

# Midwest Braille Conference 2019

## Workshop Descriptions

### Thursday 1:00-2:30 PM

**1. *UEB: A Little Deeper, Part 1*** (Julie Sumwalt)

Go beyond the typical UEB course and explore symbols, indicators and concepts that need more explanation. Topics include braille order, dot locators, shapes and icons, tally marks, arrows, braille grouping indicators and much more. This is one long workshop split into two sessions.

**2. *Guidelines and Standards for Tactile Graphics*** (Betty Marshall)

In addition to learning the various braille codes and rules for formatting, did you know that there are also guidelines and standards that are recommended when creating a tactile graphic? While some may say that they don't have time to look up every little detail in yet another reference manual, we all know that consistency of presentation is one of the basics in being a successful braille reader. Your students need to be prepared to understand the tactile graphics that are contained in a state-authorized textbook or on a state exam. You may be tempted to just provide something that will just have to "make do" for their next-period class, but how much better if your students are consistently exposed to quality graphics? Discussion will include planning the layout and design, as well as the order of components, steps to simplify the print graphic, and accommodations for graphics for young readers.

**3. *Beginning Braille2000*** (Bob Stepp)

This workshop covers the essential elements of Braille2000. You will learn how to make Braille2000 do what you want it to: display settings, format settings, proofreading, format macros and phrase macros (Speedbraille™ keys), page numbering, cut/copy/paste, embossing. No prior knowledge of Braille2000 is necessary, however attendees are encouraged to put Braille2000 on their computer and play with it at least once in advance. (Free demo software available at [www.braille2000.com](http://www.braille2000.com).) This is a lecture/demonstration workshop (not hands-on training), however you may bring your laptop and work along at your own pace.

## **Thursday 3:00-4:30 PM**

### **1. *UEB: A Little Deeper, Part 2*** (Julie Sumwalt)

Go beyond the typical UEB course and explore symbols, indicators and concepts that need more explanation. Topics include braille order, dot locators, shapes and icons, tally marks, arrows, braille grouping indicators and much more. This is one long workshop split into two sessions.

### **2. *Music Braille Whirlwind Tour*** (Lindy Walton)

Don't leave braille readers out of the experience of reading music with their peers! You can transcribe simple songs for the budding musician. You will get more out of this presentation if you have a comfort level reading simulated braille and are familiar with basic print music staff notation.

### **3. *Advanced Braille2000*** (Bob Stepp)

This workshop presents the concept of braille Code particularly as it relates to doing math (UEB math, embedded Nemeth math). It also explains the tools for handling tables, doing contents pages, and poetry, and importing source files. Familiarity with Braille2000 is presumed. This is a lecture/demonstration workshop (not hands-on training), however you may bring your laptop and work along at your own pace.

## **Friday 8:30-10:00 AM**

### **1. *Diacritics*** (Cindi Laurent)

This workshop will look at various examples that involve transcribing diacritics. We will talk about things to be especially careful of when you come across this type of material.

### **2. *Tips on Using Microsoft Word to Prepare a File for Braille Translation*** (Betty Marshall)

While many individuals prefer to do their formatting within a braille translation software program, you will learn how quick and easy it is to "prep" a file before using a translation program. In this workshop, you will learn the basics of how to set various types of tabs on your ruler. You will learn how to use "search and replace" to assist with items that don't translate well. And, you will marvel at the beauty of using the Format Painter tool!

### **3. *DBT (Duxbury) for Newcomers*** (Caryn Navy/David Holladay)

This session will assist the user in getting started with using DBT, accessing its transcriber-friendly features, and using Word together with DBT.

## **Friday 10:30-12:00 PM**

1. ***Switching Gears, Part 1: When to Switch to Nemeth Code in a UEB Transcription*** (Lindy Walton)

When does a math transcription switch into "Nemeth" reading mode, and when does it stay in UEB "literary" mode? This presentation is geared for teachers and paras as well as for transcribers. Part 1 may be attended without signing up for Part 2.

2. ***Principles of Tactile Design*** (Matt Scholtes)

Learn some basic principles of designing braille and tactile adaptations of print diagrams from a digital design perspective. This session is for novice tactile artists who are experienced computer users. Knowledge of braille helps, but not required.

3. ***DBT (Duxbury) Without Tears*** (Caryn Navy/David Holladay)

From Word to braille volumes with DBT; producing math, including UEB with Nemeth; from braille math to printouts for sighted teachers.

## **Friday 1:00-2:30 PM**

1. ***Switching Gears: Placement of Nemeth Code Switches in a UEB transcription, Part 2*** (Lindy Walton)

Examples illustrate smart placement of code switch indicators and where to look for them as a braille reader. This presentation is geared for teachers and paras as well as for transcribers. Part 2 may be attended without signing up for Part 1.

2. ***Using Microsoft Word to Create Tactile Graphics*** (Betty Marshall)

Graphics software is usually expensive, but not everyone knows that they can use the Drawing Tools built right into Microsoft Word to create tactile graphics! This workshop will demonstrate how to use the drawing tools to create lines and various shapes. You will learn how to shape a line into a curve and change the thickness of the line, give it a dashed appearance or add arrowheads. You will learn how to apply a texture to a shape. You will learn how to use the tables feature to create a grid, how to add braille labels and how to insert images.

3. ***BrailleBlaster 101*** (William Freeman)

This workshop will cover the basics of using BrailleBlaster. Ideal for teachers, parents, paraprofessionals, and braille readers themselves.

**Friday 3:00-4:30 PM**

**1. *Cartoons and Graphic Novels*** (Cindi Laurent)

Cartoons and graphic novels are becoming more and more prevalent in schools today - which means we see more and more of them as we transcribe. We will discuss the rules regarding cartoons and graphic novels and examine several real-world examples as we talk about applying the rules to our work.

**2. *Drawing with a Braillewriter*** (Kay Glodowski)

Have some fun with a braillewriter! Learn how to draw teddy bears, Christmas trees, sailboats, shamrocks, and more! Braillewriters and paper will be provided.

**3. *BrailleBlaster Transcriber Training*** (William Freeman)

Want to get more braille pages done in less time? Come to BrailleBlaster Transcriber Training and learn how!