

# We're Shaking It Up in Salt Lake City!

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By Nancy Macklin

This past June HLAA hosted Convention 2016 and the International Federation of Hard of Hearing People, and we received rave reviews. So how could we possibly top that Convention? We started with a rebranding (“HLAA2017 Convention”) and a shake-up of the schedule, then added a track of research-based workshops on the topics of noise and tinnitus, mixed in more fun, and *voilà*—we concocted a recipe for an out-of-this-world Convention in Salt Lake City!

Surrounded by the Wasatch and Oquirrh mountain ranges on the eastern and southwestern borders and the Traverse Mountains to the south, Salt Lake City is simply beautiful. Take time to see the area. There's plenty of shopping in City Creek Center, which features more than 110 stores and restaurants, a retractable glass roof, a pedestrian sky bridge, and a creek that runs through the property. There's plenty of hiking and biking and other outdoor recreation, and Park City, which was the site of 2002 Olympic ski and snowboard events, is about 35 minutes from downtown. There's so much to see and do, but you can get a good jump on your planning at [visitsaltlake.com](http://visitsaltlake.com).

## Registration is Open!

You can find the registration form on pages 41-42. We advise reviewing it carefully since there are several changes from previous years. First, notice that the Get Acquainted Party on Thursday night is an off-site event (being held at Caption-Call's Salt Lake City headquarters) and requires an RSVP. In addition, the Awards Ceremony is no longer on Sunday, and in fact, is not a breakfast. This year, the *HLAA Stars Come Out* will be a dessert reception on Friday evening and include the award presentations as well as a talent show. Lastly, the *Cranky Cochlea* Dinner Theater on Saturday evening is the last official event of the Convention. Sunday has been reserved for optional tours—more information will be posted on the Convention

page ([hearingloss.org/content/convention](http://hearingloss.org/content/convention)) and in the January/February 2017 issue of *Hearing Loss Magazine*.

## Opening Session

It is with great honor that we announce Staff Sgt. Shilo Harris (Ret.) as the keynote speaker for HLAA2017. Shilo served in Iraq in 2007 when the Humvee he and three fellow soldiers were in was hit by a roadside bomb. That explosion caused a second one when an antitank ordinance they were carrying exploded from the heat of the first blast. Shilo sustained devastating injuries, including hearing loss, and a long road to recovery. Today, he is an inspirational speaker and author of the book *Steel Will: My Journey Through Hell to Become the Man I Was Meant to Be*. Shilo will hold a book signing at HLAA2017 as well. Read more about Shilo in the July/August 2016 issue of *Hearing Loss Magazine*, where he was featured on the cover.



## Workshops

Workshops are communication accessible with CART (Communication Access Realtime Translation) and hearing loops (installed by Contacta; thank you, Contacta!). Sign language interpretation is available for plenary sessions (Opening Session, *HLAA Stars Come Out*, and *Cranky Cochlea* Dinner Theater), and by request for workshops. Once the workshop schedule has been posted on the Convention page at the end of January, you can send your request to [convention@hearingloss.org](mailto:convention@hearingloss.org) by June 1.

## Call for Papers

Are you interested in presenting a workshop at HLAA2017? Just complete the Call for Papers form found on the

Convention page and email it to [convention@hearingloss.org](mailto:convention@hearingloss.org). Be sure to also read the Call for Papers instructions.

Educational tracks are on the topics of:

- Advocacy
- Hearing Aids & Cochlear Implants
- Hearing Assistive Technology (HAT)
- Research on Tinnitus and Noise

In addition to the educational tracks, there are workshops in the State/Chapter Development Room. There is a separate Call for Papers form and instructions posted on the Convention page for those.

The deadline for submission for all proposals is **Friday, December 2, 2016**.

### Research Symposium:

*Hearing Aids and Cochlear Implants:  
Merging Technologies, Expanding Benefits*

Friday, June 23

*Sponsored by American Cochlear  
Implant Alliance*



Hearing aids and cochlear implants are no longer separate, distinct and mutually exclusive technologies that serve disparate populations of people who are defined as either “hard of hearing” or “deaf.” Increasingly, people are combining the benefits of both platforms to reach even higher levels of performance. Research suggests that combining hearing aids and cochlear implants can be synergistic, bringing people closer and closer to normal hearing. Technologies that combine these devices utilize improved sound processing strategies, new electrode configurations, sleek processor designs, Bluetooth, and telecoils to enhance usability and performance. These changes have expanded the candidate population and blurred the lines between hearing aids and cochlear implants.

Looking ahead, even greater numbers of people will wear devices that combine the two technologies. Among the greatest challenges will be improving awareness about the benefits derived from such technology mergers and ensuring that access to care is available for all who need it. Collaborations between consumers, hearing health care professionals, researchers, insurers, manufacturers, and government can help bridge the enormous gap that currently exists between who can benefit and who has access to care.

Presenters and their biographies will be included in the January/February 2017 issue of *Hearing Loss Magazine* and posted on the Convention page.

### Get Acquainted Party (GAP)

Thursday, June 22

*Sponsored by  
CaptionCall*



This opening night event is always so much fun as attendees arrive filled with excitement to see old friends and meet new ones. Be prepared for the best GAP yet as we venture to the headquarters of CaptionCall. There will be dinner, entertainment, raffles, and tours of the call center.

### HLAA Stars Come Out

Friday evening, June 23

*Sponsored by CapTel  
Captioned Telephone*



The Awards Ceremony has always been a special event as volunteers from across the country are saluted for their work to make their communities a better place for people with hearing loss. This event will shine the light on award recipients as well as those of you with additional talents.

If you have a special talent you'd like to show off and are interested in performing following the award presentations, send a short video (MP4) of yourself telling a joke, singing a song, playing an instrument, doing a jig, or performing a magic trick...you get the idea! The top ten auditions will be invited to compete during the *Stars Come Out* talent show. Attendees will vote for their favorite act via the Mobile Convention App. The winner will be the opening act for Gael Hannan's production *Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea* on Saturday evening. Send your audition video via email (or Dropbox) to Nancy Macklin at [nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org) no later than March 15.

### Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater

*Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea*

A Gael Hannan Production

Saturday, June 24

*Sponsored by Contacta*



Following dinner, hearing loss advocate and comedienne Gael Hannan will perform a hilarious and poignant play about the hearing loss life in her production, *Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea*. The opening act for the evening will be the winner of the *HLAA Stars Come Out* event.



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## Shaking It Up in Salt Lake City! *from page 39*

### Host Hotel: Little America Hotel

500 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

Centrally located in Salt Lake City's business, historic, cultural and entertainment center, Little America's fine décor and traditional ambience provide the perfect atmosphere for HLAA attendees. The hotel boasts superior service, accommodations and amenities, including an indoor-outdoor pool, fitness center with hot tub and sauna, and complimentary in-room Wi-Fi. The 10-acre grounds are beautifully landscaped with fountains, flower gardens, and more than 300 trees.



#### Room Rate:

**Garden:** \$159 + tax for single/double; add \$15 per person for triple/quad



#### Room Rate:

**Tower:** \$179 + tax for single/double; add \$15 per person for triple/quad

### Dining

The Little America Hotel Coffee Shop is famous for its menu of traditional favorites, comfort foods and all-day breakfast. The Little America Steakhouse offers gracious service and a delicious American fare menu. The Lobby Lounge is set in a casual elegant atmosphere, perfect ambience to enjoy continental breakfast, specialty coffees, all-day dining and drinks. The Little America Wasatch Sports Bar offers cool drinks, hot appetizers, and plenty of big screen TVs.

### Additional Hotel Block: Radisson Hotel Salt Lake City Downtown

215 West South Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

The Radisson is located next door to the Convention Center. If you are concerned about the distance between Little America and the Center (just under a mile), this may be the perfect alternative for you (though keep in mind the Friday and Saturday night events are at Little America).

#### Room Rate:

\$159 + tax for single/double

*See the Convention page for reservation links.*

### HLAA2017 Convention June 22 – 25, 2017 Salt Palace Convention Center

100 South West Temple  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101  
*Location of Opening Session,  
Research Symposium, and  
all workshops*



© Eric Schumm

### Little America Hotel

500 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84101

*Location of Friday evening HLAA Stars Come Out  
(Awards Ceremony & Talent Show) and Saturday evening  
Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater*

### Rocky and Ahme Stone Endowment Scholarship

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). Scholarships include a full-activity registration package and \$500 toward travel expenses.

Here's the way it works: apply for the Rocky and Ahme Stone Endowment Scholarship by the deadline of February 17. In March the HLAA Board of Trustees will select one recipient of this scholarship; remaining applications will be used by HLAA staff in consideration of other available scholarships. We strive to award scholarships to all who apply. See more details and the application/nomination form on the Convention page.

### Stay Up to Date

Stay up to date on Convention news:

- Subscribe to our biweekly *HLAA e-News* (You can find the link on our homepage)
- Check the Convention page at [hearingloss.org/content/convention](http://hearingloss.org/content/convention)
- Like HLAA on Facebook at [facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation](https://www.facebook.com/HearingLossAssociation)
- Follow @HLAA on Twitter and use #HLAA2017

See you next June in Utah's beautiful capital city! **HLM**

*Nancy Macklin is director of external affairs and events and can be reached at [nmacklin@hearingloss.org](mailto:nmacklin@hearingloss.org).*



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**EARLY-BIRD REGISTRATION  
DEADLINE: MARCH 31, 2017**



# HLAA 2017 CONVENTION

JUNE 22-25 | SALT LAKE CITY, UTAH

<b>What do registration packages include?</b>	<b>Full-activity Package</b>	<b>Education Package</b>	<b>1-Day Package</b>
Exhibit Hall Grand Opening and Opening Session, Thursday, June 22	✓	✓	<i>Thursday package only</i>
Get Acquainted Party (GAP), Thursday, June 22 – OFF-SITE EVENT ON THE CAMPUS OF CAPTIONCALL (transportation, dinner and tour provided) <b>RSVP on back</b>	✓	✓	<i>Thursday package only</i>
Research Symposium, <i>Hearing Aids and Cochlear Implants: Merging Technologies, Expanding Benefits</i> , Friday, June 23	✓	✓	<i>Friday package only</i>
Unlimited entry to Exhibit Hall and Socials	✓	✓	✓
All workshops, demo presentations and featured speakers	✓	✓	✓
<i>HLAA Stars Come Out</i> (Awards Ceremony & Talent Show) <b>NEW EVENT!</b> Friday, June 24 - <b>RSVP on back</b>	✓	✓	<i>additional cost applies</i>
<b>Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater</b> , Saturday, June 25 (A Gael Hannan Production, <i>Huh? Life with a Cranky Cochlea</i> )	✓	<i>additional cost applies</i>	<i>additional cost applies</i>

**MEMBERSHIP**  New  Renewal

- Individual \$35/1yr   
  Individual \$95/3yr   
  Individual \$140/5yr  
 Couple/Family \$45   
  Professional \$60   
  Student\* \$20 (Please enclose copy of student I.D. card.)

**Membership Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**Select your registration package below.**

<b>Full-activity Package (HLAA Members Only)</b>			
<i>*FIRST-TIMER must be HLAA members who have never attended an HLAA Convention in the past.</i>			
	<b>By 3.31.17</b>	<b>By 5.31.17</b>	<b>On-site</b>
Member Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$299	<input type="checkbox"/> \$359	<input type="checkbox"/> \$389
Member Couple	<input type="checkbox"/> \$499	<input type="checkbox"/> \$588	<input type="checkbox"/> \$658
Member First-Timer*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$269	<input type="checkbox"/> \$329	<input type="checkbox"/> \$359
Member First-Timer Couple*	<input type="checkbox"/> \$469	<input type="checkbox"/> \$558	<input type="checkbox"/> \$598
Member Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$135	<input type="checkbox"/> \$185	<input type="checkbox"/> \$210

See RSVP for *Get Acquainted Party* (Thursday, June 22) and *HLAA Stars Come Out* (Friday, June 23) on back – both are included in Full-activity and Education Packages. Choose dietary restrictions, if any, on the back.

<b>Education Package (Member and non-member rates)</b>			
	<b>By 3.31.17</b>	<b>By 5.31.17</b>	<b>On-site</b>
Member Individual	<input type="checkbox"/> \$245	<input type="checkbox"/> \$299	<input type="checkbox"/> \$339
Member Couple	<input type="checkbox"/> \$385	<input type="checkbox"/> \$479	<input type="checkbox"/> \$519
Non-Member	<input type="checkbox"/> \$289	<input type="checkbox"/> \$359	<input type="checkbox"/> \$389
Non-Member Student	<input type="checkbox"/> \$155	<input type="checkbox"/> \$205	<input type="checkbox"/> \$230

### Daily Packages

	<b>By 3.31.17</b>	<b>By 5.31.17</b>	<b>On-site</b>
Thursday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100
Friday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
Saturday	<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$140	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175

**Registration Total \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**RSVP FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**

Get Acquainted Party at CaptionCall (Thursday, June 22) RSVP:  YES  NO

HLAA Stars Come Out – Awards Ceremony & Talent Show (Friday, June 23) RSVP:  YES  NO

**ADDITIONAL EVENT TICKETS** HLAA Stars Come Out and Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater are *included in select registration packages. See the chart on the front BEFORE purchasing tickets for yourself; use the section below to purchase tickets for your quest who is not otherwise registering.*

HLAA Stars Come Out Awards Ceremony & Talent Show (Friday evening, June 23) \$25 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Cranky Cochlea Dinner Theater (Saturday, June 24) \$65 x \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Special Dietary Requests**

Primary Attendee:  Vegetarian  Low Sodium  Diabetic  Gluten Free

Second Attendee:  Vegetarian  Low Sodium  Diabetic  Gluten Free

Tickets Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Membership Total (from Page One) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Registration Package Total (from Page One) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Contribution Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**PAYMENT TOTAL** \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**CONTRIBUTION**

Contributions help support the information, education, support, and advocacy efforts of HLAA throughout the year. Donors who contribute to the Convention will be listed in the Convention Program if received by April 30, 2017.

Are you a young adult (age 18 – 30)?  Yes  No

Do you use a smartphone?  Yes  No

Primary Registrant (name as it will appear on badge)

Second Registrant (name as it will appear on badge)

Address

City

State

Zip Code

Daytime Phone

Email

**PAYMENT INFORMATION**

Check payable to Hearing Loss Association of America  Visa  MC  AMEX  Discover

Card Number

Expiration Date

CSC Security Code

Cardholder's Name

Cardholder's Signature

Billing Address (if different than the address above)

**Mail form and payment to:**

Hearing Loss Association of America  
7910 Woodmont Avenue, Suite 1200  
Bethesda, MD 20814

Or, fax your form to:  
301.913.9413

Questions? Call or email us at:  
[convention@hearingloss.org](mailto:convention@hearingloss.org)  
phone 301.657.2248

**Cancellation Policy**

The following policy applies to refunds of registration fees:

Cancellation on/or before March 31, 2017: Refund = full amount of registration fees and event tickets less a \$50 cancellation fee.

Cancellation between March 31 and April 30, 2017: Refund = 75% of registration fees and event tickets.

Cancellation between April 30 and May 31, 2017: Refund = 50% of registration fees and event tickets.

**No refunds will be made after May 31, 2017.** Cancellation must be received in writing. Cancellation date will be determined by USPS postmark or email receipt date.

Please see [hearingloss.org/content/convention](http://hearingloss.org/content/convention) for news and updates as well as the Code of Conduct policy.