

DICAPTA'S NEWSLETTER

Monthly Accessibility News - December 2022



CURRENT EVENTS, COLLABORATIONS, AND MORE BELOW



CHECK OUT OUR NEW WEBSITE!

Dicapta is overjoyed to announce the launch of our brand-new website. **Made with accessibility in mind, this new site will help us in our mission to promote accessible media for everyone.** The creation of the site was made possible thanks to the continued efforts of a lot of people, so make sure to check it out by clicking the following [link](#)



FEATURED NEWS

New Legislation in the Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility Act (CVTA)

An update to the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA) has been introduced to congress. We are pleased with the new possibilities that this law would bring.

Most of all, **we are thrilled knowing that all the Spanish language broadcast networks**, Cable and Satellite providers, and all providers distributing Spanish language content and using Internet protocol **must comply with the accessibility regulations, especially audio description.**

If the Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility Act (CVTA) is approved as proposed, channels such as Telemundo, Univision, Unimas, TUDN, Discovery en Español, or CNN en español to name a few, will have to provide audio descriptions for their audience. This would be a massive win for the Hispanic community with sensory disabilities, whose options for audio-described content are limited. CVAA's implementation is based on Nielsen's national viewership shares without considering viewing by demographics and regions. **Because of that, CVAA's mandate does not impact the Spanish language networks that are among the top 5 most viewed networks in the country's largest Designated Market Areas -DMAs.**

In addition to the benefit for Hispanic audiences with disabilities, the bill addresses most of the big challenges faced by audiences with disabilities, improving closed captioning and audio description for television programming and online video streaming platforms.

Once the CVTA bill passes, the new legislation will incorporate, among others, the following:

- Improved access for the Deaf, Deafblind, and Hard of Hearing thanks to the use of sign language;
- The use of an audible tone to make audiences aware of the availability of audio description;
- Updates in the current requirements to ensure viewers can easily activate and select preferred settings for closed captions and audio descriptions on their video programming devices, such as televisions, smartphones, laptops, and tablets;
- Dispositions to ensure accessibility regulations keep pace with emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence and augmented or virtual reality platforms;
- Dispositions about access to emergency services for deafblind audiences

Check the full text of the bill [here](#).



COLLABORATION

1 Year of Cine con Sentido!

December 3 marks one year since the first screening of Cine con Sentido. This initiative sprang from an alliance between the General Consulate of Mexico in Los Angeles, Canal 22 International, and Dicapta. Through it, projections of accessible content in Spanish are offered to the public. **Screening attendees who need to access captions or audio description do so by using All4Access technology on their mobile devices.**

In one year, Cine con Sentido has screened 12 hours of content. Most of them are original productions from Canal 22 International, with a wide and varied offer presented at the Centro Cultural y Cinematográfico México (CCCM) in Los Angeles, California.

The acceptance of Cine con Sentido was so widespread that, starting in July, the exhibitions were extended to other venues, such as the **Museum of Latin American Art (MOLAA), where they continue to impress audiences.**

This joint effort demonstrates how through collaboration, our organizations can multiply the impact in benefiting Latinos with sensory disabilities.



OUR MENTOR'S CORNER

Continuing with our series of interviews with Dicapta's amazing advisory committee, this time we talked to Carlos Martínez.

Carlos has worked for more than 20 years as a mentor parent for the Blind Children's Center in Los Angeles, California. He is the parent of a blind child.

We spoke with Carlos about his incredible journey throughout the years, and how he used his own life experience to become a guiding figure for others in his same position.

Here is an excerpt from the interview: "We didn't have that concept of how important it is for our children to be able to understand what they see and how to make it easy for them. It was a lesson for us, and we were able to understand the condition of our children a little more."

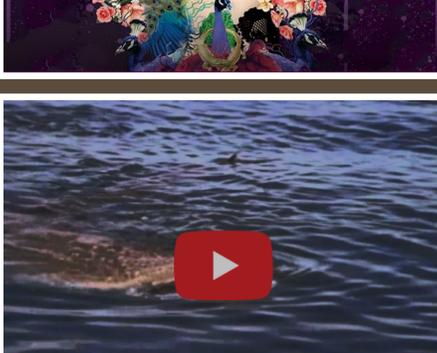
You can read the [full interview here](#).

CURRENT EVENTS

December 3
International Day of Persons with Disabilities
1 year of Cine con Sentido!

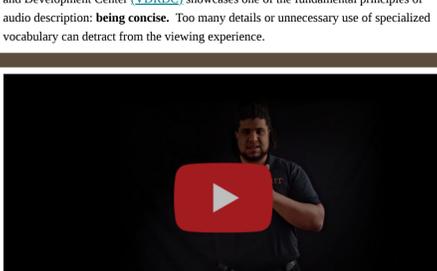
December 9
Cine Con Sentido presents "María Felix, María Bonita, María del Alma"
Spanish CC and AD are available using All4Access.
At 6:00 p.m. PT, [Museum of Latin American Art](#)

Cine Con Sentido presents "María Felix, María Bonita, María del Alma"
Spanish CC and AD are available using All4Access.
At 5:30 p.m. PT, [Los Angeles Mexican Consulate](#)



DESCRIPTION TUTORIAL: BE CONCISE

This video produced by Dicapta for The Smith-Kettlewell Video Description Research and Development Center (VDRDC) showcases one of the fundamental principles of audio description: **being concise**. Too many details or unnecessary use of specialized vocabulary can detract from the viewing experience.



BREAK THE ICE

This is a series of ASL words or phrases to help anybody establish a connection with a deaf person who uses ASL. These clips aren't an ASL course; they are just conversation starters. **This time we present the sign for "How are you?"** Hopefully, after you learn the signs in our series, you may be encouraged to delve deeper into ASL.



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