

BY AMANDA WATSON

HHLAA is very excited to once again host an in-person Convention in beautiful Tampa, Florida! You are sure to be busy at the HLAA 2022 Convention with all the exhibitors to see in the exhibit hall, a riveting opening session, more than 30 workshops to attend, demo presentations, social events, a symposium presented by top researchers in the field—and more!

When you aren't inside enjoying the Convention, head outside to explore and experience Tampa. Step outside the JW Marriott's doors and walk along the Tampa Riverwalk. From there you can explore the restaurants at the new Sparkman Wharf area or go a little further and see the marine life at the Florida Aquarium. Head over to Ybor City and experience the authentic Cuban cuisine that Tampa is famous for. Enjoy these attractions and so many more museums, restaurants and sights when you come for the HLAA 2022 Convention.

JW Marriott Tampa Water Street

510 Water Street
Tampa, FL, 33602
813-221-4950

Don't forget to reserve a room at the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street. All workshops, plenary sessions and the exhibit hall will be located in the hotel. Don't forget to mention the HLAA room block when you call to make a reservation or book online at <https://book.passkey.com/go/2022HearingLossConvention>.



Register now! *Early bird rate available until March 4.* HLAA 2022 Convention registration is OPEN and we have made it quicker and easier than ever using the Cvent platform! To register online just go to <https://www.hearingloss.org/programs-events/convention/hlaa-2022-convention-registration/>.

If you are a state organization or chapter leader, veteran, or speaker please register offline by downloading your corresponding form and filling it out. You can find the forms with further instructions on how to submit them on the registration page of the HLAA website.

Vaccination Requirement for HLAA 2022

All participants at the in-person HLAA 2022 Convention at the JW Marriott Tampa Water Street, whether a presenter, attendee, exhibitor, staff, guest, or vendor, will be required to be fully vaccinated. Participants must provide proof of vaccination to register for the in-person event. For information on providing your proof of vaccination information visit the Convention web page.

Opening Session

We are excited to welcome our keynote speaker for the HLAA 2022 Convention, Achin Bhowmik, Ph.D. Dr. Bhowmik is the chief technology officer and executive vice president of engineering at Starkey. He is responsible for the organization's technology strategy, global research, product development and engineering departments.



HLAA 2022 Convention is Back In-Person!



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Exhibit Hall Grand Opening

Thursday, June 23
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. ET

Opening Session

Thursday, June 23
4:30 - 6 p.m. ET

Welcome Back Bash

Thursday, June 23
7 - 9 p.m. ET

Research Symposium— Cochlear Implants:

What's new? What's next?

Friday, June 24
8:30 - 11 a.m. ET

HLAA Awards Ceremony & Reception

Friday, June 24
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. ET

Florida Walk4Hearing

Saturday, June 25
8 - 10:30 a.m. ET

An Evening with the Filmmakers— “We Hear You | Now Hear Us”

Saturday, June 25
4:30 - 6 p.m.

Prior to joining Starkey, Dr. Bhowmik served as vice president and general manager of the Perceptual Computing Group at Intel Corporation. There, he was responsible for the R&D, engineering, operations and businesses in the areas of 3D sensing and interactive computing, computer vision and artificial intelligence, autonomous robots and drones and immersive virtual and merged reality devices.

We are sure that Dr. Bhowmik's expertise on emerging technologies will benefit the hearing loss community.

2022 HLAA Research Symposium

Cochlear Implants: What's new? What's next?

The first cochlear implants (CIs) were introduced in the 1970s, but the technology remains relatively poorly understood and underused in the hearing loss community. This year's Research Symposium will address the knowledge gap around CIs, explore who is a potential candidate for implantation, what's involved in treatment and how CI technology has changed and will change further in the future. A mix of clinical information and science, this session is a “must attend” for anyone with hearing loss.

The 2022 Research Symposium is supported, in part, by a grant from the National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, National Institutes of Health (Award Number R13DC017913).

An Evening with the Filmmakers— “We Hear You | Now Hear Us”

“We Hear You” is an award-winning documentary about hearing loss, the invisible disability that impacts 430 million people worldwide, including 48 million in the United States alone. By shining a light on the hearing loss experience, it strives to build awareness, community and a more inclusive world for all.



This session will be the first of its kind for HLAA, bringing the typical film festival experience directly to the HLAA community. We will screen the 45-minute film and then open the floor to the community for an additional 45 minutes of questions for the filmmakers. Together we can help raise awareness, create change and improve lives for people with hearing loss.

Rocky & Ahme Stone Endowment Scholarship Deadline – February 25

If you are an HLAA member and have never been to an HLAA Convention before then you are eligible to apply for a scholarship (you may also nominate another HLAA member). See more details and the application/nomination form on the Convention web page.

Fun Facts About Tampa

- Since 1904, pirates sail their ship into Tampa every year during Gasparilla. The whole city dresses in costume and attends the celebration.
- The Cuban sandwich was invented in Tampa.
- The famous restaurant, the Columbia, is the oldest restaurant in Florida and the biggest Spanish restaurant in the world.
- Tampa has the longest continuous sidewalk that is 4.5 miles long and called the Bayshore Boulevard. This path runs entirely along the water.
- Tampa's temperature has never exceeded 99 degrees. It has felt hotter with the heat index but has never gone over 100 degrees.

