



Eye Bank Association of America...*restoring sight worldwide.*

PRESS RELEASE

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Dean Vavra to be Awarded 2010 Leonard Heise Award

WASHINGTON, DC -- The Eye Bank Association of America is pleased to announce that Dean Vavra MS, CEBT, Executive Director for the North Carolina Eye Bank, Inc. will receive the 2010 Leonard Heise Award during the EBAA Annual Meeting in Hilton Head Island, SC, June 2-5, 2010.

The Leonard Heise Award is presented to a lay person within the eye-banking community recognized for outstanding devotion to the EBAA's development and for exemplifying the precepts of Leonard Heise, a major contributor to the fight against blindness and an original founder of the EBAA.

The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the nation. The EBAA champions the restoration of sight through core services to its members which advance donation, transplantation and research in their communities and throughout the world. It has led the transplantation field with the establishment of medical standards for the distribution of eyes and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye banking personnel. These standards have been used as models for other transplantation organizations. Member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, Europe, the Middle East, and Asia. These eye banks make possible more than 52,000 sight-restoring corneal transplants annually.

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