



## Your Voice Matters:

### Calling for the First African American English Text to Speech Voices

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**Toronto, Canada – July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020:** The International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication (ISAAC) is pleased to announce that [Acapela Group](#), [AssistiveWare](#), [PRC-Saltillo](#), and [Tobii Dynavox](#) are joining forces to create the first African American English Text to Speech voices. This partnership will produce four voices: a male adult and child, and a female adult and child.

It will take about a year to create these voices. Important decisions will need to be made, such as selecting the accent to use as a model for creating the African American English speech synthesizer.

To learn more, please visit: <https://www.acapela-group.com/news/first-african-american-english-digital-voices/>. This page includes contact information for those who are part of the African American AAC community and want to contribute to the discussion and voice talent selection. The participation of African American AAC users and their families, as well as African American SLPs and AAC experts, is key to the success of this project.

ISAAC is delighted to support this strong partnership of corporations committed to providing authentic voice solutions for people who use AAC.

For more information, contact: [Franklin Smith](#), ISAAC Executive Director

*ISAAC is an international membership organization with head offices in Toronto. ISAAC's goal is to create worldwide awareness about how AAC can help individuals without speech. ISAAC accomplishes this by sharing information and promoting innovative approaches to research, technology and literacy through AAC.*

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