



ASTOR
SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Newsletter

The Latest News from Astor

Astor's Annual Report celebrates 65 years!

We are happy to announce that our 2017-18 annual report is now available for viewing.



Take a glance at Astor through the last 65 years through the eyes of our CEO, a Board member, a former student turned teacher, and a longtime staff member. Each reflects on their personal experience with Astor! [View the report here.](#)

A glimpse into Astor's long-lasting Impact

When Tamara entered the halls of the Astor back in the early 1980's, she was a frightened eight-year-old child. Over time she came to view her time at Astor as an opportunity to be herself without anyone being able to judge her. As she said, "Astor gave me a new chance at being a child." The "normalcy" she experienced allowed her to develop not only socially but also personally.



Many years since her departure from Astor, Tamara reconnected with her home away from home at Astor's 2018 Awards Day, and has been acting as an informal spokesperson ever since. She recently shared her story with 120 guests, at Astor's Spring Cocktail reception in New York City, where she relayed the enormous influence her time at Astor had upon her as a young child, and how it continues to impact her life today. She also participated in the renovation of her former living unit. "The minute I walked through the doors of Founder's Hall (the former Chapel), I felt like I was home. All the wonderful memories came flooding back to me," said Rodriguez.

She has made it her mission to pay her healing forward so that our current

residents can learn that Astor is just the beginning of their journey. Tamara shares that anything is possible if you believe in yourself and work to be the best you can be.

Mental Health Awareness Month is in May, But Astor is here for you all year long.



Expressive Arts with Kevin Rifenburg

Astor Services for Children and Families' Artist-in-Residence Kevin Rifenburg speaks about Astor's Expressive Arts Program.

A Father Speaks About Astor

An Astor Advisory Board parent, Douglas Berman, shares his experience with children in Astor programs.



Why is art important to a child's development?

Creating art expands a child's ability to interact with the world around them, and provides a new set of skills for self-expression and communication. Not only does art help to develop the right side of the brain, it also cultivates important skills that benefit a child's development.



Astor Learning Center Earns School of Excellence Award

We are proud to announce that the Astor Learning Center has been selected as a 2019-2020 **School of Excellence** by the **National Association of Special Education Teachers (NASET)**. NASET School of Excellence Award is the highest level of recognition a private special education school can achieve. This honor is presented to private special education schools that meet rigorous professional criteria and have demonstrated truly exceptional dedication, commitment and achievement in the field of special education.

Golf Tournament Rescheduled

Join us for a round of golf. Our Golf Tournament has been rescheduled for Friday, August 23 at the Powelton Club in Newburgh, NY.

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. with a 9:00 a.m. shotgun start.

For more information and tickets, visit

www.astorservices.org/event/golf/

Poster for the Twenty-First Annual Stenberg Golf Tournament. The text reads: "TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL STENBERG", "Golf Tournament", "RESCHEDULED", "FRIDAY, AUG. 23 | POWELTON CLUB NEWBURGH, NY". A yellow starburst graphic indicates "8 AM REGISTRATION" and "9 AM SHOTGUN START". The background features a golf club and a golf ball on a green.

SPONSOR HIGHLIGHT: Adams Fairacre Farms

Adams Fairacre Farms began in 1919 as a roadside farmstand in Poughkeepsie, New York, run by Ralph A. Adams and his family. One hundred years later, that small business has grown into the Adams Fairacre Farms we know and love today! Adams is a family-owned and operated business, with four locations in the Hudson Valley: Kingston, Poughkeepsie, Newburgh and Wappinger. Visit them online at adamsfarms.com.



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