



Media Advisory

For immediate release:

July 10, 2106

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Chris Downey Architecture for the Blind to Speak in OKC on July 11

WHAT: Chris Downey, will be in Oklahoma City on July 11 at the Rapp Center at St. Anthony, 535 N. W. 9th Street, 4th Floor, to speak about architecture and visual impairment. Chris will share his expertise, encouraging the creation of helpful and enriching environments for the blind and visually impaired.

WHY: Downey is one of the few practicing blind architects in the world. He has provided consulting services to NewView Oklahoma as they prepare to redesign a building, which will serve as the future Oklahoma City Low Vision Clinic serving blind and vision impaired Oklahomans. Downey is hosted by NewView Oklahoma, in conjunction with Urban Land Institute, City of Oklahoma City, Mayor's Committee on Disability Concerns & the American Institute of Architects (AIA) Central Oklahoma Chapter.

WHEN: Thursday, July 11, 2016
4:30pm – 7:00pm – Reception
5:00pm – Chris Downey Presentation

WHERE: Rapp Center at St. Anthony, N. W. 9th Street, 4th Floor, OKC 73102

WHO: Downey, AIA, is an architect, planner and consultant who lost all sight in 2008. He has been featured in local, national and international media stories and speaks regularly about architecture and visual impairment. He also teaches accessibility and universal design at UC Berkeley and serves on the Board of Directors for the Lighthouse for the Blind in San Francisco. To learn more about Chris Downey, visit www.arch4blind.com.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES: Downey will have limited availability for photos and interviews both Thursday and Friday. Contact Sara Norton-Sanner, *Development & Marketing Specialist* at NewView Oklahoma at snorton-sanner@newviewoklahoma.org or 405-569-1651, for scheduling.

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NewView Oklahoma is a private, not-for-profit organization founded in 1949 with a mission to empower people who are blind and visually impaired to achieve their maximum level of independence through employment, low vision rehabilitation, and community outreach. NewView Oklahoma is the leading employer of the blind and visually impaired individuals in Oklahoma and offers the only comprehensive Low Vision Clinics in the state. Visit them online at www.newviewoklahoma.org. Follow them on [Facebook](#) and on [Twitter](#).