

SPONSOR NOW

NATIONAL FEDERATION OF THE BLIND OF OHIO

MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

Perhaps you think of blind people as always at the receiving end of volunteer assistance. Certainly many of us who are blind are grateful for the volunteers who help us live the lives we want by driving or reading or assisting with other projects. But the National Federation of the Blind of Ohio is an organization of blind people working to improve the lives of blind children and adults who live in Ohio. We are grateful for the lives we have—our families and our jobs—and we want to give back by helping others learn that blindness need not stifle dreams.

RINGING THE BELL

Many of us are grateful for the education we received as children, specifically that we were taught to read and write Braille. Braille literacy is so integral to success for a blind adult that we in Ohio inaugurated a program developed by the National Federation of the Blind called Braille Enrichment for Literacy and Learning.



BELL students and aides play Braille Twister

In our 2013 and 2014 BELL programs, children ages 6 to 11 spent 10 days together, days with blind adults as their teachers and guides, playing games, learning songs, reading and writing Braille, swimming, cooking, and going on field trips. Essentially, their BELL experience was like many summer camps but with the added difference that they came away knowing that all dreams are possible, that blindness need not hold you back.

WE INVEST IN THE FUTURE

The NFB of Ohio will award three scholarships at our annual convention Oct. 31–Nov. 2. This year's winners are three academically gifted and generous young blind people. Jonathan Thomas, at age 17, organized a shoe drive that collected 3,600 pairs of shoes for people in impoverished countries. Kaiti Shelton is president of the Ohio Association of Blind Students and has volunteered her time to teach blind children about music. Elif Emir Oksuz, pursuing a doctorate in counselor education, translates articles written by blind people in America to share with less fortunate blind people in her native Turkey.

Our NFB of Ohio treasury is small; and, when our scholarship program was struggling to survive, generous members came forward to keep it alive. Individual members of the NFB of Ohio personally added funds to the scholarship effort in order to see more blind students realize their dreams.

YOUR SPONSORSHIP IS NEEDED

We need the support of caring people to fulfill our dreams. Finding full capacity as a blind person requires training and exposure to possibilities, and that requires money.

Please help by sponsoring our 2014 "Night with Art Schreiber and the Beatles" event. To secure your space as a sponsor, please contact Eric Duffy by October 24 at (614) 935-6965 or peduffy63@gmail.com.



NATIONAL FEDERATION
OF THE BLIND
OHIO