

DICAPTA'S NEWSLETTER

Monthly Accessibility News - August 2023



CURRENT EVENTS, COLLABORATIONS, AND MORE BELOW



Major Breakthrough for Spanish accessibility!

Senator Edward J. Markey and Representative Anna G. Eshoo have reintroduced the Communications, Video, and Technology Accessibility (CVTA) Act to **update and strengthen existing accessibility regulations for Americans with disabilities**. The CVTA aims to address the challenges posed by new technologies, such as video conferencing platforms and artificial intelligence, that have become prevalent since the 21st Century Communications and Video Accessibility Act (CVAA) was passed in 2010. **Dicapta is particularly pleased with the inclusion of audio description for [Spanish-language video programming in the CVTA](#).**

The existing regulation concerning audio description requirements solely applies to English-language programming, **and this specific inclusion represents a notable acknowledgment of the needs of the Spanish-speaking visually impaired community**. By recognizing the importance of providing audio description services in Spanish, the regulation takes a step towards fostering greater accessibility and inclusivity for individuals who rely on this vital feature to engage with video content on television.



FEATURED WORK

Alma's Way Nominated for Audience Award at Audio Description Awards Gala

We are excited to announce that [Spanish](#) and [English](#) audio description of the children's show [Alma's Way](#), has been [nominated for the Audience Awards at the Audio Description Awards Gala](#). Created by Sonia Manzano, the show has captivated young audiences with its heartwarming storytelling. **The nomination recognizes the show's dedication to inclusivity and accessibility.**

Based on Sonia Manzano's experiences growing up in the Bronx, the show showcases the life of 6-year-old Alma, offering a glimpse into the experiences of living in a Latino neighborhood and fostering an appreciation for different cultures.

The Audio Description Awards Gala recognizes efforts in making media more accessible to individuals with visual impairments, and Alma's Way has been at the forefront of promoting inclusivity with its thoughtful audio description.

The Audio Description People's Choice Award, now in its second year, is a unique opportunity for fans to get involved by showing their support for the audio description they love the most. You can vote for Alma's Way [by clicking on this link](#).

The American Council of the Blind (ACB) 2023 Audio Description Awards Gala will take place virtually on November 14, 2023, at 7:30pm ET. Tune in to find out who the winners are.



OUR MENTOR'S CORNER

Jaclyn Packer, A Tenacious Researcher

A New Yorker through and through, Dr. Jaclyn Packer has worked for more than 40 years researching several areas related to disability. She also has vast experience as a former senior research associate for the American Foundation for the Blind. We had the opportunity to talk to her as part of our series of interviews with our advisory group, and she had some fascinating insight to share with us.

[Read Jacki's complete interview.](#)



FEATURED WORK

Our Watch Parties Have Returned!

[We are thrilled to announce the return of our Watch Parties!](#) These events take place monthly, and they showcase movies in Spanish with open audio description. They are presented exclusively for our [Facebook group Latinos4Access](#), which consists of TV and film lovers, most of them with visual disabilities. Our debut showing for this season was "Mesa de Tareas" on July 30. The film follows four siblings as they grapple with the challenges of survival in a society defined by social inequality. Despite facing adversity, the movie showcases the genuine richness of the human spirit, **highlighting values like love, solidarity, and familial bond that serve as the protagonists' pillars of strength and good fortune.**

This season, the Dicapta Watch Party hosts are Carlos Martínez and Lucy Arguijo, who will work to curate an awesome experience for everyone involved. Here they tell us a bit more about themselves:

Lucy: "I live in Florida, and I am a medical interpreter of Honduran origin. For the past eight years, I have had a guide dog named Delsey, who is a Golden Retriever. I enjoy watching biographical, adventure, musical, mystery, and some science fiction movies. I am thrilled about the idea of having access to more movies with audio descriptions in Spanish!"

Carlos: "I grew up in California, and now I am an employee at UC Irvine, where I work to serve first-generation and low-income students. My family is of Mexican origin. After a complete loss of my vision, I have learned to enjoy movies and series with audio descriptions. I hope we can have friendly discussions about this topic that has transformed entertainment for many of us."

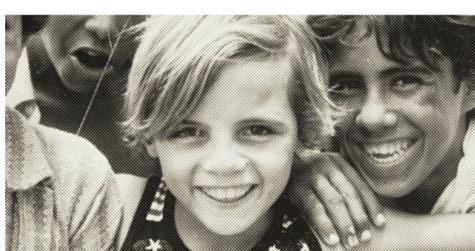
We invite you to join us for our future Watch Parties Para Ti, the last Sunday of every month at 6 p.m. ET. This month we will present "Miguelito," provided to us by Pragda and director Sam Zubrycki who will be joining us for the showing. Join our Facebook Group, Latinos4Access to stay tuned for more information on the films that we will be showing in the following months.

About Miguelito:

In 1973, an eleven-year-old named Miguelito was discovered singing at San Juan airport by Harvey Avere, a renowned New York record producer, leading him from Manuel A Perez's slums to recording with top salsa musicians and performing at Madison Square Garden with Eddie Palmieri. His tracks like "Payaso" and "Canto a Borinquen" became popular, but he vanished from public life after a year. Filmmaker Sam Zubrycki and Harvey Avere embark on a journey similar to "Searching for Sugar Man" to trace Miguelito's path, showcasing 70s NYC and salsa performances, in a film celebrating Caribbean culture, music, and Miguelito's life.

IMPORTANT DATES

August 27 6 p.m. ET, Watch Party Para Ti, [Miguelito](#) - In Spanish with open audio description. Guest: Sam Zubrycki. [Visit Latinos4Access](#) for more information.



dicapta 
Accessible Communication Developers



Visit our website!

Subscribe to our Newsletter

This communication was developed under a grant from the U.S. Department of Education #H327C210001. However, the contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.

Copyright © 2023, Dicapta. All rights reserved.

Our mailing address is:
mailto:info@dicapta.com

Want to change how you receive these emails?
You can [unsubscribe from this list](#).