

NJ Foundation for the Blind

Helping adults with vision loss live a full and meaningful life: adjust to vision loss, acquire independent living skills, and regain physical and mental wellness.

Update

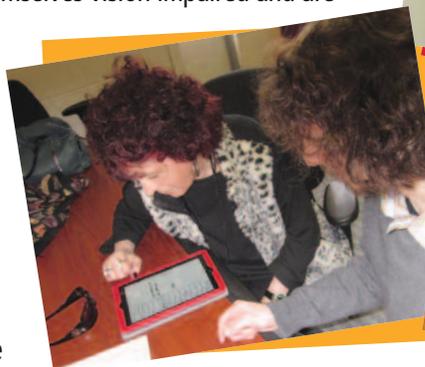
EMBRACING LIFE AFTER VISION LOSS

i Technology Tuesdays!

Tuesday is the best day of the week for students in our iSee Program, a day devoted to learning the assistive technologies of the iPad and iPhone.

Generally, individuals who are blind use the Voice Over feature, while those who require magnification use Zoom. Either technology enables iSee students to text, email, search the Internet and generally manage their lives through specialized apps. Our iTeam instructors are as excited as our students because several are themselves vision impaired and are gratified to share their knowledge with others facing the same challenges.

Students are learning a number of apps to lead more independent lives. Among the most popular are identifying currency and colors, reading product labels, scanning barcodes, and keeping a calendar. For people who spend a frustrating amount of time as passengers on public transportation or simply waiting for rides, the ability to use a wireless, portable device can fill otherwise empty hours with productive and enjoyable activities.



Givaudan employees Maja Schreck (left) and Kristina Krutal practice human guide technique.

NJFFB and Givaudan Team Up on Accessibility

People who are visually impaired have a friend in the Givaudan Fragrance Company which has committed to developing a walking trail accessible to people with vision loss. The trail head starts near their facility in Mt. Olive, Morris County, and will encompass a sensory garden in the near future.

NJFFB was pleased to provide assistance on accessibility issues as well as conduct a training for Givaudan employees on vision issues and various ways to assist someone who is blind or vision impaired.



Among the first to walk the Morris County Greenway Braille Trail are NJFFB staff members Linda Groszew and David Feinhals who assist volunteer Peggy Kane. Notice the trailing rope to their right.

SUPPORT

NJFFB

Help those learning to help themselves. Donate online at www.njffb.org

Save the Date!

**New
Venue!**

Justin Kauflin Trio

The Bickford Theatre at the Morris Museum in Morristown

Friday, October 24, 2014

6:00 PM Reception 7:30 PM Concert



Justin Kauflin wows audience at Just Jazz 2.



Alexis' luxurious voice has been compared to Sarah Vaughan.

Vocalist Alexis Cole to Perform!

Vocalist Alexis Cole will be sitting in with Justin's trio for a few jazz standards. Called "one of the great voices of today," she has performed with the Boston Pops and NY Philharmonic.

Back by Popular Demand!

Justin Kauflin, a 23-year old jazz prodigy who is blind, returns with his trio to headline our annual benefit concert. Justin's close musical relationship with jazz legend and mentor Clark Terry is the focus of a newly-released film, "Keep On Keepin' On," produced by Quincy Jones. The documentary won 2 major awards at this year's Tribeca Film Festival in New York City.



Students performing authentic African rhythms.

Amazing NJFFB Drumming Troupe!

The evening will feature a performance by NJFFB's student Drumming Troupe, a colorful highlight of the evening guaranteed to please.

This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and past shows have sold out. You can purchase tickets in advance through www.njffb.org starting in August. If you can't attend, please show your support through a donation.

Sponsorships and ad journal packages are available.

Please contact kaviston@njffb.org for information.

Assemblyman Anthony M. Bucco Named Honorary Concert Chair



Assemblyman Bucco is serving his third term in the New Jersey General Assembly representing the 25th District. He is a lifelong resident of Morris County. A respected civic and community leader, he has been a volunteer fireman for nearly 30 years and personally knows the challenges of vision loss.

Students Praise Pottery Volunteers

We are so grateful to our pottery volunteers for their invaluable contribution to our wellness program. The volunteers are led by former art teacher, Kathie, (who even uses her own kiln to fire the pieces) and Karen, with tremendous support from volunteers Carmelita, Elaine, Ellen, Helen, Lydia and Sally. How does the class feel about this volunteer group? Here's a snippet from a poem by student Debbie A.:

*It takes a lot of patience to do the things you do,
to come here every Thursday, and face this crazy crew.*

*It takes a lot of back pain, stiff necks and aching feet,
to stand behind us, guide our hands and keep our artwork neat.*

*It takes those special touches and that wisdom you impart,
to show us how, with no vision, we can make a work of art.*

*And when our finished piece is fired, locked forever deep inside,
are those moments we call magic, with our teacher at our side.*

NJFFB Artists Show their Work

The annual **Seniors and Persons with Disabilities Art Show** on display at the Morris County Library was enhanced with the addition of works by three NJFFB students.



Paintings by Joyce R., Diane R. and Stacy S. (l to r) are amazing and represent a wonderful diversity of styles.

Flight of Fancy by Joyce. Four years ago, I found NJFFB where I have met art instructors trained to help the visually challenged paint, sculpt, make pottery and more. I hope sharing my art encourages others to say, "If she can do it, so can I."

Where Ever You Are by Diane. I have always been involved in creative arts, but was afraid to try once I became visually impaired. Now I have moved from a small to a large canvas and to me it symbolizes growth and strength.

Howling Wolves by Stacey. Through my teachers at NJFFB, I have discovered a new world of artistic methods. In class we use string, tape, clamps, embroidery hoops, plastic shapes, and our sense of touch to guide us. We just have to be more clever in overcoming our disabilities to depict our message through art.

Diamond Spring Heritage Society has Made a Difference

Over the years, Legacy Gifts and Bequests to NJ Foundation for the Blind have made a difference in the lives of people with vision loss and have enabled programs to grow with the times and technology. If you would like to become a member of our Diamond Spring Heritage Society, please let us know of your intentions so we may acknowledge your generosity.

Here is simple language you may use to include NJ Foundation for the Blind in your will. Always consult your financial planner or tax advisor before making estate plans.

I give and bequeath _____ (dollar amount or percentage of residuary estate) to NJ Foundation for the Blind, Denville, NJ, to continue their good works.

NJ Lions Clubs Continue their Support

Thank you to all the Lions Clubs who have supported NJ Foundation for the Blind this year. We are proud that NJ Foundation for the Blind is a NJ Lions-approved state sight project.

Honor Roll

Thank you to the following for their major support in the first half of 2014.

Lydia Collins DeForest Charitable Trust
General Operations

William & Helen C. Hoffman Grant
Better Health & Wellness

Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation
Better Health & Wellness

Neil G. Shastri Foundation
iSee Technology

NJFFB Needs Your Help, Too!

NJ Foundation for the Blind is a 501(c) 3 not for profit organization. Your contribution is tax deductible to the full extent of the law and is deeply appreciated by all who benefit by your generosity.

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Connect with Us



The publication is available in alternate formats upon request.

NJ Foundation for the Blind is the leading nonprofit organization in New Jersey bringing the latest technology, healing arts and professional guidance into the lives of adults with vision loss.

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NJFFB Opens Another Program Site! Northwest NJ Residents Access Wellness Activities



Better Health and Wellness for the Blind recently opened in Sparta, Sussex County, the newest site in our plan to reach people with vision loss in every county. Classes are designed to reduce stress and create more energy and better balance. Shown is Yoga class, one of our popular healing arts.



Online Shopping Can Benefit NJFFB Programs

There are many organizations that work with online retailers to support nonprofits. If you shop online and use one of these sites, please designate NJ Foundation for the Blind as your cause. We are already registered on iGive.com and Smile.Amazon.com.

"Healthy Options" is newest class in Denville



This spring, students are learning to chop, dice and puree their way to preparing snacks, meals and desserts using natural foods. Students also learn how to manage diabetes and explore dietary trends, such as 'super foods,' different types of vegetarianism, and the power of raw foods.

**Welcome new members of the NJ Foundation for the Blind's Board of Trustees:
Terence J. Gunning, Kevin Kahn, Raj Mehta, and Robin J. Pearl.**