

## A Cure is in Sight at Dinner in the Dark

March 25, 2011

A group of White Oaks Secondary School students will share what it's like to be blind as they raise funds for vision research.

The White Oaks School Activism & Awareness Club is hosting Dinner in the Dark on March 31.

It will raise money for sight saving research through the Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB), Canada's leading contributor to vision research for eye diseases such as retinitis pigmentosa and macular degeneration.

Each year the club hosts a fundraising event for a charity of its choice. This year the students were inspired by member Molly Burke, who has lost her sight due to an incurable eye disease, retinitis pigmentosa.



**A Cure is in Sight at Dinner in the Dark.** Molly Burke

"This event is a fantastic opportunity for the White Oaks school community and Oakville residents to support vision research," said event organizer and inspiration Burke.

"Research that one day may save and restore not only my sight, but the sight of over one million Canadians living with vision loss due to retinal eye diseases," said Burke, a former Miss Teen Oakville and Miss Teen Canada International, who has also raised thousands for the FFB.

Dinner in the Dark will feature a catered meal of pasta, salad, dessert, live music, dancers and information booths.

Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. at the school's cafeteria.

White Oaks is located at 1330 Montclair Dr.

Tickets cost \$15 each or \$125 for a table of 10.

The event is open to the public. Anyone interested can call 905-845-5200.

Attendees will have an opportunity to visit information booths from the FFB, Guide Dogs Canada, Accessible Media Inc. and more before being led into the darkened cafeteria.

Students will serve guests a dinner of pasta, salad and dessert generously donated by Oakville's own Monastery Bakery and Courage Canada.

The entire meal will take place in the dark in an effort to share some of the everyday challenges experienced by people living with vision loss.

Dancers and musicians will be illuminated with black light and glowing costumes.

The Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB) is Canada's largest registered charity for sight saving research and has contributed more than \$19 million to cutting-edge research into the causes, treatments and cures for retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration and related retinal eye diseases.

A cure is in sight thanks to Foundation-funded discoveries. The Foundation is also known by its signature events: Comic Vision, Cycle for Sight, Ride for Sight and Vision Quest.

For more information, visit [www.ffb.ca](http://www.ffb.ca) or call 1-800-461-3331 for the latest in vision research.