

## **Acknowledgements**

There are many parties and individuals who should be thanked for their vital contributions to this work and its larger mission. To name each one by name would prove a daunting task indeed, but we still wish to extend our sincere gratitude to all involved. We would first like to thank the staff and volunteers at the facilities featured in this guide for opening their doors to us and for their willingness to explore and develop various services and amenities that would further enhance visits by blind and visually impaired visitors. It has been a pleasure and an honor to work, brain storm, and interact with each and every one of them, and without their support, this project would have never materialized to its fullest potential. In addition, numerous museums, tourist attractions, and vendors across the United States and Canada have offered a wealth of intriguing solutions for making seemingly inaccessible exhibits and attractions not only accessible to those with little to no sight, but also enjoyable and enriching as well.

We'd also like to thank the staff and employees at the St. Louis Lighthouse for the Blind and LHB Industries for their personal and financial assistance to help propel these projects forward. Some of these adaptive technologies and services can often be quite an expense, and the Lighthouse's financial contributions have allowed several St. Louis venues to offer blind and visually impaired individuals a more engaging and meaningful experience at their facilities. A special thank you goes out to President John Thompson and Ms. Angie Yorke, Blind Community Enrichment Programs Manager, for their active and unquenchable faith in the project.

With a mission of this scale and magnitude, a great deal of its success depended on the resourceful contributions made by regional vendors and organizations. A special thank you goes out to the St. Louis Society for the Blind and Visually Impaired as well as to the Delta Gamma Center for Children With Visual Impairments for their constant support, valued council, and enthusiastic participation in developing and promoting old and new adaptive services. Thanks also to the Delta Gamma Center for putting us in contact with the staff of Laumeier Sculpture Park and for bringing their programs and tactile maquettes to our attention. We'd also like to express our gratitude to the Mind's Eye radio station in Belleville, Illinois for making the information in this guide available to their listeners and for their promotion of upcoming services and special events.

Finally, we would like to offer a thank you to the blind and visually impaired of the St. Louis area for their vital support and contributions. By directly participating in the services which local attractions have to offer and by taking the initiative to enjoy, learn, and explore, you provide the real energy for this project. The enthusiasm, gratitude, and feedback provided by patrons continues to be the driving factors that allow the Lighthouse and local St. Louis attractions to continue to investigate, promote, and enhance accommodating services that will benefit the overall experience of a sight-impaired visitor. The creative solutions that have been discovered through this mission have done more than simply enhance the experience of blind and visually impaired individuals. They have stimulated new thoughts on how the general public can experience and appreciate history, entertainment, and the arts by using avenues that are not restricted to strictly visual presentations. It is a creative effort that we hope will continue to inspire sighted and non-sighted individuals for years to come. We hope you have enjoyed your trip through St. Louis, and we look forward to seeing you around town.