



# LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

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## Able Trust Recognizes Miami Lighthouse High School High Tech Sites.

Able Trust, a key leader in providing opportunities for successful employment for Floridians with disabilities, has awarded Miami Lighthouse's High School High Tech Sites its "Quality Program Recognition Award" at this year's annual statewide conference. Sites are deemed Quality Programs once all goals and standards set by the Able Trust have been met.

Our congratulations go to the hardworking blind and visually impaired teenagers who have qualified for this outstanding award. We know they will do well in the adult world despite their visual disabilities.



Miami Lighthouse High School High Tech Sites Receives Quality Program Recognition from Able Trust

## Ocean Reef Community Foundation awards Miami Lighthouse \$10,000 grant for Heiken Children's Vision Program.

The Ocean Reef Community Foundation generously awarded \$10,000 to support the delivery of our Miami Lighthouse eye wellness program for disadvantaged school children in Homestead, Florida City and the Florida Keys Head Start Programs. Our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program has performed nearly 400 comprehensive eye examinations with dilation in these areas this year alone.

The importance of our Heiken Program continues to be reinforced by research. Science News recently reported that the number of preschool children in the U.S. with visual impairment is projected to increase by more than 25% in the coming decades, with the majority resulting from simple uncorrected refractive error. We thank the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for their generous support of our Heiken Children's Vision Program.



Students Thank Ocean Reef Community Foundation

## Miami Lighthouse Chicken Championship Wing Contest.

The Young Professionals of the Lighthouse (YPOL) hosted the Miami Lighthouse Chicken Championship Wing Contest on Friday September 21st sponsored by AXS Law Group. The event benefited our nationally recognized award-winning Music Program. Guests enjoyed networking with local young professionals and a competitive wing eating contest.

Spectators cheered on six hungry participants while Corey Green took home first place and second place went to John Reed. The winners won pompom chickens made in our Social Group Activities Program and tickets to the University of Miami vs. Florida International University football game. Thank you to all who participated in our annual Chicken Championship!



YPOL co-chair Will Beckham, sponsors Jeremy and Morgan Ben-David from AXS Law, first place winner Corey Green, second place winner John Reed, and YPOL co-chair Alex Suarez

## Join us on White Cane Day, October 15.



Hundreds of blind and visually impaired South Florida residents will celebrate National White Cane Day with a march and celebration at Miami Lighthouse for the Blind. This year's event features emcee Ron Magill, Goodwill Ambassador at Zoo Miami, and a special presentation by Penny Shaffer, Market President at Florida Blue. Miami-Dade County Commissioner Sally Heyman will lead the way as the Grand Marshal on Monday, October 15th, beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Miami Lighthouse located at 601 Southwest 8th Avenue.

The celebration also will include a new development in 3-D printing that produces textured maps and allows the blind and visually impaired to navigate their surroundings using their sense of touch. John Stuart, AIA, executive director of Miami Beach Urban Studios, helped develop the 3-D mapping process in consultation with Miami Lighthouse.

Sponsors include: presenting sponsor Florida Blue, as well as, MassMutual Miami, Lions for the Blind, Vanda Pharmaceuticals, Aira, OrCam Technologies, Walgreens Store #15994 and Burger King Store #12778. For more registration and more information about White Cane Day activities, contact Cristina Bravo at [cbravo@miamilighthouse.org](mailto:cbravo@miamilighthouse.org) or 786-362-7514.

Contributed by Joan

Spector

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