



**AMERICAN
PRINTING
HOUSE** ■■■

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For Immediate Release

Three Prestigious Awards Given During APH Annual Meeting

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (October 7, 2022) – American Printing House (APH) presented the Horizon Award, Louis Award and Navigator Award during APH’s 154 Annual Meeting. The event took place Thursday, October 6, in an in-person ceremony at the Hyatt Regency Downtown Louisville.

Horizon Award – The DAISY Consortium

The Navigator Award recognizes the collaborative efforts and partnerships necessary to remove barriers and provide pathways ensuring that individuals have full access to education and life.

“We’re deeply honored to receive this award. APH has always been a major player in the field and this recognition, and having American Printing House for the Blind join the DAISY Consortium is going to be very impactful for so many people around the world,” said George Kerscher, Chief Innovation Officer, DAISY Consortium.

The DAISY Consortium was formed in 1996 by talking book libraries to lead the worldwide transition from analog to digital talking-books. It offers a flexible and navigable reading experience for people who are blind, or print disabled in several countries. Technology and experience in the development of the DAISY Format has been used to aid the evolution of the EPUB format, embedding accessibility features at the very foundation of this mainstream ebook format. [Learn more about the DAISY Consortium.](#)

Louis Award – Christine Muise, Mi’kmaw Braille Code.

The Louis Award, named after Louis Braille, recognizes the impact, creativity, efficacy of a product, idea, method, or promotional effort that increased the availability or awareness of braille and/or tactile graphics. It is an award that is not presented annually, but only when an effort rises to a level that both captures the imaginative spirit and moves people to action.

“I am hugely honored to receive prestigious award. This award is not given out regularly, and to have my work recognized by APH is incredible. I am very thankful that people see the importance and impact of the work that I have done,” said, Christine Muise, Mi’kmaw Braille Code.

Christine Muise, a braille transcriptionist, became inspired to develop a standardized braille code for the Mi'kmaq tribe after Nova Scotia adopted Mi'kmaw as its first language. She knew there would soon be a need for accessible signage in their buildings. The braille code was later approved by the Membertou Mi'kmaw Community and will soon be added to the list of World Braille Codes accepted for use by the Canada Braille Authority. [Learn more about Mi'kmaw Braille Code.](#)

Navigator Award – VISTAS Education Partners for their National Homework Hotline

The Horizon Award, previously known as the Zickel Award, recognizes creative and caring individuals who continually pursue new ideas that result in the development of innovative products designed to improve the quality of life for people who are blind or low vision.

“This recognition means a lot to me. As a teacher of the visually impaired for many more than 22 years, I am deeply embedded to APH and its products, services, and programs that are offer. To receive this recognition is truly special and I am extremely honored and grateful because it shows the work I have done, along with my colleagues, has made a monumental impact for youth who are blind low vision,” said Monique Coleman, President of VISTAS Education Partners, and founder of National Homework Hotline.

VISTAS Education Partners was founded in 2016 by Monique Coleman. Coleman realized blind and low vision students would face challenges with the shift to remote education. She asked a few friends who were blind and low vision professionals to join in her effort and the National Homework Hotline was launched in March 2020. After some planning, organizing, and recruitment of additional volunteers from around the country, these dedicated volunteers launched NHH-BVI in a matter of weeks. [Learn more about VISTAS Education Partners.](#)

About American Printing House for the Blind

American Printing House for the Blind is a worldwide leader in designing innovative lifelong learning solutions for children and adults who are blind or visually impaired. In this fast-changing world, we believe in the power and necessity of learning to open the doors to educational success, satisfying employment, social inclusion, active citizenship, and personal well-being. We level the learning playing field by providing specialized technology, materials, products, and services that are essential for education and life. American Printing House for the Blind is headquartered at 1839 Frankfort Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky. For more information, please visit www.aph.org.

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