

# VISION GUIDE DOGS NEWSLETTER DECEMBER 2023



# Navigate the world.

[Image: The Vision Guide Dogs logo features a winding road with a guide dog standing in the center and "Vision Guide Dogs" printed in the upper-right corner. Next to the logo it reads "Navigate the World."]

# 'Tis the Season to Be Jolly!



[Image: Artist and VGD client John Bramblitt training with guide dog-in-training Zuke on his left side. The team is walking along a street, looking towards the camera.]

Happy Holidays! We have so many reasons to be merry this holiday season. At the top of the list is having the support of so many kind and generous friends and partners in the community, which brings us to the moment that we are most excited about. Because of this tremendous support, the first VGD guide dog team has commenced training! This is an incredible feat given that we have only been in operation for one year. Guide dog-in-training Zuke is currently "on class" with client John Bramblitt. John is a talented artist whose work takes him around the world as he develops programs that are inclusive of all people and abilities. We wish them all the best on their training. And we wish you and yours a joyous holiday season.

To learn more about John Bramblitt and his artwork, click the button below.

#### JOHN BRAMBLITT

#### PHOTO ALBUM



[Image: Guide dog-in-training Zebo with a Santa hat on his head and red scarf around his neck, in a sit-stay position looking up at the camera.]



[Image: Guide dog-in-training Aurora with her mouth open and tongue out, in a sit-stay position in front of a holiday display at a store.]



[Image: Guide dog-in-training Zola in a library in between stacks of books. She is in a down-stay position looking up at the camera.]



[Image: Group of attendees holding up their finished artwork at our recent Sip & Paint event. The artwork features green holly leaves with red berries.]



[Image: Painting instructor Zindy Infante in the center of a u-shaped table where attendees are seated during our Sip & Paint event. Guide dogin-training Zola is in a sit-stay to the right of Zindy.]

# NOTE OF APPRECIATION



[Image: Green garland with red berries at the top with business logos for STVO, Paper Happy Studio, and Spice of Life Catering in the center and the words "Thank You" beneath. The background is light green.]

Thank you to Dr. Greller and his team at South Texas Veterinary Ophthalmology (STVO), Zindy Infante of Paper Happy Studio, and Spice of Life Catering for your contributions to our first ever Sip & Paint event. From the beautiful event space to the creative painting and delicious food, it was a spectacular evening enjoyed by all and we could not have pulled it off without your amazing talent and generosity! You helped us put the "fun" in FUNdraiser!

# **EVENTS & INFORMATION**



[Image: Event announcement which reads, "The More the Merrier. You're invited. Join us for an event with Kendra Scott."]

# Kendra Scott Gives Back:

We invite you to join us for a fun holiday shopping event! Sips and sweets will be provided in-store and 20% of your purchase will be donated to Vision Guide Dogs. Come meet one of our guide dogs-in-training! Not able to attend in person? No worries...you can shop our virtual event by using promo code **GIVEBACK-FLQWL** from 12:00 AM, Dec. 4 to 11:59 PM, Dec. 5

#### In Person Details:

Date: December 4 Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Location: The Shops at La Cantera 15900 La Cantera Pkwy San Antonio, TX 78256

Virtual Event: Date/Time: 12:00 AM, December 4 to 11:59 PM, December 5 Website: www.kendrascott.com Promo Code: GIVEBACK-FLQWL





[Image: Event announcement which reads, "Breakfast with Santa." It contains a digital image of Santa Claus peeking from the left and a digital image of a reindeer peeking from the right set against a light blue background with falling snow.]

# Vibrant Works Breakfast with Santa:

Stop by our table during the Breakfast with Santa event at Vibrant Works for some sweet treats and a fun activity! A delicious pancake and sausage breakfast will be served (please register for the free breakfast at the button below). There will be crafts, games, and festive music (including some non-Christmas crafts). For those interested, there will be a photo opportunity with Santa and a chance to share your holiday wishes.

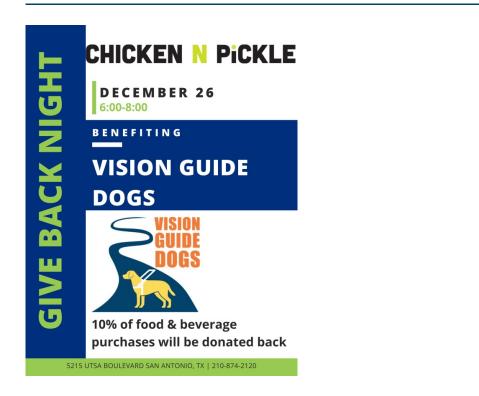
Participants must be visually impaired or register with a visually impaired family member or Vibrant Works staff member. Also invited are local professionals in the visual impairment and special education field, along with their families.

Vibrant Works is in need of volunteers to assist with the event. If you're able to lend a hand, please register by clicking the button below.

Date: December 9 Time: 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM Cost: Free Location: Vibrant Works 310 Eads Ave. San Antonio, TX 78210

Register for breakfast by December 7 or as a volunteer by December 9:

#### REGISTER



[Image: Event announcement which reads, "Give Back Night. Chicken N Pickle, Dec. 26, 6 PM to 8 PM, benefiting Vision Guide Dogs. 10% of food & beverage purchases will be donated back."]

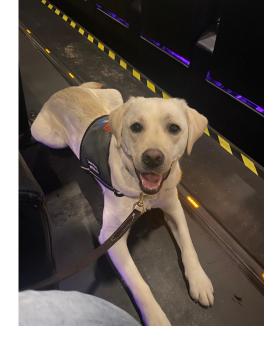
# Chicken N Pickle Give Back Night:

As we head into an especially hectic time of year, it's important to find opportunities to take a break from the to-do lists and have some fun! Wonderful news...you can do that while also supporting a great cause! Chicken N Pickle is having a "Give Back Night" with 10% of the food and beverage purchases being donated to Vision Guide Dogs. Reserve those pickleball courts and come visit with us and some of our pups!

Date: December 26 Time: 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM Location: Chicken N Pickle 5215 UTSA Blvd. San Antonio, TX 78249

PICKLEBALL INFO

# HOW YOU CAN HELP



[Image: Guide dog-in-training Zola in a movie theater, in a down-stay position looking up at the camera.]

#### Volunteer:

Vision Guide Dogs is a volunteer led organization and we are able to do what we do because we have a community of committed, active, and engaged individuals willing to help. At the present time, we are greatly in need of volunteers who can assist us at community events and our sighted guide trainings, puppy sit when a puppy raiser is out of town, and board our advanced training dogs on the weekend. If you are interested in helping with the mission of Vision Guide Dogs, please go to our website to complete a volunteer application. For questions or assistance, you can email or call us:

Email: info@visionguidedogs.org Phone: (830) 206-0626

APPLICATION

#### THAT'S INTERESTING



[Image: Filmstrip with scenes from the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries film, "My Christmas Guide," set against a red background (1. man walking alone with a guide dog by his side; 2. man and woman talking to each other with a guide dog standing in front of them; 3. litter of black and brown puppies). In the center of the filmstrip is a button that reads, "Tap to Play." Showtimes are displayed on movie tickets.]

If you're looking for a heartwarming movie this holiday season, look no further than "My Christmas Guide" currently airing on the Hallmark Movies & Mysteries channel. The plot centers around college professor Trevor, played by blind actor Ben Mehl, who is persuaded by his daughter to pursue training with a guide dog. <u>Click here</u>, or the image above, to check out a preview of the movie. Showtimes are listed below. Refer to the <u>Hallmark Movies & Mysteries</u> website for a channel locator or click the button below. We applaud Hallmark for including more diverse content for its viewers!

Showtimes (Central time): Sunday, December 3, 7 AM Friday, December 8, 3 PM Wednesday, December 13, 9 AM Monday, December 18, 11 PM Thursday, December 21, 1 PM Tuesday, December 26, 9 PM

#### CHANNEL LOCATOR

Vision Guide Dogs, Inc. Website: <u>www.visionguidedogs.org</u> Email: info@visionguidedogs.org Phone: (830) 206-0626

Our mission is to help individuals who are blind or visually impaired navigate the world. Stay Connected:



#### Visit our website at:

www.visionguidedogs.org

Send Us A Message



#### Vision Guide Dogs is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Federal Tax ID 92-0898185

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