



## Vision Through Music

Helping blind children live their potential through the arts

The Children's Eye Foundation of AAPOS is a 501(c)(3) organization. EIN 23-7116400

### The Opportunity

Research shows that blind infants and toddlers are more attentive to sounds and music than their partially sighted and normally sighted peers and that blind children are more musically advanced than partially sighted and normally sighted peers. Blind children have an inherent musical aptitude, and some have the potential to become outstanding musicians.

### The Need

Prior to the 1980s, most blind children were educated in state schools for the visually impaired, where music instruction was typically part of the curriculum. Since the 1980s, blind children have been placed in educational settings where music exposure and instruction are not always available. Today, most visually impaired children do not attend state schools for the visually impaired, and many blind children do not have access to music instruction.

With music instruction, some blind children will become outstanding musicians. For those who do not, there are still great benefits. Blind children exposed to music typically show improved cognitive ability and academic performance, along with improved social skills and personality.

### Vision Through Music—A Collaboration with the Academy of Music for the Blind (AMB)

To address this need, the Children's Eye Foundation of the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (CEF of AAPOS) has joined efforts with the Academy of Music for the Blind (AMB) to increase the number of music teachers who work with blind children. AMB will provide a virtual orientation program that gives music teachers experience working with blind children and will create web-based educational content. CEF of AAPOS will host a registry of music teachers with experience teaching blind students, helping families of blind children find appropriate teachers.

Please visit: [visionthroughmusic.org](http://visionthroughmusic.org) for more information.