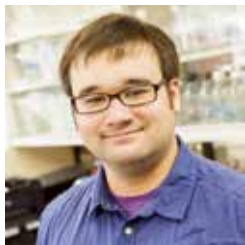
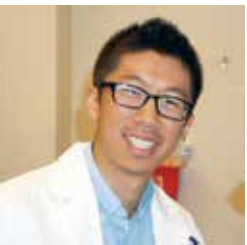


FIGHT FOR SIGHT 2013 ANNUAL REPORT

Investing in Eye and Vision Research since 1946

fightforsight.org



Research & Philanthropy

Our lives are to be used and thus to be lived as fully as possible, and truly it seems that we are never so alive as when we concern ourselves with other people.

- Harry Chapin





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arthur@fightforsight.org

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

Janice Benson
janice@fightforsight.org

CONTACT US

381 Park Avenue South
Suite 809
New York, NY 10016
212-679-6060
www.fightforsight.org

**RESEARCH &
PHILANTHROPY**



Arthur Makar, Executive Director (left), and Norman J. Kleiman, PhD, President of the Board (right)

Dear Supporters, Alumni, Mentors and Friends,

We are pleased to share Fight for Sight's 2013 Annual Report with you.

Philanthropy is defined as "the love of humankind." Since 1946, Fight for Sight has fulfilled its philanthropic role by investing in the future of eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers. This year, we provided support to 37 researchers as the result of your generous support. During almost seven decades, we have provided grants to thousands of promising scientists who have gone on to distinguished careers in research and academic medicine. Our alumni include Paul Sieving, MD, PhD, Director of the National Eye Institute, numerous academic chairs and scientific directors throughout the U.S. and many others. The clinical and research achievements of our alumni are recognized internationally and well-documented in academic journals, and our alumni are often sought for their expertise in the popular press.

Like the scientists we support, Fight for Sight is dependent on generosity from philanthropists of many sorts, including generous individuals, family foundations, other non-profit organizations and professional societies. In order to extend our ability to support talented investigators, we continually seek out partners to co-fund FFS awards. For example, this past year, we co-funded our first Grant-in-Aid with the International Retinal Research Foundation. We will nurture this alliance moving forward, adding the IRRF to our expanding roster of partnerships with Prevent Blindness America, The Aniridia Foundation International, American Macular Degeneration Foundation, Women'sEyeHealth, Eye Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc., Streilein Foundation for Ocular Immunology and the Lions Eye Institute for Transplant and Research, to name but a few. We are also expanding our efforts to identify and cultivate additional individual supporters who wish to honor a friend or loved one with an individual named grant.

We also continue to expand and improve our overall fundraising capacity. We added additional sites to Strike for Sight, a bowling fundraiser created by John LaSpina, a Fight for Sight volunteer for almost five decades and current Board member. We also held our second Lights-On Gala honoring entertainment legend Polly Bergen, an alumna of Mildred's gala Broadway events in the '60s and '70s. That evening, we also recognized the Lions Clubs of New York for their commitment to eye and vision research from recycling used eyeglasses to supporting researchers throughout New York City.

To make our work better known, in 2013, Fight for Sight held its first Scientific Symposium at the New York Academy of Medicine on glaucoma, with partial underwriting from the Eugene and Emily Grant Foundation and Review of Ophthalmology. In 2015, we will sponsor our second Scientific Symposium, focusing on macular degeneration and other retinal degenerative diseases.

This year, Fight for Sight received significant bequest income from generous and kind-hearted individuals who shared our founder Mildred Weisenfeld's passion. Bequests have allowed us to build an endowment that helps provide additional needed support to supplement yearly income. Please consider an annuity, bequest or other gift to Fight for Sight as part of your estate planning.

We join the Board of Directors, our alumni scientists and clinicians and the thousands of people whose vision has been improved or saved as a result of Fight for Sight-funded research in thanking you for your past, present and future generosity.

Sincerely yours,

Norman J. Kleiman, PhD
PRESIDENT, BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Arthur Makar
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Scientific Review Committee (SRC)



The Scientific Review Committee (SRC) is charged with reviewing and evaluating grant applications for Summer Student Fellowships, Post-Doctoral Awards and Grants-in-Aid. It is composed of prominent research scientists, academic ophthalmologists and clinician scientists representing a broad range of disciplines in ophthalmology, vision and eye research. Many received a FFS grant earlier in their career and/or have served as FFS mentors to the next generation of awardees.

FFS strives to create a diverse group of reviewers representing many of the best academic and clinical institutions across the country, who help us choose the best and brightest young students and scientists for our awards. Our review process is modeled on the peer review system utilized by the National Institutes of Health, which evaluates and ranks each application on scientific merit, strength of institutional resources and clinical relevance.

Each year, the SRC meets in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) to review award applications in roundtable discussions among its members. The SRC is one of Fight for Sight's greatest assets, and we are extremely grateful for their assistance, dedication and hard work.

2013 Reviewers



Scott Nawy, PhD
 Anurag Shrivastava, MD
 Mihaela Gadjeva, PhD
 John Ubels, PhD
 Elizabeth Gaillard, PhD
 Carol Mason, PhD
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 Tatiana Rebrik, PhD
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 Albert Einstein College of Medicine
 Brigham and Women's Hospital
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 Columbia University
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 Devers Eye Institute
 Duke University
 Duke University
 Georgia State University
 Johns Hopkins Medical Institution
 Mayo Clinic
 Medical College of Wisconsin
 Medical University of South Carolina
 Michigan State University
 Montefiore Medical Center
 Montefiore Medical Center
 Montefiore Medical Center
 Montefiore Medical Center
 Mount Sinai School of Medicine
 Mount Sinai School of Medicine
 National Eye Institute



American Macular Degeneration Foundation (AMDF)

Since 2012, we have co-funded Summer Student Fellowships focusing on macular degeneration through our partnership with the AMDF.

2013 SRC (continued)

Tammy M. Martin, PhD	Oregon Health & Science University
Mark Pennesi, MD, PhD	Oregon Health & Science University
Steve Planck, PhD	Oregon Health & Science University
Renping Zhou, PhD	Rutgers University State University of New Jersey
Patricia D'Amore, PhD	Schepens Eye Research Institute – MEEI
Graham E. Quinn, MD, MSCE	The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Peter Frederikse, PhD	UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Kathry S. Pokorny, PhD	UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School
Gail M. Seigel, PhD	University of Buffalo – SUNY
Jack M. Sullivan, MD, PhD	University of Buffalo – SUNY
Kouros Nouri-Mahdavi, MD	University of California, Los Angeles
David Feldheim, PhD	University of California, Santa Cruz
Victoria S. Pelak, MD	University of Colorado, Denver
Shannon E. Boye, PhD	University of Florida
Sheila A. Baker, MD	University of Iowa
Markus Kuehn, PhD	University of Iowa
Michael Anderson, PhD	University of Iowa
Ann C. Morris, PhD	University of Kentucky
Abigail S. Hackam, PhD	University of Miami
Wei Li, PhD	University of Miami
Sanjoy K. Bhattacharya, PhD	University of Miami
Linda McLoon, PhD	University of Minnesota
Carol Toris, PhD	University of Nebraska
Abbot Clark, PhD	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Dorette Ellis, PhD	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Iok-Hou Pang, PhD	University of North Texas Health Science Center
Grant T. Liu, MD	University of Pennsylvania
Kyle C. McKenna, PhD	University of Pittsburgh
Gadi Wollstein, MD	University of Pittsburgh Medical Center
Edward Chaum, MD, PhD	University of Tennessee – Memphis
Jeffrey Gross, PhD	University of Texas – Austin
Edward Levine, PhD	University of Utah
Mark Slabaugh, MD	University of Washington
Shu-Hong Chang, MD	University of Washington
Curtis R. Brandt, PhD	University of Wisconsin
Joseph Carroll, PhD	University of Wisconsin
Anne E. Griep, PhD	University of Wisconsin
Karen M. Joos, MD, PhD	Vanderbilt University
Tonia Rex, PhD	Vanderbilt University
Rebecca M. Sappington, PhD	Vanderbilt University
Ashok Kumar, PhD	Wayne State University
Robison V. Paul Chan, MD	Weill-Cornell Medical College

Aniridia Foundation International

Fight for Sight co-funds a Summer Student Fellowship in aniridia resulting from its partnership with Aniridia Foundation International.



**Aniridia Foundation
International**

2013 Grants-in-Aid

Grants-in-Aid (GIA) are intended to fund pilot projects and generate preliminary results for investigators who have limited or no other research funding. Grants-in-Aid are awarded to junior faculty members who are developing their independent scientific skills. A majority of Grant-in-Aid recipients go on to successfully compete for larger, multi-year awards from the NIH or other governmental and private sources utilizing preliminary results generated by their FFS-funded GIA award.



Benjamin Kim, MD

University of Pennsylvania

Evaluation of Cone Degeneration in Geographic Atrophy and Subretinal Fluid with Adaptive Optics Imaging

AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

INTERNATIONAL RETINAL RESEARCH AWARD

“I thank you for selecting me as recipient of the 2013 Fight for Sight / International Retinal Research Foundation Grant-In-Aid. It will accelerate the pace of my research on the application of adaptive optics to retinal diseases. Fight for Sight’s support of faculty early in their careers is incredibly important and has led to the development of leaders. Indeed, Harold Scheie, founder of the Scheie Eye Institute, was also a recipient of a Fight for Sight award many years ago.”



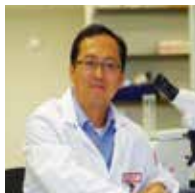
The Eye Bank for Sight Restoration

Since 2011, we have partnered with the Eye Bank for Sight Restoration, co-funding a Summer Student Fellowship related to corneal transplantation research. Preference is given to applicants from the Northeastern United States.



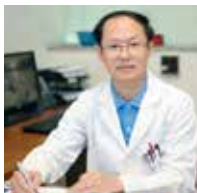
Lars Bellner, PhD

New York Medical College
Dysregulated heme oxygenase-ferritin system in pterygium pathogenesis
PTERYGIUM



Yang Hu, PhD

Temple University
of the Commonwealth System of Higher Education
*Targeting ER stress for neuroprotection in
experimental autoimmune optic neuritis*
AUTOIMMUNE OPTIC NEURITIS



Guomin Jiang, MD

University of Louisville
*The critical role of Fas-dependent HMGB1 release in the development of
T cell-mediated experimental autoimmune uveitis (EAU)*
UVEITIS



Johannes Nowatzky, MD

NYU School of Medicine
*Controlling Behçet's uveitis through transfer of
ex vivo-expanded regulatory T cells*
BEHÇET'S DISEASE



Travis Smith, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University
Improved clinical adaptive optics imaging using real-time image processing
ADAPTIVE OPTICS/RETINAL IMAGING

Lions Eye Institute for Transplant & Research

Another partnership related to transplantation of eye tissue was brokered in 2012 between Fight for Sight and the Lions Eye Institute for Transplantation & Research.



2013 Post-Doctoral Awards

Post-Doctoral Awards support individuals with a doctorate (PhD, MD, DrPH, OD or DVM) who are interested in academic careers in basic or clinical research in ophthalmology, vision or related sciences. Awardees typically spend a year or more engaged in vision and eye research under the supervision of a senior scientist/clinician mentor.



Lena Iwai, PhD
Columbia University
Mentor: Carol Mason, PhD
*RPE-neural retina interactions
in the developing albino mouse*
EYE DEVELOPMENT

“With my Post-Doctoral Award, I will continue my research in Dr. Carol Mason’s laboratory at Columbia University. The results from our studies will be instrumental in answering questions concerning the development of the visual system, and will yield useful information for developing retinal cells in culture, for tissue replacement therapy in injured or degenerating visual pathways.”



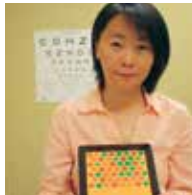
North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society

Since 2009, in partnership with NANOS, the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, we offer a special research fellowship for neurology or ophthalmology residents or fellows pursuing academic research in neuro-ophthalmology that includes a travel award to present their findings at the NANOS Annual Meeting.



Schepens Eye Research Institute
Mentor: Darlene Dartt, PhD
Mechanism of thrombospondin-1 interaction with cholinergic and purinergic neural inputs in a murine model of Sjogren's syndrome
DRY EYE DISEASE

Sumit Bhattacharya, PhD



Retina Foundation of the Southwest
Mentor: Eileen Birch, PhD
Amblyopia and suppression: a novel binocular iPad treatment for amblyopia
AMBLYOPIA

Simone Li, OD, PhD



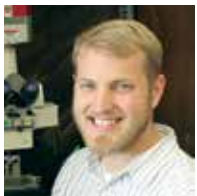
University of California at Berkeley
Mentor: Austin Roorda, PhD
Mapping functional receptive fields in the human fovea
RETINAL DISEASE

Ramkumar Sabesan, PhD



Indiana University
Mentor: Rowan Candy, PhD
Heterophoria, motor fusion ranges and vergence adaptation in typically developing infants and toddlers
HETEROPHORIA

Vidhyapriya Sreenivasan, PhD



University Nebraska Medical Center
Mentor: Wallace Thoreson, PhD
Regulation of cone photoreceptor vesicle resupply and synaptic transfer kinetics
RETINAL DISEASE

Matthew Van Hook, PhD

Prevent Blindness America®

In 2014, Fight for Sight will co-fund its first public health-focused Grant-in-Aid with Prevent Blindness America. Applications will be sought in the high priority areas of adult or children's vision and the prevention of eye injury.



2013 Summer Student Fellowships

Summer Student Fellowships are awarded to undergraduates, graduate and medical students interested in pursuing eye-related clinical or basic research. For most students, this is their first exposure to eye or vision research, and the experience has helped influence many students to choose academic ophthalmology or eye and vision research as a full-time career.



“Thank you so much for extending the Fight for Sight / American Macular Degeneration Foundation Summer Student Fellowship to me. This research award will provide the opportunity to conduct a research project on age related macular degeneration and work with world-renowned professors. By conducting this research, I will learn more about age related macular degeneration, a disease that affects approximately 2 million Americans.”

Carmel Moazez

John Hopkins University, Wilmer Eye Institute

Mentor: Akrit Sodhi, MD, PhD

Hypoxia inducible factor protects retinal pigment epithelium cells

from oxidative stress-induced cell death in dry age-related macular degeneration

AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

AMERICAN MACULAR DEGENERATION FOUNDATION / FIGHT FOR SIGHT AWARD



Jillian Chong

The Ohio State University

Mentor: Shelly Jain, MD

The effect of prostaglandin analogs on corneal biomechanics

GLAUCOMA

EYE BANK FOR SIGHT RESTORATION / FIGHT FOR SIGHT



Kenji Fujitana

Mount Sinai School of Medicine

Mentor: Penny Asbell, MD

Effects on higher order aberrations (HOA) after corneal collagen ultraviolet crosslinking in keratoconus and post-LASIK ectasia patients

REFRACTIVE SURGERY



Jacob Hillard

Indiana University School of Optometry

Mentor: Stephen Burns, PhD

Measurement of arterial wall thickness with adaptive optics in hypertension

OCULAR HYPERTENSION



Samuel Huang

University of Rochester

Mentor: Daphne Bavelier, PhD

An age-appropriate, binocular action video game intervention for amblyopia in children

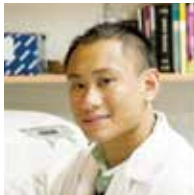
AMBLYOPIA

EARL AND SHIRLEY HERBST EYE RESEARCH FUND / FIGHT FOR SIGHT AWARD



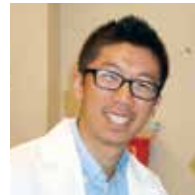
Streilein Foundation for Ocular Immunology

We have offered a Summer Student Fellowship focusing on ocular immunology in partnership with the Streilein Foundation since 2010.



Steve Huynh

University of Houston
Mentor: Deborah Otteson, PhD
Role of microRNAs in Post-Transcriptional Regulation of ganglion cell axon guidance receptors, EphA5 and EphA6
RETINAL GANGLION DISEASE



Clifford Kim

Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary
Mentor: Kip Connor, PhD
Characterization of the role of the complement system in vascular regression and development in mouse models of retinopathy
RETINAL DISEASE



Arunkumar Krishnan

University of Houston, College of Optometry
Mentor: Harold Bedell, PhD
Investigating the retinal structures around the Preferred Retinal Locus (PRL) and relating it to presence of micro-scotomas around the PRL
MACULAR DISEASE



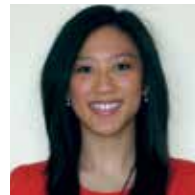
Nathan Lambert

University of Utah School of Medicine
Mentor: Balamurali Ambati, PhD
Effects of COMP-Ang1 on vascular permeability and neovascularization in a mouse model of AMD
AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION



Lyndsay Leach

University of California, Santa Barbara
Mentor: Dennis Clegg, PhD
The role of canonical wnt signaling in differentiation of retinal pigment epithelium from human embryonic stem cells
RETINAL PIGMENT EPITHELIUM



Cindy Cai

Columbia University
Mentor: Donald Hood, PhD
Comparison of the transition zone between healthy and abnormal retina in patients with x-linked retinitis pigmentosa and autosomal dominant retinitis pigmentosa
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA

EARL AND SHIRLEY HERBST EYE RESEARCH FUND / FIGHT FOR SIGHT AWARD



Michael Moran

University of Dayton
Mentor: Amit Singh, PhD
Determination of the genetic mechanism of the retinal birth defect aniridia using a Drosophila eye model
ANIRIDIA

ANIRIDIA FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL / FIGHT FOR SIGHT



Robert Munro

Boston Children's Hospital
Mentor: Anne Fulton, MD
Structural analysis of the eye in retinopathy of prematurity
RETINOPATHY OF PREMATUREITY



Paul Park

University of Illinois, Chicago
Mentor: Deepak Shukla, PhD
Comparative analysis of prophylactic and therapeutic efficacies of anti-heparin sulfate peptides in previously HSV-1-infected corneal cells
OCULAR HERPES INFECTION



Erin Patridge

Oregon Health & Science University
Mentor: Tammy Martin, PhD
The role of inflammatory bowel disease risk alleles in uveitis
UVEITIS

STREILEIN FOUNDATION FOR OCCULAR IMMUNOLOGY / FIGHT FOR SIGHT

Women'sEyeHealth.org

We have partnered with Women'sEyeHealth.org since 2010 to fund a Summer Student Fellowship to study gender-based disparities in vision health, treatment and/or eye disease prevention.



List of Awardees



Britney Pennington

University of California, Santa Barbara
 Mentor: Dennis Clegg, PhD
Derivation and characterization of retinal pigment epithelial cells from human embryonic stem cells grown on a novel, xeno-free substrate
AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION



Alexander Port

Weill-Cornell Medical College
 Mentor: RV Paul Chan, MD
Clinical and genetic analysis of retinopathy of prematurity
RETINOPATHY OF PREMATUREITY



Lakshmi Rajagopalan

University of Houston, College of Optometry
 Mentor: Laura Frishman, PhD
Reduction of the multifocal photopic negative response (mfPhNR) in the macaque slow sequence multifocal electroretinogram by experimental glaucoma
GLAUCOMA



Ran Richard Liu

University of British Columbia
 Mentor: Jason Barton, MD, PhD
Voice and face recognition in associative prosopagnosia from anterior temporal lesions
PROSOPAGNOSIA



Charles Rodenkirch

University of Wisconsin, Madison
 Mentor: Aparna Lakkaraju, PhD
Live imaging of membrane repair in the retinal pigment epithelium
RETINAL PIGMENT EPITHELIUM



Sherry Shen, MD

Columbia University
 Mentor: Stephen Tsang, PhD
Evaluation of disease progression markers in PDE6-deficient retinitis pigmentosa patients
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA



Naoki Shimoyama

University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
 Mentor: Janis Eells, PhD
Effect of photobiomodulation on chronic retinal inflammation in retinitis pigmentosa
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA



Nicole Stringham

University of Georgia
 Mentor: Billy R. Hammond, Jr., PhD
Factors that contribute to reduced retinal deposition of macular carotenoids
MACULAR PIGMENT



Emily Swanson

Boston Children's Hospital
 Mentor: Anne Fulton, MD
Non-invasive adaptive optics imaging of anatomical features of the post-receptor neural retina in the rat model of retinopathy of prematurity
RETINOPATHY OF PREMATUREITY



Hope Titus

Oregon Health & Science University
 Mentor: Mark Pennesi, PhD
Natural history assessment of retinitis pigmentosa with Imagine Eyes® rtx1™ adaptive optics
RETINITIS PIGMENTOSA

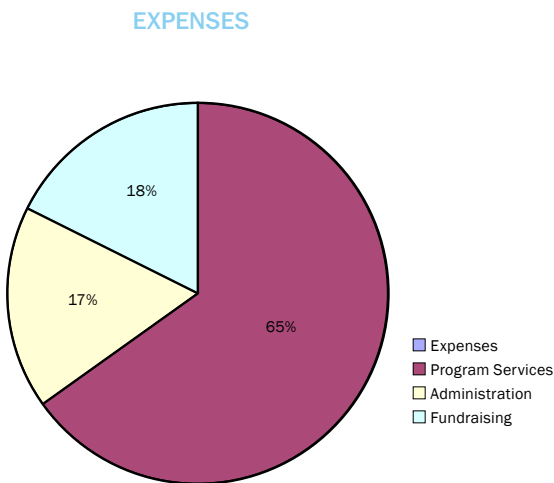
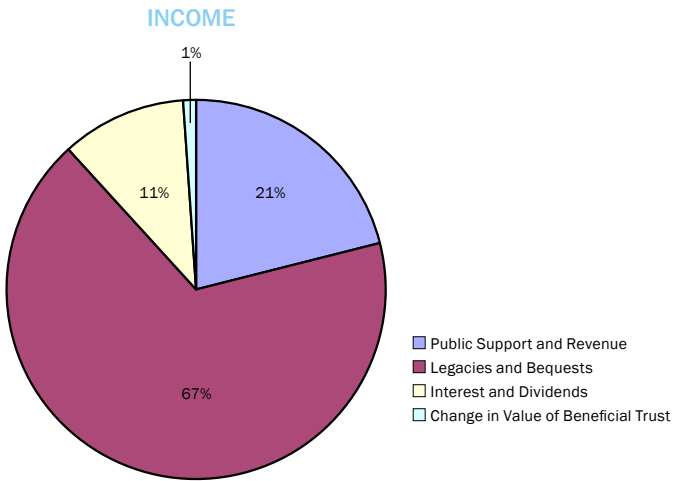
Not shown: Si Won Oak, Age-Related Macular Degeneration, University of Alabama, Birmingham



International Retinal Research Foundation

Fight for Sight funded its first annual Grant-in-Aid with the International Retinal Research Foundation in 2013.

Financial Highlights



Fiscal Year
January 1 to December 31 2013

REVENUE

Public Support and Revenue	\$141,020
Legacies and Bequests	\$449,853
Interest and Dividends	\$71,403
Change in Value of Beneficial Trust	\$7,343
Total Revenue	\$669,619

EXPENSES

Program Services	\$499,570
Administration	\$132,570
Fundraising	\$135,086
Total Expenses	\$767,226

Change in Net Assets \$(97,607)

Investment Activities \$298,281

Net Change \$200,674

Net Assets Beginning of Year \$2,371,312

Net Assets End of Year \$2,571,986

We would like to thank our corporate and foundation sponsors for their generous efforts to help Fight for Sight provide grants to uniquely qualified students.

FOUNDATIONS & CORPORATIONS

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 American Express Company
 American Macular Degeneration Foundation
 Aniridia Foundation International
 Bank of America Foundation
 Beth Israel Religious School
 Bisgeier Family Foundation
 Connecticut Community Foundation
 Credit Suisse Americas Foundation
 Doris & Martin Hoffman Family Foundation
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 Snyder Charitable Foundation
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 The International Retina Research Foundation
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 Katherine Lane
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 Peter LaSpina
 Aura Levitas
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 A. Richard Parkoff
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 Arthur Makar
 Mary Massimo
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 Steven Tollefsrud

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Thank you to all the donors and partners who make our fund-raising events a success!

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\$100–\$499 (continued)

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 Theatre for a New Audience

How Can You Help Fight for Sight?

For over six decades, Fight for Sight has been dependent on individuals, the scientific and medical communities, foundations and corporations for support advancing our mission to support and inspire eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers. Today, we need your help more than ever. Here are some very specific ways for you to help us:

- Make a donation to Fight for Sight on our website, www.fightforsight.org. You can also mail your contribution to Fight for Sight, 381 Park Avenue South, #809, New York, NY 10016. If you, your spouse or significant other works for an employer with a matching gift program, your gift could be doubled.
- Consider joining the Mildred Weisenfeld Society, a group of individuals who have included Fight for Sight in their estate plans. For specific information about membership in the Mildred Weisenfeld Society or to discuss other planned gift options, please contact our Executive Director at (212) 679-6060.
- If you are a past Fight for Sight grantee, consider becoming part of our Scientific Review Committee. Membership applications for this critical group of scientist/educators are available on our website, www.fightforsight.org. Go to the About Us tab, then to the Scientific Review Committee section.
- Past grantees are the best mentors to future Fight for Sight grant recipients. Encourage your best and brightest younger colleagues to apply for our various grants for which they are eligible.
- Fight for Sight has a Facebook page. Visit us on Facebook, “like” us and encourage your family and friends to “like” us, too. Once you do that, visit us regularly on Facebook to keep current about our various and sundry activities.
- Fight for Sight needs volunteers to assist with fundraising and with general office duties. If you live or work in the Metro New York area, please call (212) 679-6060 if you wish to become a volunteer.

For more information, visit
www.fightforsight.org



Symposium



Strike for Sight



Lights-On Gala

Since 1946, Fight for Sight has supported and inspired eye and vision research by funding promising scientists early in their careers.



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