

Blind Institute of
Technology's



Birthday Bash



6th Annual
Dining in the Dark Gala

Saturday, October 8, 2022



The Cable Center
2000 Buchtel Blvd S, Denver, CO 80210
6:00pm - 11:00pm





ABOUT US

Established in 2013, Blind Institute of Technology™ (BIT) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization providing workforce development and inclusive employment solutions that prepare people with disabilities, and the employers who hire them, for success in the workplace. Led by Executive Director Mike Hess, BIT aims to help solve the unemployment and diversity and inclusion epidemic among people with disabilities by reducing barriers to employment through education, preparation, employment placement and accessible technology initiatives. Our vision is a world in which people with disabilities have the same employment opportunities as their peers.

Why Sponsor? Join other corporate sponsors to make a positive impact on current and future young professionals that have a visual impairment or other disability by assisting them in gaining the skills they need for meaningful work with a living wage.

\$25,000 PRESENTING SPONSOR

- Dining in the Dark - (2) Tables for 10
- Social Media Recognition
- Logo, Link, Text and Photo on BIT website, Logo in Event Program, Signage at Event
- AV Presentation recognition at Dining in the Dark, Recognition in BIT Newsletter
- Opportunity to speak at event
- Series of BIT Education Programs: Art of Blinders, etc.

\$10,000 GOLD SPONSOR

- Dining in the Dark - (2) Tables for 10
- Social Media Recognition
- Logo, Link, Text and Photo on BIT website, Logo in Event Program, Signage at Event
- AV Presentation recognition at Dining in the Dark, Recognition in BIT Newsletter
- Opportunity to speak at event

\$7,500 SILVER SPONSOR

- Dining in the Dark - (1)Table for 10
- Social Media Recognition
- Logo and Link on BIT website, Logo in Event Program
- AV Presentation recognition at Dining in the Dark
- Signage at Event

\$5,000 BRONZE SPONSOR

- Dining in the Dark - (1)Table for 10
- Logo on BIT website
- Logo in Event Program

\$1,500 TABLE SPONSOR

- Dining in the Dark - (1)Table for 10

INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: \$150 PER PERSON



THE FACTS

- Current unemployment rate of people with disabilities is 81%.
- 21.5 million American adults, age 18 and older are blind or visually impaired.
- Annually the government spends over \$4 billion of taxpayer money to support visually impaired Americans.
- Estimated that it costs close to \$1 million of taxpayer money to support a single visually impaired American throughout the course of their lifetime.
- Nearly one in five visually impaired Americans live at or below the poverty level and only 19% are currently employed.
- Among all demographics, unemployment and underemployment rates are among the highest for people with disabilities especially when considering qualifications.
- 78% of disabled people abandon online job applications when it comes to the part that asks if you have a disability.

WHAT WE DO AND WHY

The facts speak for themselves and this is why we do what we do every day. Our team recruits candidates with disabilities from universities, vocational rehabilitation centers, disability focused forums and events, and social media. Our career development services include interactive workshops, resume writing, interview training and specific skill training. Our BIT Academy focuses on official certifications for careers at companies such as Salesforce, Cisco, Amazon, and companies within their ecosystems. At a minimum we guarantee each candidate who completes a course from the BIT Academy a paid internship with the ultimate goal of placement in a full-time employment role. Candidates we place earn a median salary of \$72,000 per year which is 40% higher than the U.S. average household income of \$50,740 per year. At the same time, we work closely with our corporate partners to increase awareness and education on the value of hiring individuals with disabilities.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

BIT's services are 100% complimentary to all of our candidates. Even after we place our candidates in meaningful careers we continue to mentor and provide career guidance to them. Upon successful completion of the BIT Academy courses we work closely with the candidate and our corporate partners to identify the perfect fit for mutual success on both the candidate and corporate sides. On average we invest about \$5,400 in each candidate that completes our BIT Academy courses. For 2022-2023, our goal is to have at least 150 candidates complete the BIT Academy's skill-up courses to then place them on a life changing meaningful career path.

All the money raised at the **Dining In The Dark Gala** will go directly to maximizing the number of candidates that participate in the BIT Academy. Please help us achieve our goal by joining us at the Dining In The Dark Gala for a seated dinner, live auction, and entertainment while celebrating the 9 3/4 birthday of Blind Institute of Technology.



SPONSORSHIP COMMITMENT FORM

Return By Email: Natalie@blindit.org

Return By Mail: 13062 Spruce Pl, Thornton, CO 80602

Register Online at [2022 Dining in the Dark](#)

Donor Name (as will appear in materials): _____

Primary Contact: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Website (if applicable): _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVEL

PRESENTING (\$25,000)

GOLD: (\$10,000)

SILVER: (\$7,500)

BRONZE: (\$5,000)

We are unable to participate in the sponsorships, but wish to contribute \$_____

PAYMENT TYPE

Preferred method - Check enclosed, made payable to Blind Institute of Technology

Credit Card: Please pay with MC/VISA online at blindinstituteoftechnology.org

I wish to receive an invoice by email. Payment will be made by (date) _____ via check

AUTHORIZATION & SIGNATURE

Authorized Signature

Print Name

Date

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THOSE WITH DISABILITIES!

Blind Institute of Technology is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. TAX ID 46-2557719.

Donations are tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

Please keep a copy of this donation form for your records.

Blind Institute of Technology must receive your sponsor commitment, logo, and payment no later than **9/21/22** for inclusion in Gala program.

GALA GUEST INFORMATION

Recognition Information: Please indicate how you would like your company or personal name listed for recognition.

Corporate Logo and Website Link: Please send a copy of your corporate or personal logo, as well as a link to a website of your choice to: Natalie@blindit.org

Note: .SVG files are preferred for corporate logos, but high-resolution .PNG or .JPEG files are acceptable.

Please fill out any guest information available at the time of this agreement.

Name: _____ Email: _____

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For more information, please send an email to Natalie@blindit.org or
call Natalie Hess 303-995-1006
Visit us on the web at blindit.org