

## NEWS RELEASE

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### **NEARLY 700 TO ATTEND 57TH CEREBRAL PALSY ASSOCIATIONS OF NEW YORK STATE ANNUAL CONFERENCE OCTOBER 30-NOVEMBER 1 IN SARATOGA SPRINGS**

Cohoes, NY – The Cerebral Palsy Associations of New York State (CP of NYS) Annual Conference will take place October 30-November 1 at the Saratoga Hilton Hotel and City Center in Saratoga Springs. Approximately 700 people from across the state will attend the event offering sessions on issues critical to people with disabilities, their families and staff from all 24 CP of NYS Affiliates.

#### **Featured sessions, include:**

##### **Monday October 30**

###### **9:00 am – Commissioner’s View**

- **The Honorable Kerry Delaney**, Acting Commissioner, NYS Office For People With Developmental Disabilities (OPWDD) will provide attendees with an update on the future of services and supports for people with developmental disabilities in New York State.

###### **Noon – Keynote Address**

- **Mick Ebeling**, film and television producer, philanthropist, technology trailblazer, author and entrepreneur, and a recipient of the Muhammad Ali Humanitarian of the Year Award dives deeper into “impossible,” the underlying psychological effects it has on an organization, and how to overcome “impossible” so true innovation can take place. Synthetic fabrics, cell phones and digital watches, cars and computers were all figments of the imagination until inspiration met execution and the impossible became a reality.

###### **2:30 and 5:00 pm – New York City Ballet Children’s Workshop**

- Soloist **Ashley Laracey** and a Principal Dancer from the New York City Ballet (NYCB) will conduct a dance workshop for **children with disabilities**. A **demonstration** of what the children have learned in the workshop will be presented for conference attendees during the Awards Reception at the Saratoga City Center later in the day. See a video about a similar program conducted by the NYCB in New York City [here](#).

##### **Tuesday October 31**

###### **8:00 am - Keynote Address – Exercise: The Perfect Tonic for the Brain at Every Age!**

- **John J. Ratey, MD**, an Associate Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and an internationally recognized expert in Neuropsychiatry, is focused on re-engineering schools, corporations, and individual lifestyle practices by incorporating exercise to achieve peak performance and optimum mental health. The mission of his non-profit, [Sparking Life](#), is to optimize and maintain brain function for all ages and to achieve optimal physical and mental health by getting in touch with our caveman roots.

The CP of NYS Annual Conference is sponsored in part by the Irwin Siegel Agency, Sinclair Risk & Financial Management and BDO.

For more information on the conference and speakers, please visit the CP of NYS website at <http://www.cpodnys.org/2017-annual-conference/>.