



# LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Issue 25 April 2016

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**MUSIC UNDER THE STARS**

**Wednesday, May 4, 2016**

6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

**Koubek Center**

705 SW 3rd Street | Miami, FL 33135

### "Music Under The Stars" moves to exciting new venue!

Mark your calendars for Wednesday evening, May 4th from 6:30-9:30 when the Miami Lighthouse will make magical music once again to benefit and celebrate our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, now in its 24th year of providing free eye care for disadvantaged children.

The event this year will take place at the historic Koubek Center, with its elegant on-site theater and beautiful Spanish-style villa, located at 2705 SW 3rd Street. It will be emceed by radio and TV icon, Jade Alexander, and will feature performances by Charles "Mr. Casual" DeChant, of Hall & Oates saxophonist and keyboardist fame, and our very own Better Chance Music Program Musicians.



Natalia Sulka and the Miami Lighthouse Music Program musicians at the 2015 Music Under the Stars.

There will be a great wine bar and delicious hors d'oeuvres for you to enjoy as you bid on the fabulous items in this year's silent auction. Donation is \$75 per ticket, \$140 per pair. Space is limited, so please confirm your plans to attend by calling 786-362-7515, no later than April 29th.

### Meet Eva and her trainer, Dave Hagemann

If you haven't met her already, Eva is Miami Lighthouse CEO Virginia Jacko's new guide dog. Here recently to help with her training was David Hagemann, Field Representative for Guiding Eyes for the Blind, the premier organization for these truly marvelous canines.



CEO Virginia Jacko and guide dog Eva

Approximately 160 new "teams" are graduated each year, with more than 50 graduate teams in the State of Florida alone enjoying increased mobility and independence, thanks to this remarkable organization.

Eva, who is almost two years old, is very eager to please and responds well to verbal prompting, according to Dave, who has been involved with guide dog training for thirty years.

During the 10 days he was here in Miami, Dave coached Virginia and Eva on both "at home" and "at work." Eva successfully completed her first typical business event during that period by attending the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Luncheon. According to Virginia, she received an A+ for her calm demeanor and obedience to instruction throughout the busy luncheon event.

Congratulations, Eva! And welcome to Miami. We're so glad you're here at Miami Lighthouse with Virginia.

### And speaking of dogs...

If you missed Yappy Hour on Tuesday evening, March 22nd, you missed one of the most fun-filled benefits ever hosted by Miami Lighthouse. Billed as "An Event for People and Dogs," it took place on the spacious outdoor patio of Apeiro Kitchen & Bar in Midtown Miami.



Shapples, Pete, and Tucker donning their Britto "Azul" bandanas at the Yappy Hour

The evening was attended by nearly 100 guests and approximately 40 dogs of every size and breed, some even dressed in costume. Giveaways included doggie bandanas featuring Britto's Azul as well as doggie tote bags with lots of canine goodies. There were even prizes for the most talented dog and the best dog/owner look-alike. Everyone had a wonderful time -- dogs included!

Thank you to our generous sponsors: Apeiro Kitchen & Bar, Commissioner Sally A. Heyman, Gray Robinson PA, MAPFRE Insurance, Knowles Animal Clinics, BizSolutions, Absolute Graphics, and Susan Corroy Design.

### Transition students joined the workforce at this year's Youth Fair

Florida's famous Youth Fair -- featuring nearly 100 thrilling rides, 170 food vendors, 53,000 student exhibits, a community stage and The World of Agriculture -- offered five of our transition students a unique work opportunity this year. Thanks to Christian Infante, the President of SFM Services Inc., the event's "one stop source" for janitorial, landscape and security guard services, the Miami Lighthouse students were offered the opportunity to get a close-up look at the many dimensions of the Youth Fair.



Left to right: SFM representative Natalie Fabian, Eric Ortiz, and Jeffrey Larkin

SFM's commitment to its community, and to the citizens it serves -- even those with disabilities -- is a shining example of outstanding corporate leadership. Natalie Fabian, the SFM on-site manager, took special care of our students, and her exuberance was contagious. As for our students, they can't wait to sign up to work again at next year's Fair!

### Ronald McDonald drops by!

Ronald McDonald visited the Miami Lighthouse Better Chance Music Program and Transition Program during this year's Spring Break, performing an interactive show for everyone to enjoy. The private show centered around the message of being physically active to stay healthy and working together.



Ronald McDonald with Miami Lighthouse Better Chance Music Program and Transition Program students, along with staff members

The most-talented Ronald juggled, balanced spinning plates, and played a game that gave ideas of sports to play to "go active." Everyone cheered as he performed, and several lucky students and staff members were chosen to participate in his act. For his final number, Ronald McDonald invited everyone to dance to "Watch Me (Whip/Nae Nae)" with him. They had a blast!

Thank you to the Montes family -- owner-operators of the McDonald's located at 1400 SW 8th Street -- for making this fun opportunity possible.

Contributed by Joan Spector

### You're Invited...

**Music Under The Stars**

Wednesday, May 4, 2016  
6:30 - 9:30 p.m.  
benefiting our  
Heiken Children's Vision Program

**Music Under the Stars**  
benefiting  
**Heiken Children's Vision Program**  
*a Division of Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired*

Wednesday, May 4, 2016  
6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.  
at the Historic Koubek Center  
2705 SW 3rd Street • Miami, Florida 33135

Featuring  
**Charles "Mr. Casual" DeChant of Hall and Oates**  
*Saxophonist and Keyboardist*  
with  
**Miami Lighthouse Music Program Musicians**  
*Emcee*  
**Jade Alexander**  
*Radio and Television Icon, 102.7 The Beach*

Honoring  
**The Miami-Dade County Legislative Delegation**  
and  
The optometric community's continuing leadership  
of our Heiken Program represented by  
**Dr. and Mrs. Sidney J. Stern, Dr. and Mrs. Alan P. Levitt,**  
and **Dr. and Mrs. Stephen A. Morris**

[Click here for tickets](#)

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Selling on eBay? You can also support us by designating Miami Lighthouse to receive 10-100% of your final sale price.

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 for the BLIND  
 AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED  
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