

Stephen Hawking seeks help to make voice heard

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(AP) -- Can you help make Stephen Hawking's voice heard?

The famed British physicist is seeking an assistant to help develop and maintain his distinctive computer-assisted speech system.

Requirements posted to the 69-year-old's website include willingness to travel, computer literacy and the ability to work without the help of an instruction manual or tech support.

Hawking is known for his pioneering work on <u>black holes</u>, his popular books on cosmology, and his refusal to bow to the disease that left him almost completely paralyzed.

He suffers from amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, or ALS, which has confined the theoretician to a high-tech wheelchair equipped with an <u>electronic voice</u> synthesizer, which gives Hawking his distinctive robotic monotone.

More information: http://www.hawking.org.uk/

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