

**49th Annual Convention
of the
American Council of the
Blind of New York, Inc.
ACBNY**

**AMERICAN COUNCIL OF THE BLIND
OF NEW YORK, INC.
AN AFFILIATE OF THE**



**October 25 through 27, 2019
Hampton Inn Albany Downtown
25 Chapel Street
Albany, NY 12210
518-432-7000**

The 2019 Convention Committee welcomes you to our 49th annual convention of the American Council of the Blind of New York (ACBNY). We hope you find the weekend informative and fun. Please let us know if there's anything we can do to make your stay more enjoyable.

2019 Convention Committee

Kathy Casey, Chair

Mike Godino

Nancy Murray

Lori Scharff

Jean Mann

Dear ACBNY Members and Friends:

Fall is upon us and it's time for our annual ACBNY convention. It is hard to believe that it has been just over a year since we were in Rochester.

This year, we are at a “new” hotel for us. Please let us know what you think of the Hampton Inn for a convention in the future. Unfortunately, this location is not available during the legislative session at a rate within our budget!

We have a nice schedule planned out this year. Thursday evening, the nominating and finance committees will be

meeting to conduct their business to present at Friday afternoon's business meeting.

Friday morning, the New York State Commission for the Blind will be holding their town hall. Please come and express your thoughts on services in NY. Remember, this input is then used in the plan for the Rehabilitation Services Administration.

Friday evening, our fantastic scholarship committee is hosting a talent show. So, come and support the growth of the scholarship fund, have a laugh and a good time.

On Saturday we have several presentations and also special interest chapter meetings. We will end on Saturday with the annual banquet.

Sunday the ACBNY Board of Directors will be meeting. As always, the board meeting is open to everyone.

Enjoy your time in Albany and have a good convention. See you around the hotel!

Lori Scharff

President ACBNY



**The New York State Commission for the Blind
(NYSCB)
is Proud to Be Part of the
American Council of the Blind of New York's
Annual Convention**

The NYSCB congratulates the American Council of the Blind of New York on its annual convention.

NYSCB provides vocational rehabilitation and other direct services to legally blind or deaf-blind New York State residents including children, adults, and older adults. The commission works closely with not-for-profit agencies for the blind throughout New York State to provide technical, educational and resource assistance to our participants. One of NYSCB's primary services is assisting participants in achieving economic self-sufficiency and full integration into society. NYSCB offers these services through seven district offices across New York State.

Vocational Rehabilitation Program – provides guidance and counseling to assist participants who are legally blind, find or retain employment.

Business Enterprise Program - provides training for blind vendors in operating food service facilities in federal and state buildings. Any New York State resident who is

legally blind or deaf-blind and is a United States citizen may be eligible for this program.

Children's Program - rehabilitation services to legally blind children between the ages of birth and 21. Early intervention, empowering parents, arranging services to supplement educational activities and ensuring a smooth transition to adult services

Transition Program - pre-employment transition services to students ages 14 to 21 and vocational rehabilitation services for all youth who are legally blind, including those with additional disabilities.

Summer Socialization Skills Program - summer camp and recreational opportunities for youth who are legally blind.

Equipment Loan Fund - helps to purchase equipment that will improve the quality of daily life.

Independent Living Program - helps individuals with low vision carry out day-to-day activities and assists them in living at home and in the community.

Contact us at:
1-866-871-3000
www.visionloss.ny.gov

The members and friends of the American Council of the Blind of New York Inc. (ACBNY) deeply thank and greatly appreciate the generosity of all the sponsors of the 2019 ACBNY Convention.

Diamond New York State Commission for the Blind (NYSCB)

Individual Sponsors

Platinum: Fred Scheigert

Gold: Sal Moscato

Silver: Bob Cronin, Mary Ellen Cronin

Bronze: Lori Scharff, Mike Godino, Ian Foley, Karlene Fiorello, Maureen Moscato

2019 Convention Agenda

Hospitality Suite, Room 1001, will be open daily; come visit us.

Thursday, October 24

2 to 6pm Registration, Hotel Lobby

8:30 p.m. Nominating Committee Meeting, check with Mike Golfo upon arrival for room location; closed meeting.

Friday, October 25

10-12 Noon, Registration outside Ballroom.

10 a.m. to 12 Noon NYSCB Town Hall Meeting, Ballroom B.

12:30 p.m. Lunch, Ballroom A.

Brian Daniels, Executive Director, New York State Commission for the Blind

Carrie Laney, Executive Director, New York State Preferred Source Program

1:45 to 2pm Break

2 p.m. ACBNY Business Meeting, Ballroom B.

6 to 10 p.m. ACBNY Scholarship fundraiser; Cash Bar, Plated Dinner, Silent Auction, Entertainment; Comedian Steve Sabo from Comedy Company, ACBNY talent, Ballroom B.

Saturday, October 26

8:30-11:30 a.m. Randolph-Sheppard Vendors of New York Organization Meeting, Ballroom B.

9:00-11:45 a.m. Guide Dog Users of New York, Guide Dog Trivia and Guest Seaker TBA, Ballroom A.

9:00-11:30 a.m. NYSCCLV Meeting, Capital Board Room

12:30 p.m. Lunch, Ballroom B.

1:45-2:00 p.m. Break

Afternoon Speakers, Ballroom A.

2 p.m. Annie Chiappetta, author; Annie will talk about the process of having books published and will read some of her poetry.

2:45 p.m. Satauna Howery; Satauna will talk about her job doing professional voiceovers and will play demos of her work.

3:15 p.m. Break

3:30 p.m. We will show the documentary The Invalid Corps. Everyone thinks they know the story of the Civil War – Four years of America’s bloodiest history. Over 600,000 men killed and more than 40,000 men with amputated limbs and even more with other injuries and illnesses. What no one ever asked is “What happened to those disabled men afterwards?”

6 p.m. Banquet, Ballroom B.

Guest Speaker: Day Al-Mohammed, producer of Invalid Corps

ACB of New York Life Membership Presentations

Door Prizes.

Sunday, October 27

8:30-12 Noon, Board Meeting, Ballroom A., First Vice President Mike Golfo

12 Noon, Close of Convention.