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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.

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## A note from your 2024 APA President

As I write this note for the June newsletter, my thoughts are becoming focused on the National ADA Symposium, which will take place in Minneapolis from June 9th to June 12th. At this point in my career, there are only two national conferences I try to attend every year: the Symposium and our own APA Annual Conference. They are the most relevant for my role as an ADA Coordinator, and I have found them to be the most collegial and enjoyable conferences I've ever attended.



[Continue reading](#)

[Charles Watt](#)

2024 APA President

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## The Accessibility Professionals Association is now a full member of the A117.1 Committee

[John Torkelson](#) and [Kim Goss](#) will act as APA's representatives on the A117.1 Committee. We have been attending the meetings, which are in full swing, with changes from the previous cycle being proposed, discussed, debated, and acted on. Since we were not members then, we mostly sat back and learned the ropes. We will now have an opportunity to provide input as we go along in this process, and we look forward to providing input in the next cycle.



If anyone has any comments, suggestions, or ideas, feel free to reach out to Kim and me. We will be providing updates as the process goes along.

[John Torkelson](#)

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## 2024 Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship recipients

The Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship Committee is excited to announce the recipients of the 2024 scholarships. Each recipient has been granted \$2,000 to support their educational pursuits. The JBMS Committee expresses gratitude to all the applicants for their submissions and extends heartfelt appreciation to the generous donors who contributed to the scholarship. If you wish to make a donation, you may do so on our [webpage](#).

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2024 Scholarship Recipients

**Luis Saez**

**Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Architecture**

"Winning the 2024 Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship would mean the world to me...It's about pursuing a passion for urban planning and the validation of my efforts to make a difference in this field."



**James Moshier**

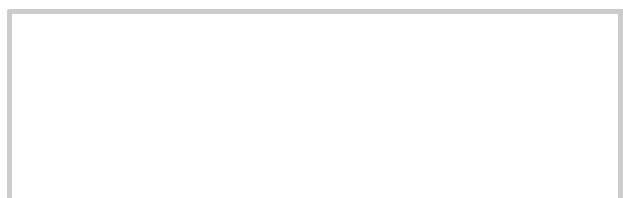
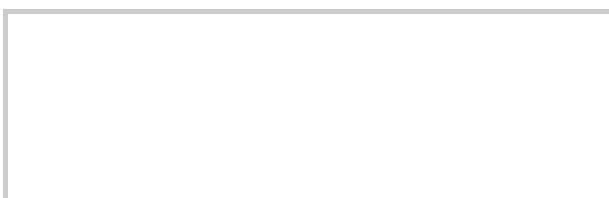
**Auburn University, Architecture**

"I deeply appreciate and value the Accessibility Professionals Association for providing this scholarship so that students like me may have greater opportunities...With this award, I will be able to pursue the education I desire, focus on studying architecture and accessibility, and better enjoy the college experience..."

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## Chapter updates





The next [APA Rocky Mountain Chapter](#) member meeting is scheduled for Thursday, June 20, at 12:30 p.m. CT / 11:30 a.m. MT. For more information, email [Camille North](#).



The [APA Texas Chapter](#) is tentatively scheduled to host its first roundtable on Monday, July 15. For more information, email [Camille North](#).

**All members can join a ["Home Chapter"](#) at no extra cost.**

Members may also join additional chapters for \$60/year.

For more information or to designate your Home Chapter, please contact [Frances Ellington](#).

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## Letter to FEMA

The APA was recently asked to sign the Accessibility Coalition's letter to FEMA advocating for integrating accessibility measures, particularly the I-Codes and A117.1, into the agency's post-disaster public assistance projects guidelines. In response, the APA Board tasked the APA Technical Standards Committee with evaluating the letter and offering feedback. After review, APA officially signed the [letter](#), underscoring APA's commitment to promoting accessibility.



William Goren

## ADA-relevant article from an APA member attorney

Don't miss [William Goren's](#) blog post, ["Hostile environment claims are viable under both the Rehabilitation Act as well as the ADA."](#)

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## Upcoming APA continuing education

**Texas Accessibility Academy**  
hosted by APA and the Texas Chapter  
June 25 & 27, 2024, via Zoom

Join [Marsha Godeaux and Jonathan Sparks](#) for a two-day comprehensive study of the Texas Architectural Barriers Act (TABA), Architectural Barriers Administrative Rules, and the 2012 Texas Accessibility Standards (TAS)

**Single-day registration available**

Day #1 AIA/CES #APA 301 8 LU|HSW

Day #2 AIA/CES #APA 302 8 LU|HSW



**Jonathan Sparks**  
Program Specialist III  
TDLR



**Marsha Godeaux**  
Program Specialist VI  
TDLR

[Click here to find out more and register](#)

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**Tools of the Trade: Accessibility Review Platforms**  
hosted by APA and the Rocky Mountain Chapter  
Wednesday, July 10, 2024, 12:00 - 2:00 PM CT

Join [Joshua Kuphal](#) and [Leah Schoelles](#) for a two-hour webinar familiarizing attendees with BlueBeam Revu and Autodesk Build

APAC-BE #124 2 CEU, ICC #41533 .20 CEU, AIA pending, ACTCP 2 elective credits

**WEBINAR**

**Tools of the Trade:  
Accessibility Review Platforms**

**Joshua Kuphal**  
Technical Director at  
theACCESSpartnership, l.p.

**Leah Schoelles**  
Senior Associate Accessibility  
Specialist at Marx|Okubo

**July 10, 2024**

**12:00 - 2:00 PM CT**



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

[Click here to find out more and register](#)

## [Moving into the Future](#)

### [2025 APA National Conference](#)

Wednesday, January 29 through Friday, January 31, 2025



The APA Education & Events Committee is busy planning a three-day event brimming with enlightening and informative presentations. Set against the backdrop of the theme ["Moving into the Future,"](#) the 2025 conference serves as a platform to underscore APA's unwavering dedication to exploring ongoing advancements in accessibility. This theme signifies APA's commitment and aims to inspire participants to actively partake in conversations that will nurture a shared vision for the future of accessibility in the built environment.

If you're interested in showcasing your products and services at the 2025 conference, email [Frances Ellington](#).

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### **APAC - Certifying excellence in accessibility**

APAC and the Great Plains ADA Center are pleased to announce a significant collaboration. The APAC-BE will be offered for the first time at the upcoming [2024 National ADA Symposium](#) later this month. This joint endeavor underscores our dedication to enhancing the professional development and acknowledgment of individuals working in the accessibility sector.

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APAC is proud to announce [CASI](#) as an Approved Provider!

We congratulate all of our most recent APAC certificants and welcome them to the APAC community!

[See a list of all current APACs here](#)

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## **APA's new mailing address and phone number**





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## APA couldn't do it without our volunteers

### 2024 APA Board of Directors



Charles Watt  
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**Thank you to the 2024 APA Board of Directors for your dedicated leadership and commitment.** The Board plays a crucial role in steering the organization towards its goals, always mindful of the needs and aspirations of the APA membership while ensuring financial prudence. Your guidance and vision are invaluable in driving the association forward!

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### 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



Each month, 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.

[Bill Arsenault](#), TX

[Laurie Chester Lessans](#), MD

[Jennifer Condon](#), CO

[Amanda Jaffke](#), TX

[Wes Remaklus](#), CA



## Current member?

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

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## APA 2023 Annual Report

Members can view our

[2023 Annual Report here](#)

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## APA chapters

All members can [join a "Home Chapter"](#) at no extra cost. Members may also join additional chapters for \$60/year. For more information or to designate your Home Chapter, please contact [Frances Ellington](#).

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## 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.

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## 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 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](#).

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## 2024 Committee/Chapter leaders

## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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.

- **Communications & Membership:** [Natalie Crawford](#)
- **Education & Events:** [Angela Shapiro](#)
- **Expansion:** [Jack McClellan](#)
- **Jim Boyce Memorial Scholarship:** [Meghan Simecek](#)
- **Legislative & Legal: Board of Directors**
- **Technical Standards:** [Kim Hooker](#)
- **APAC Board:** [Matt Lescher](#)
- **APAC Exam & Item Writing:** [Robin Roberts](#)
- **Rocky Mountain Chapter:** [Dana Barton](#)
- **Texas Chapter:** [Stacey Brewer](#)

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

- 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!**

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### Call for job openings!

One of your APA member benefits

#### 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](#)

## 2024 APA Board of Directors

- [Charles Watt](#): President
- [Gene Boecker](#): President-elect
- [Walter Qualls](#): Secretary
- [Sarah Strauch](#): Treasurer
- [Mark Mazz](#): Board Member
- [Sandra Miles](#): Board Member
- [Jonathan Mueller](#): Board Member
- [John Torkelson](#): Past President

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

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## Thank you to the organizations that sponsored and exhibited at the 2024 APA National Conference

### Gold Sponsor



### Exhibitors



If you're interested in showcasing your products and services at the 2025 conference, email [Frances Ellington](#)



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

Continuing Education: \*APA is an approved CE/LU provider for AIA/CES Provider (#G583), ICC Preferred Provider (#1321), and Florida Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR, #PVD312). APA also provides preverified ACTCP credits on noted courses 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, including the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, by attending APA training and verifying with organizations when a course has been registered.



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's 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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