

12061 Tech Road, Silver Spring, Maryland 20904 – 301-681-6636

January 10, 2025

Dear Listeners,

Happy 2025! This year looks very promising for new developments in vision science based on the research advancements of 2024 [**here**](#Science). Also, activity is picking up after the holidays and there is an interesting assortment of events and opportunities in this week’s Update. I hope you enjoy them all.

Cheers,

Sylvia

Here are the links to all the items below:

* [**FCC Announces Effective, Compliance, and Comment Dates for Video Conferencing Accessibility**](#FCC)
* [**Developments in Vision Science**](#Science)
	+ [**Glaucoma Implant**](#GI)
	+ [**Retinal Implant**](#RI)
	+ [**Stargardt Pill**](#SP)
	+ [**Macular Degeneration**](#MD)
* [**Exploring AT Devices**](#AT)
* [**Get ready for tax filing season 2025**](#Tax)
* [**Free, Nationally Recognized Six-Week Virtual Diabetes Management Workshop**](#MoCo)
* **[Theater Update](#Theater)**
* **[Calendar](#Calendar)**
	+ **[Replay POB Events](#Replay)**
	+
	+ [**POB Low Vision Support Group: iPhone Apps for Accessibility**](#iPhone)
	+ **[TUG Meeting: Columbia Lighthouse and Maryland Accessible Telecommunications Program](#TUG)**
	+ [**Accessible Screening of "Deadpool & Wolverine"**](#MLK)
	+ [**MLK Open Mic**](#Mic)
	+ [**iBUG Cafe Presentation on the Ray-Ban Meta Glasses**](#iBUG)
	+ **[ACBVA Meeting](#ACBVA)**
	+ **[U.S. Access Board Presents Preliminary Findings on Artificial Intelligence (AI) For Disability Community and AI Practitioners](#AI)**
	+ [**Davis Library No Pressure Book Discussion - Virtual**](#Davis)
	+ [**Stargardts Network: New Year Goals and Plans (No Resolutions)**](#Stargardts)
	+ [**Bluegrass Jam**](#Jam)
	+ **[POB Practical Solution Showcase (Virtual Event)](#Showcase)**
	+ **[Low Vision Town Hall: Enhancing Your Quality of Life Through Vision Rehabilitation (Virtual Event)](#Vision)**
	+ **[Glaucoma Research Update](#Glaucoma)**
	+ [**Free Concert: Roots Music with American Patchwork and Grégoire Maret**](#Roots)
	+ [**Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Webinar: The Intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Disability Rights**](#ADA)
	+ [**Free Concert: Americana: Exploring the Depths of American Music**](#Music)
	+ [**Audio Described Omnium Circus - I'm Possible**](#Circus)
	+ [**Bloom at Good Hope Concert Series: BĒHELD**](#Bloom)

###

**FCC ANNOUNCES EFFECTIVE, COMPLIANCE, AND COMMENT DATES FOR VIDEO CONFERENCING ACCESSIBILITY**

Comments Due: February 3, 2025

Reply Comments Due: March 3, 2025

In a Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking adopted September 27, 2024, the FCC modified its rules and sought comment on further changes to improve access to video conferencing for people with disabilities.

On January 2, 2025, the FCC released a Public Notice announcing January 13, 2025 as the effective date for the amended rules.  Based on this effective date, **January 12, 2027** is the date for compliance with amended rule sections that require video conferencing services to include captioning; access to sign language interpreters; and user interface controls that allow users to adjust the display of captions, speakers, signers, and other features for which user control is necessary for accessibility.

The Public Notice also announced the due dates for comments and reply comments in response to the Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (Further Notice).  The Further Notice seeks comment on whether additional performance objectives should be added for video conferencing services, including:

* audio description and other functionality for participants who are blind or have low vision;
* text-to-speech and speech-to-speech functionality;
* automatic sign language interpretation; and
* functionality needed by people with cognitive or mobility disabilities.

Interested parties may file comments by accessing the FCC's Electronic Comment Filing System at [**https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings**](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/filings).  All filings must reference CG Docket Nos. 10-213, 03-123, and 23-161.  People with disabilities who need assistance to file comments online may request assistance by email to **FCC504@fcc.gov**.

Link to the Second Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

[**https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-rules-improve-access-video-conferencing-services-0**](https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-rules-improve-access-video-conferencing-services-0)

Link to the Public Notice:

[**https://www.fcc.gov/document/video-conferencing-accessibility-dates**](https://www.fcc.gov/document/video-conferencing-accessibility-dates)

###

**DEVELOPMENTS IN VISION SCIENCE**

From Ophthalmic Edge, an online publication of [**OEPatients.org**](https://ophthalmicedge.org/)

News about advances in research and treatment related to vision loss can come at us in quantities that are not only abundant, but also quite redundant. Here is a selection of noteworthy developments reported in 2024 including [**Glaucoma Implant**](#GI)**,** [**Retinal Implant**](#RI)**,** [**Stargardt Pill**](#SP)**,** and [**Macular Degeneration**](#MD)**.** You can also check out their [**Answers to the Most Asked Questions on Vision Loss - OE Patients**](https://ophthalmicedge.org/patient/most-faq-vision-loss/?utm_source=Newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_content=Monthly%20Roundup&utm_campaign=Monthly%20Roundup%20%7C%20December%202024)**.**

**Glaucoma Implant**

FDA Approves First-of-its-Kind Glaucoma Treatment

*BrightFocus Foundation*

[***brightfocus.org***](http://brightfocus.org/)

The iDose TR, is implanted in the eye to automatically deliver glaucoma medicine consistently for up to 3 years. The device replaces the need for manually administered eye drops. [**Learn More**](https://www.brightfocus.org/glaucoma/news/fda-approves-first-its-kind-glaucoma-treatment)

**Retinal Implant**

Science Announces Positive Preliminary Results For Vision Restoration In Pivotal Clinical Trial

*Science Corporation*

[***science.xyz***](http://science.xyz/)

Science Corporation introduced the Prima implant, an advanced retinal device that has shown promising results in restoring vision for individuals with geographic atrophy, a form of age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Clinical trials reported significant improvements in visual acuity among participants.[**Learn More**](https://science.xyz/news/primavera-trial-preliminary-results/)

**Stargardt Pill**

Daily tablet Shows Promise as First Treatment for Stargardt Disease

*Macular Society*

[***macularsociety.org***](http://macularsociety.org/)

The drug, gildeuretinol (ALK-001), has shown the potential to slow disease progression by more than 20% during the 2 year phase 1 & 2 clinical trials. Based on these results the drug appears to be on fast track for FDA approval.[**Learn More**](https://www.macularsociety.org/about/media/news/2024/december/daily-tablet-shows-promise-as-first-treatment-for-stargardt-disease/#:~:text=)

**Macular Degeneration**

Scientists Get Closer to Stopping Macular Degeneration

*US News & World Report*

[***usnews.com***](http://usnews.com/)

Age-related macular degeneration is the leading cause of vision loss in people over 50. Treatments currently available slow the inevitable progression of the disease, but none actually halt it. Researchers have just discovered a protein that might possibly change that.

###

**EXPLORING AT DEVICES**

From the Maryland Department of Disabilities

Looking for resources to help you narrow down your choice of AT? Check out these websites to help you make a more informed decision about AT.

* [**Ask JAN A to Z of Accommodations**](https://lj79tucab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001btRZWRgFWFLcc9U7JpTPDMkPKmCeSmqXX9-YN2iNieH5YyOAps9ZhzasqilafuxH3q70NZ7pDoUmnlJQnhKiyBW2DJzWeM5B3ukjKVT9iMT5BP8FpTW9j6DJNFn9wEsqCq4evYA-sYzdq4FJnaUZ-f48RXzVHyBV&c=pzCQOLA0vRj_zLZkoP0Z7uWOwYqXPrO79gQ6tXu1gyHj5Nx1wukbpA==&ch=gtHnD7eae57lKUdGeJRBp4aRH_2BKBd4Fapgq7qykJt24rxis9tZ4A==)
* [**Assistive Technology Navigator Tool**](https://lj79tucab.cc.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=001btRZWRgFWFLcc9U7JpTPDMkPKmCeSmqXX9-YN2iNieH5YyOAps9ZhzasqilafuxHy7kSEHahIQ8y0DeLvhmN78m8C3_EHhJsw9In5kMDdY5eolG_HLg3NsAyNX3xtxgpOxbSYyLbM27xEcp0H9kszf8N26vsuJoQRIvIUWS6ntPitIYYSG8WzehrW2lo6zbtSm5ZzVODPsQ=&c=pzCQOLA0vRj_zLZkoP0Z7uWOwYqXPrO79gQ6tXu1gyHj5Nx1wukbpA==&ch=gtHnD7eae57lKUdGeJRBp4aRH_2BKBd4Fapgq7qykJt24rxis9tZ4A==)

###

**GET READY FOR TAX FILING SEASON 2025**

From MWE Volunteer Evelyn Jemionek

As tax filing season approaches, the IRS Get Ready campaign reminds taxpayers of simple steps they can take now to [**get ready to file their 2024 federal tax returns**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.irs.gov/individuals/get-ready-to-file-your-taxes/1/0100019446d7cb91-ccb636fa-a600-4c71-983e-b392e5b128b2-000000/0Y2gyHDsIOb_brm3TP7YF7j00euY1o7odUIukIMpSUE%3D387). As the IRS continues its digital transformation, it's making filing easier for taxpayers by providing new online tools as well as expanding and updating other digital tools.

**Access IRS Online Account for helpful information**

Taxpayers can create or access their personal [**IRS Online Accoun**t](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.irs.gov/payments/online-account-for-individuals/1/0100019446d7cb91-ccb636fa-a600-4c71-983e-b392e5b128b2-000000/bOmNc28Kjo_l3exL3QjxIERYW7yOk_D9N56JjtseCPc%3D387), where they can find all their tax-related information for the 2025 filing season. New users will need to have a photo ID ready to verify their identity.

Through their IRS Online Account, taxpayers can:

* **View and edit language preferences request and alternative media such as Braille, large print and more.**
* View key details from their most recent tax return, such as adjusted gross income.
* Request an Identity Protection PIN.
* Get account transcripts to include wage and income records.
* Sign tax forms such as powers of attorney or tax information authorizations.
* Receive and view over 200 IRS electronic notices.
* View, make and cancel payments.
* Set up or change payment plans and check their balance.

**Gather and organize tax documents**

Having well-organized tax records can make filing a complete and accurate return easier and help avoid errors that can delay refunds. This may also help the taxpayer identify deductions or credits that may have been overlooked.

Most income is taxable, including unemployment compensation, refund interest and income from the gig economy and digital assets. Taxpayers should watch for and gather essential forms, such as [**Forms W-2, Wage and Tax Statement**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.irs.gov/forms-pubs/about-form-w-2/1/0100019446d7cb91-ccb636fa-a600-4c71-983e-b392e5b128b2-000000/hQQnESEGVDVSPhrKWe4rPq1zc4oD2XQroJ3_vG6bXmE%3D387) and other income documents

**Helpful IRS resources and online tools**

IRS.gov is a valuable resource for taxpayers, offering a variety of [**online tools**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.irs.gov/help/let-us-help-you/1/0100019446d7cb91-ccb636fa-a600-4c71-983e-b392e5b128b2-000000/p4ARgSBuvOyUHcyDybljtfM1lGUibWP6msnEzmbfayw%3D387)such as the IRS Online Account for individuals available 24/7. These tools help individuals file and pay taxes, track refunds, access account information and get answers to many tax questions. Taxpayers can save time by bookmarking these resources on their browser for easy access.

###

**FREE, NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED SIX-WEEK VIRTUAL DIABETES MANAGEMENT WORKSHOP**

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Community and Population Health program—in partnership with the Maryland Living Well Center of Excellence—is offering a six-week, free online program to help people manage diabetes. Starting January 15, all sessions of the Diabetes Self-Management Program (DSMP) will be held on Wednesdays from 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Read more at [**Montgomery County Updates: Free, Nationally Recognized Six-Week Virtual Diabetes Management Workshop Starts Wednesday, Jan. 15**](https://montgomerycomd.blogspot.com/2025/01/free-nationally-recognized-six-week.html).

###

**THEATER UPDATE**

The following performances will be described by an MWE volunteer. Note that recorded program notes will be available at the theater just prior to the actual performance and on Dial-In before and after the performance at Publication 8, Category 10, Branch 11.

**What the Constitution Means to Me**

Round House Theatre Bethesda - 240-644-1100

Described Saturday, January 25th at 2:00 pm

**The Bedwetter – A Musical**

Arena Stage Kreeger at the Mead Center - 202-488-3300

Described Saturday, February 15th at 2:00 pm

**Shucked**

National Theater – 1-800-514-3849

Described Date to be determined

**CALENDAR**

**Replay POB Events**

**Listen and watch replays of recent webinars and other POB events at**[**www.youreyes.org/replays**](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=21719989f4&e=59825d4dc8)

###

**POB Low Vision Support Group: iPhone Apps for Accessibility**

Tuesday, January 10th from 1:00 to 6:00 pm

**Charles E. Beatley Jr. Central Library**5005 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA

Join to explore iPhone apps that support people with low vision in their daily lives. Bring your iPhone!
To RSVP, call **(301) 951-4444**.
###

**TUG Meeting: Columbia Lighthouse and Maryland Accessible Telecommunications Program**

Saturday, January 11th from 10:00 to 11:00 am

The Technology User Group (TUG) is kicking off the New Year with a dual program. First, the Columbia Lighthouse of Maryland will highlight programs available in those Maryland counties located near Washington, D.C. Part of this discussion will be about updates to Columbia Lighthouse's services that have occurred since their last presentation. Following Columbia Lighthouse, there will be a presentation by Diane DuCharm on the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications Program, covering free cell phones, complimentary equipment, and how to obtain these items. Furthermore, the Maryland Accessible Telecommunications Program has also undergone some modifications, which Diane will share with the group.

Who should attend:

* People living in Montgomery and Prince George's counties who are interested in training and other blindness services.
* Anyone in Maryland seeking an accessible cell phone or other type of assistive communication equipment.
* Existing clientele of these programs to learn about the upcoming changes.

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| This program will be recorded. |

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| **Call in Number**:1-301-715-8592Meeting ID: 656 203 7293​# **One tap mobile**[**+13017158592,,6562037293#**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/tel%3A%2B13017158592%2C%2C6562037293%23/1/0100019404215510-b4c72bc7-99a5-4f1f-8d27-35048ef77340-000000/o7IQ5B72MzCHPembBeWetweycNaluxuV5oVUTmpKPeY%3D384) |
| **Webcast:**[**https://marylandlibraries.zoom.us/j/6562037293?omn=94648805523**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//marylandlibraries.zoom.us/j/6562037293%3Fomn%3D94648805523%26utm_medium%3Demail%26utm_source%3Dgovdelivery/1/0100019404215510-b4c72bc7-99a5-4f1f-8d27-35048ef77340-000000/_e-fy3zBl9JBHK3drDcmCe2tADRmzhxs3vKsMkSsqvM%3D384) |

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###

**Accessible Screening of "Deadpool & Wolverine"**

Saturday, January 11th at 1:30 pm

MLK Library

901 G Street, NW, Room 401-C (4th Floor)

This program is open to all! The film will be shown with audio description.

Rated: R

Run Time: 2 hours, 10 minutes

###

**MLK Open Mic**

Sunday, January 12th from 3:30 to 4:30 pm

[**Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Library - Central Library**](https://dclibrary.libnet.info/event/12065020#branch)

901 G Street, NW

The MLK Open Mic Series invites you to be a part of an afternoon of poetry and music!

Do you have a song or poem that you wrote or just love to perform? Come out to MLK's Open Mic to share it!

Sign up begins at 3:15 at the Information Desk in the New Books area on the first floor to take the stage and show us your talents!

Please note that the library only supplies a speaker and microphone. If additional equipment is needed, it must be supplied by the performer. For special requests, including interpretation, please email adultservices.dcpl@dc.gov at least one week prior to the event for consideration.

For all other questions or concerns please contact them at **adultservices.dcpl@dc.gov**.

###

**iBUG Cafe Presentation on the Ray-Ban Meta Glasses**

Sunday January 12th, from 500 to 6:30 pm

iBUG Cafe will offer a free presentation on the very popular Ray-Ban Meta smart glasses. They will cover such topics as installing the Meta View App, go over the buttons on the Meta View App, pair the glasses to the app, overview of the glasses, physical tour of the glasses, and provide examples on the benefits in using the glasses.

To join the Zoom conference on using a computer or the app, click the following link:

[**https://zoom.us/j/7428486329?pwd=M003RmZaa3pTbWRlZ00xbSs4YTlmUT09**](https://zoom.us/j/7428486329?pwd=M003RmZaa3pTbWRlZ00xbSs4YTlmUT09)

Or, type in the Meeting ID and Password below:

Meeting ID: 742 848 6329,
Password: 369978

To dial from a phone, call:

+1 3462487799 US

###

**ACBVA Meeting**

Monday, January 13th at 7:00 to 8:30 pm

Online via Zoom

There will be three topics:

First will be Sandy Halverson, Director of the Silver Bells program for seniors. Discover how Silver Bells empowers older adults who are blind or have low vision to adjust to vision loss and develop essential blindness skills. This engaging dialogue will unveil great resources and get you thinking about the actions you can take to grow your blindness skills and your level of personal satisfaction.

Next, will be Becky Keller, DBVI's pre-employment transition specialist. She will discuss Pre-ETS services and opportunities for students who are blind or have low vision and their families, and she will promote an upcoming town hall meeting.

ACBVA President, Doug Powell, will then lead a discussion of how to become more involved in the local Area Agency on Aging. Advocacy for the needs of older individuals who are blind is needed with these agencies. They can provide helpful resources and support the community, but they need to get to know the community.

Join Zoom Meeting
[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481244260?pwd=ekgxYldXMnlqYk16MFlua0lIQnozZz09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86481244260?pwd=ekgxYldXMnlqYk16MFlua0lIQnozZz09)
Meeting ID: 864 8124 4260

Passcode: 111222

One tap mobile
+13017158592,,86481244260#,,,,\*111222# US (Washington DC)

or Dial
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Meeting ID: 864 8124 4260

Passcode: 111222

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Learn More About ACBVA: Explore resources, membership info, and programs by visiting [**www.acbva.org**](http://www.acbva.org/) or emailing them at **info.acbva@gmail.com****.**

For questions, reach out to RoseAnn Ashby at 703-403-0226.

###

**U.S. Access Board Presents Preliminary Findings on Artificial Intelligence (AI) For Disability Community and AI Practitioners**

**New Date**

Tuesday, January 14th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

As part of the Developing Artificial Intelligence (AI) Equity, Access & Inclusion for All Series, the Access Board will [**present its preliminary** **findings**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.access-board.gov/news/2024/11/07/u-s-access-board-presents-preliminary-findings-on-artificial-intelligence-ai-for-disability-community-and-ai-practitioners//1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/mh1xFR6oUKvFAifbG8Zp3e4khBEQfN6Z-xph6Oakg6w%3D379) on the risks and benefits of AI for people with disabilities. The findings are based on the outcomes of three recent AI hearings held in August 2024, independent research and engagements, as well as comments received from the public. The presentation will take place virtually.

* **Zoom Link:** [**https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1601731944**](https://links-1.govdelivery.com/CL0/https%3A//www.zoomgov.com/j/1601731944/1/010001932c2a3468-0dc4c9ba-7d11-4653-8845-b5b4aab38d62-000000/38RFQG8bzTZ0X2Fq2JQUhgirXE8H8FLEedgri2Ao0D8%3D379)
* Meeting ID: 160 173 1944
* Passcode: 524293

Learn more at [**U.S. Access Board Presents Preliminary Findings on Artificial Intelligence (AI) for Disability Community and AI Practitioners**](https://www.access-board.gov/news/2024/11/07/u-s-access-board-presents-preliminary-findings-on-artificial-intelligence-ai-for-disability-community-and-ai-practitioners/).

###

**Davis Library No Pressure Book Discussion - Virtual**

Tuesday, January 14th from 4:00 to 5:00 pm

Talk about books you've read - and meet other book lovers!

[**Virtual Branch**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/12609487#branch)

Join to discuss what you've been reading and to meet fellow book lovers! You can talk about any book, so there is no pressure.

**Please register at** [**Davis No Pressure Book Discussion - Virtual - Montgomery County Public Libraries**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/12609487).

**The Zoom link will be sent to registrants the day before the discussion.**

**NEW:** You will need to be signed into Zoom to attend this program via the web.

To sign in, you must first create a free account: [**https://zoom.us/signup**](https://zoom.us/signup)**.**

###

**Stargardts Network: New Year Goals and Plans (No Resolutions)**Tuesday, January 14th from 6:00 to 7:00 pm
Join to talk about their new plans and goals for 2025.
Hosted by Prevention of Blindness Society.

Call (301) 951-4444to register.

###

**Bluegrass Jam**

Tuesday, January 14th from 6:00 to 8:00 pm

[**Damascus Library**](https://mcpl.libnet.info/event/12008084#branch)

9701 Main Street, Damascus

Bring your acoustic instrument and share your love of playing bluegrass music.

Questions about this program? Contact the branch 240-773-9444.

###

**Virtual Low Vision Town Hall: Enhancing Your Quality of Life Through Vision Rehabilitation**

**Wednesday, January 15th from 12:30 to 1:30 pm**Speaker: **Suleiman Alibhai, O.D., Low Vision Optometrist, Low Vision Services PLC**Join Dr. Alibhai to discuss low vision rehabilitation, including when to start, available options, and practical strategies. Learn how vision rehabilitation can help maximize your remaining vision and improve your overall quality of life.

Call **(301) 951-4444**to register.

###

**POB Practical Solution Showcase (Virtual Event)**

Tuesday, January 21st from 1:00 to 2:00 pm

Have a practical, low-tech, or no-tech item that makes life easier? Share your idea, whether it’s a helpful large-print product, a new device, or a simple, impactful find! Submit by **January 15** to participate. Let’s inspire each other with creative solutions to everyday challenges.

To submit, call **(301) 951-4444** or email [**taziz@youreyes.org**](http://taziz@youreyes.org/).

###

**Glaucoma Research Update**

Saturday, January 25th from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm

**11 a.m. – 12 p.m. Presentation**
**12 p.m. – 2 p.m. Free Glaucoma Screening**

**Friendship Heights Village Center**
4433 South Park Avenue, Chevy Chase

Special Guest: **Arthur Schwartz, M.D.**, Washington Eye Physicians and Surgeons
Join Dr. Schwartz, a nationally recognized glaucoma expert, to learn about the latest research and updates on glaucoma, a leading cause of vision loss and blindness. After the presentation, POB will offer free glaucoma screenings. All are welcome!

To RSVP, call (301) 951-4444.

###

**Roots Music with American Patchwork and Grégoire Maret**

Sunday, January 26th at 1:00 and 3:00 pm

National Gallery of Art West building, Garden Court

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Registration Required at [**Roots Music with American Patchwork and Grégoire Maret — National Gallery of Art**](https://tickets.nga.gov/events/01932256-fdf9-f23f-59c6-dd6bd47e49cf).

Listen to members of the renowned American Patchwork Quartet in a special trio presentation. They will celebrate the immigrant soul of American roots music by reimagining timeless songs from our nation’s past.  Led by Grammy-winning guitarist and vocalist Clay Ross, the trio infuses American folk classics with jazz sophistication, country twang, West African hypnotics, and East Asian ornamentation. Ross, a Southern-born roots music aficionado, is joined by Grammy winner Falguni Shah, an 11th-generation Hindustani classical vocalist, and Yasushi Nakamura, an internationally acclaimed Issei jazz bassist.  This concert also features guest artist Grégoire Maret on harmonica.

###

**Mid-Atlantic ADA Center Webinar: The Intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Disability Rights**

Wednesday, January 29th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

AI is transforming businesses across all sectors, from targeted AI chat responses and advanced hiring tools to AI-powered smartphone features and personalized TV recommendations. However, the rapid adoption of AI has sparked concerns, including questionable monetization schemes and disability discrimination. When AI introduces bias that excludes individuals with disabilities from everyday activities, it creates significant civil rights challenges.

This webinar will explore the intersection of AI and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Diego Demaya, J.D., will discuss the latest legal developments, the impact of AI on accessibility, and how enforcement agencies and courts are addressing AI bias and seeking solutions.

Register at [**The Intersection of Artificial Intelligence and Disability Rights**](https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/ev/reg/cs3rjve?source_id=586abba4-cef0-42a3-b675-a2a453882405&source_type=em&c=czRCTdA10javQdI70ZLUhMy5t69b3j6LkuenSjfs-JHeE3ZYZDsiGg==)**.**

###

**Americana: Exploring the Depths of American Music**

Sunday, February 2nd from 3:00 to 4:30 pm

National Gallery of Art West building, Garden Court

6th Street and Constitution Avenue, NW

Registration Required

[**Register Now**](https://tickets.nga.gov/events/0193227c-3ad3-8987-d1d3-4a4be93c7ec0) at [**Ulysses Quartet and Guitarist Ben Verdery**](https://www.nga.gov/calendar/concerts/82nd-concert-series/ulysses-quartet-and-guitarist-ben-verdery.html/2025/02/02/1500)

Experience the rich talent of American composers in this program by the Ulysses Quartet and guitarist Ben Verdery. Included are compositions by two of the performers—Ben Verdery and violinist Christina Bouey—as well as titans of contemporary music history, such as Leonard Bernstein and Jimi Hendrix. From the contemplative to the raucous, this musical collection celebrates the diversity of styles and voices that makes up our musical heritage.

###

**Audio Described Omnium Circus -** [***I'MPossible***](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=a1fd235262&e=59825d4dc8)Saturday, February 22nd at 2:00 pm (Doors open at 1:00)

[**Warner Theatre**](https://www.ticketmaster.com/warner-theatre-tickets-washington/venue/172129)

513 13th Street, NW

Omnium Circus is a nonprofit organization whose mission it is to create world-class entertainment celebrating diversity, accessibility & inclusion. The circus was recently featured on [**WETA**](https://youreyes.us14.list-manage.com/track/click?u=939b8acf4b5eb247b7120bcd9&id=2b5185f45e&e=59825d4dc8) where they explained what makes this troupe's work so unique and the impact of each show.

For general ticketing and event questions, please contact the Warner Box Office at **WarnerBoxOffice@LiveNation.com**.
Babes in arms do not require tickets.
For Premium Seating information, please reach out to Maryclaire Griffin at MaryclaireGriffin@LiveNation.com or call 202-626-8255. [**Visit OmniumCircus.org for more info!**](https://omniumcircus.org/)

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**Bloom at Good Hope Concert Series: BĒHELD**

Beloved Pop & Soul Music sponsored by the Strathmore Music Center

Sat, March 8th at 5:00 pm

[**Good Hope Neighborhood Recreation Center**](https://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec/facilities/recreationcenters/goodhope.html)

14715 Good Hope Road. Silver Spring

Free / Pay What You Can

[**RSVP**](https://secure.strathmore.org/22366)

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