



From the CEO and the Board Chair

At Perkins School for the Blind, we've always known that belief is one of the greatest gifts you can give to children who are blind. Belief in their talent and potential. Belief that their abilities are more important than their disabilities.

We've always known that education is essential, too. For 187 years, we've been teaching students who are blind, deafblind or visually impaired with additional disabilities. Our extraordinary educators work with children and young adults on and off our campus, helping them gain the academic knowledge and practical skills they'll need for the rest of their lives.

But we've come to realize that preparing our students isn't

enough. We must also convince the world to welcome people with blindness as equals – or our students will always face daunting barriers to success. In other words, we must change the way the world sees blindness.

Achieving that goal wouldn't be possible without the generous support of the Perkins community. We're deeply grateful to all the individuals and organizations that support our work, including members of the Perkins-Business Partnership, supporters of our BlindNewWorld initiative and so many more.

To all of you, thank you for believing in Perkins. Thank you for believing in our students.

Warmly,

W. David Power
President and CEO

Corinne Basler Grousbeck
Chair of the Board

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Changing the world doesn't happen in a day. It happens *every* day.

Changing the world is an essential part of our work at Perkins School for the Blind. It's the only way children and young adults with blindness, low vision and deafblindness will ever get the opportunity to truly share their talents and dreams with the rest of the world.

Changing the world starts, as it has for 187 years at Perkins, with the world-class education we provide to students, on campus and in local communities. It expands outward to the thousands of special education teachers we reach through Perkins eLearning and other professional development opportunities. And it takes flight to dozens of countries around the globe, where Perkins International offers training and expertise to schools, nonprofits and government agencies.

We know that to change the world, we must first change minds. Our campaign, BlindNewWorld, is already doing that. BlindNewWorld is at the heart of our efforts to break through barriers of pity, ignorance and fear – and change the world's perception of blindness. Since we launched it in May, millions of people have been exposed to the campaign on social media sites like Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

In the pages that follow, you'll see all the ways – large and small – Perkins changes the world in one typical day. Around the clock, that change is occurring in classes, on public transportation, in social situations, on job sites, in neighbors' homes and throughout developing nations.

At Perkins, we know changing the world isn't easy. But that won't stop us from trying – every hour of every day.





We're changing the world every day

5:58 AM

A Secondary Program student in a Perkins residential cottage buzzes his chin with an electric razor, practicing an essential independent living skill.



Lydia Greene checks in with a Perkins intern

When he first began interning at Tufts Health Plan, Perkins School for the Blind student Jon Gardner was charged with filling goody bags for new employees. With the help of a Perkins job coach, Gardner developed an assembly line process and quickly mastered the task.

His enthusiasm and work ethic didn't go unnoticed. Soon, Gardner was asked to phone new employees with information about upcoming orientation events.

"That's a big vote of confidence on the part of my team," says Lydia Greene, senior vice president and chief human resources officer at Tufts Health Plan. "He did a great job."

For Perkins students, exposure to the world of work begins early and continues into young adulthood. By the time Gardner graduates, he'll have worked in a variety of settings – from large corporate offices to small nonprofits.

In January, Perkins unveiled a 10-week
Pre-Employment Program, which equips young
adults who are visually impaired with the skills

to land a job. Students ages 15-22 who are enrolled at Perkins or in public school learn how to craft a resume, disclose a disability and interview effectively.

All Perkins students benefit from real-world training and vocational programs that prepare them for a challenging job market. An annual job fair connects older students with local companies, and summer programs offer enriching on-the-job opportunities. The Perkins-Business Partnership, of which Tufts Health Plan is a founding member, works to open up employment opportunities for qualified candidates with visual impairment.

When Gardner works at Tufts Health Plan, he isn't the only one learning. As he takes on more and more responsibility, his colleagues see first-hand how people with visual impairments can contribute to a company's success.

"Employees who are blind or otherwise disabled are an important part of our diverse workforce," says Greene. "They're as capable as anyone else."

9:17 AM

10:03 AM

8:08 AM

A toddler who is nonverbal smiles in delight as he plunks notes on a piano during music therapy at Perkins' Early Learning Center.

A retired plumber with fading vision reads a product manual using a desktop magnifier from Perkins Solutions.



Deafblind student Antonio steps onto a yoga mat



Perkins community teacher Pamela Oddis helps Cheyenne, a pre-kindergartner with low vision, learn to navigate the hallways of her public school. For this morning's lesson, Oddis uses an iPad to show Cheyenne a photo of a specific location in the school, and then asks her to find it independently. This way, Cheyenne practices her orientation and mobility skills while also learning about accessible technology.



10:35 AM

He's a little late to his weekly yoga class, so 19-year-old Antonio speeds through the first couple of poses to catch up with his classmates. As he moves through the yoga positions - from downward dog to warrior one - he's stretching his arms, bending his knees and turning his torso. All these actions help him build strength and improve stability.

That's especially important because Antonio is deafblind. Like many people with limited sensory input, he can struggle with balance and movement. But what Antonio gains from yoga goes beyond physical conditioning.

"Yoga is just a medium for accessing a whole variety of skills," says teacher Andrea Covelli.

She points out how Antonio shows independent living skills by removing his shoes before class. He interacts with his classmates, improving his social skills. He practices self-determination by deciding how energetically to exercise.

At Perkins School for the Blind, these lessons are part of the Expanded Core Curriculum (ECC). Without the ability to learn through casual observation like their sighted peers, children and young adults who are blind must be explicitly taught crucial skills, ranging from assistive technology to recreation to orientation and mobility. The ECC gives students a toolbox of skills they need to succeed at school, in social situations, at home and on the job.

Students like Antonio get a full range of academics and life skills as part of their everyday education at Perkins. Students in public schools who attend Perkins Short Courses or have one-on-one sessions with Perkins community teachers learn essential skills they can't get in their regular classes.

"Students learn how to manage themselves in the world and their relationships to people around them," Covelli says. "Teaching the ECC helps students learn to access the world for a more independent, engaged and happy future."



7:30 PM

10:15 AM

77:70 AM

A student in the Deafblind Program examines the roots of a plant with an electronic magnifier during science class.



An lowa teacher uses a tip she learned from Perkins eLearning to help her student, who is blind with cognitive disabilities, independently operate a CD player.

12:21 PM

A Perkins alumnus drops by the Perkins Library to browse braille books in the sunny new Patron Reading Room and Technology Center.

7:09 PM

Secondary Program student Bill, 21, gets his hands dirty while helping to change the oil in a Perkins van. Bill has always been interested in car repair, so his vocational teachers found him a volunteer opportunity at the Perkins garage. The hands-on experience has allowed him to learn more about cars and gain valuable job skills for the future.

Dylan Kanaan strikes up a conversation on the subway

Up until last year, college student Dylan Kanaan had never interacted with someone who is blind.

"My perception of blind people was extremely limited," he says. "I'm sure my subconscious was quite biased with regard to their abilities."

Then Kanaan learned about BlindNewWorld, a social change campaign launched by Perkins to permanently alter the way the world views people who are blind. Browsing the campaign's website and social media posts, Kanaan read first-hand stories from people with visual impairment about what it's like to walk in their shoes.

"I learned that the most debilitating aspect of having a visual impairment is the constraints placed on you by society," he says. "It really boils down to ignorance."

With BlindNewWorld, Perkins is working to turn ignorance into understanding. The campaign website features compelling videos and vignettes illustrating the biases and misperceptions

encountered every day by people who are blind. Visitors are encouraged to take small steps to make their homes, workplaces and communities more inclusive.

Since BlindNewWorld's launch in May, 29 million people have been exposed to the campaign on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter. A growing number of people worldwide have joined the movement and voiced their support for acceptance and inclusion.

Many, like Kanaan, have been inspired to take action. He's taking small steps, like striking up conversations with people who are blind he meets in daily life. He also decided to pursue an internship as an advocate in Israel for people with visual impairment.

Kanaan is determined to make the world a place where every person with blindness – including graduates of Perkins School for the Blind – are valued and welcomed into all facets of life.

"The campaign impacted me greatly," he says. "BlindNew-World helped me realize that people with visual impairment should be known for their capabilities, not their disability."



2:59 PM



Deafblind Program student David, 13, maneuvers through an obstacle course during adapted physical education class. With the help of his teacher, David crawls through tunnels and steps over hurdles, improving his physical strength and balance. Along the way, he stops to explore different textures and colors, selected specifically for students with visual impairment.



A Secondary Program student plants cat grass seeds at the Horticulture Center with help from his occupational therapist.

3:12 PM 3:50 PM

Perkins Lower School students get a tactile lesson in anatomy by stringing macaroni and Life Savers candy on a pipe cleaner to represent the human spine.

A teenager bravely tackles a climbing wall during a Perkins Short Course that introduces students who are blind to a variety of sports.

4:27 PM

4:42 PM





Jerry Berrier walks confidently to his local bus stop

Finding the bus stop isn't easy when you're blind. Just ask Jerry Berrier.

For years he relied on his phone's GPS, which brought him close, but not always close enough. If he stood in the wrong place, the bus driver might pass him by.

"I'd have to ask people where the stop was," he says. "If there was no one around that was a real issue."

In April, Perkins received a grant from Google.org to solve the "bus stop problem." Perkins turned to technology to develop a solution that would change lives.

The result was the BlindWays app. It picks up where commercial GPS leaves off, providing bus riders like Berrier with landmark clues to help them independently locate bus stops. Using the app, Berrier quickly discerns whether the object he's tapping with his white cane is the bus stop – or a no-parking sign.

At Perkins, innovation is everywhere. It's in the

classroom, where teachers use 3-D printers to create tactile learning tools for students. It's in conference rooms, where Perkins Library patrons offer advice about a groundbreaking, low-cost refreshable braille display. It's even in the parking lot, where Perkins helps test a self-driving vehicle that could transform transportation for people with visual impairment.

With BlindWays, innovation is in the hands of people like Berrier. It's more than a bus stop app – it's an *independence* app for people who are blind.

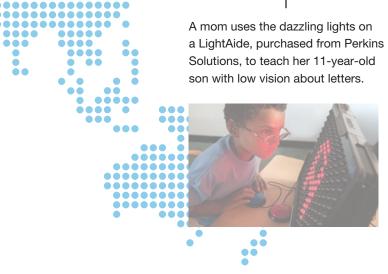
That's not the only benefit. When Berrier gets on the bus today, he's shattering misconceptions about what people with visual impairment are capable of doing. Sighted riders don't just see a white cane – they see a man commuting to work, visiting friends or attending church.

"It's important for people to see us out doing things," Berrier says. "We're involved and participating in life."

5:38 PM

7:03 PM

7:45 PM



5:07 PM

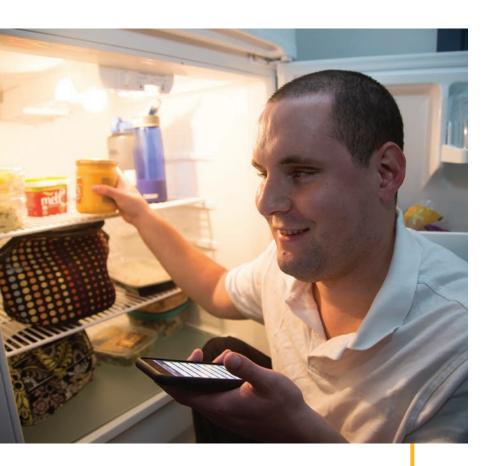
A family watches an audio-described DVD of "Guardians of the Galaxy," borrowed from the Perkins Library, so their grandfather with glaucoma can enjoy it with them.



Secondary Program student Rob, 18, spins tunes during a Teen Hangout session at the Grousbeck Center for Students & Technology. The event brings together Perkins students and local teenagers for an evening of games, pizza and casual conversation. It's a chance for students to have fun while practicing their social skills in a real-world setting.

Cory Kadlik grabs leftovers from the refrigerator

10:18 PM



Cory Kadlik loves a good snack, whether it's a leftover pork chop or a bowl of chips and queso. But like many people, he doesn't always know how long his favorite foods will stay fresh.

To get answers, he opens the USDA Food-Keeper app on his iPhone. It gives him instant advice about the expected shelf life of foods in the pantry or fridge, as well as storage tips. "Wow," marvels Kadlik. "You can even add the expiration date to your calendar!"

When it first launched, the app would have been less useful for Kadlik, who is blind. The USDA had reviewed it for basic accessibility, but never tested it in the real world.

That's where Perkins Access stepped in.

Staff members, all experts in digital accessibility, suggested improvements, like better navigation and sharper color contrast. The result was an app that's more accessible for people with visual impairments.

"It helped us create a stronger, more userfriendly app for the consumer, and ultimately, that's our goal," says Director of Food Safety Education at the Food Safety and Inspection Service Christopher Bernstein.

FoodKeeper is just one example of the technology that permeates our lives, from banking apps on a smartphone to healthcare web portals. Having access to these resources is important to everyone, including people who are blind. That's why Perkins works so hard to educate the world about the importance of digital accessibility for people with disabilities.

Kadlik knows how frustrating inaccessible websites and apps can be – he's run across many with poorly labeled buttons or images that lack descriptions. So, as he reaches into his fridge for a late-night snack, he's grateful that Perkins Access helped make the Food-Keeper app easy for him to use.

"There's a lot of information but it's pretty organized," he says. "It's easy to find exactly what you want."



Two students at Janaprakash Higher Secondary School in Nepal practice their writing skills using a Perkins Brailler, a mechanical braille "typewriter." Before the brailler's arrival in March, students completed their lessons using a slate and stylus, an antiquated method of manually punching raised dots onto paper. The new technology has brought a fresh enthusiasm to the cinderblock classroom, and made it easier for students to master the literacy skills they need for adulthood.

7:14 AM

8:22 PM 8:54 PM

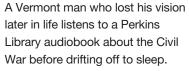
The father of a Massachusetts public school student signs her up for a weekend cooking course at Perkins for teens who are blind.



In California, a college student who is blind uses screen-reading software, recommended by Perkins Solutions, to complete his history class assignment.

11:37 PM

Students in Bangkok, Thailand, learn to buy and cook vegetables at a life-skills camp organized by Perkins International for teens who are deafblind.



12:05 AM



7:45 AM

A special education teacher in Colorado completes a Perkins eLearning course on sensorimotor assessment, earning a micro-credential she posts to her LinkedIn profile.



A young boy enters a hospital in Dhaka, Bangladesh

The 4-year-old boy is hunched over in his mother's lap. He has low vision and cerebral palsy, which limits his movements and mobility. That worries his parents, so they're bringing him to Dhaka Shishu Hospital in Bangladesh's capital city to learn how to encourage more activity.

Developmental therapist Asma Shilpi starts by passing a soft, squishy ball to the boy. But its color and texture don't engage his interest, so he just passively holds it.

Thanks to training she received from Perkins International, Shilpi knows what to do. She brings out a high-contrast, squeaky toy she sewed herself. The boy's entire demeanor shifts. He sits up straighter and becomes more energetic as he starts to play with a toy that he can see, feel and hear.

This is the type of success story Perkins hopes to bring to more countries with its new Perkins International Academy. Working with government ministries and universities, Perkins International is building on its teacher-training expertise to

launch a high-quality, sustainable program to train special educators throughout the world.

Globally, an estimated 23 million children and young adults have visual impairments and multiple disabilities. They're often isolated in their communities, surrounded by people who don't believe in their potential, and lacking teachers who can help them learn. As Perkins reaches more and more educators through the Perkins International Academy, these children's lives can be transformed.

That's welcome news in developing countries like Bangladesh, where there are few teachers of the visually impaired and access to professional training is limited. And it's welcome news for Shilpi, who knows first-hand how Perkins training has helped her engage with children with multiple disabilities. "Before, I focused on the physical and forgot about the visual," she says. "Now I know how important it is to engage all the senses."

2:29 AM

4:05 AM

5:47 AM

5:14 AM

In Indonesia, a Perkins International partner shows a mother how to create tactile toys out of household items for her 4-year-old son with low vision.



MA ES:E

An awake overnight staffer makes sure Perkins' residential students are sleeping well, so they can get up the next morning, refreshed and ready to learn. Students at Kireka Home for Children with Special Needs in Uganda learn vocational skills by using sewing machines to make brightly colored placemats.



In Alabama, a teacher of the visually impaired browses Perkins' eLearning Activity Bank over morning coffee for ideas on how to better engage her students.



Perkins unveils a new on-campus playground that makes outdoor activity accessible to every student. A climbing structure and carousel are both wheelchair accessible, and a variety of textures and high-contrast colors make the space easy to navigate for students who are blind. There's even a set of oversized xylophones – with braille notes – for making music.

Public school students with visual impairment in Córdoba, Argentina, learn alongside their sighted peers in inclusive classrooms supported by Instituto Helen Keller, a Perkins International partner. Equipped with accessible laptops and Perkins Braillers, the students access the same lessons as their classmates, providing a model of how inclusive classrooms can work.

We're changing the world every year

AUG '15 SEPT '15

DET '15

DEC '15

JUL '15

Students who are deafblind learn how to plant crops and raise livestock as part of a vocational training program at the Nabumali Training Center of the Blind in Uganda. Launched by Perkins International, the program helps young adults successfully transition to a more independent adulthood.

ПОV '15

Education is for everyone. That's the message Perkins President and CEO Dave Power delivers to hundreds of blindness advocates, policymakers and educators at the 6th Africa Forum in Kampala, Uganda. Power's keynote address kicks off the five-day conference, which is the continent's largest gathering of the blindness community.



More than 70 job seekers polish their resumes for the fifth annual Job Fair for Individuals with Visual Impairments in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Co-hosted by Perkins, the event gives attendees a chance to network and interview with representatives from 30 local companies and nonprofits, all eager to meet qualified candidates who are blind.

Perkins students and staff host a "Pennies for Potential" fundraising drive for a school for the blind in Nepal that was damaged by a massive earthquake. Students were alerted to the disaster by the school's principal, Keshari Thapa-Rana, who is attending Perkins' Educational Leadership Program. The Nepal school will use the money raised to create new tactile learning materials.



Perkins teachers begin using game-changing "eye gaze" technology in classrooms to help nonverbal students with low vision communicate better. The software utilizes a small video camera to track students' eye movements, allowing them to use a computer cursor to complete onscreen tasks and express preferences.





Student DJs at Radio Perkins get an unforgettable lesson about the secrets of radio success when hosts of the popular Boston morning show Karson & Kennedy stop by for a visit. The radio personalities share stories from their years on the air, as well as tips and tricks for creating a compelling radio show.



Two dozen state legislators visit with Perkins students and staff during national "Invite Your Legislator to School Day." The lawmakers sit in on classroom lessons about assistive technology and biology, and hear from parents and Perkins President and CEO Dave Power about the importance of funding special education programs.

FEB '15

Canada becomes the 20th nation to ratify the Marrakesh Treaty, a historic agreement that makes braille and audio books more available. The Treaty now becomes binding in 20 countries, including India and Australia. Perkins urges the United States to ratify the Treaty, which creates exceptions to copyright law to allow accessible versions of books to be produced and distributed.

APR '15

MAY '15

JAN '15

MAR '15

Perkins eLearning releases nine new micro-credentials to help educators showcase their professional skills online. The digital badges represent competency in areas like transition planning and digital accessibility. Educators can earn micro-credentials by completing professional development courses through Perkins eLearning.







Perkins eLearning launches Paths to Technology, a website where educators, parents and students can learn more about assistive technology for people who are blind. The website is chock-full of resources – from product manuals to software reviews – and includes venues for users to exchange lesson plans, technology tips and video tutorials.



Netflix agrees to add audio description to its programs, making shows like "Orange is the New Black" accessible for viewers with visual impairment. The streaming giant also agrees to make its website and mobile apps compatible with screen-reading software. The agreement is announced by the American Council of the Blind, whose president, Kim Charlson, is also director of the Perkins Library.

JUN '15



Perkins educators co-author a ground-breaking study that suggests a new way to help students with CHARGE syndrome acquire social skills. The study, which appears in the prestigious Journal of Visual Impairment & Blindness, finds that a consistent, structured setting with the same playmates results in students interacting more effectively with others.

Perkins Library patrons test the prototype of a new refreshable braille display that could slash the price of such devices by 90 percent. The low-cost display was developed by the Transforming Braille Group, of which Perkins is a founding member, with the goal of providing affordable refreshable braille for students in developing countries.

We're changing the way the world sees...

one student,
one partnership,
one conversation
at a time.

EDUCATING 1,209students with visual impairments on and off our campus

33,126 cators and professionals

educators and professionals with our global training programs

COLLABORATING WITH

391

organizations to bring new opportunities to people who are blind



29,132,255

people with our social change initiatives

SUPPORTING

74,786

people through our national and international programs

ENLIGHTENING

1,921,898

people through our online information and resources about blindness

SERVING

28,287

children and adults with our life-changing community programs

Financial Summary

For the year ending June 30, 2016

Resources (in dollars)

Total	72,728,076	100%
Income from Outside Trusts*	429,860	0.6%
Unrestricted Contributions*	3,401,388	4.7%
Other Non-operating Resources	6,932,389	9.5%
Government Grants and Resources*	6,335,706	8.7%
Library Services	2,736,120	3.8%
Restriction for Operations		
Net Assets Released from	9,338,284	12.8%
Private Grants and Resources*	1,900,384	2.6%
Other Private Resources	1,361,469	1.9%
Investment Income	985,563	1.4%
Sale of Materials for the Blind	8,293,584	11.4%
Unrestricted Gifts and Legacies	727,812	1.0%
Tuition	30,285,517	41.6%

Net assets for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2016 were \$315,502,411.

* Perkins School for the Blind raised \$12,795,150 for current programs. The total raised funds is indicated on page 20. Additional funds are allocated for future initiatives.

Expenditures

Total	72,728,076	100%
Fundraising	4,418,405	6.1%
Administration Occupancy	424,076	0.6%
Administration	9,490,583	13.0%
Perkins Solutions	8,995,263	12.4%
World Programs	4,734,899	6.5%
National Programs	3,119,797	4.3%
Community Programs	7,809,828	10.7%
Campus Programs	33,735,225	46.4%

The Annual Report presents Perkins School for the Blind's FY2016 resources used to cover operating and program expenses for FY2016. Perkins School for the Blind saw a decrease in non-operating net assets of \$16,549,165 that includes restricted gifts and legacies, restricted and unrestricted investment income, net of restricted and unrestricted realized and unrealized losses.

Every minute of every day, Perkins School for the Blind is making a difference.

On our campus, a teacher shows a Secondary Program student how to use a Braille Sense notetaker to write a paper for his history class. In a public school, a Perkins orientation and mobility instructor teaches a youngster how to use her white cane to navigate to a classroom. A few towns away, a mom with low vision reads "Bunny Cakes" to her kids, a book she borrowed from the Perkins Library.

In a Boston suburb, a woman uses the BlindWays app to commute to her job as a customer service representative. At a Midwestern high school, a 16-year-old is inspired by BlindNewWorld to invite a student who is blind to join him and his friends for lunch. In Argentina, a teacher trained by Perkins International shows parents different ways to communicate with their toddler who is deafblind.

This collection of moments adds up to a lifetime of opportunities for children and young adults who are blind. But none would be possible without the individuals, foundations and businesses that support our programs and initiatives. We thank them for helping us build a better tomorrow for children and adults who are blind, deafblind and visually impaired, including many with additional disabilities. These donors' generous contributions during fiscal year 2016 totaled \$13,722,498.

In the pages that follow, we acknowledge all those who contributed \$500 or more in pledges, payments and gifts. We are deeply grateful – every minute of every day – for their unwavering support, dedication and leadership.



Individuals

It takes just one person to change the life of a child who is blind. That's why we're so thankful to the individuals listed below. Each one is helping our students realize their dreams - whether it's working as a scientist, competing in a track meet or volunteering at an animal shelter. Thank you also to our Partners in Possibility for their unrestricted gifts of \$1,000 or more. Their crucial support helps our students create their own futures full of possibility.

\$100,000-\$999,999

Anonymous (1)

David and Mardi Durkin Sandy and Paul Edgerley **Grousbeck Trust Louis and Marcia Kamentsky** Mr. Rudolf J. Laager Kathy and Joe O'Donnell Sallyan and Steve Pelletier Larry and Lois Ruttman

\$50,000-\$99,999

Anonymous (1)

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\$25.000-\$49.999

Deborah and Steve Barnes Andrea and Erik Brooks

Barbara and Fred Clifford Cogan Family Foundation Wilderness Point Foundation **Abbie and Tim Dutterer** John W. Henry Family Foundation **Barbara and Amos Hostetter** Triumvirate Environmental Inc. Vaithehi Muttulingam and **Bala Cumaresan** Kim and Greg Pappas **Lisa and Paul Perrault** Katherine Chapman Stemberg Mr. and Mrs. Ted Winston

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\$5.000-\$9.999

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Note: Bold print in all lists recognizes five years of consecutive giving at any level.

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\$2,500-\$4,999

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Mr. Thomas F. Hehir

22

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Perkins Possibilities Gala

The Perkins Possibilities Gala is always fun, but the 2016 Gala was historic. More than 500 guests heard the first public announcement of BlindNewWorld - a bold social change campaign designed to shatter the world's misconceptions about people who are blind. The energy and excitement continued through the rest of the evening. Guests applauded the Perkins students who hosted the event with such charm and humor, danced to hits by the R&B group Tavares and enjoyed the Perkins Chorus' memorable medley of Beatles songs. They also contributed \$1.1 million to support programs that help children with visual impairments learn and thrive. Thank you to everyone who made the Gala such a historic success.

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Gala Technology Challenge and Donors

A Perkins Brailler. An iPad. A computer with text-to-speech software. These are just a few of the devices that help children who are blind learn, communicate and live more independently. This year's Technology Challenge raised \$170,000 to help purchase assistive and adaptive equipment for Perkins students. Thank you to everyone who contributed. You're providing cutting-edge technology that will help our students succeed in the classroom and beyond.

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2016 Perkins **In-Kind Gifts**

A financial gift isn't the only way to make a difference. Perkins couldn't offer so many educational opportunities for students with visual impairments without generous in-kind donations of goods and services - ranging from delicious culinary treats for our charity events to field trip opportunities for our students. These gifts from individuals, companies and organizations help keep our costs down and strengthen our programs. Special thanks to our Gala in-kind donors, who helped create a dazzling evening for the entire Perkins community.

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2015 Taste of Perkins

Putting on a blindfold can reveal so much. For 300 guests at the 2015 Taste of Perkins, it strengthened the impact of flavors and scents as they sampled gourmet delicacies and fine wine without the benefit of vision. When guests removed their blindfolds, they enjoyed the evening with all their senses – from lively musical performances by Perkins students to revelatory experiences at our Sensory Explorations Stations. Thank you to everyone who made the evening such a sensory success, and helped raise \$120,000 for Perkins' programs.

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Deb and Jason Verner



2016 Marathon Team

The most important number for Perkins' Boston Marathon® team wasn't 26.2 miles - it was \$25.000. That's how much three determined runners raised to support Perkins' educational programs. We're grateful to them, because every mile they ran and dollar they raised helped children who are blind build better lives. Thanks also to their friends and family members who supported the team with contributions, encouragement and cheers.

Eric Ferreira Joseph Metzger Dan O'Neil



Blindfold Challenge Runners

They felt the breeze on their faces and the thump of their sneakers hitting the pavement. They heard shouts of encouragement from the sidelines. But what they couldn't do was see the race course ahead of them - because these eight runners were taking part in the Blindfold Challenge. With sighted guides to lead them, they ran five kilometers in downtown Boston while raising \$9,000 for children and young adults who are blind. To the runners and guides who took on this challenge, thank you.

Kristin Carlson Julie DeLillo Tamara Doyle Jessica Erlich **Dulce Goncalves** Nicholas Keller Cynthia LeBlanc Michael Lorenco Kelly McKenna Peter McKenna Richard and Mari Muscio

Derek Phripp

Karen Stackow



Second Annual Golf Tournament

On a sunny day in June, 100 golfers were doing more than making putts they were making a difference. At the second annual Perkins Golf Tournament, they raised \$150,000 to provide children who are blind with enriching educational programs and confidence-building athletic opportunities. Thank you to everyone who came out for an afternoon of inspiring generosity and friendly competition.

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Thomas H. Perkins **Legacy Society**

How can we continue to serve students for generations to come? Through today's legacy gifts that invest in tomorrow's possibilities. These donors have designated Perkins as the beneficiary of a will, trust, retirement plan, life insurance policy or another deferred giving arrangement. Thank you for your thoughtful planning and generosity. The opportunities we create for children and young adults who are blind wouldn't be possible without

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Larry and Lois Ruttman

Why include Perkins School for the Blind in your will? For Larry and Lois Ruttman of Brookline, Massachusetts, the answer is a desire to make a difference in children's lives today and for years to come.

Larry, a retired lawyer and now an author, calls Lois "the soul of generosity." He credits her encouragement for creating The Larry Ruttman and Lois Ruttman Endowed Gift Fund with a generous gift specified in their will.

Because the Ruttmans have a passion for music and literature, they requested that their gift be divided equally between the Perkins Library and the school's music program.

"There's so much great work going on at Perkins," Larry says. "But the Library is a tremendous resource for everyone in our community with blindness or visual impairment. And for me, it's common sense that music is important to children's education, as well as to fulfilling lives. That's why we wanted to leave something behind that would help Perkins students."

We are grateful for the Ruttmans' commitment to our educational mission, and proud to be included in their legacy of caring

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The Perkins School for the Blind mission is to prepare children and young adults who are blind, deafblind or visually impaired, including those who have additional disabilities, with the education, confidence and skills they need to realize their potential.

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