

## MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE CELEBRATES 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF WHITE CANE SAFETY LAWS

WHAT: Miami Lighthouse is celebrating the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of White Cane Day, a National Day of Observance, and White Cane Safety Laws established by President Lyndon Johnson in 1964. The day is set aside to celebrate the many achievements of the blind and visually impaired, and their important symbol of independence, the white cane. We invite our community to celebrate National White Cane Day on Tuesday, October 15th, beginning at 8:30 am at Miami Lighthouse.

Over 150 blind and visually impaired program participants will raise awareness about White Cane Safety Laws, escorted by the City of Miami Fire and Police Departments, and led by Grand Marshals, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Eileen Higgins, City of Miami Commissioner Miguel Angel Gabela, Miami Senior High Color Guard, and Billy the Marlin walking from Miami Lighthouse, down SW 8th Street and back.

"Raising awareness about White Cane Safety Laws is the reason President Johnson established White Cane Day 60 years ago and it is fitting that Uber has partnered with us today to spread the word to their many drivers around the world about the importance of White Cane safety," said Virginia Jacko, President and CEO of Miami Lighthouse.

The event will be emceed by Gisella Aboumrad, Award Winning Actress and Writer, and the celebration will continue with breakfast sponsored by Bagel Bar East, lunch sponsored by McDonald's and featured entertainment by our nationally recognized Miami Lighthouse Music Program. There will be a raffle with prizes, giveaways, and much more. Event sponsors include Uber, Captain Awesome Charities, Humana, Verizon, Tropical Financial Credit Union, 305 Hive, Vispero, Ambutech, and others.

Media is invited to attend as Miami Lighthouse for the Blind program participants celebrate National White Cane Day.

**WHO:** Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired

City of Miami Fire and Police Departments

Grand Marshal Miami-Dade County Commissioner, Eileen Higgens Grand Marshal City of Miami Commissioner, Miguel Angel Gabela

Grand Marshal Billy the Marlin

WHEN: Tuesday, October 15 from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm; White Cane Day walk at 9:30 am

- 8:30 9:00 am: Registration and breakfast
- 9:15 9:30 am: Welcome ceremony Star Spangled Banner to be performed
- 9:30 10:15 am: White Cane Day Walk
- 10:15 am: Program begins
- 10:30 am: Special musical performance
- 11:00 am 12:00 pm: Top pledge winners and raffle drawings, lunch distributed and more musical performances

WHERE: Miami Lighthouse for the Blind and Visually Impaired

601 SW 8th Avenue Miami, FL 33130