

# 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. 21 No. 1

Winter 2021

## Holiday closings

Dec. 24-25	Christmas
Dec. 31 - Jan.1	New Years
Jan. 18	MLK Day
Feb. 16	Mardi Gras

## Duplication on demand

We are looking forward to transitioning over to multi-book cartridges. The following are some of the many advantages to multi-book cartridges:

- Ensures that we are able to keep up with book requests
- Longer check-out period
- Fewer cartridges to look through to find books
- Enables us to include download-only books on the cartridge

## NLS obtains books through treaty

The Marrakesh Treaty makes the production and international transfer of specially-adapted books for people with blindness or visual impairments easier. It does this by establishing a set of limitations and exceptions to traditional copyright law. NLS obtained French books through the Marrakesh Treaty. They have started with a small batch of titles from the Centre for Equitable

Library Access CELA (Canada). While it will be a test of the process, these are not test books, per se. The selected titles have been reviewed and selected for inclusion in the NLS permanent collection. They will be listed under a new prefix of DBG.

## COVID-19 accessible resources

The Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation (CIDI), has created COVID-19 resources in alternative formats based upon CDC's guidance. Here are the titles for six of 15 documents available:

- *Symptoms of Coronavirus*
- *Test for Current Infection*
- *How to Safely Wear and Take Off a Mask*
- *What You Should Know About COVID-19 to Protect Yourself and Others*
- *Information for People with Disabilities*
- *Guidance for Handlers of Service and Therapy Animals*

If you would like any of these documents in BRAILLE format, please

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contact your Reader Advisor, and we will order the BRAILLE for you. Or you can order the materials yourself online at <https://cidi.gatech.edu/covid/braille/request>.

CIDI has also created a special web page with the COVID-19 resources designed for users accessing the web with screen readers or other assistive technology. Visit that page at <https://cidi.gatech.edu/covid/accessible>.

To visit the main CIDI COVID-19 accessible resources web page, go to: <https://cidi.gatech.edu/covid>.

For the CDC's full guidance, please visit [www.cdc.gov/coronavirus](http://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus)

### **Lafayette Reads Together**

**DB96188** *Haben: The Deafblind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law* by Haben Girma. Now in its seventh year, Lafayette Reads Together (LRT) is a community read for the entire parish. The goal is to get the whole community reading, discussing, and exploring the same book. Thanks to the Lafayette Public Library Foundation, free copies of *Haben* are distributed to all interested Lafayette Parish patrons starting January 19th, allowing everyone, regardless of socioeconomic status, educational background, race, and age, a chance to participate in the community read. Copies of the ebook and audiobook are also available via download. Lafayette Reads Together offers companion related programs scheduled from January through March including a live virtual author visit on the eve of Thursday, February 25th. For more information on accessing the virtual author visit and other LRT programming visit [LafayettePublic](http://LafayettePublic)

[Library.org](http://Library.org) or join the Facebook group for Lafayette Reads Together.

### **About the Book**

This year's read is the incredible life story of Haben Girma, the first deafblind graduate of Harvard Law School, and her amazing journey from isolation to the world stage. Haben grew up spending summers with her family in the enchanting Eritrean city of Asmara. There, she discovered courage as she faced off against a bull she couldn't see, and found in herself an abiding strength as she absorbed her parents' harrowing experiences during Eritrea's thirty-year war with Ethiopia. Their refugee story inspired her to embark on a quest for knowledge, traveling the world in search of the secret to belonging. She explored numerous fascinating places, including Mali, where she helped build a school under the scorching Saharan sun. Her many adventures over the years range from the hair-raising to the hilarious. Haben defines disability as an opportunity for innovation. She learned non-visual techniques for everything from dancing salsa to handling an electric saw. She developed a text-to-braille communication system that created an exciting new way to connect with people. Haben pioneered her way through obstacles, graduated from Harvard Law, and now uses her talents to advocate for people with disabilities. Haben takes readers through a thrilling game of blind hide-and-seek in Louisiana, a treacherous climb up an iceberg in Alaska, and a magical moment with President Obama at The White House. Warm, funny, thoughtful, and uplifting, this captivating memoir is a

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testament to one woman's determination to find the keys to connection.

### **Black History Month bibliography**

**DB100966** *A Promised Land* by Barack Obama. The first volume of Barack Obama's presidential memoirs, recounting his journey from youth to president of the United States of America. He discusses his early aspirations, the trajectory of his political career, landmark moments of his first term, and reflections on American politics.

**DB95192** *The Best of Enemies: Race and Redemption in the New South* by Osha Gray Davidson. Explores the friendship that formed between Ann Atwater, an African American former domestic worker, and C. P. Ellis, a KKK leader, in Durham, N. C., during the fight over school integration. Details how the erstwhile enemies bonded after realizing they both had been exploited by the South's power structure.

**DB94362** *Behind the Scenes, or, Thirty Years a Slave and Four Years in the White House* by Elizabeth Keckley. Autobiography of a slave who eventually bought her freedom as an adult. Keckley describes her observations of Abraham Lincoln's presidency, her dress-making business, and her relationship with Mary Todd Lincoln, which lasted even after the president's assassination.

**DB91547** *Barracoon: The Story of the Last "Black Cargo"* by Zora Neale Hurston. Author of *Their Eyes Were Watching God* (DB35745) recounts the story of Oluale Kossola, who became known as Cudjo Lewis--one of the last

survivors of the Atlantic slave trade--as told to her in his unique dialect when she interviewed him from 1927 to 1931.

**DB97142** *Tough Love: My Story of the Things Worth Fighting For* by Susan Rice. US ambassador to the United Nations and former national security advisor to President Obama recounts pivotal moments from her career in American diplomacy and foreign policy as well as her early life in Washington, DC.

**DB93189** *Tigerbelle: The Wyomia Tyus Story* by Wyomia Tyus. Memoir by the African American athlete who, in 1968, became the first person to win gold medals in the 100-meter sprint in two consecutive Olympic Games. Chronicles her childhood, sporting triumphs, and struggles to forge a path for herself and other female athletes.

**DB99933** *The Sword and the Shield: The Revolutionary Lives of Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr.* by Peniel E. Joseph. In this dual biography of iconic African American leaders Malcolm X and Martin Luther King Jr., the author discusses the contrasts in their ideals--self-defense vs. nonviolence and black power vs. civil rights. He examines how these differences translated to the larger social movement.

**Snowy Reads for the Winter**  
by Sneha Padumane

**DB91647** *Spinning Silver* by Naomi Novik.

**DB79830** *Winter Street* by Elin Hilderbrand.

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**DB80443** *The Big Book of Christmas Mysteries* by Otto Penzler.

**DB92672** *One Day in December* by Josie Silver.

**DB77615** *Hercule Poirot: The Complete Short Stories* by Agatha Christie.  
Foreword by Charles Todd.

**DB82625** *In a Dark, Dark Wood* by Ruth Ware.

### **New title for BookTalks**

Our BookTalks Winter book selection is:

**DB79693** *Station Eleven* by Emily St. John Mandel.

On the eve of civilization's collapse due to the pandemic, actor Arthur Leander dies on stage while performing *King Lear*. Eight-year-old Kirsten Raymonde is also in the play, and as she grows older, she discovers secrets of their new dystopia link back to Arthur.

### **How to join BookTalks**

We hold our book discussions via an email discussion list. Members comment on the book by sending an email to the discussion list. All members then see the comments and have the ability to respond by email to the group. If you want to join our discussion group, go to: <http://pelican.state.lib.la.us/mailman/listinfo/tbblbooktalks> and create an account by entering your name (make sure to put your name so we can verify you), email address and make up a password or, as always, you can call your reader advisor.

### **BookTalks Book Club**

If you join BookTalks, we will add you to our mailing list and automatically send

you a digital book copy of the newest selection. I hope that this will make it more convenient to read the book and participate in the discussion!

### **Free iOS app from NFB**

The National Federation of the Blind has released version 3.0 of NFB-NEWSLINE® Mobile to the Apple App Store. The brand new, redesigned app not only allows subscribers to access all of the content available through NFB-NEWSLINE from their iPhone, iPad, or other iOS device, but includes a free basic version of the KNFB Reader mobile app. NFB-NEWSLINE Mobile includes these features and much more:

- KNFB Reader Basic, a free version of KNFB Reader with the core functions necessary to quickly scan any printed text—just point, shoot, and read!
- The ability to share articles from publications in the breaking news category to social media channels.
- Multiple customization options to organize, save, and manage both NFB-NEWSLINE content and documents scanned with KNFB Reader Basic.

NFB-NEWSLINE Mobile 3.0 is fully accessible with VoiceOver so that users can hear content read aloud or read it in Braille with a connected refreshable Braille display or notetaker, making the app ideal for blind and deafblind users.

For more information about the NFB-NEWSLINE service and the new mobile app, please visit <https://www.nfb.org/programs-services/nfb-newsline>.

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## **Books and Beyond**

A Section for Children and Teens

### **2021 Scholarship Opportunities**

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 between \$3,000 and \$12,000. All scholarships awarded are based on academic excellence, community service and leadership.

Each winner will receive assistance to attend the 2021 National Federation of the Blind Annual Convention scheduled to take place July 6 – 11, 2021 in New Orleans, Louisiana. Application deadline is March 31, 2021. For more information, email [scholarships@nfb.org](mailto:scholarships@nfb.org) or call 410.659.9314, at extension 2415, or write to:

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

### **2021 Louisiana scholarship info**

Each year at its state convention, the National Federation of the of Louisiana (NFBL) awards four scholarships to recognize the achievement of blind scholars in Louisiana. Scholarships range from \$750 to \$1,500. Due to the pandemic, deadlines for scholarship applications in 2021 are pending on the finalized plans for the state convention. For current information, and to receive an application contact: Eric Guillory, Chairperson NFBL Scholarship Committee, 101 South Trenton Street. Ruston, LA 71270, phone:

800.234.4166, email: [eguillory@louisianacenter.org](mailto:eguillory@louisianacenter.org).

### **Family resource fair**

The date for the 2021 Annual St. Tammany Family Information Fair for children with special needs is currently pending. For more information, contact Shannan Nette at the Harrison Curriculum Center at 985.898.3300.

### **Statewide Braille Challenge**

Louisiana – Accessible Educational Materials (AEM) and the Louisiana School for the Visually Impaired will host the statewide Braille Challenge in a Virtual Testing Window beginning Monday, January 18, and running through Friday, February 12, 2021. Students from all over Louisiana will compete and test on fundamental Braille skills such as reading comprehension, spelling, speed and accuracy, proofreading, and charts and graphs. The five score categories include Apprentice, Freshman, Sophomore, Junior Varsity, and Varsity. For more Information contact La-AEM Director, Robin King at [robin@ssdla-aem.org](mailto:robin@ssdla-aem.org).

### **New large print for young readers**

Thanks to the Jones Foundation, TBBL was able to purchase new large print books. Here are just a few of our new titles:

#### **Preschool thru grade 2**

**LP26008** *A Night Out with Mama*  
by Quvenzhané Wallis

**LP25825** *Cactus Tales* by Rondi Kutz

**LP25820** *Bob and Larry in the Case of the Missing Patience* by Karen Poth

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**LP25821** *The Mess Detectives and the Case of the Lost Temper* by Karen Poth

**LP25818, BR20023** *The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore* by William Joyce

**LP25817, DB89176** *Seven and a Half Tons of Steel* by Janet Nolan

**LP25596** *Among a Thousand Fireflies* by Helen Frost

**LP23081, BRC01055, DBC06349** *Why Epossumondas has no Hair on His Tail* by Coleen Salley

**LP25505** *Give it Back Pack Rat* by Sheila Lofgreen

### **Grades 2-5**

Three books by Neil Patrick Harris including:

**DB90217** *The Magic Misfits*

**LP26290, DB96231** *Magic Misfits: The Second Story*

**LP26213, DB97085** *Magic Misfits: The Minor Third*

**LP26219, DB90413** *Aru Shah and the End of Time* by Roshani Chokshi

**LP26323, DB95579** *Aru Shah and the Song of Death* by Roshani Chokshi

**LP26268, DB94258** *Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry* by Neil diGrasse Tyson

**LP26211, DB95370** *Shouting at the Rain* by Lynda M. Hunt

### **Grades 5-8**

**LP26356, DB94634** *The Last Last-Day-of-Summer* by Lamar Giles

**LP26208, BR22981, DB94118** *Sal & Gabi Break the Universe* by Carlos Hernandez

**LP26332, DB90696** *The Night Diary* by Veera Hiranandani

**LP26325, BR22887, DB97013** *The Tyrant's Tomb* by Rick Riordan

**LP26276, DB95019** *The Next Great Paulie Fink* by Ali Benjamin

**LP26234, DB93902** *The Benefits of Being an Octopus* by Ann Braden

**LP26297, BR22859, DB92614** *Small Spaces* by Katherine Arden

**LP26242, BR22254, DB90412** *Hurricane Child* by Kheryn Callender

**LP26304, DB92548** *The Storm Runner* by J.C. Cervantes

**LP26306, DB89315** *Wishtree* by Katherine Applegate

### **Young Adult**

**LP26214, DB93853** *We are Displaced* by Malala Yousafzai

**LP26230, DB94428** *Endurance: My Year in Space and How I Got There* by Scott Kelly

**LP26298, BR22221, DB89757** *The 57 Bus* by Dashka Slater

**LP26206, DB89350** *You Bring the Distant Near* by Mitali Perkins

**LP26283, BR21874, DB87441** *The Hate U Give* by Angie Thomas

**LP26339, BR22420, DB92221** *The Poet X* by Elizabeth Acevedo

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## **Support our TBBL friends organization**

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

Jane Wheelahan

Kirk Jones in memory of Joe Anjier and George Pugh

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, staff enrichment, and early literacy program.

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 Jones Foundation. For meeting information, call Shelia Coleman at 225.342.4942.

## **TBBL Directory**

### **Library address**

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

### **Phone numbers**

Baton Rouge: 225.342.0035  
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 and email 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  
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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