You are receiving this monthly eNewsletter because you or your child is enrolled in the children's programs at Center for the Visually Impaired. These updates will come to your inbox every first Friday of the month.

Happenings in October

BEGIN

(From left to right; Emily, Marcel, Michelle, Hilde, Joan and Elijah)

BEGIN’s Trailblazers Class (3 year olds) got dressed in their best Halloween costumes and did some trick or treating around the CVI building. Our students were able to interact with various staff members and practice their social skills. Staff and students alike had a great time!

Don’t forget to join us for our Music & Movement classes on the 1st and 3rd Monday of each month, beginning at 10:30 AM. The next Music & Movement class will be Monday, November 6th.

Our Halloween party on October 21st was a resounding success! CVI staff brought back the terrifying haunted house complete with

Make a Gift Today!
At this time of year, we are especially thankful for the year-round support of the wonderful people that are part of the CVI community. We couldn’t provide the life-changing programs we offer without your generous commitment. Please make a gift today! It is easy and secure to make a gift online on our Donate Now page.
in sensory experience boxes, and decorating cookies. The night wrapped up with a contest spotlighting each child's creative costume with first, second, and third place awarded. We would like to extend a special thank you to all of our volunteers from Junior League of Atlanta, Emory, and the various individuals who made this event possible! *Congratulations to our very own Kennedi Fowler for winning 1st place in the costume contest. Your “Prince” costume was awesome!

**Friendly reminder: There will be no class the weeks of November 20th and November 27th.**

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**STARS**

(Tee and Christopher)

Calling ALL Parents! Don’t forget that STARS has opened up our parent classes to everyone during Saturday Academy Programming. Staff members Nancy Jennings and Ashley Phillips run the classes from 10:00 – 11:00 AM. The next parent class will be November 18th and will cover money management tips and identifying money.

In the After School Enrichment and Saturday Academy programming, students are engaged in and excited about this year's theme, 'Money', and have the opportunity to practice skills in all areas of the Expanded Core Curriculum within daily activities. We are seeing peer to peer learning, many teachable moments, and the ability to facilitate learning of real-life skills in our instructional setting.

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**Mark Your Calendars**

- **November 18** – Saturday Academy (10 a.m.-2 p.m.), Parent Class (10 a.m.-11 a.m.)
- **November 23 & 24** – CVI and VisAbility Hub Closed
- **December 16** – Children & Youth Holiday Party (10 a.m.– 3 p.m., lunch provided)
- **December 25-January 1** – CVI and VisAbility Hub Closed
- **January 15** – CVI and VisAbility Hub Closed
- **January 31** – Circus of the Senses
- **February 25** – Cruise with CVI

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**Spotlight**

**Joan Emerson**

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**Parent Info & Resources**

- Center for the Visually Impaired
- Georgia Department of Education – Visual Impairment/Blindness
- American Printing House for the Blind (APH)
- Texas School for the Blind and Visually Impaired (TSBVI)
- Paths to Literacy
- Association for Education and Rehabilitation of the Blind and Visually Impaired (AER)
- The Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC)
- Special Education Services and Supports (Georgia)
- Individualized Education Plan – Explained!
- Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
- GaPINES
- Georgia Sensory Assistance Project (GSAP)
- Lekotech of Georgia
- Georgia Lions Lighthouse Foundation
- Georgia Academy for the Blind
- Babies Can't Wait – Georgia
- Chastain Horse Park

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**Staff Contacts**
I became aware of the Center for the Visually Impaired (CVI) in 2007 while seeking services for my brother who lost his sight due to diabetic retinopathy. Acting as his health care advocate and caregiver, I attended all of his classes, support group sessions and home visits. I was so impressed with the services offered at CVI and I witnessed the benefits of the programs. In honor of my mother who also lost her sight to diabetes, I joined the CVI Diabetes Support group as a volunteer. I also volunteered for several years in Client Services and welcomed the opportunity to volunteer for the past 9 years for a family of three who are clients at CVI. We lovingly have adopted each other and consider us family. I provide transportation to doctors' appointments and grocery shopping as well as reading and posting mail. I attend school functions, IEP meetings and am a card holding member of the PTA. Presently I work in CVI's Children and Youth Services with STARS After School Program and BEGIN. My experiences at CVI have been life changing; changes that I continue to cherish. Peace and Butterflies.

(Carl Emerson)

We are extremely fortunate to have you Joan! Thank you for all you do!

CVI News

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UEB Certified

Rashad Williams
STARS Staff

Ashley Phillips
STARS After School

(Stephanie Pizza)
You are invited, along with your friends and family, to a special event!

Sunday, February 25, 2018

Center for the Visually Impaired

739 West Peachtree St. NW, Atlanta, GA 30308

2:00 PM-4:30 PM

Join us for light refreshments, client speakers, and a cruise around CVI to experience our client training first-hand, including white cane techniques, braille, assistive technology and much more!

Collect stamps on your passport as you travel to various ports throughout the building for your chance to win a travel package!

Please RSVP to Deborah Burcham at 404-602-4279 or dburcham@cviga.org by February 19.