Accessibility Resources

This resource list is intended to help New Mexico Arts grantees find and utilize information regarding the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) and accessibility within the arts. Resources listed here represent only a small selection of the information and resources available regarding arts accessibility. We encourage you to explore the information and contact New Mexico Arts Accessibility Coordinator Lilli Tichinin with any questions.

To request a large-print version of this list please contact Lilli Tichinin.

Lilli Tichinin, New Mexico Arts Accessibility Coordinator
Email: lilli.tichinin@state.nm.us
Phone: (505) 476-0518

Table of Contents
(Click to navigate to each section)

By Resource Type
- General
  - Trainings, Webinars and Videos
  - Checklists & Tip Sheets
  - Guidelines & Handbooks
  - Resource Lists

Statewide Resources
Regional Resources
National Resources

By Resource Type

General

- Downloadable Disability Access Symbols

- World Wide Web Consortium (W3C)
  “The Web Accessibility Initiative (WAI) develops strategies, guidelines, and resources to help make the Web accessible to people with disabilities.”
Trainings, Webinars and Videos

- New Mexico Governor’s Commission on Disability (information on Trainings offered)

- Southwest ADA Center Online trainings
  Including, ADA BASIC BUILDING BLOCKS: An Online Course about the ADA
  “This introductory web course on the ADA explores the legal requirements and spirit of the ADA.”

- Southwest ADA Center Webinars

- Accessibility Online Webinar Series
  “Sessions are held on a monthly basis and cover a variety of topics concerning accessibility to the built environment, information and communication technologies, and transportation.”

- VSA/The Kennedy Center Webinars

- VSA/The Kennedy Center Videos

Checklists & Tip Sheets

- National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) Brief Accessibility Checklist
  “…user-friendly tool for your confidential use to assist you in making your organization and project inclusive and available to everyone.” Includes links to additional resources within checklist.”

- Section 504 Self-Evaluation Workbook
  “This Program Evaluation Workbook is designed to assist…in evaluating the current state of accessibility of programs and activities to disabled visitors and employees.” The Workbook is designed to be used in conjunction with Design For Accessibility, A Cultural Administrator’s Handbook.

- VSA Texas ADA Toolkit

- Stanford Online Accessibility Program Tips Page
  “…resources for Stanford web designers, developers and content creators so that they can produce materials which are accessible to the broadest audience possible. “

- New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Fact Sheets
  Including “How to Find a Signed Language Interpreter” and “Realtime Captioning Resources”
• **VSA/The Kennedy Center Tip Sheets**
  “Information on a variety of topics for ADA/504 Coordinators, accessibility managers, or other cultural arts professionals interested in making their facilities and programming more accessible to people with disabilities.”

• **NEA Language Guide**
  Please note that changes in acceptable terminology do occur and language preferences can differ between disability communities and among individuals. “There are two main types of language used to refer to disability: person-first language and what is known as identity-first language (IFL).”¹ There are many available guides for person-first-language including the NEA guide linked to above. We encourage you to read more about the distinctions between and uses of person-first and identity-first language (links to articles are provided as additional information and are not an endorsement of the ideas and opinions expressed therein):
  - “What Is Identity-First Language, & Should You Use It?” by JR Thorpe
  - “Identity-First Language” by Lydia Brown
  - “Journalists should learn to carefully traverse a variety of disability terminology” by Beth Haller, Board Member, National Center on Disability and Journalism
  - ¹“Why Person-First Language Doesn’t Always Put The Person First” by Emily Ladau

**Guidelines & Handbooks**

• **2010 ADA Standards for Accessible Design**
  See also: **NEA Tip Sheet on the 2010 Revised Regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act**

• **Smithsonian Publication Guidelines**

• **Smithsonian Guidelines for Accessible Exhibition Design**

• **Smithsonian Guidelines for Accessible Design**

• **Design for Accessibility: A Cultural Administrator’s Handbook**
  “Designed to help organizations not only comply with Section 504 and the Americans with Disabilities Act, but to assist in making access an integral part of planning, mission, programs, outreach, meetings, budget and staffing.”

• **Accessibility Planning and Resource Guide for Cultural Administrators**
  A Step-by-Step Guide to Accessible Cultural Programs and Organizations
Resource Lists

- Southwest ADA Center Useful Resources
- New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council Links
- National Arts and Disability Center Library
- National Arts and Disability Center Resource List
- NEA Laws and Compliance Standards Resources
- VSA/Kennedy Center Resources for Artists
- VSA/Kennedy Center Resources for Arts Administrators
- Cultural Access Network Project Resource Library
- American Council of the Blind Resources

Statewide Resources

- New Mexico Governor’s Commission on Disability
  “The New Mexico Governor's Commission on Disability (GCD) is committed to improving the quality of life of all New Mexicans with disabilities by addressing social integration, economic self-sufficiency, political resolve, physical and program accessibility, and full participation in the benefits of life and rights of all individuals.”

- New Mexico Commission For The Blind
  “Our mission is to enable persons who are blind to achieve vocational, economic and social equality by providing career preparation, training in the skills of blindness and above all, promoting and conveying the belief that blindness is not a barrier to successful employment, or to living an independent and meaningful life.”

- New Mexico Commission for Deaf and Hard of Hearing
  “Providing effective leadership, education, advocacy and programs to reduce barriers to the social, economic, educational, cultural and intellectual well-being of Deaf and Hard of Hearing New Mexicans and their families, friends and colleagues.”
• **Disability Rights New Mexico**
  “Disability Rights New Mexico - DRNM - is a private, non-profit organization whose mission is to protect, promote and expand the rights of persons with disabilities. We are the designated protection and advocacy program for New Mexico, and as such we have authority under federal law to pursue legal, administrative and other remedies on behalf of persons with disabilities.”

• **New Mexico Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf**
  Includes link to the national Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf searchable database of interpreters.

• **New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council**
  “The New Mexico Developmental Disabilities Planning Council will promote advocacy, capacity building, and systemic change to improve the quality of life for individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.”

**Regional Resources**

• **Southwest ADA Center**
  “The Southwest ADA Center is the Southwest's leading resource on the Americans with Disabilities Act and related disability rights laws. The Center is part of the ADA National Network funded by the National Institute on Disability, Independent Living, and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR).”

**National Resources**

• **U.S. Department of Justice Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**
  “Information and Technical Assistance of the Americans with Disabilities Act”

• **National Endowment for the Arts Office of Accessibility**
  “The advocacy-technical assistance arm of the Arts Endowment to make the arts accessible for people with disabilities, older adults, veterans, and people living in institutions.”

• **Smithsonian Accessibility Program**
- **Kennedy Center: VSA and Accessibility Office**
  “VSA, the international organization on arts and disability, was founded more than 35 years ago by Ambassador Jean Kennedy Smith to provide arts and education opportunities for people with disabilities and increase access to the arts for all.”
  “The award-winning Accessibility Office at the Kennedy Center strives to make the cultural arts accessible to people with disabilities by removing barriers and providing opportunities.”

- **National Arts and Disability Center (NADC)**
  “The NADC is a leading consultant in the arts and disability community, and the only center of its kind. Recipients of our technical assistance include artists with disabilities, performing arts organizations, art centers, universities and colleges, disability specific groups, and arts administrators.”

- **Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf, Inc.**
  Includes searchable database of interpreters.

- **United States Access Board**
  “The U.S. Access Board is a federal agency that promotes equality for people with disabilities through leadership in accessible design and the development of accessibility guidelines and standards for the built environment, transportation, communication, medical diagnostic equipment, and information technology.”