



# LIGHT LINE™

A MONTHLY BLOG FROM MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND

Issue 71  
May 2020

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## The Miami Herald: "Why social distancing is a challenge for the blind and what can be done about it"

How are the blind and visually impaired handling the "new norm" during social distancing? Check out our tips on how we suggest to overcome these challenges. Read the Miami Herald feature "Why social distancing is a challenge for the blind and what can be done about it" by [clicking here!](#)

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## "Music Under the Stars: Bon Appétit Miami" is going virtual!

Mark your calendar for Wednesday, May 13th, at 6PM. That's when Miami Lighthouse's acclaimed "Music Under the Stars: Bon Appétit Miami" will go virtual, starring our very talented Miami Lighthouse Musicians. This special event promises a delightful program of popular music that will lift your spirits and touch your heart.

Our event was scheduled for May 13th to support our Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program, which provides comprehensive eye exams and prescription glasses at no cost to underprivileged schoolchildren. Because of social distancing we are bringing the planned entertainment into your home.

For the "Bon Appétit" portion of the program, we hope you will consider supporting one of our dedicated local restaurants by ordering in something delicious to enjoy while you watch. Our supporting restaurants include: [Caffe Abbracci](#), [Perricone's Marketplace](#), [Brazilian Grill](#), [Black Market Miami](#), [The Big Cheese](#), [Sports Grill](#), [El Carajo](#), [Pollo Tropical](#) and [The Halal Guys](#).

[Click here on May 13th at 6pm!](#)



*Music Under the Stars goes virtual on May 13th at 6pm*

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## Lighthouse keeps busy with distance learning for youngsters

Educational videos are being sent to the parents of children in our toddler classrooms to keep them learning during this time. Story favorites like "Humpty Dumpty", and in honor of Easter, "Ollie's Easter Eggs" were shared to our blind and visually impaired children this month. Throughout the readings, attention to ongoing skills is promoted through open ended questions. Daily activities are aimed to help our children focus on different approaches designed to further promote fine motor skills, gross motor skills, hand eye coordination, and problem solving skills.

Thanks to Miami Kids Magazine for helping our teachers spread these lessons through the magazine's social media. We had a blast working together to teach children on Instagram Live how to create their own scented play dough and mixed media artwork!



*Learning how to create scented play dough*

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## Ocean Reef Community Foundation awards Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program

We would like to express our sincerest gratitude to the Ocean Reef Community Foundation for their generous \$10,000 grant to our Statewide Florida Heiken Children's Vision Program. The award will help us support comprehensive eye examinations for low-income children in Homestead, Florida City and the Keys. During this difficult time, our staff are working remotely to continue processing incoming referrals for vision services and issuing vouchers to eligible children.



*Thank you Ocean Reef Community Foundation*



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## **OrCam Read now available online at [LighthouseShop.org](https://www.LighthouseShop.org)**

The OrCam Read, a recent arrival at our onsite Lighthouse Shop, is now available online. The innovative handheld reader empowers individuals with mild to moderate low vision, as well as reading difficulties such as dyslexia or eye fatigue. The new assistive technology is capable of opening a whole new world for those who have lost much of their vision and the all-important ability to read. With just a click of a button, it can assist you in reading the daily news, your mail, and even a book. Visit us at [LighthouseShop.org](https://www.LighthouseShop.org) for this product and much more!



*OrCam Read Technology*

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## In the News:

[Miami Herald, April 28, 2020-"Why social distancing is a challenge for the blind, and what can be done about it"](#)

[7 News WSVN, April 23, 2020 - "Miami Lighthouse for the Blind gives out diapers to parents of visually-impaired children"](#)

[The Chronicle of Higher Education, April 07, 2020 - "Disabled Students Already Faced Learning Barriers. Then Coronavirus Forced an Abrupt Shift to Online Classes"](#)

[Read more!](#)

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*Contributed by Joan Spector*

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