



# Arts Accessibility Forum

2025-26



## SERIES INCLUDES

- 3 Convenings (November, January, June)
- 2-day Audio Description Training (March 2026)
- Community Connection & Networking
- Optional Education & Awareness Events

# SCHEDULE OVERVIEW



### NOVEMBER 14

#### SERIES INTRODUCTION

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | THEATRE LAWRENCE, Conference Room

Join us for the kickoff event where we will discuss the project goals, explain and demonstrate audio description, and hear from audio description patrons.

### JANUARY 28

#### SECOND CONVENING

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | LIED CENTER OF KS, Pavilion

A HYBRID convening that will expand the discussion beyond audio description adding topics such as cultural events and art from blind/low vision creators.

### MARCH 12 & 13

#### AUDIO DESCRIPTION TRAINING

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM | LAWRENCE ART CENTER, 10<sup>th</sup> St.

This two-day, in-depth workshop will provide audio description training to staff and volunteers who want to become certified audio describers.

### JUNE 3

#### FINAL CONVENING

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM | MIDWEST TRUST CENTER, Cap Fed Room

*Where do we go from here?* A debriefing from the series along with conversations about the future of arts accessibility across the midwest.

### VARIOUS

#### OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES

Experience audio description in action, discover accessibility at local theaters, and learn from experts during curated opportunities throughout the year-long forum series.

**LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED AT EACH IN-PERSON CONVENING**



# OPTIONAL AUDIO DESCRIPTION EXPERIENCES



## December 13 | Kansas City

### **ELF - The Musical YTA**

**Saturday, December 13** | Pre-show event at 1pm, Show starts at 2pm  
The Coterie Theatre, Crown Center, KC, MO

- \*Come an hour early for meet-and-greet/pre-show
- \*Parking can be tricky, reach out if you have questions

Pre-shows include a stage tour, meet-and-greet with theater staff, actor introductions and treats.



## Feb 1 | Theatre Lawrence:

### **The Mountaintop**

Sunday, February 1 | 2:30 PM performance  
Theatre Lawrence, 4660 Bauer Farm Drive

- \*Come an hour early for meet-and-greet/pre-show



## March 10 | Lied Center of Kansas:

### **Peppa Pig - My First Concert**

Tuesday, March 10 | 6:00 PM performance  
Lied Center of Kansas, 1600 Stewart Dr.

- \*Come an hour early for meet-and-greet/pre-show

## Online Options:

### **Audio-Reader Movie Night**

Friday nights | 9pm - 11pm

Live on [AUDIOREADER.NET](http://AUDIOREADER.NET) or Audio-Reader Network App

### **Check your settings for AD options**

Any time | Learn more [adp.acb.org/ad-film-and-tv](http://adp.acb.org/ad-film-and-tv)





# MARCH 12 & 13 AUDIO DESCRIPTION TRAINING



## Who Should Attend the Training?

Anyone interested in:

- working as a freelance description writer for film, series, advertising, etc.
- working as a describer in a local performing arts program or for visual art galleries, museums, or exhibitions
- refreshing existing AD skills
- adding value to their own or employer's inclusion and accessibility initiatives

## What Will They Learn?

- audio description history and theory
- the Four Fundamentals of Audio Description
- active seeing/visual literacy; how to develop skills in concentration and observation
- the art of editing what you see
- vivid language: The Visual Made Verbal™
- “Speak the speech, I pray you” – using the spoken word to make meaning

**COST:** \$200/participant  
*Limited scholarships available*

## Schedule Details

### Day 1 | Thursday, March 12

**9:30 am - 5:00 pm CST**

9:30 am - 12:30 pm - Opening Workshop

- Welcome / Introductions
- Training Modules

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm - LUNCH

1:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Continue Training Modules



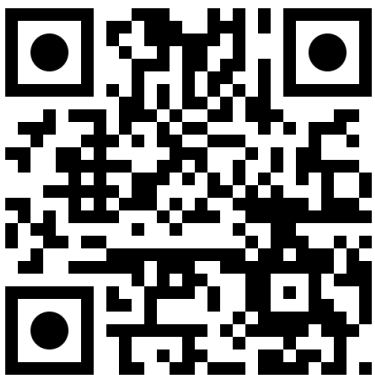
An Initiative of The American Council of the Blind

Learn More:



[adp.acb.org/audio-description-institute](http://adp.acb.org/audio-description-institute)

### REGISTRATION PAGE



[READER.KU.EDU/ADTRAINING](http://READER.KU.EDU/ADTRAINING)

### Day 2 | Friday, March 13

**9:30 am - 5:00 pm CST**

9:30 am - 12:30 pm - Practicum

- \* Small group description sessions with selected video scenes

12:30 pm - 1:30 pm - LUNCH

1:30 pm - 5:00 pm - Practicum

- \* Small group description sessions with selected video scenes
- \* Review - open discussion

\* **Graduation!**

## Contacts:

Nick Carswell | [nickcarswell@ku.edu](mailto:nickcarswell@ku.edu)  
Martha Kehr | [mkehr@ku.edu](mailto:mkehr@ku.edu)



# GRANT PARTNERS



## Kansas Arts Commission

The Kansas Arts Commission (KAC) is dedicated to promoting, supporting and expanding Kansas' creative industries and enriching communities through arts and culture.



## Audio-Reader

The Audio-Reader Network fosters independence by providing access to information and the arts for people who have difficulty reading standard print due to vision loss, physical or learning disability, mobility challenges, and age.

## Lawrence Art Center

The Lawrence Art Center was created around a vision of providing a space for everyone to experience the visual arts, performing arts and beyond, a destination for accessible art exhibitions, performances, and classes for kids and adults alike in mediums from printmaking to ballet.



## Joel Snyder, Audio Description Project

Joel Snyder, PhD, is one of the first audio describers; he began describing theater events and media in 1981. He is the president of Audio Description Associates, LLC with clients world-wide and the Founding Director Emeritus of ACB's Audio Description Project, an initiative he founded in 2009.

## National Federation of the Blind

The National Federation of the Blind is the oldest and largest nationwide organization of blind Americans. Their network of blind members coordinate programs, services, and resources to defend the rights of blind Americans, provide information and support to blind children and adults, and build a community that creates a future full of opportunities.



## Mid America Arts Alliance

Mid-America Arts Alliance is a nonprofit, Regional Arts Organization that serves Arkansas, Kansas, Missouri, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas. They focus on strengthening communities and improving lives through extraordinary cultural experiences.