

EVENT ACCESSIBILITY

inclusive events for all humans

[story]

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EVENT ACCESSIBILITY

LANGUAGE

WHAT IS DISABILITY?

“In fact, mobility devices like canes and wheelchairs are liberating, allowing people to move around in comfort and live active, full lives.”

— s.e. smith, “Before you ‘help’ disabled people, check yourself”
<http://meloukhia.net/>

WHAT IS DISABILITY?

impairment + environment

“It's not their minds or bodies that truly disable them,
it's how environments react to those differences.
That's where disability lies. Folks don't have disability,
they experience disability in environments that aren't
accessible and inclusive.”

— Jonathan Mooney, "The Gift: LD/ADHD Reframed"

WHAT IS DISABILITY?

impairment + environment

1 in 6 people have a disability

“Notably, none of the specific tasks we took on were particularly challenging, and many weren't even expensive”

— Erin Kissane, "[Making SRCCON Good For Humans](#)”

VENUE

VENUE

do a walkthrough & pay attention

"Where is the wheelchair-accessible entrance?"

"Is handicapped parking available?"

"Are there steps into presentation rooms?"

VENUE

do a walkthrough & pay attention

"Where is an accessible bathroom?"

"Do your elevators lock after office hours?"

MAPS

label any steps (even just one)

label all event rooms

label elevators & accessible entrances

for all venues!

bonus: directions to/from recommended hotels,
with links to accessible transit options

VENUE

space out seating

signs everywhere

quiet area

tape out walkways



PRE-EVENT

PRE-EVENT

check your website

talk to your speakers

PRE-EVENT

Do you need any special accommodation (sign language interpreting, etc) to participate in WordCamp US?

Meal preference? *

- ☐ Omnivore
- ☐ Vegetarian
- ☐ Vegan
- ☐ Gluten-free
- ☐ Kosher

If you have a life-threatening food allergy, please let us know what you're allergic to.

FOOD

work with catering to match requested
dietary preferences

keep a list of local restaurants

label everything

PRE-EVENT

blog about it!

any new info = a blog post

announce your schedule as early as possible

PRESENTATIONS

PRESENTATIONS

Real-time Captions

Sign Language

PRESENTATIONS

tell speakers to:

use the microphones

describe any visuals on slides

not overuse animations

SOCIAL EVENTS

SOCIAL EVENTS

have seating throughout space

keep focus off alcohol

avoid disco/rave settings

POLICIES

Autistics Present:

A Symposium on Autistic Culture, Identity & Transitions
(High School, College & Career)

October 22, 2016
Bellevue College, WA



Student Programs



BELLEVUE COLLEGE

LGBTQ Resource Center



Office of Equity and Pluralism at Bellevue College

Autistics Present:

Autistic Culture, Identity & Transitions

BC Postings
STUDENT PROGRAMS
OCT 23 2016
Sign off
Date Disregard

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NO FLASH!



Keep This Space Safe,
Accessible & Inclusive
Flash Photography:
can cause seizures in photosensitive individuals,
can trigger migraines
are not sensory friendly

Please

Off The Flash!

Present:

Autistic Culture, Identity, and Transitions
(High School, College & Career)



Office of Equity and Pluralism at Bellevue College
Student Programs

Intersecting: color, national origin, sex, marital status, or the presence of any sensory, mental, or physical disability and activities which it operates.

Fragrance Free



Keep This Space Safe,
Accessible & Inclusive

Perfumes, Lotions, Soaps & Other Scented Products:
can trigger allergies
are not sensory friendly
are an access barrier for individuals with chemical sensitivities

Please Be Considerate & Fragrance Free

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StimTastic



BELLEVUE COLLEGE



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Color Communication Cards
These cards allow you to express your communication preferences to others quickly and non-verbally.

"Come talk to me!" — Display green cards if you're up for chatting!

"Do I know you?" — Display yellow cards if you just want to talk with friends.

"Not right now." — Display red cards if you wish to be left alone.



SIGNAGE

SIGNAGE

put signs everywhere

outside, label entrances

inside, point to all rooms

schedules

ORGANIZING TEAM

ACCESSIBILITY ORGANIZER

EVERYONE ELSE

ATTENDEES

respect boundaries

don't gatekeep

be sensory-friendly

SPONSORS

respect boundaries

have an accessible booth

be sensory friendly

BUT, WHY ...?

“I simply didn't want to go to the theatre while being disabled. [...] I didn't want to spend hours on the phone finding tickets and then hours worrying about what's going to go wrong this time.”

— Dave Hingsburger, “I Lied”
davehingsburger.blogspot.ca

“By planning, preparing, and ensuring downtime to recover, I am able to do so much more. [...] The more information there is available, the less processing, and the more accessible things are to me.”

— Rhi, “Bottle-necking”
autnot.wordpress.com



medievalpoc

@medievalpoc

If you think I sound harsh, consider that last year one restaurant staff's idea of "accessible" was to offer to CARRY ME UP THE STAIRS

7:58 PM - 31 May 2017

— @medievalpoc

UNIVERSAL DESIGN FOR YOUR EVENT

THANK YOU!

- AdaCamp photos: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/evablue/albums/72157652192509765>
- Autistics Present photo: <https://www.facebook.com/ASNavigators/>
- Communication badge photos: <http://dadstruction.com/blog/2015/8/11/asan-color-communication-cards>, <http://autisticadvocacy.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/ColorCommunicationBadges.pdf>
- EU Stats: http://ec.europa.eu/eurostat/statistics-explained/index.php/Disability_statistics_-_prevalence_and_demographics
- The Gift video: <https://youtu.be/8vtMJpadg-E>

Other resources & references

- <http://realsocialskills.org/post/148703476372/disabled-people-go-to-disability-conferences-and>
- <http://stanographer.com/reporters-not-records/>
- <http://thedisabledlife.tumblr.com/tagged/comics>
- <http://www.adahospitality.org/accessible-meetings-events-conferences-guide/book>
- <http://www.autistichoya.com/2016/10/disability-justice-conference-space-notes-on-radical-access-radical-inclusion.html>
- <http://www.rootedinrights.org/how-to-make-your-social-justice-events-accessible-to-the-disability-community-a-checklist/>
- <https://chroniclevitae.com/news/1377-conference-challenges-for-people-with-psychiatric-disabilities>
- <https://disabilityempowered.tumblr.com/post/151110160567/disability-and-the-law-the-basics>
- <https://medium.com/@ericajoy/what-to-expect-when-youre-speaking-89bc6efc1706>
- <https://twitter.com/hashtag/AcademicAbleism>
- <https://www.alterconf.com/talks/building-accessible-community>
- <https://www.autostraddle.com/be-the-change-six-disabled-activists-on-why-the-resistance-must-be-accessible-368956/>