a frequent presenter at APH and virtual or face-to-face conferences.

She continues to provide vision services to local districts and non-profits through her company, Shade of Sight LLC. Erika is active in professional organizations in the field of visual impairments from coast to coast and is a frequent presenter at APH and virtual or face-to-face conferences.

**FURMAN, AMY**

**Owner - Managing Partner, Hope Braille, LLC**



As a third generation transcriber, Amy Furman grew up in the braille industry, going to industry conferences with her mother. She began her own career in braille even before certification as a

school transcriber in Nevada, starting her certification courses at the age of 19. Taking her time to truly learn the code, she was certified by the Library of Congress in EBAE Literary Braille at the early age of 21 years old. She remained a school transcriber for another few years before moving to the private sector by opening Shaman Braille (now Hope Braille, LLC). She continued her education in braille and received her EBAE Literary Proofreading certification from the Library of Congress in 2012. Since then, the braille industry in the United States has changed to a new code, Unified English Braille (UEB). When the US first started talking about changing to UEB, Amy learned the new code and received her RIDBC UEB Online certifications (Module 1 and 2) in 2015, before the official changeover date for UEB in the US. She has since then received her UEB Certification with CNIB in 2018, as well as her Library of Congress UEB update letter for her Literary and Literary Proofreading certifications, completing UEB certifications in three different countries.

Amy has always been a teacher in braille, and for over 18 years she has worked consistently to both increase her knowledge in braille and encourage accuracy within the braille community. She has become a specialist in higher level math and sciences for colleges and agencies around the world. She has very passionately spent time updating transcribers on Braille 2000 tips and techniques as well as the UEB code by teaching at conferences or online seminars, participating in braille related Facebook groups, and as the UEB Specialist for CTEBVI.



**GAONA, ALMA**

**TVI and VI Technology Coordinator**



Alma Gaona is a TVI and VI Technology Coordinator. She has experience working as an itinerant teacher of the visually impaired for 10 years. She is currently working as a VI Technology

Coordinator in Southern California to support TVI's and students with visual impairments in implementing and utilizing assistive technology based on their unique educational needs. Alma is inspired by her brother, who is blind, to contribute to the field of visual impairments.

**GONZALEZ, GUADALUPE**

**TVI, Imperial County Office of Education**



Guadalupe Gonzalez has been working as a TVI at the Imperial County Office of Education for over eight years. Before becoming a TVI, Guadalupe worked for six years as a mild/moderate

teacher at a middle school. Guadalupe recently received her certification in assistive technology. She is the only TVI in her county and counts with a strong and knowledgeable team that supports her with her caseload. Presently, Guadalupe works with VI students birth-22 in all settings. She collaborates closely with her SELPA leader, infant toddler program, various districts administrators and staff, and moderate/severe programs.

**GUMP, JAMEY**

**Youth Services Coordinator, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, San Francisco**



James Gump, or as many of his students and friends know him Jamey, works tirelessly to create and implement programming for our blind and low vision youth, their families, and

educators. Now in his early thirties, Jamey has been connected to the LightHouse for most of his life. Beginning in middle school, Jamey was a camper at Enchanted Hills Camp in Napa. Four years later, he became a camp counselor and went on to spend many years at camp training future camp counselors and leading various programs. Jamey, who is blind due to achromatopsia, came to Enchanted Hills Camp to enjoy nature and learn blindness skills. But most importantly, he came to help foster a community of friends and mentors who are also blind. EHC and LightHouse helped him enter the blindness world with confidence, cane first, so that he could partake in the greater world more richly. He has served as the LightHouse's Youth Services Coordinator for eight years and is an excellent role model to the blind and low vision youth around the San Francisco Bay Area and beyond. The programming Jamey coordinates contains an astonishing array of activities, many of which are held on weekends and after school. Jamey has organized cooking, music, and art classes, rock climbing, horseback riding and sports outings, overnight kayaking and rafting excursions, and so much more. He looks forward to hosting more adventures and hope you will join us for the fun!



**HALL, ENJIE**

**Director, Disabled Student Services at University of Toledo - University of Toledo**



Enjie has been working with the University of Toledo since 2016.

**HERNDON, VANESSA**

**Low Vision Clinic Coordinator, California School for the Blind**



Vanessa has been working with students who are blind and visually impaired since 2014. Initially working as a classroom teacher and then an assistive technology teacher at CSB, she has

spent many years collaborating with IEP teams to ensure access to curriculum. In her current role as Low Vision Clinic Coordinator at California School for the Blind she provides classroom consult, education, and technology training to teachers, students, parents, and other IEP team members.

**HERZBERG, TINA**

**Professor and Coordinator of the Visual Impairment Education Program at USCU, University of South Carolina Upstate**



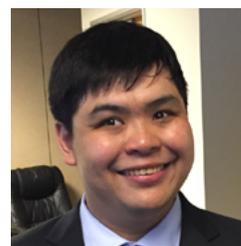
Dr. Tina Herzberg is Professor and Coordinator of the Visual Impairment Education Program at the University of South Carolina Upstate. She is a co-author of the Pearson Nemeth

Curriculum and the principal investigator of Project INSPIRE: Increasing the STEM

Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille. Prior to USC Upstate, she served as a general education math and English teacher, itinerant teacher of students with visual impairment, and specialist/team leader for a Texas regional service center.

**HUANG, ZHI**

**Assistive Technology Specialist, Access Ingenuity**



Zhi Huang has over 25 years of experience as an end user of assistive technology and over 10 years in the assistive technology field with Access Ingenuity, the Sacramento Society for the Blind, and the

Disabled Student Services Office at SUNY. Certified to teach assistive technology through Access Technology Institute 2011, JAWS certified 2021, and NVDA certified 2019, Zhi has trained a variety of students at work, school, and at home in order to help them become proficient in the use of their assistive technology – especially JAWS. In the workplace, he has worked with students to help them learn to navigate internal websites, databases, and documents, in order to maximize their productivity and efficiency on the job.

**HUGHES, KEVIN**

**West Region Sales Director, Metro State College of Denver**



Kevin has been the West Region Director for HumanWare for 20 years and has a BA in Exercise Physiology from Metro State College of Denver. In his role at HumanWare Kevin is

extensively involved with braille and assistive technology product trainings and support either

onsite or via Zoom conference. Kevin works closely with his dealer partners to supplement their product knowledge on all HumanWare technologies related to employment, education, and effective consumer use.

## HURST, CRYSTAL

**Assistive Technology Specialist, California School for the Blind**

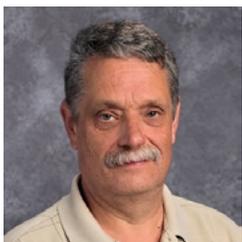


Crystal Hurst received her M.S. in Rehabilitation Counseling from San Diego State University. She received her Teacher of the Visually Impaired credentials from California State University Los Angeles and has served in the field of blindness for 21 years. She currently works at the California School for the Blind as an Assistive Technology Specialist. Previously, she worked as a TVI and a transition specialist in San Diego Unified School District. She most recently worked in Washington, at the Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB) as a TVI serving students with varying degrees of blindness and/or visual impairments.

She currently works at the California School for the Blind as an Assistive Technology Specialist. Previously, she worked as a TVI and a transition specialist in San Diego Unified School District. She most recently worked in Washington, at the Washington State School for the Blind (WSSB) as a TVI serving students with varying degrees of blindness and/or visual impairments.

## J JAFFRAY, SCOTT

**CERCBVI AT On-Campus AT Specialist, California School for the Blind**



Scott Jaffray received his M.A. in Orientation & Mobility from California State University Los Angeles and has served children and adults with visual impairments since 2010. He currently works at the California School for the Blind as the CERCBVI (California Education Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired) On-Campus Assistive Technology Specialist and

works at the California School for the Blind as the CERCBVI (California Education Resource Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired) On-Campus Assistive Technology Specialist and

previously worked at the Western Blind Rehabilitation Center in Palo Alto, CA as an O&M Specialist, Computer Access Technology Specialist, and Computer Access Technology Supervisor, as well as serving as an itinerant O&M Specialist in Tuolumne and Calaveras counties.

## JORGENSON, JOE

**Lead Developer and Founder, Accessibyte**



Joe Jorgenson holds an MEd. from Northern Illinois University, in addition to COMS, CVRT and CATIS certifications through ACVREP. Ten years of teaching assistive technology

to blind and visually impaired computer users led to Joe founding Accessibyte, where he develops fun, funky, fully accessible apps for blind and low vision users. Joe also has a very cute long-haired dachshund named Lola.



## KEHRET, GREG

**Senior Director, Media and Accessible Design Laboratory - LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



Greg Kehret has witnessed the evolution of the LightHouse's alternative media capabilities from his fledgling days as Program Coordinator of Broadcast Services for the Blind to his

current position as Senior Director of the Media and Accessible Design Laboratory (MAD Lab) where the focus is on producing world-class tactile graphics and 3D educational objects for the blindness community.

**KELLEN, LAURA**

**Outreach Librarian, San Jose State University**



Laura Kellen received her MLIS from San Jose State University and worked in a variety of libraries before becoming the Outreach Librarian for BTBL. When she's not busy dreaming up

new ways to promote the service, she raises service dogs for Canine Companions for Independence.

**KEYS, TRACY**

**Data Scientist, Future Communities Institute**



Tracy is a Senior Fellow at Future Communities Institute, where she leads initiatives focused on improving the wellbeing of foster families and people with disabilities, including people who are

blind or visually impaired. Working alongside agency partners and service providers, her work gathers data from those most affected by systems and policy and creates insights that guide outreach and drive innovation to better serve their constituents.

**KUNS, JERRY**

**Retired Educator**



**LANDA-VIALARD, OLAYA**

**Director, APH ConnectCenter**



Olaya Landa-Vialard, Ph.D., is a National Leadership Consortium in Sensory Disabilities Fellow and Graduate of Texas Tech University. She is president-elect for AERBVI. She has

been a Bilingual Educational Diagnostician for Students with Visual Impairment/Blindness/Deafblindness/Multiple Disabilities, TVI, University Professor, Bilingual Family Engagement Coordinator for the Illinois State Deafblind Project, Project Reach, currently serves as an adjunct Instructor for multiple university VI programs and is currently the Director of APH ConnectCenter Programs.

**LAPAIRE, RIANE**



**Braille and Accessibility Testing Coordinator, National Network for Equitable Library Service**

Riane Lapaire is the Braille and Accessibility Testing Coordinator for the National

Network for Equitable Library Service. Working over a decade in alternate format materials and accessibility, her current passion is finding ways to increase the timely availability of quality braille and tactile graphics for a more equitable reading landscape. In her spare time, Riane enjoys reading, gardening, and playing music.

**LARKIN, SARA**

**Statewide Math Consultant, Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



Sara Larkin taught high school math for 18 years before becoming the statewide math consultant for the Iowa Educational Services for the Blind and Visually Impaired in 2007.

She supports educators across Iowa and provides trainings on Nemeth Code, math technology, tactile graphics, abacus, and math teaching strategies for the blind. She is a co-author of the Pearson Nemeth Curriculum and a consultant for Project INSPIRE: Increasing the STEM Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille.

**LAURENT, CINDI**

**Coordinator/Past President, Volunteer Braille Services/National Braille Association**



Cindi Laurent is a past president of the National Braille Association (NBA) and past representative for NBA to the Braille Authority of North America (BANA). She is the chairperson of BANA's

Braille Formats Technical Committee. She is certified in Literary, Nemeth, Formats, and Proofreading; received letter of Proficiency in UEB; received an Associate Certificate in Music Braille; completed the UEB Online courses for UEB Technical Materials.

**LESNER, JUDITH**

**Parent Advisor and Liason, California Association for Parents of Children with Visual Impairments**



Judith is a world-renowned speaker regarding the parenting of disabled children, particularly blind children. She worked at the California School for the Blind for many years. Judith is

the mother of a visually impaired son, now 38, who is employed by an Independent Living Center in Santa Barbara.

**LESNER-BUXTON, JACOB**

**Systems Change Coordinator, Independent Living Resource Center**



Jacob Lesner-Buxton is a person with cerebral palsy and low vision who is a community organizer in Santa Barbara. In his job, Jacob helps communities on the Central Coast advocate

for disability rights. Jacob also enjoys writing articles, doing yoga, traveling and going to movies.

**LI, KA**

**Accessibility Analyst, National Network for Equitable Library Service**



Ka Li is an Accessibility Analyst in the areas of digital access and tactile design. Currently, he works with NNELS to test the accessibility of applications and websites and is involved

in the development of all tactile projects.

**LORENZ, PAMELA**

**Transcriber, Ogden Resource Center (WSSB) & Washington Corrections Center for Women (WCCW)**



Pamela has over 13 years' experience as a braille transcriber. Pamela greatly enjoys the learning process while mentoring new transcribers. Pamela holds all available national

certifications in the areas of Literary Braille, Nemeth/Mathematics, Music Braille (Associates and Full); Textbook Formatting, and Proofreading (UEB). Pamela and Jennifer Rice frequently work together, transcribing/proofreading, complicated music projects for the Library of Congress. They have developed a solid reputation with the braille community for producing high quality music braille. Their recent collaborations include the transcription of musical textbooks, instrument specific compilations, orchestra scores and complex arrangements by various composers, including the Liszt Harmonies.

**LUCAS, MARK**

**Manager of Camping & Recreation Programs, California State University - Northridge**



For more 30 years, though sport, recreation, and physical activity, Mark has dedicated his life to positively impacting the lives of people who are blind and visually impaired. From 1985 to 1993

he served the Foundation for the Junior Blind as the Director of Recreation. Mark took on the role as Assistant Executive Director for the United States Association of Blind Athletes in 1993 and

was promoted to Executive Director in 2000 serving in this role until 2020. Since then, Mark has gone full circle in his career returning to Wayfinder Family Services to lead their recreation programs including Camp Bloomfield. Lucas, who has a B.S. in Recreation Administration from The Ohio State University and M.A. from California State University in Therapeutic Recreation, is recognized as an effective leader in the field of blindness most notable in 2013 receiving the Vision Serve Alliance Most Distinguished Leader Award and the American Optometry Association 2013 Distinguished Service Award. Mark is super excited to work as the Camp Director again, and to bring back the magic of Camp Bloomfield!



**MAIER, JULIE**

**Project Coordinator, California Deafblind Services**

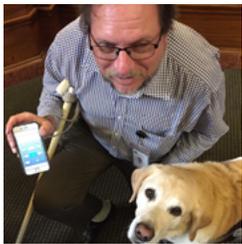


Julie Maier is the Project Coordinator for California Deafblind Services, which provides technical assistance and training to families and educational teams of children and youth who are deafblind.

Julie has been involved in the field of special education since 1987, including as a paraeducator, special education teacher, and faculty member in the Special Education Department at San Francisco State University and educational specialist for California Deafblind Services. She has taught university courses in deafblindness, intervener training, autism spectrum disorders, inclusive education, and assessment and curricular design for learners with extensive support needs. Julie recently took on the role of CTEBVI Specialist for Deafblindness and Multiple Disabilities.

**MARLIN, MIKE**

**Director, American Librarian Association**



Mike Marlin has served as the Director of the California Braille and Talking Book Library (BTBL) since 2007. He is a legally blind librarian as well as a patron of the National Library Service for

the Blind and Print Disabled (NLS), for which BTBL is the Northern California regional library. Mike has worked in public and academic libraries and in a previous life he was a producer and music host at public and community radio stations on both east and west coasts. Mike is a Councilor-at-Large for the American Library Association (ALA) where he advocates for accessibility and disability-centered librarianship, and he worked closely with ALA's Washington office to lobby for passage and ratification of the Marrakesh Treaty to facilitate cross border sharing of accessible works. In his spare time Mike plays jazz banjo and travels around with his yellow lab guide dog, Vivaldi.

**MARTINEZ, ANDREW**

**Recreation Leader, UCLA**

Andrew recently graduated from UCLA and was hired by Wayfinder Family Services to serve as a Recreation Leader for the Recreation Department. Being a person with low-vision, Andrew is fully aware of the needs of people who are blind and visually impaired.

**MASON, LOANA**

**Visual Impairment Program Coordinator, New Mexico State University**



Loana Mason has 25 years of professional teaching experience and 50 years of personal experience as an individual with a visual impairment. She is currently the Visual Impairment

Program Coordinator at New Mexico State University where she trains quality teachers of students with visual impairments and orientation and mobility specialists. She also has experience as a TVI and COMS working with a wide range of learners with visual impairments in both public and residential school settings.

**MCDANIEL, JOSEPH**

**Sales Director, Vispero Western Region**



Joe McDaniel enjoys working in the assistive Technology Industry. For the past 11 years working with Freedom Scientific (now Vispero), Joe has enjoyed educating others on the technologies available

to empower those with sight loss. In his position as Sales Director for the Western Region, Joe has worked with many educators to find classroom solutions that benefit students and teachers.

**MCDOWELL, JESSICA**

**TVI and O&M Specialist, Marin County Office of Education**



Jessica is a TVI and O&M Specialist who has been inspired by how technology can help level the playing field for our students. She works toward finding efficient access solutions for students,

whether the answer is found in high tech or low tech. She's committed to collaboration, and feels that assessment of the environment, student's skills and needs, learning tasks, and supports are key to finding the right tools.

**MCLAUGHLIN, RAMONA**

**Adjunct Professor, California State University - Los Angeles Division of Special Education and Counseling**



Ramona McLaughlin holds a Masters of Arts as an Education Specialist in Visual Impairments and is a Teacher for Students with Visual Impairments in the Corona-Norco Unified School District.

Ramona is also an Adjunct Professor, California State University Los Angeles Division of Special Education and Counseling.

**MILLER, RONALD**

**Blindness Technology Product Specialist, Vispero**



With a Bachelor's in Counseling/Psychology from Christian Heritage College (Now San Diego Christian College), Ron Miller has been involved in the blindness access technology

field for 20 years. He has worked at Freedom Scientific (now called Vispero) since the spring of 2000 in several roles, including Blindness Hardware Product manager and currently as Blindness Technology Product Specialist. Ron is passionate about the use of access technology as keys to success in attaining one's goals and pursuing one's interests and the importance of braille literacy, both for youth and adults.

**MOREAU, SARAH**

**Founder and President of Arctic Vision, LLC**



Sarah Moreau, M.Ed., COMS, TVI, CLVT, is founder and president of Arctic Vision, LLC. She has and is currently serving in leadership roles in local and international AER.

She has been using

telepractice methods to deliver service in her rural state of Alaska and nationally for school age learners. Sarah has experience working with learners of all ages, including adult services.



**NAIMY, BRENDA**

**Lecturer, Program in Orientation & Mobility, California State University/Los Angeles**



Brenda Naimy is a former graduate of the Cal State LA Orientation & Mobility Specialist Training Program. After several years of teaching and administrative experience in a private

rehabilitation agency in Los Angeles, she returned to Cal State LA in 1994 to assist in preparing O&M candidates to teach independent travel to persons with visual impairments.

**NORDES, MANDA**

**Early Intervention VI Specialist, Wayfinders - Blind Babies**

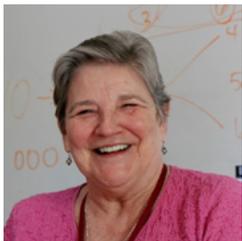


Manda Nordes attended San Francisco State University and received her M.A. in Special Education. Manda is a credentialed TVI and currently has two positions. She continues to work as

mentor teacher providing itinerant, county-based services in the Central Valley of California while also working as an Early Intervention VI Specialist with Blind Babies. She held the role of technology lab teacher at California School for the Blind during a year of distance learning.

**O OSTERHAUS, SUSAN**

**Statewide Mathematics Consultant, Outreach Programs, Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



Susan Osterhaus taught secondary math for 29 years at the Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired before becoming the statewide math consultant in their Outreach Program in

2007. She is a long-time member of the BANA Nemeth and Tactile Graphics Committees. She is a co-author of Nemeth at a Glance, a co-author of the Pearson Nemeth Curriculum, and a consultant for Project INSPIRE: Increasing the STEM Potential of Individuals Who Read Braille.

**P PARIS-SALB, JONN**  
**Retired Educator**



Jonn taught at the elementary level for 20 years, was a principal for 12 years, and worked for the state of California for 12 years coordinating the braille and large print production, as well

as introducing digital accessible textbooks. Jonn has been on the CTEBVI board since 2008 and is currently the president.

**PARKER, MICHAEL**  
**Director Access Ingenuity, Stanford University**



Michael Parker has 20 years of experience in the accessibility and assistive technology field. He has developed products for the visually impaired as well as consulting on digital content

accessibility and assistive technology in many different settings – from individuals to employment centers, libraries, hospitals, and universities. Michael has a M.S. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University and has presented on the use of assistive technology and digital content accessibility at a number of national conferences, including CSUN's Conference on Disability. Michael is an avid runner, swimmer, biker, and hiker and is married with two children.

**PARRISH, JULIE**

**Director of Transition and Adult Services,  
Wayfinder Family Services**

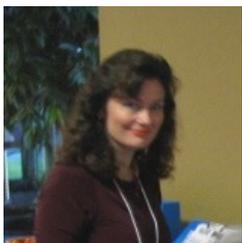


Julie Parrish brings over 25 years of experience working with individuals with disabilities to her role at Wayfinder and holds a M.A. in Special Education from San Francisco State

University. She has experience in residential, employment, and community programs for school-age children, as well as clients of Regional Center and the Department of Rehabilitation. Julie oversees Wayfinder’s residential training programs including the Hatlen Center for the Blind, the Davidson Program for Independence, and Transition Age Youth program.

**POPPE, KAREN**

**Tactile Literacy/Product Manager, American  
Printing House**



Karen J. Poppe, B.A., Psychology, Tactile Literacy Project Manager, focuses on the design, development, field test, and introduction of many tactile products offered by the American Printing

House for the Blind. She specializes in the area of tactile literacy products and tools which are used directly by students with visual impairments and blindness, as well as teachers, braille transcribers, and parents working with this population. As a member of APH’s Research Department for more than 25 years, she has conducted many tactile graphic training workshops and is known for the creation of many innovative tactile products (e.g., Tactile Town, Setting the Stage for Tactile Understanding, Tactile Graphic Line Slate).



**RAMOS, IAN**

**Assistive Technology Specialist,  
Access Ingenuity**



Ian Ramos has been an Assistive Technology Specialist for the past 14 years, working with educators, business professionals, and government agencies to

provide screen reader training, support, computer integration, and assistive technology. Ian enjoys seeing the positive change in peoples’ lives that can happen through the use of the technologies available to benefit the visually impaired community.

**RICE, JENNIFER**

**Transcriber, Ogden Resource Center (WSSB)  
& Washington Corrections Center for  
Women (WCCW)**



Jennifer has over 10 years’ experience as a braille transcriber. Using her prior experience as a professional educator she enjoys mentoring other in the field of braille. She holds all

available national certifications in the areas of Literary Braille, Nemeth/Mathematics, Music Braille (Associates and Full); Textbook Formatting, and Proofreading (both UEB and Nemeth).

**ROBERTS, ANDY**

**Assistive Technology Specialist, Sweetman Systems**



Andy has been working as an Assistive Technology Specialist with Sweetman Systems since 2012.

Mentored by Bob and Sue Sweetman, Andy enjoys helping students and

professionals master the technology that makes them competitive with their sighted colleagues and more independent at work and home.

**ROMEO, JOHN**

**CTEBVI Director, Braille Beyond the Walls**



A braille transcriber since 1994, John holds certifications in Literary, Nemeth, Braille Formats, 2011 and has his Mathematics Proofreader certification. The driving force

behind CTEBVI's Braille Beyond the Walls™ program, John is passionate about braille and the rehabilitative qualities the vocation provides offenders who participate in prison braille programs across the nation. John envisioned a way to leverage the knowledge base inside these programs for the greater good of the braille community. John acts as a mentor for Braille Beyond the Walls™ and helps participating prison groups to develop professional quality presentations for the CTEBVI annual conference.

**ROSENBERG, NAOMI**

**Senior Designer, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



Naomi Rosenberg is Senior Designer in the Media and Accessible Design Laboratory (MAD Lab) at the LightHouse, developing design standards and processes for tactile maps

and graphics produced by 3D printer, embosser, and UV printer. Naomi has produced tactile graphics and 3D models in collaboration with educators and researchers creating curriculum for BVI students. As a designer for the TMAP project, Naomi aims to ensure that the maps are useful to the widest range of BVI travelers and educators.

**ROSENBLUM, L PENNY**

**Owner, Vision for Independence, LLC**



Dr. Rosenblum is the owner of Vision for Independence, LLC. Her company consults on a wide range of topics in the field. Dr. Rosenblum has served as the Director of Research at AFB, as a

faculty member at the University of Arizona and Florida State University, and as a TVI. She has more than 35 years of experience and has published and presented on a range of topics including nondriving, braille codes, and COVID-19's impact.

**RUEDA, RICHARD**

**Digital Content Manager, APH  
ConnectCenter**



Richard Rueda has worked in the field of Human and Social Services specializing in blindness and low vision since 1992. He has worked with the Intercommunity Blind Center in Whittier, the Junior

Blind of America in Los Angeles, Department of Rehabilitation as the statewide Transition Coordinator (2001 – 2010) and served as Director of Community Services at the LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired in San Francisco (2010 – 2011). In the autumn of 2011, Richard joined Junior Blind serving as their Director of Transition Services for Northern and Central California. In 2016, Richard established CareersPLUS, a career education teen and young adult transition program with Society for the Blind, in Sacramento, CA. Richard continues to work with various agencies in consulting on Transition best practices in serving blind and low vision youth, including the Earl Baum Center in Santa Rosa, Vista Center for the Blind based in Palo Alto and Center of Visual Enhancement (COVE) in Merced. Richard also contributes and collaborates with the APH Connect Center and CareerConnect projects supporting the continued expansion and development of these rich critical resources at the national level. Richard is a 2001 graduate of California State University of Los Angeles where he holds his Bachelor's in Vocational Counseling.



**SCHARFF, LORI**

**Certified Work Incentive**

**Practitioner, Vision Rehabilitation Teacher,  
Social Worker for Catholic Charities**



Lori has worked with people seeking employment, for 10 years. Lori is a consultant on various aspects of employment, disability, and blindness services.

Additionally, Lori works on various national committees to improve services and supports for people who are blind.

**SCHULTZ, MARTY**

**President, ObjectiveEd**

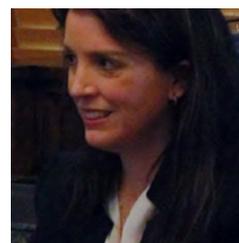


Marty is a cofounder of ObjectiveEd, which builds reinforcement digital curriculum for BVI students to reinforce the skills taught by their TVIs and O&Ms. He has coordinated several NIH and

HHS grants for developing products for BVI students. ObjectiveEd products are used in hundreds of school districts, including some of the largest districts in the country and schools for the blind. He has degrees from Carnegie-Mellon University and Harvard Business School.

**SHEFFIELD, REBECCA**

**Education Program Specialist, Special  
Education Programs at the U.S. Department  
of Education**



Rebecca is an Education Program Specialist in the Research to Practice Division of the Office of Special Education Programs at the U.S. Department of Education. In this role, she

serves as project officer for the National

Instructional Materials Access Center and the National Accessible Educational Materials Center as well as ten State Deafblind projects and technology and personnel preparation grants. She is an experienced teacher of students with visual impairments, most recently teaching in the U.S. Virgin Islands, at which time she developed the It's My Job podcast. Rebecca has also previously worked as the Senior Policy Researcher for the American Foundation for the Blind. She will soon complete certification in O&M through Portland State University.

## SIMPSON, THOMAS

**Vice President of Marketing and Sales, HIMS, Inc.**



Thomas Simpson, HIMS Vice President of Marketing and Sales, has worked with students and teachers of the visually impaired for 10 years with activities including product development, marketing, sales, and product training.

## SIU, YUE-TING

**Program Coordinator and Associate Professor, San Francisco State University**



Dr. Yue-Ting (Ting) Siu is a teacher of blind and low vision students (TVI) and coordinates the teacher preparation program in Visual Impairments at San Francisco State University.

She has worked with students of all ages with visual impairments and additional disabilities including deafblindness. Her mission focuses on advancing teachers' proficiency with access technology and promoting innovations in multimedia accessibility. Ting is the author of the

textbook *Access Technology for Blind and Low Vision Accessibility* (APH Press, 2020). Connect with her on Facebook or Twitter @TVI\_ting ([www.tplus.education](http://www.tplus.education))

## SMITH, MARISA

**School Psychologist, California School for the Blind**

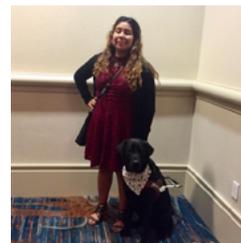


Marisa Smith holds a Ph.D. in Educational Psychology and has a School Psychology credential from the University of California at Berkeley. She has been passionate about supporting students and their

families for as long as she can remember, and her work in the field has provided an immense level of joy and energy. She has over twenty years of experience working as an educator and school psychologist and has worked for the California School for the Blind since 2018.

## SOTO, DAISY

**Youth Services Coordinator, LightHouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, San Francisco**



Daisy is a multi-lingual project coordinator with a passion for diversity and intersectionality. She recently graduated from San Francisco State University with a B.A in Spanish and

Race and Resistance Studies. As a Youth Services Coordinator at the LightHouse for the Blind in San Francisco, Daisy works towards promoting independence and confidence in all students through mentorship, advocacy, and hands-on activities. She aspires to be involved in positions that make spaces and information accessible to all. She can be reached at: [www.linkedin.com/in/soto-daisy](http://www.linkedin.com/in/soto-daisy)

**STEFFER, STEPHANIE**

**Business Director, CViConnect**



Stephanie Steffer is the Business Director at CViConnect and one of the founding teachers for the platform. Before this role, Stephanie was a Teacher Consultant serving children

with visual impairments for 10 years (one year in Missouri and nine years in her home state of Michigan). She earned her degree from Eastern Michigan University in Special Education for the Visually Impaired and Early Childhood Education. Additionally, Stephanie is a Perkins-Roman CVI Range Endorsed professional. Beyond her role as a TVI, Stephanie has been the Program Coordinator for the Visually Impaired Youth Camp at Lions Bear Lake Camp for 12 years. Stephanie has had a spark for finding solutions for students with CVI since her first teaching position. This was further enhanced when she was asked to join the Michigan Department of Education-Low Incidence Outreach CVI Mentor Team from 2011-2013. Since training under Dr. Roman's guidance of the MDE-LIO CVI Mentor Team, Stephanie has shared her experiences working with individuals with CVI, from birth to 26, at several invited and peer reviewed conferences. Over the past year, some of these have included presentations at various AER conferences, local school professional development, COSB (Council of Schools and Services for the Blind), and the MDE-LIO Early Childhood Conference. Additionally, Stephanie hosts monthly trainings with CViConnect: from demonstrating features within the system to sharing her instructional strategies for learners with CVI.

**STEVERSON, ANNE**

**Research Associate III, Mississippi State University**



Anne Steverson is a Research Associate at the National Research & Training Center on Blindness & Low Vision (NRTC) at Mississippi State University. Ms. Steverson earned a

M.S. in Counselor Education with an emphasis in Student Affairs from Mississippi State University in 2013 and has been employed at the NRTC since October 2013. She has assisted with a variety of research projects focused on job retention and career advancement, business development training for vocational rehabilitation counselors, mentoring, and job search skills training for youth. She helped develop an app that provides resources for youth and parents of blind and visually impaired and deafblind youth, and other projects focused on improving employment outcomes for people who are blind or visually impaired.

**STEWART, JASON**

**Director of Customer Success, ObjectiveEd**

Jason is Director of Customer Success for ObjectiveEd. He is a former teacher, educational diagnostician, and district level administrator with over 20 years of educational experience. His passion for education is now focused on helping students achieve their best educational outcomes through educational technology. Jason has a M.Ed. in Special Education from the University of Texas at Tyler.

## SWEETMAN, ROBERT

**CEO, Sweetman Systems**



Sweetman Systems has been providing assistive technology to people with visual impairments since 1989. Bob honed his assistive technology skills during his 15 years as an

attorney and as the technology instructor with Junior Blind of America and Sweetman Systems.

## T TAYLOR, JOHN

**Product Specialist**



John has been in the assistive technology field for almost 10 years and has worked with some of the industry leading braille embosser and tactile graphic companies such as Index

Braille, ViewPlus Technologies, and TactileView. Much of John's time has been spent traveling the U.S. providing high level braille embosser and tactile graphic trainings and workshops.

## TELLEFSON, MARY

**Retired Wisconsin Statewide O&M Outreach Consultant, Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired**



Mary Tellefson, M.A., M.S., TVI, COMS, has taught sighted and blind/visually impaired children in public and residential school settings for over 40 years and holds licenses in five

educational disciplines through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction: TVI, O&M Specialist, Director of Curriculum/Instruction,

K-12 Principal, and Elementary Education. She served as the Statewide O&M Consultant at the Wisconsin Center for the Blind and Visually Impaired (WCBVI) Outreach Department for 15 years. Mary has created and taught multiple professional development and university-level courses, held offices in state and national professional organizations and has published works in peer-reviewed journals. Since retiring, she worked for five years as adjunct faculty for Portland State University where she developed curriculum and taught courses in their O&M teacher training program. She recently published two children's chapter books through Orange Hat Publishing, featuring main characters who are blind: *Two Canes on the Tundra* and *Blooming Besties*. A professional text entitled *Culturally Responsive Orientation and Mobility Career, College and Community Readiness Standards* is also in publication with Austin Macauley Publishers.

## THOM, JEFF

**President, Board of Directors, California Council of the Blind**



Jeff Thom has been an advocate for the rights of people with disabilities for more than four decades. After graduating with a B.A. in political science from Willamette University, he

received a law degree from Stanford University. He then spent a year working for what is now Disability Rights Legal Center, before joining California Office of Legislative Counsel, where he has been Principal Deputy Legislative Counsel overseeing drafting bills and legal opinions in health and human services. He has been and is currently active with both national and state organization boards, including California Council of the Blind, American Council of the Blind, Sacramento Society of the

Blind, National Disability Advisory Council for Centene, and Sacramento Regional Transit Mobility Council.

## TOBIN, DAVID

**Creator/CEO/Founder, Audiojack**



David Tobin is the creator of Audiojack, an audio-based movie for the mind. With no language, race, or gender barrier, Audiojack is reaching a global audience. Currently, Audiojack is used in

education, health, and entertainment programs around the world. The concept for ;Audiojack came to him while working as a television producer. For more than 20 years, he has worked to bring to life over 50 different programs for networks such as ABC, NBC, MTV, and Netflix, among others. Before heading to Los Angeles, he studied Social Influence and Attitude Change at Fresno State University and received an M.A. in Psychology.

## TREPTOW, JOAN

**Board Member, Hope Braille, LLC**



As a second generation transcriber, and child of a blind parent, braille was a part of Joan Treptow's daily life. She has been a certified braille transcriber for over 35 years, working primary as a

school transcriber for her local school district. She is also Past President as well as current Large Print Specialist for CTEBVI.

## TUCIC, PETER

**Director of Strategic Partnerships, University of Illinois**



Peter Tucic graduated from the University of Illinois at Chicago with a B.A. in History. Peter is currently the Director of Strategic Partnerships for HumanWare. He works

closely with key partners throughout the field of vision loss as it relates to assistive technology. Peter has presented at the National ACB and NFB, in addition to the CSUN and ATIA conferences amongst many others. Peter has also been published in Closing the Gap magazine and regularly creates written and video tutorials for a wide array of HumanWare blindness products.

## TURNER, LINDA

**Technical Services & Digital Resources Manager, American Printing House**



Linda Turner has been serving as the Technical Services & Digital Resources Manager at APH since 2005. Her responsibilities include managing the day-to-day operations of the Louis

Database of Accessible Materials, where she has been able to combine her practical skills of organizing, cataloging, and managing data with APH's mission to provide accessible K-12 materials to blind and visually impaired students throughout the U.S.



**VU, YURIKA**

**California School for the Blind  
Assistive Technology Coordinator**



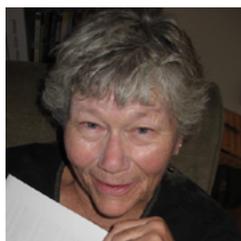
Yurika received her M.S. in Vision Rehabilitation Therapy from Western Michigan University and Orientation and Mobility credential from San Francisco State University and has served in

the field of blindness for over a decade. She currently works at the California School for the Blind as the Assistive Technology Coordinator. Previously, she worked at the Western Blind Rehab Center in Palo Alto, CA as a Computer Access Technology Specialist working with visually impaired veterans and active duty service members. She was published as co-author in the Journal of Visual Impairment: Neurological Rehabilitation: Description and Case Study.



**WARD, ANNE**

**Northern California Co-Chairperson,  
California Association for Parents of  
Children with Visual Impairments**



Anne is the mother of an adult son with visual impairments (who is a teacher of the visually impaired). She is driven to assist families with children with similar impairments

providing information, referrals, and help with attending key conferences when possible.

**WELTE, FRANK**

**Senior Accessible Media and Braille  
Specialist, LightHouse for the Blind and  
Visually Impaired**



Frank Welte, an NLS-certified UEB Braille Transcriber and lifelong braille reader and tactile graphics user, applies his knowledge and experience to the production of the high-quality materials

produced by the Media and Accessible Design Laboratory (MAD Lab) at the LightHouse.

**WILD, TIFFANY**

**Associate Professor, The Ohio State  
University**



Dr. Tiffany Wild is an associate professor in the Department of Teaching and Learning in the College of Education and Human Ecology. Dr. Wild's research focuses on science education

for students with visual impairments. Dr. Wild has published and presented both nationally and internationally. She was awarded the Warren C. Bledsoe award in 2019 representing her colleagues for their work in health education.

**WOOD, MIKE**

**Strategic Accounts Manager - Education,  
Vispero**



Mike has been working in the assistive technology field for 16 years. He started in reading and writing disabilities and transitioned to blindness and low vision. His goal is to help individuals gain independence.

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