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Eye-Bank Board Elects New Directors

The Eye-Bank’s Board of Directors elected three new members at its April 2022 meeting. Joining the Board are David R. Adler, Michele A. Masucci and Joseph J. Shaheen. The 18-member Board comprises leading professionals from the areas of marketing and communications; finance; legal counsel and technology who provide expertise in helping the organization fulfill our mission of sight restoration.

Mr. Adler is the Chief Investment Officer of Adler Asset Management LLC. Previously, he spent approximately 18 years at J.P. Morgan where he was a Managing Director in the Mergers and Acquisitions Department, and subsequently spent 6 years at Bank of America Merrill Lynch where he was a Managing Director in the Financial Institutions Investment Banking Department. Mr. Adler received his MBA and B.A. in Economics from the University of Chicago. He is a cornea transplant recipient and has previously volunteered with The Eye-Bank, including joining in The Eye-Bank’s legislative and advocacy efforts in Albany.

Ms. Masucci is a Partner at Nixon Peabody LLP, where she serves as general and special counsel for health care companies and middle-market private equity firms in connection with their transactions and regulatory needs. During her 17 years at Nixon Peabody LLP, Ms. Masucci also served as chair of the firm’s Health Care Group from 2010 to 2016. Ms. Masucci earned her J.D. from the University of Virginia’s School of Law and her B.A. in History from Brown University. Her volunteer work currently includes serving as Vice-Chair of RIP Medical Debt’s Board of Directors as well as on the board for the Franciscan Sisters of the Poor Foundation.

Mr. Shaheen is a retired attorney who performs pro bono legal services to both New York City’s Department of Parks and Recreation and Department of Health. Previously, he spent 25 years as a Special Agent at the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s New York office, where he investigated and gathered intelligence for the Bureau’s international terrorism program. Mr. Shaheen received his J.D. from Albany Law School and his undergraduate degree from Marquette University in Milwaukee, WI. He is a double-cornea transplant recipient and currently serves on the board of the Batcole Foundation, a charity that helps fund clinical trials for neuroblastoma and provides financial assistance for families dealing with pediatric cancer.

Fall Benefit “Swings for Sight” with Jazz and Fine Dining

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR AN EVENING OF ELEGANT DINING AND SPECTACULAR JAZZ! On Tuesday, October 18, The Eye-Bank will host our annual Fall Benefit at The Bohemian Benevolent and Literary Association on the Upper East Side. Guests will once again gather in person for an evening to remember. Enjoy a multi-course, autumn dinner with wine pairings, followed by an intimate performance by John Pizzarelli, world-renowned jazz guitarist and vocalist. The Grammy Award-winning John Pizzarelli, who frequently charms audiences at Manhattan’s Café Carlyle and Birdland, is a contemporary interpreter of the Great American Songbook and beyond with a repertoire that includes Joni Mitchell, Neil Young, Tom Waits, Antônio Carlos Jobim and The Beatles. Following high-profile collaborations with Sir Paul McCartney and Michael McDonald, Pizzarelli’s recent album, For Centennial Reasons, pays tribute to the legendary Nat King Cole.

You won’t want to miss this spectacular evening of fine dining and jazz, all of which benefits The Eye-Bank’s programs.

Save the date and for more information on sponsorships and tickets, contact Karen Bardavid, kbardavid@ebsr.org.
The Eye-Bank Takes Part in EBAA Annual Meeting

The Eye-Bank’s President Leo Corbett attended the conference and Medical Advisory Board Members Alexandra Herzlich, M.D. and Viral V. Juthani, M.D. who are both participants in the EBAA’s 2022-2023 Physician Leadership Program, were in attendance for the scientific session.

Eye-Bank volunteer NYPD Sergeant Anita Moore, who is a cornea transplant recipient and living donor, attended the EBAA meeting as a guest speaker. She shared her story with hundreds of eye bankers from across the country in the meeting’s opening session.

Also at the conference on Wednesday, June 1, Maria Chelko presented at the Donor, Partner and Community Relations Committee workshop and shared strategies The Eye-Bank uses to amplify its message through co-branding with hospital partners, producing eye donation testimonial videos and customizing materials to reach specific audiences. As Chair of the EBAA, Ms. Mick presided over the Annual Meeting until the passing of the gavel at the Board of Directors meeting on Friday, June 3, at which time her two-year term concluded and she became Immediate Past Chair of the EBAA. Her leadership was applauded by members and colleagues at the Annual Dinner and at the Chair’s Reception prior to the dinner.

The four-day EBAA meeting featured over 50 presentations from eye bank professionals, surgeons, researchers and leadership consultants, offering comprehensive information pertinent to the future of eye banking in terms of scientific innovation, diversity and inclusion, technical skills and best practices for effective collaboration.

Three Physicians Elected to the Medical Advisory Board

AT THE MAY 18TH MEETING of the Medical Advisory Board, The Eye-Bank welcomed SUMAYYA AHMAD, M.D. as a newly elected member and welcomed back returning members JOHN A. SEEDOR, M.D. and LEEJEE H. SUH, M.D. Drs. Seedor and Suh are returning to the Board for a new term after having rotated off in May 2014 and May 2019, respectively. Members of the Medical Advisory Board help provide consultation for the Ocular Laboratory in coordination with The Eye-Bank’s Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. and may serve two consecutive three-year terms after which they must rotate off the Board for a minimum of one year.

SUMAYYA AHMAD, M.D. is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. She earned her medical degree at Yale University’s School of Medicine and completed her residency in ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Dr. Ahmad received the Johns Hopkins Center for Global Health Travel Grant, which funded her work at the Aravind Eye Hospital in Tamil Nadu, India, and completed her fellowship in cornea and external disease at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami. Her professional society memberships include the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Cornea Society and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

JOHN A. SEEDOR, M.D. currently practices at Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital and is a Professor of Ophthalmology at the Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra University/Northwell Health. After attending Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, he graduated from Hahnemann Medical College in Philadelphia with his medical degree. Dr. Seedor completed an internship in internal medicine at Bryn Mawr Hospital followed by an ophthalmology residency at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. Later, he completed a cornea and external diseases fellowship at Emory University’s School of Medicine in Atlanta. Dr. Seedor is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

LEEJEE H. SUH, M.D., the Miranda Wong Tang Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, is the Director of the Cornea Service at Columbia University’s Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute. Dr. Suh graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology with a B.S. in Biology and received her medical degree from New York University’s School of Medicine. After an internship in internal medicine at the Long Island Jewish Medical Center, she completed her residency in ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute, John Hopkins School of Medicine, followed by a fellowship in cornea and external disease at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami. Dr. Suh is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Cornea Society and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery.

Edward C. Lai, M.D. and Sid Mandelbaum, M.D. have rotated off the Board having completed two successive terms as of May 2022. Priti Batta, M.D. resigned from the Board at the end of her first three-year term. The Eye-Bank is grateful to all three physicians for contributing their expertise and we thank them for their generous service in support of our mission.
Kristy’s ophthalmologist recommended a corneal dystrophy for nearly two decades, So, in 2015, after suffering the effects of macular to function with such poor vision.”

“By my mid-thirties, right after the birth of my first child, I realized that I really was not able decreasing, laser surgery helped slow the process. “I went through my twenties with decreased vision, but it was manageable,” Kristy recalls. She graduated from college and began a fulfilling career as a physical education teacher. But life was not without its challenges. As her vision continued to deteriorate, daily tasks became more difficult.

Determined to keep playing, Kristy visited an ophthalmologist who recommended laser surgery. Though her ability to see was still decreasing, laser surgery helped slow the process. “I went through my twenties with decreased vision, but it was manageable,” Kristy remembers. “Being a volleyball player with diminishing eyesight was extremely frustrating. I remember breaking down in tears because I knew I could play, but I couldn’t see the volleyball. My coach and teammates were very understanding, but I was frustrated in myself because I knew I should be able to see better.”

In 2019, following the births of her second and third children, Kristy received a second successful cornea transplant in her right eye, also performed by Dr. Zaidman with donor tissue provided by The Eye-Bank. Six months later, she was able to wear a contact lens which restored 20/30 vision to that eye. “It was life-changing,” she remembers. “I didn’t notice how much I was missing. I was used to having the blurred vision and problems with glare, but once I had my transplant, a whole new world opened up to me.”

In 2013, Kristy was diagnosed with macular corneal dystrophy, a rare eye disease affecting the stroma (the thickest layer of the cornea) that would eventually leave her blind. “I was obviously devastated,” Kristy remembers. “My ambition was to keep playing volleyball, Kristy recalls, “It became much more difficult to see. I almost couldn’t see the ball until it had crossed the net.”

Kristy sought the opinion of a specialist and was diagnosed with macular corneal dystrophy, a rare eye disease affecting the stroma (the thickest layer of the cornea) that would eventually leave her blind. “I was obviously devastated,” Kristy remembers. “Being a volleyball player with diminishing eyesight was extremely frustrating. I remember breaking down in tears because I knew I could play, but I couldn’t see the volleyball. My coach and teammates were very understanding, but I was frustrated in myself because I knew I should be able to see better.”

Determined to keep playing, Kristy visited an ophthalmologist who recommended laser surgery. Though her ability to see was still decreasing, laser surgery helped slow the process. “I went through my twenties with decreased vision, but it was manageable,” Kristy recalls. She graduated from college and began a fulfilling career as a physical education teacher. But life was not without its challenges. As her vision continued to deteriorate, daily tasks became more difficult. “By my mid-thirties, right after the birth of my first child, I realized that I really was not able to function with such poor vision.”

So, in 2015, after suffering the effects of macular corneal dystrophy for nearly two decades, Kristy’s ophthalmologist recommended a cornea transplant. “He told me it’s the only way you’ll be able to gain your vision.” Though this news surprised Kristy, she was relieved to learn that a cornea transplant could restore her sight and improve the quality of her life. Two weeks after her initial consultation, Kristy underwent her first cornea transplant procedure on her left eye successfully performed by cornea surgeon Gerald Zaidman, M.D. at Westchester Medical Center with donor tissue provided by The Eye-Bank. Six months later, she was able to wear a contact lens which restored 20/30 vision to that eye. “It was life-changing,” she remembers. “I didn’t notice how much I was missing. I was used to having the blurred vision and problems with glare, but once I had my transplant, a whole new world opened up to me.”

In 2019, following the births of her second and third children, Kristy received a second successful cornea transplant in her right eye, also performed by Dr. Zaidman with donor tissue provided by The Eye-Bank.

The results amazed her. “I had three beautiful children and fantastic eyesight to see them with.”

Kristy has also enjoyed the benefits of her new corneas in her career as a physical education teacher at Eastchester High School. “After receiving my transplant,” she says, “I could see everything that I was missing. Now, the smiles on my students’ faces are that much clearer and when we’re playing badminton, I can see the birdie fly over the net.”

Kristy completely appreciates the fact that the quality of life she enjoys today would not be possible without the generosity of a donor. “I am so grateful to my donors that I am able to see the world through these new corneas. It is amazing. I could not be more grateful.”

The Eye-Bank’s latest testimonial video features an interview with Kristy Meany. To watch Kristy tell the story of her sight-restoring transplants, visit www.eyedonation.org/videos.

The Eye-Bank’s 2022 Young Ambassador Scholarship, shared The Eye-Bank Board Member Andrea Nordquist, in memory of her son Christopher Nordquist who was an eye donor, seeks to engage high school and college students in activities that educate others on the importance of eye, organ and tissue donation.

In her winning application’s research proposal for The Eye-Bank’s STEM Scholarship, Kaylin used sociological research methods for a canvassing initiative to reach diverse and multicultural populations in order to improve public education efforts about eye donation and ways to enroll in the New York State Donate Life Registry. A graduate of CUNY’s Macaulay Honors College, Kaylin is currently pursuing her medical degree from Georgetown University’s School of Medicine.

Awarded to students pursuing education in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering or Math, the STEM Scholarship was established in memory of James Fabian, The Eye-Bank’s former president and dedicated member of The Eye-Bank’s Board of Directors for 18 years until his passing in 2020.
This report highlights The Eye-Bank’s activities throughout the year in correlation to the accompanying financial information for 2021. The year continued to reflect the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. However, as the months progressed, Eye-Bank activities became more about a return to, or a “new normal,” and certainly reflected an increased positive outlook over the previous year.

The Eye-Bank’s Ocular Laboratory recovered a total of 1409 eye/cornea donations in 2021 and provided tissue for a total of 1176 cornea transplants. Of those transplants, 591 cases were endothelial keratoplasty (EK) procedures and ninety-six percent (96%) of the tissue provided for those EK procedures was prepared by The Eye-Bank’s laboratory technicians, which was an increase of two percent (2%) over the amount of EK tissue prepared by Eye-Bank technicians in the previous year.

In addition to tissue provided for transplants, The Eye-Bank, through its newly established RPE Project, distributed 15 vials (500,000 cultured cells per vial) of adult human retinal pigment epithelial cells (ah-RPE) to multiple retina research projects in the United States and abroad, an increase of more than 7 times the amount supplied in 2020 when the project first started.

In January, The Eye-Bank launched its annual multi-media advertising campaign across television, radio, newspapers and on-line digital platforms, including Facebook and Instagram, encouraging New Yorkers to register in the NYS Donate Life Registry. In keeping with recommended Covid-19 safety guidelines, the ads featured New Yorkers wearing masks.

In February, The Eye-Bank named two members of the Medical Advisory Board, Joann Kang, M.D. and Maayan Keshet, M.D., to be Associate Medical Directors. In that role, they assist The Eye-Bank’s Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. by annually observing the technical trainers’ skills as well as providing continuing education lectures for the laboratory staff.

The Eye-Bank’s Board of Directors elected three new members during 2021. Courtney DiTullio, a Managing Director at the private investment bank Cantor Fitzgerald and Manish Krishnan, founder and CEO of ATCS, Inc., a global IT consulting firm, joined the Board in April. And Audrey MacIsaac, Vice President of Business Operations at Oracle Audery and Customer Experience, was elected to the Board at the June meeting. We are pleased to welcome them and appreciate the expertise they bring to our organization’s leadership.

Also in April, The Eye-Bank’s Leadership Council, comprising a group of mid-career professionals who promote The Eye-Bank’s mission through community outreach and fundraising efforts, elected its first Chair and Secretary. Nathan Sheinfeld, an analyst with RVX Asset Management and Patrick Corbett, VP of Product at Icon Technology Studio were elected to the respective positions and help spearhead the group’s efforts to support awareness for eye donation.

In July and continuing through the end of baseball season in October, The Eye-Bank’s ad campaign to sign up to become an eye, organ and tissue donor, could be seen and heard on “Beyond the Booth,” an SNTv broadcast network program that reaches approximately seven million households in the Greater New York Metropolitan area with sports news and commentary.

In 2021, The Eye-Bank re-instituted its former R. Townley Paton Fellowship Award for research in ophthalmology. The $10,000 award was presented in September to Dinah Chen, M.D., Innovative Fellow and ophthalmologist at NYU Langone Health for her work on advancing eye disease screening and improving clinical outcomes through the use of artificial intelligence (AI).

Later in the fall, The Eye-Bank co-hosted a second annual international conference, “Foresight 2021,” this time joined by the German Society for Tissue Transplantation (DGFG) as well as the Venice Eye Bank Foundation (FBDO) which co-hosted previously. The October teleconference was attended by 125 participants from countries around the world, including Australia, China, Croatia, France and Spain, to learn how non-profit eye banks might effectively work with industry to create innovative treatments for eye diseases through cellular therapies and transplantation.

Lastly in October, we conducted yet another virtual Fall Benefit, this time featuring host Steve Schirripa, popular actor from The Sopranos and Blue Bloods, whose spirited delivery engaged a large audience for an hour of cocktails, pizza and entertainment. The successful event raised more than $60,000 for Eye-Bank programs.

All in all, 2021 saw The Eye-Bank working hard to overcome the challenges posed by Covid-19 and succeeding in many ways. It is the fact that we were able to provide tissue for more than 1,100 sight-restoring transplants that makes us most proud and by doing so, we honored all our cornea donors and their families for selflessly thinking of others in need.

To them, we are most grateful.

Leo J. Corbett
President

Major Donors

Kim and David Adler
Advanced Technology Consulting Service
Ms. Umber Ahmad
Mr. Andrew B. Anderson
Anonymous
Association for Macular Diseases, Inc.
James D. Auran, M.D.
Ms. Monica Cray and Mr. John Bambrick
Mr. Robert Berlingo
Richard E. Braunstein, M.D.
Mr. Frank P. Bruno
Mr. Marvin H. Cheiten
Mr. Donald D. Clarke
Mr. Leo J. Corbett
Ms. Anne Alexis Coté Taylor
Ms. Jane Culley
Ms. Patricia Dahl
Joan and Eugene Daly
Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas J. D’Amato
Mr. Joseph J. D’Ambrosio, CFA
Mr. Giovanni F. DiZendro
Ms. Lynne Dintroné
Ms. Courtney DiTullo
Mr. and Mrs. Robert Easton
Ms. Marie Fabian and Ms. Eugene Cesar-Fabian
Ms. Sarah J. Finlayson
Robert M. Fischer, M.D.
George J. Florakis, M.D.
Ms. Sharyn Frankel
Mr. Barry Friedberg
Dr. Muriel L. Frischer
Ms. Susan Gibralter and Richard P. Gibralter, M.D.
Mr. James A. Gilbert
Mr. Stephen A. Glanzrock
Himani Goyal, M.D.
Ms. Cheryl Grandfield
Mrs. Ellen M. Grant
Mr. Constance Grassi
Mr. Roger J. Heid
Mr. Max A. Hemenez
Alexandra Herlich, M.D.
Mr. Bryant Jackson
Mrs. Diana J. Kalmán
Maayan E. Keshet, M.D.
Mr. Gregory Kienman
Mr. and Mrs. James M. Koza
Kamrujna Kumar, M.D.
Ms. Joan Larson
Douglas R. Lazzaro, M.D.
Mr. Barry Lee
Ms. Marjore Riche Lewis
Mr. William E. Lynch
Ms. Audrey MacIsaac
Mr. Gregory Mahoney
Sid Mandelbaum, M.D.
Ms. Bonnie N. Mannis
Ms. Madeline Mayerson
Mrs. Jeanne McCooy
Mr. and Mrs. Patrick J. McKee
Mr. and Mrs. Paul L. Miller
Ms. Ellen E. Molloy
Mrs. Diana V. Mundy
Richard D. Najac, M.D.
Mr. Robert J. Narendla
Network for Good
Ms. Collete Newman
Mr. Andrew Nordquist
Ms. Diana Nordquist
Ocular Therapeutics
Ms. Diane Oshin
Soo-Mee Pak, M.D.
Mr. Wayne Palladino
Ms. Amy Parets
David Paton, M.D.
Mr. Robert H. Petrecelli, Jr.
Mr. Robert Pickren
Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Plunkington
Mr. and Ms. Frank Prescott
Pzena Investment Management, LLC
Mrs. Mary Reigner-Pagonis
Leela Raju, M.D.
Regeneron Healthcare Solutions
Ms. Joy Reis
Mr. and Mrs. Eugene A. Renna
Mr. James Renna
Michelle K. Rhee, M.D.
David C. Ritterband, M.D.
Mr. John Ross
Dr. and Mrs. Richard L. Salzer, Jr.
Mr. Nicola Scheroldi
John A. Seedor, M.D.
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph J. Shaheen
Mr. Kaiwan M. Shabik
Kimberly Sippel, M.D.
Ms. Carla H. Skodinski
Ms. Marilyn Sommer
Laurence T. D. Sperber, M.D.
Mrs. Ronine Stern
Mr. and Mrs. David Sullivan
Sun Ophthalmics
Mr. Dennis Tarzian
Mr. Mark Thompson
Danielle Trier, M.D.
James C. Tsai, M.D., M.B.A.
Mr. Jose A. Vinas Toledo
Weil Cornell Eye Associates
Mrs. Wendi Glassman and Mr. Paul Weinstein
Ms. Carol Weil
Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.

FUNDATION SUPPORT

The Alexander Foundation
The John N. Blackman, Sr. Foundation
Eye Foundation of America, Inc.
Myra Lee and Albert Fleischmann Foundation, Inc.
The Gettyer Family Foundation
Josphed/Thomas Foundation
The Macula Foundation,
Nitram Foundation, Inc.
Sandpiper Fund, Inc.
The David R Sylvia Teitelbaum Fund, Inc.
Weinreb-Silbernda-Carter Foundation, Inc.

TRUST AND ESTATE GIFTS

The Estate of Mabel Hylton
The David & Sylvia Teitelbaum Foundation
The Alexander Foundation
The John N. Blackman, Sr. Foundation
Eye Foundation of America, Inc.
Myra Lee and Albert Fleischmann Foundation, Inc.
The Gettyer Family Foundation
Josphed/Thomas Foundation
The Macula Foundation,
Nitram Foundation, Inc.
Sandpiper Fund, Inc.
The David R Sylvia Teitelbaum Fund, Inc.
Weinreb-Silbernda-Carter Foundation, Inc.

EOY TO EYE NEWS SUMMER 2022

Statements of Financial Position

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>December 31st 2021</th>
<th>2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cash and cash equivalents</td>
<td>$129,125</td>
<td>204,566</td>
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<tr>
<td>Accounts receivable, net</td>
<td>1,586,470</td>
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<td>Accrued interest receivable</td>
<td>79,780</td>
<td>83,561</td>
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<td>Pledges and bequests receivable</td>
<td>20,687</td>
<td>400,687</td>
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<td>Prepaid expenses and other assets</td>
<td>225,834</td>
<td>191,687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property and equipment, net</td>
<td>1,185,506</td>
<td>1,224,152</td>
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<tr>
<td>Investments, at fair value</td>
<td>77,140,859</td>
<td>69,282,190</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beneficial interest in charitable trusts</td>
<td>5,205,797</td>
<td>4,620,358</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>$55,756,058</strong></td>
<td><strong>77,921,413</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Liabilities | | |
| Accounts payable and accrued expenses | $520,107 | 326,937 |
| Deferred rent payable | 412,490 | 417,603 |
| Due to organization | 80,790 | 46,790 |
| **Total liabilities** | **$1,013,347** | **781,290** |

| Net assets | | |
| Without donor restrictions | $79,246,364 | 72,405,665 |
| With donor restrictions | $5,214,347 | 4,724,458 |
| **Total net assets** | **$84,560,711** | **77,120,123** |
| **Total liabilities and net assets** | **$85,756,058** | **77,921,413** |

The Eye-Bank, in association with outside, independent counsel, has its investment portfolio under continuous review. The review’s purpose is to improve dividend and interest income with securities, which, in the carefully considered opinions of all concerned, are of sound value. With this in mind, changes in holdings are made from time to time.

CAPITAL TRANSACTIONS

The Eye-Bank has been able to build up a financial reserve thanks to the receipts from legacies. However, legacy income is largely unpredictable. We hope that our benefactors and good friends, a major source of support, will continue to aid us and, through this means, greatly help The Eye-Bank meet its daily operating needs. To include The Eye-Bank in your will, just add the following language: “I give and bequeath to The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., the sum of $_____ to be applied to the uses and purposes of the corporation.”

Officers and Board Members as of December 31:

Mel M. Immegut, Honorary Director; David Paton, M.D., Honorary Director; Leo J. Corbett, President; Dennis R. Tarzian, Vice-President; Rachel A. Holser, Secretary; Umber Ahmad, Treasurer; Joseph J. D’Ambrosio, CFA; Giovanni F. DiCenso; Courtney D’Utile; Paul Kayaian; Joan L. Larson; Manish Krishnan; Audrey MacIsaac; Jeanne McCooey; Richard A. Mittenhal, Andrea Nordquist; Michael Zambrelli

Medical Advisory Board:

Leea V. Raju, M.D., Chair; Himani Goyal, M.D. Secretary; JoAnn J. Kang, M.D., Maayan E. Eshet, M.D., Associate Medical Directors; James Auran, M.D., Priti Batta, M.D.; Jessica B. Ciralsky, M.D.; Robert Cykiert, M.D.; Ana G. Alzaga Fernandez, M.D.; George Florakis, M.D.; Beverly A. Forsyth, M.D.; Anita Gupta, M.D.; Alexaqandra Herzdich, M.D.; Viral V. Juthani, M.D.; John J. Kim, M.D.; Edward C. Lai, M.D.; Sid Mandelbaum, M.D.; David C. Ritterband, M.D.; Laurence T.D. Sperber, M.D.; Danielle Trief, M.D.; Elizabeth Viriya, M.D.; Angie En Wen, M.D.; Gerald W. Zaidman, M.D.

This data has been extracted from our financial statements which were audited by Condon O’Meara McGinty & Donnelly LLP One Battery Park Plaza, New York, NY 10004-1405.
Honor/Memorial Gifts from February 1, 2022 – June 15, 2022

Memorial and honor gifts are given to recognize loved ones or to mark a special occasion. To make a gift in honor or memory of someone, please use the enclosed envelope, visit www.eyedonation.org/give or contact The Eye-Bank’s Development Department at 212-742-9000.

IN MEMORY OF...
Demetrios Arvanitis  Catherine Barry  Joan I. Cook  Joseph E. Debold  Amedeo and Concetta DeGirolamo  Doreen Devivo  Preston Dewey  Bruce and Michael Feurman  Maureen Flanagan  Jennie Gilwor

IN HONOR OF...
Yvonne Marinia Achterman  Kim and David Adler  Peter (Potal) Arvanitis  Cornea Transplant Surgeries  Ann Di Bartolomeo  Alan Feurman  George J. Florakis, M.D.  Richard Gorlin

ON JUNE 22, The Eye-Bank’s Leadership Council hosted a Summer Kick-off Happy Hour on the stunning rooftop of the Park South Hotel. With a striking Manhattan skyline as the backdrop, guests enjoyed summer cocktails and the elevated cuisine of Chef Bryce Shuman while learning about The Eye-Bank’s mission and programs.

The Leadership Council also celebrated the launch of The Eye-Bank’s new “Give 5, Ask 5” social media campaign, which encourages a new group of first-time supporters to give $5 at www.eyedonation.org/Give5 and then tag 5 of their friends on social media asking each of them to give $5 and tag 5 of their friends to do the same... and on and on it goes!

To learn more about the Leadership Council, visit www.eyedonation.org/leadership-council or contact Major and Planned Gift Specialist Robert Hankins at rhankins@ebsr.org.

People Who Help Make a Difference

THE EYE-BANK IS PLEASED TO RECOGNIZE the nursing staff of Montefiore Nyack Hospital for their dedicated efforts in supporting eye donation in their emergency department, critical care, step-down and medical-surgical units. Nurses play a vital role in the time-sensitive eye donation process, and Montefiore Nyack’s nursing team is particularly responsive and proactive in their support of The Eye-Bank’s screening and recovery process. Montefiore Nyack provides Eye-Bank Hospital and Community Liaisons with ample opportunity to conduct unit-based education and monthly nursing orientations which ensure that nurses are educated about their important role in the process of sight restoration. The Eye-Bank is also invited to participate actively in the hospital’s donor council, which meets quarterly to review best practices to increase eye, organ and tissue donation and is led by the Donor Council Co-Chairs, Director of Patient Placement Eileen Thiesing, MS, RN and Director of Critical Care Jennifer Shannon, MSN, RN.

Last year, Montefiore Nyack’s efforts to facilitate eye donation resulted in restoring sight for 21 individuals and helping countless others through medical research and education. Thank you, Montefiore Nyack nurses, for being dedicated to helping our fellow New Yorkers receive the beautiful gift of sight.

Eye-Bank Leadership Council Kicks Off New Campaign

ON JUNE 22, The Eye-Bank’s Leadership Council hosted a Summer Kick-off Happy Hour on the stunning rooftop of the Park South Hotel. With a striking Manhattan skyline as the backdrop, guests enjoyed summer cocktails and the elevated cuisine of Chef Bryce Shuman while learning about The Eye-Bank’s mission and programs.

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To learn more about the Leadership Council, visit www.eyedonation.org/leadership-council or contact Major and Planned Gift Specialist Robert Hankins at rhankins@ebsr.org.

To “Give 5, Ask 5” scan the QR code or visit www.eyedonation.org/Give5.
Eye-Bank Benefit Celebrates “Spring for Sight”

THE EYE-BANK’S BENEFIT, SPRING FOR SIGHT, was a resounding success with nearly 250 friends and supporters attending the May 10th in-person event at Veranda, a unique fine dining venue featuring gardens and a retractable glass pergola all perched above Grand Street in SoHo. Guests enjoyed the beautiful multi-level outdoor patios while sipping specialty cocktails and tasting delectable cuisine crafted by Veranda’s Michelin-starred chef as they enjoyed the evening’s perfect spring weather and helped raise funds for sight restoration. The silent auction table offered guests exciting experiences to bid on, including access to the coveted VIP tent at the Hampton Classic, house seats to Hamilton, the Musical and a private chef’s tasting at Manhattan’s popular Il Mulino, the epitome of Italian cuisine. Thanks to the evening’s sponsors and our generous supporters, the Spring for Sight benefit generated more than $86,000 for Eye-Bank programs.

We especially thank our entire Benefit Committee and this year’s Benefit Co-Chairs Courtney DiTullio of The Eye-Bank’s Board of Directors and Viral Juthani, M.D. of The Eye-Bank’s Medical Advisory Board for their outstanding work toward making this year’s come-back event a tremendous success.
eye to eye is published by The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., a non-profit organization located at 120 Wall Street, New York, NY 10005-3902. The Eye-Bank was founded in 1944 for the purpose of collecting and distributing corneal tissue for transplants, research and medical education. More than 70,000 people in the greater Metropolitan area have had their sight restored through the work of The Eye-Bank.

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Of Interest...

"REMEMBER & REJOICE"

On April 23, Eye-Bank volunteer and cornea transplant recipient Eduardo Gonzalez was a featured speaker at the “Remember and Rejoice” ceremony held at St. Patrick’s Cathedral in Manhattan. The nondenominational service organized by Transplant Recipients International’s (TRIO) Manhattan Chapter is held in honor of donor families and eye, organ and tissue transplant recipients. Addressing the large audience in attendance, Eduardo spoke poignantly about what receiving the gift of sight has meant to him and how it has enabled him to pursue his goals both personally and professionally thanks to his donor.

MARY JANE O’NEILL FELLOWSHIP

The Eye-Bank is grateful to all our donors and their families and we thank Eduardo for sharing his personal story about the good that eye donation can do.

The Eye-Bank was host to the recipient of the 2022 EBAA Mary Jane O’Neill Fellowship in International Eye Banking. From May 24 to May 31, Yveta Urbanová, director of Eye Bank Prague in the Czech Republic spent time in New York City at The Eye-Bank meeting with staff and learning best practices in eye bank administration, fundraising, communications and tissue processing. Following her time at The Eye-Bank, Ms. Urbanová attended the EBAA 2022 Annual Meeting in Baltimore. The Mary Jane O’Neill Fellowship in International Eye Banking, named for The Eye-Bank’s former executive director (1980 – 2000) and funded in part by The Eye-Bank, is awarded annually by the EBAA to advance eye banking in countries around the world.

MICHELLE K. RHEE, M.D. NAMED EDITOR

Congratulations to The Eye-Bank’s Medical Director Michelle K. Rhee, M.D. who has been appointed editor of the upcoming publication, Journal of Eye Banking and Corneal Transplantation. Previously published by the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) as the International Journal of Eye Banking, the new journal will be published on a quarterly basis by Wolters Kluwer, Inc., the publisher of Cornea, and will focus on topics and research pertinent to eye banking and cornea transplantation. All articles previously published under the EBAA’s International Journal of Eye Banking will be indexed under the new journal as well.

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