NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF NEW YORK STATE
60th ANNUAL CONVENTION
OCTOBER 28 – 30, 2016
BEST WESTERN AIRPORT INN, ALBANY, NEW YORK

NFB PLEDGE

I pledge to participate actively in the efforts of the National Federation of the Blind to achieve equality, opportunity and security for the blind, to support the policies and programs of the Federation and to abide by its constitution.

We would like to thank all our 2016 sponsors:

PLATINUM
New York State Commission for the Blind
Lighthouse Guild Vision + Health

GOLD
See Write Hear

SILVER
C Tech Low Vision
Northeast Association of the Blind at Albany
Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Raymond V. Wayne

BRONZE
Vis-Ability, Inc.

WHITE CANE
3DPhotoworks
Activocal
New Utrecht Pharmacy
OrCam
Xavier Society for the Blind
GENERAL INFORMATION

Please stop by the **Registration Table** to pick up your lunch tickets, banquet tickets, agendas, and other materials. On Friday, starting at 8:30 am, and on Saturday starting at 8:00 am, the Registration Table will be outside the Ballroom. On Saturday afternoon, the table will be in the rear of the Ballroom.

**Breakfast Buffet:** The hotel offers a complimentary breakfast for all guests in the Breakfast Room. Hot and cold foods are available.

**Guide Dog Relief:** There is no specified area for walking your dog. Trash receptacles for solid waste are located outside every entrance to the hotel for your convenience.

**Ballroom:** For many of our convention events, the Ballroom will be divided into three rooms: the Latham Room, the Troy Room, and the Colonie Room. Please consult this agenda for locations of specific events.

Our annual **Human Horse Race** will be held on Saturday evening at the banquet. Don’t miss the opportunity to support your favorite horse in this event. Tickets in $5 increments can be purchased from Father John Sheehan and others. The betting window closes at 5 pm on Saturday.
EXHIBIT HALL

Please remember to visit the Exhibit Hall in the Latham Room. The Exhibit Hall will be open on FRIDAY ONLY!! Our vendors this year have quite a wide variety of goods and services to enhance your freedom and add fun to your life. See the list below.

- **Activocal** – A wide variety of assisted living technology based products.

- **Christian Ministry Teachers** – Free Bible literature in Braille, large print, RTF format, and audio.

- **Alice Crespo** – Her book, *Never Be Discouraged*.

- **Easy Tactile Graphics** – Products for creating and editing your own tactile graphics.

- **Exhibit Hall Coordinators** – Chancey Fleet and Mindy Jacobsen

- **Guiding Eyes for the Blind** – Information on using and living with a guide dog.

- **Independence Science** - Science access technology for students and professionals who are blind or visually impaired.

- **Lighthouse Guild Vision + Health** – A comprehensive look at this newly formed agency and what it will mean to blind and visually impaired New Yorkers.

- **NFBNYS** – Fanny packs and combination flash drive/pens.

- **New York Deaf-Blind Equipment Distribution Program** – Offering telecommunications equipment to those who qualify.
• **New York State Commission for the Blind** – Learn about services available to us.

• **Northeast Association of the Blind at Albany** – Products for daily living.

• **OrCam** – Wearable assistive technology solution for face recognition, supermarket product identification, and much more.

• **Angie Robinson** – Beautiful hand-crocheted products.

• **See Write Hear** – Assistive technology and accessibility.

• **Tangible Surface Research** – Newly developed tactile overlays for flat, touch-surface displays on household appliances.

• **Vanda Pharmaceuticals** – What can you do when you seem to sleep at all the wrong times?

• **Vis-Ability, Inc.** – Products that provide independence at work, at school, at home.
AGENDA

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 28

8:30 am – 12:00 noon, 1:00 – 5:00 pm, and 7:00 – 10:00 pm: Childcare in the Shaker Room.

9:00 am – 5:00 pm: Exhibit Hall, Coordinator: Chancey Fleet, Second Vice President, NFB of New York State, and Second Vice President, New York City Chapter NFB. In the Latham Room.

10:00 am – 12 noon: Town Meeting with the Commission for the Blind of New York, Brian Daniels, Associate Commissioner. Voice your opinion to officials about services in our state. In the Colonie Room.

12 noon – 2:00 pm: PREPAID box lunches available in the Breakfast Room. If you are not attending a lunchtime meeting or workshop, you may eat your lunch in the Breakfast Room.

1:00 – 2:30 pm: Blind Parenting: Carl Jacobsen, President, NFBNYS, and Mary Lou Mendez, Chapter-at-Large Facilitator, NFBNYS, moderators. In the Colonie Room.

1:00 – 3:45 pm: Parents of Blind Children Workshop, Coordinator: Arthur Jacobs, Educator; Treasurer, POBC; Legislative Liaison, NFBNYS; and Treasurer, NYC Chapter NFB; and Rasheta Bunting, NYS Certified Teacher of elementary school, special education, and the visually impaired. In the Troy Room.

1:00 – 3:00 pm: Student Division Social Event. Location to be announced.

4:00 – 5:00 pm: NFB of NYS Board of Directors meeting. All are welcome. In the Colonie Room.
5:30 – 7:00 pm: PRIVATE DINNER for the Scholarship Class and Committee, in the Breakfast Room.

7:30 – 9:30 pm: Join us in the Breakfast Room for our Hospitality Night, featuring food, fun, holiday crafts, and a cash bar. We look forward to seeing you there.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 29

8:30 am – 12 noon, 1:45 – 5:15 pm, and 6:45 – 10:30 pm: Childcare in the Shaker Room.

7:00 – 8:30 am: PRIVATE Scholarship Breakfast at Roberto’s.

Morning General Session in the Ballroom
9:00 – 9:15 am: Call to order: Carl Jacobsen; Invocation, Fr. John Sheehan, Xavier Society for the Blind; Pledge of Allegiance and National Anthem: Cantor, Dr. Mindy Jacobsen, First Vice President, NFBNYS, and President, New York City Chapter NFB.

9:15 – 9:30 am: Presentation of the Scholarship Class of 2016: Cayte Mendez, Chair, Scholarship Committee, NFBNYS; Secretary, NFBNYS; and President, National Association of Blind Educators.

9:30 – 10:00 am: State of the State Address: Carl Jacobsen.

10:00 – 10:30 am: State of the Union Address: Pam Allen, Director, Louisiana Center for the Blind; First Vice President, NFB; and President, NFB of Louisiana.

10:30 – 10:45 am: Memories, Dreams and Reflections: David Stayer, President Emeritus, Greater Long Island Chapter NFB.
10:45 – 11:00 am: Passing the Torch: Fr. John Sheehan and Mr. Malachy Fallon, Xavier Society for the Blind.

11:00 – 11:15 am: Vanda Pharmaceuticals: Larry Weiss, representative.


11:30 – 11:45 am: Northeastern Association of the Blind at Albany: Where Are We Now, and Where Are We Going? Chris Burke, Executive Director, NABA.

11:45 – 12 noon: Announcements and arrangements

**Lunch Break Information & Meetings**
12 noon – 1:45 pm: Lunch break. Pick up your PREPAID box lunch in the Breakfast Room. Seating for eating your box lunch is available in the Breakfast Room. The hotel restaurant, Roberto’s, will also be open from 11:30 till 1:45.

12 noon – 1:45 pm: Student Division, Nihal Erkan, President, Student Division, NFB. Location to be announced.

12 noon – 1:45 pm: Guide Dog Division, Lucy Marr, President, New York State Guide Dog Division, NFB, and President, Syracuse Chapter NFB. Location to be announced.

**Afternoon General Session in the Ballroom**
2:00 – 2:45 pm: The Dad and the Movement: Memories of My Father and the NFB: Dutch tenBroek, son of our founder.

2:45 – 3:15 pm: Wired for Success: the Blind in the Maker Movement: Chancey Fleet, Assistive Technology Coordinator, Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library; Second Vice President, NFBNYS; and Second Vice President, New York City Chapter NFB.

3:45 – 4:00 pm: Opening Doors of Opportunity and Engaging Science as a Profession: Cary Supalo, Ph.D, chemist.

4:00 – 4:45 pm: New York State Commission for the Blind: Brian Daniels, Associate Commissioner. This presentation will include a question-and-answer period.

4:45 – 5:00 pm: Announcements and Adjournment

**Banquet**

7:00 – 11:00 pm: Banquet in the Ballroom. Mistress of Ceremonies: Mindy Jacobsen.

- Invocation: David Stayer, President Emeritus, Greater Long Island Chapter NFB

- “Horse Race” game: Brian Daniels and Fr. John Sheehan, callers.

- Keynote Address: Pam Allen

- Auctions, pledges, and prizes

- Presentation of Scholarships to the class of 2016: Cayte Mendez
SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30

7:00 – 8:00 am: Roman Catholic Mass, Father John Sheehan, SJ, celebrant, in the Ballroom.

7:00 – 9:00 am: Resolutions Committee breakfast meeting at Roberto’s.

9:00 – 12 noon: Child Care in the Shaker Room

**General Session in the Ballroom**
9:30 – 12 noon

- Invocation: Carl Jacobsen
- Report from the Resolutions Committee: Chancey Fleet, Committee Chair
- Consideration of, and voting on, Resolutions
- Chapter and Division Reports
- New business: Charting our path into the future, planning the coming year.

12 noon: Adjournment