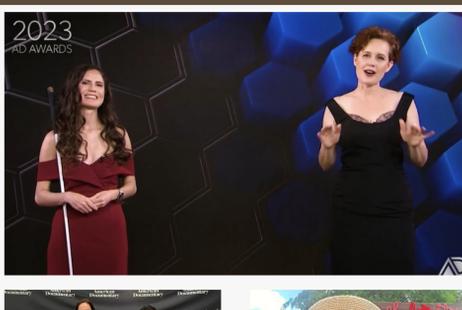


DICAPTA'S NEWSLETTER

Monthly Accessibility News - December 2023



CURRENT EVENTS, COLLABORATIONS, AND MORE BELOW



International Day of Persons with Disabilities

3 DECEMBER

On this International Day of Persons with Disabilities Let's Remember the Impact of Accessible Content

On the International Day of Persons with Disabilities, **Dicapta takes pride in seeing how accessible content created to serve the Latinx community in the United States is making a positive impact in other countries.**

For instance, content from Canal Trece, Sesame Street, and the series Searching: Our Quest For Meaning in the Age Of Science, are now available on YouTube with AD with a secondary audio channel. **On the other hand, the free streaming platform Waterbear has accessibility available through the All4Access app.**

When the resources used to improve accessibility here manage to impact less privileged communities elsewhere, a true globalization of assets for inclusion is achieved. **This reflection on the International Day of Persons with Disabilities reminds us of the transformative power of accessibility and how it can serve as a bridge to equality worldwide.**



The Audio Description Awards Gala Was A Resounding Success For Accessibility in Spanish

The 2023 Audio Description Awards Gala was a resounding success, especially within the Latino community, as it was the first time the Gala was transmitted simultaneously in both Spanish and English. Additionally, the Gala was broadcast with open audio description in both languages via the ACB media channels, Youtube and Peacock.

Latino representation was a strong highlight throughout the evening, with Conchita Hernández a co-host, the channel Semillitas claiming the Outstanding Achievement Award in Spanish, and Fred Rogers' Alma's Way being nominated for the People's Choice Award. **Dicapta's commitment to providing exceptional Spanish dubbing and Spanish audio description for the Gala ensured an inclusive and accessible experience We look forward to continuing these efforts alongside the American Council of the Blind in coming years.**

Additionally, be sure to enjoy the following interviews and standout coverage of the Gala:

- ["Realidad Desconocida"](#) - an interview by Shalmarie Arroyo with the American Council of the Blind and Dicapta.
- ["Una Mirada Diferente"](#) - an interview by María Fernanda Saavedra and José Miguel Derisan with Conchita Hernandez, the American Council of the Blind and Dicapta discussing the event.
- ["ACB Sunday Edition Podcast"](#) - an interview by Anthony Corona providing an overview of the exciting event.
- [Catarina Rivera's wonderful social media video](#) on the event found on YouTube and all her socials channels "Blindish Latina".
- We would also like to extend our thanks to Ileana Rivera, a member of our advisory committee, who collaborated in the promotion of the Gala through the Latino Public Radio Consortium.

We applaud the American Council of the Blind for making this event available and accessible to the Latino community and for its efforts to bring this outstanding event to the Spanish-speaking audience.



Our Mentor's Corner: Juanita Rodríguez

Welcome back to Our Mentor's Corner, where we tell the stories behind the great people who form our team. **The following is a fragment of "Ten Signs for Survival", an article about Juanita Rodríguez, a friend of Dicapta and a key member of our advisory committee:**

"Dr. Juanita M. Rodríguez Colon welcomes us into her home in Cayey, Puerto Rico. She alerts us that the rooster we hear belongs to the neighborhood because, contrary to popular belief, roosters don't just crow in the early morning but whenever they feel like it. She's legally known as Juana M., and although she's made peace with her name, there's still a pang because her mother wanted to name her Myrna, "but since it was my dad who registered me, he named me Juana."

[Interested in more? You can read the entirety of "Ten Signs For Survival" here.](#)



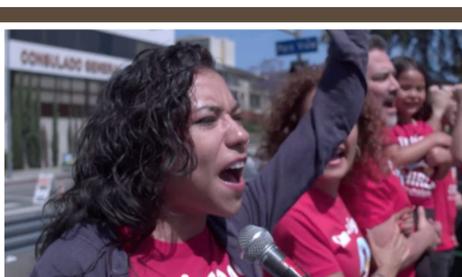
Celebrating AmDoc's Annual Gala: A Night of Embracing Diversity in American Storytelling

Last month, we had the pleasure of attending the 2023 American Documentary Annual Gala for their night of "Embracing Diversity in American Storytelling." The Gala explored the critical question of "Who gets to tell stories that reach the public? ". Through the night we reflected on both this question and another important matter: Who gets to tell these stories normally? At Dicapta, we've also been reflecting on how to make these stories available to all audiences.

We were pleased to celebrate among friends, both old and new, during the night. Some of our highlighted reunions included:

- Carol Colmenares, Director of Outreach and Education, Dicapta
- Barbara Ghammasi, Member of Dicapta Advisory Group
- Asad Muhammad, VP of Impact & Engagement Strategy, POV
- Set Hernandez, Director and Producer, Unseen

[To learn more, visit our blog post here.](#)



America's Family is Now Fully Accessible With ASL

"America's Family," a poignant tale of resilience and unity in the face of adversity, has taken a monumental step towards accessibility. **Now fully available with audio description in English and American Sign Language (ASL) created by Dicapta, this powerful film offers an inclusive viewing experience for a wider audience.**

Set against the backdrop of a family torn apart by an ICE raid on Thanksgiving Day, the story follows the Diaz family's heart-wrenching journey. The film illuminates the resilience born from love and the unyielding spirit that emerges amidst adversity, leaving an indelible mark on the hearts of those who watch.

The film was directed by Anike Tourse, a versatile multimedia maker with a rich repertoire both on and off the screen. **She is a member of New Days Films, a U.S. film distribution cooperative that primarily serves the non-theatrical market (colleges and universities, libraries, high schools, and community groups).** New Day Films titles can be watched on the New Days' streaming platform and Kanopi.

Viewers can now experience the accessibility of "America's Family" using the All4Access app, making this impactful story accessible to a broader spectrum of audiences.

The creation of these accessibility elements has been made possible through the TV Access grant H327C210001, generously funded by the U.S. Department of Education.



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