

**National Braille Association  
2021 Professional Development Conference  
San Antonio, Texas**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

**9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**1. To Describe or Not: That is the Question**

In this workshop we will look at pictures in foreign language texts and discuss whether or not the pictures need to be described, how much description is necessary, and more.

Presenter: Cindi Laurent, Member, NBA Foreign Language Braille Committee

**2. Practice Transcribing and Proofreading – Advanced**

We will explore a collection of practice items and passages that include a variety of math and science content (e.g., radicals, complex fractions, chemical equations, etc.) We will proofread braille and create transcriptions as individuals and as a group. This workshop is not an introduction to the UEB Guidelines for Technical Material; it is appropriate for those who are somewhat familiar with the GTM. If possible, please come with a laptop or other device on which to transcribe.

Presenter: Kyle DeJute, Chair, NBA Unified English Braille – Technical Committee

**3. Getting your Dux in a Row\***

This workshop will cover setting up and using your Duxbury software for various transcription purposes. Topics will include default settings, creating and using templates, useful codes for clean transcriptions, and more.

Presenter: James Williams, Member, NBA Computer-Assisted Transcription Committee

**4. Basic and Beyond: Creating Tactile Graphics in CoreIDRAW – Part One**

Are you new to CoreIDRAW, or interested in learning more about drawing digital tactiles? This workshop will walk you through some of the most basic features of CoreIDRAW and lay the groundwork for creating digital tactile graphics for Tiger and Swell embossing. This will be a hands-on training. Make sure you have a working copy of CoreIDRAW (Version X6 –2020) installed on your laptop computer and we will work through basic drawing features together.

**NOTE: THIS IS THE FIRST PART OF A TWO-PART WORKSHOP**

Presenter: Melissa Klepper, Chair, NBA Tactile Graphics Committee

**\*Denotes a workshop developed with TVI's in mind**

**Wednesday, November 3, 2021**

**1:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

**5. Strategies and Resources for Teaching Students of All Ages the Nemeth Braille Code for Science and Mathematics\***

Proficiency in Nemeth Code is essential for accessing grade-level mathematics and science materials for students who are visually impaired and read braille. The presentation will be packed with the latest resources available to teach Nemeth Code within UEB Contexts to students from pre-K through high school. These will include free online step-by-step curriculums, focused lessons, Nemeth symbol library, materials available through APH quota funds, Nemeth in a Box materials for middle school students, and more. Bring your devices and let's get excited about Nemeth!

Presenters: Dr. Tina Herzberg, Susan Osterhaus, and Sara Larkin, Guest Presenters

**6. Introduction to Braille Music\***

Print music is visual in nature, with symbols and shapes representing sounds to produce. This seminar will focus on the basics of transcribing those symbols into braille. Bring your computer with your favorite braille software to get some hands-on practice. Knowledge of print music notation is helpful!

**NOTE: THIS IS A REPEAT WORKSHOP FROM THE 2019 CONFERENCE IN PHOENIX, ARIZONA**

Presenter: Kathleen Cantrell, Chair, NBA Braille Music Committee

**7. Your First Transcription: T- and P-Pages**

We'll be going over the Special Symbols Page, identifying Special Symbols, organizing Special Symbols, and work our way through the p-pages for a real book in real-time.

Presenter: Amy Furman, Member, NBA Unified English Braille – Literary Committee

**8. Basic and Beyond: Creating Tactile Graphics in CoreIDRAW – Part Two**

The workshop will build on content from Part I and walk you through some of the more advanced features of CoreIDRAW that can be used for creating tactile graphics for Tiger or Swell embossing. If you are an advanced user, attendance in Part I is not required to enroll in this workshop. Make sure you have a copy of CoreIDRAW (Version X6 – 2020) installed on your laptop computer. A bonus demonstration on Macro Magic will also be presented. You will not want to miss this opportunity.

**NOTE: THIS IS THE SECOND PART OF A TWO-PART WORKSHOP**

Presenter: Melissa Klepper, Chair, NBA Tactile Graphics Committee

**\*Denotes a workshop developed with TVI's in mind**

**Thursday, November 4, 2021**

**9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**9. Communication and Collaboration Between Teachers (TVIs), Transcribers, and Paraprofessionals\***

The working relationship between Teachers for Visually Impaired Students, Paraprofessionals supporting visually impaired students in the classroom, and Transcribers who produce materials and support blind students is an important component to ensuring the success of students. This workshop will demonstrate how paraprofessionals can best support students who are blind and/or visually impaired under the direction of the TVI; how communication and collaboration occurs in the preparation of and /or creation of student materials, and how the three work together as a team to ensure student success.

Presenter: Jana Hertz, Chair, NBA Transcriber and Educator Services Committee

**10. Elementary Math and Algebra Basics\***

This workshop focuses on sections of the Rules of UEB and the Guidelines for Technical Material (GTM) that apply to elementary level math, including some algebra. Our goal is to identify UEB concepts that are foundational to accurate basic math transcription and then practice applying those foundational concepts so they can become habit. Yes, we will even discuss the art that is deciphering quirky print arrangements on the page.

Presenter: Kyle DeJute, Chair, NBA Unified English Braille – Technical Committee

**11. EBRF Discussion: What Do Transcribers Want in a New BRF**

For many years, braille has been wonderfully served by the BRF file type. However, while the braille file type has stayed the same, many advances have occurred in the print world. Please join William Freeman for a discussion of how we can move forward with a new braille file type. This file type will incorporate markup so that braille readers can have advanced navigation and dynamic content for the first time in a braille file made by a transcriber. Please come to this workshop prepared to discuss your ideas and concerns as they relate to such a file type as your feedback will be invaluable in this process. Together we will work to make braille better.

Presenter: William Freeman, Member, NBA Computer-Assisted Transcription Committee

**12. Tactile Literacy and Tactile Graphics**

Transcribers strive to create the best tactile graphics by following recommendations in the BANA Guidelines and Standards for Tactile Graphics. Have you wondered how braille readers read and learn from the tactile you created? Design and planning is the key to a good tactile graphic regardless the image type and production method. This workshop will introduce the fun factors about tactile literacy and the design principles of meaningful and readable tactile graphics.

Presenter: Yan Zhang, Member, NBA Tactile Graphics Committee

**\*Denotes a workshop developed with TVI's in mind**

**Thursday, November 4, 2021**  
**1:30 – 4:00 p.m.**

**13. Transcriber's Notes – Wording Matters\***

This workshop will look at when you are required to insert a transcriber's note, when you aren't required to use one, and everything in between. Not only will we cover basic notes, we will look at how to determine what needs to be included in a well-worded note to the braille reader for a variety of reasons. Should the picture be described or omitted? Do I need to explain the format? These questions and more will be answered.

Presenter: Cindi Laurent, Member, NBA Braille Formats/Textbook Committee

**14. Piano and Keyboard Music**

Music for the piano and other keyboard instruments provides different challenges to the transcriber than that for single-line instruments. This workshop will focus on the formatting choices we must make when presenting different musical ideas happening simultaneously, along with how to transcribe chords and cadenzas.

Presenter: Kathleen Cantrell, NBA Braille Music Committee

**15. Scansion, Stress, and Tone Markup in Poetic Forms\***

We'll discuss the print study and analysis of the marking of syllable stress and other markup shown in print for various poetic forms. We'll locate and identify the variety of UEB symbols, modifiers, punctuation, and typeforms used for identifying scansion, stress, meter, accent, and tone in print texts that focus on the study of various poetic forms to ensure their accuracy will be as useful for the braille reader as they are for the print reader.

Presenter: Amy Furman, Member, NBA Unified English Braille – Literary Committee

**16. Nemeth Code Jeopardy**

This! Is! Jeopardy! Just like in the game show, answers and questions are arranged by difficulty level and organized in categories (for example, "Identify the Symbol" and "To Switch or Not to Switch?"). Attendees in this workshop can be audience members, contestants, or members of competing teams. Here is a sample: "This is what we will have while strengthening our Nemeth Code knowledge." ... "What is fun?" "Correct!"

Presenter: Kyle DeJute, Member, NBA Nemeth Code for Math and Science Committee

**\*Denotes a workshop developed with TVI's in mind**

**Friday, November 5, 2021**

**9:00 – 11:30 a.m.**

**17. Basics 101: An Introductory Training for Paraprofessionals Supporting Students who are Blind/Visually Impaired\***

How often are paraprofessionals assigned to their positions without training of any kind? All too often! This workshop will cover the basics of working with students with visual impairments: the role of a paraprofessional, “do’s and don’ts”, and how to best support the student in his/her classroom and educational environment. If you have never had any training, this workshop will open your eyes and set you up for success!

Presenter: Jana Hertz, Chair, NBA Transcriber and Educator Services Committee

**18. What is That? How in the World do I Braille it?**

We will discuss Braille Formats Section 9 specifically, how to identify attributions, epigraphs, incidental notes, cross-references, and other miscellaneous source information text. How are they formatted? How can I tell the difference between them and displayed material? Come join us as we learn together *how to get the little things right!*

Presenter: Cindy Harris, Member, NBA Braille Formats/Textbook Committee

**19. A Guide to Becoming a Professional Braille Transcriber\***

This workshop is for individuals wanting to make braille transcribing their vocation. We will focus on a variety of topics such as; education, employment opportunities, networking and resources. We hope that by sharing our knowledge and experiences we can make your journey to becoming a professional braille transcriber less stressful and MORE successful.

Presenters: John Romeo and Angela Van Appellen, Members, NBA Prison Braille Committee

**20. Overview of Foreign Language Transcription\***

Print materials for foreign language often have both English and foreign material. In this workshop, we will examine the four methods of approach to foreign language materials and indicate circumstances for which they are most appropriate. We will also identify and overview the multiple sections in Braille Formats that are specific to foreign language material transcriptions.

**NOTE: THIS IS A REPEAT WORKSHOP FROM THE 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE**

Presenter: Patrick Janson, Chair, NBA Foreign Language Braille Committee

**\*Denotes a workshop developed with TVI’s in mind**