

dining in the dark

Philly

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023
5:30PM

kimpton hotel monaco
433 chestnut st
philadelphia; pa 19106

The Greatest Equalizer

presented by:



Blind Institute of Technology is excited to bring its
Dining In The Dark Annual Fundraiser to Philadelphia
to help significantly reduce the severe unemployment and underemployment rates
of people with disabilities on both a local and national level.

*Please join us to learn more about the Greatest Equalizer
and for a night of fun!*

sponsorship package



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 Partner? Join other corporate partners and 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.

sponsor levels

\$25,000 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
- Tickets to Greatest Equalizer Premier Screening Events in Atlanta and Denver
- - Opportunity to be on a panel discussion with other technology executives

\$10,000 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

\$7,500 Bronze Sponsor

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

\$1,800 Table Sponsor

- Dining in the Dark - (1) Table for 10
- Recognition in the event Program

*Individual Tickets:
\$175 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, JPMorgan Chase, Prudential, 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 2023-2024, our goal is to have at least 200 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 and Apprenticeship Program. Please help us achieve our goal by joining us at the Dining In The Dark Gala as a **partner** in our mission. There will be a seated dinner, live auction, and entertainment.

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

We must receive your sponsor commitment, logo, and payment no later than 9/21/23 for inclusion in Gala program.

Please contact Natalie to secure your sponsorship, make payments and give guest information.
She can be reached at natalie@blindit.org or 303-995-1006