

# DICAPTA'S NEWSLETTER

Monthly Accessibility News - July 2022



CURRENT EVENTS, COLLABORATIONS, AND MORE BELOW



## The Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) turns 32!

On July 26, the Americans with Disabilities Act, or ADA, will celebrate its 32nd anniversary. This historical law prohibiting discrimination based on disability led to major improvements in terms of access to public services, accessibility in public and private spaces, and social understanding of disability itself.

It may seem difficult to remember, but there was a time, not so long ago, when employees were not required to provide reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities. It is important to remember the ground that has been gained in terms of accessibility and the work that still needs to be done.



## FEATURED PROJECT

Dicapta joins POV to provide accessibility for their 35th season

Dicapta celebrates joining POV to provide the audio description for the fourteen films of its 35th season. This is the second time Dicapta has worked with POV to bring accessibility to a season, thanks to the funding of the U.S. Department of Education.

Produced by American Documentary, POV is the longest-running independent documentary showcase on American television. The award-winning anthology series will premiere fourteen features with themes that include environmental justice, systemic inequity, global perspectives on motherhood, and caregiving during multiple crises.

Some of this season's films are related to the topic of disability. These include: I Didn't See You There, a movie shot by a filmmaker with disabilities that explores his life and his relationship with his disability, and He's My Brother, a film about the caretaker of a man that suffers from multiple disabilities, and can only experience the world through taste, smell and touch.

The season also tackles recent topics such as the coronavirus pandemic. One of the films, Wuhan Wuhan, to be released on July 9, documents the time between February and March 2020 in Wuhan when the coronavirus was first discovered.

In addition to the audio description, Dicapta will be providing POV with accessibility guidelines for their lesson plans and other informational material.

"For Dicapta, it is a pleasure to work with such a dedicated, organized, and responsible team that is determined to create accessible and high-quality content," said María Victoria Díaz, CEO and President of Dicapta.

Audio description and captions for the documentaries in POV's 35th season will be available in the All4Access app.

## CURRENT EVENTS

July 1

Cine Con Sentido presents "Sor Juana Inés de la Cruz, la peor de todas" Spanish CC and AD, and ASL are available using All4Access. At 5:30 p.m. PT, [Los Angeles Mexican Consulate](#).

July 26

32nd Anniversary of the Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA).

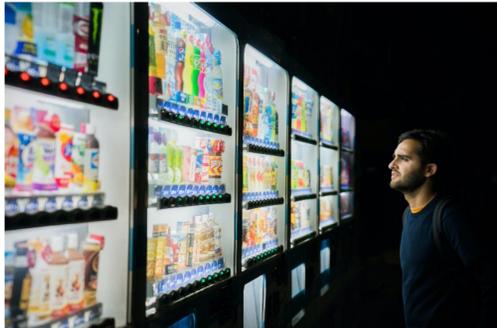
July 29

Watch Party Para Ti - In Spanish with open AD. 7 p.m. EST. Visit [Latinos4Access](#) for more information.



## LET'S DESCRIBE: EVEN IF YOU DON'T LIKE IT

Our "Let's Describe" workshop gives tips on describing visual content. It was created as a response to a stated need of teachers of blind children who wanted to make sure their school activities were accessible. In this video, we want to showcase one of the fundamental principles of audio description: describe what you see, even if you don't like it. Even if the scene portrayed is violent, disgusting, or uncomfortable, the audio describer must provide an accurate description of the events, so the audience receives the information necessary to comprehend the visual content.



## COLLABORATIONS

Dicapta and Johns Hopkins made foreign films accessible to a blind student

Johns Hopkins University and Dicapta collaborated successfully this semester on providing a blind student with access to several foreign films that were part of her academic curriculum. Besides providing audio description, the challenge was how to give the student access to the captions of the films.

Thanks to technology, Dicapta provided the student with a spectrum of options. She could use her braille display or voice-over to follow the captions. She had the option of using voice-over either on her computer or her mobile device. There was also the possibility of delivering the audio of the movie and the audio description mixed or on separate channels.

Which one is the best delivery method? It is a matter of preference. Some people may feel more comfortable reading the captions in braille while listening to the original audio of the movie together with the audio description. Others may prefer listening to the voice-over instead of reading it in braille.

What is important, besides providing accessibility, is to provide options. Do you prefer vanilla or chocolate? They are both delicious! It is up to the individual to choose what they like best.



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