



**Prevent
Blindness**

Person of Vision



**2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS
PERSON OF VISION DINNER**

**HONORING
ED BUFFINGTON**

Thursday, March 14, 2024

583 Park Avenue | New York, NY

Dear Friends,

Thank you for joining us tonight at the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision (POV) Award Ceremony, the last one to be celebrated in NYC. Tonight, we are honored to celebrate Ed Buffington, President & CEO of GPN Technologies, as the 2024 Person of Vision, recognizing his leadership and longstanding contributions to the eyecare industry.

This celebration is made possible by the generous contributions of our sponsors and supporters. You and I, and all of us in this room, understand the importance of protecting and preserving vision. In addition, your kind donations, dedicated in honor of Ed, will support outreach initiatives for those at risk of vision loss, facilitate quality vision screenings for school-aged children, and contribute to advocacy efforts, all aimed at ensuring more Americans can cherish the gift of sight for a lifetime.

Thank you once again for your generous support. Special appreciation goes to the 2024 POV committee members and the Prevent Blindness staff for their hard work in making this night a memorable celebration. On behalf of Prevent Blindness, we express our gratitude for your presence as we honor Ed's achievements and celebrate the eyecare industry's commitment to preserving the invaluable gift of sight.

Maureen Cavanagh
2024 Person of Vision Committee Chair

Person of Vision - Evening Program

Welcome

Jeff Todd

Prevent Blindness
President & CEO

Master of Ceremonies

Maureen Cavanagh

Advancing Eyecare

Mission Speaker

Tracey Simon

ASPECT Participant

Guest Speakers

Jay Binkowitz

Keplr Vision
Executive Vice President

Jim McGrann

Advancing Eyecare
Chief Executive Officer

Award Presentation

**Jay Binkowitz and
Jim McGrann**

Award Acceptance

Ed Buffington

Nightcap Reception

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MARCHON



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2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION



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by Kavanagh, Stadlen and Binkowitz



**Prevent
Blindness**

Person of Vision





THE MAN ~ THE MYTH

THE LEGEND

Person of Vision

ED BUFFINGTON



CONGRATULATIONS!

Ed, you have always been a thoughtful and inspiring leader with an incredible heart. Your contributions have led to the success of many in the ophthalmic industry for the last 40 years.

We can't thank you enough for all you have done for us and for your many accomplishments. We are so proud to have had the opportunity to work with you and to share a treasured friendship.

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!

With our very best wishes!
Anne Kavanagh, Mark Stadlen, Jay Binkowitz

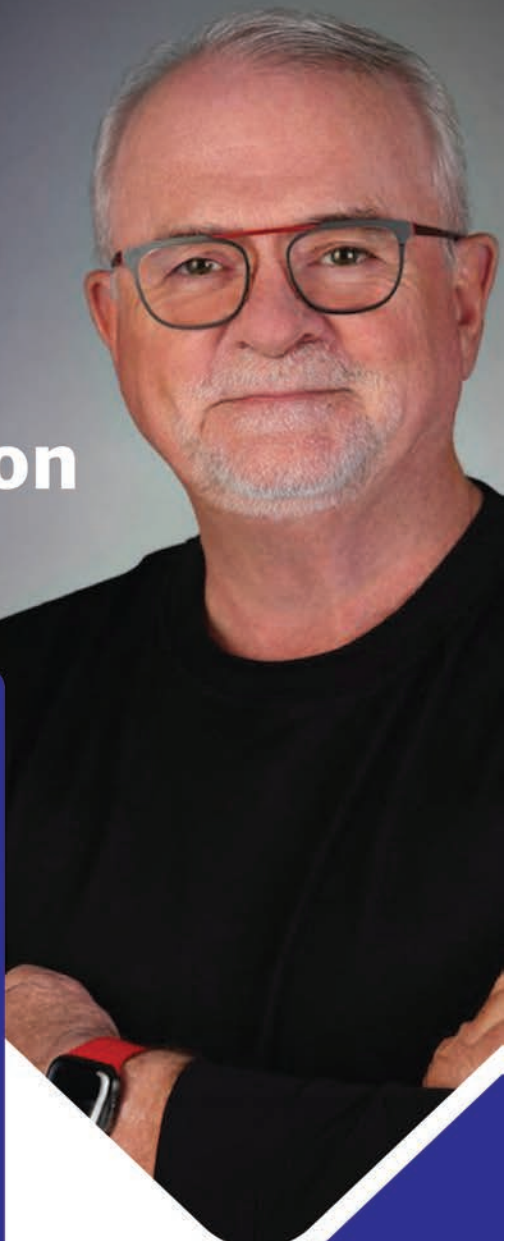




Congratulations,
Ed Buffington
on being honored as the 2024
Prevent Blindness Person of Vision.

EssilorLuxottica

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A portrait of Ed Buffington, a middle-aged man with grey hair and a goatee, wearing glasses and a black t-shirt. He is looking directly at the camera with a slight smile. The background is a plain, light grey color. The portrait is framed by a white border with blue geometric shapes in the corners.

Leadership in Innovation:

Ed Buffington

Congratulations to Ed Buffington, our exceptional President & CEO, for being named the 2024 Person of Vision! Your career-long commitment to pioneering eye care management technologies has been instrumental in our industry's advancement.

This honor is a testament to your innovative leadership and lasting impact. Here's to your continued success and the future innovations you'll inspire.

Thank you!

GPN
TECHNOLOGIES



WE ARE PROUD TO SUPPORT **PREVENT BLINDNESS**

For over 35 years, our mission has been to use the power of science to bring new medicines to patients... over and over again. Every day, we apply our homegrown technologies and relentless spirit to help people with serious diseases.

We are grateful for Prevent Blindness and their mission to prevent blindness and preserve sight.



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CONGRATULATIONS



ED BUFFINGTON
2024 PERSON OF VISION

ED BUFFINGTON

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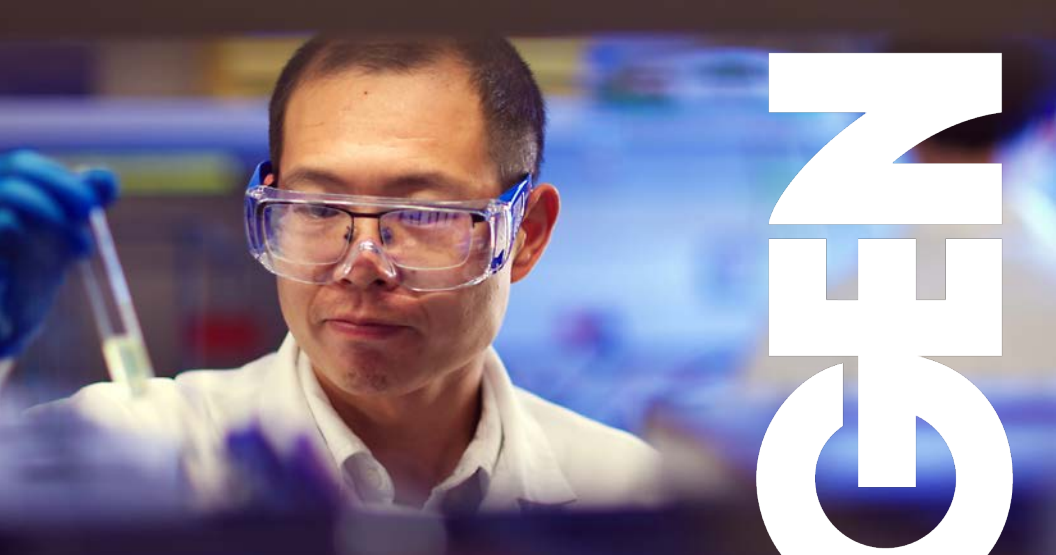
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AMGEN

Amgen Supports Prevent Blindness

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2024 PERSON OF VISION

Our belief—and the core of our strategy—is that innovative, highly differentiated medicines that provide large clinical benefits in addressing serious diseases are medicines that will not only help patients, but also will help reduce the social and economic burden of disease in society today.

BAUSCH + LOMB



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from the

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*Circana Household Panel, Total US, Buying Households, 1/2023-1/2024.

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Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON

PRESIDENT & CEO AT GPN TECHNOLOGIES



2024 Prevent Blindness
Person of Vision Recipient

From Your Friends At Jobson

Jobson
Optical Group

20/20

Frames Data

JOBSON
INTERACTIVE

Review
of MYOPIA MANAGEMENT

REVIEW
of OPTOMETRY

Review
of Optometric Business

VM
VISION MANAGEMENT

WO
WOMEN IN OPTOMETRY

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE

2024 PREVENT BLINDNESS

PERSON OF

VISION

C. EDWARD
(“ED”) BUFFINGTON

VSP Vision™ is honored to continue supporting Prevent Blindness in its work to champion healthy vision for a healthy life.



vspvision.com



Congratulations

Ed Buffington

on receiving the 2024 Prevent Blindness
Person of Vision Award

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT

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SINCE 1923

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CONGRATULATES

Ed Buffington

on being named the
2024 Person of Vision!

Your friends at PECAA
celebrate you, your
entrepreneurial spirit and
your legacy of transformative
technologies that continue to
equip eye care practices for
success in an era of rapid
evolution.



We thank you for being an agent of change
in our industry — and extend our heartfelt
congratulations on this honor.

pecaa.com



Person of Vision Award

— C. Edward Buffington

Well Deserved Honor

“Congratulations to C. Edward Buffington for his dedication and impact on the optometry and optical industries.

From humble beginnings to revolutionizing how offices plan and organize their optometry business, Ed Buffington has remained steadfast in his belief and commitment to private practice.

Like so many others in our industry, I owe a debt of gratitude for Ed’s mentorship, guidance, and friendship. This honor is well deserved.

On behalf of the Doctors of Texas State Optical, we salute this year’s Person of Vision Award and thank Prevent Blindness for recognizing a giant in our industry.”

- John D. Marvin, President and CEO of TSO, Inc.



TEXAS STATE OPTICAL

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Ed, Dr. Jeff highly recommends the following

Rx



CONGRATULATIONS TO 20/20 MAGAZINE
ON THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND
THE PREVENT BLINDNESS PERSON
OF VISION HONOREE, ED BUFFINGTON

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Congratulations
to
Ed Buffington

on this well-deserved honor!

We salute you and
Prevent Blindness for
all you do!

MATCH
EYEWEAR

Congratulations to 2024 Person of Vision Honoree

Ed Buffington

who has throughout his career supported
the vision industry like no other.



*You are
spectacular!*

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CONGRATULATIONS ED BUFFINGTON



2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision



Attorneys Focusing on the Sale of Optometry & Ophthalmology Practices

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A Tribute to Visionary Leader:

EDWARD BUFFINGTON



From Your Friends At:

WisconsinVision | HeartlandVision

SEE. MORE. LIFE.

EYE BOUTIQUE

A VIEW FOR LIFE.

Wisconsin Vision | Heartland Vision and Eye Boutique Inc. wish to take a moment and send tribute to *Edward Buffington*, a titan in the eye care industry. One whose passion and dedication have left a lasting mark in the optical industry for over 38 years. It is well known Ed's journey has been one of profound impact and unwavering commitment.

With a career filled in innovation and leadership, Ed is a testament to vision, foresight and beyond entrepreneurial endeavors. His influence extends far and wide to include:

- The founding of OfficeMate.
- Pioneering of PMS/EHR software solutions (propelling the optical industry forward).
- Involvement with Marchon and VSP, where he exemplified leadership expertise, forged invaluable partnerships and championed strategic initiatives.

To Ed Buffington, a visionary leader whose brilliance illuminates the path for generations to come; your profound impact and tireless dedication inspire us all.

Thank you from all of us at **Wisconsin Vision | Heartland Vision and Eye Boutique Inc.** for your extraordinary contributions to the eye care community.

HONORING A VISIONARY

Foxfire, NVMI, EyecarePro and Anagram **unite to celebrate Ed Buffington** as the 2024 Person of Vision.

Ed's transformative impact on eye health, from **pioneering practice management software to leading in data analytics**, exemplifies our shared vision for a future where everyone has access to superior eye care.

Together, **we congratulate Ed** on this distinguished honor.



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Congratulations on Person of Vision, Ed!



**Prevent
Blindness**



Insight, inspiration, and impact are three qualities you have embodied throughout your career! Thank you for your many contributions, and congratulations on this outstanding honor. Here's to a future that continues to build on your legacy of innovation and progress in service to the eyes of the world.

from your friends at

AKRINOS



**Congratulations to
Ed Buffington on this
most deserved award!**

Michael Berenhaus, ODMBA

Focused on a Future Together



30+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

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63 INTEGRATED PRACTICES

9 SURGERY CENTERS

Our Growing Network:



To start the conversation, contact
Tim Leland tleland@bridgevieweye.com
Kevin Schwab kschwab@bridgevieweye.com

bridgevieweye.com



Congratulations to Ed.

An industry leader, great friend
and innovator.

from
EYEDESIGNS[®]
CUSTOM INTERIORS + FURNITURE *group*

Congratulations, Ed!

Your friends at FluoreSCENE Media and the entire ODs on Facebook community celebrate you and your many contributions to the eye care industry!

ED BUFFINGTON

2024 PREVENTING BLINDNESS PERSON OF VISION

ODCommunity.com



Congratulations to our friend

ED BUFFINGTON

on his 2024 Person of Vision Award and thank you to

PREVENT BLINDNESS

for its advocacy and mission!

Your friends at

GILBERT

www.gilbertexperience.com

ED BUFFINGTON

CONGRATS

ON BEING NAMED THE 2024 PERSON OF VISION!

FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT IDOC



OPTOMETRY
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CONGRATULATIONS ED BUFFINGTON

Thank you for making eyes matter.

Your friends at,

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Eyes Matter. | EYECARE MATTERS.

Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON

2024 Prevent Blindness
Person of Vision

Your spirit, dedication and
commitment to the vision industry,
no matter where in the world you are,
is an inspiration to us all.

Beth & Steve Leeds



The McGee Group is proud to continue to
support the mission to prevent blindness at
home and throughout the world.

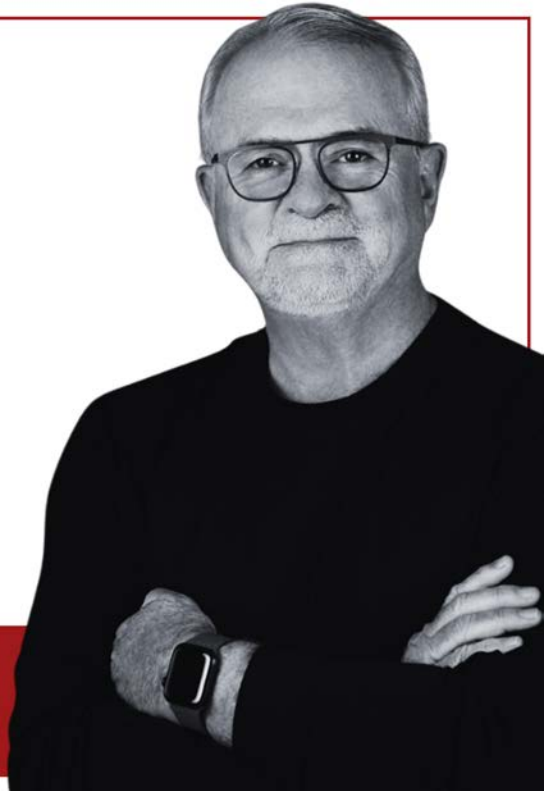
A special thank you to
Ed Buffington!



MOREL

LUNETIER FRANÇAIS DEPUIS 1880

MOREL is honored to congratulate Ed Buffington on the Person of Vision Award! For decades, Ed has been an inspiration through his pioneering leadership and dedication to the eyecare industry. Cheers to your remarkable achievements, Ed!




ED BUFFINGTON

2024 PERSON OF VISION

myeyedr.
OD.
WE SHARE YOUR VISION

MyEyeDr. would like to congratulate Ed Buffington,
Prevent Blindness 2024 Person of Vision.



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CONGRATULATIONS, ED!

Your friends at North Shore Computer, Inc.,
celebrate you, your leadership and
all your accomplishments!



NSComputer.com | SpinCompliance.com

The OWA Board of Directors and OWA membership
congratulate OWA Platinum Sponsor
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ED BUFFINGTON

President and CEO of GPN Technologies

for being selected as the 2024 Person Of Vision!



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inspire.
lead.

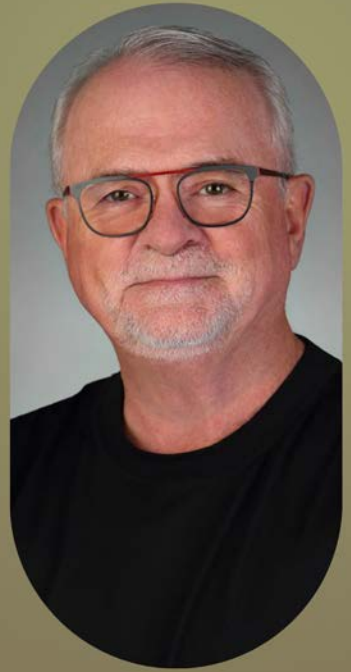
Join today at opticalwomen.com/join.asp

Congratulations

ED BUFFINGTON

Your legacy will continue to inspire future generations of innovators to dare to dream big and push the boundaries of what's possible.

Mike & Heidi Della Pesca



Shopko Optical congratulates Ed Buffington for being named the 2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision. We honor Ed for his passionate leadership and truly altruistic efforts.

Shopko Optical.

CONGRATULATIONS

Ed Buffington

for being named the
2024 Prevent Blindness Person of Vision.



VIATRIS™

**Thank you to the following
individuals for supporting
the Prevent Blindness Person
of Vision, Ed Buffington:**

Dr. Matt and Jenna Dixon

Glen Funk, Walman Optical

Ronald Krefman, focalCenter

Barry Slovinsky, Eight to Eighty Eyewear



**Prevent
Blindness**
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Vision Ireland
the new name for **NCBI**

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20th May 2024

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**Prevent
Blindness**
Swing Fore Sight

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, September 18, 2024
Bali Hai Golf Club | Las Vegas

7:00 A.M. Shotgun Start

For more information or to join the Committee,
contact Albert Muci, amuci@preventblindness.org

2024 Person of Vision Committee

THANK YOU!

Maureen Cavanagh
Chair

Marge Axelrad
Vision Monday

Jay Binkowitz
Keplr Vision

Deb Bulken
Luxottica Wholesale

Marc Ferrara
Jobson Medical information

Anne Kavanagh
Kavanagh Consulting LLC

Katie Lauver
GPN Technologies

Lorie Lippiatt
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Jamie Shyer
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Matt Tackman
Essilor

Don't Get Caught Naked!



Never look at the sun with the naked eye. Protect your eyes with eclipse glasses.



**Prevent
Blindness**

Eclipse + Your Eyes

Celebrate the **April 8 Solar Eclipse** with Prevent Blindness eclipse glasses!

Visit PreventBlindness.org/eclipse or contact Eclipse@PreventBlindness.org

Prevent Blindness Recognizes C. Edward Buffington As the 2024 Person of Vision

Buffington began his career in the optical industry in 1979 as part of the contact lens company, American Hydron. In 1983, with his partners, he launched OfficeMate Software installing the first eyecare practice management software system to run on an IBM PC in April 1984.

After tremendous growth, in 1994, Marchon acquired OfficeMate, which was later acquired by VSP. Today OfficeMate remains one of the leading eyecare practice management and electronic medical records software solutions in the optometric industry with a significant market share.

After retiring from VSP in 2014, Buffington began his private consulting firm, The Buffington Company, leveraging his nearly 40 years of expertise in the eyecare industry. In 2017, Buffington joined data analytics firm, GPN Technologies as President and CEO.

The Prevent Blindness Person of Vision Award recognizes an individual, corporation and/or organization whose inspired outlook champions healthy vision and its importance for a healthy life.

All proceeds from the event support the mission and programs of Prevent Blindness.

