



because accessibility
is for everyone

SIGNAL CENTERS ACCESSIBILITY AWARENESS SERIES



SIGNAL CENTERS

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



of Tennessee



Council on
Developmental Disabilities



This series is being held in celebration of
Global Accessibility Awareness Day.





On behalf of Signal Centers, I want to thank you for joining us on Global Accessibility Awareness Day. Our hope is this event will inspire transformative conversations about the inclusion of individuals with different abilities. Together, we can be a positive force in achieving the accessibility of digital information for all.

Donna McConnico
CEO, Signal Centers

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Each session will start at 1:00 pm and 2:15 pm daily.

May 21, 2020

Moving from Disability Accommodation to Universal Design: Jared Spool
Creating a Culture of Accessibility: Deb Socia and Heidi Leming

May 28, 2020

Technology in the Workplace: Liz Persaud
A.I. and Emerging Technology: Chris Fink and Bryan Cuervo

June 4, 2020

Accessible Media Platforms: Ben Jacobs
Voice Technology and Accessibility: Bradley Metrock

June 11, 2020

Universal Design Roundtable: Leslie Jensen-Inman and Dan Ryan
Accessibility Trends: Stacie Caraway and Stacie Price

MOVING FROM DISABILITY ACCOMMODATION TO UNIVERSAL DESIGN

Designing for accessibility started as a medical accommodation. People with disabilities needed special tools and materials so they could operate in the world, just like abled people. If those individuals couldn't be fixed, we would create accommodations for them to make them equal.

However, in recent years, we've changed how we think about design for people with disabilities. We no longer believe they are the ones needing fixing. Instead, we need to think of our designs as being more flexible. We need the design to adapt to differences from one user to the next. We must reduce the necessity for special accommodation, but instead design our products and services to be adaptable to individual differences, no matter how varied.

Presented By:



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

JARED SPOOL

Jared M. Spool is a Maker of Awesomeness at Center Centre – UIE. Center Centre is the school he started with Leslie Jensen-Inman to create industry-ready User Experience Designers in Chattanooga, TN. He started working in the field of usability and user experience in 1978, before the term's "usability" and "UX" were ever associated with computers. In the 43 years he's been in the tech field, he's worked with hundreds of organizations, written two books, published hundreds of articles and podcasts, and tours the world speaking to audiences everywhere.

CREATING A CULTURE OF ACCESSIBILITY



Having the necessary tools and practices in place, along with a creative and unique plan for the utilization of those resources, can provide opportunities for increased independence. The presenters will share examples of what this looks like in practice and will discuss both building that organizational mindset along with the prerequisite systems change that must be present in order for such efforts to succeed.

Presented By:



DEB SOCIA

Deb Socia is the President and CEO of The Enterprise Center. A Boston native, Deb was a middle school math teacher before becoming the executive director of Tech Goes Home in 2010, a board member of Project Right Inc. in 2013, executive director of Next Century Cities in Washington, D.C. in 2014 and finally the CEO of The Enterprise Center. She currently lives in the Highland Park neighborhood of Chattanooga, and has established The Enterprise Center as an anchor of the Innovation District in downtown Chattanooga.



HEIDI LEMING

Dr. Heidi Leming currently serves as the Vice Chancellor for Student Success at the Tennessee Board of Regents (TBR). Prior to assuming her role at TBR, Dr. Leming served as Vice President for Student Affairs in the University System of Georgia and served as a doctoral intern with the University System of Georgia Board of Regents in Atlanta. She has 19 years of experience in student affairs at institutions in Tennessee, Virginia, New York, and Georgia.

TECHNOLOGY IN THE WORKPLACE



As a professional with personal experience of using assistive technology (AT) that has structured everyday living and working, Liz will spend this time to reflect back, look forward and share anecdotes along with some valuable lessons learned. Using multiple technological outlets throughout the transition process provides opportunities for independence for individuals with disabilities. This session will explore specific AT strategies and solutions and provide examples of how the range of AT can be used at work.

Presented By:

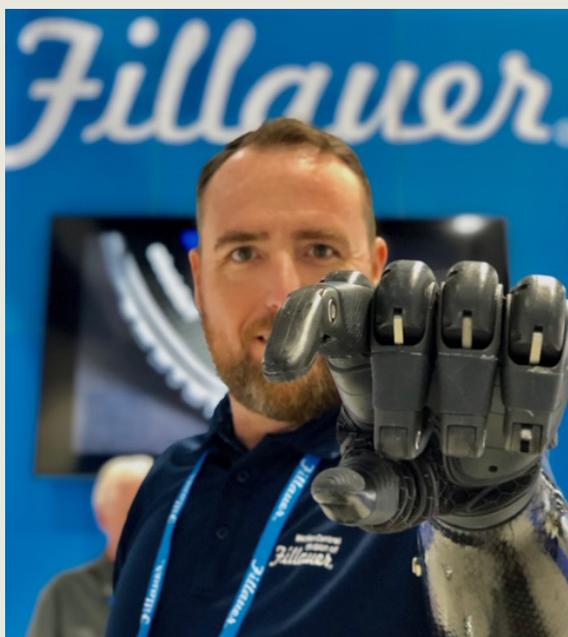
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LIZ PERSAUD

Liz Persaud is a nationally recognized keynote, public speaker, and advocate addressing the need to build bridges and solidify the gaps between individuals living with and without disabilities. Liz currently serves as the Program and Outreach Manager for Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, and the Pass It On Center, The National Assistive Technology Device Reutilization Coordination and Technical Assistance Center, at the Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation within the College of Design at Georgia Tech.

ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE & EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES



Fillauer is a leader and innovator in the design and technology of prosthetic and orthotic products. Our panelists will look at the current state of prosthetics and orthotics as well as how emerging technology will impact both the development and clinical aspects of the industry.

Presented By:

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CHRIS FINK

Chris is the Clinic Manager and Residency Director for Fillauer Orthotics and Prosthetics in Chattanooga, TN. Prior to joining Fillauer, Chris was an instructor in the Master of Science in Prosthetics and Orthotics program at Georgia Tech and practiced as a Certified Prosthetist Orthotist in the Atlanta, GA area. Chris's current clinical interests are in upper limb and challenging lower limb prosthetics.



BRYAN CUERVO

Bryan is a Research and Design Engineer with 14 years of experience. He has been in Research and Development with Fillauer since 2016 and is involved in prototyping prosthetics. Bryan has bachelor's degrees in both Psychology and Engineering. His current engineering interests are in robotics, 3D printing, and drone technology.

ACCESSIBLE MEDIA PLATFORMS & ENTERTAINMENT



Long gone are the days of having to walk across a room and turn a dial to watch what you want on TV. Technology has improved vastly over the years, providing solutions for independent access to news and entertainment on many different devices. With many people retreating to the safety of their homes, the risk of becoming socially isolated and detached is drastically increased. Access to these informative and entertaining platforms is more important than ever. Join Ben Jacobs as he details the various platforms and solutions available for accessible control of your TV, cable box, video game console, gaming PC, smart phone, and more.

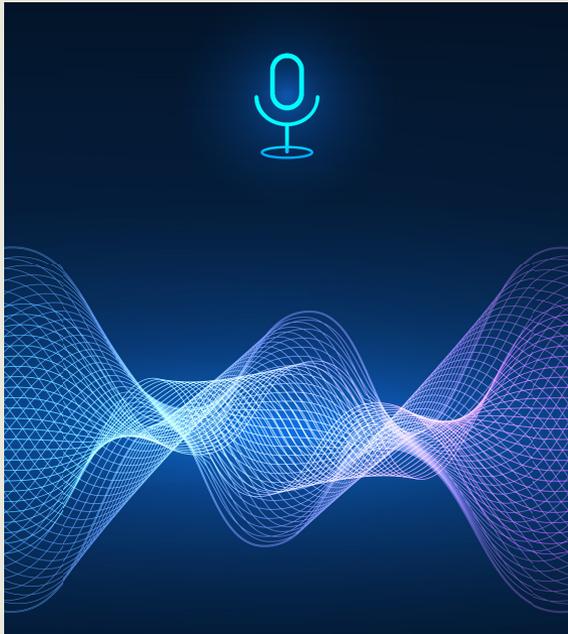
Presented By:



BEN JACOBS

Ben Jacobs is an expert in smart home technology, accessible mainstream gaming, assistive technology solutions, and other emerging technologies. Ben served as an Accommodations Specialist on the Assistive Technology Team at Georgia Tech, and now owns his own business, RebelTech Consulting, where he provides organizations and individuals with training, installation, customization, and continued support on available and upcoming technological solutions.

VOICE TECHNOLOGY & ACCESSIBILITY



How is voice technology and its underlying AI changing our world? From mainstream platforms like Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, and Samsung Bixby, to an explosion of new entrants from numerous voice and AI companies you've never heard of, voice has emerged as a valuable new way to interact with technology, causing evolution in every industry in existence to accelerate.

Bradley Metrock, CEO of Nashville-based Score Publishing, executive producer of Project Voice (the #1 event in the voice/AI space) and host of popular podcast This Week In Voice, joins us to speak about how voice tech has been a boon for accessibility, not just in healthcare where there have been shocking developments, but in other sectors such as automotive, banking, publishing, hospitality, and more.



BRADLEY METROCK

Bradley Metrock is CEO of Nashville-based Score Publishing. Metrock founded the podcast network VoiceFirst.FM, and hosts the show This Week In Voice. He also published the audiobook Perspectives on Gender in #VoiceFirst Technology, produces VoiceFirst Events, and founded the industry association VoiceFirst.Community. He is cited as a top voice and AI thought leader.

Presented By:



UNIVERSAL DESIGN ROUNDTABLE



How can we make sure that the types of media we design are universally accessible by all, regardless of ability? Our panelists will discuss what universal design looks like in a modern landscape, the benefit of designing with users of all abilities in mind, and finally, how to begin designing universally.

Presented By:



of Tennessee



LESLIE JENSEN-INMAN

Dr. Leslie Jensen-Inman is a Co-CEO of Center Centre/UIE. In 2016, with Jared Spool, she opened Center Centre, a new design school in Chattanooga, TN to develop the next generation of industry-ready User Experience (UX) designers. Leslie speaks internationally and writes on topics such as women in design and technology, accessibility and inclusion in design and technology, and transformative and project-based learning.



DANIEL RYAN

Daniel Ryan is Head of Technology at Ragtag, a company that organizes tech volunteers for civic engagement. Previously Daniel was the Director of Front-end Development for President Obama's 2012 election campaign. Under Daniel's leadership the campaign employed a multi-screen strategy producing the first responsive website in US presidential campaign history.

ACCESSIBILITY TRENDS



The presenters will discuss the trends and challenges of staying connected in the workplace, in education, and in other environments during the COVID-19 crisis. This session will also take a look at the general trends in assistive technology in 2020.

Presented By:



of Tennessee



STACIE CARAWAY

Stacie is an attorney with Miller & Martin Law Firm and she advises employers of all sizes on how to comply with applicable state and federal laws concerning employee leave and pregnancy, disability and religious accommodation as well as anti-discrimination, harassment and retaliation laws while still effectively running their businesses.



STACIE PRICE

Stacie Price is the Access Attorney at Disability Rights Tennessee (DRT). She has worked extensively in advocating for and enforcing the rights of individuals to be free from discrimination based on disability, and for individuals with disabilities to have equal access to goods and services in the community. Stacie has worked on behalf of clients with disabilities at DRT since 2012 and is the recipient of DRT's Freedom Award in 2014.