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EIGHT-TIME GRAMMY WINNER JOSÉ FELICIANO TO RECEIVE RECOGNITION AWARD FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE

MIAMI--Nov. 3--World-renowned guitarist and composer José Feliciano will receive the Miami Lighthouse Recognition Award Thursday, November 18 at 6:30 p.m. during a dinner at Northern Trust Bank.

Past Lighthouse Board Chairman Bill Morrison, CFO of Northern Trust, who was instrumental in enabling the Miami Lighthouse to expand its facility will also be honored. The dinner is a preview for the Miami Lighthouse 80th Anniversary Ruby Jubilee which will be held in November 2011.

"We are so grateful to José for his friendship to Miami Lighthouse over the years," Miami Lighthouse CEO Virginia A. Jacko said. "His interest in our music program has been inspirational to all of our participants, who typically are teens just getting started in the music business, and it means a great deal to them when he visits." Mr. Feliciano will be available on November 18th during the day at the Music Studio at Miami Lighthouse.

The Miami Lighthouse Music Production Program, the only program of its kind in the nation, prepares blind and visually impaired students for careers in all aspects of the music industry, from voice and instrumental performance to sound engineering and production management. Mr. Feliciano was so impressed by the students' performance of "Oye Como Va!" on a recent visit that he arranged to donate one of his personal electric/acoustical guitars to the Miami Lighthouse music program. Mr. Feliciano, well-known for songs such as "Feliz Navidad," "Rain," "Affirmation," and "Señor Bolero," has received eight Grammy Awards and has a star on Hollywood Boulevard's Walk of Fame. He recently recorded several television public service announcements for Miami Lighthouse promoting the importance of Braille literacy and education.

"If a blind person cannot read Braille, he or she cannot get a mainstream diploma to better their lives, to do the things that are important," Feliciano said. Miami Lighthouse instructs its music students in music Braille, as well as Braille and technology literacy. Some of Mr. Feliciano's lyrics have been Brailled for him by Miami Lighthouse.

José Feliciano was born blind in Lares, a small town in the mountains of Puerto Rico, one of eleven sons, and he feels strongly both about the importance of Braille education and about people having the opportunity to improve their circumstances. He is recognized as the first Latin Artist to cross over into the English music market.

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Miami Lighthouse has been transforming lives over the past eighty years at the same location, with clients of all ages ranging from blind babies to seniors with low vision.

MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE MISSION STATEMENT:

*To provide vision rehabilitation
and eye health services
that promote independence,
to educate professionals,
and to conduct research in related fields.*