



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Issue 33 December 2016

In This Issue

[The meaning of "inclusion" from a grateful parent](#)

[Celebrating 85 years of excellence](#)

[Meet Jorge Hernandez](#)

[Miami Lions Club and Lions for the Blind Host Thanksgiving Lunch](#)

[Visit Website](#)

[Donate Now!](#)

SAVE THE DATE! 85th Diamond Anniversary Celebration

Saturday,
January 28, 2017
at the Historic
Biltmore Hotel

For more
information,
[click here](#)

As we begin the holiday season, we thank our Miami Lighthouse family for their commitment and generosity throughout the year.

The meaning of "inclusion" from a grateful parent



Pre-K Student Julian (center) learning through play with peers Zakhia (left) and Solaia (right)

We wanted to share with you this letter from the mother of one of our four-year-old students in our innovative new program we are currently offering in collaboration with Miami-Dade Public Schools, the Early Learning Coalition and support from our generous donor community.

Dear Miami Lighthouse:

I want you to know how proud I am that Julian is attending the Miami Lighthouse Pre-K program. While Julian is one of the sighted children in the class, I thought you would find it interesting to hear that our son overheard my husband and me talking about someone being blind when he said "Mommy, what is blind?"

I explained to him that some people have problems with their eyes and cannot see, and asked if he knew anyone who was blind. His answer came quickly. "No, I never met anyone who was blind."

That says a great deal about this remarkable school program he is attending with both visually impaired and sighted schoolmates. In my mind it is simply beautiful, and I wanted you to know about it.

Thank you for letting Julian have this wonderful experience.

Sincerely,
A.L.

Celebrating 85 years of excellence

Members of the Host Committee for our 85th Diamond Anniversary Celebration met at the home of Jackie and Jorge Munilla on November 15th to continue planning our 85th Diamond Anniversary celebration that will take place on Saturday, January 28th, at The Biltmore Hotel.



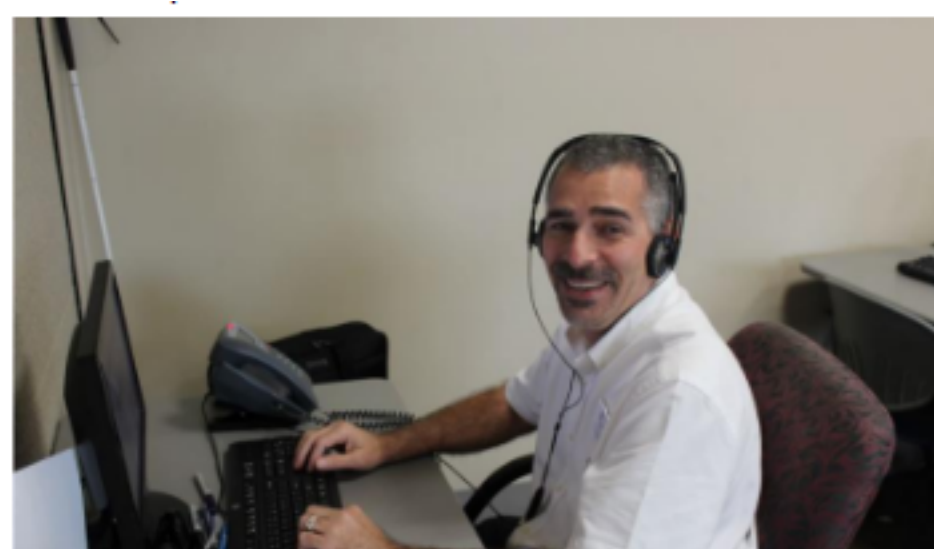
Members of the host committee with President and CEO Virginia Jacko, left to right: Olga Nielson, Shelley D. Rutherford, Pam Garrison, Virginia Jacko, Mary Spencer, Sara Fumagalli, Ali Casas, Janet Nostro, Ana M. Hernandez, and Jackie Munilla

Presented by Northern Trust, the black tie evening will begin with a cocktail reception and silent auction then proceed to dinner and live entertainment by our nationally recognized Miami Lighthouse Music Program. Laurie Jennings, News Anchor for WPLG Miami will serve as Mistress of Ceremonies. For more information, [click here](#).

Meet Jorge Hernandez

Here at Miami Lighthouse, Jorge Hernandez is a Computer Technology Services Instructor. Frequently, when questions are asked about computer accessibility, he is one of our "go to" experts. Prior to joining us, he served as a Network Analyst and Assistive Technology Specialist at Miami-Dade College. At an early age, he was diagnosed with retinitis pigmentosa, but it didn't stop him from working his way through school, in the end receiving a bachelor's in Information Technology and a minor in Business Administration from Florida International University.

We're proud to announce that our very own Jorge Hernandez is the newly elected President of the Miami-Dade Chapter of the National Federation of the Blind of Florida. The chapter advocates for blind and visually impaired individuals throughout the County.



Jorge Hernandez in his Miami Lighthouse classroom.

Lions Host Thanksgiving Lunch

Continuing the 85 year tradition of Lions support, we thank the Lions who provided and served over 200 Thanksgiving lunches to our program participants.



Thanksgiving lunches served by Lions

Contributed by Joan Spector

amazonsmile

Shop at AmazonSmile and Amazon will make a donation to Miami Lighthouse!

If you're shopping at Amazon, simply shop through the AmazonSmile website and choose **Miami Lighthouse** as the charity to receive a donation every time you make purchase.

[Get Started](#)

ebay™
GIVING WORKS

Shop on eBay and give at checkout!

If you're shopping on eBay, make **Miami Lighthouse** your "Favorite Non-profit" and choose to give a donation at checkout. Selling on eBay? You can also support us by designating Miami Lighthouse to receive 10-100% of your final sale price.

[Get Started](#)

MIAMI
LIGHTHOUSE
for the BLIND
AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED

601 SW 8th Avenue | Miami, FL 33130
305-856-2288

www.miamilighthouse.org

[Donate Now!](#)

[Forward this email](#)

STAY CONNECTED [f](#) [t](#)

EMPLOYER ID #59-0637847. MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED, FLORIDA REGISTRATION #CH775. A COPY OF THE OFFICIAL REGISTRATION AND FINANCIAL INFORMATION MAY BE OBTAINED FROM THE DIVISION OF CONSUMER SERVICES BY CALLING TOLL FREE, WITHIN THE STATE, 1-800-435-7352. REGISTRATION DOES NOT IMPLY ENDORSEMENT, APPROVAL, OR RECOMMENDATION BY THE STATE. MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED, INC. NON-PROFIT IRS EMPLOYER IDENTIFICATION NUMBER IS 59-0637847.

Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired, Inc.,
601 SW 8th Avenue, Miami, FL 33130