



PRESS RELEASE

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Eye Bank Association of America Announces 2018 Leonard Heise Award

Washington, D.C. (June 13, 2018) – Each year, the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) awards individuals and organizations that dedicate their time and expertise to restore sight to the blind and visually impaired.

EBAA is proud to announce that Beth Binnion, CEBT, Executive Director, Cincinnati Eye Bank of Cincinnati, Ohio is the recipient of the 2018 Leonard Heise Award. The Leonard Heise Award is presented annually to an outstanding eye banker in recognition of his or her commitment to the profession.

Binnion has been in eye banking for more than thirty-seven years, beginning her career in 1981 with the Cincinnati Eye Bank as the organization's first eye bank technician. Binnion attended the inaugural EBAA Technician Training Course (now known as the Technician Education Seminar) and earned her EBAA Certified Eye Bank Technician (CEBT) designation in 1981, as part of the first class of CEBTs, and has maintained her certification throughout her career. Binnion went on to serve as technical director of the Cincinnati Eye Bank for ten years and has been in her current role as executive director for the past twenty-one years.

"Beth has been one of those volunteers that every association hopes to have; she is always willing to share her knowledge and expertise, and never fails to make a valuable contribution to any committee or taskforce she's involved with," said Kevin Corcoran, EBAA's CEO and President. "The association and the profession owe Beth a debt of gratitude, and the Heise Award is significant way to repay that debt – it is very much well-earned!"

Binnion has been a dedicated member of the transplant community since 1981, as part of the inaugural class of CEBTs. During her tenure, Binnion has shared her knowledge and expertise to make a valuable contribution to any committee or taskforce she has been involved with. Binnion has not only made fighting corneal blindness through eye banking her lifelong career, but also made it the major focus of her life.

EBAA honored Binnion at its 57th Annual Meeting on Friday, June 8, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

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About the Eye Bank Association of America



The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the nation and sets standards, provides education, and engages in advocacy to support eye donation, and cornea transplantation and research. EBAA has led the transplantation field with the establishment of medical standards for eye banking, and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye bank personnel. Over 90 member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, and Asia. These eye banks made possible 84,297 sight-restoring corneal transplants in the United States in 2017. To learn more, visit www.restoresight.org.