

AccessLetter

Cambridge Commission for
Persons with Disabilities

Art Exhibit and Poetry Slam as ADA Celebration

“The work we do is serious business, so we needed to have some fun!” exclaimed Oce Harrison, Project Director, New England ADA Center as she introduced the juried Poetry Slam winners and juried Art Exhibit at the Institute of Human Centered Design on July 23rd. This was their event to celebrate the 24th Anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act. Original paintings, sculpture, collage and photography created by people with disabilities were on display and audience members had a chance to talk with artists in attendance about their work.



Mani G. Iyer, one of the poets featured at the ICID Poetry Slam.

This free event was packed by 7pm when featured poets took the stage and a steady marathon of talent inside one hour. Ekiwah Adler-Belendez read his poetry over Skype in Mexico! The local lineup featured Colin Killick, Kythryne Aisling, Eli A. Wolff, and Mani G. Iyer. Each poet shared a few

poems and all of them had something to say.

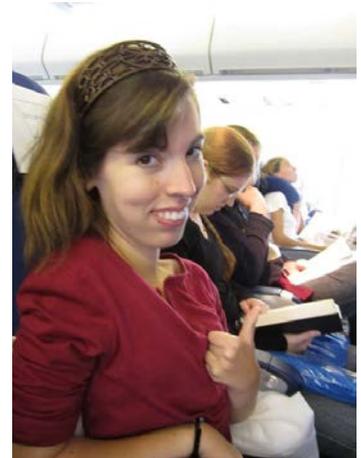
Killick pointed out the best thing about open mic was the “open part,” and one of his poems was inspired by performing at local venues that are not wheelchair accessible. Adler-Belendez shared a bit on college male student sexuality, “It was through poetry I realized the obstacle was not my wheelchair,” following up with the announcement he’s due to be a father in three weeks.

(More on Poetry Slam, page 2)

Making Accessible Travel a Reality for PWD

True or False: Persons with disabilities are unable to travel and see the world? False! That fallacy and more were dismantled at Rachel Garaghty’s recent presentation, *Traveling Without Barriers: Accessible Travel for the Adventurous*. The event was held at Hostelling International (HI) in Boston and as the hostel’s organizer told the room, promoting travel for all people is their mission.

Rachel’s background is in international development and disability, and as a graduate student she traveled to Tanzania to research their disability rights movement. A wheelchair user and, at times, in use of a personal attendant (PA), Rachel spoke to a full-room on how to travel internationally, “People with disabilities need to get out and travel. Plan your next adventure!” She started her talk with three commandments to vow oneself to:



Rachel Garaghty shares her accessible travel expertise.

1. Improvise, 2. Roll with the punches, and 3. Have fun.

In general, accessible travel can cost more, such as expenses for airfare, hotels, equipment, and a personal assistant or PCA. The most accessible flight might have fewer layovers and could be more expensive, or the most accessible lodging is at a pricier hotel in the top-dollar part of town.

(More on Accessible Travel, page 2)

SAVE THE DATE!

**Expect. Employ. Empower.
Assistive Technology in the
Workplace**

**Wednesday, October 29
Reception: 6pm
Panel: 6:30-8pm**

**Spaulding Rehab Cambridge,
1575 Cambridge Street**

See page 4 for more info.

MIT Open Style Lab Students Design Assistive Clothing

Run by the MIT Assistive Technology Club, the Open Style Lab is a 10-week multidisciplinary summer innovation challenge bringing together design, engineering and occupational therapy students to create assistive clothing for individuals with disabilities. The students are broken into teams and paired with a “client,” a person with a disability who has a clothing need that is not being met with traditional clothes.

For example, one client who has a quadriplegic spinal cord injury causing paralysis below his neck has a hard time



regulating his body temperature and is often cold. His team worked with him to design a dress shirt that looks like any other, but contains a voice-controlled heating element in the collar,

allowing him to independently adjust the temperature output as needed throughout the day.

Another client uses a bionic arm and has a hard time getting shirts and coats to slide over it and also has difficulty buttoning shirts. His team designed a small plastic device that can be attached to his prosthetic hand, providing a smooth surface for sleeves to slide over. They also altered a regular button-down shirt, placing magnets behind the buttons and where the button holes were, allowing their client to easily snap his shirt together.

Angie is a musician with early onset arthritis who has difficulty reaching behind her back to zip dresses. Her team designed a necklace that attaches to the zipper on the back of a dress. She tugs on the necklace to zip up and then has a stylish necklace to boot!

The Museum of Science will showcase two of the eight teams and their products each Saturday in October, with the clothing on display from noon to 2:30pm and presentations by the teams on their innovations from 12:30-1:00pm. These events are free with exhibit hall admission. For more information about Open Style Lab, or to view videos of the work, see <www.openstylelab.org>.

Poetry Slam (continued from page 1)

Aisling started with the first poem she made after having a brain tumor removed and found herself needing to write everything down. Wolff was facilitating that evening and also recited his own work: “You can say nothing to me that will deter me from seeking my equality.” The final speaker was Mani Iyer, who was awarded a poetry fellowship and residency last year with the National Endowment of Arts. Iyer is deaf and blind due to Usher Syndrome and is currently enrolled in the MFA program for poetry at Lesley University.

To hear the evening’s poets, visit the web site <www.ticnetwork.org>, follow links to the *Mission Impossible* program and go to Guest Bios under 8/5/2014, New England Poetry Slam.

Accessible Travel (continued from page 1)

“Bring a spare.” This could be a cane, parts for a cochlear implant, batteries, extra medicine, or a power converter. Rachel assured the one thing you need will probably break and the country you visit might not have what it takes to fix it. “Bring duct tape.”

For first time travelers, she suggests using a Western-chain hotel. For seasoned travelers, go to hostels and stay with families. And make friends because the locals will tell you where the best food is and will have insight on cultural practices. Also, since everything will take longer, it is a good idea to plan down time inside the trip and resist the urge to pack a full day for every day of your travels.

More than planning an itinerary, it will be the attitude of a traveler if this turns into an adventure or a nightmare. The one airport elevator was broken when she landed in Tanzania and Rachel was stuck on the second floor until they drove a huge contraption of a vehicle to the side of the building to get her to the ground level. “Things will go wrong, don’t let your disability get in the way,” exalted Rachel. For more information on traveling abroad with a disability visit the web site, <www.miusa.org>.

Symposium Updates Participants on ADA Topics

This year, the National ADA Symposium was held from June 15-18 in Denver, Colorado. It was four days of workshops, panels, and networking all comprised of people dedicated to move the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) forward. Session topics ranged from accessible correctional facilities, emergency preparedness, advanced discussion on service animals, public transportation and taxi services, capped with a presentation on effective communication by Sally Conway from the Department of Justice.

This unique conference also covered issues surrounding employment, getting "Googled", the interview process, and psychiatric and cognitive disabilities in the workplace. Dr. Jana Burke provided a workshop on reasonable accommodations and discussed what was okay, (flexible scheduling, providing qualified interpreters and readers, getting new equipment), and what did not qualify as a reasonable accommodation such as eliminating essential job functions, switching to have another person act as your supervisor, or



asking one's employer to provide items for personal use.

There was fun to be had, too! Comedian Josh Blue of Comedy Central was the featured speaker at lunch and it made perfect sense as he has cerebral palsy and is funny as heck. Alongside workshops on recreation guidelines, accessible temporary events, and access to sports in schools, conference organizers offered a tour of the Coors Baseball Stadium followed with class on stadium accessibility and design requirements. Home

of the Colorado Rockies baseball team, the stadium's accessibility features are drawn so games and events could be enjoyed by everyone.

"The National ADA Symposium is designed for a large and varied audience including ADA Coordinators, advocates, architects, members of the business

community, educators, government officials, and service providers, to name a few," said ADA Symposium Chairman James De Jong. Next year is the 25th Anniversary of the ADA and organizers are already getting ready for the symposium in 2015. It will be held in Atlanta, Georgia from May 10-13th. Visit <www.adasymposium.org> for more details on conference information.

Upcoming Events of Interest to the Disability Community (See end of Calendar for all weekly/recurring events)

- Sept 1 **Morningstar Access** – Program on Labor Day for children with special and medical needs at the Boston Children's Museum from 8-10am. Enjoy the Museum in an uncrowded environment with few visitors. Fee is \$7 and registration is required. Call 617.986.3697 or register direct at: <www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/morningstar>.
- Sept 5-7 **FREE Abilities Expo!** – Three days of activities from 11am-5pm (Sunday closes at 4pm) at the Boston Convention & Exhibition Center. Presentations and exhibits on new technology, cutting-edge products, and services to improve the lives of persons with disabilities. ASL Interpretation and CART services will be on-site. Register in advance to save time at <www.abilitiesexpo.com/boston/vregister>.
- Sept 11 **Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) Monthly Meeting** – meets in the 2nd floor Conference Room at 51 Inman Street from 5:30-7pm with opportunity for public comment. Call 617.349.4692 (voice), 617.492.0235 (TTY) or e-mail <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> for more information or to request accommodations.
- Sept 20 **FREE Ham Radio Club for Persons with Disabilities** – The Irving K. Zola Center for Persons with Disabilities, 20 Hartford Street, Newton Highlands, has created a Ham (Amateur) Radio Club and is looking for participants. There is a radio station at the Zola Center. If you are a licensed Ham Radio operator or have interest in learning more about this interesting hobby please consider attending this club meeting to be held from 11:30am-2:00pm. Light lunch provided by the Zola Center so r.s.v.p is suggested. For more information

please contact Club Director Bob Drukman at <bobdruk@verizon.net> or <zolacenter@juno.com> or call 617.277.5131.

- Sept 27 **Family Harvest Festival** – Free live music, games, hay rides, crafts, bouncy house and face painting brought to you by Northeast Arc's Autism Support Center. Event held at Endicott Park on 57 Forest Street in Danvers from 12noon – 3pm. Donations accepted but there is no fee to join us. For more information call 978.777.9135 or visit: <www.ne-arc.org>.
- Oct 2 **Art Reception, Sidewalk Sam** – Free reception at 4pm at Open Door Gallery, 89 South Street #101, Boston. Robert Guillemin is "Sidewalk Sam," the popular artist dedicated to creating art at the feet of pedestrians to inspire, promote spirit, enrich daily life, and address social issues. His new show *Outside My Window* is up from July 28-Nov 3. Open Door Gallery promotes the work of artists with disabilities and is a project of VSA Massachusetts, the state organization on arts and disability.
- Oct 7 **Turning Three, Workshop** – Free workshop from 7-9pm at 411 Waverly Oaks Road in Waltham to provide information for parents about the process of transitioning a child from Early Intervention to publicly funded preschool. Workshop is hosted by the Federation for Children with Special Needs and it is free but registration is required. Please call 617.236.7210, or toll-free at 800.331.0688, or send an inquiry email: <info@fcsn.org>.
- Oct 8 **Cambridge Career Expo** – Join the Cambridge Office of Workforce Development, Community Development Department and IBM at this FREE job fair featuring dozens of companies who are looking to hire. This event will be held from 10am-1pm at the Cambridge IBM Innovation Center, One Rogers Street (Charles Park). Come dressed for success and with plenty of copies of your resume! For more information, visit <www.cambridgemagov/careerexpo> or contact Josh Foley at <jfoley@cambridgema.gov> or 617.349.6259
- Oct 9 **Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) Monthly Meeting** – meets in the 2nd floor Conference Room at 51 Inman Street from 5:30-7pm with opportunity for public comment. Call 617.349.4692 (voice), 617.492.0235 (TTY) or e-mail <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> for more information or to request accommodations.
- Oct 9-12 **Mad In America International Film Festival** – Four days of films, talks, panels, and two live performances explore alternative understandings of mental illness. For more information on tickets and scheduling visit: <www.madinamerica.com>.
- Oct 13 **Morningstar Access** – Program on the holiday Monday for children with special and medical needs at the Boston Children's Museum from 8-10am. Enjoy the Museum in an uncrowded environment with few visitors. Fee is \$7 and registration is required. Call 617.986.3697 or register direct at: <www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/morningstar>.
- Oct 15 **Annual Diversity Job Fair in Arlington** – Sponsored by the Arlington Commission on Disability and the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission, this job fair will be held from 10am-1pm at Arlington Town Hall, 730 Massachusetts Ave. There will be a variety of employers, from Comcast to local universities and the State of MA to Spaulding Hospital and beyond, onsite to speak with job seekers about openings. Come with plenty of copies of your resume!
- Oct 29 **Expect. Employ. Empower. Assistive Technology in the Workplace** – Come celebrate National Disability Employment Awareness Month with CCPD and Spaulding Rehab Cambridge! This FREE event is open to employers, job seekers and any other interested parties and will kick off with a reception at 6pm, with an exciting panel discussing and showcasing assistive technology from 6:30-8pm. Walk away with a greater understanding of incentives for hiring employees with disabilities, as well as the variety of assistive technology that not only enhances productivity for workers both with and without disabilities, but also makes good business sense! This event will be held at Spaulding Rehab Cambridge, 1575 Cambridge Street. Both ASL interpreters and CART providers have been requested. Find more information as it becomes available online

at <www.cambridgema.gov/ccpd>. Email <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> or call 617.349.4692 (voice) or 617.492.0235 (tty) with questions. Free and open to the public – no need to register!

Weekly & Recurring Events

Access to Art tours – the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) in Boston offers a series of visitor centered, interactive tours designed for groups with disabilities or if persons with disabilities prefer an individual tour with a companion or care partner. There is no fee for these tours but most require pre-registration. Contact us for a sighted guide or other access accommodation: Hannah Goodwin at 617.369.3189 (voice), Valarie Burrow at 617.369.3302 (voice), 617.369.3395 (TTY), or email <access@mfa.org>. The MFA is located at 465 Huntington Avenue and is accessible by the Green line “Museum of Fine Arts” stop, or the Orange line “Ruggles” stop. Please visit <www.mfa.org> for more information.

Injured Worker Support Meetings – Meetings are scheduled by appointment, often the 1st Wednesday of the month, 5:15 - 6:45 pm, but other times can be arranged. Appointments usually take place at 650 Beacon Street, Kenmore Square, Boston, 4th Floor Conference Room. RSI Action volunteers answer questions and provide resources and support to people with RSIs (Repetitive Strain Injuries) or other workplace injuries. To set up a meeting or more info, call 617.247.6827, or visit <www.rsiaction.org>.

Mondays

FREE Basic Yoga for Women – Offered by the Cambridge Women’s Center at 46 Pleasant Street, this group meets each Monday from 6-7pm and uses basic breathwork and poses to relax and rejuvenate the mind, body and spirit. Space is limited, so pre-registration is required at 617.354.6394 or <maddybeauregard@gmail.com>.

NAMI Support Group for Caregivers – Free support group sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness, for family members, friends and other caregivers of persons with mental illness who provide understanding, comfort, hope and help. This group meets on the 1st and 3rd Mondays of each month at 7:30pm at the Cambridge Hospital Learning Center, Conference Room A, 3rd Floor, 1493 Cambridge Street. For more information, <www.namimass.org/programs>, or call Elizabeth at 781.646.0397.

Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Support Group – meets biweekly on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month from 7-8:30pm at the Friends Meeting House, 5 Longfellow Park, Cambridge. This group is open to anyone with OCD or related disorder and is a casual, open discussion of the trials and triumphs! of living with OCD. Suggested donation \$5. For more information e-mail <ocdgroupcambridge@gmail.com>.

Tuesdays

Computer Lab Open to Public – Every Tuesday from 3-5:45 pm Cambridge Community Television at 438 Massachusetts Avenue offers free computer access, plus assistance from a friendly volunteer who can help with job searching, online job applications, basic computer skills, and much more. This drop-in time is open to the public and there is no need to sign up, just stop by! Call 617.661.6900 for more information.

Wednesdays

Access Advisory Committee to the MBTA (AACT) meets 1 – 3 p.m. at the State Transportation Building, 10 Park Plaza, Boston, 2nd floor Conference Room #2 and 3 on the 4th Wednesday of each month. Call 617.973.7507 (voice) or 617.973.7089 (TTY) or email <aact@ctps.org> to request interpreters.

Amputee Support Group – Offered by Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, all amputees, their family and friends are invited to socialize and discuss common areas of interest, including accessibility and resources, as

well as to provide support and share coping strategies. Meets on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 1-2:30pm on the 5th floor, in the Lantern Room 5, at Spaulding Rehab Hospital, 300 First Avenue, Charlestown Navy Yard (accessible by MBTA bus routes 89 & 93). For more information, see <www.spauldingrehab.org/events/supportgroupevents> or contact Sally Johnson, LICSW at 617.952.6254 (voice), 1.800.439.2370 (TTY), or by email at <sejohnson@partners.org>.

Assistive Technology Resource Center (ARTC) Open House – The ARTC, which helps people with disabilities in Eastern Massachusetts make informed decisions about assistive technology they can use to increase their independence at home, on the job or in school, holds an open house on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 8:30am-4:30pm. These FREE monthly open houses provide an opportunity to see what kinds of assistive technology products are available, and to try them out. The ARTC is located at the Boston Easter Seals office, 89 South Street (one block from MBTA South Station). Visit <www.eastersealsma.org>, call 617.226.2634, or email <ATRC@eastersealsma.org> for more information.

Carroll Center for the Blind Information Day – Learn more about Carroll Center programs and our visual impairment services the 1st Wednesday of every month (except in January and July). See the campus, learn from rehabilitation instructors, and talk to graduates about their experience in adult and senior rehabilitation and technology programs. And lunch is provided free of charge! Sessions start promptly at 10am and end at 2pm. *Special dates are offered tours about summer offerings for youth.* Staff loves the chance to help participants become informed, relaxed, and motivated! To make a reservation (required), email <maureen.foley@carroll.org> or call 1.800.852.3131 ext. 225 w. the name of each guest attending. Family and friends are welcome!). The Carroll Center is located at 770 Centre Street in Newton.

DBSA-Boston (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance of Boston) Support Group meets every Wednesday from 7-9pm in the cafeteria in de Marneffe Building at McLean Hospital in Belmont. On the 2nd and 4th Wednesday there is a lecture from 7-8pm, then group from 8-9pm. Call 617.855.2795 or visit <www.dbsaboston.org> for more information.

Free tour of MFA in American Sign Language (ASL) – for visitors and their family and friends who are fluent in ASL. Monthly offering at the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) in Boston, the tour explores a different part of the Museum each month. These tours will start at 6:30pm on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. No pre-registration is required; meet at the Sharf Visitor Center in the MFA. For more information about accessible programs contact Valarie Burrows at 617.369.3302 (voice), 617.369.3395 (TTY) or e-mail <access@mfa.org>.

HOLLAoffline: We've Got Your Back! – Join the Cambridge Women's Center on the last Wednesday of every month for a free street harassment support and discussion group, open to all who identify as women. We're here as a resource and we've got your back! 7-8pm at the Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street in Cambridge. For more information, email <boston@ihollaback.com>.

Life Changes Support Group for Women – Change happens in life whether we choose it or whether it catches us by surprise. Either way, you don't have to be alone. Whatever new or different thing you're dealing with, whether the start of something new, an ending or a changing situation, come and let us hold your hand through it. Together we'll pool our wisdom; we'll look at what got you here, offer some tools for getting through and guidance for next steps. We'll use some writing, art, a little ritual but mostly good old fashioned support. This group is held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of the month from 6:30-8pm at the Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street. For more information, email Susan at <change@group26@gmail.com>.

NAMI Connection – Support group for adults with mental illness sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), meets every Wednesday and Friday 10:30-12:00 at the Cambridge Somerville Recovery Learning Center, 35 Medford Street, Suite 201 in Somerville. The group is free and open to all who self-identify as having a mental illness, regardless of diagnosis. For more information, contact Janel Tan at 617.863.5388 or <tanj@vinfen.org>. *We are moving to the first floor this summer, exact room# tba.*

Open Support Group for Adults on the Autism Spectrum – Meets on the 2nd Wednesday of each month, 7-8:30 pm at the offices of the Asperger's Association of New England (AANE), 85 Main St., Suite 101, Watertown, MA. A \$5 donation is suggested. RSVP to 617.393.3824, x310 or <Jamie.Freed@aane.org>.

Senior Support Group for Caregivers over 60 – meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month at the Family Resource Center, 20 Gould Street in Reading. Share and learn with other seniors who have adult family members with developmental disabilities. For meeting times or more information, contact Judy Santa Maria at 781.942.4888, x4022 or <familysupport@theamarc.org>.

Spaulding Stroke Support Group – This community-based support group offered by Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital (SRH) provides socialization and education for stroke survivors, meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 3-4:30pm at Spaulding Rehab Hospital, 300 First Avenue, Charlestown Navy Yard (accessible by MBTA bus routes 89 & 93). Contact Karen Halfon at 617.952.6560 (voice), 1.800.439.2370 (TTY), or e-mail at <khalfon@partners.org>. Visit us at <www.spauldingrehab.org>.

Thursdays

Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) Monthly Meeting – generally meets on the 2nd Thursday, at 51 Inman Street, 2nd floor Conference Room, 5:30-7pm with opportunity for public comment. Call 617.349.4692 (voice), 617.492.0235 (TTY) or e-mail <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> for more information or to request accommodations.

DBSA-Boston (Depression Bipolar Support Alliance of Boston) Support Group – meets at Mass. General Hospital every Thursday, 7 - 9 p.m. in the Schiff Conference Center Room, Suite 4A on the 4th floor in the Yawkey Building. Follow the signs. Meetings are free and open to public. For more information call 617.855.2795 or e-mail <mghgroup@dbstaboston.org>.

Ladies, Let's Talk About It: Women's Narcotic Anonymous (NA) Meeting – meets every Thursday at the Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street, from 6:30-8pm. This is a support group for women recovering from drug and alcohol abuse. For more information, call 617.354.8807

One-on-One for Women with Nurse Pat – Held on the 3rd Thursday from 12:45-1:30pm at the Cambridge Women's Center, 46 Pleasant Street. Need any health related support or questions answered? Sign up in advance or walk in for a 15-min individual consulting time with Pat Maher, Nurse Practitioner from Cambridge Health Alliance. For more information or to sign up, call 617.591.6731

Spinal Cord Injury (SCI) Support Group – Offered by the Greater Boston Chapter, National Spinal Cord Injury Association. Weekly support group meets every Thursday from 4-5pm, is for anyone affected by SCI, to help and inspire the newly injured through role models and peer mentors, and to support individuals and family members as they begin their post-injury journeys. This group is held at Spaulding Rehabilitation Hospital, 6th floor, Lantern Room, 300 First Ave, Charlestown Navy Yard (accessible by MBTA bus routes 89 & 93). E-mail <sciboston@aol.com> for more information.

Fridays

NAMI Connection – a support group for adults with mental illness sponsored by the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), meets every Wednesday and Friday 10:30am-12:00pm at the Cambridge Somerville Recovery Learning Center. See Wednesday listing for details.

Second Fridays are FREE at the MIT Museum – Jump-start your weekend with the MIT Museum! Get up close and personal with Kismet the Robot, or see the world in 3-D through our one-of-a-kind holography exhibit. Enjoy performances, demonstrations, and lectures throughout our galleries. Mix and mingle; relax and unwind. Museum admission, including the galleries and additional activities, is free from 5-8pm on the 2nd

Friday of every month. The Museum is located in Building N51 at 265 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge. See <web.mit.edu/museum/programs/secondfridays.html> or call 617.253.5927 for more information.

Saturdays

Assistive Technology Clothing Design (*October only!*) – Each Saturday in October, MIT's Open Style Lab students will be at the Museum of Science (MoS) to showcase and present on the assistive clothing designs they developed over the summer (see "MIT Students Design Assistive Clothing" on page 2). These live presentations are included with exhibit hall admission and will be coupled with an interactive exhibit called "Design Challenges", where guests can design their own "accessible gloves!" The designs will be on display from noon – 2:30pm, with presentations taking place from 12:30-1:00pm. For more information on the MoS, visit <www.mos.org>.

Boston Acquired Brain Injury Support Group (BABIS) – The mission of this free support group is to provide a positive forum for peer socialization, hope and education for people with acquired brain injury, their family and friends. This group is held on the 1st Saturday of the month, from 10am-12pm at Spaulding Rehab Hospital, 300 First Avenue, Charlestown Navy Yard (accessible by MBTA bus routes 89 & 93). No registration required, just show up! For more information, call Sally Johnson, LICSW at 617.573.2539 (voice), 1.800.439.2370 (TTY), e-mail <babisgroup@hotmail.com>, or visit <www.babis.info>.

Beyond the Spectrum: Adventures in Art for Children with Autism – Offered by the Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) Artful Adventures offers a specially designed program for children ages 8-12 on the Autism Spectrum, including Asperger's Syndrome, accompanied by a parent or caregiver. Upon arrival children will be divided into groups by age and/or needs, and the program meets on the 1st Saturday of each month from 10:30 am - 12:00 pm. Each class lasts an hour and a half and combines gallery exploration with an art-making activity. Pre-registration is required by the prior Tuesday. The cost is \$8.00 per child (includes materials and museum admission), and one adult is admitted free with each child ticket, which also includes discounted parking. The program meets in the Education Center in Druker Family Pavilion, Room 159 at 10:20am before the start of each class. For more information, or to pre-register, go to <www.mfa.org/programs/community-programs/beyond-the-spectrum>, call 617.369.3303 or email <artfuladventures@mfa.org>.

Access to Art: Second Saturdays -- For individuals with memory loss or dementia, and their care partners. Second Saturdays meet at 10am on the 2nd Saturday of each month. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to register for a tour please contact Valarie Burrows at 617.369.3302 (voice) or email: <access@mfa.org>.

Sundays

Computer Lab Open to Public – Every Sunday from 4-5:30pm Cambridge Community Television at 438 Massachusetts Avenue offers free computer access, plus assistance from a friendly volunteer who can help with job searching, online job applications, basic computer skills, and much more. This drop-in time is open to the public and there is no need to sign up, just stop by! Call 617.661.6900 for more information.

Wenham Museum Spectrum Express -- Welcomes families with members on the autism spectrum to come enjoy the model railroad trains and their other favorite exhibits the 1st Sunday of each month at 9am at regular admission prices or free for members. The museum opens to the general public at 10am. Visit <www.wenhammuseum.org/youth_families.html> or call our Welcome Desk at 978.468.2377 with any questions.

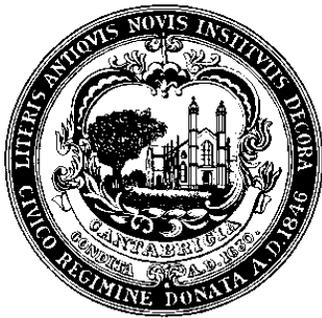
Feeling for Form Tours of MFA for blind & low vision visitors -- The Museum of Fine Arts (MFA) in Boston offers a series of guided tours for visitors who are blind or have low vision who want to build a deeper relationship with the Museum. Each monthly session focuses on a different collection and includes wayfinding and verbal description of spaces. The Sunday tours are held on the 1st Sunday of the month at 1pm, with the

exception of some holiday weekends, and require pre-registration at least one week in advance. Contact Valarie Burrows at 617.369.3302 or <vburrows@mfa.org> to register. Family and friends are invited to come along. Guided tours can also be scheduled on request, please contact Hannah Goodwin at 617.369.3189 or <access@mfa.org> for more information.

Access Notice: The City of Cambridge and Commission for Persons with Disabilities (CCPD) does not discriminate on the basis of disability. **AccessLetter** newsletter is available via email, in large print and other alternative formats upon request. To add your name to our mailing list, to inquire about alternative formats, or for information about other auxiliary aids and services or reasonable modifications in policies and procedures, contact CCPD.

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CCPD will discontinue mailing hard copies of the AccessLetter
to non-Cambridge residents as of December 2014.**

Please send us your email address:

(Voice) 617.349.4692 (TTY) 617.492.0235 (Fax) 617.349.4766

(E-mail) <ccpd@cambridgema.gov> (Post) 51 Inman St. 2nd Floor, Cambridge, MA 02139

AccessLetter is produced by the Cambridge Commission for Persons with Disabilities
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51 Inman Street, 2nd Floor
Cambridge, MA 02139