



## Nina Livingstone

Nina Livingstone is a writer, journalist, performing artist, and public speaker. Ms. Livingstone, who has Usher Syndrome (a combination of retinitis pigmentosa with deafness) lost her sight and hearing in 2000. After receiving a cochlear implant in 2001, she began bringing her stories to life onstage and in print.

She received her bachelor's degree in English/British Literature from Boston College, where she was presented with the Dean's Award for Character and Loyalty. Ms. Livingstone also studied English Literature and writing as a postgraduate at Radcliffe College and Harvard University.

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### Highlights

**New Additions** [TikTok](#), [YouTube](#) and [Instagram](#): Sharing life with Usher Syndrome, the creative process of writing, completing a memoir and an accompanying play — all interspersed with humor and candid insights.

[Q & A With Anna Rossi](#), an Emmy Award-winning lifestyle host and TV personality. *Edible Boston*, Winter 2024.

[Interview with author Clea Simon](#). *Nina's 3 Senses Podcast*. Summer 2024.

[Q & A: Sheldon Lloyd](#), City Fresh Foods. *Edible Boston*, Summer 2024.

["Life Is a Laugh,"](#) on "Stories From the Stage." [Interview](#). *PBS/World Channel*, April 2024.

["Carpe Diem,"](#) Moth Mainstage, Portsmouth, N.H. *NPR*, March 2024.

["I was there, I met a blind and deaf saleswoman .."](#) Featured storyteller in "Voices on the Green," May 2023.

["Boston Casting: Catch of the Day, The women who bring local talent to the big screen."](#) *Destination Mirth*, July 2022.

["HBO Max's Julia feeds our insatiable appetite for Julia Child,"](#) interview with *Julia* stars David Hyde Pierce and Bebe Neuwirth. *Edible Boston*, May 2022.

To preview the Oscars, interviewed *CODA* star [Marlee Matlin](#) on deaf representation in Hollywood. *Jewish Boston*, March 2022.

[Kayla Caulfield](#) talks about her role in Oscar-nominated film *CODA*. *Destination Mirth*, February 2022.

The day [Jason Bateman](#) was honored as Harvard University's Hasty Pudding Man of the Year. *Destination Mirth*, February 2022.

Interviewed writer Fran Lebowitz, "[In the Closet With Fran Lebowitz](#)," following her highly successful *Pretend It's a City* series on Netflix. *Jewish Boston*, January 2022.

Taking a hard look at food inequities in "[Q + A: Boston Mayoral Candidates' Food Policy Platforms and Their Vision for the City](#)." *Edible Boston*, September 2021.

Created "[Nina's 9](#)," a light, bright column that has attracted celebrities, including singer/songwriter Melissa Manchester, comedians Lenny Clarke and Bethany Van Delft, World Marathon runner Becca Pizzi, and iconic Boston gossip columnist Laura Raposa. *Destination Mirth*, ongoing.

"Hoop Dreams" interview with Suzanne Abair, co-owner of the WNBA's Atlanta Dream. Cover story, *Boston Spirit*. Summer 2021.

Follow-up interview with Arun Rath for the WGBH radio show "In It Together." Shared what was learned during the COVID-19 pandemic as a blind and deaf woman, March 2021.

Interviewed by Arun Rath for the WGBH radio show "In It Together" about the experience of being blind and deaf during the coronavirus pandemic, April 2020.

Follow-up to Boston chefs series, "[Revisiting Boston Chefs and the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Profile Series](#)." *Edible Boston*, January–March 2021.

An 11-part interview series for *Edible Boston*. "Boston Chefs and the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Profile Series." *Edible Boston*, March–May 2020.

Invited by Harvard University to give a special presentation at its Diversity Conference, "A Decade of Dialogue." Click for a [video transcript](#) of the taped presentation, or the full story. April 2020.

Profile of a professional interpreter for the deaf, "A Sign of the Times." *Boston Spirit*, June 2019.

Focus of Channel 5 segment, "5 for Good: Volunteers help woman with blindness, hearing loss." Posted story. May 2019.

Onstage at an NPR Moth StorySlam, September 2016.

Stand-up comic debut at Terry O'Reilly's Pub in Newton, Mass. December 2018.

## Articles

"[Boston Casting: Catch of the Day, The women who bring local talent to the big screen](#)." *Destination Mirth*, July 2022.

"[After 50 years, SpeakOUT still has something to say. Celebrating its 50th anniversary](#)." *Boston Spirit*, May 2022.

“HBO Max’s *Julia* feeds our insatiable appetite for *Julia Child*,” interview with *Julia* stars David Hyde Pierce and Bebe Neuwirth. *Edible Boston*, May 2022.

Interviewed *CODA* star [Marlee Matlin](#). *Jewish Boston* March 2022.

[“Dreams Come True: Y/A fantasy fiction writer Aaron Pacheco creates books he never had as a kid.”](#) *Boston Spirit*, March 2022.

[“British Actor Kieran Hodgson: The ‘Undoing’ of the ‘Crown.’”](#) *Boston Spirit*, February 2022.

[Kayla Caulfield](#) talks about her role in Oscar-nominated film *CODA*. *Destination Mirth*, February 2022.

The day [Jason Bateman](#) was honored as Harvard University’s Hasty Pudding Man of the Year. *Destination Mirth*, February 2022.

Fran Lebowitz, [“In the Closet with Fran Lebowitz.”](#) *Jewish Boston*, January 2022.

[Nina’s 9: Brings Her Guests into the New Year.](#) *Destination Mirth*, January 2022.

“Q + A: Boston Mayoral Candidates’ Food Policy Platforms and Their Vision for the City.” *Edible Boston*, September 2021.

[“Nina’s 9,”](#) a column that features local and national icons, among others. *Destination Mirth*, ongoing.

“Hoop Dreams” interview with Suzanne Abair. *Boston Spirit*, Summer 2021.

“Revisiting Boston Chefs and the Covid-19 Pandemic: A Profile Series,” *Edible Boston*, January–March 2021.

“The Next Wave: A Q&A with Wholesome Wave’s Benjamin Perkins,” *Edible Boston*, February 2021.

“The Newest Demon: A Pandemic Halloween” interview with Steve Schlozman, an assistant professor of psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and the author of “The Zombie Autopsies,” *JewishBoston.com*, October 2020.

Edible Food Finds: Sandpiper Bakery, *Edible Boston*, October 2020.

“What’s love got to do with it? Everything!,” an interview with designer David Josef, the man behind the masks, *Boston Spirit*, July 2020.

“Small Businesses, Big Hearts: As the number of coronavirus cases tally daily, these chefs step up to the plate,” *Edible Boston*, April 2020.

“Social Distancing: Don’t Touch Me!” *JewishBoston.com*, March 2020.

“The Fifth Wave: International Women’s Day 2020,” *JewishBoston.com*, March 2020.

“Psychic Medium Joanne Gerber Brings Together Spirituality and Spirits,” *JewishBoston.com*, October 2020.

“Edible Interview with Chef Irene Li, an Online Exclusive,” *Edible Boston*, January 2020.

“Q & A: Karen Akunowicz of Fox & the Knife,” *Edible Boston*, December 2019.

“Books, Snacks, and a Chair: Summer Reading Is Here,” *JewishBoston.com*, July 2019.

“Q & A: Rebecca Arnold of Whole Heart Provisions,” *Edible Boston*, Summer 2019.

“Top Nosh: Bostonians and Bagels,” *JewishBoston.com*, May 2019.

“Q & A: Peter McCarthy of EVOO,” *Edible Boston*, Spring 2019.

“As Angela Russo Sees It,” *Spirit Boston*, December 2018.

“Q & A: Cassie Piuma, Sarma,” *Edible Boston*, Fall 2018.

“Q & A: Owen King,” *Portland Monthly*, Fall 2018.

“Q & A: Peter David of Henrietta’s Table,” *Edible Boston*, Summer 2018.

“Space to learn: CfA program shows teens the sky isn’t the limit,” *Harvard Gazette* (Harvard University), April 2018.

“Tasting Maine with Barbara Lynch,” *Portland Monthly’s* Summer Guide, June–August 2017.

“My Lobster Encounter: Spikey, Elusive, Delicious,” *Portland Monthly*, Summer Guide, June–August 2017, pdf of article, p. 88.

“Mark Zuckerberg’s Harvard Commencement Speech: 3 Ways to Create a Better World,” *Thrive Global*, May 2017.

“Barbara Lynch’s Peregrination to Success: Tell me that I can’t and I’ll show you that I can,” *Thrive Global*, May 2017.

“Radcliffe exhibit turns touch into sight,” *Harvard Gazette* (Harvard University), November 2016.

“Why Not?” Massachusetts Association for the Blind and Visually Impaired Insight blog, April 2015.

## Spoken Word “Moth” Performances

[“Carpe Diem,”](#) March 2024.

“Distance,” November 2018.

“Business,” August 2018.

“Waiting for the Mail,” June 2018.

“Love at Last Sight,” September 2016.

## Speaking Engagements

Follow-up interview with Arun Rath for the WGBH radio show “In It Together.” Shared what was learned during the COVID-19 pandemic being blind and deaf, March 2021.

Interviewed by Arun Rath for the WGBH radio show “In It Together” about the experience of being blind and deaf during the coronavirus pandemic, April 2020.

“In Support of Women,” sponsored by *Vogue* and Wella at Dellaria Salons, Boston, March 2017.

“Living with Retinitis Pigmentosa (hereditary eye disease) and Hearing Loss,” Novartis Institutes for BioMedical Research, Inc., June 2015 and April 2016.

“Domestic Abuse, Survivor,” Massachusetts Women’s Bar Foundation with host Jimmy Tingle, May 2014.

“Deafness and Blindness Awareness: Having Sight, Losing Sight, Gaining Insight,” Massachusetts State House, March 2014.

“The Value of Services for the Blind and Hearing Impaired,” Deaf Inc., speaking engagement and short article, Boston, January 2014.

Available for speaking engagements. Audiences—from ages 6 to 60—with a style that is approachable, straightforward, while also sprinkled with humor.

### **Top Questions Asked by Children:**

1. How did you get here? By car? Did you drive yourself?
2. Has a doctor ever taken out your eye and put it on a petri dish and tried to fix it, then put it back in?
3. You can see me a little bit, right?
4. If you were in a high-rise building and your hearing device battery died and you couldn't see and you didn't have a dog or cane, would you be scared? What would you do?
5. On a scale of 1 to 10, how happy are you now? How happy were you before you lost your sight

### **Film and music**

“For Scott” — a documentary based on the relationship between a young man who is dying from AIDS and his mother, who battled alcoholism and drug abuse. Film featured in *Boston* and the *Boston Globe's* “Names and Faces” column by Michael Blowen, among other publications.

Composed three songs for the film, including “The Love of a Mother” and “With Love,” later receiving funding for the production of a CD titled “For Scott.”

Produced the film “Metamorphosis,” an insight into the lives of men and women ranging from 20 to 70 years old, representing diverse backgrounds.

Member of the Center for Independent Documentaries

### **Additional Awards, Honors, and Curiosities**

“Understanding Our Differences Katie Lynch Memorial Award,” showing a commitment to eliminating the social and physical barriers members of the disabled community face on a daily basis. May 2017.

Founder and co-chair of the Disability Access Commission in Belmont, Massachusetts. Involved in awareness efforts with the Harvard Graduate School of Education, the Fighting Blindness Foundation in the United States and Canada, and the Harvard AIDS Institute.

Recognized by Boston's Deaf, Inc. November 2016.