

E-CONNECTOR

News from Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC)

Inside this issue:

- NFB of Colorado Convention Coming Soon
- COPOBC Seminar: "Making Friends and Fitting In"
- Braille Book Fair
- Cash Prizes
- Disabilities in the Movies Month
- Free/Low Cost Internet and Cell Phones
- October Calendar



NFB OF COLORADO STATE CONVENTION COMING SOON!

The annual convention of the National Federation of the Blind of Colorado ([NFBCO](#)) is around the corner! The convention is being held Thursday afternoon, October 25th through Sunday morning, October 28th at the Boulder Millennium Harvest House Hotel at 1345 Twenty-Eighth Street in Boulder, Colorado. Here is a brief run-down of the exciting events planned.

Thursday, October 25th: Boulder Tour from 11:00 a.m.- 2:30 p.m. For \$25 per person tour attendees will visit Celestial Seasonings, The Unseen Bean Coffee Roastery, and Redstone Meadery. Please register with Maryann Migliorelli at 303-499-9125, or email Mrsmig@migliorelli.org. Later in the afternoon there will be a history of the NFB discussion followed by an evening social event.

Friday, October 26th: A general convention session will begin at 10:00 a.m. Parents will be especially interested in presentations on health and fitness for blind kids. A luncheon on Friday will be followed by afternoon breakout sessions. Continuing with the fitness theme, Colorado Center for the Blind and USABA (United States Association of Blind Athletes) are planning to get the kids involved in several sports activities. Friday evening will feature a Hollywood themed reception with games for children and adults. Note: Come dressed as your favorite celebrity. Costume "Oscars" will be presented.

Saturday, October 27th: A jam-packed general session in the morning will be followed a box lunch and afternoon workshops. Colorado Parents of Blind Children will hold a workshop called "Making Friends and Fitting In" from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. (More details on page 2) We invite parents, teachers and others who are interested to bring their box lunches to the meeting room and we'll eat lunch together before the seminar begins. The parents will also have their

Editor's Note: Please feel free to contact us if you have an announcement you would like included in the newsletter or if you would like to add a friend or family member to the e-mail list. Direct all communications to: copobc@gmail.com, attention Julie Hunter, editor

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<http://www.facebook.com/COPOBC>

annual meeting and election of officers and board members this afternoon.* Meanwhile, there are plans in the works to keep the children and young folks busy and involved with their own fun activities while the parents are meeting. (More information follows). Saturday evening will include a banquet and keynote speech by Anil Lewis, NFB Director of Strategic Communications.

Sunday, October 28st: Sunday morning will feature the NFB of Colorado Board Meeting. POBC parents are encouraged to attend and participate, as we are all part of the larger organization. Attending board meetings helps us understand how the NFB works on our behalf. The convention will end around noon on Sunday.

For more information about the convention and to register, go to www.nfbco.org and click on the State Convention link. October 15 is the deadline for reduced rate registration. Save \$\$ and register before the 15th!

***Please consider this notice that the Colorado Parents of Blind Children will hold elections of Officers and Board Members on Saturday, October 27, 2012 at a meeting convening at two o'clock. All offices are voted on annually and dues paying members are eligible to run for office and vote. Dues of \$5.00 will be collected at the door prior to the meeting.**



**CO-POBC SEMINAR
OCTOBER 27, 2012
"MAKING FRIENDS AND
FITTING IN"**

How can parents help their blind and visually impaired kids be accepted by their peers as friends and playmates? Has your child experienced teasing or bullying in school? These are questions we will be addressing at the Colorado Parents of Blind Children (CO-POBC) workshop to be held on Saturday, October 27 from 2:00-5:00 pm. A panel of blind adults will talk about their experiences as children and offer insight and advice. School psychologist, Christine CdeBaca, will lead a discussion about the issue of bullying. Cde Baca is a member of the Adams County Schools bullying task force. Come join us for an interactive round-table discussion of a subject that hits home with just about all of us.

FOR THE KIDS...

CHILDCARE: The young ones are welcome to join the child care room. There will be lots of arts and crafts, singing and other activities to keep the little ones busy. If you plan to use the child care room, please contact Michelle Chacon at

720-240-1074. There is no charge, but they need to know how many children to expect.

SCHOOL AGE KIDS: There will be loads of fun activities for kids on both Friday afternoon and Saturday afternoon (Oct. 26 & 27) Brent Batron, Colorado Center for the Blind Youth Coordinator, and the NFB's Colorado Association of Blind Students (CABS) will be linking kids with young blind mentors. There will be some sports activities, hands-on science "experiments" and a scavenger hunt. Call Brent at 303-778-1130, ext. 211 for details and to pre-register.



**CASH PRIZES
YOU COULD WIN \$50!**

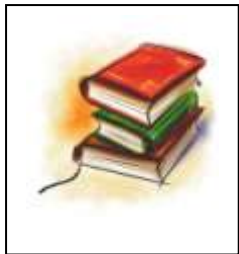
(Drawings will be at 5:00 p.m. 10/27/12 at the conclusion of the parents' seminar.)

\$25 PRIZE #1:

Let us know you're coming to the "Making Friends and Fitting In" workshop and your name will go into the hat for a drawing for \$25 cash. Call our voicemail line at 303-778-1130, ext. 305, and tell us who's coming. You must attend the seminar and be in the room to win.

\$25 PRIZE #2:

A cash prize will be awarded to one lucky person who has registered for the NFBCO convention. We strongly encourage you to register for and attend some or all of the general Convention sessions. Those who have registered and have an official convention name tag will be eligible to win another \$25 prize. You must attend the parent seminar and be in the room at the time of the drawing to win. (Go to NFBCO.org to register on line. Cost: \$15 before October 15, \$20 after the 15th.)



BRILLE BOOK FAIR

Free Braille books for children and youth will be available at the NFBCO Convention on Saturday, October 27. (Exact location to be announced.)

You are also welcome to bring any books you would like to pass on to another child.



OCTOBER: DISABILITIES IN THE MOVIES MONTH

Turner Classic Movies (TCM) will dedicate the month of October to exploring the ways people with disabilities have been portrayed in film. The Projected Image: A History of Disability in Film will include many Oscar winning and nominated films. Some of the films involving blindness include *A Patch of Blue* (1965), about a blind white girl who falls in love with a black man; *Butterflies Are Free* (1972), about a blind man attempting to break free from his over-protective mother; *The Miracle Worker* (1962), starring Patty Duke as Helen Keller; the chiller *Bedlam* (1946), and the intriguing blind-detective mystery *Eyes in the Night* (1942).



FREE /LOW COST INTERNET AND CELL PHONE SERVICE

INTERNET: Comcast offers low cost internet services for families whose children participate in free or reduced lunch programs at school. For

families that qualify, internet services are offered for \$9.95 per month. Low cost computers (\$150) are available for purchase and free internet training is provided. Call 1-855-846-8376 for an application

CELL PHONE: Assurance Wireless, a federal Lifeline Assistance program from Virgin Mobile USA, will provide eligible families a free wireless phone, 250 free voice minutes and 250 free text messages monthly with no annual contract. Eligibility is based on household income or participation in certain government assistance programs. To apply call 800-395-2171, or go to www.assurancewireless.com.



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, October 11

What: Colorado Center for the Blind Open House

Time: 3:00-6:00 p.m.

Where: 2232 W. Shepperd Ave.; Littleton, CO

Tours, Demonstrations, Refreshments