



HLAA-NJ NEWS, VIEWS & DATES June 2017

*Compiled by Joel Strasser, APR, Fellow PRSA,
President, Hearing Loss Association of NJ (HLAA-NJ)*

Four HLAA-NJ Scholarship Winners Announced

This year's 2017 HLAA-NJ College Scholarship winners of our \$1,500 individual awards have been announced, and their checks and certificates will be presented at a special awards ceremony and social on Sunday, June 4th at the East Brunswick Public Library. This year's winners include:

- **Grace Gleba**, senior at Warren Hills Regional High School, who plans to attend the Schreyer Honors College at Pennsylvania State University, University Park, PA.
- **Rashaun Boyd**, senior at Mountain Lakes High School, who plans to attend Gallaudet University, Washington, DC.
- **Rachel Lieberman**, senior at Livingston High School, who plans to attend Monmouth University, West Long Branch, NJ.
- **Juan Carlos Cornejo**, senior at Mountain Lakes High School, Mountain Lakes, NJ, who plans to attend Gallaudet University, Washington, DC.

Here are details on the award ceremony and social:

Date and Time: Sunday, June 4th, 1:15 to 3 PM

Place: East Brunswick Public Library

2 Jean Walling Civic Center
East Brunswick, NJ

Please note that all are invited to attend, and that both the building and parking are handicap accessible. DDHH will provide both CART captioning and ASL interpreters. Scholarship chair Latisha Porter-Vaughn requests that you RSVP at portermia@aol.com.

We hope you'll plan to attend this inspirational event!
Note that funds for these scholarships were raised by HLAA-NJ at the annual NJ Walk4Hearing.

HLAA-NJ Setting Up Informal Speakers Bureau For Potential Presenters, Chapter Leaders

If you would like to speak at a future HLAA-NJ chapter meeting or event, or if you are a chapter leader or program planner who needs an interesting speaker for a future meeting or event, please contact Joel Strasser, HLAA-NJ president, at joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org with your specific details or requirements. Please understand that HLAA-NJ chapters and our other subgroups generally do not have budgets to cover payments of speaker fees or honorariums.

We Are Interested in Publicizing Your News In Future Issues of this Online Newsletter

“HLAA-NJ News, Views & Dates” is interested in following up news from our readers and followers. If you can tell us about a positive

listening experience, or about a facility that has provided a very positive and accommodating area, or if you know people who would like to present at chapter meetings, health fairs and other events, please let us know. Information should be sent by e-mail to joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or to jjas888@aol.com, and we'll do our best to spread the word.

HLAA-NJ Seeks More Chapters, More Leaders

If you are located in or near Middlesex, Bergen, Ocean or Monmouth Counties, HLAA-NJ has both participatory and leadership opportunities available for members who want to either join or start or help re-start chapter operations, or assist with the augmentation of programs in those and other areas throughout New Jersey. If you are interested, you can count on state association leadership help for moral support, some financial aid and program assistance to help move things along. If interested, please call or write to either the local contact shown on the HLAA-NJ web site, or write or call directly to joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or telephone [732-475-7399](tel:732-475-7399).

Be Vocal About Looping; Hand Out Request Cards

When Juliette Sterkens, HLAA's national hearing loop coordinator, visited us in New Jersey in November, she provided us with large quantities of Looping Request Cards, to be given to facilities and venue managers and owners to formally request that they install looping in their locations. If you would like a quantity of these cards to give to owners and managers of non-

compliant facilities, please contact Joel Strasser, (joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org). Be sure to provide me with your US postal mailing address, as that's probably the only way I can get the cards into your hands. When you give the cards to facility managers, be sure to also give them copies of our looping installers list, which is posted in the looping section of our HLAA-NJ website.

Each card has the looping disability symbol, along with this message: ***"I'm one of 48 million Americans with some degree of hearing loss. Today, I had great difficulty hearing the proceedings in your facility. May I recommend you consider installing a Hearing Loop? A loop would make your venue hearing-friendly and ADA compliant?"***

When you give the cards out, we'd also request that you give us the postal mailing address of the person you gave each card to. If you do that, we can send a follow-up letter to each, and furnish them with specific information on nearby looping installers who make installations throughout New Jersey.

Chapter News for June

If you are looking for an HLAA-NJ chapter in your area, please contact HLAA-NJ President Joel Strasser and we will advise you of local chapter or networking sources or local hearing loss support groups closest to your physical location. Please contact Joel at [732-475-7399](tel:732-475-7399), or by e-mail at joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org

Chapter program help:

Your state organization is now maintaining a special list of audiologists and other hearing health professionals who are interested in making presentations at chapter meetings, health fairs and other appropriate events. Chapter leaders, as well as potential guest speakers, can advise us of interest or opportunities and we'd be pleased to make these resources available when we are advised of such needs or opportunities. Please contact joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or jjas888@aol.com for further information.

HLAA-Morris County Chapter will have no regular meeting in June 2017, but has arranged for a **special baseball event** with the **Somerset Patriots**, to which all are invited. The game is set for **Sunday, June 18th**, starting at 1:05

PM, at TD Bank Ballpark, located at 1 Patriots Park, Bridgewater, NJ. Tickets are \$11 per person, and there will be special seating for the physically handicapped. For further information, please contact Judy Heimbach at 32 Rockwood Drive, Rockaway, NJ 07866, or write to: auntjudy40@gmail.com, or to Pat Dobbs at pat.dobbs@hearingloss-nj.org

In addition, HLAA-Morris County seeks to attract 18 - 35 year olds so they can start their own group. Please pass this information on to anyone in that age group. Questions may be directed to Pat.Dobbs@hearingloss-nj.org

HLAA-Essex County Chapter will not meet in June, but watch this space in subsequent issues of this HLAA-NJ newsletter for announcements of future meetings. For questions or info about this chapter or future events, please contact Latisha Porter-Vaughn at portermia@aol.com

HLAA-South Jersey Shore Chapter will meet **Thursday, June 15th, 2017**. This group serves deaf and hard-of hearing residents of Cape May, Atlantic and Cumberland Counties, and meets starting at 6 PM, at Cape Regional Medical Center, Maruchi Room, 2 Stone Harbor Boulevard, Cape May Court House, NJ 08210. Interested participants are encouraged to make further contact with Carolyn Richards at Carolyn.richards@hearingloss-nj.org

HLAA-Paterson Chapter will not meet in June, but the next meeting will be held in September, so be sure to check later editions of this newsletter for details on their program to be announced. Also, those with hearing loss are eligible to receive a free captioned telephone from CapTel. To learn more, please attend our meetings. For further information about meetings or programs, please contact Sharrieff Bugg at [862-262-8862](tel:862-262-8862), or email minister7929@aol.com

HLAA-Bergen County Chapter remains on hold with no regular general membership meetings for the immediate future while the Chapter works to install a looping system in one of its traditional meeting places, either the Ethical Culture Society building in Teaneck, NJ., or the Puffin Center. Potential members interested in serving on a staff committee of potential chapter leaders should make their interests known. Until there is more to report, the Chapter welcomes comment and participation from those

interested in the local Bergen County chapter effort, as well as contact from interested potential members and leaders, who are invited to contact Ken Keuhlen at kbk1011@hotmail.com

HLAA-Middlesex County Chapter, held its final meeting in November 2016. For further information about future plans and opportunities, or if you have questions or further interest in helping re-start this chapter, please contact joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or telephone [732-475-7399](tel:732-475-7399).

CAPTIONED LIVE THEATER PERFORMANCES IN NJ

By Arlene Romoff

Below is a listing of the Open Captioned (OC) performances at the five theaters in NJ that provide one open captioned performance per production, for the 2017 season. All of them provide discounted ticket prices. To order tickets, call the box office and request to be seated in view of the captioning - and be sure to request their discounted price.

Paper Mill Playhouse - Millburn, NJ – 973-376-4343

<http://www.papermill.org/about-us/audience-info/accessibility-info.html>

Mary Poppins - Sunday, June 18, 2017 at 7 PM

George Street Playhouse - New Brunswick, NJ – 732-246-7717

<http://www.georgestreetplayhouse.org/accessibility.php>

Open-captioned performances for patrons with hearing impairments follow below:

Watch this space for future listings.

McCarter Theater - Princeton, NJ—609-258-2787

http://www.mccarter.org/VisitorInfo/VisitorDefault.aspx?page_id=32

Tickets are a discounted \$25 each

Watch this space for future listings.

Two River Theater - Red Bank, NJ—732-345-1400

<http://www.tworivertheater.org/about/accessibility.php>

Tickets are a discounted \$25 each

Scheduled Open Caption performances for the 2016/17 Season:	
<i>The Ballad of Little Jo</i>	Saturday, June 24 at 3pm

Plays in the Park - Edison, NJ - [732-548-2884](tel:732-548-2884)

<http://www.playsinthepark.com/>

Legally Blonde - The Musical - Monday, June 26, 2017 - 8 PM

West Side Story - TBA

Mary Poppins - TBA

For open captioned performances in NYC, one must register with TDF at their website - www.tdf.org and click on Accessibility Programs and follow the instructions. Tickets need to be ordered in advance and are mailed.

<https://www.tdf.org/nyc/33/TDFAccessibilityPrograms>

HLAA-NJ Assembling List of Looping Installers for New Jersey

Looping installers in or near New Jersey who would like to be listed in an active directory to work on projects, facilities or venues inside the State of New Jersey are being asked to make contact with HLAA-NJ so that we can refer you for projects being planned or researched. Also, facility managers or owners who have used looping installers to satisfactorily complete projects within New Jersey are asked to recommend such installers by providing us with company names and contact information so that their services can be listed in a statewide

directory now being compiled for use by HLAA-NJ and by state officials who seek to refer projects for subsequent installation.

To list installers in the New Jersey Looping Installers directory, please send information directly to: joel.strasser@hearingloss-nj.org, or telephone [732-475-7399](tel:732-475-7399). Be sure to include company name, e-mail address and business telephone numbers, and the name of the company's principal contact or project manager for looping installations. In addition, please let us know if there is any cost involved for providing an estimate, and if you have any comments, good or bad, on the quality of the installer's workmanship and/or installation quality. Please indicate if the installer's work meets or exceeds the IEC 60118-4 international standard.

Important Dates on the 2017 HLAA-NJ State Calendar

Members and friends of HLAA-NJ are cordially invited to attend business meetings and other functions of HLAA-NJ as we meet at various times during the year to plan and finalize the activities of the state association. Help us further our collective mission to represent and provide New Jerseyans with hearing loss with information, education, support and advocacy outreach that allows them to function in mainstream society, and enhance their quality of life, while raising awareness of hearing health/hearing loss.

Our successful initiatives have included bringing captioned movies and open captioned live theater to NJ, improving patient care in hospitals/medical settings, an annual scholarship program for high school seniors with hearing loss, bringing captioned telephone and conference call services to NJ, ensuring full communications access at public events, and advocating for increased funding and staffing at agencies and organizations serving people with hearing loss.

August—2017

Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey

Board of Trustees Meeting

Saturday, August 5, 2017

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

East Brunswick Public Library

2 Jean Walling Civic Center

East Brunswick, NJ 08816-3529

November—2017

Hearing Loss Association of New Jersey

Board of Trustees Meeting & Annual Meeting

Saturday, November 18, 2017

1:00 PM to 5:00 PM

East Brunswick Public Library
2 Jean Walling Civic Center
East Brunswick, NJ 08816-3529

NEWS from HLAA-NATIONAL:

Please note that all newsletters from HLAA-National can be sent separately to all members of this distribution list as they are issued by our national office. Or, if you have not seen any recently, please go to the national HLAA site, www.hearingloss.org, and register for features and publications that you'd like to receive.