



UPDATE

Insights Summer, 2007

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A Note from the State Librarian

The New Jersey Library for the Blind and Handicapped (NJLBH) is celebrating its 40th anniversary at our Fall Festival on October 13 from 9 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at 2300 Stuyvesant Ave. in Trenton. We are all proud of the work the library has done in serving New Jerseyans with print disabilities since it opened its doors in 1967, and I hope you'll join us for this celebration.

LBH Director Faith Lundgren and her staff have been working to make the Fall Festival a success. This year's theme is "Accessibility in the Arts" and will celebrate the contributions that individuals with visual impairments bring to the arts. The keynote speaker will be Ken Woodard, a successful commercial artist whose works have been featured at Euro Disney-Paris. Mr. Woodward will speak about how his artistry has been affected by a recent visual impairment, and the technology he uses to continue to paint.

The afternoon will feature several artists discussing their art and the ways their disability influenced it. Singer Rocco Fiorentino, who has been blind since his birth 10 years ago and is well known for educating students and teachers about blindness, will be speaking. Rocco has performed at venues including the Philadelphia Flyers, the 76ers and Sesame Place. We will also hear from Larry Bonds, a graphic artist who has impaired vision as the result of diabetic retinopathy.

There will be something for everyone. Grounds for Sculpture will provide a hands-on table with touchable sculptures. Visitors will also have the opportunity to experience demonstrations of the latest low-vision technology. Paws-on-Wheels petting zoo will be back by popular request. There will be an opportunity for guests to participate in a sing-along to showcase their musical talents.

I hope you will join us for this wonderful event.