

5 Actions to Promote Hearing Loops on Google Maps

We need your help!

Hearing loops are the most user-friendly assistive listening option and the first choice for many people. Even in acoustically challenging spaces, a hearing loop lets people participate more fully in daily activities.



Google Maps has launched a new accessibility attribute, Assistive Hearing Loops. When a location provides a hearing loop, it is visible in the Google Maps **About** section. We need your help getting the word out about how life-changing hearing loops are and helping people with hearing loss find and use them. Choose what you would like to do!

5 Actions You Can Take

1. **Know B4 You Go.** On your smartphone, learn how to find out if a place has a hearing loop. Then show someone else.
2. **Provide a review.** After using a hearing loop, open Google Maps to:
 - a. Provide a review with a rating and comments about your experience.
 - b. Take and upload a photo that includes the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss with a T indicating a hearing loop. The symbol is commonly blue in the U.S. Try to identify details about the location in your photo.



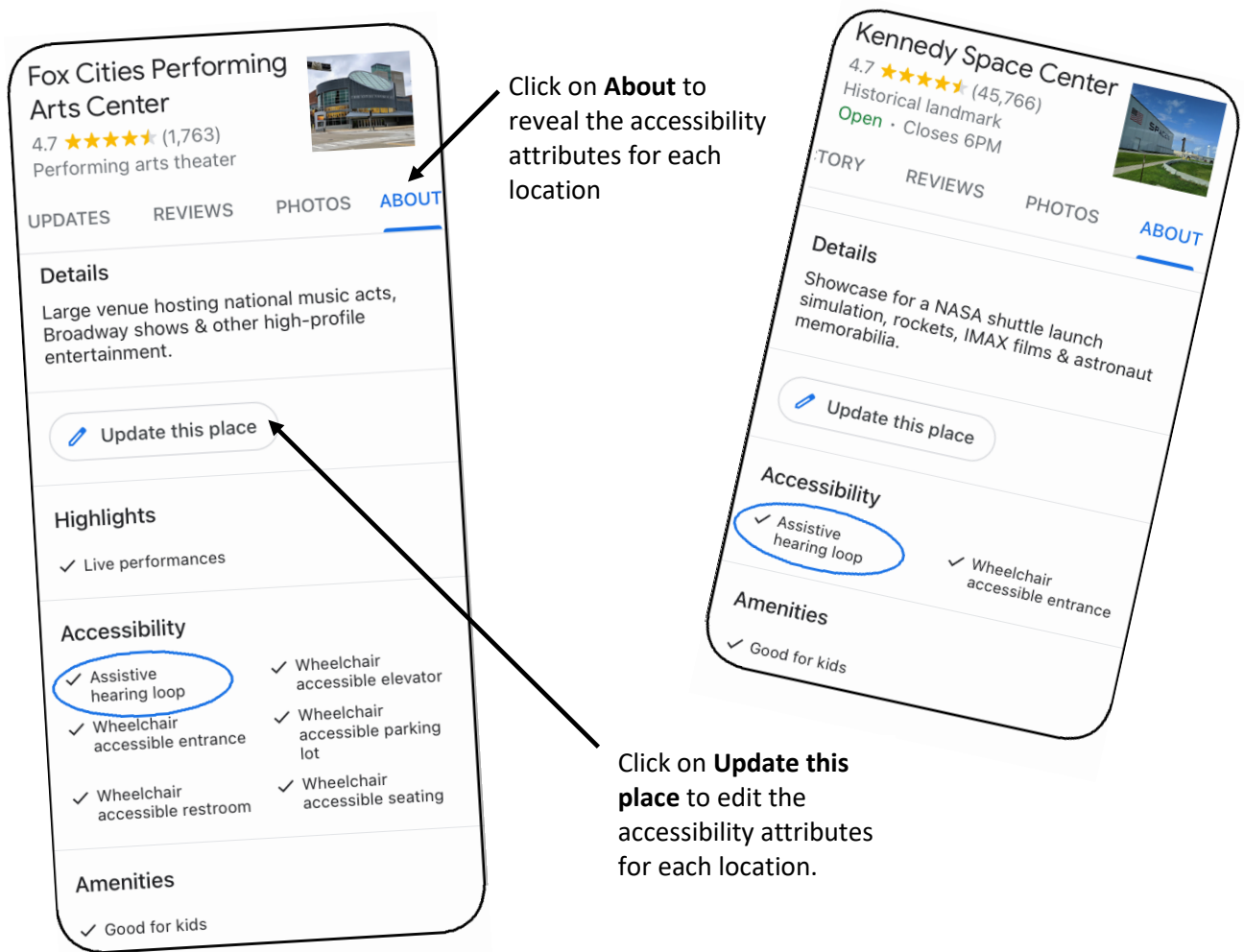
Detroit Metro Airport,
Detroit, MI



First Congregational
Church, Boulder, CO

3. **Initiate a conversation.** After using a hearing loop, initiate a conversation with the manager.
 - a. Thank them for having a hearing loop.
 - b. Encourage them to put hearing loop information on their website with a brief explanation. Include the image of the International Symbol of Access for Hearing Loss with a T indicating a hearing loop.

4. **No hearing loop? Let them and us know.**
 - a. In Google Maps, if available, click on **Update this Place.**
 - b. Add your information to our online form, hearingloss.org/HearingLoopLocations.
5. **Spread the word.** Share your positive personal experience story about using Google Maps in your community to help others understand the importance of knowing before you go.



The Hearing Loss Association of America (HLAA) is the nation’s foremost organization representing people with hearing loss. The mission of HLAA is to open the world of communication to people with hearing loss through information, education, support, and advocacy. For more information about HLAA’s Get in the Hearing Loop Program, including a free toolkit, visit hearingloss.org/GITHL.

Photos courtesy of Juliëtte Sterkens and Wynne Whyman.