



**AMERICAN  
PRINTING  
HOUSE** 

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **APH Recognized by FCC for Advancement in Accessibility**

*The Orbit Reader 20 leads industry push for affordable refreshable braille*

**LOUISVILLE, Ky.** (June 13, 2018) – Refreshable braille can cost thousands of dollars, which is why the American Printing House for the Blind (APH), together with the international Transforming Braille Group, embarked on a mission to create a more affordable option. On Tuesday the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) awarded APH the Chairman’s 2018 Award for Advancement in Accessibility for its work with the Orbit Reader 20.

Refreshable braille devices produce mechanical braille generated by computer driven pins. For more than 30 years these devices have cost \$2,000 or more. APH helped lead an international group that took on the task of creating a device to be sold to users for less than \$500 dollars. The Orbit Reader 20 was developed in partnership with Orbit Research, the company that engineered and manufactures the product.

Since APH began the push for affordable refreshable braille, other companies have followed their lead creating additional options for people who are blind and visually impaired. The creation of the Orbit Reader 20 has helped lower the cost of mechanical, refreshable braille, and provide users with an array of affordable options.

### **About American Printing House for the Blind**

American Printing House for the Blind is a worldwide leader in designing innovative lifelong learning solutions for children and adults who are blind or visually impaired. In this fast-changing world, we believe in the power and necessity of learning to open the doors to educational success, satisfying employment, social inclusion, active citizenship, and personal well-being. We level the learning playing field by providing specialized technology, materials, products, and services that are essential for education and life. American Printing House for the Blind is headquartered at 1839 Frankfort Avenue in Louisville, Kentucky. For more information, please visit [www.aph.org](http://www.aph.org).

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