



September/October 2024 | Volume 42, Issue 5

## Save The Date!

**Sept 14 10AM- 4PM**  
Audio-Reader Sale  
Lawrence Public  
Library

**Sept 16, 12:30 PM**  
Pittsburgh Remote  
Readers Training

**Sept 18, 2 PM**  
Virtual Coffee Bar

**Oct TBD**  
Reader Gathering  
Book Readers

**Oct 11, 10-2 PM**  
A-R 53rd Birthday  
*Stop by for cake &  
Vision Awareness*

**Oct 14, 1 -2 PM**  
A-R Book Club  
*The Chicken Sisters*  
KJ Dell'Antonia

**Nov 11**  
**CLOSED**

*Cheers!  
Sale  
Volunteers*

Come out and cheer for the efforts of Audio-Reader volunteers! The Audio Sales would not be possible without the team of audio equipment volunteers, Ed Hawkins, Douglas May, Gordon Fitch and Dave Dunford who all check, clean, repair and price all the audio equipment. These volunteers put in countless hours making a difference for Audio-Reader. They have been in full drive the last few weeks and especially the days before the sale. In the lead up to the sale, they can be found, almost any day of the week, fixing and prepping equipment in the shop at Audio-Reader.

These talented and hard working volunteers will be joined by many for the success of this sale! Wake Mitchell drives in from Kansas City several times a quarter to check records and determine prices. Delta

Veteran's Day

Nov

A-R Book Club

*James: a Novel*

Percival Everett

\*rescheduled due to  
conflict on Veterans Day

Dec 7, 1 PM

Audio-Description

Reception

Coterie Theater, KC

Dec 10, 4-6 PM

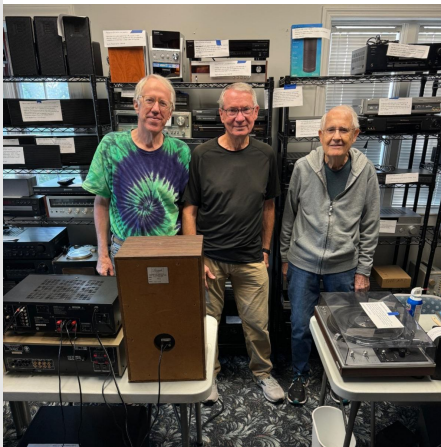
Holiday Party

at Audio-Reader

Gamma volunteers lend a hand by sorting and labeling records. We have these extra hands to lift, move, and transport including: our friends at Achievement and Assessment Institute, Nhan Reed, Gabe Downey, Kim Glass, Patti Anderson; and also Nate Poell, Mike Krings, and Melissa Warren. On the day of the sale, these volunteers usher the crowds through the sale and keep things moving smoothly: Jim Carnell, Cindy Penzler, Melinda Kearney, Tom Kearney, Julie Boydston, Brad Boydston, Sydney Boydston, Kathy Sanders, and Evan Washechek! The gentleman of the Triangle Fraternity will also be helping out on Friday and Saturday.

Through such generosity of time, shared efforts, and community support, we continue to provide our services, bring sight through sound. Take a moment to pop by this Saturday! Say hello, find a new record, or a new way to enjoy your favorite music.

**See the value of volunteering in action!**



Douglas May, Ed Hawkins, and Gordon Fitch stand in front of audio equipment they have worked to prepare for the sale September 14.



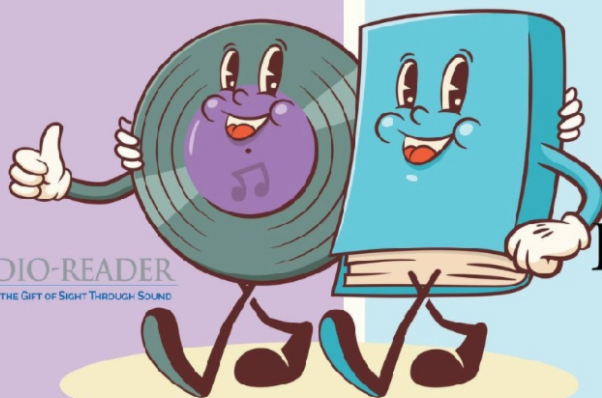
Wake Mitchell and Meredith sort through records.



Delta Gamma sorority members hold up the records they are sorting at A-R.



AUDIO-READER  
SHARING THE GIFT OF SIGHT THROUGH SOUND



Friends & Foundation

# AUDIO-READER'S AUDIO SALE

Saturday, September 14, 2024  
10:00am-4:00pm  
Lawrence Public Library Auditorium  
707 Vermont St, Lawrence, KS

Open to the Public | Free Admission  
[reader.ku.edu](http://reader.ku.edu)

.....

COME SHOP NEW TO YOU  
VINTAGE & MODERN AUDIO EQUIPMENT  
VINYL RECORDS, CDS, DVDS,  
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS  
& CASSETTE TAPES

Image of audio equipment with date of the next Audio Sale: Saturday September 14 at the Lawrence Public Library between 10am - 4pm, details on [reader.ku.edu/audiosale](http://reader.ku.edu/audiosale)

Follow Audio-Reader on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#) to stay up to date. Questions?  
Contact Meredith Johanning - [mjohanning@ku.edu](mailto:mjohanning@ku.edu) or 785-864-4634.



## Readers Adapting Transitions in Pittsburg

Our Pittsburg Satellite will begin offering a low-vision support group for the community. If interested, Pittsburg readers will also record remotely. Our community partners in the area requested help initiating a low-vision support group. The partnership in Pittsburg began via the advocacy of Shelia Marque; after her death, her husband Frank continues to lead this group of dedicated volunteers. Along with the volunteers, he has the support of Teri McKinnis, Director of the Homer Cole Center, pictured below left with Trish Dowd Kelne.

One of the new remote readers is Cynthia Chalker; she is also an outreach coordinator for Talking Books and is helping Martha with the development of the low-vision support group too.

We are planning a reception in October to celebrate and recognize the volunteers that have read from this satellite for nearly 20 years. We are eager to continue to partner with the Southeast Kansas community and serve listeners in the region.

Nick, Martha, and Trish visited recently to discuss these plans and celebrate Peggy Prince and Katie Bolt, two of the volunteers that had been editing for the broadcast for several years. We enjoyed discussions and good food-- so much so that we forgot to take pictures until the very end! The picture (below right) includes Sherry Franks, Martha Kehr, Frank Marque, Peggy Prince, Cynthia Chalker and Nick Carswell. Volunteers not pictured include: Joshua McCloud, Michael Brewer, Nancy Scott, David Wallace, Douglas Stuckey, Mark Bold, Katie Bolt, Carol Cole, Annette Tucker, and Larry Beasley.



## Virtual Coffee Bar

*Wednesday, September 18 at 2pm*

All volunteers are invited to stop by for a **virtual** cup of coffee and chat.

It's a fun way to connect, learn, and get to know each other better. We are welcoming our remote readers from

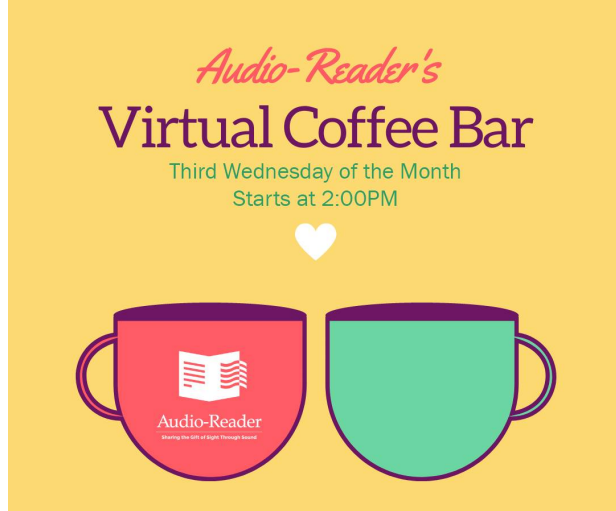


Image shows two coffee cups, one with the Audio-Reader logo.

Pittsburg and talking about tips for special sections and remote recording.

## VIRTUAL COFFEE BAR LINK

Reoccurring Zoom Meeting Link:

<https://kansas.zoom.us/j/91499262397>

Meeting ID: 914 9926 2397

Passcode: 4600

## Tips for Reading

*Read with the Listener in mind.*

When we share conversation with colleagues, friends, and community members, our perspective and our voice is often friendly and engaging. When reading, imagine the listener as you read. Our founder, Anne "Petey" Cerf, first read to a friend; that is the perspective as we read. When you visualize the person listening, it changes the way you read. We read "for understanding" offering a pace and phrasing style that allows the meaning of the words to be brought forth.

No matter the content - we do not show bias. The listener should not discern the reader's opinion on the content. We are sharing information as written. We do not provide commentary.

As the political season continues, it is a good time for the reminder. *We are the eyes and not the brain.* There may be opinion pieces, or letters to the editor, which are part of your assignment. Read those as you would any other.

We are working on a Voter's Guide for our listeners; it will be available soon.

**If you have time for an extra read, let us know as it is an extensive project.**

We also have several resources on our [Volunteer Resource](#) page including:

- links to all the publications
- links for scheduling a studio space
- access to instructions
- **TeamUP** access for sub signup (We love our subs! Thanks for helping out!)

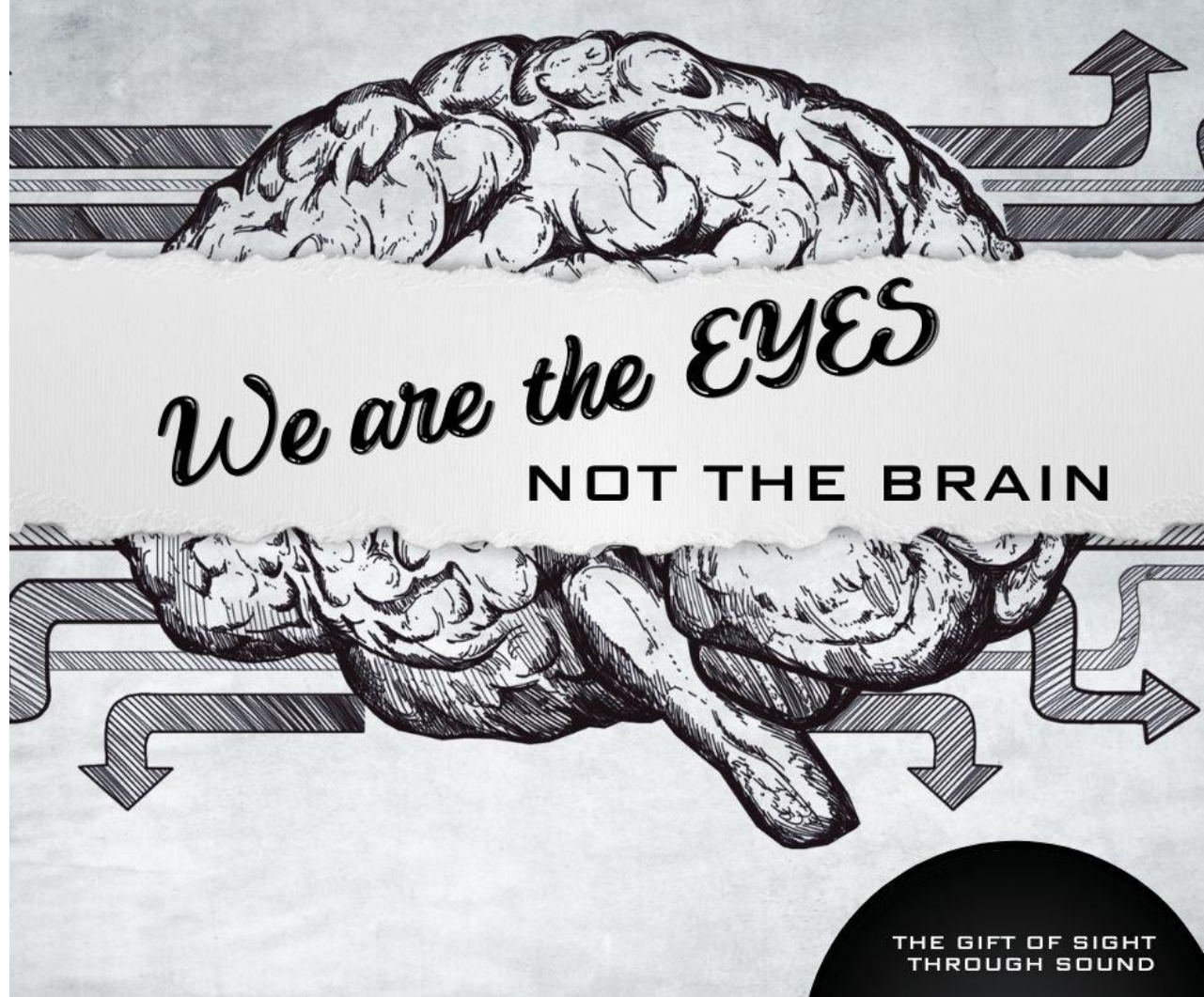


Image shows an illustration of a brain with the words "We are the eyes and NOT the brain written over it"

## Audio Description

*Would you like to be an Audio Describer?*



JOIN US  
*audio  
description*  
WOULD YOU LIKE TO TRY?

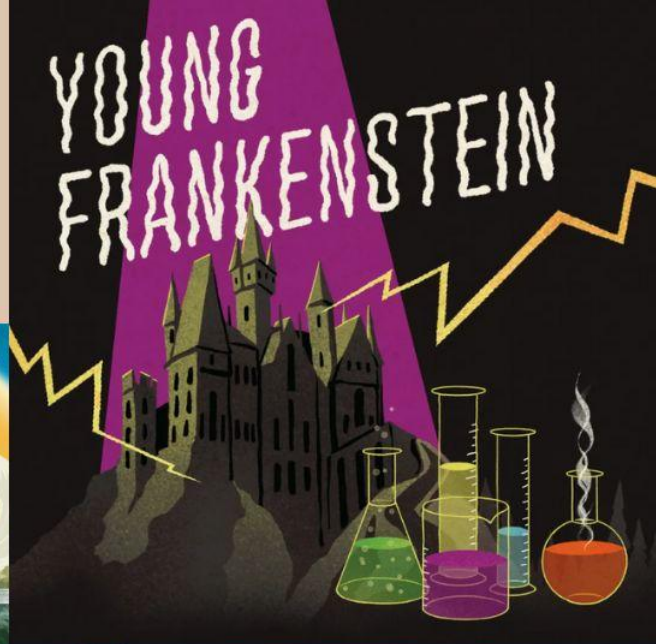
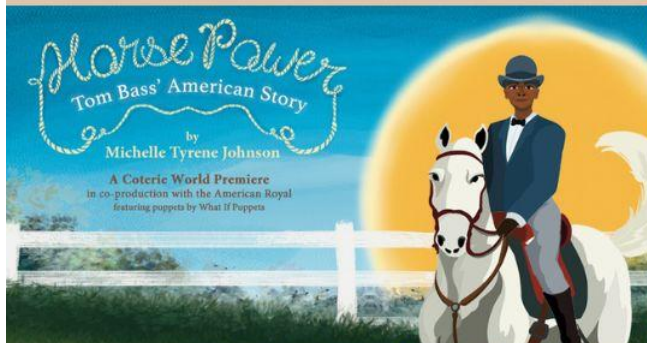


Image includes show bills for *Horse Power*: Audio Description at the Coterie in KC on 10/4 and 10/5; *Young Frankenstein*: Audio Description at Theater Lawrence late September; *Much Ado About Nothing*: Audio Description at Saint Marys KS - Shakespeare Festival on September 21; and *Peter Pan*: Audio Description at Starlight on September 21.

During a live audio description event, the trained describer sits in the back of the theater, often in the booth, with a microphone connected to a transmitter. Their job is to translate visual elements of the performance to listeners who then hear that description through individual receivers connected to headphones.

For a person who is visually impaired, this offers increased engage and enjoyment of the performance because they are clued in to the scenery, costume, and non-audio events that are occurring throughout the show. Imagine a scene where an actor is sneaking on stage to surprise another performer. The describer would be able to explain that to non-sighted audience members, including them in the secret too.

If you are interested in learning more about training to be an audio describer, check out [reader.ku.edu/audio-description](http://reader.ku.edu/audio-description) and contact Martha Kehr at mkehr@ku.edu or 785-864-2900.

## Looking Ahead: Carpet Installation (Puppy Not Included)

Audio-Read continues to responsibly care for the maintenance and up-keep of our beloved building. As part of the steady progress, the second phase of renewing carpet is taking place this fall. We are working with the vendors to confirm the delivery and installation date. During that time, we will have adjusted hours; stay tuned for more in the next month. We will be calling on our remote readers to help out as studios will be closed during the installation. Sorry to say, this image does NOT mean we are getting a puppy.



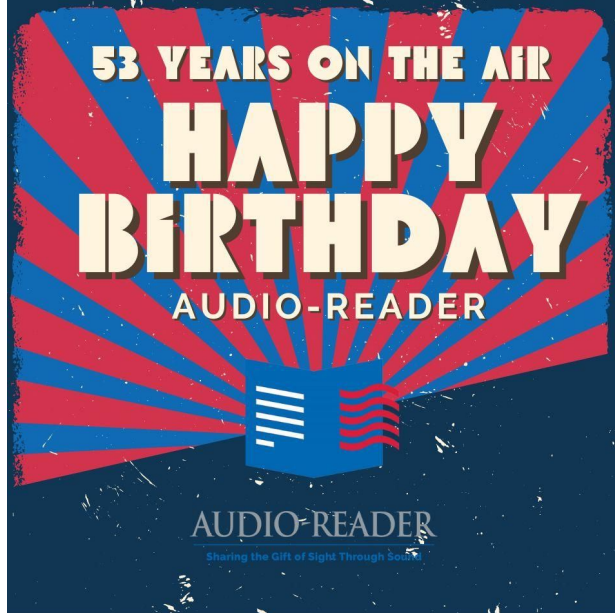
Image shows a shih tzu puppy asleep and snuggled into new shaggy carpet. The text reads, "Guess who is getting carpet?" Please note, Audio-Reader is NOT getting a puppy, just new carpet sometime this fall.

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**Audio-Reader 53rd Birthday!**  
**October - Vision Awareness Month**  
Join us October 11, 10:00am to 2:00pm

Each October Audio-Reader celebrates its first broadcast on October 11, 1971. On that day, our first volunteer broadcasters sat down to read and now, more than 5 decades later, we continue to provide





daily readings of local news, information and entertainment.

In the early days, we were only On Air for 80 hours a week. Audio-Reader's content has expanded to 24 hours a day, seven days a week through our traditional radios, the Lions Telephone Reader service, Alexa-enabled devices, accessibility apps, and streaming live and on-demand on our website.

This year we are celebrating with a focus on vision awareness. The Foundation Fighting Blindness has a campaign that includes an educational website dedicated to bringing awareness to [types of vision loss](#) and also the [stories of individuals with vision loss](#). Images below link to these resources.

At Audio-Reader, we will have information available on October 11 from 10:00 to 2:00. Of course, we will also have birthday cake and coffee to share. Join us. In November, we will also have guests from the National Federation of the Blind-KS visiting Audio-Reader following their convention.



Image shows the logo for the Foundation Fighting Blindness campaign "Share Your Vision" which asks individuals with vision loss to share their stories via videos and recordings. The image links to the gallery of stories.

Each person's degree and type of vision loss is different. Use the Vision Viewer to select an image that best resembles your level of vision loss.

#### Select a retinal disease

Macular  
Degeneration

Retinitis Pigmentosa  
(RP)

Usher Syndrome

Stargardt Disease

Bardet-Biedl  
Syndrome

Choroideremia

Achromatopsia



Original Photo



View Day

View Night

Image shows the Vision Viewer, a tool provided by Foundation Fighting Blindness that is an interactive way to share an image that best resembles a particular type of vision loss.

# Audio-Reader + VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT



**Karen Puckett**  
Volunteer since  
2016  
*Breakfast Table Times*  
Live Reader

A volunteer spotlight graphic for Karen Puckett. It features a circular photograph of her on a golf course, holding a flagstick. The background is dark blue with white decorative elements like plus signs and dotted patterns. A banner at the bottom contains her name and volunteer information.

## About Karen

**Karen Puckett is a retired music educator. She keeps active in music playing violin, viola, piano, organ and handbells. She serves as a music adjudicator of the Kansas High School Activities Association and volunteers for KU Audio Reader. Karen bakes cakes, cookies and cupcakes and enjoys decorating her masterpieces for birthdays, anniversaries and the occasional wedding. Karen lives with her husband, Larry, in Lawrence Kansas where she enjoys composing, playing golf and traveling in her spare time.**

## Memorable Audio-Reader Moment:

**My favorite "Les Nessman" moment on air was when my reading partner, Jo Anne, said "It's pronounced "COM-MA-LA". I also especially love when Trish calls me at 8:45 am asking if I can be on the air by 9:00 am.**

Picture of Karen Puckett, on the golf course, enjoying one of her many activities. Karen is the Volunteer Spotlight and has been volunteering since 2016; she is a LIVE reader of the Breakfast Table Times. Karen is a retired music educator. She keeps active in music playing violin, viola, piano, organ and handbells. She serves as a music adjudicator of Kansas High School Activities Association and volunteers with A-R. Karen bakes cakes, cupcakes and cookies and enjoys decorating her masterpieces for special occasions. Karen lives with her husband, Larry, in Lawrence where she enjoys composing, playing golf and traveling in her spare time.

## OPT In or OPT OUT Request

Because we love to celebrate our volunteers and share how great you are with the broader community, we have started a **Volunteer Spotlight** series that will be shared on our social media pages like Facebook and Instagram. Above is the January Volunteer Spotlight, Melinda Kearney.

If you are excited to be spotlighted on social media, please click the following form to Opt In. You will have the option of either letting us create the post and pick an image or opt-in on the condition that you provide those details. Of course, you will also be able to Opt Out using this same form to communicate to us that you would not like to participate. That is perfectly okay - we only want to bring you *wanted* attention.

[OPT IN/OUT FORM LINK](#)

## Holiday Festivities

This holiday season, we will host a special reception at the Coterie Theater, in Kansas City. We hope volunteers will come out to share in an Audio Description experience. The event includes a reception at 1:00 and the show at 2:00pm.



**Saturday, Dec 7**

Audio-Reader Reception at 1:00pm before 2:00 pm performance of *Finding Nemo*.

The Coterie Theater

Level one of Crown Center, located at 2450 Grand Blvd. Kansas City, MO

Contact Martha for more details at [mkehr@ku.edu](mailto:mkehr@ku.edu).

The following week we will hold our annual Holiday Party at Audio-Reader in Lawrence, plus a Cookie Exchange and Decoration Contest!

**Tuesday, Dec 10**

4:00 to 6:00 pm

HOLIDAY PARTY

Audio-Reader, 1120 W 11th Street, Lawrence KS

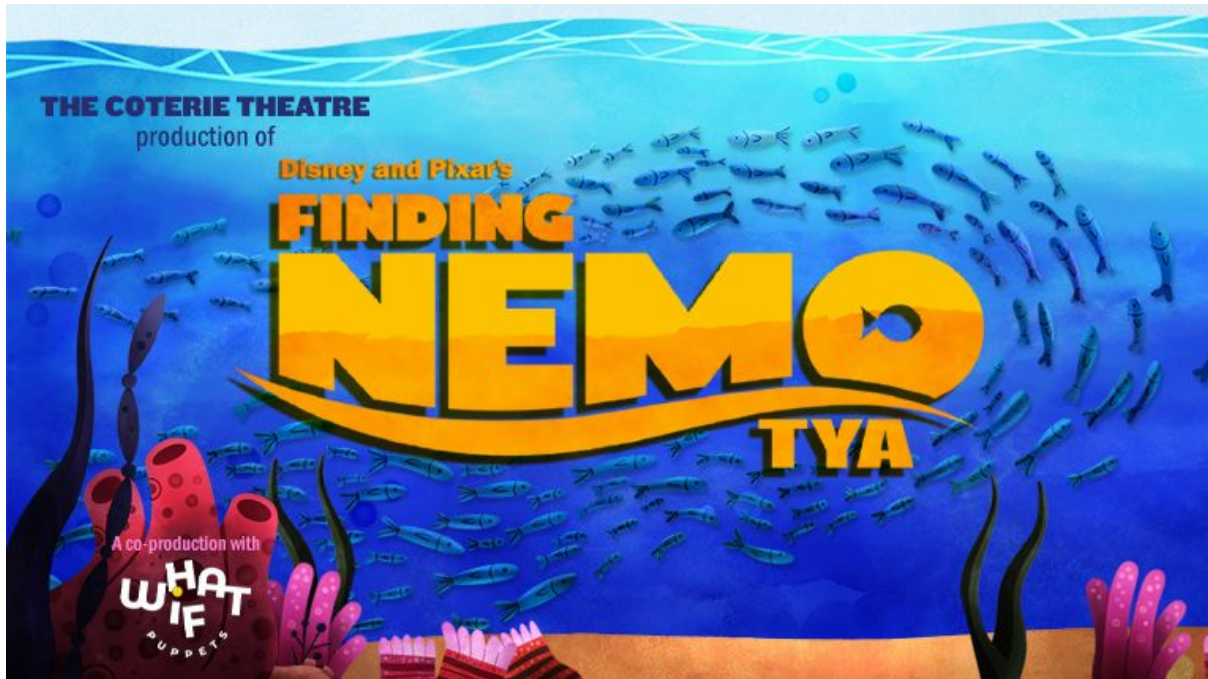


Image is of an illustrated underwater ocean scene including a school of fish and the title of the Coterie Theater production Finding NEMO.

Audio-Reader Network | [reader.ku.edu](http://reader.ku.edu)

We recently updated our volunteer newsletter list; if you would like to be removed from our list- please [email us](#).



Audio-Reader Network | 1120 W. 11th Street | Lawrence, KS 66044 US

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