

Louisiana Hotlines



A Newsletter of the State Library of Louisiana
Talking Books and Braille Library
Office of Lt. Governor, Department of Culture, Recreation & Tourism

Vol. 18 No. 1

Winter 2018

Holiday closings

December 25, 26	Christmas Holiday
January 1, 2	New Year's Holiday
January 15	MLK Holiday
February 13	Mardi Gras Holiday

Use the TBBL online catalog to order books

The TBBL online catalog lists all of the books in our collection. It is a convenient way to order books and is available 24/7. Many of our patrons use the TBBL catalog to do searches and place orders for books. Others have a family member or friend who does it for them. Call your reader adviser to request a user ID and password.

Hadley Institute course on using the internet and daily living tasks

Patrons looking to brush up on basic Internet skills may be interested in *Internet Essentials*, an online course from the Hadley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired. It includes four lessons and is open to both adult continuing education and high school students. Topics covered include accessible technology, desktop

computers and mobile devices, searching for information, and making online purchases. For more information visit: www.hadley.edu or call 800.323.4238.

Hadley also offers a series of audio recordings that share practical tips to address daily living tasks made difficult by vision loss. Designed specifically for older adults with visual impairments, these recordings are free of charge and available on CD or on a Digital Talking Book (DTB) cartridge that is compatible with your NLS digital talking-book machine. For more information visit: www.lowvisionfocus.org or call 855.830.5355.

Breath switch for digital book player now available

NLS now offers a breath switch adaptor for those users that are unable to use the buttons on the digital talking book machine. The switch attaches to the machine through the USB port next to the headphone jack. This breath switch permits patrons to use Sip-and-Puff actions to control the Digital Talking Book Machine (DTBM). Using their breath, patrons may operate all buttons and

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functions with the exception of the Power on/off feature. This unit is intended for patrons who are unable to use the buttons on the DTBM. A separate application form with certification is required to obtain the switch. You may download and print the form at: loc.gov/nlsold/networkdocs/forms/breath.pdf or you may contact us and we will send you the form.

Remote control for your DTBM

NLS is introducing a new accessory: the digital talking book machine (DTBM) remote control unit.



Figure 1- Remote control on left and IR receiver on right

It consists of two parts:

The handheld remote control is approximately 5 inches long and 2½ inches wide with rounded ends. The top has a lens with a smooth texture that is different from the rest of the remote control, and the bottom has a pin for

attachment to a lanyard (not included). The top should be aimed at the DTBM when attempting to control it. The surface of the remote control has 15 buttons that are identical in shape and function to the buttons of the DTBM advanced model. The only DTBM button not available on the remote control is Power On/Off.

The IR (Infrared) receiver is a small USB device, approximately 2 inches square and 1 inch thick. The USB connector is near the bottom of the device.

Operation of the remote control

To use the remote control, plug the IR receiver into the USB port on the right side of the DTBM. Press the Power On/Off button on the DTBM. Aim the remote control toward the IR receiver and press the buttons to control the DTBM. The IR receiver requires additional power from the player to operate, so it is best to connect the player to AC power when using the remote control.

Operation with model DS1

Model DS1 (standard) players must receive a software update via digital cartridge to recognize the remote control.

TBBL will only receive a limited number of these accessories from NLS, so if you have a need for this device, please contact us at 800.543.4702. We will keep a waiting list once we run out of the remote controls.

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Figure 2 - IR receiver plugged into

NFB-NEWSLINE® Online service

NFB-NEWSLINE® Online is the newest and most exciting way of accessing your favorite newspapers and magazines. You can read it on the Web, download it to your digital talking book player or to a portable MP3 player, or you can have the publications and TV listings read to you over your computer using the same functions as with traditional, phone-based, NFB-NEWSLINE®.

This site is a secure, text-only website that is screen-reader friendly. It offers the ability to search every available publication. It is easy to navigate, even for those with limited knowledge of accessible technology software. The site also offers the ability to email a full publication, a section, or a single article to your inbox.

There are On Demand News options that provide unrivaled and immediate access to breaking news stories. To sign up, you must be an NFB-NEWSLINE® subscriber.

For more information, call NFB Newsline at 866.504.7300 or visit <http://www.nfbnewslineonline.org/>.

Sprint releases IP Relay app for deaf and deaf-blind individuals

Individuals who are deaf, deaf-blind, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability may benefit from a new app launched by Sprint Accessibility. The Sprint IP Relay mobile app, available for both Android and iOS devices, allows callers to make or receive IP relay phone calls from virtually anywhere within the U.S. and its territories where there is a mobile or wi-fi connection. Features include braille display integration and the ability to change font size and color for increased legibility. For more information visit www.sprintrelay.com/iprelay or email relayuserregistration@sprint.com.

Audio description available on Amazon videos

In June 2017 Amazon Video began supporting audio description, providing customers who are blind or visually impaired access to professional narration describing what is taking place during stretches where there is no dialog. More than 133 movies from studios such as Disney, Lionsgate,

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NBC, Paramount, and Warner Brothers are now available with English audio descriptions, including such titles as *The Hunger Games*, *Inception*, *Captain America: Civil War*, and *The Big Short*. Also, ten of the most popular Amazon Original TV shows such as *Bosch*, *The Man in the High Castle*, *Mozart in the Jungle*, *Transparent*, *Creative Galaxy*, and *Gortimer Gibbons* are also now available with audio description for select seasons. Audio descriptions are available on popular titles included with an Amazon Prime Video subscription, as well as those for purchase or rent.

The feature is available on Fire TV, Fire Tablets, iOS devices, and Android devices. Customers can view and browse through titles with audio descriptions by going to www.amazon.com/video/audiodescription. The selection of titles available on the page will be updated continuously. To play a title with audio descriptions, customers just need to select the “English-audio description” option from the “Subtitles and Audio” menu during playback. To provide feedback to Amazon on their audio description services, email: device-accessibility@amazon.com.

Books and Beyond

A section for children and teens



Announcing Talking Books and Braille Library's Annual Poetry Contest!

This winter, the Talking Books and Braille Library is sponsoring a poetry contest for middle school students ages 10-13 and teens ages 14-19. The theme will be **Music** and **Music Appreciation**.

Each submission should be 200 words or less. Poems will be judged on originality, creativity, form and style, clarity, relevance to the theme, and overall impact. Winners will have their selections printed in the summer *Hotlines* newsletter and receive a certificate of distinction. Submissions will be accepted from patrons ages 10-13, and ages 14-19 until February 28, 2018. One winner will be selected from each age group. Poems will be judged by staff from the Louisiana Center for the Book.

Poetry contest submission guidelines

1. Must be written by a Louisiana Talking Books and Braille Library patron between the ages of 10-19.
2. Poems must be original work by participant.

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3. Patron may submit more than one poem, but is only eligible to win once.
 4. Poems may not contain any of the following:
 - Graphic violence
 - Explicit sexual content
 - Strong Language
 5. A signed release form is required. Please contact the Children and Teen Services Librarian, Charlene Moore, at 225.342.9563 or email tbblkids@state.lib.la.us to get a release form.
 6. Emailed submissions and release forms must have a subject line: 2018 TBBL Poetry Contest, the title and author of the poem.
 7. Entries can also be mailed as typed, handwritten, or Brailled poems along with a completed release form to:

Talking Books and Braille Library
C/O Children and Teen Librarian
701 North 4th Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Entries can also be faxed to 225.342.6817 or scanned and emailed to tbblkids@state.lib.la.us. All entries must be received by February 28, 2018.

Look at this! Scholarship opportunities available in 2018

The National Federation of the Blind annually offers blind college students in the U.S. and Puerto Rico an opportunity to win one of thirty merit-based, national-level scholarships worth \$3,000 to \$12,000. All scholarships awarded are

based on academic excellence, community service and leadership.

Each winner will receive assistance to attend the 2018 National Federation of the Blind Annual Convention which will take place July 2 – 7, 2018, in Orlando, Florida. Application deadline is March 31, 2018. For more information, contact Chairperson Cayte Mendez at: scholarships@nfb.org or call 410.659.9314, ext. 2415, or by mail:

NFB Scholarship Program,
National Federation of the Blind,
200 East Wells St. at Jernigan Place,
Baltimore, MD 21230.

Each year at its state convention, the National Federation of the Blind of Louisiana (NFBL) awards four scholarships to recognize the achievement of blind scholars in Louisiana. Scholarships range from \$750 to \$1,500. All applications must be received no later than March 24, 2018. For more information and to receive an application contact: Eric Guillory, Chairperson NFBL Scholarship Committee, 101 South Trenton St. Ruston, LA 71270, phone: 800.234.4166, email: eguillory@louisianacenter.org.

Family resource fair

The Annual St. Tammany Family Information Fair for children with special needs will be held on two consecutive Tuesdays in January. On January 23, the fair will be 2-4 pm and 5-7pm at the Harrison Curriculum Center gym in Covington. Tuesday, January 30, the fair will be 2-4 pm and 5-7 pm at the Brooks

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Education Center in Slidell. For more information contact Anne Dardis at the Harrison Curriculum Center at 985.898.3300.

Cozy reads for the winter!

Grades preschool-kindergarten

DB84586, LP25597 *Anything but Ordinary Addie: The True Story of Adelaide Hermann, Queen of Magic* by Mara Rockliff

DB23569, BARD, LP20036
A Bargain for Frances
by Russell Hoban

BR22001, LP25595
Ada Twist, Scientist
by Andrea Beatty

DB79890, DBC03098
Giraffes Can't Dance
by Giles Andreae

Grades 2-4

BR008721, DB34054, BARD
Bartholomew and the Oobleck
by Dr. Seuss

DB85307
Hiawatha and the Peacemaker
by Robbie Robertson

BRC01769, DBC06846, BARD
Little Melba and Her Big Trombone
by Katheryn Russell-Brown

BR009591, BR17775, DB31793, BARD
Matilda by Roald Dahl

Grades 3-6

BR20968, DB82133
A Handful of Stars by Cynthia Lord

DB81185
Finding Serendipity by Angelica Banks

BR21151, DB80497
Fish in a Tree by Lynda M. Hunt

DB85754
Fuzzy by Tom Angleberger

Grades 5-8

DB86760
A Crack in the Sea
by H.M. Bouwman

DB85315
A Most Magical Girl
by Karen Foxlee

DB87202
*A Storm too Soon:
A Remarkable True Survival Story
in 80-Foot Seas*
by Mike Tougias

BR21728, DB84720
As Brave As You
by Jason Reynolds

Grades 6-9 & YA

DB84560 *A Tyranny of Petticoats:
15 Stories of Belles, Bank Robbers &
Other Badass Girls*
by Jessica Spotswood

BR20825, DB81519, LP25649
An Ember in the Ashes
by Sabaa Tahir

DB86201 *Falling Over Sideways*
by Jordan Sonnenblick

DB82707 *Dumplin'*
by Julie Murphy

Support our TBBL friend's organization

The Jones Foundation acknowledges the following donors for their generous contributions:

Cheri Landry

Since 1981, the Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation has acted as a friends group for the Talking Books and Braille Library in the State Library of Louisiana.

It provides a mechanism for accepting donations to enhance and support services to the blind and physically handicapped community statewide.

It directly supplements the programs and initiatives of TBBL within the State Library. It is a primary sponsor of the State Library's large print collection, TBBL's summer reading program, and descriptive video collection and it supports volunteer efforts in the area.

To contribute, make checks payable to the Foundation and mail to the following address:

Mrs. W. Carruth Jones Foundation
1131 N. River Road
Port Allen, LA 70767

All donations are tax deductible. Anyone who makes a donation receives a one-year membership to the Foundation. For meeting information call Shelia Coleman at 225.342.4942.

Library address

Talking Books & Braille Library
701 N. Fourth St.
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

Phone numbers

Baton Rouge: 342.0035
Statewide: 1.800.543.4702
Fax: 225.342.6817

Special services

Music section: 800.424.8567
Braille service: 800.453.4293

Email

tbbl@state.lib.la.us
tbblkids@state.lib.la.us

Walk-in hours

Monday – Thursday
10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Phone hours

Monday – Friday
8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Library services

Audio books and magazines
Braille books and magazines
Large print books and big books
Descriptive videos
Online catalog
BARD download service
BARD mobile apps
Newspaper reading service

Eligibility

Any Louisiana resident who is unable to read or use standard print materials as a result of a temporary or permanent visual or physical limitation is eligible to receive free library services.

State Library of Louisiana
Talking Books and Braille Library
701 N. Fourth Street
Baton Rouge, LA 70802

**FREE MATTER FOR THE
BLIND OR HANDICAPPED**

Special format library materials are loaned
to qualified patrons by

Talking Books and Braille Library

State Library of Louisiana

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Department of Culture, Recreation and Tourism

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Institute of Museum and Library Services

