



...Because every child deserves a childhood

June 25, 2013

Astor to Celebrate Children's Award Day

Students to be honored for academics, other skills

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

RHINEBECK – One students and one staff member at the Astor Learning Center received two of the school's top honors on Thursday at Astor's Annual Children's Awards Ceremony.

Astor's Residential Programs is a 24-hour treatment facility for children from the Hudson Valley Region and New York City. The children range in age from 5 - 13 at the time of admission and must have a diagnosed, severe emotional disturbance/mental illness. When there is evidence of a need for treatment beyond what could be provided in a less-restrictive setting and the child's behavior is such that they can be maintained safely in open-treatment surroundings, Astor's Residential Programs are most suitable. The children attending this program attend school at Astor's award-winning school, The Learning Center.

All of the children at the Learning Center were honored for their achievements in academics, social skills, music, art and athletics. The highest award, Student of the Year, was given to Stefan Schaper who showed exemplary achievement in academic and behavioral gains. In addition, Ansel Muschette, student and Kimberly Sloan, teacher, were recognized with the Joel Robert Crenshaw Award for exemplifying the "Spirit of Astor" in caring, resiliency, compassion and a commitment to others.

The ceremony was attended by family members, former students, Astor's staff and board members. A barbecue luncheon was served at the conclusion of the ceremony.

"This was a special day for our children, their families and staff. It celebrated and recognized each child's strength and the circle of people who work so hard to support their success," says Sheila Doherty, Assistant Executive Director, Astor Residential Programs.

About Astor

Since 1953, Astor Services for Children & Families (formerly The Astor Home for Children) provides behavioral and educational services in a caring environment where children and their families find strength, healing, hope and trust. Now serving more than 6,000 children and families annually, Astor's current range of services to families in the Mid-Hudson Valley and the Bronx include: residential treatment, therapeutic foster family care, early childhood programs, and community-based behavioral health and prevention services. For more information about Astor Services for Children & Families, visit the agency's website at www.astorservices.org or call (845) 871-1117.

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