

Where Do People With Disabilities Turn?

For Services. Advocacy. Answers.

Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State

Real people. Realizing potential.



IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LOCAL RECIPIENTS AMONG THOSE TO BE HONORED IN SARATOGA AT STATEWIDE CP OF NYS AWARD WINNERS

Albany, NY – Local winners **Rich Becker**, Sports Director at FOX 23News and **Panera Bread locations in Colonie and Clifton Park** will be among 11 individuals and organizations honored at the Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State (CP of NYS) Annual Awards Banquet at the Saratoga City Center on Monday, October 24 at 6:30 pm. Individuals and organizations from across the state will be honored for their outstanding accomplishments or service to people with disabilities.

Becker will receive the Community Service Award because of his role as an advocate for people with disabilities and his commitment to the Center for Disability Services, its people and its programs. Becker also serves on the Board of Directors of St. Margaret's Center, the Center's pediatric skilled nursing facility.

Panera Bread came to the Capital Region 10 years ago and almost immediately began offering employment to people with disabilities. That commitment continues today as stores throughout the region continue to be supportive of the employment program.

A list of the 2011 CP of NYS Awards recipients is attached.

The Awards Banquet is part of the CP of NYS Annual Conference, which will bring hundreds of people from across the state to Saratoga October 24-26. This year's conference offers 50 sessions and meetings on issues critical to people with disabilities and their families. Actress and comedienne Geri Jewell will deliver the Keynote Address October 24 at the Saratoga Hilton Hotel.

Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State works with legislative and governmental agencies to ensure that public policy has a positive impact on the lives of people with disabilities and their families. Nearly 100,000 people receive services from 18,000 dedicated professionals working for CP of NYS and its Affiliates.

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2011 CP of NYS Annual Awards Recipients

Robin Gray (*United Cerebral Palsy of New York City*) **VISIONS OF NEW YORK ART CONTEST WINNER**

Positive Supports For People Program (*Upstate Cerebral Palsy*)..... **PROGRAM INNOVATION AWARD**

Judy Meier (*Mount Vernon/Yonkers Lodge #707*) **ELKS AWARD**

Frank Seiler (*CP Rochester*)**ANTHONY J. KOENIG VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Rich Becker, FOX 23 News (*Center for Disability Services*) **COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD**

Jim Williams (*CP of the North Country*) ... **ROBERT SCHONHORN STAFF MEMBER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Panera Bread - Colonie and Clifton Park Stores (*Center for Disability Services*)**EMPLOYER OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Mariette Knott (*United Cerebral Palsy of New York City*)..... **AFFILIATE LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Thomas Mandelkow (*CP of NYS*) **DANIEL WIEDER EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP AWARD**

James Kelly (*Inspire of Orange County*)**AL FELMET ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Honorable Micah Kellner (*NYS Assembly*)..... **Legislator of the Year AWARD**

