

Dear Member of Fairfax Public Access,

The Alliance for Community Media (ACM) is an organization representing public, educational and government (PEG) access centers across the nation. The ACM will be holding its Annual National Conference in Washington, DC, this summer, from July 9 – 12, at the Omni Shoreham Hotel.

All FPA members, whose FPA membership status is current, are considered ACM organizational members and qualify for the member Conference rates (which provide you with a discount of around \$100, compared to ACM Non-Member Rates).

There are a variety of options to attend the Conference, including single-day passes. Advance Registration is currently open and runs through July 27 (after July 27, one may register on-site at the Omni Shoreham Hotel). Additionally, the Conference needs volunteers, and those who volunteer at the Conference may attend regular workshop sessions or un-ticketed plenaries for each four-hour shift worked. Information on how to volunteer at the Conference and the Volunteer Application will be posted on the FPA website (www.fcac.org) beginning the first week of June.

On Wednesday, July 9, Pre-Conference workshops will be offered, including a three-hour workshop (which will be offered twice – at 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and at 1:30 to 4:30 pm) to prepare conference attendees to effectively discuss, with their Congressmen and Congresswomen, the political challenges currently facing public access centers. The actual visits to Capitol Hill will take place at noon on Tuesday, July 10. For those of you who register in advance, instructional materials will be provided prior to the Conference to assist you in preparing materials for your Hill visits. Role-playing and practices sessions will be included during this critically important session.

Beginning, Thursday, July 10, the Conference workshops will be offered. These workshops cover seven different Conference tracks, as follows:

1. New Media
2. Media & Telecom Public Policy
3. Fundraising Collaborations, Outreach
4. Technical Issues & Equipment
5. Community Media Center Management
6. Training/Program Content Development
7. Media, Civic Involvement and Community Development

Additionally, there will be numerous special events at the Conference. Thursday, July 10, the AMC Leadership and Hometown USA Video Awards Ceremony will be held, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. On Friday, July 11, the ACM hosts a specials Friday night celebration at Zanizbar on the D.C. Waterfront. And, on Saturday, July 12, the Conference Keynote Luncheon, held from 12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m., features Amy Goodman, host and executive director of *Democracy Now!*, a national news program carried over Free Speech TV on the DISH network.

Complete information on registration, workshops and special events is available in the Conference brochure, which is available on the AMC website (www.ourchannels.org).

Sincerely,
Chuck Peña
Executive Director
Fairfax Public Access