



VIEWPOINT

2023 Winter Edition

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Emcee Freddy Mac, Costume Contest Winners John Rosenstengel and Janie Gardner and Natalie Jones, Emcee

Dining in the Dark... Superheroes Unite!

CABVI's 6th annual Dining in the Dark on November 12 was a huge success! We honored this year's Barney H. Kroger Humanitarian Award winner Steve Eberly. Participants enjoyed an online auction, a live auction, a wine raffle, and a bourbon raffle. Local celebrities Natalie Jones and Freddy Mac (from Q102) emceed the event and Tracy Wilson shared her experiences as a successful art professional with vision loss. We are pleased to announce that we raised over \$200,000 to help individuals adapt to vision loss.

In addition to the sponsors listed on the right, we'd like to extend an additional thanks to our Table Hosts, In-Kind, Live and Silent Auction Partners.

Next year's Dining in the Dark...Disco will be held on November 11, 2023 at Hard Rock Casino Event Center from 6-10 pm. For information about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Aaron Bley at 513-487-4233.

Pictured: (bottom left): Glen Vogel, CABVI Board Chair, Stephen S. Eberly, 2022 Barney H. Kroger Humanitarian Award Recipient, and Teri Shirk, CABVI President/CEO (bottom right): Guests eating with blindfolds



A Message from the President/CEO



The word “community” has been floating through my world in recent times. It seems as if every podcast, book, or message includes the concept of building stronger communities, emphasizing how the communities we embrace wrap themselves back around us and hold us afloat in an ever-stressful world. I am a person

with a fairly small circle, my family, a few close friends, and work colleagues. Yet, I have begun recognizing the many “communities” that support me. My family and friends serve as a backbone community, my group of choice when times are hard. Work strengthens me, provides purpose, and speaks to my commitments and values. My faith community, a solid network built through Leadership Cincinnati, even Facebook and LinkedIn create the buffers and pedestals required to get through the day.

As I have examined my membership in each community and looked for their alignment with my values, I have begun to focus my attention on this community, the one we lean into here at CABVI. I appreciate the legacy of our community, those who have come and gone and those who have remained dedicated through the years. Now I am excited by the new stretch we have entered, this post-COVID attention to culture and inclusion era with a new strategic direction. Collaboration is a benchmark value in my community of choice. Even though my inclination at times can be to drive ahead, keeping a singular grasp on the path I see, I am willing to put the energy into creating an environment where all have the opportunity not only to be heard but to participate. Decisions can’t always be by consensus but we can work towards a place where the right people, with the right knowledge and know-how are at the table when the decision is made. It’s a goal, one made of small and deliberate steps.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Teri Shirk".

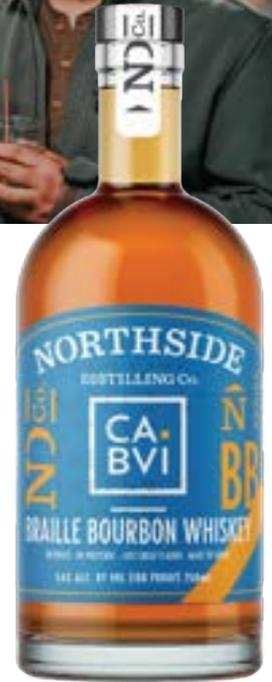
Teri J. Shirk



Jill Silvers and Danny Grayson

First Ever Braille Bourbon with Northside Distilling Company

CABVI partnered with Northside Distilling Company creating Braille Bourbon Whiskey - a hand selected 108 proof single barrel bourbon with braille on the label. The limited-edition bottle was released on September 28, 2022 at Northside Distilling Co. and sold out in record time. A portion of the proceeds was donated back to CABVI to help individuals adapt to vision loss.



This partnership aimed to raise awareness around inclusivity for people who are blind or visually impaired in our community as well as highlighting the services CABVI offers to help individuals adapt to vision loss.

GIVING TUESDAY

Thank you to everyone who donated to our Giving Tuesday campaign. We were blown away with your generosity, raising \$2,690 in just 24 hours! Your support helps provide services and adaptive equipment to more than 4,000 people in the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky area each year.

Recent Vision Services Events



Tony, Beth, Vivien and Lucy Maccani

Trick or Treat

CABVI's Early Childhood and Youth Services hosted a Trick or Treat event for younger clients and their families at CABVI on October 28, 2022. They enjoyed craft time as well as visiting staff and board members throughout the agency to get sweet treats.



Heather Smith, Adam and Cody Stenger at CABVI's Trick or Treat event

Coffee Talk

CABVI hosted a Coffee Talk on November 11, 2022. Tim Schmidt, CABVI Access Technology Specialist, shared information on how to get started with MyChart - how to sign up, benefits of using it and basic navigation to a group of more than ten individuals with vision loss.



Tim Schmidt presenting in The Commons at CABVI



Paige, Tim and Nicholas Michael

Snowball

Younger clients of CABVI and their families enjoyed the Early Childhood and Youth Services Snowball event held on December 3, 2022. The event featured an afternoon of music and fun under the stars with crafts and visits from Santa.

New Art Equals Monthly Group

Clients have been exercising their creative muscles with a new monthly group from Art Equals hosted at CABVI. Charlotte Reed, a local art therapist, visually impaired artist, and founder of Art Equals leads the sessions.

The first group was held on September 6, 2022. Groups will continue to be held the first Tuesday of the month. For more information, please contact Charlotte at info@art-equals.org.

Thank you for making a difference!

- Charles H. Dater Foundation
- Consumer Technology Association Foundation
- Gladys Wittmeyer Knox Foundation
- The Greater Cincinnati Foundation
- Hamilton County Cares
- L&L Nippert Foundation
- Charles Scott Riley II Foundation
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2. Hover over the QR code.
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Cincinnati Association for the Blind & Visually Impaired

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Anthony Steele, VIE Ability Operations

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CABVI's Stories of the Season Tradition Continues

Each year, CABVI invites local celebrities and media talent into our studios to read a holiday story for us to share with our 13,000+ listeners through our Radio Reading Services and podcast channel. We were joined by Natalie Jones from Q102 and Mo Egger, On-Air Host for iHeartMedia and ESPN Radio. In addition, Evan Millward, WCPO Anchor/Reporter, and Kyle Inskeep and Paula Toti from Channel 12 visited our studios along with many more local celebrities.

Stories of the Season is available to listen to on our Youth Podcast Channel at www.cincyblind.org/podcasts/cabvi-youth.

