



## Press Release

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For Immediate Release

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### **BANA Invites Guests to Fall Board Meeting in Baltimore**

The Braille Authority of North America (BANA) will hold its second semiannual meeting on November 3–6, 2011, in Baltimore, MD. This meeting is hosted by the National Federation of the Blind (NFB), a BANA member organization. Meetings on November 4 and 5 will take place at the NFB headquarters on Friday and Saturday. The NFB headquarters is located at 200 East Wells Street. BANA's final session will be held Sunday morning, ending at noon, at the Baltimore - Inner Harbor Holiday Inn. The hotel is located at 301 W. Lombard Street.

BANA will host an Open Forum on Thursday, November 3, at 6:00 P.M. at the NFB headquarters. This forum provides an opportunity for participants to learn more about the workings of BANA and to provide feedback to the Board about braille. BANA Board members want to hear participants' views about issues surrounding braille and its future. Braille readers, teachers, and producers of braille are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to participate in a round-table discussion and to engage in a dialogue with the members of the BANA Board. To reserve your space at the Open Forum and to help ensure accurate counts for handouts, contact Judy Dixon at 202-707-0722 or [jdix@loc.gov](mailto:jdix@loc.gov).

Guests are invited to attend the BANA Board meetings and to observe the deliberations. Items on the Board's agenda include reports from all of BANA's committees as well as from September's *World Congress Braille21* conference in Leipzig, Germany. Discussions will include the revision of the formats guidelines publication and the guidelines for knit and crochet, which have been submitted for approval. Space is limited. To reserve a seat, please contact BANA Chair Judy Dixon.

For additional resource information, visit [www.brailleauthority.org](http://www.brailleauthority.org)

*The mission and purpose of the Braille Authority of North America are to assure literacy for tactile readers through the standardization of braille and/or tactile graphics. BANA promotes and facilitates the use, teaching, and production of braille. It publishes rules, interprets, and renders opinions pertaining to braille in all existing codes. It deals with codes now in existence or to be developed in the future, in collaboration with other countries using English braille. In exercising its function and authority, BANA considers the effects of its decisions on other existing braille codes and formats; the ease of production by various methods; and acceptability to readers.*