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**Not seeing all the articles?**

Your newsletter may have been clipped. Click on "View entire message" at the bottom of this email.

## From your 2023 APA president



The Accessibility Professionals Association (APA) was founded with several goals in mind. One of those is to provide expertise in the field of accessibility consulting to those that make the rules. We are being presented with just such an opportunity and one that I think this organization should embrace.

HUD has just announced their ANPRM, or the Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking for Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. While this regulation touches a wide range of topics, from rental policies to communication features to programs and activities, it does touch on our field of expertise in the suggested change from using the Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS) to Title II of the ADA using the 2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design for compliance in the built environment.

I am asking the Technical Standards Committee to review the ANPRM and prepare comments to be presented from APA by the end of June. I encourage all our members to review and submit comments both to the Technical Standards Committee and to HUD directly at [www.hud.gov/504](http://www.hud.gov/504). To send comments to the Technical Standards Committee, email them to [FrancesEllington@AccessibilityProfessionals.org](mailto:FrancesEllington@AccessibilityProfessionals.org). Even if we simply support the changes being suggested, it will be good to have our voice presented.

Hope everyone is safe and ready for the heat!

[John Rife Torkelson](#)

**2023 APA president**

## The APAC-BE Exam is LIVE at testing centers and through online proctoring!



The APAC-BE Exam, the only national certification for accessibility in the built environment, is based on the latest industry standards and best practices, and it will provide accessibility professionals with a valuable credential they can use to demonstrate their expertise while giving their clients the assurance that their project will be done correctly.

The exam is available online and can be taken at any time at either a testing center or through online proctoring. To learn more about the new certification exam, please visit

[AccessibilityProfessionals.org/APAC](https://AccessibilityProfessionals.org/APAC).

Congratulations to all the current [APAC-BEs](#)!

Please contact [Camille North](#) for questions

## Upcoming APA trainings

### Things People to Consider in Multimodal Transportation Projects

#### APA Rocky Mountain Chapter Virtual Training

Monday, June 12, 2023

1:00 - 2:30 pm CT (12:00 - 1:30 MT)

ACTCP 1 elective credit, AIA/CES #APA 257 1 LU|HSW, ICC 35360 .10 CEU

1 hour CE/LU credit + .5 hour Q&A

Find out more and [register here](#)

### Texas Accessibility Academy (virtual)

Tuesday & Thursday, June 13 & 15, 2023

8:00 am - 5:00 pm CT each day

TDLR #26376 2 CE (TX Laws & Rules) 14 CE (TX Access Standards)

AIA/CES #APA 262 16 LU|HSW

**(You must attend both days for the 16 hours of credit)**


Find out more and [register here](#)

## Save the date!

The [2024 APA National Conference](#) will be held January 24 - January 26, 2024, at the Austin Marriott North in Round Rock, TX. The APA Education & Events Committee is busy planning three days full of courses from both Texas and National accessibility experts. More information is coming soon!

### Call for exhibitors and sponsors

If you're interested in showcasing your products and services to the many accessibility professionals – including architects, design professionals, code consultants, and other specialists – who will attend the 2024 conference, please email



**Save the date!**

**2024 APA National Conference**

January 24 - January 26, 2024  
Austin, TX

[AccessibilityProfessionals.org](https://AccessibilityProfessionals.org)

## 2023 JBMS recipients

The Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship Committee is pleased to announce the recipients of the 2023 JBMS Scholarships! We received many excellent applicants this year, and as has been the case for the last several years, the selection of scholarship recipients was not an easy task.

The winners for 2023 are Natalie Mangen of Savannah College of Art and Design and Kristen Hatley of Gonzaga University. Each has been awarded \$1,500 toward their education.

The JBMS Committee wishes to thank all of the applicants as well as all of the donors that make these scholarships possible. If you'd like to make a donation to the scholarship fund, you may do so on [our webpage](#).

[Jimmy Bell](#)

APA JBMS Chair

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### Kris Hatley

**Gonzaga University, Civil Engineering**

"I am very grateful to be a recipient of this scholarship and to know that I can continue to pursue civil engineering without worrying about how to afford it."



### Natalie Mangen

**Savannah College of Art and Design, Architecture**

"I am so excited to be honored with your scholarship. It will help me continue my journey in school."



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## APA was at the ADA Symposium

The ADA Symposium was a blast! With over 700 attendees, there was no chance for boredom. We had such a great time learning, laughing, and networking with other accessibility-minded professionals. We can't

wait to do it all again.



## Huge congrats to our giveaway winners!



**Camille Brooks of UNC Health won a  
Stabila electronic 24" level**

Pictured: John Torkelson awarding the level to  
Camille Brooks with Matt Lescher next to them



**Lynn Stewart-Krieger of Inglis won a gift  
basket of essential accessibility tools**

Pictured: John Torkelson giving the gift basket to  
Lynn Stewart-Krieger

Many thanks to [Evan Terry Associates](#) and [Izor & Associates](#) for their donations for the giveaways!

## Thank you to our volunteers!

**Angela Shapiro, Charlie Watt, John Torkelson, and Matt Lescher** were indispensable in getting the word out about our new APAC-BE certification exam, our chapters, and our 2024 national conference. We couldn't do what we do without our incredible volunteers, and we can't thank them enough!



William Goren

## ADA-relevant articles from an APA member attorney

Don't miss [William Goren's](#) post, "[Kansas HB 2016.](#)" Check out his blog, [Understanding the ADA](#), for more about accessibility and the ADA.



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## Recent spam emails

The APA Board is aware of an increase in spam emails to many of our members. This is likely the result of someone mining our mailing list and selling it to various organizations. Rest assured that APA takes member privacy very seriously, and **we do not sell our mailing list to anyone**.



### Openings

[Accessibility  
Consultant](#)

[Accessibility  
Specialist](#)

## Immediate openings for Accessibility Consultants

[Steven Winter Associates, Inc.](#) has immediate openings for Accessibility Consultants for our **Boston, MA, NYC, Washington, D.C., Miami, FL, and Norwalk, CT** offices. Candidates will have a strong passion to drive social justice by helping clients remove physical barriers to access that has historically marginalized people with disabilities. The team is recognized for improving the way people live by helping clients create accessible and more inclusive built environments. We strive to provide consistently exceptional and reliable solutions-driven accessibility and inclusive design consulting with the goal of exceeding the expectations of our business partners and transforming their approach to development and acquisitions.



### APA mentorship program

Want to help professionals new to the industry? Need help because you're a professional new to accessibility? Check out the [APA mentorship program!](#)



### APA member spotlight

Every two weeks, APA randomly chooses a member to showcase on the APA homepage and social media. Be sure you have a photo and bio in the APA member directory so we can shine a spotlight on you!

[Check out this and all the other member benefits here](#)

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## Welcome our new members!

Click on the member's name to view their profile in our Member Directory. Not all members have public profiles.

Shane Holten, Toronto, Canada

[Regina Huaracha](#), Rowland Heights, CA

[Christine Medina](#), Santa Ana, CA

[Amanda Robertson](#), Palo Alto, CA

[Weston Rodberry](#), Austin, TX

[Ronald Wendle](#), Spokane, WA



## Current member?

This year's [APA logo](#) is available for your use.

## APA 2022 Annual Report

Members can view our [2022 Annual Report here](#)

## Are you in need of an accessibility specialist?

Looking for a specialist to help with planning your building designs or making inspections? If so, we have the expertise you need right on our website!

Check our [Hire a Professional](#) page and search our complete directory by expertise, name, or location.

## We need you!

APA is looking for professionals who are interested in promoting accessibility throughout the nation. We would love to have you come on board one of the APA committees. If you're a current member, [click here](#) to see all APA committees. For any questions, please contact [Camille North](#).

## 2023 Committee Chairs

- APAC Board: [Matt Lescher](#)
- APAC Exam & Item Writing: [Robin Roberts](#)
- Communications & Membership: [Natalie Crawford](#)
- Education & Events: [Angela Shapiro](#)
- Expansion: [Jack McClellan](#)
- Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship: [Jimmy Bell](#)
- Legislative & Legal: Board of Directors
- Rocky Mountain Chapter: [Geoff Ames](#)

## Have ideas for the newsletter or website?

Join the Communications & Membership Committee. We meet virtually just once a month! Contact [Natalie Crawford](#) to find out more.

## Advertise with APA!

If you or a company you know of would benefit from reaching other accessibility professionals, consider advertising on our website or in our newsletter. [Contact APA](#) for details.

## Have ADA, FHA, TAS, or other technical questions?

It's easy to get answers via the APA members-only [Forum](#):

- Log in and access your member profile.
- Under the Forums heading select Forum Memberships.
- Choose the forums and threads that interest you.
- You may opt in for any or all discussions.

Sign up for [Job Opportunities](#):

- Remember to opt in for any new discussions, even if you have previously opted in for all discussions.

Don't forget that we also have [FAQs](#) for members only!

**Call for job openings!**  
One of your APA member benefits

- **Technical Standards:** [Kim Hooker](#)

Minutes from past committee meetings are available to APA members [here](#).

## Let APA work for you!

Find qualified applicants by posting your job to our [Jobs Forum](#).

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## Learn more about Accessibility Professionals Association - APA

- [About us - Our vision and mission](#)
- [APA annual reports](#)
- [History](#)
- [Past Board members](#)

## 2023 APA Board of Directors

[John Torkelson](#): President  
[Charles Watt](#): President-elect  
[Walter Qualls](#): Secretary  
[Gene Boecker](#): Treasurer  
[Mark Mazz](#): Board Member  
[Sarah Strauch](#): Board Member  
Open Position: Board Member  
[Clark Teel](#): Past President

Members may see all Board minutes [here](#).

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## APA is an approved\* provider for the Florida DBPR, AIA, ICC, TDLR, and more!

Continuing Education - \*APA is a registered provider with the American Institute of Architects (AIA/CES, #G583), Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR, Provider #0007855 / license #PVD312), Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR, #1521) and a preferred provider for the International Code Council (ICC, #1321). APA provides pre-verified ACTCP credits for the ADA Coordinator Training Certification Program (ACTCP) and has previously awarded an APA-ADA Specialist Designation, an APA-ADA Assembly Area Designation, and an Accessibility Standards completion certificate. APA partners with APAC (Accessibility Professionals Association Certification Program) to provide CE credits. Members/guests can meet the CE/LU requirements of numerous organizations by attending APA Training and verifying with organizations when a course has been registered.



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The APA Newsletter is provided to share general accessibility information and other resources that may be of interest to our members and constituents. While the APA Newsletter is published by the Accessibility Professionals Association, it is not intended to draw legal conclusions nor does it substitute for the advice of an attorney. The APA Newsletter does not speak for and does not represent the U.S. Department of Justice interpretation of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) or the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulations (TDLR) interpretation of the 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS).

Additionally, we provide space for advertisers, but we do not claim any knowledge of or approval of advertisers' products or services.

If you have any articles for our next newsletter please submit your articles to [Frances Ellington](#).

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