

# Digital Accessibility Practices for Hearing

**Presented by:**



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# Digital Accessibility Series

- ~~1. July 12<sup>th</sup> – Vision~~
2. July 19<sup>th</sup> – Hearing
3. July 20<sup>th</sup> – Motor
4. July 27<sup>th</sup> – General Best Practices

## **At the conclusion of the session, participants will be able to...**

- Identify at least two web content accessibility guidelines that enable or improve digital access for individuals who have hearing impairments.
- Identify at least two built-in accessibility features that enable or improve digital access for individuals who have hearing impairments.
- Gain hands-on practice completing an accessibility review of an inaccessible PowerPoint.

# **Learning Objectives**



# **Story Time: Everyday Digital Accessibility Interactions**

# Accessibility Matters. It's the Law.



## **Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)**

- Civil rights law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities in all areas of public life. (ADA National Network)
- Courts ruled that websites and digital platforms are places of public accommodation under the ADA (Title IV - Telecommunications).

## **Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act & Section 255 of the Communications Act**

- Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG) are considered the de facto online standards.

## **[Disability Rights Cases](#)**

# Accessibility Matters. It's a Fact.



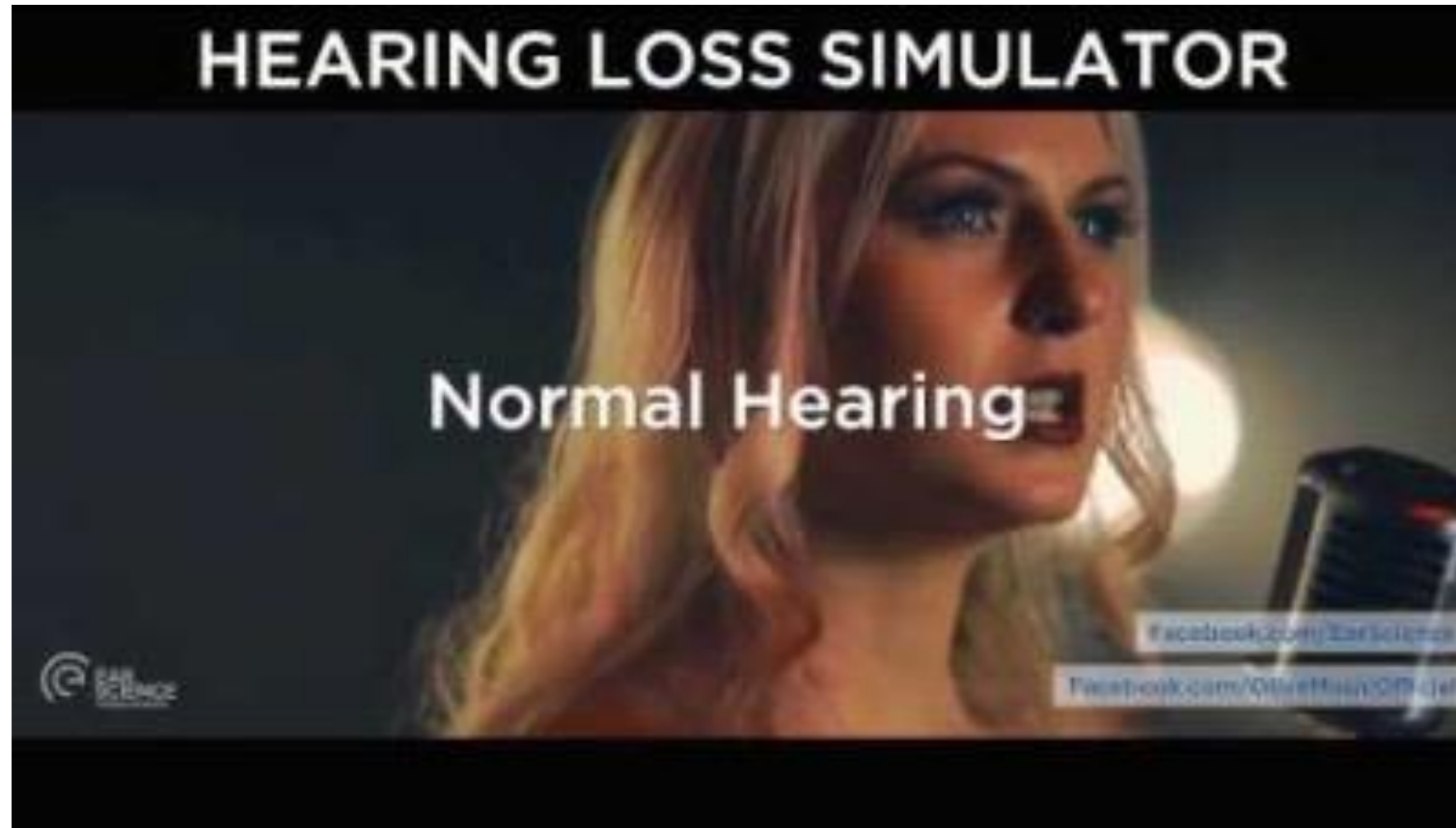
## **Diversity is a fact.**

- Globally, 466 million people have hearing disabilities.
- [ADA – Participation Action Research Consortium \(ADA PARC\)](#)
- [University of Montana – Disability Counts](#)

## **Diversity is the norm.**

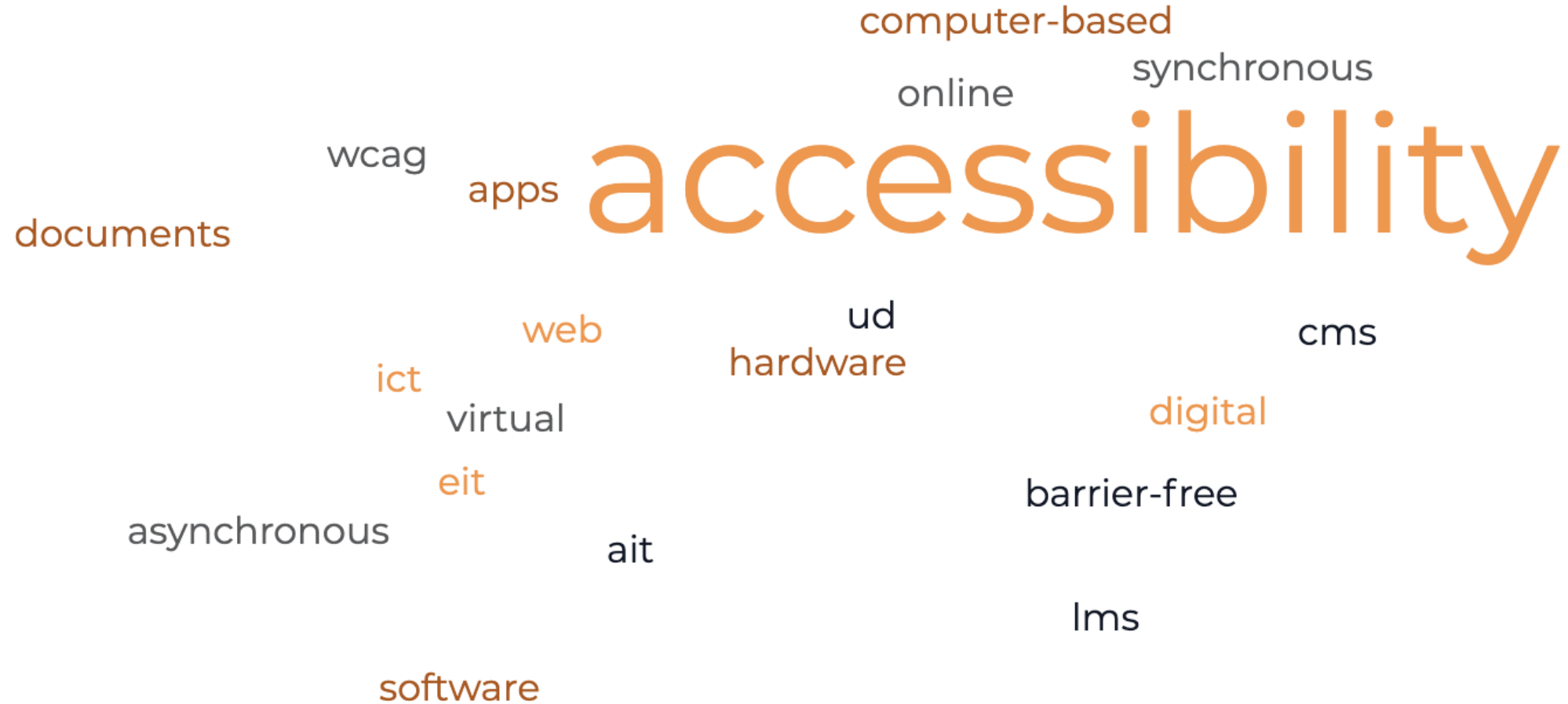
- As with the whole population, persons with disabilities differ widely.
- Deaf with a 'capital D'
- deaf with a 'lowercase d'
- Hard of hearing (HoH)

# Being Heard



YouTube Video: [Hearing Loss Simulator](#) | CC & Transcript available on YouTube

# Common Terms





# Web Content Accessibility Guidelines

## Most Updated Version WCAG 2.2

POUR (**P**erceivable | **O**perable | **U**nderstanding | **R**obust):

- Provide [open or closed captioning](#) (CC)
- Provide [transcripts](#)
- Provide audio descriptions of multimedia



# WCAG – Operable

POUR (Perceivable | **Operable** | Understanding | Robust):

- Compatible with different input methods
  - Assistive listening devices
    - Hearing loop systems
    - Frequency-modulated (FM) systems
    - Infrared systems
    - Personal amplifiers
  - Augmentative & alternative communication (AAC) devices
    - [Text telephone \(TTY\)](#)

# WCAG – Understanding Content

POUR (Perceivable | Operable | **Understanding** | Robust):

- Provide multiple contact options
  - Email | Virtual Meeting | Online Form | TTY
- Use plain English
  - Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level: 8<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> grade
  - Lines: 60 to 100 characters
  - Sentence: <= 20 words
  - Paragraph: <= 5 sentences

Readability Statistics	
<b>Counts</b>	
Words	69
Characters	364
Paragraphs	1
Sentences	7
<b>Averages</b>	
Sentences per Paragraph	7
Words per Sentence	9.8
Characters per Word	5.1
<b>Readability</b>	
Flesch Reading Ease	65.6
Flesch-Kincaid Grade Level	6.5
Passive Sentences	14.2%
Readability statistics are based on your text selection.	

# WCAG – Robust

POUR (Perceivable | Operable | Understanding | **Robust**):

- Multiple means of access and engagement
  - Qualified interpreters (on-site or via video remote interpreting (VRI) services)
  - Exchange of written notes
  - Real-time computer-aided transcription (CART) services
  - Assistive listening devices and/or systems
- Involve people who are Deaf, deaf, or HoH

# **WCAG + Teaching others how to use built-in features = Best Practice**

# Digital Built-In Features

## Apple Accessibility



YouTube Video: The Greatest | CC & Transcript available on YouTube

# Apple Accessibility



- Live & Closed Captions
- Conversation Boost or Live Listen
- Made for iPhone Hearing Devices
- Headphone Accommodations
- Mono Audio
- Sound Recognition
- FaceTime
- Sensory Alerts or Flash Screen
- Real-Time Text (RTT)
- iMessage
- For more information, visit [Apple Accessibility](#)

# Google Accessibility

- Live Captions & Transcriptions
- Sound Amplifier
- Sound Notifications
- Mono Audio
- Google Assistant
- For more information, visit [Google Accessibility](#)





# Microsoft Accessibility

- PowerPoint

- Subtitles

- Slide Show > Always use Subtitles

- Audio

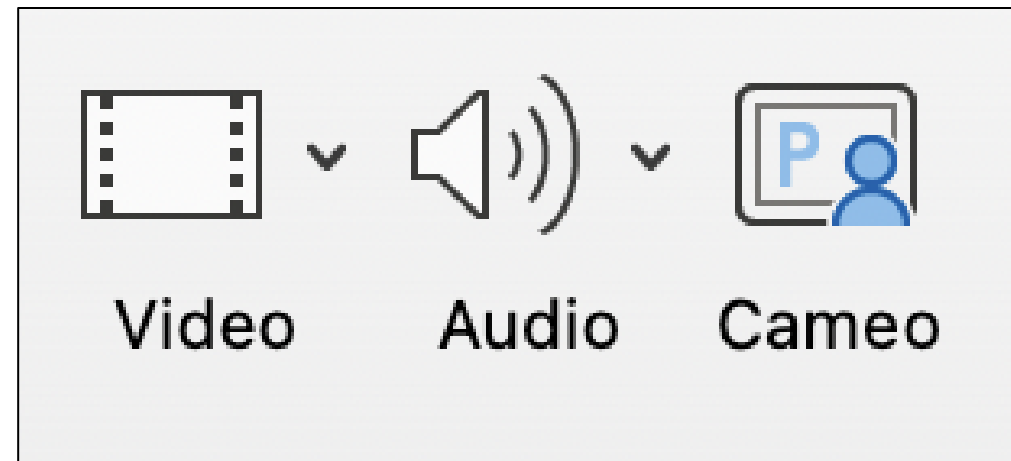
- Insert or Recording > Audio

- Cameo

- Insert > Cameo

- PowerPoint & Word

- Media



# Virtual Presentations

- Share accessible documents and media with attendees
  - File uploads in-meeting chat
- Provide subtitles, closed, or real-time captioning
- Provide a brief verbal description of audio
- Share transcripts of videos used
- Record presentations

# Digital Apps

- [Ava](#)
- [Otter AI](#)
- [Web Captioner](#) (Web-Based)
- [ASL](#)

# Resources

- [World Wide Web Consortium \(W3C\)](#)
- [WebAIM](#)
- [Nebraska ATP Partnership](#)
- [Nebraska Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing](#)
- [Apple Accessibility](#)
- [Google Accessibility](#)
- [Microsoft Office Accessibility](#)
- [AT-on-Demand](#)

# Connect with Molly

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