

Amy Amantea (she/her) has lived experience of both visible and invisible disability and identifies as having a profound sight loss, neurodiversity, and chronic pain and illness. Seeing her sight loss as a “gift”, Amy has spent many years of her career in accessibility focusing on systemic change in the area of arts and culture. As an Artist and Arts Administrator, it is important to Amy that representation of disability be present in all that we do, as 25% of the Canadian population identifies with disability. Her career has been multi faceted and includes working as a media personality with Accessible Media Inc (AMI), producing and hosting her own podcast, “Accessing Art with Amy” on the intersection of art and disability, is currently the Associate Director for VocalEye Descriptive Arts Society where she, in part, hosts a weekly watch party for the blind community with accessible/described content and is an artist, writer and performer. Amy continues to share her fifteen plus years experience as an accessibility consultant with folks from local municipalities, conducting site audits, and looking to make lasting systemic changes in several organizations and also within artistic practices. Amy was pleased to receive the Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) Century of Change Award in 2018, the Canadian Council of the Blind (CCB) Book of Honour Award in 2019 and the News 1130 Unsung Hero Award 2018.