



Washington Talking Book & Braille Library

AUDIOBOOK NARRATOR

The Washington Talking Book & Braille Library (WTBBL) builds community and provides equitable access to information and reading materials for Washington residents unable to read standard print. WTBBL has more than 125 volunteers working with us and we are proud of their passion to work in an organization that values and promotes diversity, equity, inclusion and anti-racism.

VOLUNTEER POSITION DESCRIPTION:

In WTBBL's Audiobook Production Department, narrators read print books in a digital recording environment to create talking books that reflect the content and spirit of the printed works on which they are based. To become familiar with the sound and structure of a talking book, narrators may spend the first few months with WTBBL in training and as book reviewers. Additionally, when a narrator is between projects, they may be asked to review a book to help another narrator's completion of their book. All work is done onsite at WTBBL in the South Lake Union neighborhood of Seattle with free parking provided and all volunteers must present proof of the primary series of COVID vaccinations.

We are looking for narrators with diverse backgrounds and encourage people from the BIPOC, AAPI, LatinX, and LGBTQIA+ communities to apply. [See the list of books that currently need narration.](#)

RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Learn to use digital recording equipment for recording and editing audio files.
- Participate in practice sessions before the start of recording a book.
- Narrate the contents of a book, saving the audio files and making corrections in preparation for the audio reviewer.
- Return to the studio to re-record contents where needed.

QUALIFICATIONS & SKILLS:

- Pass an audition—details will be given when scheduling an appointment.
- Have a well-developed vocabulary and attention to detail.
- Have a good sense of the rhythms of language to achieve a pleasant presentation.
- Have the ability to take direction and correct mistakes.
- Possess a familiarity with the basic operations of a computer. Audio software training will be provided.
- WTBBL chooses books based on a collection development policy. Books that are narrated are chosen by WTBBL staff and the narrator will agree to be open to recording books they may not otherwise seek out.

TIME COMMITMENT:

If you audition and are chosen to be a narrator, two hours per week minimum is ideal to keep projects moving forward, but schedules can be negotiated. It is important that a narrator finishes every book they begin, including returning to correct errors found in the review process. The completion of at least one book is requested and expected, which may take many months after training and recording begins.

Go to <https://www.volgistics.com/appform/1427973300> to complete an application.

To learn more, please email: wtbblvolunteer@sos.wa.gov.

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