

Southern Colorado ADA Symposium Program

Saturday, Aug. 31, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Robert Hoag Rawlings Library, 100 E. Abriendo Ave. Pueblo, CO 81004

PCCLD strives to make programs accessible to everyone. Should you require auxiliary aides or ASL interpreter services, please contact Amy Nelson (719) 562-5624 or amy.nelson@pueblolibrary.org by Monday, August 26.

Special Events

Colorado Trust Keynote Luncheon featuring Comedian & Author Nina G

12:00-1:00 p.m., Ryals Special Events Room (4th FL)

Nina G is the San Francisco Bay Area's favorite female stuttering stand-up comedian. She is also a disability activist, storyteller, author and educator. She brings her humor to help people confront and understand social justice issues such as disability, diversity, and equity. Nina G has traveled the country performing at comedy clubs and colleges as well as being the keynote speaker at various conferences. Part of the comedy troupe The Comedians with Disabilities Act, Nina G brings laughter and awareness to audiences of all ages. A complimentary lunch will be provided, but reservations are required; they can be made by calling, 719 562-5624.

Book Signing with Nina G

1:00-2:00 p.m., Ryals Special Events Room (4th FL)

Stand-up comedian Nina G is challenging how people think of stuttering. Her comedy is funny, revealing, unapologetic, and always a window to her experience as a person with disabilities. In *Stutterer Interrupted: The Comedian Who Almost Didn't Happen*, Nina tells the story of her journey of how she became, at the time she started, America's only female stuttering stand-up comedian. The author will have copies of her new book available for purchase and will be signing copies.

General Sessions

History of the ADA – Kristen Castor & Dawn Russell

9:00-9:45 a.m., Ryals Special Events Room (4th FL)

Join Kristen Castor and Dawn Russell to learn about the history of the Americans with Disabilities (ADA) movement and legislation, as well as key events in Colorado's ADA history that have shaped accessibility in our communities.

County Commissioners Proclamation

9:45-10:00 a.m., Ryals Special Events Room (4th FL)

ADA Vendor Fair

10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m., InfoZone Theater (4th FL)

Community members and service providers are invited to join Pueblo City-County Library District and Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee to build awareness, celebrate diversity and inclusion, and promote respect for the various cultures within the disability community. Visit the vendor fair between 10am-4pm to connect with local resources, service providers and assistive technology.

Simulation Activities

10:00 a.m. – 4 p.m., Brett Kelly A (1st FL)

Engage with interactive stations that allow participants to experience various disabilities. Simulation activities are provided by the Center Toward Self Reliance.

Youth Craft – Coffee Filter Butterflies

10:00am-4:00pm, Youth Services (1st FL)

Celebrate the beauty of diversity by creating a colorful butterfly to take home!

Breakout Sessions

10:00am-11:00am

Assistive Technology: Using Dragon with MS Word and the Internet - Bonnie Clark, PCC

Assistive Technology Center (2nd FL)

Join Bonnie Clark from Pueblo Community College Disability Resource Center to learn how Dragon Naturally Speaking can meet your computing needs! Learn how to use this dictation software to write papers, compose emails and endless other possibilities!

Workplace Accommodations - Bonnie Bowman, NAMI

Brett Kelly B (1st FL)

Join NAMI Southeast Colorado (National Alliance on Mental Illness) for this panel presentation to learn about possibly helpful workplace accommodations and the challenges of disclosure when the disability involves a mental health condition.

Disability Etiquette: Interacting with People with Disabilities – Chantal Woodyard

Thurston Room (1st FL)

Join Chantal Woodyard, BSHS to learn about basic disability etiquette, common behaviors and intervention strategies that are helpful when interacting with individuals with disabilities. Participants will also have the opportunity to practice real-life scenarios.

[11:00am-12:00pm](#)

Effective Communication: How to Talk With Someone With a Disability – Paul Simmons, Rocky Mountain ADA Center

Thurston Room (1st FL)

Paul Simmons is an Information Specialist for The Rocky Mountain ADA Center. He has served RMADAC's region since 2015 and specializes in technical assistance and training for the center. Paul has a strong interest in Deaf history, International Deaf issues, and International Disability Rights. For many years, Paul has been involved with a number of Deaf organizations in a variety of capacities and the International Deaf Emergency (IDE) as a consultant. Since then, Paul has taken a keen interest in equal access for people with hearing and speech disabilities in emergency planning. Join Paul to learn how to improve your communication skills!

Reading Between the Lines: 5 Essentials for Creating Good Readers – Allison Hawkins, Kid Talk LLC

Brett Kelly B (1st FL)

This session is designed for parents who have children who are learning to read or have a child who is a struggling reader. Knowing some basic information about how we read can make a huge difference in the life of your child. If you are just curious about reading, have a child entering preschool, kindergarten or first grade, or have a child who has been identified as being a struggling reader we highly encourage you to attend this session. If you want to feel empowered to help your child, understand what topics to discuss with your child's school, or find HOPE for a struggling reader please join us.

The Nuts & Bolts of Conducting a Building Survey – Rob Gilkerson

Training Lab (3rd FL)

Learn what makes a facility accessible. Hands on training on what to look for and how/what to measure. The training will include several survey tools, along with various survey forms.

[1:00-2:00pm](#)

Video Remote Interpreting – Luke Adams, Colorado Commission for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Brett Kelly B (1st FL)

VRI provides a video-telecommunication option for the consumers who are deaf or hard-of-hearing when there are no in-person sign language interpreters available. How do you know when it is appropriate to provide VRI? How do you know if VRI is effective or not effective?

New to ADA? – ADA Advisory Committee

Idea Factory (2nd FL)

Joining the disability community is often bewildering. Where do you go for help? Whom do you ask? *What* do you ask? Representatives from the Pueblo ADA Advisory Committee will give you some guidance. Come prepared with questions to ask the panel!

Asking for Access – Rob Gilkerson

Training Lab (3rd FL)

The facility isn't accessible, or it's difficult to use. What's a reasonable request? What works, what doesn't. Pros and cons of various strategies (e.g.. Request letters, DOJ Complaints, & lawsuits). Sample letters will be available for discussion

[2:00-3:00pm](#)

ASL for Emergency Personnel – Bill Gropp

Training Lab (3rd FL)

Want to learn what do to when helping a person who is deaf during a traffic stop or in event of fire? Bill and Rhonda Gropp will teach basic signs that all emergency responders and service personnel should know. Participants will get hands-on practice through scenarios and role play activities.

Living Safely With Hearing Loss – Sharon Campbell

Brett Kelly B (1st FL)

Hearing is one of our major safety senses. We hear oncoming traffic, warning shouts, the crackling of fire in the walls, running water and the cries and voices of our children. However, for those who do NOT hear those warnings, there are compensating practices and gadgets. Come learn about the hazards and work-around that will keep you and/or your loved one alive and well.

That Is NOT a Service Dog - Chantal Woodyard

Idea Factory (2nd FL)

During this session participants will review standards and cases that involve the various laws related to service, assistance and therapy animals.

[3:00-4:00pm](#)

Prescriptions, Addictions & Substance Abuse and the ADA – Chantal Woodyard

This session will discuss employment law and current cases as they relate to addiction, alcohol, medical and recreational marijuana, prescriptions, medical exams and drug testing and workplace policies.

Vocational Rehabilitation – Bill Gropp

Training Lab (3rd FL)

Want to work? Need help doing so, but don't know where to start? Come by this presentation! Colorado Division of Vocational Rehabilitation has several resources available to assist persons with disabilities to obtain meaningful and gainful employment.

Aging in Place & Universal Design – HGF Architects

Brett Kelly B (1st FL)

Join HGF Architects to see examples of ADA and other building accessibility codes. The presentation will show multi-family housing case studies designed by HGF Architects to meet Pueblo County's current accessibility regulations. This includes thoughts about site work and building components that should be considered when designing accessible projects.

Film Series – InfoZone Theater (4th FL)

10:00 a.m. - When You Remember Me

Based on the life of Michael Patrick Smith, a young man who filed a lawsuit in the early '70s that led to improved conditions for nursing home patients nationwide, this film tells the story of a teen with [muscular dystrophy](#), whose destitute single mother placed him in a state nursing home, where he contends with being a young person in the clinic and with an abusive head nurse, while Wade Blank started ADAPT, a grassroots national disability rights group in Denver in the 1980s.

2:00 p.m. – Wonder

Based on the New York Times bestseller, WONDER tells the incredibly inspiring and heartwarming story of August Pullman. Born with facial difference that, up until now, have prevented him from going to a mainstream school, Auggie becomes the most unlikely of heroes when he enters the local fifth grade. As his family, his new classmates, and the larger community all struggle to discover their compassion and acceptance, Auggie's extraordinary journey will unite them all and prove you can't blend in when you were born to stand out.

4 p.m. – Invisible Voices

Invisible Voices captures a compelling stage show that provides a window into the complex worlds of six individuals who have adapted to and thrived with their disabilities. These individuals share their stories with courage, passion and humor. Their "invisible voices" will forever transform your ideas about "the disabled."