

Resource Guide

This is a brief, limited primer on Disability Culture, Disability Rights, and Disability Activism. There are many more artists, scholars and activists than can be listed here. Authors are represented by a single book, but it's likely that they have multiple publications to their names. Individual performers are not listed; we have provided the names of venues that have supported or hosted their work.

DISABILITY ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

UNITED STATES:

5050 by 2020

<https://site.5050by2020.com/>

We're asking networks, studios, talent agencies, unions and other industry organizations to look at how many women, people of color, LGBTQIA+ and people with disabilities are:

- Board Members
- Core Decision Makers
- Department Heads
- Senior Executives
- Partners

The Accessible Icon Project

www.accessibleicon.org

The Accessible Icon Project is an ongoing work of design activism. It starts with a graphic icon, free for use in the public domain, and continues its work as a collaboration among people with disabilities and their allies toward a more accessible world.

Adaptation + Ability Group

www.aplusa.org

Some bodies do some things, and others do others. Prosthetics, bodily capacity, expanded engineering and creative research, flexible adaptation, possible futures, interdependence, collaborative design, inclusive systems, productive uncertainty, and critical making—these things drive our work.

Bodies of Work

<https://ahs.uic.edu/disability-human-development/community-partners/bodies-of-work/>

Bodies of Work is a network of artists and organizations whose art showcases and celebrates the disability experience. From the local to the international, our bodies of work explore innovative forms of artistic expression, derived from unique bodies and minds. We explore the disability experience, advance the rights of disabled people, and widen society's understanding of what it means to be human.

There's no link to the *Humans Being* exhibit (2006) at the Cultural Center, but there are catalogue copies floating around on the web. The subsequent exhibit, *Humans Being II* (2013) was held at Woman Made Gallery: <https://womanmade.org/artwork/humans-being-ii/>.

Christine Bruno – Disability Inclusion Consultant

www.brunodisabilityinclusion.com

As issues of equity, diversity and inclusion take center stage across the entertainment industry, decision makers rely on my expert knowledge of and connection to the disabled acting community nationwide because they understand I am uniquely qualified to provide access to and understanding of this underrepresented community of talented artists.

Creative Growth

www.creativegrowth.org

Creative Growth Art Center is the oldest and largest nonprofit art studio for artists with developmental, intellectual, and physical disabilities. Since 1974, Creative Growth has played a significant role in increasing public interest in the artistic capabilities and achievements of people with disabilities, providing a professional studio environment for artistic development, gallery exhibition and representation.

Disability Arts: Bay Area

<https://disarts.org/>

Disability Art and Culture Project

www.dacphome.org

The mission of the Disability Art and Culture Project (DACP) is to further the artistic expression of people with both apparent and non-apparent disabilities. We view disability as a natural and valuable variation of the human form. We believe affirmative disability identity is intertwined with racial, gender, social, and economic justice.

Disability/Arts/NYC (DANT)

www.disabilityarts.nyc

Disability/Arts/NYC (DANT) is an arts activist organization building a movement for disability arts to thrive in New York City. Through cultural policy development, cohort-based trainings, and public programming, we work to dismantle discriminatory practices and policies faced by disabled artists, while simultaneously supporting an evolving community of emerging and experienced artistic talent.

The Disabled List

www.thedisabledlist.org

The Disabled List is a disability-led, self-advocacy organization that is creating the opportunities in design that we always wanted. The Disabled List is a curated list of creative disabled people who are available to consult. WITH, the first program of The Disabled List, is a fellowship that partners disabled creatives with design studios and branding agencies.

Disability Visibility Project

www.disabilityvisibilityproject.com

The Disability Visibility Project is an online community dedicated to creating, sharing, and amplifying disability media and culture.

DisArt

www.disartnow.org

DisArt is committed to increasing the participation of Disabled people in our communities through curated art exhibitions, cutting-edge public events, and organizational coaching. We believe that Disabled people deserve to do more than merely get inside spaces and events – they deserve to fully participate in our culture.

EveryBody: An Artifact History of Disability in America

<https://everybody.si.edu/>

Many stories and events related to people with disabilities never make it into the history books or shared public memories. Familiar concepts and events such as citizenship, work, and wars become more complicated, challenge our assumptions about what counts as history, and transform our connection with each other when viewed from the historical perspective of people with disabilities, America's largest minority.

Kinetic Light

www.kineticlight.org

An evening-length dance work, choreographed by Alice Sheppard in collaboration with disabled dancer Laurel Lawson and disabled lighting and video artist Michael Maag. Featuring a unique, architectural stage that acts as a partner in the choreography and storytelling, Descent asks new questions about social justice, movement and embodiment, and art and architecture.

Krip-Hop Nation

<https://kriphopnation.com/>

Krip-Hop Nation's Mission is to educate the music, media industries and general public about the talents, history, rights and marketability of Hip-Hop artists and other musicians with disabilities. Krip-Hop Nation's main objective is to get the musical talents of hip-hop artists with disabilities into the hands of media outlets, educators, and hip-hop, disabled and race scholars, youth, journalists and hip-hop conference coordinators.

Mapping Access/Critical Design Lab

<https://www.mapping-access.com/>

Mapping Access is a participatory data-collection and accessibility mapping project of the Critical Design Lab. Informed by Disability Justice, intersectionality, environmental humanities, and critical GIS frameworks, the project uses mapping as a critical tool for iterative world-building. Our broader body of work includes a podcast, experimental protocols, and workshops. Also, see the podcast at <https://www.mapping-access.com/podcast>.

Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability

<https://longmoreinstitute.sfsu.edu/>

The Paul K. Longmore Institute on Disability studies and showcases disabled people's experiences to revolutionize social views. Through public education, scholarship and cultural events, the Institute shares disability history and theory, promotes critical thinking and builds a broader community.

Project Onward

<https://www.projectonward.org/>

Project Onward supports the professional development of artists with exceptional talents and challenges, ranging from autism to mental illness, and provides these artists with workspace, materials, professional guidance, exhibition opportunities and access to markets to sell their work and advance their careers.

Reel Abilities Film Festival

www.reelabilities.org

ReelAbilities Film Festival is the largest festival in the US dedicated to promoting awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with different disabilities.

Sins Invalid

www.sinsinvalid.org

Sins Invalid is a disability justice based performance project that incubates and celebrates artists with disabilities, centralizing artists of color and LGBTQ / gender-variant artists as communities who have been historically marginalized. Led by disabled people of color, Sins Invalid's performance work explores the themes of sexuality, embodiment and the disabled body, developing provocative work where paradigms of "normal" and "sexy" are challenged, offering instead a vision of beauty and sexuality inclusive of all bodies and communities

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS:

Candoco Dance Company

www.candaco.co.uk

Candoco produces excellent and profound experiences for audiences and participants that excite, challenge and broaden perceptions of art and ability, and place people and collaboration at the heart of our work.

DaDa Fest

www.dadafest.co.uk

DaDaFest is an innovative and cutting edge disability and Deaf arts organization based in Liverpool that was established in 1984. Our vision is simple; to inspire, develop and celebrate talent and excellence in disability and deaf arts.

Disability Arts International

www.disabilityartsinternational.org

Disability Arts International is a website and regular digital newsletter developed and coordinated by the British Council. Disability Arts International aims to promote the work of the exciting generation of excellent disabled artists, disabled-led companies and inclusive arts organizations. It also aims to share the ways arts organizations are increasing access to the arts for disabled people as audiences and visitors.

Edinburgh Festival Fringe

<https://www.edfringe.com/learn/accessibility-initiatives>

In 2016, the Fringe Society committed to becoming an Attitude Champion. An Attitude Champion is an organization that champions accessible practices, internally and to all partners, ensuring that events are as accessible and as inclusive as possible and that Deaf and disabled audiences know what to expect.

Graeae Theatre Company

www.graeae.org

Graeae is a force for change in world-class theatre, boldly placing D/deaf and disabled actors center stage and challenging preconceptions.

National Disability Arts Collection and Archive

www.the-ndaca.org

NDACA is a £1-million project that brings to life the heritage and rich history of the UK Disability Arts Movement. The Disability Arts Movement began in the late 1970s and continues today. It involved a group of disabled people and their allies who broke down barriers, helped change the law with the Disability Discrimination Act of 1995, and made great culture and art about those struggles.

The Other Film Festival

www.otherfilmfestival.com

TOFF (Australia) is changing how the community thinks about disability. We do this by programming the best films from around the world about the lived experience of disability. We screen those films in a highly accessible manner. We want our audience to be entertained and energized. We want you to have high expectations of your experience at the festival. Most importantly, we want you to feel welcome and included.

Restless Dance

www.restlessdanc.org

Our Mission is to: Create and present unexpectedly real dance theatre nationally and internationally, that is collaboratively devised, inclusive and informed by disability.

Shape Arts

www.shapearts.org/uk

Shape Arts is a disability-led arts organization which works to improve access to culture for disabled people by providing opportunities for disabled artists, training cultural institutions to be more open to disabled people, and through running participatory arts and development programs.

Unlimited

www.weareunlimited.org/uk

Since 2013, Unlimited has provided nearly £4 million to 280 disabled artists through commissions, awards and support, making it the largest supporter of disabled artists worldwide. Unlimited wants to change perceptions of disabled people by commissioning disabled artists in the UK and internationally to make new, groundbreaking and high quality work.

DISABILITY TEXTS

ANTHOLOGY

About Us: Essays from the Disability Series of the New York Times, Peter Catapano, Rosemarie Garland-Thomson eds.

Beyond Victims and Villains: Contemporary Plays by Disabled Playwright - edited by Victoria Lewis

Staring Back: The Disability Experience from the Inside Out, Kenny Fries ed.

Typed Words, Loud Voices, Amy Sequenzia and Elizabeth J. Grace eds.

FICTION

Good Kings, Bad Kings by Susan Nussbaum

Geek Love by Katherine Dunn

Call Me Ahab: A Short Story Collection by Anne Finger

So Lucky, by Nicola Griffith

Beauty is a Verb: The New Poetry of Disability, Jennifer Bartlett, Sheila Black, and Michael Northen eds.

MEMOIR

Body, Remember, by Kenny Fries

Mean Little Deaf Queer: A Memoir by Terry Galloway

The Me in the Mirror, by Connie Panzarino

The Hospital Poems by Jim Ferris

Such A Pretty Girl, by Nadina LaSpina

Heavy, by Kiese Laymon

Autobiography of a Face, by Lucy Grealy

Don't Call Me Inspirational, by Harilyn Rousso,

My Body Politic, by Simi Linton

Broken Places & Outer Spaces: Finding Creativity in the Unexpected, by Nnedi Okorafor

The Collected Schizophrenias, by Esme Weijun

The Cancer Journals, by Audre Lorde

Sick, by Porochista Khakpour

Willow, Weep for Me, by Meri Nana-Ama Danquah

DISABILITY STUDIES

DisCrit—Disability Studies and Critical Race Theory in Education (Disability, Culture, and Equity Series)

Edited by David J. Connor, Beth A. Ferri, Subini A. Annamma, Alfredo J. Artiles, and Elizabeth B. Kozleski

Contemporary Art and Disability Studies, Alice Wexler and John Derby eds.

Crip Theory: Cultural Signs of Queerness and Disability by Robert McRuer

Disability Theory by Tobin Siebers

Feminist, Queer, Crip by Alison Kafer

Brilliant Imperfection: Grappling with Cure by Eli Clare

Care Work: Dreaming Disability Justice by Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha

Accessible America: A History of Disability and Design by Bess Williamson

Design Meets Disability by Graham Pullin

Extraordinary Bodies: Figuring Physical Disability in American Culture and Literature

by Rosemarie Garland Thompson

Mad Blackness::Black Madness by Therí Pickens

The Ugly Laws: Disability in Public by Susan Schweik

Beasts of Burden: Animal and Disability Liberation by Sunaura Taylor

More Than Meets the Eye: What Blindness Brings to Art by Georgina Kleege

Fading Scars: My Queer Disability History by Corbett O'Toole

The Alterpodium: A Performative Design and Disability Intervention by Amanda Cachia (Peer Reviewed Journal Article)

Staring: How We Look by Rosemarie Garland Thompson

Disability & The Arts: A Playlist Syllabus by Kevin Gotkin

Kindling: Writings on the Body by Aurora Levins Morales

The Virginia State Colony for Epileptics and Feeble-minded by Molly McCully Brown

Redefining Representation: Black Trans and Queer Women's Digital Media Production
by Moya Bailey (in Screen Bodies: An Interdisciplinary Journal of Experience, Perception, and Display
Edited by Brian Bergen-Aurand)

More Than Meets the Eye, by Georgina Kleege

Enforcing Normalcy: Disability, Deafness, and the Body, by Lennard Davis

GRANTS AND AWARDS

3 Arts

www.3arts.org

3Arts works to sustain and promote artists in the six-county Chicago metropolitan area. Our focus on women artists, artists of color, and artists with disabilities stems from the need for a diversity of voices and visions to be supported if our city is to prosper and inspire.

National Endowment for the Arts Office for Accessibility

<https://www.arts.gov/artistic-fields/accessibility>

The NEA Office for Accessibility is the advocacy-technical assistance arm of the Arts Endowment to make the arts accessible for people with disabilities, older adults, veterans, and people living in institutions.

Newhouse Architecture and Design Competition

<http://www.architecture.org/learn/teens/competitions/newhouse/>

Named after late Illinois Senator Richard Newhouse, this competition gives students an opportunity to practice and refine design skills and create a project that could be part of their portfolio. It inspires teens to understand why design matters by researching, representing and redesigning the built environment to solve challenges that are personal and place-based.

Wynn Newhouse Awards

<https://www.wnewhouseawards.com/index.html>

In 2006 the Samuel I. Newhouse Foundation established the Wynn Newhouse Awards. This Awards program provides grants to artists of excellence who happen to have disabilities. The Foundation currently allocates \$60,000 per year for these Awards. These funds will be distributed among winners at the discretion of the five invited judges on the selection committee. Nominees and winners will be chosen by a committee composed of persons respected in the arts and disabilities communities. All eligible artists must be nominated.

Pen 2 Paper - Coalition of Texans with Disabilities

<https://www.txdisabilities.org/news-events/pen-2-paper>

CTD's annual *Pen 2 Paper* (P2P) creative writing competition seeks pieces of fiction, non-fiction, poetry, and comics that treat the topic of disability. Whether or not you have experience as a creative writer; whether or not you have a disability, we want to hear your voice!

Schneider Family Book Award

<https://web.ccsu.edu/library/nadeau/award%20books/SchneiderFamily.htm>

The Schneider Family Book Award honors an author or illustrator for a book that "embodies an artistic expression of the disability experience for child and adolescent audiences." Awards are given for child (birth through grade school;) middle school (age 11-12;) and teen (age 13-18.)

VSA The International Organization on Arts and Disability (Kennedy Center)

<https://education.kennedy-center.org/education/vsa/>

With 52 international affiliates and a network of nationwide affiliates, VSA is providing arts and education programming for youth and adults with disabilities around the world. Each year, 7 million people of all ages and abilities participate in VSA programs, in every aspect of the arts – from visual arts, performing arts, to the literary arts.

DISABILITY LIT PUBLISHERS

Autonomous Press

<http://autpress.com/>

Beacon Press

www.beacon.org

Cinco Puntos Press

www.cincopuntos.com

Duke University Press

www.dukeupress.edu

Finishing Line Press

www.finishinglinepress.com

Handtype Press

www.handtypepress.com

Nine Arches Press

www.ninearchespress.com

NYU Press

www.nyupress.org

Oleb Books

www.olebbooks.com

Oxford University Press

<http://global.oup.com/?cc=us>

Reclamation Press

www.reclapress.com

Squares and Rebels

www.squaresandrebels.com

Syracuse University Press

<https://press.syr.edu/>

Temple University Press

<http://tupress.temple.edu/>

University of Michigan Press

<https://www.press.umich.edu/>

Unrestricted Interest

www.unrestrictedinterest.com