

2023 Annual Report

National Braille Association



NATIONAL BRAILLE ASSOCIATION

95 Allens Creek Road, Building 1, Suite 202, Rochester, NY 14618

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About Our Board of Directors

The National Braille Association, Inc. is governed by a volunteer Board of Directors which formulates the policies and procedures needed to implement NBA's programs.

All members of the Board are involved in services which promote braille literacy. They are braille transcribers, teachers of the visually impaired, braille production facility supervisors, coordinators of volunteer groups, rehabilitation teachers, and retired professors. The Board meets twice a year to conduct the business of the organization.

Board members are nominated by the NBA membership. A nominating committee is then responsible for recommending candidates for officer and director positions. Elections are held at the annual membership meeting.

What is truly unique about this board is that it is a working board.

Each member volunteers not only the time needed to attend the meetings, but also performs the tasks his or her position requires. Board members chair administrative committees that oversee policies and procedures, membership development, and the production of the *Bulletin* and other publications. A Board member is NBA's meetings planner.

A Board member may also chair one of the skills committees. It is the responsibility of the skills committees to develop and lead workshops and write articles for the *Bulletin* in the various braille specialties: Unified English Braille, textbook format, mathematics and science, music, tactile graphics, computer-assisted transcription, and foreign language. The result of these efforts provides training for transcribers so that they can produce quality braille for the blind and visually impaired.



NBA Board Roster

Executive Committee

President

Jana Hertz
Aliso Viejo, California

Vice President

Kathleen Cantrell
New York, New York

Treasurer

Heidi Lehmann
Castorland, New York

President Elect

Patrick Janson
N. Ridgeville, Ohio

Secretary

Cindy Olmstead
Jackson, Michigan

Immediate Past President

Cindi Laurent
Edina, Minnesota

Elected Member from the Board

Kyle DeJute
Louisville, Kentucky

Directors

William Freeman

Louisville, Kentucky

John Romeo

Las Vegas, Nevada

Anna Werner

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Nancy Raspiller

Scottsdale, Arizona

Angela Vanappelen

Spring Valley, California

National Office Staff

Executive Director

David Shaffer
Rochester, New York

Operations Manager

Christopher Clemens
Rochester, New York

Bookkeeper

Marty Soderlund
Rochester, New York

Balance Sheet

December 31, 2023

National Braille Association enjoys the participation of many volunteers who donate their services in a variety of ways. These volunteers assist NBA by serving on its Board of Directors, its Committees and at the National Office in Rochester, New York. Because of the unique quality of the work involved, no objective basis is available to measure the value of donated services. Therefore, no amounts for donated services have been reflected in the accompanying financial statement.

ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Cash and Cash Equivalents	55,559
Investments	2,654,038
Accounts Receivable	0
Inventories	1,267
Prepaid Expenses	20,506
Total Assets	2,747,677
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	
Current Liabilities	
Accounts Payable	3,769
Net Assets	
Net assets	1,740,225
Total Net Assets	2,728,001
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	2,747,677



The NBA Roll of Honor

NBA is grateful for the monetary and in-kind gifts received from the following individuals and organizations in 2023.

FOUNDATIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2023

Actual Tactiles	The Richard S. and Marion L. Merrill Family Fund
AmazonSmile	Pledgling Foundation
Estate of Donald W. Chlan	Plumbers Union No. 15
Bette Fritz Bielefeldt Living Trust	Volunteer Braille Services
The Lorma E. Gardner Endowment Fund	

FRIENDS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2023

Natalie Anderson	Sue Garton
Charlotte Arnstein	Philys and Grant Gearhart
Robert Bahnke	Howard Goldstein
Pamela Bell	Wendy Gosselin
Elaine Betschart	Audrey Hemmer
Dr. Andrew Biles	Barbara Henning
John and Patricia Bledsoe	Alan Hentschel
Bonnie Bolson	Carol Hopkins
Lynn Carroll	Frank Hopkins
Barbara Carson	David Horowitz
Silvia Chun	Catherine Humann
Nonna Vee Cortez	Anne Katlic
Debra Denny	John S. Koning
Nancy Doute	Margaret Kozacki
Penny Estes	John Lampert
Judith Feltman	Jean Macco
Vicki Flake	Kathleen McGrath
Ryannon Frederick	Kenneth Miller
Georgiana Frost	Deborah Mulvena

FRIENDS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2023, CONTINUED

Jo Ann Noble	Carol Stockdale
Sara and Pete Roncone	Carol Striker
Sandra Ruconich	Elizabeth Traubert
Andrea Schleicher	Anita Turk
Christel Schott	Judy Wells
Brian Shaffer	Richard Wohl
Joan Sholdt	C. Chloann Woolley
Michele Sterner	

MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2023

Donald Tsusaki	Susan Kobler
Margarine Beaman	Lynne Luxton
Dorothy Brar	Donald Moser
Mary Byrd	Constance Risjord
Penny Carpenter	Susan Robertson
Robert Clapper	Susan Rothman
Malachy Fallon	Sammie Schoen
David Goldstein	Connie Stone
Jason Hunter	Jacqueline Wise

LIFE MEMBERS OF NBA WHO MADE A CONTRIBUTION IN 2023

Lorraine Aust	Shelley Mack
Nancy Fosdick	Carol Morrison
Helen Hendrickson	Adam Ruschival
Jana Hertz	Barbara Sheperdigian
Linda Horton	Dr. Lawrence Smith
Mildred Irwig	Patricia Stoudt
Sandra Jeffries	Karen Stowe
Ellen Kimbrough	Dorothy Worthington
Cindi Laurent	

How to Make a Gift to NBA

Since National Braille Association's inception in 1945, individuals, corporations, and foundations have made contributions of all sizes to provide the resources needed for achieving and maintaining our goals. The need for financial and volunteer support continues as we strive to provide for growth, change, and the future.

There are many ways to support NBA:

- **Annual Gift**—Contributions of any size are welcome in cash or securities. Cash gifts may be sent to the National Office at any time or charged to a credit card. Gifts of common stock and other securities may be transferred electronically into our General Investment Fund. It is suggested that you contact the Executive Director to obtain the correct routing numbers before making such a transfer.
- **Bequest**—Designate the National Braille Association, Inc. as a beneficiary of a portion of your estate. You or your attorney may contact the Executive Director for appropriate wording to incorporate into your will.
- **Insurance**—Designate NBA as the beneficiary of a life insurance policy.
- **Memorial or Tribute**—Pay tribute to a living or deceased person with a donation to NBA. Celebrate a birth, wedding, graduation, anniversary, or other special event in the life of someone you know.
- **Employee Matching Plan**—Your employer may have a policy of matching employee contributions to nonprofit organizations. NBA qualifies for most such programs.
- **Loyalty and Credit Card Rewards**—Many Loyalty and Credit Card Reward companies allow you to use your reward points towards a donation to the National Braille Association.

Although unrestricted contributions to the general fund provide National Braille Association with the flexibility to use your gift in the area of greatest need as determined by NBA's Board of Directors, you have the option to designate your gift to the following special fund:

- **Mary Archer Scholarship Fund** – The purpose of the Mary Archer Scholarship Fund is to provide scholarships equal to the amount of the cost of registration to those attending an NBA conference for the first time.

Every contribution is deeply appreciated as we work together and share our resources with others.

National Braille Association is a nonprofit educational organization. Donations are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Our Federal Identification Number is 22-6064715.