Creating Accessible Presentations



Before

- If you are the organizer, arrange for live captions.
 - o Provide ASL interpreters on request.
- Use good color contrast and large fonts in designing your slides.
 - Don't cram too much text on a slide.
- If your presentation includes video or audio clips, ensure they are accessible.
 - o Provide captions (or a transcript for audio-only clips).
 - Provide audio description or summarize the video so blind attendees understand the content.

During

- Speak descriptively.
 - Imagine you are speaking to someone who can't see your screen. What is important about your graphics?
 - No need to call out each image individually but be sure that the information they convey is included in your script.
- Pace yourself
 - Interpreters need more time for translation, and other attendees appreciate it too.
 - o Leave time for questions, if that fits the format.
 - Practice your presentation so you know how long it takes at a reasonable speaking speed.
- Explain acronyms if the audience is general.
 - Keep jargon to a minimum, unless the event is for specialists.

After

- If you are sharing the presentation video, make sure the captions are included.
- If you are sharing the slides, consult accessibility tips for documents.
 - o PowerPoint and PDF can be made accessible; see resources below.
 - Consider using HTML which can be made highly accessible; see resources below.

Resources

Accessible Documents

- PowerPoint: https://support.microsoft.com/en-us/office/make-your-powerpoint-presentations-accessible-to-people-with-disabilities-6f7772b2-2f33-4bd2-8ca7-dae3b2b3ef25 (https://tinyurl.com/aapowerpt)
- PDFs: https://accessate.net/tipsheet/creating-accessible-pdfs
- HTML: https://accessate.net/tipsheet/creating-accessible-websites

Color Contrast Tools

- Tanaguru Contrast Finder: https://contrast-finder.tanaguru.com
- WCAG Contrast Checker (Firefox add-on):
 https://addons.mozilla.org/firefox/addon/wcag-contrast-checker/
- Color Contrast Analyzer, which is particularly useful for checking the contrast levels of text over image backgrounds: https://chrome.google.com/webstore/detail/color-contrastanalyzer/dagdlcijhfbmgkjokkjicnnfimlebcll (https://tinyurl.com/aacolorcontrast)
- Accessible Brand Colors, which can show you how your colors work together in different combinations: https://abc.useallfive.com

Image Description Resources

 WBGH image description tools: https://wgbh.org/foundation/ncam/tools-andresources/image-description-resources (https://tinyurl.com/aaimagedescription)



Developed in conjunction with the National Center for Accessible Media, based at Boston public broadcaster WGBH.



For more accessibility resources like this, please visit the AccessATE web site at http://accessate.net



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