



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

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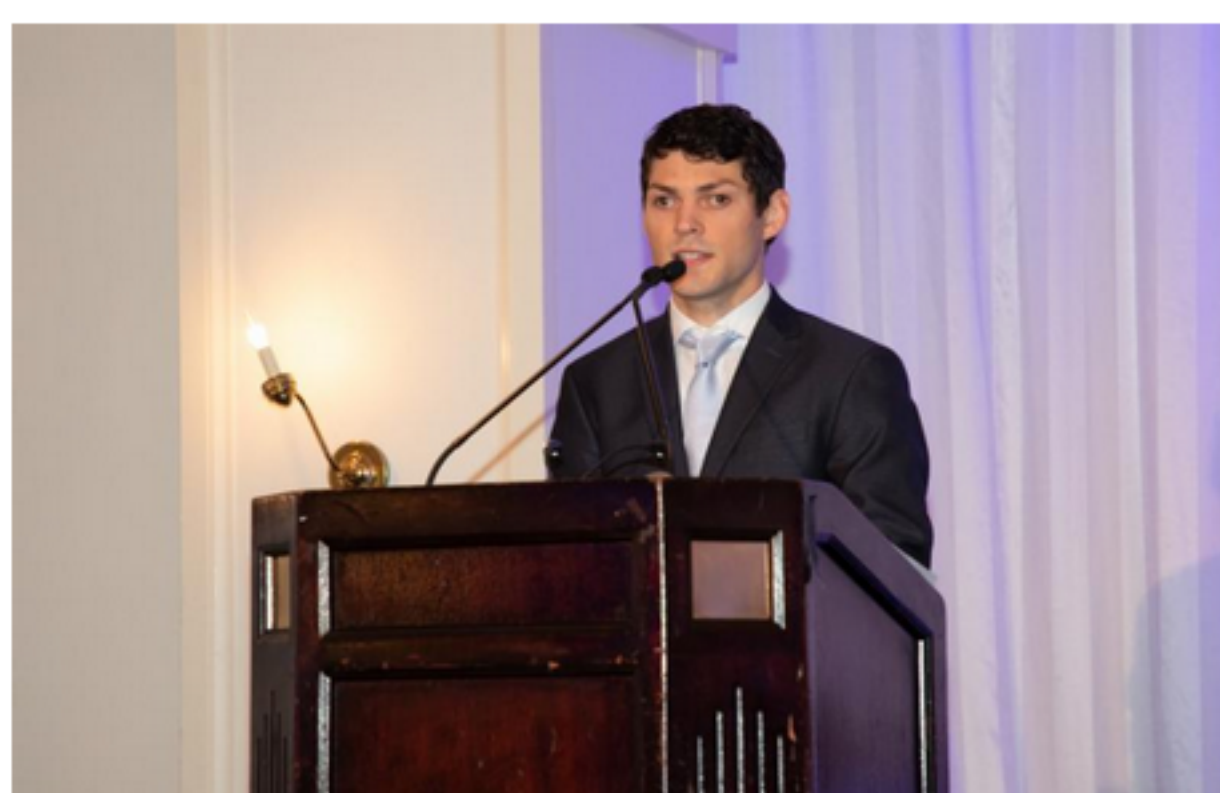
"See The Light" Luncheon is Major Success.

More than 250 community leaders and guests gathered at the Riviera Country Club in Coral Gables on October 25th for Miami Lighthouse's Annual "See The Light" luncheon. This year's focus was on the important role played by Miami Lighthouse in the transformation of the lives of the blind and visually impaired since its establishment in 1931. The theme of excellence in vision rehabilitation was demonstrated by the speakers and musicians which began with "You Raise Me Up" sung by Arantza Espinosa, Miami Lighthouse student and winner of several singing competitions.



Arantza Espinosa, Miami Lighthouse student and winner of Melodias del Alma, the first International Blind Singing Competition

The keynote address was given by Joseph Chica, former Miami Lighthouse program participant and current student at the University of Miami. Joseph was accompanied by his guide dog Gunner. A video entitled "It's Possible to See Without Sight" was also shown. To view the video [click here](#).



Joseph Chica, accompanied by his guide dog Gunner, former Miami Lighthouse program participant and current student at the University of Miami

The program concluded with a spirited rendition of "We Are Family" performed by the blue robed, visually impaired members of the exciting new Miami Lighthouse United Voices Choir. Sponsors for this year's luncheon included Northern Trust, The Art of Shaving, Norma Jean Abraham, Monster Sound Productions, Rimland's Nursery, El Carajo, and an anonymous donor. Our deepest thanks to our sponsors as well as our donors for their incredible generosity.



Miami Lighthouse United Voices Choir

Miami Lighthouse is Recipient of Best Buy Community Grant.

We're excited to report that our unique Music Program, with its inclusion of both sighted and visually disabled students, has again been awarded a significant grant by Best Buy. The majority of our Music Program students reside in underserved, low-income communities countywide. Research suggests that the inclusionary design of our program fosters understanding and appreciation for individual differences among students and minimizes the adverse effects of segregation based on disabilities.

The Miami Lighthouse Music Program provides the opportunity for blind musicians to learn how to work and perform in a sighted 21st Century world. Best Buy's generous grant award will allow us to expand our capacity to provide our blind and sighted students access to the newest and most innovative equipment and technology.



Best Buy check presentation to Miami Lighthouse's Music Program

Our Teenage Program Golfs at The First Tee of Miami.

The teenage members of the Miami Lighthouse Transition Program visited The First Tee of Miami on October 20th to participate in the USABA Fitness Challenge. A major part of the visit was the opportunity to play beginners golf with adaptations to meet their visual disabilities. The group was instructed by professional coaches and will be able to continue building their golfing skills with future visits to the golf course. It was a great experience for all who attended, and we are thankful to the staff of The First Tee of Miami for their generosity.



Miami Lighthouse Transition Students golf at The First Tee of Miami

Join the Give Miami Day Movement!

Support Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired on **Thursday, November 15th**.



The Miami Foundation will maximize your donation by making a bonus gift for every donation between \$25 and \$10,000 we receive.

Your contribution will support Florida's premier rehabilitation organization serving blind babies, school aged children, adults and seniors.

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Contributed by Joan Spector

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