

## **LIBRARY EQUAL ACCESS PROGRAM (LEAP)**

LEAP provides services and materials to make The Seattle Public Library a valuable resource for Library patrons who have a disability. Through the use of adaptive equipment and specialized Library programs, blind, deaf, deaf-blind, hard-of-hearing, visually-impaired and other special needs patrons can participate in Library activities and access Library information.

## **LEAP ADAPTIVE TECHNOLOGY LAB (Central Library)**

### **Adaptive Computer Workstations with Adaptive Software and Braille Display Keyboards**

LEAP computers offer JAWS, a screen-reader program; ZoomText screen magnification program; Duxbury text-to-braille translation software; PowerBraille refreshable keyboards; and access to an Index D Braille Embosser.

### **Talking Typing Teacher**

Patrons may learn or enhance keyboarding skills using the Talking Typing Teacher featuring keyboarding instruction in digitized speech for blind and low vision users.

### **Closed-Circuit Television Systems**

CCTV a video magnification system that looks similar to a television set, allow people to magnify print, written words, and images.

### **Kurzweil 1000 Reading System**

With the Kurzweil 1000, users can scan in books, articles, bills and advertisements—almost anything that fits on a scanner—so they can quickly have the information read aloud.

## **LEAP PROGRAMS AND EVENTS**

### **Low Vision Readers Book Group**

The book group meets at the Central Library on the second Tuesday of the month from noon to 1 p.m.

### **American Sign Language (ASL) Children's Story Time/ American Sign Language (ASL) Book Group**

American Sign Language (ASL) children's story times and adult book group discussions are offered throughout the year. Specific dates and times for ASL programs are available through the library [www.spl.org](http://www.spl.org) website.

### **The Braille Challenge**

Each year, blind and low vision students in elementary through high school participate in a competition to demonstrate skills in braille reading and writing. Sponsored by the Braille Institute and hosted by LEAP at the Central Library.

### **LEAP Internships**

#### *Youth Employment Solutions (YES)*

Each summer LEAP hosts blind student interns as part of YES, a youth employment program of the Department of Services for the Blind (DSB) and the Washington State School for the Blind.

#### *Supervised Internship Project (SIP)*

The DSB also has an adult internship program where a blind intern works at LEAP for a set time, gaining on-the-job work experience at the Library.

## **ACCESSIBLE RESOURCES**

### **Text Telephones (TTY/TDD) (Central Library)**

Public pay phones near the entrances allow people to type messages over conventional telephone lines.

### **VideoPhone System (Central Library)**

Through online video, deaf and hard-of-hearing people can place phone calls and communicate visually using American Sign Language either with a live video interpreter or directly with another person who owns a video phone.

### **Braille Signage & Talking Scrolling Signs in Elevators (Central Library)**

Braille signage identifies floors, meeting rooms, restrooms and elevators throughout the Library. Public elevators identify and give audible and written directions for each floor.

### **Audio Books on CD /Downloadable Books**

Library cardholders may borrow from a large selection of nonfiction, fiction, teen and children's audio books on CD, accessible eBooks, and other downloadable titles.

Assistance is provided by LEAP staff to access digital titles through the National Talking Book and Braille Library Service.

### **Audio Described Videos**

Many films and documentaries are available with audio description, providing voice description during breaks in the dialogue to describe facial expressions, body language, scenes and settings. Description of nonverbal actions enables visually impaired people to follow the films more easily.

## **ADA ACCESSIBLE PROGRAMMING RESOURCES\*\***

- Sign language, oral, and cued speech interpreters for Library-sponsored classes, events and programs.
- Orientation to and escort within the Library for blind and low-vision patrons.
- Assistive listening systems for hard of hearing audience participants.

*\*\*Please make arrangements at least 7 calendar days in advance*

Please contact LEAP to arrange for Accessible Program Resources or to learn more about LEAP Services:

### **Library Equal Access Program (LEAP)**

1000 – 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Level 1

Seattle, Washington 98104

(206) 615-1380 v/tty [leap@spl.org](mailto:leap@spl.org)

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