

# Accessing Higher Ground

Accessible Media, Web & Technology Conference

November 14-18, 2022 at the Hilton Denver Center City



In collaboration with:

*AHEAD* Association on  
Higher Education  
And Disability®

*ATHEN*

# Overall Schedule

## Monday, November 14

9 am – 5 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:30 am – 1 pm	Preconference Sessions
11:30 am – Noon	AM Beverage Break
1 – 2:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
2:30 – 5 pm	Preconference Sessions
3:30 – 4 pm	PM Beverage break

## Tuesday, November 15

8 am – 7 pm	Registration Desk Open
10:30 – 11 am	AM Beverage Break
9 am – Noon	Preconference Sessions
Noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 4:30 pm	Preconference Sessions
3 – 3:30 pm	PM Beverage Break
7 – 9 pm	Keynote Banquet Featuring Elsa Sjunneson

## Wednesday, November 16

7 am – 4:30 pm	Registration Desk Open
8 – 9 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 am – 6 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9:15 – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 – 11:30 am	Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
12:30 – 2:15 pm	Lunch (on your own)
2:15 – 3:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
3:30 – 4:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
4:30 – 6 pm	Exhibit Hall Reception

## Thursday, November 17

7:30 am – 4 pm	Registration Desk Open
8 – 9 am	Breakout Sessions
9 am – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9:15 – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 – 11:30 am	Exhibit Hall Break
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
12:30 – 2 pm	Lunch Meetups (or on your own)
2:15 – 3:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
3:15 – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Break
4 – 5 pm	Roundtables

## Friday, November 18

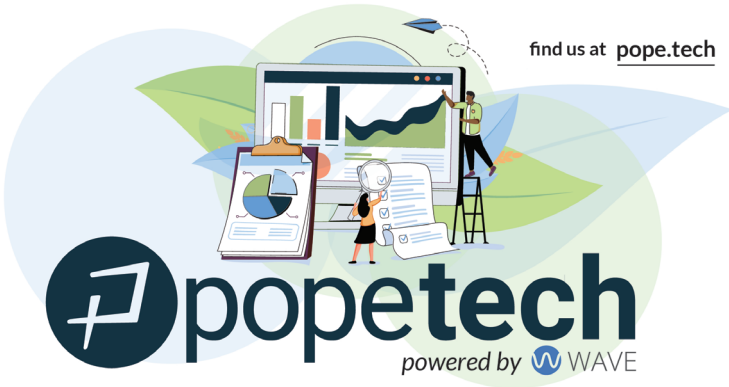
8 am – 11:45 pm	Registration Desk Open
9:15 – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions
10:30 – 11:30 am	Breakout Sessions
11:45 am – 12:45 pm	Breakout Sessions

Find conference evaluation forms at  
[accessinghigherground.org/evaluate](https://accessinghigherground.org/evaluate)




# #AHG22

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## 2023 AHEAD Management Institutes January 26-28 in San Diego, California

This year's four in-depth, 13-hour Institutes cover a range of topics for disability service professionals, ADA coordinators, student affairs staff and administrators, TRiO personnel, and anyone working toward equity in higher education.

[www.ahead.org](http://www.ahead.org)

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# Special Events

## Exhibitor Reception

Wednesday, November 16, 4:30 - 6 pm

### Colorado Ballroom A-E

Join us in the Exhibit Hall for hors d'oeuvres & refreshments including a make-your-own poke bowl station and cash bar.

## Keynote Banquet

Tuesday, November 15, 7 - 9 pm

### Colorado Ballroom A-F



## Keynote Presentation: “Enabling Disabled Audiences”

*Elsa Sjunneson*

This talk will be about the ableism built into the tech and academia worlds, and how people working within those spaces can work to undo ableism in their roles. The focus will particularly be on how to imagine students, employees, and customers as disabled and how that changes the way you build courses and content.

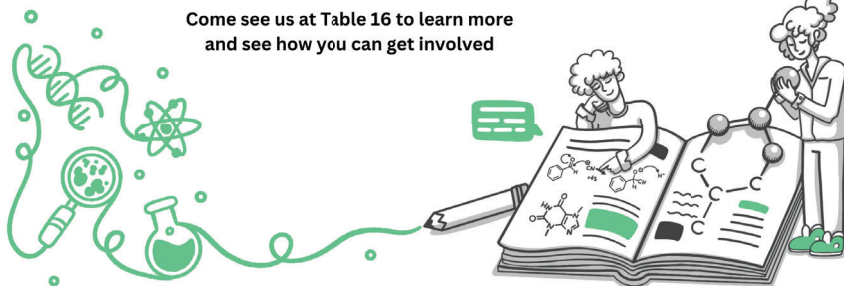
Elsa Sjunneson is a Deafblind author and editor living in Seattle, Washington. Her fiction and nonfiction writing has been praised as “eloquence and activism in lockstep” and has been published in dozens of venues around the world. She has been a Hugo Award finalist seven times, and has won Hugo, Aurora, and BFA awards for her editorial work.



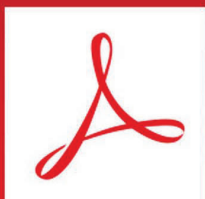
Providing independent learning for students with blindness or low vision using multi-sensory augmented reality



Come see us at Table 16 to learn more  
and see how you can get involved



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Monday, November 14

9 am - 5 pm	Registration Open
11:30 am - Noon	AM Coffee Break
10:30 am - 5 pm	Preconference Sessions
1 - 2:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
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## Notes

[illegible]

Complete session details can be found at [accessinghigherground.org](https://accessinghigherground.org)

# Monday, November 14

## Full-Day Preconference Sessions, 10:30 am-5 pm

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### **Accessible Adobe InDesign Layouts to Produce Accessible PDFs**

*Bevi Chagnon, PubCom—Accessible Design + Publishing*

Day-long pre-conference hands-on workshop teaches how to construct Adobe InDesign files that export “graciously” to accessible PDFs with minimal remediation afterwards. We expect new InDesign features in the fall, so this workshop will incorporate them into a doable workflow for graphic design and publishing. Lots of tricks, tips, and strategies.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Alternate Format Toolbox: Everything You Need to Know to Produce Alternate Format**

*Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder*

*Christa Miller, Virginia Tech*

Alternate Format Production is a requirement for Disability Services offices on almost every university and college campus. This session will walk you through from request to delivery of alternate format materials for students with print disabilities, with a focus on the tools and methods you will need to do the job right.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Mobile Testing Workshop**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

WCAG2.1 does include some mobile accessibility requirements; but many think it doesn’t go far enough. Enter the Mobile Site Testing Guidelines: developed by a bipartisan group of accessibility companies.

**Matchless**

### **One-Day Accessibility Testing Workshop (2022 Update)**

*Karl Groves, Level Access*

This all-day training event covers all of the core principles of accessibility, focusing on what accessibility is, how users with disabilities use computers, and how to test a web/ software system for accessibility.

**Penrose 1**

Monday, November 14

**Creating Dazzling Yet Accessible PowerPoint Presentations! (Virtual Session; Remote Speaker)**

*Karen McCall, Karlen Communications*

This hands-on session shows you how to leverage the “bling” in PowerPoint to get your message to your audience clearly. PowerPoint has tools for presenters to communicate in multiple languages and get coaching on presentations. You can create your presentation outline in Word and add the design in PowerPoint or use Microsoft Sway for marketing and newsletters. Learn about your options!

**Penrose 2**

codemantra

## Buried with **508 remediation** work!



codemantra's **accessibilityInsight™** can lighten your load.

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Be sure to attend our session **Progress vs Perfection: Document Remediation at Scale**, with Ian Smith, Director of Product Development

See us at **Booth #18** for more details

### Customers



## From education to the workplace: assistive technology for all stages of life

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Our software adapts as the user grows and develops, supporting them from grade to grade, to graduation and into the workplace.

Our tools allow individuals to choose the functionality that supports their unique needs, enabling them to fully engage with curriculum / workplace content.



Find out more at [text.help/AHG22](https://text.help/AHG22)



Tuesday, November 15

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7 – 9 pm	Keynote Banquet Featuring Elsa Sjunneson

**Colorado Ballroom A-F**

## Notes

[illegible]

Complete session details can be found at [accessinghigherground.org](https://accessinghigherground.org)

# Tuesday, November 15

## Full-Day Preconference Sessions, 9 am-4:30 pm

### **The PDF Workshop – Checking Files for PDF/UA and WCAG Compliance**

*Bevi Chagnon, PubCom–Accessible Design + Publishing*

Learn how to check, review, test, remediate, and validate PDFs for accessibility compliance. Whether you're reviewing your own PDFs, your organization's PDFs, or digital deliverables from outside contractors and vendors, this hands-on course gives you the skills and background information to determine whether PDFs are compliant — and how to decide the best strategy to bring them into compliance.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Alternate Format Toolbox: Everything You Need to Know to Produce Alternate Format**

*Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder*

*Christa Miller, Virginia Tech*

Alternate Format Production is a requirement for Disability Services offices on almost every university and college campus. This session will walk you through from request to delivery of alternate format materials for students with print disabilities, with a focus on the tools and methods you will need to do the job right.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Does it STEM?**

*Brian Richwine, Indiana University Bloomington*

*Mary Stores, Indiana University*

*Joseph Polizzotto, Wake Technical Community College*

*Destin Hubble, Indiana University*

*Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium*

The presenters will cover a resource they are developing to document the capability of Assistive Technologies (AT), alt-media formats, production tools, and processes to meet an individual's need for accessible math and other STEM materials. The goal is to raise awareness both of possible pitfalls and working solutions so alt-media staff can save time and confidently meet their students' needs.

**Penrose 1**

Tuesday, November 15

## **Accessibility Testing Workshop (Virtual Session)**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

This workshop will cover a range of testing requirements, starting with an overview of testing: who, when, what and how. This will be followed by an in-depth discussion, with exercises, of how to develop a scope analysis for a site (based on the W3C Evaluation Methodology).

**Penrose 2**

## **Testing PDF Documents with NVDA for Usability & Accessibility**

*Dax Castro, Chax Training and Consulting*

*Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting*

The ultimate way to ensure usability is to test your document for barriers with a screen reader. But using a screen reader can be daunting at first. This class focuses on the tools you need to know and the testing methods that will efficiently and definitively check your document for usability. Students leave the class with screen reader shortcuts and a checklist for evaluating a document.

**Independence**

## **Advanced Audio Description: An Analysis of Paradise**

*Joel Snyder, Audio Description Associates, LLC - Audio Description Project of the American Council of the Blind*

*Susan Glass, Audio Description Consumer, Retired Professor of English*

This presentation will explore advanced techniques for how audio description (AD) provides access to the arts for people who are blind. AD, a form of audiovisual translation, transfers visual images to a sense form that is accessible for people who are blind or have low vision. In-depth analysis of professional AD will be conducted and workshop practice will allow participants to create AD for excerpts from film and video.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **Create Accessible Documents in Office 365: Word and PowerPoint**

*George Joeckel, Utah State University/WebAIM*

Participants in this full-day workshop will review the fundamental principles of creating accessible documents in two ubiquitous appli-

# Tuesday, November 15

cations: Microsoft Word and PowerPoint 365. Participants will also review how to use Adobe Acrobat Professional DC to optimize the accessibility of well-structured PDF exports from these applications.

**Mattie Silks**

## Half-Day Preconference Sessions, 1:30-4:30 pm

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### **Accessible University 20th Anniversary: Teaching Web and Document Accessibility with the AU Demo Site**

*Terrill Thompson, University of Washington*

*Gaby de Jongh, University of Washington*

Accessible University (AU) is a demonstration website that features two versions of a fictional university home page, one with accessibility problems, and one without. In this session, presenters will model how AU, freshly updated for its 20th anniversary, is intended to be used for teaching about web and document accessibility.

**Matchless**

### **PreTeXt for Accessible STEM Materials**

*Robert Beezer, University of Puget Sound*

*Volker Sorge, Progressive Accessibility Solutions*

PreTeXt is a markup language for scholarly STEM documents. It is designed to convert into a wide variety of output formats with special attention to accessibility. This workshop will introduce PreTeXt and its use by faculty to author and produce their own accessible classroom materials, with little or no assistance from specialized staff.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## Keynote Banquet, 7-9 pm

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### **Envisioning Disabled Audiences**

*Elsa Sjunneson*

This talk will be about the ableism built into the tech and academia worlds, and how people working within those spaces can work to undo ableism in their roles.

**Colorado Ballroom A-F**



## Wednesday, November 16

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9:15 – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions
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3:30 – 4:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
4:30 – 6 pm	Exhibit Hall Reception

## Notes

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Complete session details can be found at [accessinghigherground.org](http://accessinghigherground.org)

### **WAI-ARIA Fundamentals (Double Lab Session)**

*Christina Adams, Siteimprove*

ARIA is a complex set of tools that can help create accessible digital experiences, however when implemented improperly can create a negative user experience or even prevent access all together. In this session we will go over what ARIA is, what ARIA is not, and how to begin implementing ARIA techniques efficiently.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Shifting Students from Peer Notetaking to Technology-Based Solutions**

*Gwynette Hall, University of Wisconsin-Madison*

The University of Wisconsin – Madison has developed a note-taking accommodations toolkit that includes resources for both student access and success. We will discuss trends, technology based notetaking accommodations, and student feedback on notetaking accommodations.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **I'm Drowning in Resumes! Finding and Hooking the Right A11y Fish**

*Naveesha Maharaj, TMS*

*Heidi Kelly-Gibson, Deque*

We'll explore the different roles related to accessibility and how they can work to benefit your organizational needs. Then get ready for a deeper dive to determine the qualifications to look for in candidates, what questions to ask in an interview, and how to respond if you're the one applying!

**Matchless**

### **Assistive Technology: Gateway to Accessibility for All (Virtual A)**

*Chris Parthemos, Virginia Commonwealth University*

Many students view AT through the lens of intensive supports, but do not consider the fact that the study skills app or habit tracker they use may be a form of AT. By broadening the discussion of AT on campus to include all students, we help create a stronger culture of accessibility.

**Penrose 1**

## **Legal Compliance in the Digital World (Virtual B)**

*Brenda Norwick, 3Play Media*

*Michele Landis, Allyant*

Digital technology is one of the fastest-growing industries being targeted by legal suits. In this session, we will review the building blocks of creating accessible digital technologies.

[Penrose 2](#)

## **Creating Our Orbit for Campus-Wide Support and Communication (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*RaLynn McGuire, University of Texas at San Antonio*

*Vanessa Garza, University of Texas at San Antonio*

The Digital Accessibility Team at the University of Texas at San Antonio is still in the early stages of shifting our campus culture to be a more proactive approach to accessibility. In this presentation we will share our process of taking the necessary step of creating our “orbit” for campus-wide support and communication.

[Independence](#)

## **Anthology Ally: Coaching Towards Accessibility**

*Michael Mace, Indiana University*

*Sarah Herpst, Indiana University*

Indiana University is poised to release Anthology Ally campus wide in Spring 2023. Indiana University has a keen focus on the coaching aspects the accessibility checker can offer our faculty and staff. Join us as we share our experience with implementing Ally in Canvas.

[Mattie Silks](#)

## **Publishing and EPUB 101: The Fundamentals Everybody in Higher Education Should Know**

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium*

EPUB3 is the publishing standard used in Higher Education by all major publishers, and others are rapidly following their lead. EPUB 3 is the most accessible format ever developed, and this presentation will cover the fundamentals of the format, Reading System, Authoring Tools, and of course the many accessibility features.

[Colorado Ballroom G-H](#)

# Wednesday, November 16

## **Improving Student Learning Gains with Accessibility Features and AI Technology**

*Rick Johnson, VitalSource*

*Stacy Ray, VitalSource*

As digital textbooks become more interactive, will learners be left behind? No! Join our session to learn how accessibility meets learning science, and how the student engagement data can be used by instructors to gain new insights into learner engagement.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **Progress vs Perfection: Document Remediation at Scale**

*Ian Smith, codemantra U.S. LLC*

Higher Education institutions can be hit with 100s of requests for remediation on a monthly, even weekly, basis. With limited assistive tech resources how can this be managed? codemantra proposes an affordable and reasonable path to 508 compliance – while not perfect it does constitute progress.

**Colorado F**

## **Breakout Sessions, 9:15-10:15 am**

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### **WAI-ARIA Fundamentals (Continued)**

*Christina Adams, Siteimprove*

ARIA is a complex set of tools that can help create accessible digital experiences, however when implemented improperly can create a negative user experience or even prevent access all together. In this session we will go over what ARIA is, what ARIA is not, and how to begin implementing ARIA techniques efficiently.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Demystifying Accessible PDF Creation from Microsoft Word (Double Lab Session)**

*Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting*

In this session you'll learn about the features in Microsoft Word that are critical to accessibility and specifically to the creation of an Accessible PDF file.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**



## **Math and STEM Made Accessible in an eLearning World**

*Louis Shanafelt, Texthelp*

In today's world of learning, uncertainty is the only thing that is certain. In this session, participants will learn how to create and share digital STEM content and make sure it's accessible for a diverse range of learners in the classroom, at home, or anywhere in between.

**Matchless**

## **PDF Accessibility - When is Good, Good Enough? (Virtual A)**

*Christa Miller, Virginia Tech*

In this interactive, discussion-based session, participants will explore a variety of PDF document ranging in complexity. Together we will consider strategies for prioritizing your work. We'll also consider impact, risk, and longevity. Ultimately, participants will decide when good enough is good enough.

**Penrose 1**

## **How to Integrate Accessibility in the Procurement Cycle (Virtual B)**

*Andrew Drummond, State of Maryland*

Participants will learn some fundamentals of digital accessibility and how it can be interwoven in to your organization's procurement. Furthermore, the bulk of the session will focus on how to educate your organization so they can make accessible IT procurements.

**Penrose 2**

## **Micro-Credentials: Educational Opportunity or Just Another Barrier to Education? (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Karen McCall, Karlen Communications*

The latest "buzz phrase" in education is micro-credentials. Micro-credentials are conceptually designed to provide what used to be called "Just in Time" training. Are they just another barrier to learning for those of us with disabilities?

**Independence**

# Wednesday, November 16

## **Leveraging the Trusted Tester for Web Certification to Improve Mason's Web Accessibility Response**

*Korey Singleton, George Mason University*

*Kristine Neuber, George Mason University*

During the Spring 2022 semester, leveraging the Department of Homeland Security's self-paced Trusted Tester for Web Certification Course, ATI staff led a cohort of GMU web content authors and developers through how to Build the capacity of ATI's identify and report issues related to inaccessible web content. This presentation will highlight how this cohort was structured, who participated, costs involved, and the findings from this effort.

[Mattie Silks](#)

## **Three Years to Better Accessibility**

*Lucy Greco, University of California, Berkeley*

*Thea Chhun, University of California, Berkeley*

At UC Berkeley, we are launching a pilot program to improve digital accessibility under the University of California Information Technology Accessibility Policy. The presentation will go over the first year of our project, including the remediation process for our 200 "top" campus websites and how we are handling video captioning inaccessibility.

[Colorado Ballroom G-H](#)

## **Survey of Screen-Readers in Linux Operating Systems**

*Zach Lattin, Clark College*

Screen-readers like Jaws, Voiceover, or Talkback only read the screen in their respective operating systems. What should a screen-reader user or other accessibility professional who wishes to run Linux, (either in a virtual machine or on hardware like a Raspberry Pi) do? Come learn about the screen-reader opportunities available for Linux users.

[Colorado Ballroom I-J](#)

Wednesday, November 16

### **1% Shifts to Increase Digital Accessibility**

*Kate Percival, State University of New York at Oswego*

Did you know that shifting our actions by just 1% can lead to big changes? Inspired by the book “Atomic Habits” by James Clear, Kate will discuss how to shift the digital accessibility culture using small, actionable steps that people can incorporate into their everyday habits and workflows.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

## **Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break, 10:15-11:30 am**

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**Colorado Ballroom A-E**

## **Breakout Sessions, 11:30 am-12:30 pm**

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### **Got ePub? Test, Fix, & Learn with ePub Tools**

*Okan Guney, Inc.*

*Christine Foushi, Content Industries*

Learn about ePub Accessibility testing, its challenges and the solutions that the future may hold. This presentation will serve as a demo for Content Industries’ brand new browser-based tool intended to simplify ePub Accessibility testing and remediation.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Demystifying Accessible PDF Creation from Microsoft Word (Continued)**

*Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting*

In this session you’ll learn about the features in Microsoft Word that are critical to accessibility and specifically to the creation of an Accessible PDF file.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Retire the PDF**

*Darrin Evans, North Carolina Community College System*

In this presentation we will demonstrate the advantages EPUB’s have over PDF’s for accessibility and ease of use.

**Matchless**

# Wednesday, November 16

## **From the Ground Up: Accessibility Journeys of Two Universities (Virtual A)**

*Kate Percival, State University of New York at Oswego*  
*Luz Espanola, California State University Monterey Bay*

Understanding and practicing digital accessibility is now more critical than ever. In this session, attendees will hear about accessibility journeys from two universities on opposite sides of the country.

[Penrose 1](#)

## **Leading from the Center: Digital Accessibility Efforts Through the Library (Virtual B)**

*Rebecca Albrecht Oling, Purchase College Library SUNY*

Discussion of newly created Director of Digital Accessibility role in mid-size College Library. We will detail collection engagement, curricular inclusion of accessibility principles as well as a unique five-prong outreach approach to faculty in courses we have deemed high risk.

[Penrose 2](#)

## **Are We There Yet? The Developing State of Mobile Access Equity (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Salimah LaForce, Georgia Institute of Technology*

To illuminate the current state of mobile phone accessibility, a comparative analysis of mobile phone accessibility features by disability type, phone type (smartphone compared to non-smartphone), provider type, and data collection period (2015-2022) are detailed.

[Independence](#)

## **Fighting Fires or Changing Culture: Prioritizing Accessibility in Peer-Developed Courses-Changing How Faculty Approach Course Design**

*Lindsey Morris, Tarrant County College*  
*Lindsay Foster, Tarrant County College*

Hear how a new instructional design team has prioritized accessibility in the course design process for Peer Developed Courses in conjunction with faculty professional development at a large community college.

[Mattie Silks](#)

## **Audio Description: An Aid to Literacy**

*Joel Snyder, Audio Description Associates, LLC - Audio Description*

*Project of the American Council of the Blind*

*Susan Glass, retired*

*Jason Stark, Described and Captioned Media Program*

Audio Description uses words that are succinct, vivid, and imaginative to convey the visual image that is not fully accessible to a significant segment of the population. This presentation focuses on the fundamentals of audio description and their applicability to building literacy.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## **Digital Accessibility: Six Core Skills**

*Michele Betancourt, Wharton County Junior College*

*Kimberly Ashburn, Wharton County Junior College*

Creating accessible documents can seem like a daunting task to faculty and other content authors. Switching from an application driven to a skill driven approach can provide the content authors with a basic set of skills that when applied will allow them to make accessible digital content in most software and applications.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **Questions to Gain the Right Insights for Accessible Procurement (and How to Pair Them With IT Security Risk Assessments)**

*Kyle Shachmut, Harvard University*

Learn about the questions schools are asking technology providers, how to use this free toolkit called the HECVAT, and how purchasers and product developers can work together to streamline information sharing toward digital inclusion.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

### **CSS Pitfalls for Screen Readers**

*John Northup, WebAIM*

*Siyu Wu, Penn State University*

Although Cascading Style Sheets (CSS) are useful for applying visual styles and transformations to web pages, they can create unintended inequivalence for screen reader users. We will demonstrate how to avoid various CSS declarations that can harm the screen reader experience.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Getting Started with EPUB (Double Lab Session)**

*Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

*Betsy Granger, Macmillan Learning*

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

EPUB is the file format used globally in digital ebook publishing. It has been rapidly adopted for academic publications, not least for its extensive accessibility features and flexibility to support universal design for learning. This workshop will help library, faculty, and DSO colleagues get up to speed.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Social Media and Accessibility**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

Gian Wild goes through the accessibility issues of each of the seven main social media sites and discusses ways that you can make sure your social media content is accessible using the inbuilt accessibility features such as adding ALT attributes, adding captions and turning off autoplay.

**Matchless**

## **OCR's Year in Review (Virtual A; Double Session)**

*Mary Lou Mobley, U.S. Department of Education*

*Patrick Alexander, U.S. Department of Education*

The Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education enforces Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the ADA, as well as civil rights laws protecting people on the bases of race, color, and national origin; gender; and age. Come to this presentation to learn more about noteworthy disability cases that arose within the past year, including areas of emphasis.

**Penrose 1**

## **The Princeton Approach: Designing and Sustaining an Effective Digital Accessibility Program (Virtual B)**

*Mary Albert, Princeton University*

*Rachel Busnardo, Princeton University*

This session is designed to give participants ideas and practical examples to start up or enhance their institution's digital accessibility efforts. Princeton has taken a programmatic approach since launching digital accessibility in 2017, and its successes and lessons learned are worth sharing.

**Penrose 2**

## **Authoring Stylish and Accessible Courses in Canvas (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Sonya Woods, Penn State*

*Matt Farlet, Penn State*

Discover how a team of accessibility consultants, multimedia specialists, and instructional designers from Penn State World Campus created an interactive resource with accessible and responsive code snippets to enhance the visual design of online courses in Canvas.

**Independence**

# Wednesday, November 16

## **Building an Accessibility and Equity Mindset: Changing Campus Culture Through a Shared Purpose**

*Judi Cook, The College of New Jersey*

*Meghan Sellet, The College of New Jersey*

In this presentation, we will provide insight into how our two divisions collaborated to build an accessibility and equity mindset on The College of New Jersey campus. We will detail how emergency plans evolved into more sustainable strategies for both serving students and supporting faculty.

**Mattie Silks**

## **Use the Force (i.e., Forced Color Mode)**

*Carly Gerard, Western Washington University*

A goal of Western Washington University's main web theme is to be accessible by default: good color contrast, decent semantic structure, ease of navigation...the list goes on. This talk explores Windows High Contrast Mode/Forced Colors mode, and what designers/developers can do to ensure their site works for their users' preferences.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## **Writing Educational Alt Text to Support the Why of Learning (Double Session)**

*Laura Ciporen, McGraw-Hill Education*

In this workshop we will discuss, and put into practice, a technique for uncovering the purpose of a given image in educational materials so as to produce image descriptions.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **Welcome to EMMA: Educational Materials Made Accessible-and Shareable!**

*Bill Kasdorf, Kasdorf & Associates, LLC*

*Jonn Unsworth, University of Virginia*

This session will explain EMMA in depth, including the metadata model, a demonstration of the user interface by which to discover and deposit resources, the benefits of membership and how to become a member.

**Colorado Ballroom F**



## Breakout Sessions, 3:30-4:30 pm

### **The Wizarding World of Text to Speech and the Ease of Reading Documents**

*Paul Stisser, ReadSpeaker*

Come be a part of an interactive discussion on the “wizarding magic” of how text to speech brings your documents to life. You will be amazed at how much ReadSpeaker can strengthen your learner’s experience with the ease of listening, our inclusive tools and certified LMS integrations.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Getting Started with EPUB (Continued)**

*Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

*Rachel Comerford, Macmillan Learning*

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

EPUB is the file format used globally in digital ebook publishing. It has been rapidly adopted for academic publications, not least for its extensive accessibility features and flexibility to support universal design for learning. This workshop will help library, faculty, and DSO colleagues get up to speed.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Social Media and Accessibility**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

Gian Wild goes through the accessibility issues of each of the seven main social media sites and discusses ways that you can make sure your social media content is accessible using the inbuilt accessibility features such as adding ALT attributes, adding captions and turning off autoplay.

**Matchless**

# Wednesday, November 16

## **OCR's Year in Review (Virtual A; Continued)**

*Mary Lou Mobley, U.S. Department of Education*

*Patrick Alexander, U.S. Department of Education*

The Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Education enforces Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the ADA, as well as civil rights laws protecting people on the bases of race, color, and national origin; gender; and age. Come to this presentation to learn more about noteworthy disability cases that arose within the past year, including areas of emphasis.

[Penrose 1](#)

## **Simplifying Web Accessibility at Any Scale (Virtual B)**

*Jay Pope, Pope Tech*

Web accessibility can sometimes feel complicated or difficult, but it doesn't have to be. We will explore practical things anyone can do to significantly improve web accessibility.

[Penrose 2](#)

## **How Faculty, IT Staff, and Others Contribute to Making Courses Accessible to All Students (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Sheryl Burgstahler, University of Washington*

The presenter, along with participants, will discuss how multiple stakeholders (faculty, teaching and learning centers, IT staff) can contribute to making a paradigm shift from designing courses for the average person to designing for all students and instructors, including those with disabilities.

[Independence](#)

## **Graduate Records Exam (GRE) Inclusive Computer Adaptive Assessment for Blind Test Takers**

*Cary Supalo, Educational Testing Service*

This presentation will discuss how the GRE assessment has been adapted using text-to-speech, refreshable braille, and/or screen magnification within a traditional test center environment. Everything from signing in to submitting and receiving of test scores will be discussed.

[Mattie Silks](#)

## **Texthelp: Tools to Support and Simplify Your Entire Alt Format Process**

*Rachel Kruzel, Texthelp*

This session will discuss how Texthelp tools interact with and help students reach varied types of content while supporting institutions as they remediate content and provide accommodations to learners.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## **Writing Educational Alt Text to Support the Why of Learning (Continued)**

*Laura Ciporen, McGraw-Hill Education*

In this workshop we will discuss, and put into practice, a technique for uncovering the purpose of a given image in educational materials so as to produce image descriptions.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **PDFs: Into the Metaverse (Panel Discussion on PDF Accessibility)**

*Chad Chelius, Anthology*

*Dan Comden, University of Washington*

*Dax Castro, AbleDocs*

*Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado-Boulder*

*Hadi Rangin, University of Washington*

Attendees will hear from 3 different accessibility professionals to be inspired, consoled, validated, and re-energized with how to address the pervasive problem of inaccessible PDFs.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

## **Exhibit Hall Reception, 4:30-6 pm**

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Join us in the Exhibit Hall for hors d'oeuvres & refreshments including a make-your-own poke bowl station and cash bar.

**Colorado Ballroom A-E**

**AHEAD**

Association on  
Higher Education  
And Disability®

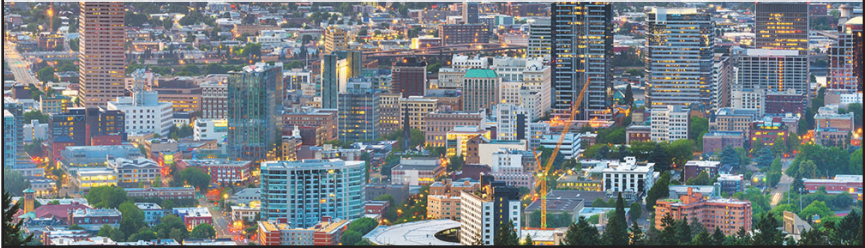
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July 17-21 in Portland, OR

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## Call for Proposals!

**Proposal Submission Deadline: November 18, 2022**



## Partner With a Proven Accessibility Expert

To take your institution to the next level, trust Nelnet's accessibility experts to evaluate and ensure accessibility, compliance, and true inclusivity for your software, systems, and documents. Attend our conference presentation to learn more:

### Good to Great: Evolution of the Nelnet Accessibility Program

Friday, November 18, 2022,  
11:45 a.m. Mountain time



Visit us in the exhibit hall,  
booth #23, to learn how Nelnet  
can help elevate accessibility  
for your institution.

# Thursday, November 17

7:30 am – 4 pm	Registration Open
8 – 9 am	Breakout Sessions
9 am – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9:15 – 10:15 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 – 11:30 am	Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Breakout Sessions
12:30 – 2 pm	Lunch (On your own)
2:15 – 3:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
3:15 – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Break
4 – 5 pm	Roundtables

## Notes

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Complete session details can be found at [accessinghigherground.org](http://accessinghigherground.org)

# Thursday, November 17

## Breakout Sessions, 8-9 am

### **Optimizing Accessibility in Excel 365 Workbooks (Double Lab Session)**

*George Joeckel, Utah State University/WebAIM*

Participants will receive an overview of principles and processes for optimizing accessibility in Excel 365 workbooks. Topics include alternative text, contrast, tables, and charts. Participants will receive an evaluation checklist that identifies how to repair accessibility issues identified through the built-in checker and a manual review.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Going Further with EPUB (Double Lab Session)**

*Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

*Rachel Comerford, Macmillan Learning*

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

This workshop will show library, faculty, and DSO colleagues how EPUBs are built on familiar web technologies. We will learn how to create, edit and check the accessibility of EPUB files.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Implementation Science: Strategies & Process to Support Assistive Technology Implementation or Accessibility Initiatives**

*Rachel Kruzel, Texthelp*

Implementation Science and corresponding models provide best practices and approaches to effectively roll out initiatives and change. This session will discuss these principles as it applies to adopting assistive technology through a UDL lens and/or institutional accessibility initiatives.

**Matchless**

### **What Grade did Your Screen-Reader get in Arithmetic? (Virtual A)**

*Brian Richwine, Indiana University Bloomington*

*Mary Stores, Indiana University*

It is widely stated that eText with accessible math can be read independently by readers (e.g. Jaws, NVDA, VoiceOver, etc.) with

blindness by using text-to-speech. However, most screen reading software lacks the capability to speak even basic algebraic expressions accurately and unambiguously. Come to hear how common screen-reading programs fare at reading basic math.

**Penrose 1**

### **Gaining Ground with HECVAT 3.02 for IT Purchasing: Evaluating Third-Party Application Accessibility Risk (Virtual B)**

*Laura Fathauer, Miami University*

*Jill Bateman, Ohio University*

Accessibility professionals from Educause joined forces with security professionals to introduce a new section of the Higher Education Community Vendor Assessment Tool (HECVAT) for digital accessibility. Two of the members of the accessibility community will share their experience making this change a reality and show how it can help you better assess the risk of IT procurements.

**Penrose 2**

### **WAI Curricula: Build, Compare, and Select Courses on Web Accessibility (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Daniel Montalvo, W3C*

Find out how the WAI Curricula can help you build, compare, and select courses on web Accessibility. Explore how to include accessibility in your existing ICT courses using a rigorously vetted, high quality set of learning outcomes.

**Independence**

### **Address Evolving Student Needs with Universal Design for Learning: A Practicum Approach**

*Jim Stachowiak, Northwestern University*

This presentation will explore Northwestern's unique, multi-unit collaborative practicum approach to educate instructors on practical ways to implement UDL solutions in course design syllabi, course pages, course materials, assessments, and learning experiences to address mental health issues and support all students.

**Mattie Silks**

## Thursday, November 17

### **Hearing Loss, Hearing Aids, and How Assistive Listening Systems can Help**

*Wynne Whyman, Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA)*

This session will cover hearing loss, personal hearing devices, and pros and cons of different assistive listening systems (ALS). Then we'll focus on hearing loops: why hearing loops are the most user-friendly ALS, an overview of best practices, and higher education success stories.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

### **Building an Accessible Campus Experience: Tools to Remove Obstacles and Reduce Friction**

*Laura Miller, Vispero*

*Mike Wood, Vispero*

This will be an interactive discussion to list pain points and barriers to accessibility and then identify and discuss tools to reduce friction. Discussion of example pain points: Digital accessibility, Physical closed systems (lockers, library checkout, bill payment, etc.), In person classroom educational experience etc.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

### **W3C Publishing: New Standards and Recommendations on the Horizon—EPUB 3.3, Accessibility, and Reading Systems**

*George LaPierre, Benetech*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

Three new publishing recommendations are currently making their way through the W3C process, on their way to becoming a new set of standards which educators need to be aware of. To improve the readability of the EPUB specification has been simplified from six separate specifications down to just three: core, reading systems, and accessibility.

**Colorado Ballroom F**



## Breakout Sessions, 9:15-10:15 am

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### **Optimizing Accessibility in Excel 365 Workbooks (Continued)**

*George Joeckel, Utah State University/WebAIM*

Participants will receive an overview of principles and processes for optimizing accessibility in Excel 365 workbooks. Topics include alternative text, contrast, tables, and charts. Participants will receive an evaluation checklist that identifies how to repair accessibility issues identified through the built-in checker and a manual review.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Going Further with EPUB (Continued)**

*Richard Orme, DAISY Consortium*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

*Rachel Comerford, Macmillan Learning*

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

This workshop will show library, faculty, and DSO colleagues how EPUBs are built on familiar web technologies. We will learn how to create, edit and check the accessibility of EPUB files.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **A Best Practices Model for Providing AT Services and Supports in Higher Education**

*Allison Swanson, Colorado State University*

*Shannon Lavey, Colorado State University*

*Marla Roll, Colorado State University*

The Assistive Technology Resource Center (ATRC) at Colorado State University will share a client-centered process for matching students with disabilities with AT supports, training them to use assistive or mainstream technologies for specific academic tasks, and making the AT easily available for students' use.

**Matchless**

### **From Doing to Consulting: How Indiana University Transformed the Alternative Media Process (Virtual A)**

*Michael Mace, Indiana University*

Learn how Indiana University's Assistive Technology and Accessibility Centers went from a staff of 40+ full and part-time employ-

# Thursday, November 17

ees to a staff of 9 while decreasing remediation time and increasing service offerings.

## Penrose 1

### **Inclusive but not Accessible? Integrating Accessibility and Emerging DEI Initiatives in Education (Virtual B)**

*Eric Stano, Magic EdTech*

*Erin Evans, Magic EdTech*

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity (DEI) initiatives have been growing across learning institutions in the last 2 years - both in staff hiring and in the nature of the curriculum being taught. However, issues relative to accessibility are sometimes overlooked by those in DEI.

## Penrose 2

### **Speaking at AHG**

*Christa Miller, Virginia Tech*

The AHG planning committee reviews about 150 to 200 proposals each year to bring you a fabulous lineup of presentations. This year we are offering an informal brainstorming and discussion session to encourage new speakers to submit proposals for next year's conference.

## Independence

### **Alternative Text Showdown**

*Okan Guney, Content Industries*

Attendees will sign up to participate in this alternative text writing competition. We will provide a set of images and each team will work together to create textual alternatives for those images. A panel of accessibility professionals will determine which team produced the "best" Alt Text and will win a prize.

## Mattie Silks

### **Engaging Teams Across Campus: Lessons Learned from Working with Higher Education Institutions**

*Mark Pope, Pope Tech*

*Jay Pope, Pope Tech*

In this presentation, we go over some of the most successful strategies a higher education institution might implement to encourage engagement across campus in order to achieve web accessibility requirements.

## Colorado Ballroom G-H

Thursday, November 17

## **The Race Behind the Learning: Making Math Accessible**

*Angela Branson, University of Missouri*

*Darren Gabbert, University of Missouri*

This presentation shares our experience at the University of Missouri making the college Calculus series accessible to a blind student with skills in reading Nemeth Braille.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **When Perfect is the Enemy of Good—Suggestions for a Pragmatic Approach to Accessibility**

*Lars Ballieu Christensen, SensusAccess*

*Tanja Stevns, SensusAccess*

By knowing when to offer automated tools and when to use skills and time to manually remediate documents to be compliant, this session will show how it is possible to provide solutions that contributes to improved accessibility.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

## **Exhibit Hall Break, 10:15-11:15 am**

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**Colorado Ballroom A-E**

## **Breakout Sessions, 11:30 am-12:30 pm**

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### **Is Automatic Speech Recognition (ASR) an Accommodation Option, Yet?**

*Sheryl Ballenger, Georgia Tech-College of Design*

Gain an awareness of the importance of equitable access for deaf and hard of hearing individuals. Now that auto-generated captions are ubiquitous, what do we do with them?

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Implementing Accessibility in Course Content: Alternative Approaches to Getting Faculty on Board**

*Joachim Agamba, Nevada State College*

This presentation will share strategies that are alternative approaches to helping faculty implement accessibility principles in

# Thursday, November 17

digital learning content using inherent tools in Learning Management Systems (LMS), Microsoft Word, and PowerPoint.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

## **Video Player Accessibility**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

It's not just videos that need to be made accessible: video players need to be accessible too! Gian Wild covers the common accessibility issues in thirty-seven different video players and presents the results of the fifth iteration of testing video player accessibility.

**Matchless**

## **The Indirect Pursuit of Accessibility: A Strategy for Organization Change (Virtual A)**

*Rob Carr, WebAIM*

Organizations are coming around to the fact that they need to make digital accessibility a goal across their digital properties. Join me to talk about a handful of areas organizations may focus on that help to achieve the big goal, without the big goal feeling too big to achieve.

**Penrose 1**

## **The Accessible Math Roadmap (Virtual B)**

*Darrin Evans, North Carolina Community College System*

*Joseph Polizzotto, Wake Technical Community College*

*Natosha Burgess-Rodriguez, Wake Technical Community College*

This presentation will explore the following tools: Visual Math Editor, MathPix, WordToEPUB, and MathType. We will give an overview of how and when to use these tools when creating accessible math content.

**Penrose 2**

## **Rethink Alt Text—The First Step: A Community Discussion to Improve how we Communicate Complex Graphical Ideas and Data**

*Bevi Chagnon, PubCom—Accessible Design + Publishing*

*Karen McCall, Karlen Communications*

Alt Text, which was added to the HTML tag set more than 25 years ago, was never designed to do what's needed for today's

## Thursday, November 17

ICT graphics. Current research presented by Karen McCall and Bevi Chagnon at last summer's ICCHP-AAATE 2022 conference honed in on Alt Text's shortcomings and inability to fully convey graphical information to end users.

### Independence

#### **Mathematics in Born Accessible Publications—Latest Developments in Accessible Math Around the Industry**

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

*George Kerscher, DAISY Consortium and Benetech*

Digital Educational publications with mathematics must be visually correct, and they must be accessible to persons with disabilities. We will look at the techniques that deliver born accessible publication in EPUB.

### Mattie Silks

#### **Development of the Student Perceptions of Accessibility (SPA) Scale and Applications for Student Success**

*Nicholas Matthews, California State University, Long Beach*

*Alejandra Priede, California State University, Long Beach*

This presentation covers the iterative development of the Student Perceptions of Accessibility (SPA) scale for online instructional materials. The development of the SPA scale will enable systematic evaluations of perceived accessibility, significantly enhancing opportunities for accessibility research and practice.

### Colorado Ballroom G-H

#### **Accessibility Planning: Get AHEAD This Spring**

*Lindsay Tulloss, AST, a Verbit Company*

Do you always promise yourself that NEXT semester you'll have student accommodations set and ready ahead of time? Join us to learn how institutions like yours are proactively preparing for inclusion.

### Colorado I-J

# Thursday, November 17

## **How the Department of Education's Office for Civil Rights Resolves Digital Accessibility Investigations**

*Mary Lou Mobley, U.S. Department of Education*

*Judith Risch, Office for Civil Rights*

The attorneys who lead OCR's National Web Accessibility Team will discuss the types of allegations they handle under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as well as how they identify barriers to access for people with disabilities, resolution strategies, and their work with vendors.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

### **Lunch on your own, 12:30-2 pm**

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### **Breakout Sessions, 2:15-3:15 pm**

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#### **Document Accessibility Compliance for Higher-Ed**

*Glenn Gross, CTI*

This session will explore proactive processes and steps to take to ensure the content on your websites, as well as critical student coursework, are made accessible.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

#### **Towards a Certificate on Accessible Teaching— Considerations and Insights into the Draft Syllabus**

*Gottfried Zimmerman, Stuttgart Media University*

This presentation will present the plans for a certificate on accessible teaching in Germany, spear-headed by the SHUFFLE project.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

#### **MathCAT and the Future of MathML**

*Neil Soiffer, Talking Cat Software*

MathCAT is an open source library that translates MathML to speech and braille. The talk demonstrates what is possible for accessible math.

**Matchless**

Thursday, November 17

## **Easy Steps for Accessible Lecture, Discussion/Conference, and Presentation Videos (Virtual A)**

*Kristin Juhrs, The University of Alabama*

This session provides three easy Universal Design for Learning (UDL) guidelines for videos/video-conferences anyone can implement to make their videos and video-conferences accessible.

**Penrose 1**

## **Trending Tech Tools—2022 Edition: What's New, What's Improved, and What's on the Horizon for AT & Accessibility Tools (Virtual B)**

*Rachel Kruzel, Texthelp*

Each year, the AT and accessibility fields are evolving. The 2022 edition of the Trending Tech Tools session will focus on the latest tools, updates, software programs, and key topics that have happened over the last year as well as focus on what is to come in the months and year ahead.

**Penrose 2**

## **Aligning Requirements for WCAG Success Criteria with Organizational Roles to Deliver Accessible Content(Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Jeff Singleton, AbleDocs*

Accessibility is a team effort. Achieving accessible web content is all too often left to a few people and possibly just a single individual! Learn the steps to create an effective organizational policy and how to align all team members toward the same accessibility goal.

**Independence**

## **Developing a Campus-Wide Online Accessibility Infrastructure: Strategies and Lessons Learned**

*Tania Heap, University of North Texas*

This presentation will share the strategies and lessons learned in creating a scalable infrastructure that enables a small accessibility team to offer support and services to hundreds of faculty teaching online.

**Mattie Silks**

# Thursday, November 17

## **Updates to the Mobile Accessibility Testing Guidelines**

*Gian Wild, Accessibility Oz*

The ICT Mobile Testing Guidelines for Mobile Sites and Native Apps were developed in 2018 and 2019 and are now hosted on the web by AccessibilityOz . After two years of using the testing guidelines, Gian will talk about what is missing, what needs updating, and, most importantly, what needs to be done now.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## **How the Right Note-Taking Support Tool can Boost Student Success & Retention**

*Paddy Heaton, Glean*

In this session we'll share the results of our research into how Glean, a tool that promotes independent note taking, can help students with disabilities improve their grades.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

## **Leveraging Artificial Intelligence to Boost Student Success and Increase Accessibility**

*Kurt Apen, Otter.ai*

Assistive technology like Otter plays an important role in equalizing access to education, by enabling inclusion and reducing inequalities in higher ed. Join this session to hear real-life examples of assistive technology (AT) in action at higher education institutions.

**Colorado Ballroom F**

## **Exhibit Hall Break, 3:15-4 pm**

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**Colorado Ballroom A-E**

## **Roundtables, 4-5 pm**

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Friday, November 18

8 am – 11:45 pm      Registration Open

9:15 – 10:15 am      Breakout Sessions

10:30 – 11:30 am      Breakout Sessions

11:45 am – 12:45 pm Breakout Sessions

## Notes

[illegible]

Complete session details can be found at [accessinghigherground.org](https://accessinghigherground.org)

# Friday, November 18

## Breakout Sessions, 9:15-10:15 am

### **Creating More Robust Infographics—Beyond Alt-Text (Double Session)**

*Dax Castro, Chax Training and Consulting*

Learn specific techniques for complex infographics and process charts developed in PowerPoint, Word, Excel, Adobe Illustrator and InDesign that produce more robust user experiences. Discover new ways to present infographics beyond simple alt-text.

**Denver Ballroom 1-3**

### **Introduction to Accessibility Testing: Websites and Web Applications (Double Session)**

*Andrew Drummond, State of Maryland*

*Stephen Polacek, Maryland Department of Disabilities*

Participants will learn the fundamentals of accessibility testing and how to navigate the jargon that is become commonplace in the field. The session will expose learners to the digital barriers that prevent access, alternate access methods, and how to conduct manual testing using a variety of tools and techniques.

**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Global Certified Accessible—Changing the World One Publisher at a Time**

*Charles LaPierre, Benetech*

*Ashley Wells Ajinkya, Benetech*

Benetech's Global Certified Accessible program helps publishers and conversion vendors produce fully accessible EPUBs that are truly born accessible.

**Matchless**

### **The Road to Accessibility is Paved with Best Practices: Avoiding Best Intentions Pitfalls in Accessibility (Virtual A)**

*Charles Linsmeier, Macmillan Learning*

*Crista Earl, Tech for All*

We will explore some common pitfalls encountered by accessibility entities: excellent accessibility solutions with poor implementation, addressing accessibility as a 'feature', and wearing disability as a costume.

**Penrose 1**

Friday, November 18

## **Advanced Techniques to Make the VPAT More Effective (Virtual B)**

*Rob Carr, WebAIM*

Join me to talk through ways to make the VPAT a more effective tool for you when you next seek to purchase. We'll talk through the critical vendor-specific information as well as the technical side.

**Penrose 2**

## **eText@Illinois—Truly Universally Accessible Textbooks and Training (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Yury Borukhovich, University of Illinois*

*Milind Basole, University of Illinois*

eText@Illinois is a course content delivery system developed at the University of Illinois that strives to achieve true universal accessibility that also accommodates undiagnosed and unreported population which by some estimates is 10% of today's learners.

**Independence**

## **Lessons Learned During a System-Wide Collaboration in Developing, Designing, and Launching an Accessibility Course**

*Lydia Harkey, Texas A&M University*

*Debra Dandridge, Texas A&M University*

*Cynthia Kauder, Texas A&M University*

This panel discuss how collaborators across The Texas A&M University System leveraged experience and talents to create a consistent system-wide accessibility training experience for faculty, staff, and student workers.

**Mattie Silks**

## **The Marrakesh Treaty and Creating a Marketplace for Accessible Books**

*Auston Stamm, Stanford University*

This presentation will provide an overview of the Marrakesh Treaty, the state of accessible books internationally, and an exploration of the strengths and weaknesses of the marketplace for digitally accessible books.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

# Friday, November 18

## Breakout Sessions, 10:30-11:30 am

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**Denver Ballroom 4-6**

### **Build Your Accessible Procurement Process**

*Leon McNaught, California State University-Los Angeles*

The presenter discusses the CSU systemwide framework and elements required for a successful implementation at the campus level. This session is geared towards participants looking to build an accessible procurement model at their institution.

**Matchless**

### **AccessText Network is Here to Help! E-Text Accommodations 101 (Virtual A)**

*Dawn Evans, AccessText Network*

*Carolyn Phillips, Center for Inclusive Design & Innovation (CIDI)*

The AccessText Network (ATN) is an essential tool that all Disability Service Providers should be aware of and have at their disposal when seeking to accommodate students with print-related disabilities.

**Penrose 1**

Friday, November 18

## **Predictors of Web Accessibility in Higher Education: Ten Years After (Virtual B)**

*Dan Comden, University of Washington*

*Terrill Thompson, University of Washington*

In 2013 we published “Predictors of Web Accessibility in Higher Education”, a research report that collected data on accessibility policies and other variables from higher education institutions and examined which variables had the strongest correlations on web accessibility. Ten years later we revisit the research

**Penrose 2**

## **Website Liability Legal Update (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Ken Nakata, Converge Accessibility*

This presentation lays the groundwork for understanding website liability and focuses on common day-to-day questions—and how they have been answered by Federal courts.

**Independence**

## **Understanding the Needs of Students with Disabilities Based on Universal Design of Learning and Some Implements**

*Hongye Liu, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

*Lawrence Angrave, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign*

We present a sequence of large surveys of the needs of SWDs through the perspectives of universal design of learning regarding multiple modalities of content delivery, engaging and facilitating learning through LMS and alternative format such as accessible digital book made from lecture videos.

**Mattie Silks**

## **PREP: An AI-Enables Document Remediation Solution Designed to Make STEM and Complex Content Accessibility More Intuitive**

*Vijayshree Vethantham, Continual Engine*

*Rajiv Narayana, Continual Engine*

Let’s look at how PREP is evolving to make STEM and complex content accessible easily while lowering the learning curve.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

# Friday, November 18

## Breakout Sessions, 11:45 am-12:45 pm

### **I am Not the Copyright Police - The Answers to All of Your Alternate Format Copyright Questions (Virtual A)**

*Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado-Boulder*

This session will provide you with the legal boundaries (and loopholes), and best practices, that govern the provision of alternate format to students with disabilities.

**Penrose 1**

### **Solving Accessibility Issues with an Accessibility Remediation Team (Virtual B)**

*Bert McClain, Utah Valley University*

*Kathy Griffin, Utah Valley University*

In 2018, Utah Valley University's Office of Teaching and Learning (OTL) effectively created its own remediation team. Learn how they accomplished this task and the challenges they faced.

**Penrose 2**

### **Intro to Audio Description (Virtual C; Remote Speaker)**

*Rebecca Klein, 3Play Media*

This session will cover the basics of how to add audio description to online video, legal requirements for audio description, video player compatibility, examples and demos, how to create audio description, and the benefits of audio description outside of accessibility.

**Independence**

### **Good to Great: Evolution of the Nelnet Accessibility Program**

*Marc Thorson, Nelnet*

*Stacy Sporie, Nelnet*

*Rob Kaul, Nelnet*

*Ronniesha Samuels-Lawrence, Nelnet*

*Robin Eckelberry, Nelnet*

Learn how Nelnet turned one man's passion for better UI code into a successful, organization-wide digital accessibility program.

**Mattie Silks**

Friday, November 18

## Inclusive Practice: Integrate Technology in Higher Education Communication

*Lori Mickle, Iowa State University*

*Jamie Niman, Iowa State University*

This presentation focuses on how to integrate readily available campus technology and integrated features (video conferencing, learning management systems, Microsoft learning tools) in all communication settings to enable inclusive participation.

**Colorado Ballroom G-H**

## Reducing Outsourcing by Utilizing Existing Campus Resources

*Jennifer McDowell, Salem State University*

*Lisa Bibeau, Salem State University*

We will be sharing lessons learned from the journey our office has taken when 3 blind students enrolled at our university. Hear how we transitioned from outsourcing textbooks and complex materials to outside vendors, to producing all Braille, tactile graphics, and alternative format course materials ourselves, in-house, at a significant cost-savings to the institution.

**Colorado Ballroom I-J**

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**Alternative Text Showdown**  
Thursday 9:15am in Mattie Silks

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## A dedicated partner in creating inclusive learning environments

With 18 years of experience, Automatic Sync Technologies (AST) provides industry-leading and highly accurate solutions for access and inclusion. From closed captioning to audio description, our specialized technologies and teams are designed to meet the needs of educational institutions, government agencies and non-profit organizations, including museums, libraries and many others.



Live  
captions



Video  
transcriptions



Audio  
descriptions



Caption  
translations

Be sure to join our special session presented by  
**Lindsay Tulloss, Senior Customer Success Manager.**

### Accessibility Planning: Get AHEAD This Spring

Do you always promise yourself that NEXT semester you'll have student accommodations set and ready ahead of time? Join us to learn how institutions like yours are proactively preparing for inclusion. Discover why accessibility offices across the country are experiencing an uptick in requests and how you can better respond to increased demands and challenges with easy tips and tricks. This session will help you prepare to better engage and include your students this spring semester.



**Thursday, November 17 | 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**



**Colorado I-J**



**Lindsay Tulloss, Senior Customer Success Manager.**

Stop by **Booth #17** to meet with us and learn how we can partner!

### Exhibit Hall Booth Hours:

Wednesday, November 16 | 9:00 a.m. - 4:15 p.m.

Thursday, November 17 | 9:00 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

[www.automaticsync.com](http://www.automaticsync.com)





**Located in the Colorado Ballroom A-E**

The floor plan shows a rectangular room with the following numbered locations:

- Top Wall:** 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13
- Left Wall:** 6, 5, 4, 3, 2, 1
- Right Wall:** 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24
- Bottom Wall:** 29, 28, 27, 26, 25
- Interior:** 14, 15, 16, 17, 18

The central area contains 12 cross-shaped symbols arranged in a 3x4 grid. The left wall features a large 'X' symbol, and the right wall features a large 'Y' symbol. The floor is marked with a grid of lines.

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## **Alchemie (Silver Sponsor)**

### **Booth #16**

Alchemie builds interactive learning technology for STEM subjects, starting first with chemistry and physics. Our game-inspired interactives allow students to explore and experiment with STEM content, and are designed to be born accessible. Universal Design for Learning is baked into our development process. [alchemie.io](https://alchemie.io)

## **Anthology (Silver Sponsor)**

### **Booth #8**

Anthology offers the largest EdTech ecosystem on a global scale, supporting over 150 million users in 80 countries. The company's mission is to provide dynamic, data-informed experiences to the global education community so that learners and educators can achieve their goals. [anthology.com](https://anthology.com)

## **Appligent Document Solutions (Bronze Sponsor)**

### **Booth #24**

Appligent Document Solutions provides high quality Accessibility Services and Remediation of PDF documents. Our Education customers rely on us for excellent advice and service in providing accessible content. [appligent.com](https://appligent.com)

## **AST, a Verbit Company (Gold Sponsor)**

### **Booth #17**

Automatic Sync Technologies (AST), a Verbit company, is trusted by educational institutions for its closed captioning and accessibility solutions. AST's solutions make campuses and online environments more inclusive. Founded upon a Small Business Innovation Research grant from the US Department of Education, AST offers the most cost-efficient, one-stop-shop for today's access needs. [automaticsync.com](https://automaticsync.com)

# Sponsors & Exhibitors

## **Codemantra US LLC (Gold Sponsor)**

### **Booth #18**

Codemantra offers high-quality services and software solutions that include AccessibilityInsight: A SaaS-based application leveraging intelligent content and process automation to deliver rapid accessibility remediation in compliance with WCAG 2.0 and 2.1 standards. A consolidation of machine learning and human-assisted oversight provides scalability for large-volume projects. [codemantra.com](http://codemantra.com)

## **Content Industries (Bag Sponsor)**

### **Booth #27**

Content Industries (formerly Logictran) is a software consulting company that's been working with eBooks for over 20 years. We've worked with some of the biggest names in publishing to help shape the industry. Today, we're focused on building more accessible content and expanding our clients reach. [epub.tools](http://epub.tools)

## **Crawford Technologies (Bronze Sponsor)**

### **Booth #3**

Our automated document accessibility tools provide digital and physical solutions to common problems. With these tools, you can produce inclusive, accessible documents across formats. This includes Accessible PDF, HTML 5, braille, large print, audio, or eText. [crawfordtech.com](http://crawfordtech.com)

## **Glean (Lanyard Sponsor)**

### **Booth #4**

Glean is the antidote to information overload for improved learning and productivity. Our inclusive learning technology empowers students of all abilities to take meaningful audio notes with a proven note taking process. We support 100,000s of learners at over 500 universities and colleges, including the world's most prestigious institutions. [glean.co](http://glean.co)

## **Nelnet (Silver Sponsor)**

### **Booth #23**

Nelnet is a technology company, idea incubator, start-up accelerator, and education expert founded 40+ years ago. Through our work in highly regulated industries, our dedicated accessibility experts have developed solutions that rapidly identify structural and

# Sponsors & Exhibitors

design elements to meet and exceed compliance levels. Our passion for accessibility and hands-on experience ensures websites, mobile applications, and documents are accessible to all users. [nelnetinc.com/accessibility](http://nelnetinc.com/accessibility)

## **Otter.ai (Gold Sponsor)**

### **Booth #28**

Otter.ai is working with over two thousand universities, colleges, and community colleges to help students reach their goals. Otter provides faculty, students, and administrators with real-time notes and captions for lectures, classes, or meetings. Make lectures more accessible and inclusive, whether on campus or virtual. [otter.ai](http://otter.ai)

## **Pope Tech (Bag Sponsor)**

### **Booth #14**

Pope Tech provides institution-wide website accessibility scanning and reporting. We also provide Canvas course accessibility with our Canvas LTI integration and Accessibility Guide. All Pope Tech accessibility products are powered by WAVE. We help simplify your accessibility efforts across your portfolio of websites and courses. [pope.tech](http://pope.tech)

## **ReadSpeaker (Gold Sponsor)**

### **Booth #25**

ReadSpeaker, a leader in TTS, provides accessibility tools with certified integrations in Blackboard, Canvas, BrightSpace and other LMS providers. Utilizing the best voices in the market, our tools enhance the online learning experience for ALL learners AND provide the flexibility and compatibility to provide accommodations for testing using UDL methodology. [readspeaker.com/education](http://readspeaker.com/education)

## **Texthelp Inc. (Gold Sponsor)**

### **Booth #26**

When we understand and are understood, we can achieve more. With more than 50 million users worldwide, the Texthelp Group's suite of products includes Read&Write, Co:Writer®, Snap&Read™, Equatio®, uPARTM, OrbitNote®, WriQ®, and FluencyTutor® which work alongside existing platforms such as Microsoft Office and G-suite, enabling them to be integrated quickly into any classroom or workplace with ease. [texthelp.com](http://texthelp.com)

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### **Booth #29**

Vispero® is the world's leading assistive technology provider for the visually impaired. We have a long history of developing and providing innovative solutions for blind and low-vision individuals that help them reach their full potential. [vispero.com](http://vispero.com)

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## **3Play Media**

### **Booth #20**

3Play Media is an integrated video accessibility platform with patented solutions for closed captioning, transcription, live captioning, audio description, and subtitling. 3Play Media combines machine learning (ML) and automatic speech recognition (ASR) with human review to provide innovative, highly accurate services. Customers span multiple industries, including media & entertainment, corporate, e-commerce, fitness, higher education, government, and e-learning. [3playmedia.com](http://3playmedia.com)

## **AccessibilityOz**

### **Booth #2**

We audit. We train. We transform. AccessibilityOz has three signature tools: OzART, our automated accessibility testing tool; OzWiki, our database of web accessibility errors, examples and solutions; and OzPlayer, the world's most accessible video player. [accessibilityoz.com](http://accessibilityoz.com)

## **Allyant**

### **Booth #7**

Simple. Seamless. Accessibility. We make accessibility simple, seamless, and efficient for organizations—ensuring equitable access to digital, document, and printed information for people with disabilities. [allyant.com](http://allyant.com)

## **BeeLine Reader**

### **Booth #10**

BeeLine Reader makes reading on screen easier and more accessible. Our technology has won digital inclusion awards from the United Nations and MIT Solve and has been adopted by Blackboard Ally, LibreTexts, Bookshare, Perlego, MIT Press Reader. Bee-

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## **Center for Inclusive Design & Innovation (CIDI) and The AccessText Network (ATN)**

### **Booth #15**

The Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation is a leader in accessibility and inclusion with a rich history of providing solutions to an underserved community. CIDI is committed to promoting innovation, developing user centered research, products, and services for individuals with disabilities to address unmet needs by providing accessible and inclusive environments for all. [cidi.gatech.edu](http://cidi.gatech.edu)

## **Continual Engine US LLC**

### **Booth #11**

Continual Engine is an artificial intelligence (AI) technology company dedicated to building smarter, affordable, and scalable solutions for learning and accessibility by leveraging sophisticated technologies in collaboration with human experts. Our proprietary solutions include: PREP, an AI-enabled document remediation platform and Invicta™, an AI-powered tool that automates high-quality image descriptions (alt text). [continualengine.com](http://continualengine.com)

## **Dolphin Computer Access, Inc.**

### **Booth #22**

Dolphin assistive technology products are designed to improve accessibility and independence on computers, tablets and mobile devices, for people with a wide range of vision impairments in a variety of settings. Our technology includes SuperNova, Magnification, Speech and Screen Reading, and EasyReader—the free accessible reading app. [YourDolphin.com](http://YourDolphin.com)

## **Habitat Learn Inc.**

### **Booth #21**

Habitat Learn is an ecosystem of accessible products and services created to remove the barriers to learning through human-centered design. From scheduling everything you need for live-streaming classes, to delivering accessible courses with captions and summary notes for your students and staff. Our products unify every learning experience. [habitatlearn.com](http://habitatlearn.com)

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## **Kurzweil Education**

### **Booth #6**

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## **Partners Interpreting**

### **Booth #5**

Partners Interpreting (PI), a full-service signed language interpreting and captioning company, has been recognized as a quality service provider in providing interpreting, real time captioning (CART/C-Print/TypeWell), post-production captioning, video remote interpreting and Sign Language/English translations at 100-plus colleges and universities, and more than 500 organizations and businesses nationally. [partnersinterpreting.com](http://partnersinterpreting.com)

## **Scanning Pens Inc.**

### **Booth #12**

Scanning Pens supplies portable text-to-speech devices promoting inclusive classrooms, making curriculum accessible for all. Students with reading difficulties, dyslexia, ESL etc. are empowered to reach their literacy goals, preparing them for their future! The ReaderPen supports reading, defines words and scans text directly to a computer. FREE Trials Available! [scanningpens.com](http://scanningpens.com)

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## **Sensus ApS**

### **Booth #9**

SensusAccess® is a conversion service for accessible documents and alternate media. SensusAccess® automates conversion of documents into a wide range of alternative formats including Braille, MP3, BeeLine, Language to language translation, DAISY, DAISY math and e-books in 30+ languages. SensusAccess® converts inaccessible documents into more accessible formats integrates with popular LMSs. [sensusaccess.com](http://sensusaccess.com)

## **SignGlasses**

### **Booth #1**

SignGlasses' mission is to give humans the power to communicate and form connections by bridging the accessibility gap wherever and whenever needed. Our patented technology offers users an option to receive live interpreting or captioning directly through a pair of smart glasses. We also provide the same services on commonly used video conference platforms. [signglasses.com](http://signglasses.com)





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**Speaker: Kurt Apen**  
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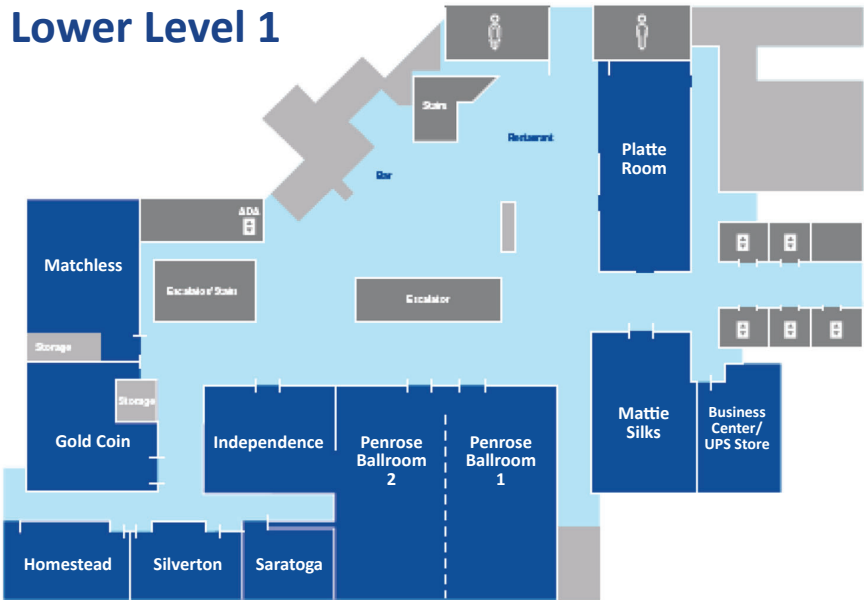


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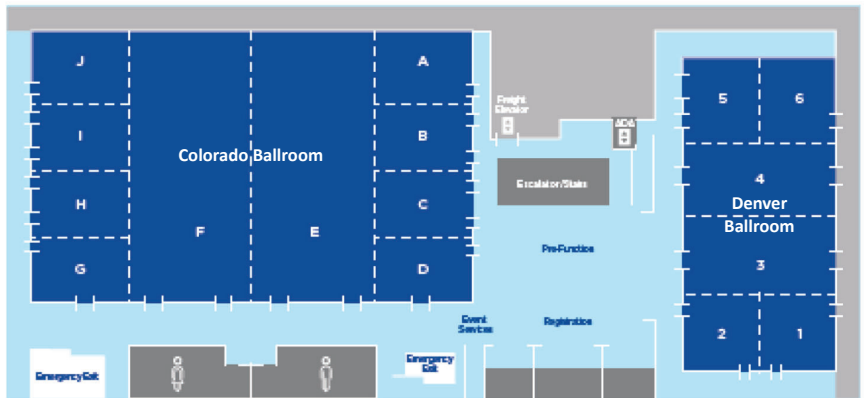


# Meeting Space

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