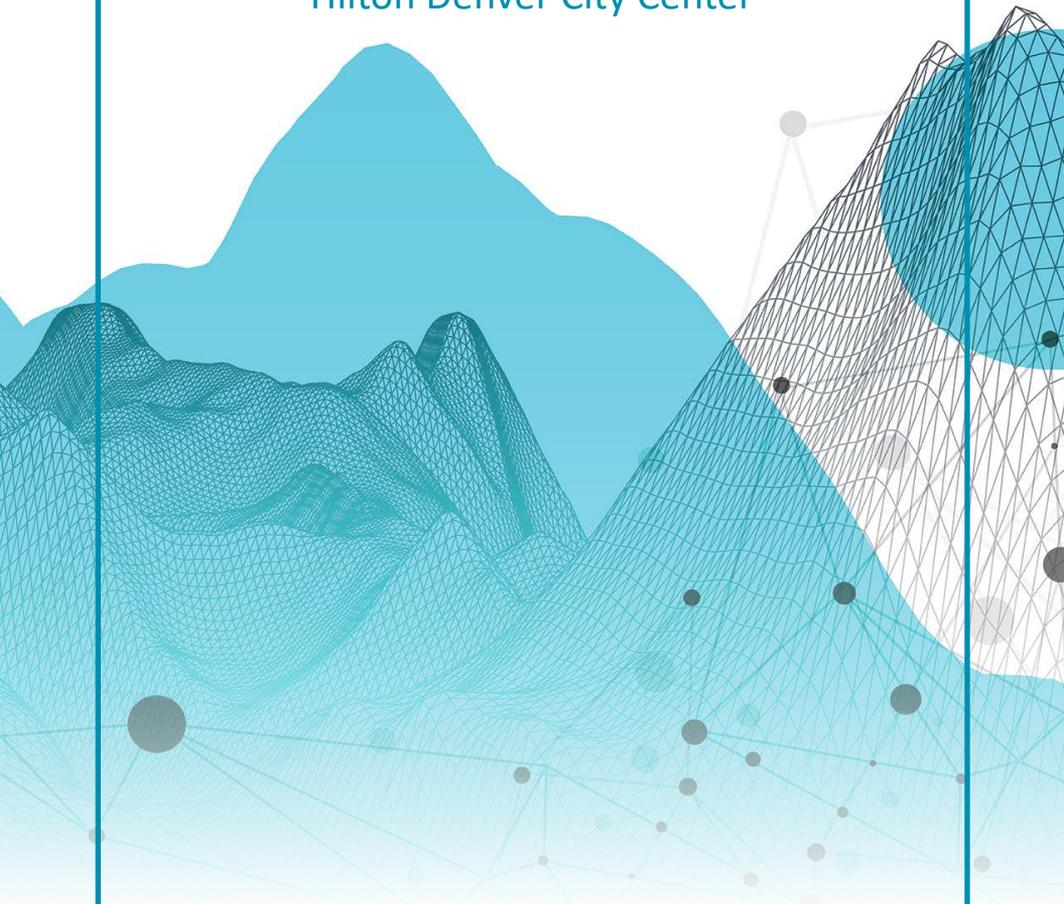# Accessing Higher Ground

Accessible Media, Web & Technology Conference

November 17-21, 2025
Hilton Denver City Center

In collaboration with:

AHEAD Association on Higher Education And Disability®

ATHEN

Overall Schedule

Monday, November 17

9 am – 5 pm	Registration Desk Open (Located on Lower Level 2)
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 18

8 am – 7 pm	Registration Desk Open (Located on LL2)
9 am – Noon	Preconference Sessions
10:30 – 11 am	AM Beverage Break
Noon – 1:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:30 – 4:30 pm	Preconference Sessions
3 – 3:30 pm	PM Beverage Break
7 – 8:30 pm	Keynote Banquet Featuring Mia Ives-Rublee (Colorado BR A-E)

Wednesday, November 19

7 am – 5 pm	Registration Desk Open (Located on LL2)
7:45 – 8:45 am	First-Time Attendees' Coffee Hour (Colorado BR F)
9 – 10 am	Breakout Sessions
10 am – 6:45 pm	Exhibit Hall Open (Colorado Ballroom A-E)
10 – 11 am	Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
12:15 – 1:45 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:45 – 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions
3 – 4 pm	Breakout Sessions
4:15 – 5:15 pm	Breakout Sessions
5:15 – 6:45 pm	Exhibit Hall Reception

Thursday, November 20

8 am – 4 pm	Registration Desk Open (Located on LL2)
9 am – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Open
9 – 10 am	Breakout Sessions
10 – 11 am	Exhibit Hall Break
11:15 am – 12:15 pm	Roundtables
12:15 – 1:45 pm	Lunch (on your own)
1:45 – 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions
3 – 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Break
4:15 – 5:15 pm	Breakout Sessions

Friday, November 21

8:30 am – 11:45 pm	Registration Desk Open (Located on LL2)
9 – 10 am	Breakout Sessions
10:15 – 11:15 am	Breakout Sessions
11:30 am – 12:30 pm	Breakout Sessions

Meeting Space Wi-Fi
Network: Hilton Meeting
Password: AHG2025

Find conference evaluation forms at
accessinghigherground.org/evaluate

Don't forget to tag AHG in your social media!

#AHG25

Genio
formerly Glean

FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY

Discover how Florida Atlantic University **transformed student support with Genio Notes**

Genio (formerly Glean) creates beautifully simple learning tools that **boost knowledge, skills, and confidence.**

Check out our webinar with **Michelle Shaw** (Student Accessibility Services Director) and discover how she and her team set **a new standard for accessibility and achievement in higher education.**

Anthology Ally

The better way to make better content

While some tools rely on superficial, automated fixes, **Anthology® Ally** gives instructors real-time guidance that builds lasting best practices in accessible content creation. This reduces risk, prevents errors at the source, and helps institutions move confidently toward Title II readiness and beyond.

Ally is the market-leading accessibility tool that gives you:

- Real-time guidance that educates and automates
- Innovations like PDF Quick Fixes and AI-powered alt text that save time
- Alternative formats that allow students to choose how they learn
- Dashboards that track adoption and progress, as well as streamline compliance reporting

Request a demo at anthology.com/contact-us/demo/ally

Scan to explore The Accessibility Gap white paper— what 2500+ faculty revealed about accessibility challenges, and how you can close the gap.

Table of Contents

Advertising Index

Keynote Banquet

Sponsored by **Anthology**

Tuesday, November 18, 7–8:30 pm
Colorado Ballroom A-E

A Political War on Disability: Eugenics, the Ugly Laws, and How We Can Fight Back

Mia Ives-Rublee

Senior Director for the Disability Justice Initiative at American Progress

Prior to coming to American Progress, Ives-Rublee advocated for disability justice and inclusion at nonprofit organizations and businesses across the United States. She has worked with Women's March, Families Belong Together, DC Action Lab, Adoptees for Justice, Fair Fight, People's Collective for Justice and Liberation, and numerous other progressive organizations. Best known for founding the Women's March Disability Caucus, Ives-Rublee helped organize the original Women's March on Washington in 2017.

First-Time Attendees' Coffee Hour

Wednesday, November 19, 7:45–8:45 am
Colorado Ballroom F

Kick off your conference experience with a cup of coffee or tea as you connect with fellow first-time attendees!

Exhibitor Reception

Wednesday, November 19, 5:15–6:45 pm
Colorado Ballroom A-E

Join us in the Exhibit Hall for appetizers and drinks while you interact with companies and organizations who strive to provide accessibility for students with disabilities.

See JamA11Y in action at the Jamworks booth!

Upload PDFs
Upload documents through your LMS or direct to JamA11y.

Remediate
JamA11y makes your PDFs accessible.

Download
Download your accessible documents.

Everway

At Everway, we create technology that empowers everyone to learn in ways that work best for them. Our solutions support diverse needs, enhance accessibility, and drive informed decisions, helping over 250 million people worldwide. By valuing differences, we're building a more inclusive world and unlocking the full potential of every mind.

Booth #28
www.everway.com

Monday, November 17

9 am - 5 pm	Registration Open
10:30 am - 5 pm	Preconference Sessions
11:30 am - Noon	AM Coffee Break
1 - 2:30 pm	Lunch (on your own)
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Complete session details can be found at accessinghigherground.org

Monday, November 17

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

Alternate Format Hands-On Intensive: How To Create Effective Alternate Format (2-Day Session)
Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

Alternate Format Production is a requirement for Disability Services offices on almost every university and college campus. This hands-on workshop will walk you through from student request, through production of appropriate materials in multiple formats, to final delivery of alternate format materials to students with print disabilities.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Adaptive Technology Professional Development Overview: From Inventory to Intake to Implementation (2-Day Session)
Wink Harner, The Foreign Type

Adaptive technology is an ever-evolving field. Innovations & updates happen unexpectedly, making it a challenge for colleges, DR offices, and adaptive technology staff to research & evaluate the technology, make recommendations for adoption, upgrade, or purchase, then train & support students in learning the recommended AT. This training is tied to specific disability categories, divided into 8 modules & designed for professional growth.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

PDF Remediation for the Absolute Beginner
Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting

This full day pre-conference lab starts at the absolute beginning. If you are new to PDF accessibility or just struggle with the basics, attending this class will put you on the right path. We'll start by understanding how people with disabilities use PDFs. By the end of the day, you'll be able to fix common problems and make your own accessible PDFs. You'll learn how to check a PDF beyond the Acrobat Accessibility Checker, spot common issues, and how to fix them using Adobe Acrobat Pro DC.
Penrose 1

1-Day Accessibility Testing Workshop (2025 Update)
Karl Groves, AFixt

This session 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 including planning, methodology, and testing techniques.
Matchless

Managing the Build of an Accessible Website (Virtual)
Gian Wild, AccessibilityOz

Incorporating accessibility into your web site build is important and can often mean the difference between an accessible and an inaccessible site at launch. Specific stages require accessibility intervention, including design, template and final site launch. Suitable tasks and training are also covered.
Mattie Silks

Morning Preconference Session, 10:30 am – 1 pm

A.I. Unleashed: Transforming the Accessibility of Images, Graphics, and Math Through Alt Text and Document Automation
Kristin Juhrs Kaylor, The University of Alabama
Emily Mealer, The University of Alabama

Learn how to speed up alt text creation and make math accessible using AI in this hands-on, BYOD workshop for accessibility professionals, educators, and designers. Participants will generate alt text for complex images and math using tools like ChatGPT-4o and Gemini, explore best practices, and automate parts of the document accessibility process. This session empowers attendees to enhance content inclusivity and empower screen reader users while reducing manual work.
Penrose 2

Monday, November 17

Afternoon Preconference Session, 2:30 – 5 pm

Introduction to the Screen Reader Ropes Course: Demystifying Screen Reader Use for Manual Testing

Deneb Pulsipher, SeaMonster Studios
Akosua (Kosi) Asabere, Desert Wing Design

In this session you'll gain the abilities you need to perform effective screen reader testing by learning and practicing the necessary functionality of the free screen reader of your choice. We'll break down the commands and strategies of screen reader use, walk you through some guided and independent practice to increase your proficiency with it, and help you understand how to present your findings so your accessibility suggestions will be heeded.
Penrose 2

8 am - 7 pm	Registration Open
9 am - 4:30	Preconference Sessions
10:30 - 11 am	AM Coffee Break
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Complete session details can be found at accessinghigherground.org

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Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

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Denver Ballroom 4-6

Create Accessible Documents in Office 365: Word, PowerPoint, and Excel
George Joeckel, Utah State University / WebAIM

Participants will review the fundamental principles of creating accessible documents in Word, PowerPoint, and Excel in Office 365, and will receive step-by-step demonstrations of processes, and practice those processes in guided activities. Participants will be enrolled in a video-based online course that expands on these principles and processes over the course of five modules.
Penrose 1

Accessibility Testing for Everyone – Getting Started

Becky Gibson, UKG
Bruno Torquato, UKG

Learn the basics of web accessibility testing. We will review methods you can use to test without any special tools and explore tools that you can install and use for additional testing. You'll also learn the basics of testing with a screen reader. Explore ways to record and communicate your test results.

Penrose 2

Mobile Accessibility for Websites & Native Apps (Virtual)

Gian Wild, AccessibilityOz

The presenter takes you through the new Mobile Accessibility Testing Guidelines, developed by a worldwide bipartisan group of accessibility specialists. Learn how to test mobile sites and native apps, and what assistive technologies / mobile features you should include in your testing.

Mattie Silks

Morning Preconference Sessions, 9 am – Noon

Holding the Weight of Accessibility, Together: A Shared Space for the Burned Out, Brilliant, and Trying Their Best

RaLynn McGuire, University of Texas at San Antonio
Vanessa Garza, University of Texas at San Antonio

Join this guided community conversation for accessibility professionals who feel the weight of doing it all. Through shared stories, reflection, and connection, participants will explore common challenges, celebrate small wins, and leave with renewed energy and a sense of solidarity.

Matchless

Implementing Effective Campus Accessibility Initiatives: Strategies, Processes and Resources

Rachel Kruzel, Everway

Many campuses engage in initiatives around technology adoption and implementation and/or digital accessibility. But how do professionals effectively and efficiently create a plan to get these

initiatives up and off the ground while also striving to see the impact as quickly as possible? This session will discuss strategies, processes and resources through the lens of implementation science to best help you and your team leverage your efforts when it comes to this work on campus.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

From Pushback to Partnership: Navigating Resistant Attitudes and Fostering Institutional Buy-In
Sara Emerick, Georgetown University
Wesley Wood, Georgetown University

In this interactive session, participants will explore the systemic and systematic barriers to access in institutions, identify areas of resistance, and begin building a customized action plan to address specific barriers. Through guided reflection, real-world scenarios, and peer feedback, participants will leave with actionable next steps to shift access from compliance to campus-wide commitment.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Afternoon Preconference Sessions, 1:30 – 4:30 pm

Workshop: Why THIS Image HERE? Writing Meaningful Image Descriptions for Education and Beyond
Laura Ciporen, McGraw Hill Education

In this workshop we will discuss a technique for uncovering the purpose of a given image in educational materials so as to produce image descriptions. We will start with an explanation of the thought process then cover a variety of examples from graphs to laughing children. Bring in examples of images you have trouble describing and we will walk through the thought process together until you feel confident creating descriptions for any situation.
Matchless

Anticipate, Respond and Act: Hot Topics in the Field of Assistive Technology, Alt Media and Digital Accessibility
Rachel Kruzel, Everway
Ann Knettler, GrackleDocs

This session will focus on the key hot topics within our field. Through facilitated discussion, along with guidance from two tech industry experts, participants will gain tangible takeaways to bring

back to campus to help support and address the challenges commonly faced.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Accessibility in Procurement Deep(-er) Dive

Rob Carr, WebAIM

This session will introduce tools and techniques that aim to rebalance the load when it comes to vetting accessibility in third-party products that we purchase or use. We'll discuss leveraging documentation, demonstrations, manual testing, and common purchasing tools to help.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Keynote Banquet, 7 – 8:30 pm
Colorado BR A-E

A Political War on Disability: Eugenics, the Ugly Laws, and How We Can Fight Back

Sponsored by **Λnthology**

Mia Ives-Rublee, Senior Director for the Disability Justice Initiative at American Progress

Wednesday, November 19

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Complete session details can be found at accessinghigherground.org

Wednesday, November 19

Breakout Sessions, 9 – 10 am

Designing for Impact: A Project-Based Accessibility Course in D2L Brightspace

Nicole LEtoile, L'Etoile Education, LLC

Learn how to design and deliver effective accessibility training in D2L Brightspace through project-based learning and UDL. This session offers practical strategies for building participants' applied skills in digital accessibility through WCAG-aligned audits, tools, and inclusive instructional design practices.

Denver Ballroom 1-3

Remediating Bookshare Files into Accessible Microsoft Word Documents

Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

Learn how to make an unusable file into something usable that works with almost all types of print disabilities. This hands-on session will show you how to use the right tools and processing to create the perfect file for your students.

Denver Ballroom 4-6

You Think We Said What? A Comparison of Multiple AI's Attempts at Captioning a Folk Music Performance

Laura Ciporen, McGraw Hill Education

Automated captioning tools on a 30-minute folk music video yielded some wildly different, and some interestingly similar, results. See how an assortment of captioning tools fared, laugh and cry at the misinterpretations, and witness how the conference's transcribers handle a few snippets of harmony singing.

Matchless

Planning and Creating Accessible Documents, Media and Other Digital Material (Virtual A)

Craig Boassaly, Eliquo Training & Development Incorporated

This lecture and discussion will provide clarity to content designers not only about the theoretical benefits of accessible digital communications, but also on the entire action list of how to plan, create, deploy and maintain a long-term and sustainable accessible digital marketing assets library.

Penrose 1

The Accessible Math Guide (A 2025 Update) (Virtual B)

Darrin Evans, North Carolina Community College System

This presentation will cover some of the latest tools for creating accessible math content and we will include the latest AI enhancements for creating accessible math content.

Penrose 2

Navigating Procurement Accessibility: From VPATs to Vendor Credibility (Virtual C)

Elizabeth Franklin, Allyant
Aaron Page, Allyant

The primary goal of this presentation is to highlight why procuring accessible technology is more crucial than ever. We will discuss the impact of global regulations on end-users and the legal implications for organizations that fail to prioritize accessibility. Attendees will be better equipped to implement effective strategies within their organizations.

Mattie Silks

Addressing Accessibility in Sage Campus (Virtual D)

Lorna Notsch, Sage Publishing
Lorenzo Milani, Sage Publishing
Melissa Kingon, Sage Publishing
Crista Earl, Tech For All

Sage Campus is an online learning platform offering self-paced and instructor-led courses focused on academic skills. This session provides a comprehensive review of the approach taken to make Sage Campus accessible to as broad a user base as possible.

Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

When Access Needs Collide: An Interactive Discussion on Navigating Inclusive Classroom Practices

Deanna Ferrante, Macmillan Learning

Conflicting access needs can challenge even the most inclusive classroom practices. This interactive session explores how to navigate those conflicts with care, flexibility, and creativity.

Independence

Wednesday, November 19

From Resistance to Empathy: Humanizing Accessibility Outreach

Stephanie Richardson, University of Florida
Laura Jervis, University of Florida

Focusing on empathy and shared humanity can make difficult accessibility conversations more productive. In this presentation, we will be sharing how we incorporate empathy into our faculty outreach and finishing with an example activity that we have used to promote humanization of accessibility efforts.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

AI, Accessibility, and The Risk of Easy Answers

Katie Grennell, Anthology
Chris Aldin, Anthology

This presentation challenges the notion of an "easy button" for accessibility and emphasizes the importance of keeping humans—especially instructors and students—at the core of the process. It highlights how Anthology Ally serves as a supportive co-pilot rather than a replacement.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break, 10 – 11 am

Colorado Ballroom A-E

Breakout Sessions, 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Designing for Impact: A Project-Based Accessibility Course in D2L Brightspace (Continued)

Nicole LEtoile, L'Etoile Education, LLC

Learn how to design and deliver effective accessibility training in D2L Brightspace through project-based learning and UDL. This session offers practical strategies for building participants' applied skills in digital accessibility through WCAG-aligned audits, tools, and inclusive instructional design practices.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Remediating Bookshare Files into Accessible Microsoft Word Documents (Continued)
Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

Learn how to make an unusable file into something usable that works with almost all types of print disabilities. This hands-on session will show you how to use the right tools and processing to create the perfect file for your students.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

Real-Time Accessible Materials for Students
Jeff Jullion, Allyant

This session discusses leveraging innovative strategies, including automated technology, to minimize the delay in providing on-time accessible educational materials to students with disabilities.
Matchless

Introducing Everway: Neurotechnology, UDL and Tools to Support Every Learner in Higher Education (Virtual A)
Rachel Kruzel, Everway

Meet Everway, formerly Texthelp, a new company focused on neurotechnology in higher ed. This session explores how Everway's tools, including Read&Write, Equatio, and OrbitNote, support neurodiverse students and promote Universal Design for Learning.
Penrose 1

Your ADA/Section 504 Coordinator: What They Do and How They Can Help (Virtual B)
Beth Valentine, University of North Dakota

After briefly exploring the legal basis in the ADA and the Rehabilitation Act, this session will cover the main duties of the designated ADA or ADA/Section 504 Coordinator. We will present ideas for incorporating your Coordinator into your work and ways in which you can partner with them to further support accessibility on campus.
Penrose 2

Wednesday, November 19

Best Approaches to Scaling PDF Remediation: Higher Education PDF Accessibility Success Stories (Virtual C)
Vijayshree Vethantham, Continual Engine US LLC

Explore multiple strategies to scale PDF remediation in higher education, backed by real-world success stories. Learn how PREP automates over 90% of tagging—including tables, lists, and structure, in seconds. Discover features like instant alt text, screen reader output for issue detection, and in-built compliance checks.
Mattie Silks

Designing More Accessible Data Tables (Virtual D)
Karen McCall, Karlen Communications

This session demonstrates the accessibility features of a data table and how design considerations can reduce the accessibility of data tables significantly.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

FIU's Data-Driven Approach: Enhancing Student Experiences In Disability Services
Martha Wong, Florida International University
Ashley Romero, Florida International University

We'll discuss FIU's Disability Resource Center (DRC) accessible database, used to support and expand the use of assistive technologies that enhance student success. The system enables the DRC to monitor tool usage, identify student needs, and coordinate targeted outreach, training, and support across campus.
Independence

Bridging the Gap: How Accessibility Training & Certifications Drive Workforce Readiness and Equity
Samantha Evans, IAAP/G3ict
Mike Hess, Blind Institute of Technology (BIT)

Learn how BIT's Academy and registered apprenticeship programs – led by professionals with disabilities, equip fellow members of the disability community to enter the tech workforce through accessible training, mentorship, industry-recognized certifications, and real-world experience.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Expanding Your Assistive Technology Services to Support Employees

Rachel Gramig, Colorado State University
Michelle Brodsky, Colorado State University

CSU has developed an effective and impactful service delivery model that has supported employees for over 15 years. Topics will include outreach, referrals, assessment and training, documentation, outcome measures for data collection and collaborating with campus partners (HR, ADA compliance, etc.).
Colorado Ballroom F

Lunch (on your own), 12:15 – 1:45 pm

Breakout Sessions, 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Seven Small Changes That Can Lead to Big Accessibility Improvements

Bruno Torquato, UKG, Inc.
Amy Mason, UKG, Inc.

Some of the thorniest digital accessibility problems experienced by your software's users are also some of the easiest to fix. We will go over the importance of Prioritization itself, and then walk you through 7 accessibility improvements that are both low-effort and high impact.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

Captions, Audio Description, and ASL, OH My! — DCMP's AI-Assisted Video Accessibility Tool

Cindy Camp, Described and Captioned Media Program
Kyle Sisk, Described and Captioned Media Program
Jason Stark, Described and Captioned Media Program

DCMP has developed a new tool for making videos accessible. The tool allows users to add captions, audio description, and sign language. It is unique because the tool itself is accessible to those with hearing and vision loss, where most other video accessibility tools are not.
Matchless

Wednesday, November 19

Preparing for Title II: Proactive Approaches to Ensuring Video Accessibility in Higher Education (Virtual A)
Daria Ferdine, 3Play Media

This session helps institutions assess media workflows, identify gaps, and implement strategies to ensure video accessibility. Through scenarios and discussion, attendees will explore best practices for captioning, audio description, and user experience, gaining actionable steps to future-proof content and stay compliant.
Penrose 1

CANCELLED ~~Prompt and Circumstance: How ChatGPT Increases Capacity and Improves Work~~ (Virtual B)
~~Remote Speaker: Alison Haynes, Kent State University~~
Penrose 2

Sustainable Accessibility in Action: Lived Lessons & Challenges in Shifting-Left (Virtual C)
Glenda Sims, Deque

This isn't theory—it's real, hard-earned experience embedding sustainable accessibility across policy, procurement, communications, design, and delivery of services and products. Learn what it takes to shift accessibility left in every facet of your organization: the wins, the missteps, and the practical steps to make accessibility stick.
Mattie Silks

How to Read a VPAT and ACR (Virtual D)
Gian Wild, AccessibilityOz

This session will explore the layout of a VPAT and how to properly interpret the associated ACR, identify red flags and what to do about them, examples of what a good VPAT looks like, and how you can confirm whether the VPAT is actually correct.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Make Your Own Easy Button – Tips and Techniques from AT Pros
Cath Stager, Assistive Technology Specialist
Wink Harner, The Foreign Type

Whether you're new to implementing AT or a seasoned professional seeking fresh insights, this presentation offers valuable,

actionable strategies to optimize AT adoption in resource-constrained environments.
Independence

Alternative Text Showdown

Christine Foushi, OneStep Beyond

You won't want to miss the return of The Alternative Text Showdown (first debuted at AHG in 2022)! Attendees are in the driver's seat for this fun, interactive alternative text writing competition! Learn about when images should have alt text, quality alt text, long descriptions, and so much more!
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Now More than Ever: Executive Function in the Age of Technology

Neil Peterson, Edge Foundation

This presentation will explore the interplay between executive function challenges and technology-based accessibility; true inclusion demands more than compliant design—it requires equipping students with the cognitive strategies to utilize accessible resources effectively.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Web Accessibility Legal Update 2025

Ken Nakata, Converge Accessibility

This session provides a legal update on digital accessibility, reviewing how laws apply to digital content, highlighting recent court decisions and emerging federal and state legislation. Designed for legal, IT, and policy leaders looking to stay current in a rapidly-changing legal environment.
Colorado Ballroom F

Wednesday, November 19

Breakout Sessions, 3 – 4 pm

Word to PDF Forms: A Workflow that Works
Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting

This session will guide you through a process that can be used to facilitate properly creating accessible PDF forms. You'll leave with tips and tricks on how to properly build a fillable PDF form.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Seven Small Changes That Can Lead to Big Accessibility Improvements (Continued)
Bruno Torquato, UKG, Inc.
Amy Mason, UKG, Inc.

Some of the thorniest digital accessibility problems experienced by your software's users are also some of the easiest to fix. We will go over the importance of Prioritization itself, and then walk you through 7 accessibility improvements that are both low-effort and high impact.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

SensusAccess Inside – and Outside Your LMS
Lars Ballieu Christensen, SensusAccess
Tanja Stevns, SensusAccess

Learn how UC Davis uses SensusAccess to promote barrier-free education through campus-wide integration. This session high-lights SensusAccess Inside, which embeds conversion tools within your Learning Management System (LMS), along with web form and email options for content outside the LMS.
Matchless

Rethinking Mathematics and STEM Education for People with Blindness (Virtual A)
Klaus-Peter Hars, Inventivio GmbH

Discover an innovative approach for teaching people with blind-ness to independently access, understand, learn and rehearse Mathematics and STEM subjects using a combination of assistive technology, smart learning tools, intelligent learning apps and free learning content will be shown.
Penrose 1

Leveraging AI for Accessibility: Wins, Warnings, and What's Next (Virtual B)
Terisa O'Dowd, Texas Woman's University

This session explores the accessibility benefits, pitfalls, and practical strategies for using AI tools like ChatGPT, Khanmigo, and more to support diverse student needs across disabilities. Attendees will leave with concrete ideas to enhance accessibility and avoid common missteps.
Penrose 2

Shift Left, and Up (Virtual C)
Rob Carr, WebAIM

We in the digital accessibility space must advance conversations about how organizations must approach their accessibility work holistically and broadly. We'll discuss the "shift left" concept as a jumping off point for a larger discussion about the critical need for organizational leadership to provide active facilitation rather than only supplying passive support.
Mattie Silks

Walking the Talk: How One College Implemented Program-Specific Digital Accessibility Plans (Virtual D)
Kaela Parks, Portland Community College

This session will outline Portland Community College's strategic response to the requirement for instructional material compliance with WCAG by April 2026. We will discuss how our Accessible Digital Environment Committee and Academic Affairs leadership team have worked together to advance digital accessibility initiatives.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

From Vision to Implementation: Establishing an Accessible Technology Office at a Small Liberal Arts College
Andrea Hoyt, Bard College

This presentation explores Bard's process to creating remediation services, accessible course materials, and future plans to continue and extend these services across campus.
Independence

Wednesday, November 19

Right Tech, Right Time: A Framework for Assistive Technology Decision-Making
Melanie Eddington, Colorado State University

The Assistive Technology Resource Center at CSU has developed a decision matrix to help AT service providers match assistive technology tools to specific academic tasks like reading, writing, and note taking.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Inclusive Charts with AI Descriptions
Doug Schepers, Fizz Studio

Data visualizations like charts are often challenging to make accessible. We'll describe dataviz problems and solutions, and introduce ParaCharts, a new data visualization tool that makes it easy to create and publish charts on your website that are fully accessible to people with a wide variety of disabilities.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Breakout Sessions, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Word to PDF Forms: A Workflow that Works (Continued)
Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting

This session will guide you through a process that works and that can be used to facilitate properly creating accessible PDF forms. You'll leave with tips and tricks on how to properly build a fillable PDF form.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Ready or Not: Administrative Strategies to Empower Faculty for Title II Updates
Katie Grennell, Anthology
Chris Aldin, Anthology

This session outlines a scalable administrative strategy to empower faculty in proactively addressing the accessibility of their course materials in preparation for Title II updates.
Matchless

Reading Between the Lines: How to Assess and Communicate Risk using a Vendor's Accessibility Conformance Report (Virtual A)
Michele Bromley, Portland State University
Alex Patterson, Portland State University

Knowing how to effectively read a Voluntary Product Accessibility Template (VPAT) can help to establish a baseline understanding of the compliance risk associated with a given technology. This presentation will take attendees step-by-step through the process of evaluating a VPAT and extrapolating meaningful data and recommendations for next steps.
Penrose 1

Getting Started with Digital Accessibility: An Introductory Workshop on Complying with the New ADA Title II Regulations (Virtual B)
Ken Nakata, Converge Accessibility

This workshop offers a practical roadmap for public entities to comply with the new ADA Title II digital accessibility rules. It covers how to build a high-level accessibility plan, assess existing systems, embed accessibility in procurement using a risk matrix, and guide staff with a document flowchart.
Penrose 2

Bridging the Gap: Digital Accessibility and UDL in Higher Education (Virtual C)
Ann Knettler, GrackleDocs

This session explores how UDL and digital accessibility intersect to create inclusive, equitable learning environments in higher education. Attendees will learn practical strategies to reduce barriers for students with disabilities, understand recent legal updates, and shift from reactive accommodations to proactive design grounded in civil rights and educational best practices.
Mattie Silks

Wednesday, November 19

AI and Digital Accessibility: The Good, The Bad, The Hopeful (Virtual D)
Aaron Arvig, State of Minnesota

Join us as we review the early years of AI, the current state of AI and what we are hopeful to see from AI in the future regarding accessibility.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

AI in Accessibility: Emerging Tools Survey
Blake Bertuccelli-Booth, University of Illinois Chicago

Attendees will survey emerging tools that use AI to assist with PDF remediation, transcript generation, alt text for images, and website accessibility fixes. Expect a practical look at key products from Adobe, OpenAI, AWS, Yuja, and others.
Independence

Brainstorming the Terrains of Accessible Technology
Tangie Key, University of North Carolina Greensboro

Discuss the AT you use personally or assign professionally to the people you serve. This interactive session will increase your knowledge on the vast amount of AT available for not only individuals with disabilities but for all.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Utilizing Remote Employees and Student Workers for the Creation and Processing of Accessible Course Materials
Martina Svyantek, University of Virginia
Sarah Humphreys, University of Virginia

This session explores how a university uses remote employees and student workers to create accessible course materials for students with disabilities. Attendees will learn how to build a responsive, scalable accessibility team and collaborate across departments to meet accommodation needs on time.
Colorado Ballroom F

Exhibit Hall Reception, 5:15 – 6:45 pm

Colorado Ballroom A-E
(Exhibit Hall Directory on pgs. 51-59)

Thursday, November 20

8 am - 4 pm	Registration Open
9 am - 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Open, **Colorado Ballroom A-E**
9 - 10 am	Breakout Sessions
10 - 11 am	Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break
11:15 am - 12:15 pm	Roundtables
12:15 - 1:45 pm	Lunch (On your own)
1:45 - 2:45 pm	Breakout Sessions
3 - 4 pm	Exhibit Hall Break
4:15 - 5:15 pm	Breakout Sessions

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Complete session details can be found at accessinghigherground.org

Breakout Sessions, 9 – 10 am

Helping Everyone Check the Box: Making Forms Accessible for People with Cognitive Disabilities
Jonathan Katz-Ouziel, Opossum House Accessibility

Inaccessible forms can prevent students, faculty, and staff from meeting basic obligations in the higher education or business setting. In this session, learn how to avoid this problem with practical skills you can apply to create cognitively accessible PDF and online forms that work for all.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

2025 State of Automatic Speech Recognition
Daria Ferdine, 3Play Media

Drawing on insights from the 2025 State of ASR Report, this session examines the strengths and limitations of automatic speech recognition (ASR) technology, the importance of human review, and real-life applications. Attendees will gain practical strategies for thoughtfully integrating ASR into accessibility workflows.
Matchless

Smart Exceptions: How to Save Time, Reduce Risk, and Stay Compliant Under ADA Title II (Virtual A)
Glenda Sims, Deque

The new ADA Title II rule is here—and the clock is ticking. State and local gov and edu (and their vendors) must meet WCAG 2.1 A/AA for web and mobile content as early as April 24, 2026. This session breaks down who's impacted, what's required, what qualifies as an exception, and how to prioritize efforts.
Penrose 1

Practicum: Interrogate Your Images for More Impactful Alt Text and Extended Descriptions (Virtual B)
Laura Ciporen, McGraw Hill Education

Dig below your image's pretty surface to reveal what it really has to say to those who see it, then translate that into impactful image descriptions. We will interrogate sample images with 3 deceptively simple questions & structure the answers for minimal cognitive load & maximum comprehension.
Penrose 2

Rethinking Accessibility Success: Tracking Barriers with Open Source Powered Heuristics (Virtual C)

Blake Bertuccelli-Booth, University of Illinois Chicago

Most tools tie accessibility success to a paid license. This session introduces a different approach: measuring accessibility success through open-source markers that track actual barriers to access, not abstract scores.

Mattie Silks

Designing Workshops for Inclusive Instructional Presentations (Virtual D)

Joseph Feria-Galicia, UC Berkeley
Robert Hold, UC Berkeley

This session equips attendees to design workshops that teach educators to create accessible, inclusive instructional presentations for diverse learners.

Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Beyond Adoption: Strategies to Scale EdTech Impact and Drive Campus-Wide Engagement

Rachel Kruzel, Everway

Adopting new edtech or assistive technology is only the first step, building awareness and driving usage is the real challenge. In this session, campus professionals will explore practical strategies for change management, scaling usage, and measuring impact through data.

Independence

Building a Culture of Accessibility through A11y Idaho's Community of Practice

Laurie Berry, University of Idaho
Sukha Worob, University of Idaho

A11y Idaho is a statewide community of practice supporting accessible content through collaboration, peer dialogue, and guided training. This session highlights how the initiative brings together educators, instructional designers, and accessibility experts to address accessibility from legal, instructional, and cultural perspectives.

Colorado Ballroom G-H

Thursday, November 20

Creating Tactile Graphs with Three Popular Applications
John Gardner, ViewPlus

This presentation will demonstrate three graphing applications to create tactile graphs. The presenter will create several kinds of graphs with the Desmos on-line graphing calculator, the ViewPlus Audio Graphing Calculator, and Microsoft Excel.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Cost Effective Accessibility Professional Development
Christa Miller, Independent Consultant

Whether your institution already has a comprehensive training plan or not, this is an excellent time to assess how any previous campus accessibility training did or did not improve the accessibility of your institution. In this interactive discussion, we will explore the role that campus culture plays in the effectiveness of professional development.
Colorado Ballroom F

Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break, 10 – 11 am

Colorado Ballroom A-E

Roundtables, 11:15 am – 12:15 pm

Roundtable sessions are an opportunity to have casual conversations about specific disability-resource-related topics. Topics and room assignments will be distributed onsite.

Lunch (on your own), 12:15 – 1:45 pm

Breakout Sessions, 1:45 – 2:45 pm

Introduction to the Screen Reader Ropes Course: Demystifying Screen Reader Use for Manual Testing
Deneb Pulsipher, SeaMonster Studios
Akosua (Kosi) Asabere, Desert Wing Design

We'll break down the commands and strategies of screen reader use, walk you through guided and independent practice to increase your proficiency, and help you understand how to present your findings so your accessibility suggestions will be heeded.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Making Math Accessible Without Losing Your Mind (A little bit of LaTeX knowledge goes a long way)
Nicholas McNab, Harvard University

Learn how to use tools such as Pandoc, Quarto, and Mathpix to modify, and convert existing LaTeX and PDF files into HTML and other formats. Perfect for remediation specialists or to learn more about the practical side of math accessibility and assistive technology.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

DIY Tactile Graphics: Tips for Clear and Effective Tactile Graphics
Em Kribs, Wichita State University

Braille materials are key for ensuring accessibility for students with visual impairments, but are not always helpful for understanding figures and diagrams. Image descriptions can help, but they tend to demand more effort to understand and often fail to capture the relationships between ideas. One solution is tactile graphics.
Matchless

Out of Sight, Out of Scope: Understanding Faculty Awareness of Digital Accessibility (Virtual A)
Christopher Aldin, Anthology
Katie Grennell, Anthology

This session will focus on findings from a faculty engagement survey exploring perceptions, understanding, and knowledge gaps related to digital accessibility from over 2,500 faculty members to help the audience formulate strategies to increase overall awareness and action.
Penrose 1

Thursday, November 20

Meeting The Standard: How Do I Know If My PDF File Is Compliant? (Virtual B)
Chad Chelius, Chax Training and Consulting

In this session, we'll discuss what it means for a document to be accessible, what it means to meet the standard, and how to achieve the creation of a standards-compliant file.
Penrose 2

The Intersection of (Written) Digital Translation and Accessibility: What Works, What Breaks, and How To Fix It (Virtual C)
Sean Mccurry, TransPerfect Translations Inc.

This session breaks down how culture, language quirks, and technical details impact accessible content, and gives you the tools to prevent common pitfalls and keep accessibility intact from source to final output.
Mattie Silks

Accessibility Tools in Microsoft 365: Thinking Outside the Box (Virtual D)
Karen McCall, Karlen Communications

If we think outside the box, we discover that some of the accessibility tools can be used by remediation professionals to identify accessibility barriers that might be hidden.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Student Success: Give Voice to Your Learners
Colleen Sandquist, ReadSpeaker

Imagine a classroom where every student feels supported, understood, and empowered to succeed. In this session, discover how ReadSpeaker's audio-enabled learning tools are transforming education by making content accessible to all learners.
Independence

Beyond the Disability Resource Centre: Providing Equitable Access to Learning for all Students
Laura Barker, Genio

This presentation showcases a successful model for broadening access to AT to all students to create a more inclusive and equitable

learning environment.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

Title II Readiness in Action: Key Findings and Insights from Accessibility Pilot Program

Charles LaPierre, Benetech
Phillip Turner, Haywood Community College
Darrin Evans, WakeTech

Ensure equitable access for all learners with BASE (Benetech's Accessibility Services for Education). Learn how it delivers practical solutions, highlighted by pilot results. Discover barriers, understand our services, and gain insights from feedback and lessons learned.
Colorado Ballroom F

Exhibit Hall Refreshment Break, 3–4 pm

Colorado Ballroom A-E

Breakout Sessions, 4:15 – 5:15 pm

Introduction to the Screen Reader Ropes Course: Demystifying Screen Reader Use for Manual Testing (Continued)

Deneb Pulsipher, SeaMonster Studios
Akosua (Kosi) Asabere, Desert Wing Design

This session will break down the commands and strategies of screen reader use, walk you through some guided and independent practice to increase your proficiency with it, and help you understand how to present your findings so your accessibility suggestions will be heeded.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Making Math Accessible Without Losing Your Mind (A little bit of LaTeX knowledge goes a long way) (Continued)

Nicholas McNab, Harvard University

Learn how to use tools such as Pandoc, Quarto, and Mathpix to modify, and convert existing LaTeX and PDF files into HTML and other formats. Perfect for remediation specialists or to learn more about the practical side of math accessibility and assistive technology.
Denver Ballroom 4-6

Thursday, November 20

Monarch: Transforming Learning, One Dot at a Time

Lauralyn Randles, American Printing House
Greg Stilson, American Printing House
Rachel Ramos, Humanware

The Monarch is a groundbreaking tactile device combining braille and tactile graphics on a refreshable surface. It enhances educational and vocational experiences for individuals with visual impairments by displaying text and graphics simultaneously.
Matchless

Developing an Accessibility Project Team within an Academic Unit (Virtual A)

Andrew George, Lansing Community College
Amy Park, Lansing Community College

Presenters will share their creation of an Accessibility Team in their office. They will discuss its creation, how it works to support faculty, how it interacts with other accessibility resources, and suggestions on how to replicate their work on other campuses.
Penrose 1

AI for Accessibility: Using AI to Empower Creators and Users (Virtual B)

Jeff Singleton, Converge Accessibility LLC

AI is reshaping digital accessibility. This session demonstrates practical tools and strategies that empower both creators and users. Discover how AI can enhance accessible content creation and unlock digital materials for people with disabilities.
Penrose 2

How Higher Ed Is Responding to the New Accessibility Regulations (The 4k Project 2025 Update) (Virtual C)

Mark Pope, Pope Tech

Since 2019, the Pope Tech 4k Project has tracked web accessibility progress across nearly 4,000 U.S. higher education institutions using automated WAVE testing. This session presents the 2025 update, offering insights into accessibility trends ahead of the 2026 federal regulation enforcement deadline.
Mattie Silks

Update to the Mobile Accessibility Testing Guidelines
(Virtual D)
Gian Wild, AccessibilityOz

The ICT Mobile Testing Guidelines for Mobile Sites and Native Apps were developed in 2018 and 2019 by volunteers from the ICT Accessibility Testing community. These guidelines and related documentation are now hosted on the web by AccessibilityOz.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Turning Policy Into Practice: A Library's Journey Toward Digital Accessibility
Binky Lush, Penn State University Libraries

Learn how Penn State University Libraries is implementing our digital accessibility plan to meet WCAG 2.1 AA compliance. This session highlights key progress powered by strong administrative support and cross-departmental collaboration.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Municipal Accessibility in Action: Building a Citywide Accessibility Culture from the Ground Up
Jeff Fryer, Manitou Springs

This session shares practical, replicable strategies from Manitou Springs' ADA and digital accessibility work, including document remediation, training staff, working with vendors, and building a transition plan that meets HB21-1110 and WCAG 2.2.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

From Lecture to Learning: How AI Brings Instant Accessibility to the Classroom
Matthew Yip, Benetech

Bookshare+ aims to close the gap in faculty-created accessible materials. Benetech is developing an AI-powered platform that instantly remediates instructional content into accessible formats. Students can upload a file or take a photo and immediately read it with text-to-speech, dyslexic-friendly settings, or on-the-fly image descriptions.
Colorado Ballroom F

Friday, November 21

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

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Complete session details can be found at accessinghigherground.org

Friday, November 21

Breakout Sessions, 9–10 am

Creating Effective Alternate Format of Powerpoints for Blind/LV Students

Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

Creating accessible materials from inaccessible Power Point slides needs to be handled differently for students using a screen reader, than for students using text-to-speech software. I will present all of the processes you need to follow to give your student effective, usable format for these types of materials.

Denver Ballroom 1-3

Inclusio: A Progress Report With Demos of Important Features

John Gardner, ViewPlus

The Inclusio consortium marketplace already has a large inventory of accessible graphics, links to services for creating or transforming graphics, and much more. The presenter will illustrate by creating a (braille) tactile version and versions viewable with Inclusio audio-tactile and audio-haptic viewers, all from one file.

Denver Ballroom 4-6

Web Accessibility Legal Update 2025 (Virtual A)
Ken Nakata, Converge Accessibility

(Repeated session from Wednesday) This session provides a legal update on digital accessibility, reviewing how laws apply to digital content, highlighting recent court decisions and emerging federal and state legislation. Designed for legal, IT, and policy leaders looking to stay current in a rapidly-changing legal environment.

Penrose 1

Accessibility, AI and Free Tools, Oh My! Making Service-Now Ecosystems Equitable for All (Virtual B)
Alaina Beaver, ServiceNow
Erica Illingworth, ServiceNow

From help desks to campus apps, ServiceNow powers higher ed. Join us for a fun, lively tour through AI-driven features, workflow tips, and free tools (showcasing our neurodiversity Chromium extension!) that support digital equity.

Penrose 2

Using an AI Agent to Facilitate Student Data Literacy and Exploratory Data-Based Investigations for All (Virtual C)
Geoff Freed, onfocusAccess Consulting
Daniel Damelin, The Concord Consortium

The Concord Consortium, in collaboration with Perkins School for the Blind, is developing an AI-powered agent called DAVAI (Data Analysis through Voice and Artificial Intelligence). DAVAI interprets verbal and typed commands from blind/low-vision users.
Mattie Silks

Seeding Accessibility Leadership in the MENA Region: Building Curriculum, Culture, and Capacity (Virtual D)
Zainab AlMeraj, Kuwait University

This session shares the experience of designing and delivering a master's-level course in Kuwait focused on web accessibility, usability, and ethics.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Finding a Path to Belonging with Accessible Maps
Abigail Bradshaw, Westmont College
Julianna Goldring, Concept3D

Learn how Westmont College, a small liberal arts college located in Santa Barbara, California, utilizes Concept3D to make their campus map accessible. In this session, presenters cover why accessible maps matter to your entire community and how to begin accessible mapmaking on your campus.
Independence

Exploring the Accessibility of Complex Graphics in Documents
Elizabeth Franklin, Allyant

This session offers insights into best practices, considerations, and strategies for authors and document remediators to consider when creating or remediating complex graphics, including color contrast, color use, and cognitive load.
Colorado Ballroom G-H

Friday, November 21

The Equalize Editor – A Web Application for Braille Math Document Translation

Sam Dooley, Lake Pines Braille

This presentation demonstrates the Equalize Editor generating braille translations of PDF and image documents, using available third-party math OCR tools, remediated using editing features of the Equalize Editor, leading to an efficient braille translation workflow.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

From Silo to Standard: Making Accessibility Foundational in Higher Ed

Angela Young, Navy Federal Credit Union
Mi Ong Vang, Navy Federal Credit Union

Accessibility shouldn't be limited to disability studies. This session explores how to embed accessibility as a standard, not a siloed topic, across higher ed programs in tech, business, writing, and beyond.
Colorado Ballroom F

Breakout Sessions, 10:15–11:15 am

Creating Effective Alternate Format of Powerpoints for Blind/LV Students (Continued)

Susan Kelmer, University of Colorado Boulder

Creating accessible materials from inaccessible Power Point slides needs to be handled differently for students using a screen reader, than for students using text-to-speech software. I will present all of the processes you need to follow to give your student effective, usable format for these types of materials.
Denver Ballroom 1-3

Math Accessibility in Kurzweil 3000

Corey Navis, Kurzweil Education, Inc.

For years, Kurzweil users have asked for better support in reading and highlighting math equations. After seven years of research, we're thrilled to unveil a breakthrough. Kurzweil has been able to develop a solution to this issue by leveraging several open-source libraries that combine into a powerful solution that meets our Math OCR needs.
Matchless

From Process to Practice: Evolving Course Reviews and Strengthening Faculty Ownership of Accessibility (Virtual A)

RaLynn McGuire, University of Texas at San Antonio
Vanessa Garza, University of Texas at San Antonio

Discover how one university is building a culture of accessibility through collaborative course reviews and faculty partnership. This session highlights an evolving, relationship-driven approach that integrates accessibility into course development and fosters sustained progress through trust, shared responsibility, and future recognition efforts.

Penrose 1

Six Tints, Five Speeds — New Ways of Thinking About Color Palette Design and Typography for Design Systems (Virtual B)

Jeff Witt, YRA Tech

Color choices, contrast levels, font and typeface choices, and text sizing all affect usability, and particularly affect readability. I present an algorithmic approach which applies additional structure and constraints to a Design System in order to guide designers toward stronger, more cohesive designs by default.

Penrose 2

Breaking Barriers in Learning -The Role of Human-sounding Text-to-Speech (Virtual C)

Daniel Goerz, Habitat Learn Inc.

Human-sounding text-to-speech (HTTS) can reduce learning barriers in Higher Ed, (ex. reading fatigue, auditory processing issues, and voice bias). Used ethically, HTTS supports personalized, private, and more accessible education experiences.

Mattie Silks

Kindred Spirits: Collaborating Across Multiple Universities to Enhance Digital Accessibility (Virtual D)

Jim Stachowiak, Northwestern University
Emily Baker, University of Chicago

This presentation will address how Northwestern and the University of Chicago share successful strategies for improving digital

accessibility, how the partnership has made both more agile in addressing digital accessibility, and each will share data on their accessibility journeys, while laying out a roadmap to successful collaboration for others.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Evaluating Accessibility when Time is Scarce
Rob Carr, WebAIM

Testing a website to find out if it is accessible can be lots of things: daunting, complex, time-consuming, etc. Let's talk about some strategies and tools that you can use to add value to the accessibility conversation without artificially stopping it.
Colorado Ballroom I-J

From Commitment to Continuity: Advancing a Holistic Digital Accessibility Plan in Higher Education to Meet Title II Compliance
Binky Lush, Penn State University Libraries
Philip Voorhees, Penn State University

Learn how one university is advancing a campus-wide digital accessibility plan to meet ADA Title II guidelines. This session shares lessons learned, progress made, and strategies for building sustainable, inclusive digital environments through collaboration, governance, and alignment of policy and practice.
Colorado Ballroom F

Breakout Sessions, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Approaches to Making Real-Time Collaboration Accessible to All
Philip Strain, Miro

In this session we'll outline Miro's approach to accessibility along with demos of some of the innovations we've made along the way. We'll then follow up with some tips to create Miro boards that are usable for everyone.
Matchless

WCAG, ACR, and VPAT Oh My! Unlocking the ABC's of Procuring Accessible Products (Virtual A)
Becky Gibson, UKG

Confidently enter the accessibility forest and learn the basics of digital inclusion, and how it affects your employees. We will untangle the acronyms and give you the confidence and knowledge to procure the most accessible products and services to support all your employees.
Penrose 1

Thriving Together: Building and Sustaining an Accessibility Champions Program Across Your Organization (Virtual B)
Kristine Faxon, City of Boulder

Learn how to create and sustain an Accessibility Champions Program that builds shared ownership of accessibility. Using the City of Boulder's model, this session offers practical strategies for recruiting, supporting, and energizing champions across departments, with tools you can adapt for higher ed or other sectors.
Penrose 2

From Insight to Impact: Emerging Trends and Tools Transforming Higher Education (Virtual C)
Rachel Kruzel, Everway

This session will focus on artificial intelligence, data and analytics, digital accessibility, and other topics to deepen participant understanding and leadership while weaving in applications of these topics with tools from Everway supporting core academic functional areas.
Mattie Silks

Empowering Students, Transforming Systems: A Student-Led Model for Digital Accessibility in Higher Education (Virtual D)
Carey Applegate, University of Illinois Springfield

This session presents a student-led model for advancing digital accessibility in higher education. Grounded in disability justice and universal design, the Digital Accessibility Remediation Team (DART) reframes accessibility as a proactive, civil rights issue.
Virtual Only; Access Via Laptop

Friday, November 21

Feeling a Thousand Words – Creating Tactile Graphics with Screen Readers

Rachel Ramos, Blindness Product Specialist, HumanWare

This presentation seeks to empower anyone interested in tactile graphics design through a simple yet intuitive program for those who are sighted, or those using screen readers like NVDA or JAWS. **Colorado Ballroom G-H**

Located in Colorado Ballroom A-E

Ability2Access	24	IAAP	15
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		LVI America	6
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Main Entrance
(Colorado BR E)

Sponsors

Anthology (Platinum Keynote Sponsor)
Table #4

Anthology delivers EdTech solutions that empower students to reach their full potential and learning institutions to thrive. Millions of students around the world are supported via Anthology's ecosystem of flagship SaaS solutions and supporting services, including the award-winning Blackboard® (LMS), Anthology® Student (SIS/ERP), and Anthology® Reach (CRM). www.anthology.com

Adobe (Computer Lab Sponsor)

Adobe gives you everything you need to design and deliver exceptional digital experiences. We're passionate about empowering everyone to create beautiful and powerful content, images, videos, and apps across every screen. Adobe.com

Pope Tech (Computer Lab Sponsor)
Table #5

Pope Tech provides higher education institutions with website accessibility scanning and reporting & Canvas Course accessibility tools. All Pope Tech accessibility products are powered by WAVE. We help simplify your accessibility efforts across your portfolio of websites and courses. https://pope.tech

Everway (Gold/Water Bottle Sponsor)
Table #28

At Everway, we create technology that empowers everyone to learn in ways that work best for them. Our solutions support diverse needs, enhance accessibility, and drive informed decisions, helping over 250 million people worldwide. By valuing differences, we're building a more inclusive world and unlocking the full potential of every mind. www.everway.com

Genio (Lanyard Sponsor)
Table #26

Genio (formerly Glean) creates the #1 recommended note taking accommodation. Since 2007, we've supported 150,000+ learners at 1,700+ institutions with award-winning accessible study tools rooted in learning science and UDL. We aim to equip students with skills and confidence to overcome barriers, study independently, and achieve academic success. https://genio.co

Continual Engine US LLC (Gold Sponsor)
Table #23

Continual Engine is an award-winning artificial intelligence technology company dedicated to building smarter, affordable, and scalable solutions for digital accessibility. Our award-winning solutions include PREP (PDF and Document Remediation Platform), Invicta (alt text), ContinuAlly (Websites), and VideoAlly (videos) which leverage AI and human expertise to help educational institutions, healthcare, finance, municipalities, and others, scale their digital accessibility needs and make their digital content ADA compliant and accessible. www.continualengine.com

Harmonize Learning (Gold Sponsor)
Table #21

The 90's called, they want their collaboration tools back! Providing a very robust & accessible suite of collaboration tools for instructors and students within the LMS that leverages AI to auto caption, transcript and audio describe all videos, provide alt text for images and enforce color contrast to ensure compliance with the new Title 2 regulations coming in April of 2026. https://harmonizelearning.com

ReadSpeaker (Gold Sponsor)
Table #14

With over 25 years of expertise, our text-to-speech solutions & voice-enhanced learning tools help make academic content accessible & engaging for a diverse population of learners. Integrated directly in learning platforms, or as an individual tool, ReadSpeaker provides easy-to-access & easy-to-use text to speech for any content, any device, including assessments, assignments & quizzes. www.readspeaker.com/sectors/education

WebAIM (Gold Sponsor)
Table #31

Since 1999, as a non-profit entity located at Utah State University, WebAIM (Web Accessibility In Mind) has provided comprehensive web accessibility solutions. We empower individuals and organizations to create and deliver accessible content by providing knowledge, technical skills, tools, organizational leadership strategies, and vision. https://webaim.org

Sponsors

Deque Systems (Silver Sponsor)
Table #16
Founded on a mission of Digital Equality, Deque provides tools, services and training to help organizations of all sizes practice digital accessibility. Organizations that work with Deque expand their market share, improve usability, and mitigate risk by optimizing digital experiences for everyone, including people with disabilities. www.deque.com

Jamworks (Silver Sponsor)
Tables #17 & 18
Jamworks is an AI-powered education platform transforming how students learn across hundreds of institutions worldwide. Trusted by hundreds of thousands of users, it captures, transcribes, and summarizes lectures in real time. With smart highlights, accessibility tools, and organized study resources, Jamworks empowers learners to study efficiently, retain knowledge, and achieve better results. https://jamworks.com

Apex CoVantage (Bronze Sponsor)
Table #25
Apex CoVantage helps universities and organizations streamline content workflows, enhance accuracy, and deliver accessible and inclusive experiences. Using Hybrid Intelligence (Human + AI), we provide customized, cost effective solutions that ensure productivity, meet accessibility compliance, and maintain exceptional quality, helping teams transform content and data for all audiences. www.apexcovantage.com

Symbiosis (Bronze Sponsor)
Table #29
ContentA11Y is the trusted, affordable partner for digital accessibility remediation. We ensure documents, multimedia, websites, and learning platforms comply with global accessibility standards (WCAG, ADA, Section 508) while remaining genuinely usable by people of all abilities—without breaking your budget. https://contenta11y.com

Ability2Access LLC
Table #24

Ability2Access is a provider of the highest quality low vision and blindness products, software and trainings. A2A is the master distributor in the USA of the Tactonom Reader, Tactonom Flex and Tactonom Transformer which enable blind and severely visually impaired people to independently access, understand and work with graphic learning content. www.ability2access.com

Allyant
Table #19

Allyant is the market's leading accessibility solution provider, supporting accessible digital, PDF, and print communications—including braille, tactile, and reflowed large print. Cutting-edge software and expert services ensure organizations can achieve ADA, Section 508, AODE, EAA, and other legal compliance obligations. https://allyant.com

American Printing House for the Blind
Table #9

The American Printing House for the Blind elevates the achievements of students and people who are blind or low vision by providing specialized products and services. We develop innovative solutions that create a gateway to lifelong successful employment, productivity, and independence, ensuring access to opportunities in a competitive digital world. www.aph.org

Aspiritech
Table #12

Aspiritech is an on-shore nonprofit tech organization specializing in digital accessibility. Our fully autistic team of analysts delivers WCAG 2.2/Section 508 audits, screen-reader testing, remediation guidance, validation, and training. We integrate with product teams to improve usability, compliance, and release confidence while providing manual and regression testing for web and mobile. https://aspiritech.org

Exhibitors

Cidi Labs, LLC (Gold Sponsor)
Table #10

Cidi Labs creates affordable, easy-to-use Canvas plug-ins that boost productivity, creativity, and accessibility in course design. Our tools—DesignPLUS, TidyUP, UDOIT, and ReadyGO—help educators scale best practices and improve learning experiences. Founded in 2016, Cidi Labs now supports 500+ institutions worldwide, from K-12 to higher education. www.cidilabs.com

Described and Captioned Media Program (DCMP)
Table #11

The Described and Captioned Media Program is the nation's leading source of accessible educational videos. Families and school personnel with at least one early learner—Grade 12 student with a disability can register for free access to thousands of videos. DCMP also provides media accessibility information, guidelines for captioning and describing media, and eLearning resources for professional development. dcmp.org

Habitat Learn
Table #3

Habitat Learn is a global EdTech company supporting students at over 350 institutions across the USA, Canada and UK. Its flagship app, Messenger Pigeon, helps students capture, organize, and engage with content through tools like transcription, bookmarks, and quizzes. Designed to make learning more inclusive and accessible, Habitat Learn combines innovative solutions with collaboration alongside educators and government agencies to address challenges like AI bias and better support all students. www.habitatlearn.com

HumanWare
Table #13

Since 1988, HumanWare has developed technologies such as video magnifiers, braille devices, audio assistants, and GPS systems, aiding students, seniors, and professionals with visual impairments in realizing their potential and achieving greater autonomy. We are also co-developers with APH of the Monarch braille tablet. www.humanware.com/en-usa

International Association of Accessibility Professionals (IAAP)
Table #15

Advancing organizations and professionals in the accessibility of products, services, and environments. IAAP is an association of organizations and professionals that have joined to define, promote, and improve accessibility for the 1.3 billion people with disabilities market worldwide. www.accessibilityassociation.org

Kurzweil Education
Table #20

Kurzweil Educational Systems helps struggling students to Read, Comprehend, and Demonstrate knowledge of age-appropriate content alongside their peers anytime, anywhere. We do this with both web-based and computer installed tools that can Read any digital text aloud to students; assist them to gain meaning (Comprehend) from the content with dictionary definitions, translations and study guides; and ultimately allow them to express (Demonstrate) what they've learned by completing worksheets, tests, and written assignments with the ability to circle answers, fill-in-the-blanks, or a writing path from brainstorming ideas through publication. www.kurzweiledu.com

LVI America
Table #6

With the mission to make every day easier for people with visual impairments, LVI develops, produces and sells visual aids with high standards for reliability, simplicity and serviceability. Our innovative video magnification products are sold under the registered trademark MagniLink. https://lviamerica.com

Nelnet Digital Accessibility Services
Table #2

Nelnet Digital Accessibility Services helps you create inclusive, compliant, and user-friendly digital experiences. Our experts provide guidance, training, and design solutions that go beyond checkboxes—making accessibility efficient, scalable, and sustainable. With industry-leading tools and real-world expertise, we integrate accessibility into your digital ecosystem at any stage of your journey. www.nelnetinc.com/accessibility

Exhibitors

Orchestrate AMS
Table #30

Orchestrate AMS revolutionizes accessibility accommodations for colleges, increasing efficiency, reducing costs, and ensuring compliance. Our platform automates workflows, seamlessly integrates with campus systems, and streamlines processes. Built with security and flexibility in mind, our platform is designed to scale with your growing needs. Orchestrate AMS empowers institutions to deliver exceptional disability support services. www.orchestrateams.com

Sensus ApS
Table #7

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. www.sensusaccess.com

Silktide
Table #22

Silktide is a software company that helps organizations improve their websites. Our platform automatically tests for accessibility, SEO, content quality, and more, making it easy to find and fix issues. www.silktide.com

Symplicity
Table #1

Symplicity Accommodate helps institutions streamline workflows to quickly deliver accommodations and ensure student success and compliance with university policies and governmental regulations. Modernize the process with a fully ADA-compliant interface that allows students to seamlessly submit requests, connect with note-takers/transcribers, check out assistive devices electronically, and more. https://hubs.ly/Q03NmRsL0

YRA Tech
Table #8

YRA Tech makes affordable and innovative tools for auditing, monitoring, and remediation -- for users as well as specialists. yratech.com

YuJa
Table #27

YuJa provides two unique products called Panorama and Equal Ground. Both Panorama and Equal Ground bring market-leading Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning capabilities into the digital accessibility process to automatically improve accessibility of digital media, course content and website content. www.yuja.com

Notes

Meeting Space

Lower Level 1

- Platte Room
- Stairs
- Restaurant
- Bar
- ADA
- Matchless
- Escalator/Stair
- Escalator
- Storage
- Storage
- Gold Coin
- Independence
- Penrose Ballroom 2
- Penrose Ballroom 1
- Mattie Silks
- Business Center/ UPS Store
- Homestead
- Silverton
- Saratoga

Lower Level 2

- J
- A
- Freight Elevator
- Colorado Ballroom
- B
- ADA
- I
- Escalator/Stair
- 5
- 6
- H
- C
- 4
- Denver Ballroom
- F
- E
- Pre-Function
- 3
- G
- D
- 2
- 1
- Event Services
- Registration
- Emergency Exit
- Emergency Exit

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