

“MUSIC UNDER THE STARS: A TASTE OF BRICKELL”
MIAMI LIGHTHOUSE FOR THE BLIND ANNOUNCES ITS SECOND
ANNUAL EVENT TO
BENEFIT THE HEIKEN CHILDREN’S VISION PROGRAM

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Miami April 23th, 2009— Community members are invited to attend the second annual “Music Under the Stars—A Taste of Brickell” on Wednesday, April 29th from 7-10 p.m. at the Miami Lighthouse, 601 SW 8th Avenue. The event will benefit the Miami Lighthouse Heiken Children’s Vision Program which provides free comprehensive eye examinations and glasses, if needed, to low-income Miami-Dade County public school students who fail state-mandated school vision screenings.

“This is a special evening to help raise awareness and financial support for the many thousands of low-income children in our community who need our help to see the blackboard in school,” said Virginia A. Jacko, President & CEO of Miami Lighthouse.

The Miami Lighthouse Heiken Children's Vision Program is the only entity in Florida with the experience, capacity, programming, and community provider support to ensure that every needy child in the public school system can receive a comprehensive eye examination and necessary eyeglasses—a truly remarkable achievement, given that Miami-Dade is the largest school system in Florida and the fourth-largest in the entire nation. This school year the Heiken Program will complete over 5,000 eye exams and prescribe more than 4,000 eyeglasses, but the need is greater. An additional 3,000 low-income children without health insurance or regular access to eye care may go without glasses this school year.

Founders Recognition Awards will be presented to three community leaders: Leonard Turkel, who was instrumental in acquiring the first Heiken mobile eye care unit, and Stephen Morris, O.D., F.A.A.O. and Sidney Stern, O.D., F.A.A.O. in recognition of the original Dade County Optometric Association founding board of directors of the Heiken Program.

Musical entertainment will feature Latin tenor Warren Tesh, guitarist Antonio Cobo, violinist Randolph Margitza, and internationally renowned pianist Julio Fumero, joined by the talented musicians of the Miami Lighthouse Music Program. Brickell area restaurants, including Tutto Pasta, Baja Fresh Mexican Grille, BLU Pizza & Cucina, Zuccherro, Badrutt’s, Gordon Biersch, 900 Novecento, Perricone’s Marketplace, Vin Brulee, and Blue Martini, will provide an array of savory delights.

The event is sponsored by Brown and Brown Insurance, Mobile Specialty Vehicles, Essilor of America, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Sally Heyman, Sir Speedy Printing and Marketing Services and Morrison, Brown, Arguiz & Farra, certified Public Accountants and Consultants.

Tickets to the event are \$70 per person, which represents the cost for a Heiken mobile eye care unit to provide a free eye exam and glasses to one low-income child. Tickets may be purchased by calling 786-362-7514. Complimentary valet parking will be available.

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Miami Lighthouse for the Blind is Florida's largest and oldest agency serving the blind and visually impaired. In addition to providing free vision care services to thousands of low-income children each year, Miami Lighthouse helps transform the lives of nearly 1,200 client participants each month in our many programs for babies, school children, adults, seniors and their families who learn to live safe and independent lives while coping with vision loss.

To donate or for more information visit: www.miamilighthouse.org or call Julia King at 786-362-7514

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.