

For Immediate Release

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American Council of the Blind Announces Audio Description Awards

WASHINGTON, July 11, 2016 - The American Council of the Blind (ACB) proudly announces the 2016 Achievement Awards in Audio Description, an initiative of the Council's Audio Description Project (ADP).

In conjunction with ACB's 55th annual conference and convention in Minneapolis, MN, the awards were presented at a plenary session of the conference before almost 2000 people who are blind, ACB members/convention attendees. The prestigious awards included:

- Achievement in Audio Description – Performing Arts: Arts Access, Raleigh, NC
- Achievement in Audio Description – Media: Fred Brack, Raleigh, NC
- Achievement in Audio Description – Museums: Dole Institute of Politics / Audio-Reader Network, Lawrence, KS
- Achievement in Audio Description – International: Bos Soluções e Serviços Ltda. – Sao Paulo, Brazil
- Special Recognition Achievement in Audio Description: Alice Austin, Eliot, ME
- Special Recognition Achievement in Audio Description: Mark Messersmith, The Visual Voice – Mountain View, CA
- Dr. Margaret R. Pfanstiehl Memorial Achievement Award in Audio Description – Research and Development: Disney / Pixar “Disney Movies Anywhere App” – Los Angeles, CA
- Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description: Dr. Francisco Lima – Recife, Brazil

The Achievement Awards are made to individuals and/or organizations for outstanding contributions to the establishment and/or continued development of significant audio description programs. The Barry Levine Memorial Award for Career Achievement in Audio Description recognizes an individual for outstanding contributions to the field of audio description over an extended period of time, leading, inspiring or providing significant service to others.

“Audio Description uses words that are succinct, vivid, and imaginative to convey the visual image from television, film, DVDs, theater, museums and many other settings,” stated Kim Charlson, president of the American Council of the Blind. “The organizations and individuals honored with these awards are among the leaders in description. They help make so many aspects of our culture accessible to people who are blind or have low vision; they deserve this special recognition.”

Additional information about ACB’s Audio Description Project is available at: www.acb.org/adp.

About the American Council of the Blind

The American Council of the Blind is a national membership organization. Its members are blind, visually impaired, and fully sighted individuals who are concerned about the dignity and well-being of blind people throughout the nation.

Formed in 1961, the ACB is one of the largest organizations of blind people in the world, with more than 70 state and special-interest affiliates and a nationwide network of chapters and members spanning the globe.

For more information about the American Council of the Blind, contact: Eric Bridges, Executive Director, American Council of the Blind, 1703 N Beauregard Street #420, Alexandria, VA 22311; phone (202) 467-5081 or toll-free, 1-800-424-8666; or visit the web site, www.acb.org.