



LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

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In This Issue

- 95th Anniversary Restricted Reserve Fund Announced at See the Light Luncheon
- Another Great "White Cane Day" Celebration!
- Our Miami Lighthouse Artists are Winners!
- Give Miami Day

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95th Anniversary Restricted Reserve Fund Announced at See the Light Luncheon

Our 95th Anniversary Fund was announced officially during our October 26th *See the Light* luncheon at The Historic Biltmore Hotel to a crowd of over 250 donors and supporters. All fund donations will be matched by our “95th Anniversary Matching Team”. With your help contributing to this important program we will be able continue building upon our status as a National Center of Excellence in Low Vision & Vision Rehabilitation.

Led by Emcees Marissa and Julia Bagg, NBC-6 Journalists, a heartwarming musical performance of "This Little Light of Mine" was sung by our adorable Miami Lighthouse Academy Second Grade Class. Dr. Kirk Adams, Managing Partner, Innovative Impact LLC and Former President and CEO of American Foundation for the Blind, gave an inspiring Keynote speech. The call to action continued with a moving testimonial by Caterina Sastri, Miami Lighthouse Board Director and her son Lorenzo a Miami Lighthouse Academy graduate. Caterina and Lorenzo shared the many ways, big and small, in which the audience can help make a difference at Miami Lighthouse.

The event raised over \$200,000 which will be matched dollar for dollar by the new 95th Anniversary Fund or The Wildflower Foundation Matching Challenge for art and music. Sponsors for this year's luncheon included TD Bank, Avante-NEA Insurance Group,

The H. Angela Whitman Foundation, Norma Jean Abraham, Genesis Systems Consulting and Murgado Automotive Group.

To have your donation matched dollar for dollar today [click here](#).



Caterina and Lorenzo Sastri, Miami Lighthouse Board Director and Former Miami Lighthouse Academy Student



Keynote speaker, Kirk Adams , PH.D.



Emcees Marissa and Julia Bagg, Journalist, NBC-6



Miami Lighthouse Board Director David Harrison, Miami Lighthouse Board Director Peter Harrison, Virginia Jacko and Michael Harrison



Norma Jean Abraham and Virginia Jacko



Greta Mclaney, Board Director Angela Whitman and Virginia Jacko

Another Great "White Cane Day" Celebration!

Monday, October 15th, marked another successful White Cane Day celebration at Miami Lighthouse. White Cane Day is a National Day of celebration established by President Lyndon B. Johnson in recognition of the white cane as both a tool and a symbol of independence for the blind. One hundred and fifty blind and visually impaired program participants walked together down Calle Ocho to raise awareness about the importance of programs like those offered at Miami Lighthouse.

We are especially grateful for the City of Miami Police Department and the Department of Fire-Rescue, event Emcee Gisella Aboumrad and sponsors of our wonderful event including: Uber, McDonald's, Tropical Financial Credit Union, Vispero, Verizon Tracfone, Ambutech, Mattingly Low Vision, Keiser University and 305 Hive.



White Cane Day 2023

Our Miami Lighthouse Artists are Winners!

Congratulations to our Miami Lighthouse artistic clients. Despite their vision loss, they continue to receive recognition. Over the years their works have been chosen for juried art exhibitions and have won awards in state, national and international art competitions.

We are proud to announce that three art works by Miami Lighthouse clients recently received International Awards at the American Printing House Global Art Competition held in Louisville, Kentucky this past October. The three winning artworks included “**Live Planet Luv**” created by students in our Miami Lighthouse Academy, “**SEE Shark**”, a large collaborative mixed media painting created by our SGA adult artists, and “**Emerged in Tranquility**” by SGA program participant Nora Delabat.

We are grateful to our generous donors who have helped our artists excel by contributing to The Wildflower Foundation Matching Challenge. You can help our artists and musicians demonstrate that visual impairment is not a barrier to artistic achievement by [making a donation today!](#) New gifts and new increases in existing donor contributions will all be matched dollar for dollar. Please contact CEO Virginia Jacko at 305-856-4176 for details about this exciting challenge.



“Live Planet Luv” by students in our Miami Lighthouse Academy



“Emerged in Tranquility” by SGA program participant Nora Delabat



“SEE Shark” by our SGA adult artists

**Give
Miami
Day**

Give Miami Day early giving starts November 13th and we hope you'll make Miami Lighthouse **your charity of choice**, helping us transform the lives of blind and visually impaired people, from babies to seniors. Every day, Miami Lighthouse ensures that those impacted by uncorrectable vision loss have the tools they need to thrive and live independent lives.

Your gift between \$25 and \$10,000 made will render more charitable impact. Not only will The Miami Foundation partially match every \$1 donated but thanks to our own generous donors, your gift will also participate in our 95th Anniversary Restricted Reserve Fund Matching Challenge for double the impact.

In the News:

- [Miami's Community News, October 10, 2023 – "MIAMI MARLINS AND MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE PROVIDING FREE VISION CARE TO STUDENTS AT LENORA B. SMITH ELEMENTARY ON OCTOBER 12"](#)
- [CBS4 Miami, October 16, 2023 – "White Cane Day coverage on October 16th 2023"](#)

[Read more!](#)

Contributed by Joan Spector

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Vision Insights



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