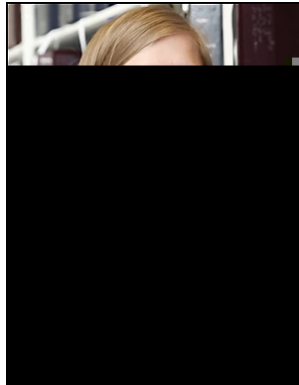The Lehman College Disability Studies Program Presents

"De-visualizing Technologies:
The Joys and Frictions of Blindness in the Digital Commons"

Chancey Fleet
Friday, May 3, 2019
11:00 AM to 12:30 PM
Gillet 226, Lehman College

Chancey Fleet, a Brooklyn-based accessibility advocate, coordinates technology education programs at the New York Public Library's Andrew Heiskell Braille and Talking Book Library. Her current library-based projects include group workshops highlighting mobile technologies for independent living and information literacy; programs introducing youth and adults to nonvisual techniques for coding and making with Arduino; and the Dimensions project (a recipient of NYPL's 2016 Innovation Grant for staff projects), which equips community members with the training and tools they need to create accessible tactile maps, diagrams, graphics and objects. Chancey was recognized as a 2017 Library Journal Mover and Shaker. In her Data & Society fellowship work in 2018-2019, Chancey hopes to deepen public understanding and spark widespread curiosity about how cloud-connected accessibility tools enhance or undermine digital equity, autonomy, security, and privacy.

Please join Chancey for a talk on the liberations and complications of using tech while Blind. We'll explore exciting problems in nonvisual workflows: How do design decisions taken by sighted developers perpetuate the scarcity of tech for tangible transmission of spatial information? What happens in skill-building, self-study and tech education when the general public is unfamiliar with the very existence of the features critical to nonvisual success? When major platforms track accessibility-related interests for the convenience of advertisers, or hide the field for describing social media images behind an opt-in setting, how can we cut through the mystique around accessibility tech to bring these dark patterns into the light?

All are welcome!
Questions and/or requests for special accommodations should be directed to
Olivia Moy (olivia.moy@lehman.cuny.edu) by May 1st.
This event is sponsored by the Office of the Dean of Arts and Humanities.