



# NEWS

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

March 9, 2007

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## **Eye Care Professionals Join Together For Inaugural Celebration of Sight**

NASHVILLE— Nearly 200 eye care professionals and supporters from across the state joined together in Nashville for the first annual Celebration of Sight Gala to recognize their contributions to prevent blindness, and to raise funds to support programs that provide vision health services to at risk populations in Tennessee. The event was the first of many collaborations between Prevent Blindness Tennessee (PBT), the Tennessee Academy of Ophthalmology (TAO), and the Tennessee Optometric Association (TOA) to educate the public, engage the community, involve eye care providers, and reach poor, uninsured Tennesseans.

Carl C. Awh, M.D., Retina-Vitreous Associates, Nashville stated, “So many Tennesseans are dedicated to the fight against blindness and the ‘Celebration of Sight’ was a wonderful reminder of the progress we've made and the advancements we continue to make in this effort. What a wonderful inaugural event!”

Lori Ann Kehler, O.D., Vanderbilt Eye Institute, Nashville stated, “I truly enjoyed the Celebration of Sight Gala. It was a pleasure to see such talented people come together for the greater good.”

(Photo Attachments)

Caption 1- Guests viewing the Altered Vision Art Exhibit in the Courtyard Gallery at the Nashville Public Library during the Opening Reception.

Caption 2- Dr. 's Brad and Lori Kehler

Caption 3- lft. to rt. Anne Marie Campbell, Peggy Burrahm, Emily Whitlow, Allergan, Inc.

Caption 4- Kathy Palmer and Dr. Carl Awh

Caption 5- Vice Mayor Howard Gentry and Tom Sullivan

Caption 6- Dr. Randy and Mrs. Joan Evans

Caption 7- State Senator Diane Black, Dr. David Black, and Tom Sullivan

Caption 8- lft. to rt. Suzanne and Bryan Norman and Stephanie and Allen Newton, Thomas Nelson Inc.

Caption 9- Grammy Award winning Tom Sullivan performs

Caption 10- Drew and Sarah Donahoe

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*Established in 1978, Prevent Blindness Tennessee is a voluntary eye health organization dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight across the state of Tennessee through vision screenings, public and professional education, community services, programs, referrals, information, and research.*