

**NOVEMBER 2020**

## **JOEL SNYDER, Ph. D.**

**President, Audio Description Associates, LLC [www.audiodescribe.com](http://www.audiodescribe.com)  
Director, Audio Description Project, American Council of the Blind [www.acb.org/adp](http://www.acb.org/adp)**

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**W - Audio Description Associates, LLC, Takoma Park, MD 20912 301 920-0218**

**- Professional Theater and Media Artist -**

**- Arts Administrator (National Endowment for the Arts) -**

**- Pioneer in the Field of Audio Description / Activist—Arts and Disability -**

### **JOEL SNYDER, PhD**

**BIO** - A member of Actors' Equity Association, the American Federation of TV and Radio Artists, and the Screen Actors Guild, and a 20-year veteran of work as an arts specialist for the National Endowment for the Arts, Joel Snyder is best known internationally as one of the first "audio describers" (c. 1981) working with theater events and media at the world's first ongoing audio description service. Beginning in the early 1970s, he recorded "talking books" for the Library of Congress and read privately for individuals who are blind – but his abilities as a describer have made hundreds of live theater productions accessible to audience members who are blind; in media, Dr. Snyder has used the same technique to enhance PBS' American Playhouse productions, *Sesame Street*, a wide range of network broadcasts, feature films, educational videos, the IMAX film *Blue Planet* and the Planetarium show *And A Star To Steer Her By* at the Smithsonian Institution's National Air and Space Museum.

Under contract to the American Council of the Blind (ACB), Dr. Snyder is the founder and director of ACB's Audio Description Project (ADP) designed to boost awareness of description in all formats throughout the United States. The ADP produced description for ABC-TV's nationwide coverage of both of President Obama's inaugurations and President Trump's inauguration. Dr. Snyder's company also provided live audio description for events on the mall and throughout the city for President Obama's 2008 inaugural festivities—national prayer breakfast, Lincoln Memorial, parade route. He also authored and produced the first-ever audio described tour of The White House (suspended during the Trump years). The Audio Description Project also produced description for the 30th anniversary DVD release of *The Miracle Worker* featuring Patty Duke as "Annie Sullivan" and the description for the Arts & Entertainment Network's biography, *Barack Obama*. The ADP sponsors the

annual Audio Description Awards, coordinates international conferences on audio description, conducts the annual Audio Description Institute, offers the “BADIE” (Benefits of Audio Description In Education—formerly the Young Described Film Critic) contest for students who are blind (the “Listening Is Learning” initiative, sponsored in conjunction with the Described and Captioned Media Program), produced the August 2017 international broadcast of live audio description of the total solar eclipse, and maintains the ADP website, the leading resource for information on audio description in all genres: [www.acb.org/adp](http://www.acb.org/adp).

As Director of Described Media for the National Captioning Institute, a program founded by Dr. Snyder, he led a staff that produced description for nationally broadcast films and network series including *Sesame Street* broadcasts and DVDs. He was a member of the American Foundation of the Blind's "expert panel" charged with reviewing guidelines for educational multi-media description and has been a member of several media access panels at the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) as well as the Disability Access Committee of the International Telecommunications Union and the Description Leadership Network of the Video Description Research and Development Center.

In addition to work principally in media and audio description training, Dr. Snyder's Audio Description Associates, LLC develops audio described tours for major museums and visitor centers throughout the United States including the writing/voicing of an audio described tour of the Enabling Garden at the Chicago Botanic Garden, the National Aquarium in Baltimore, the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC, the J. Paul Getty Museum in Los Angeles, the Albright/Knox Gallery in Buffalo, the Salvador Dali Museum in St. Petersburg, FL, several Smithsonian Institution exhibits including the National Museum of American History's “The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem”, and myriad National Park Service and US Forest Service facilities including Yellowstone National Park and the Grand Canyon. Dr. Snyder trained museum docents in audio description techniques at the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and Sackler/Freer Galleries, and the International Spy Museum in Washington, DC, the Seattle Art Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design and the National Museum of the American Indian in New York City. He also coached Secret Service agents/White House tour guides in AD methods and, as noted above, he is the producer and author of the first-ever audio described tour of The White House. Dr. Snyder worked closely with the Disability Rights Committee of the Obama for America campaign in 2008, serving as a surrogate speaker on disability issues for the Obama campaign, and coordinated live audio description for the Presidential Inauguration Parades in 2009 and 2013.

Internationally, Dr. Snyder has trained describers or introduced description techniques 44 states and in 62 nations. In 2019, Dr. Snyder was named a Fulbright Scholar and used the award to spend the month of December training describers in Athens, Greece and conducting workshops in Malta and Ukraine. Most recently he has also trained describers in Cuba, Taiwan, Korea, India, Nepal, Cyprus, Turkey and Israel; he conducted audio description "master classes" in London, Prague, and St. Petersburg, Russia; and developed a team of describers for the Second Annual Moscow International Disability Film Festival as the result of intensive seminars conducted in Russia. He led described tours of Geneva and provided description for the World Blind Union General Assembly in Switzerland following

the presentation of a paper on description at the International Federation of Translation conference in Shanghai, China.

Dr. Snyder is the recipient of the American Council of the Blind/Audio Description Project's highest award, the Barry Levine Memorial Career Achievement in Audio Description; he also was named the 2014 recipient of the ACB Vernon Henley Media Award "for promoting and furthering the availability of audio description;" and in April 2015 was awarded the American Foundation for the Blind's prestigious Access Award.

Dr. Snyder received his Ph.D in accessibility and audio description from the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Barcelona, Spain. His book, *The Visual Made Verbal: A Comprehensive Training Manual and Guide to the History and Applications of Audio Description*, is published by the American Council of the Blind and is now available as an audio book from the Library of Congress Division of the Blind and Physically Handicapped and in a separate version voiced by Dr. Snyder, in screen reader accessible formats, and in English, Polish, Russian and Portuguese. Spanish, Greek and Chinese editions will be released in 2021.

## **C.V. / PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

### **1995 to date - President, Audio Description Associates, LLC (Takoma Park, MD)**

Leading trainer/provider of Audio Description internationally – AD is a narrative access technique allowing people who are blind or have low vision to participate more fully in the arts. One of the nation's first audio describers, have provided live and pre-recorded narration of theatrical performances and museum/video/film programs for people who are blind or have low vision (PBS—"American Playhouse", FOX—"That 70s Show", IMAX films—"Blue Planet", Smithsonian Institution, Getty Museum, Albright-Knox Gallery, TX and IN State Museums, Baltimore Aquarium, Arena Stage, National Theater, Kennedy Center, Ford's Theater) – see [www.audiodescribe.com](http://www.audiodescribe.com) – for more information

Major client: VITAC/Microsoft --Producer of audio description accessibility elements for all Microsoft video presentations

Major client: American Council of the Blind (ACB), Director, ACB Audio Description Project – [www.acb.org/adp](http://www.acb.org/adp) —Founded and leads a major international promotion and production initiative designed to boost awareness for audio description and build ACB's production capacity for description in broadcast media. Among the objectives for the Project: the establishment of national standards for description; a certification program for describers; efforts to demonstrate the link between description and literacy in addition to other youth-based projects. Productions have included description for:

- the ABC-TV and ACB Radio broadcasts of the 2009 and 2013 inaugurations of President Obama and the 2017 inauguration of President Trump
- the Arts & Entertainment Network's documentary "Barack Obama," and
- the 30th anniversary DVD of *The Miracle Worker* featuring Patty Duke as "Annie Sullivan"

## **2002 to 2007 – Director, Described Media, National Captioning Institute (Vienna, VA)**

Responsible for the production (writing, editing, voicing, studio recording, and broadcast) of nationally broadcast description for network (ABC, FOX, PBS, MTV, OVATION) adult and children's television programming; productions described include ABC Saturday Night Movies, "Sesame Street," "Liberty's Kids", and "Fairly Odd Parents." Supervise a full-time staff of four and part-time freelancer writers and voicers.

## **1982/2002 - National Endowment for the Arts, Education & Access (Wash., DC)**

**Presenting Specialist (1996 to date); Acting Director (1986/87, 1989/90, 1993); Assistant Director (1989/96); Program Administrator (1986/89); Senior Program Specialist for Presenting Organizations (1982/86)**

- Initiate and develop programmatic and funding policy at the national level relevant to multi/interdisciplinary arts activities involving **presenting organizations, interdisciplinary/collaborative arts projects, artists' colonies and arts service organizations**
- Represent the Arts Endowment (conduct workshops, seminars, deliver addresses, and provide technical assistance) on multi/interdisciplinary arts issues at national, regional, and state-wide assemblies (Have personally conducted management evaluations/provided on-site technical assistance for over 50 arts producing, presenting, or service organizations in over 30 cities throughout the United States)
- Oversee application review for over 500 professional arts organizations and monitor grantee performance for over 300 grantees and \$4.5 million in grant awards annually (including grants to the nation's major arts centers, State arts agencies, and regional arts organizations)
- Prepare written materials for OMB and Congressional budget submissions including in-depth statistical analyses for Advisory Panels and the National Council on the Arts; make oral presentations before Appropriations Committees of the U.S. Congress
- Recommend to Chairman arts specialists to serve as Advisory Panelists
- Supervise staff of seven to fourteen professional and support personnel

## **1980/82 - Director, Alden Theater for the Performing Arts (McLean, VA)**

- Artistic direction and technical/financial management of multi-arts complex including contract negotiation, audience development, and fund-raising for four series of professional performance events (\$400,000 budget)
- Coordinated extensive arts education program and activities of community arts groups; Founded "Resident Performing Arts Organizations" program
- Edited "Fanfare," arts newsletter circulated throughout Washington, DC area
- Developed theater-use policy with eleven-member elected Board
- Supervised staff of four

## **1980 - Production Stage Manager, National Tour of SILKWOOD (Washington, DC) (Tour premiere at Arena Stage's Kreeger Theater, May 1980)**

- Overall responsibility for set-up and running of performances on six-month national tour of

show SILKWOOD under Equity/Broadway contract; Supervised two technical crews

**1973 to date - Free-Lance On/Off Camera Narrator, Actor, Stage Manager, Director (Washington/Baltimore, National)--Equity, AFTRA, SAG**

- Voice talent, actor, stage manager, or director for a wide range of theater and media producers including:
  - John F. Kennedy Center, Arena Stage, Shakespeare Theater/Folger Theater Group, Center Stage, Theater J,
  - Wolf Trap Opera Company, American Century Theater, New Playwrights' Theater, Weston Playhouse,
  - African-American Continuum Theater Co., Garland Dinner Theater, Burn Brae Dinner Theaters, Library of
  - Congress Talking Books, "The Washington Ear" (WETA-FM), Voice of "Santa Claus" for WRC-AM, WMAL-AM,
  - & WTOP-AM, Voice of "Mayor Schwindle" for Kinetic City Super Crew (nationally syndicated kids' radio broadcast) and on the Web

**1974/78 - Teacher, Administrator, Montgomery County (MD) Public Schools**

- Developed curricula and instructed courses in speech, drama, and English (grades 9-12), tripling enrollment in speech and drama at Sherwood High School; Coached theater and forensics activities for nationally recognized secondary school speech and theater arts program and county-wide forensics league, directing and producing over 20 theater productions; Conducted over 30 county/state-wide workshops in speech and theater arts; First Director of Theater for the County's Summer School for the Performing Arts

**1972/80 - Instructor, Visiting Lecturer in Speech and Theater Arts (part-time)**

- Catholic University (Wash., DC); Univ. of Maryland (College Park, MD); Montgomery College (Rockville, MD)

**HONORS, AWARDS**

- Fulbright Award, Department of State—trained audio describers in Athens, Greece for 30 days in 2019
- Member, Subject Matter Expert Committee—development of a certification program for audio describers—Academy of Certified Vision, Rehabilitation and Education Professionals (2018 -2020)
- Commissioner, Montgomery County Commission on Disabilities (2018)
- Access Award, American Foundation for the Blind (2015)
- Vernon Henley Media Award, American Council of the Blind (2014)
- Barry Levine Memorial Career Achievement Award in Audio Description, American Council of the Blind (2014)
- County Executive's Excellence in the Arts & Humanities Community Award, Bethesda, MD (2008)
- Member, Expert Panel, Described and Captioned Media Program/American Foundation for the Blind, "Description Key for Educational Media" (2007-2008)

- Distinguished Alumni Award, Montgomery County Public Schools, Rockville, MD (2007)
- Judge: Helen Hayes Awards, Washington DC (2002/2006)
- Member: Theater Application Review Panel, MD State Arts Council, Baltimore, MD (2004/2005)
- Appointed Life Member, American Council of the Blind (2003)
- Guest Speaker on Arts Administration/Touring and Presenting the Arts (partial listing--1982 to 2003):
  - Association of Performing Arts Presenters (APAP); International Society of Performing Arts (ISPA); Western Alliance of Arts Administrators (WAAA); National Assembly of State Arts Agencies (NASAA); National Assembly of Local Arts Agencies (NALAA); New York State Council on the Arts "New Works, New Audiences"; New England Foundation for the Arts "Dance, New England, Dance"; Northwest Booking Conference; League of Chicago Theaters; Alternate ROOTS (Regional Organization of Theaters South)
- Guest Lecturer, Graduate Programs in Arts Administration (1985-2003):
  - New York University; American University; Ohio State University; University of Wisconsin Center for Arts Administration; Golden Gate University; Brooklyn College; Virginia Commonwealth University; University of MD
- Board of Directors, Open Circle Theatre (2003 to date)
- Founding Chairman, Audio Description International (1996)
- 1991 White House "Point of Light" Award - in recognition of twelve years of service providing audio description of theater, video, and film for blind audiences throughout the nation
- NEA Distinguished Service Award (1987, 1993); NEA Performance Award (1986 - 1995)
- NEA Special Act or Service Award (1988); Elected Chair, NEA Inter-Office Committee (1986)
- 1995 Commission as "Kentucky Colonel," awarded by Brereton C. Jones, Governor Commonwealth of Kentucky
- Board of Directors, Friends of the Silver Theater (1995 / 2000)
- Board of Directors, Montgomery County (MD) Arts Council (1983)
- Board of Directors, Plexus Mime Theater (1981/82)
- Arts Advisory Panel, Fairfax County (VA) Council on the Arts (1981/83)
- Emcee, International Children's Festival at Wolf Trap (1982/84)
- Nominee, "Teacher of the Year," Maryland Council of Teachers of English (1977)
- Elected President, Montgomery County Forensic League (1976/77)
- Member: Actors' Equity Association, American Fed. of Television and Radio Artists, Screen Actors' Guild
- Management Achievement Award (Honorable Mention), ACUCAA (1981)  
Awarded in recognition of the Alden Theater's "Summer of '81 Arts Workshops for Youth

## PUBLICATIONS

- "The Visual Made Verbal: A Comprehensive Training Manual and Guide to the History and Applications of Audio Description": book published by the American Council of the Blind, Washington, DC (2014)—available in Braille, audio book, screen-reader accessible formats

and in Portuguese, Polish, Russian. Spanish, Greek and Chinese editions will be available in 2021.

- "Audio Description," The Matilda Ziegler Magazine for the Blind, March 2009
- "Audio Description: An Aid To Literacy," The International Journal of the Book, Common Ground Publishing, Melbourne, Australia (2009)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," The Didactics of Audio Visual Translation, edited by Jorge Diaz Cintas, John Benjamins Publishing, London, England (2008)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," The International Journal of the Arts In Society, Common Ground Publishing, Melbourne, Australia (2007)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," Proceedings of the XVII World Congress, International Federation of Translators, Tampere, Finland (August 2005)
- "Audio Description: Across Arts Disciplines, Across The Globe," Translating Today Magazine, London, Issue No. 4 (July 2005)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," Int'l Fed. Of Translators Proceedings, Tampere, Finland (April 2005)
- "Audio Description: Access for All," Disability World webzine, Issue No. 25 (September-November 2004)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," Art Education for the Blind, New York, NY (June 2000)
- "Crossing Boundaries--Where Artists and Art Forms Meet," NEA arts.community 1.9 webzine (Jan. 1997)
- "Audio Description--The Visual Made Aural," NEA arts.community 1.3 (June 1996)
- "Audio Description: Seeing Theater Through Your Ears," NEA Arts Review (Fall 1986); reprinted in ACUCAA Bulletin (April 1987)
- "NEA Profile: Inter-Arts Program," NASAA News (January/February 1987)
- "Here's Looking At You: A Profile of Arts Presenters," ACUCAA Bulletin (November 1986)
- "Funding the Presenter," ACUCAA Bulletin (April 1986)
- "Is There An NEA in Your Future?," ACUCAA Bulletin (March 1985)
- "The Essential Link: Presenting the Arts," Spotlight-Magazine of the Tulsa Performing Arts Ctr. (June 1984)

## EDUCATION

- Ph.D. in Accessibility / Audio Visual Translation / Audio Description, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona (2013)
- M.A. in Theater Arts, University of Maryland-College Park (1978) GPA: 4.00
- B.A. magna cum laude in Theater, English and Education, American University (1974) GPA: 3.82
  - Catholic University (Theater major 1971/72) GPA: 3.55
  - Boston Conservatory of Music (Theater/Voice major 1970/71) GPA: 3.45



**JOEL SNYDER****AEA – AFTRA – SAG**

Brown hair -- Brown eyes – 5'8" – 185 – Baritone / Bass

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H - 301 270-0288; Day - 301-920-0218; Cell - 301-452-1898; email: [jsnyder@audiodescribe.com](mailto:jsnyder@audiodescribe.com)**Musical Theater—**John F. Kennedy Center/ACTCo  
John F. Kennedy Center  
Ford's TheaterWolf Trap Opera Company  
Clarice Smith Center  
Riverfront Dinner Theater  
Burn Brae Dinner TheaterTawes Theater (U. MD-guest)  
Langley Theater (guest)*Hubert and Charlie* (world premiere)  
*From Words To Music: A Revue* (world premiere)  
*My Antonia* (world premiere)-staged reading  
Music and Music Direction by Stephen Schwartz  
*Street Scene*  
*The Fantasticks*  
*Man of La Mancha*  
*Oliver!*  
*A Funny Thing ... Forum*  
*The Music Man* (with Bobby Van)  
*Fiddler on the Roof*"Morris"  
Lead Singer/Actor  
"Grandfather"  
  
"Abe Kaplan"  
"Hucklebee"  
"Duke/Dr. Carasco"  
"Mr. Sowerberry"  
"Hysterium"  
"Charlie Cowell"  
"Tevye"**Drama / Comedy –**Center Stage/MD Stage Co.  
Folger Theater Group  
Olney Theater  
Theater JAmerican Century Theater  
New Playwright's Theater  
Broadstreet Stage  
Hartke Theater (Cath. Univ.-guest)  
Tawes Theater (U. MD-guest)*Six Degrees of Separation*  
*The Inspector General*  
*Brooklyn Boy*  
*The Chosen*  
*Passing the Love of Women* (American premiere)  
*Shylock* (with Theodore Bikel)-staged reading  
*A Flag Is Born*  
*White Horse/Black Horse* (world premiere)  
*Last of the Red Hot Lovers*  
*The Dybbuk*  
*Death of a Salesman*  
*As You Like It*"Dr. Fine"  
"The Judge"  
"Ira Zimmer"  
"David Malter"  
"Alter"  
"Tubal"  
"Tevya"  
"The Father"  
"Barney Cashman"  
"Sender"  
"Willy Loman"  
"Touchstone"**RADIO/NARRATION/COMMERCIAL VOICE WORK:**

Audio Description for people who are blind-one of the world's first theater, media, museum describers &amp; trainers (PBS-Sesame Street, American Playhouse, Smithsonian Institution/IMAX films, feature films including World Trade Center, Charlotte's Web, Transformers, Wallace &amp; Gromit, Dreamgirls, and performing arts-Kennedy Center, Ford's Theater, Arena Stage, and many others) Library of Congress Talking Books-WAMU-FM - WRC-AM, WMAL-AM (on-air Santa)-Kinetic City Super Crew, "Mayor Schwindle"(recurring character on nationally syndicated radio series)-Rodel Audio Services-Havill Associates-Irv Kline &amp; Associates-Wolff Co.-Goldberg, Marchasano &amp; Associates-Eli Prods., Inc.-National Automobile Dealers Assn.-Pasley Romorini &amp; Canby

**FILM/VIDEO:**

BNA Communciations-NUS Corporation-Eastern Video Systems-ITV Co-op, Inc.-Human Resources Research Org.-Vid-Com, Inc.-Department of Defense-Department of Health and Human Services-National Endowment for the Arts

**TRAINING:**

PhD in Accessibility / Audio Visual Translation – Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, Spain

M.A. in Theater Arts (Acting and Directing) - University of Maryland, College Park

B.A. magna cum laude in English and Education - The American University

(Drama/Voice Major - Catholic University and Boston Conservatory of Music)

Acting - William Graham, Leo Brady (C.U.) , Richard Brewer (Hedgerow Theatre), Stanley Anderson, Mark Hammer, Halo Wines (Arena Stage)

Voice - Marguerite Egeler (private), Philine Faico, Stephanie Freeman. (B.C.M.)

Dance - Ray Harrison, Judy Williams, Anne Dunkin (modern, ballet, Jazz, tap, mime)



## **Audio Description Associates, LLC - Partial List of Clients (as of November 2020)**

Organizations for which ADA Principals have provided Audio Description:

### Theater/Dance/Live Events

1981-2020--Provided description/trained describers for over 500 productions or presentations at:

John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC  
 Ford's Theater, Washington, DC  
 Arena Stage / Fichandler and Kreeger Theater, Washington, DC  
 National Theater, Washington, DC  
 The Shakespeare Theater/Carter Barron Amphitheater, Washington, DC  
 Wolf Trap National Park, Vienna, VA  
 Steppenwolf Theater, Chicago, IL  
 Victory Gardens Theater, Chicago, IL  
 Wilma Theater, Philadelphia, PA  
 American Stage Company, St. Petersburg, FL  
 Amaryllis Theater Company, Philadelphia, PA  
 Open Circle Theater, Rockville, MD (on-demand AD, i.e., AD available at  
     **all** performances)  
 York Little Theater, York, PA  
 Olney Theater, Olney, MD  
 DC Revels, Washington, DC  
 AXIS Dance Theatre, Oakland, CA  
 American Council of the Blind, Washington, DC  
 Access Board, Washington, DC  
 U.S. Department of Justice, Washington, DC  
 Social Security Administration, Baltimore, MD  
 VSA Arts International, Washington, DC  
 American Association of People with Disabilities, Washington, DC  
 Microsoft / Xbox "Inside Xbox" live streaming programs, Redmond, WA  
 National Endowment for the Arts - Coordinated the First and Second Annual  
     Conferences on Audio Description held in Washington, DC at the John  
     F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts - June 1995, March 2002  
 On-site audio description of the 2009 and 2013 inaugural parades

### Media / Web Sites

Live Description for the ABC Television / ACB Radio coverage of Barack Obama's inaugurals,  
 January 20, 2009 and January 21, 2013, and Donald Trump's inaugural, January 20, 2017

HBO: "Monica and David" "Alive"

ABC Television:

"Saving Private Ryan" "Aladdin" "Bambi" "Cast Away" "Forrest Gump"  
 "The Shawshank Redemption" "The Green Mile" "The Miracle Worker"

"Air Force One" "Mrs. Doubtfire" "The Shining" "Jerry Maguire"

Nickelodeon: "Dead Time Stories" "Ned's Declassified Survival Guide"

DreamWorks/Paramount (movie theaters/cinema) :

"Wallace & Gromit: The Curse of the Were-Rabbit"

"World Trade Center" "Flags Of Our Fathers" "The Bee Movie"

"Barnyard" "Over the Hedge" "Charlotte's Web" "Dreamgirls"

"Flushed Away" "Shrek the Third" "Transformers" "Stardust"

amazon.com: "Generation Wealth" "Elf On The Shelf" "Little Big Awesome" "All or Nothing"

"One Mississippi" "Weiner Dog"

Netflix: "Newness" "Duck Butter" "Outside In"

History Channel: "The Frankenstein Chronicles" "Swamp People" "Swamp Mysteries"

Sundance TV: Push Girls

Zeitgeist Films: "Love, Cecil"

Microsoft: hundreds of promotional videos

J. P. Morgan Chase: commercials

Enterprise Car Rental: commercials

Super Bowl commercials: Budweiser, Coca-Cola, Activa

Toyota: commercials

BOSMA Enterprises: promotional videos

PBS / APT (American Public Television) / cable:

"Sesame Street" "Plaza Sesamo" (Spanish) "Clifford's Puppy Days"

"Maya and Miguel" The "Globe Trekker" series "Secrets of the Dead"

"Fascinating Rhythm: The Story of Tap" "In Search of Myths and Heroes"

"Tales from the Tomb" "Japan's War in Color"

"Private Life of a Masterpiece: The Kiss, David, The Scream" (and others)

"WWII--The Complete History" "World Class Trains" "Colonial House"

Martha Stewart's "Everyday Food"

"And A Star To Steer Her By" for the National Air & Space Museum's Einstein Planetarium, Smithsonian Institution

For PBS/WGBH American Playhouse:

"Native Son" "Rocket To The Moon" "Diaries of Adam & Eve"

FOX Television:

"Empire Strikes Back" "Return of the Jedi" "That 70's Show"

"Blue Planet" for IMAX Films/Smithsonian Institution Air & Space Museum

"War Against The Weak" for the International Disabilities Film Festival of the Disabilities Network of NYC and the Midtown JCC

"Murderball" for National Spinal Cord Injury Association

"Educating Peter" for Home Box Office / Department of Education

Described and Captioned Media Program—dozens of educational videos  
 "Arts In America" for National Endowment for the Arts  
 "Talking Signs" for Talking Signs, Inc., Baton Rouge, LA  
 "No Limits: The Power of Art," VSArts, Washington, DC  
 "Independence," "Choosing Sides," "The Liberty Bell"  
 "Ben and Me," "Portrait of a Family," "The Real Ben Franklin"-  
 Independence National Historic Park-among dozens of videos for the National Park  
 Service including "Where History Lives" for The White House Visitors Ctr.  
 Seven two-minute videos for the McKenzie River Ranger Station-US Forest  
 Service  
 web presentations: "Nosferatu" "Carnival of Souls" "Night of the Living Dead"  
 Popeye cartoon-"Fright to the Finish"  
 International Labor Organization/United Nations "Count Us In"  
 Lovett Productions: "Going Blind"  
 Aperture Films, Los Angeles, CA  
 North Shore Productions, Portland, OR  
 Northern Light Productions, Allston, MA  
 Cortina Productions, McLean, VA  
 360i, New York, NY  
 AIR, Washington, DC  
 The White House: The White House Video Tour; the 2015 White House Christmas  
 Card  
 "War Against The Weak"-DisAbility Film Festival, New York, NY  
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC  
 Pearl Harbor National Park  
 Internal Revenue Service  
 Everglades National Park  
 National Institutes of Health  
 NASA  
 National Geographic  
 Glacier National Park  
 Lower East Side Tenement Museum web site  
 National Institutes for the Blind  
 Gallaudet University videos  
 ArtsWire web site  
[Disaboom.com](http://Disaboom.com)

## DVDs

"The Miracle Worker" with Patty Duke and Melissa Gilbert  
 "Barack Obama" (A&E/Biography Channel documentary)  
 "Storm Reading"-Access Theater  
 "Phoenix Dance", (feature-length documentary)  
 "My Country"-U.S. Department of Justice  
 "Monica and David" (feature-length documentary - HBO)  
 "9/12: From Chaos To Community" (feature-length documentary)

"Right To Risk" (feature-length documentary)

"Coral Reefs: Ecological Communities" and a range of educational DVDs-Described and Captioned Media Program

Sesame Street DVDs:

"Elmo's World: Reach for the Sky!"

"Elmo Visits the Doctor"

"Beginning Together"

"All-Star Alphabet"

"Make Music Together"

### Museums / National Park Service or US Forest Service Visitor Centers

Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC

- National Air and Space Museum / Einstein Planetarium – "And A Star To Steer Her By"
- National Museum of Natural History – entrance rotunda, Insect Zoo
- National Museum of American History – "The Flag That Inspired the National Anthem: The Star-Spangled Banner" "America On The Move"
- Sackler-Freer Gallery - training
- Cooper-Hewitt Museum of Design (NYC) - training
- National Museum of the American Indian (NYC) - training

The White House, Washington, DC

The National Aquarium, Baltimore, MD

International Spy Museum, Washington, DC

United States Holocaust Memorial and Museum, Washington, DC

Museum of Science, Boston, MA

Metropolitan Museum of Art, NYC

Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA

Albright-Knox Gallery, Buffalo, NY

J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA

Meadows Museum, Dallas, TX

Franklin D. Roosevelt Presidential Library and Museum,  
Hyde Park, NY

Noland House-Harry S Truman Presidential Library and Museum,  
Independence, MO

Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum, Oklahoma  
City, OK

City of St. Petersburg, FL:

- Salvador Dali Museum
- Museum of Fine Arts
- Museum of History

New Jersey Historical Society

Chicago Botanic Garden, Buehler Enabling Garden

Children's Museum of Virginia, Portsmouth, VA

Connecticut Children's Center, New Haven, CT

Clark County Heritage Museum, NV

Texas State Museum, Austin, TX  
 Indiana State Museum, Indianapolis, IN  
 Nevada State Museum, Las Vegas, NV  
 America OnLine, Vienna, VA  
 Lower East Side Tenement Museum, NYC  
 Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, Richmond, VA  
 Florida Park Service-multiple sites  
 U.S. Bureau of Engraving & Printing-Visitors Center, Ft. Worth, TX

National Park Service—

Lassen Volcanic National Park, Mineral, CA  
 Abraham Lincoln Birthplace, Hogkinville, KY  
 Stones River National Battlefield, TN  
 Red River Gorge Visitors Center, KY  
 White Mountain National Forest Visitors Center, NH  
 Chalmette National Battlefield, New Orleans, LA  
 Kingsley Plantation, Jacksonville, FL  
 Death Valley National Park, Death Valley, CA  
 Joshua Tree National Park, CA  
 Monocacy National Battlefield, Frederick, MD  
 The Noland House, Harry S Truman Birthplace, Independence, MO  
 Yellowstone National Park, Wyoming/Montana/Idaho  
 The Grand Canyon, Arizona  
 The David Wills House, Gettysburg National Historical Park, Gettysburg, PA  
 Fort Davis National Historical Battlefield, Davis, TX  
 Gulf Islands National Seashore, Pensacola, FL  
 Big Hole National Battlefield, Wisdom, MT  
 Jewel Cave National Park, Rapid City, SD  
 Shell Falls Information Center, Sheridan, WY  
 Benjamin Franklin Museum, Philadelphia, PA  
 Fort Smith National Historic Site, Fort Smith, AR  
 Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, Little Rock, AR  
 Dry Tortugas National Park, Dry Tortugas, FL  
 Booker T. Washington National Monument, Roanoke, VA  
 Cowpens National Battlefield, Gaffney, SC  
 Saguaro National Park, Tucson, AZ  
 Fort Raleigh National Historic Site, Manteo, NC  
 Cape Lookout National Seashore, Beaufort, NC  
 Cape Hatteras National Seashore, Buxton, NC  
 Tallgrass Prairie National Preserve, Strong City, KS  
 Flight 93 National Memorial, Shanksville, PA  
 Sleeping Bear Dunes National Lakeshore, Empire, MI  
 Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument, TX  
 Carlsbad Caverns National Park, NM  
 Sitka National Historical Park, AK

Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site, AR  
 Fairbanks Public Land Information Center, Fairbanks, AK  
 San Juan National Monument, PR  
 George Washington Headquarters, Morristown, NJ  
 Arches and Canyonlands National Park, Utah

U.S. Department of Agriculture / Forest Service—

Ottawa National Forest Visitor Center, MI  
 McKenzie River Ranger Station, OR  
 U. S. Forest Service Headquarters, Washington, DC  
 USDA Visitors Center, Washington, DC

### International

Explorations of Creativity Conference - St. Petersburg, Russia; Prague, Czech Republic-invited presenter  
 Audio Description Association, London, England-invited speaker  
 Vision 2005, 2008, 2011, 2014 - London, England; Montreal, Canada; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Melbourne, Australia-invited speaker  
 In So Many Words: Language Transfer on the Screen, London, England-invited speaker  
 Escola Superior de Tecnologia e Gestao, Leiria, Portugal-workshop director  
 Audio Description and Education Symposium, Warsaw, Poland-keynote speaker  
 Language and the Media, Berlin Germany-invited presenter  
 Advanced Research Seminar on Audio Description (ARSAD), Barcelona, Spain-invited presenter  
 Media for All Conferences, London, Antwerp, Barcelona, and Dubrovnik, Croatia-invited speaker  
 International Association for Translation and Intercultural Studies, Belfast, Ireland-invited speaker  
 European Independent Film Festival, Paris, France-film describer  
 First Annual International Conference on Translation and Interpretation, Athens, Greece-invited speaker  
 Slovak Union of the Blind, Bratislava, Slovakia-invited speaker  
 Finnish Federation of the Visually Impaired, Helsinki, Finland-invited presenter  
 Multidimensional Translation 2006, Copenhagen, Denmark-invited presenter  
 Multidimensional Translation 2007, Vienna, Austria-invited presenter  
 Norwegian Association of the Blind and Huseby Kompesenter, Oslo, Norway-invited speaker  
 Foundation on Cultural Education, "Ad Arte", Poznan, Poland-invited speaker  
 World Institute on Disability/Perspektiva and the International Disability Film Festival, Moscow, Russia-workshop director  
 Lithuanian Department of State, Vilnius, Lithuania-invited speaker  
 Ben Gurion University, Beer Sheva, Israel-invited speaker  
 Hebrew University, Jerusalem, Israel-invited speaker  
 Nalaga'at Theater (deaf-blind), Tel Aviv, Israel-invited speaker  
 Access Israel, Tel Aviv, Israel-invited speaker

Central Library for the Blind, Tel Aviv, Israel-invited speaker  
 Sibiu Intl Theater Festival, Sibiu, Romania-invited speaker  
 Avalon Productions, Sofia, Bulgaria-workshop director  
 Intl Federation of Translators 2005-Tampere, Finland, 2008-Shanghai, China-invited speaker  
 Yuan Pei Translation, Beijing, China-invited speaker  
 World Blind Union, 7th General Assembly, Geneva, Switzerland general session/tour  
 describer  
 Advanced Research Seminar in Audio Description, Barcelona, Spain-invited speaker  
 10th Brazilian Translation Forum / 4th International Translation Forum, Ouro Preto, Brazil-  
 invited speaker  
 Vision Australia, Sydney and Melbourne, Australia-invited speaker/workshop director  
 International Conference for Universal Design, Yokohama, Japan-invited speaker  
 International Conference on the Arts and Society, Venice, Italy-invited speaker  
 Seslibetimleme/Bogazici University, Istanbul, Turkey-invited speaker  
 Malaysia Society of the Blind, Kuala Lumpur and Penang-invited speaker  
 SAKSHAM, New Delhi, India-invited speaker  
 Hong Kong Society for the Blind-Arts and Disabilities Association, Hong Kong,  
 China-invited speaker  
 South Africa Council of the Blind, Durban, Cape Town and Johannesburg; NorthEast University;  
 University of Johannesburg—workshop director  
 Ryerson University, Toronto, Canada  
 Pearson Canada, Toronto, Canada  
 Young People's Theater-Toronto, Canada  
 Iceland Council of the Blind, Reykjavik, Iceland-invited speaker  
 Union of Blind and Partially Sighted Individuals, Ljubljana, Slovenia-invited  
 speaker  
 Think Web, Jakarta, Indonesia-workshop director  
 Arts Access Aotearoa, Wellington, New Zealand-invited speaker  
 Thai Association of the Blind, Bangkok, Thailand-workshop director  
 U.S. Consulate-Yekaterinburg, Russia-training director  
 Vietnam Blind Association, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam-invited speaker  
 Krousar Thmey Foundation, Phnom Penh, Cambodia-invited speaker  
 Syntolkning Nu, Stockholm, Sweden-invited speaker  
 SESC, Sao Paulo, Brazil-invited speaker  
 II Encontro De Audio Descricao E Estudo, Maceio, Brazil-workshop director,  
 invited speaker  
 Latin American Blind Union, Montevideo, Uruguay-invited speaker  
 Audiodeskrypcja i jej pogranicza, Poznan, Poland-workshop director, invited  
 speaker  
 National Committee of Welfare for the Blind in Japan-Tokyo and Osaka, workshop  
 director  
 Lao Association of the Blind, Vientiane, Laos-workshop director  
 Philippines Blind Union-Manila and Naga City, Philippines-workshop director  
 International Festival of New Latin American Cinema, Havana, Cuba-workshop  
 director  
 Iyuno Media-workshop director, Seoul, South Korea-invited speaker



Hamad Bin Kalifa University, Doha, Qatar-invited speaker  
 Maseya Media, Cairo, Egypt-invited speaker  
 Chamber of Commerce-Mexico/Lebanon, Mexico City, Mexico-invited speaker  
 CinEcoSA Seminar, Nantes, France-webinar  
 SWISSTxt, Zurich, Switzerland-invited speaker  
 Pancypria Association of the Blind, Nicosia, Cyprus-workshop leader  
 University of Trieste, Trieste, Italy-workshop leader  
 University of Mumbai, Mumbai, India-workshop leader  
 Malta Society of the Blind, Valletta, Malta-workshop leader  
 The Employer's Federation of Ceylon, Colombo, Sri Lanka-workshop leader  
 Sensing The World You See-keynote speaker, Kathmandu, Nepal

#### AD Training Sessions / Workshops and Webinars

The White House, Washington, DC  
 President's Committee on Employment of People with Disabilities  
 Social Security Administration  
 9/11 Memorial and Museum, New York, NY  
 Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, New York, NY  
 John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Washington, DC  
 Kentucky Center for the Arts, Louisville, KY  
 APPLE, Sunnyvale, CA  
 AIRA, San Diego, CA  
 Montgomery College, MD—semester-long course  
 On-line course-Fractured University, New York, NY  
 Steppenwolf Theater, Chicago, IL  
 Bay State Council of the Blind, Boston, MA  
 Illinois Arts Council  
 University of Illinois/Krannert Center for the Performing Arts  
 University of Pennsylvania/Annenberg Center  
 TASH Conference, San Jose, CA  
 International Association of Accessibility Professionals-webinar  
 Diamond Head Theater, Honolulu, HI  
 Iowa Radio Reading Service, Des Moines, IA  
 Harris Center, Sacramento, CA  
 California State University at Northridge  
 (CSUN Conferences in Los Angeles and San Diego)  
 Boy's Town, Omaha, NE  
 Grounds for Sculpture, Hamilton, NJ  
 Penn State University, State College, PA  
 National Constitution Center, Philadelphia, PA  
 New Stage Theater, Jackson, MS;  
 AudioVision, San Francisco, CA  
 Chicago Festival of Disability Arts and Culture, Chicago, IL  
 MTD Enterprises, San Jose, CA  
 Remains Theater / Victory Gardens Theater, Chicago, IL

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI  
 Connecticut Art Docents Symposium, Hartford, CT  
 Association of Community Arts Agencies of Kansas  
 Oklahoma Arts Council, Tulsa, OK  
 Lower East Side Tenement Museum, New York, NY  
 Access Carolina Theaters, Charleston, SC  
 Oregon Commission for the Blind, Portland, OR  
 Festival Eyes, State College, PA  
 Theater Development Fund and Hospital Audiences, Inc., NYC  
 Association of Performing Arts Presenters, NYC  
 Council for Exceptional Children annual conference, Denver, CO  
 Western Alliance of Arts Administrators, San Diego, CA and Seattle, WA  
 Southern Arts Federation, Atlanta, GA  
 Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, Baltimore, MD  
 Northeast Performing Arts Conference, Hyannis, MA  
 Mid-America Arts Alliance Accessibility Conference, Overland Park, KS  
 National Park Service at facilities in Martinsville, IN, Orlando, FL, and  
 Williamsburg, VA  
 Mill Mountain Theater, Roanoke, VA  
 Society for Disability Studies, Washington, DC Conference  
 Montgomery College Visual Art Classes, Takoma Park, MD  
 National Museum of Women in the Arts, Washington, DC  
 Southwest Arts Conference, Phoenix, AZ  
 Arts Access of Wake County, Raleigh, NC  
 American Council of the Blind, Des Moines, IA  
 American Association of Botanical Gardens and Arboreta, Denver, CO  
 Idaho State School of the Deaf and Blind, Boise, ID  
 District of Columbia Public Schools, Washington, DC  
 Envision '08, San Antonio, TX  
 Envision, Inc. and Friends University, Topeka, KS  
 Visual Arts Volunteers of Florida, Orlando, FL  
 Missouri History Museum, St. Louis, MO  
 South Dakota Council of the Blind, Sioux Falls, SD  
 Support Service Professionals, Newark, NJ  
 M-Enabling Conferences, Washington, DC  
 Harris Center for the Arts, Folsom, CA  
 Mind's Eye Radio Reading, St. Louis, MO  
 International Federation of Library Administrators, Louisville, KY  
 World Blind Union Assembly, Orlando, FL  
 National Institute of Health, Bethesda, MD  
 Pennsylvania Council of the Blind, Hershey, PA  
 North Dakota Council of the Blind, Minot, ND  
 Iowa Council of the United Blind-Des Moines, IA  
 Seattle Art Museum, Seattle, WA  
 American Translators Associations, Palm Springs, CA and webinar

Director of the Audio Description Institute: 2009-Orlando, FL; 2010-Phoenix, AZ; 2011-Reno, NV; 2012-Louisville, KY; 2013-Columbus, OH; 2014-Las Vegas, NV; 2015-Washington, DC and Dallas, TX; 2016-Washington, DC and Minneapolis, MN; 2017-Washington, DC and Reno, NV; 2018-Washington, DC and St. Louis, MO; 2019-Washington, DC and Rochester, NY

### Special Events

- On contract to the Presidential Inauguration Committees, 2009-Live Description for the Inaugural Parade, Lincoln Memorial Concert, Children's Inaugural Celebration, National Prayer Service, 2013-Live Description for the Inaugural Parade, National Prayer Service
- Provider of audio description for guests on Royal Caribbean and Celebrity Cruise Lines-recent described excursions include:
  - Alaska Hubbard Glacier Cruises (2)
  - Scotland-Ireland Cruise
  - Mexican Riviera Cruise
  - Panama Canal Cruise
  - Eastern Caribbean Cruises (2)
- Producer—international broadcast of live audio description of the solar eclipse, August 2017
- Coordinator of international audio description conferences: 1995 and 2002-Washington, DC; 2009-Orlando, FL; 2010-Phoenix, AZ; 2014-Las Vegas, NV; 2016-Minneapolis, MN; 2018-St. Louis, MO

### Awards

- Fulbright Grant—for establishment of an audio description program in Athens, Greece
- Access Award—American Foundation for the Blind
- Barry Levine Memorial Career Achievement in Audio Description—American Council of the Blind/Audio Description Project
- Vernon Henley Media Award “for promoting and furthering the availability of audio description”—American Council of the Blind
- Founding Member – Video Description Research and Development Center
- Member – ADLAB PRO
- Distinguished Service Award (2)—National Endowment for the Arts
- County Executive’s Award for Excellence in the Arts and Humanities and “Career Achievement Award”—Montgomery County, MD
- MCPS Distinguished Alumnus Award “Champions for Children”, Montgomery County Public Schools
- Commissioner—Montgomery County Commission on Disability
- Inductee—Albert Einstein High School Arts Hall of Fame

## Publications

- *The Visual Made Verbal: A Comprehensive Training Manual and Guide to the History and Applications of Audio Description*, American Council of the Blind, Arlington, VA (2014)—available in translation--Russian, Portuguese, Polish versions (Spanish version in development); audio book voiced by Dr. Snyder; published in Braille and as a talking book by the Library of Congress, Division of the Blind and Physically Handicapped; and as a fully-accessible screen-readable digital edition.
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal"; ITU (International Telecommunication Union) Telecom World, proceedings of the 2019 WorldCom, Budapest, Hungary
- "Audio Description: Seeing With Your Ears" in *Analisis de la Comunicacion y de la Discapacidad desde un enfoque multidisciplinario*, Marina Calleja Reina (ed.), Peter Lang Publisher, Berlin: 2019
- "Audio Description: An Aid To Literacy"; The International Journal of the Book, Common Ground Publishing, Melbourne, Australia (2009)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," The Didactics of Audio Visual Translation, edited by Jorge Diaz Cintas, John Benjamins Publishing, London, England (2008)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," The International Journal of the Arts In Society, Common Ground Publishing, Melbourne, Australia (2007)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," Proceedings of the XVII World Congress, International Federation of Translators, Tampere, Finland (August 2005)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal Across Arts Disciplines-Across The Globe," Translating Today Magazine, Issue 4, London, England (July 2005)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Verbal," International Congress Series, Royal National Institute for the Blind, London, England (April 2005)
- "Audio Description: Access for All," Disability World (Sept.-Nov. 2004)
- "Audio Description for the Visually Impaired," Theatre Communications Group Centerpiece (October 1998)
- "Audio Description: The Visual Made Aural," National Endowment for the Arts "arts.community.3" (June 1996, published on the Arts Endowment's Web site)
- "Audio Description: Seeing Theater Through Your Ears," National Endowment for the Arts, Arts Review (Fall 1986), reprinted in the Association of Performing Arts Presenters Bulletin (April 1987)