

# Art Show to Promote Autism Awareness

On Sunday, June 8, from 3-5 p.m., there will be an art exhibition reception entitled "Perspective" featuring the creative work of approximately 70 young artists with autism through the combined efforts of the five Kiwanis divisions on Long Island and the Art League of Long Island.

The event is part of this year's Governors Project, Autism Awareness.

Art will be on display from May 28-June 8, giving a wonderful two-week opportunity for artists with autism to showcase their work and to receive well-deserved recognition.

Suffolk West Lt Gov. Doris Mellina met with Art League of Long Island Executive Director Charlee Miller who enthusiastically agreed to host the

The reception will be from 3 to 5 p.m. June 8 at the Art League in Dix Hills.

exhibition.

Lieutenant governors Ann Torcivia, Long Island South Central; Russ Burcheri, Long Island North; Nancy Baxter, Long Island Southwest and Lorri Schneider, Suffolk East, have jumped on board and will be reaching out to schools and organizations within their divisions to seek art submissions from middle school and high school students for the event.

Each division will select up to 14 pieces of "hangable" art within specified

size guidelines. Every exhibiting artist will receive a certificate of appreciation presented at the reception by the Art League.

The Art League is at 107 E. Deer Park Road, Dix Hills, one and a half blocks from Exit 42 N/S on Northern State Parkway.

If you would like to become a sponsor for this event or need additional information, please contact Mellina by calling (516) 967-2375 or by e-mail to dfm1125@aol.com. Refreshments will be served.

A suggested \$10 donation is requested and there will be raffles during the event. All proceeds from the event will benefit Gov. Joe's Autism Awareness Project.

## Governor's Project

Kevin Kamper



Welcome to spring and hopefully the warm weather has settled in. Did you know that April is National Autism awareness month? The United States recognizes April as a special opportunity to educate the public about autism and issues within the autism community.

Also in the news the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has released their latest report on Autism. The report indicates that 1 in 68 chil-

dren are identified with an Autism Spectrum Disorder. This is an increase of 30 percent compared to the report from 2008. Check out this link <http://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/autism/index.html> to learn more about this report and for more information on diagnosis and treatment.

Thank you to the clubs who have submitted their governors project forms. For those who have not done so there is still time to do so. Please send the forms back to my email address of [knkamper@gmail.com](mailto:knkamper@gmail.com). There have been many creative projects done. Some examples have been:

The Kiwanis club of Long Beach hosted a popcorn stand for a carnival for Autism Speaks.

Westfield-Ripley had a chicken and biscuit fund raiser for Autism Speaks

The Yonkers club donated money to



the New York Creative Arts Therapy Services.

The Salamanca club donated to a local autism classroom and sponsored an informational table at their

health fair.

Mapleton donated money to the Bridge to Youth Foundation providing a stress free atmosphere for families with special needs.

For those downstate, check out the art exhibition titled "Perspective" featuring the work of approximately 70 young artists with autism. (See the details above.)

Thank you for all of your support. Continue the great work.

## Historian

PIP Jerry Christiano



New York District Kiwanians can be very proud of the accomplishments of many of our members! Let's start first with the first President of Kiwanis International, George Hixson, who served two years. This happened before New York became a district! And we have a past governor, Jack A. Tetamore, 1972-73, that personally knew George Hixson!

Our first elected International President was Anton "Tony" J. Kaiser of the Farmingdale Kiwanis Club. Tony served as president the 1987-88 admin-

istrative year. Gerald "Jerry" P. Christiano was elected International President and served the 1996-97 year. Following Jerry, was Thomas "Tom" E. DeJulio, being elected 2012 and serving as our International President for the 2012-13 year.

An interesting note to our history is, I served as lieutenant governor of the Genesee Division when Tony Kaiser was District Governor in 1971-72. Tom DeJulio was Governor of the New York District in 1996-97 when I was the International President.

We are one of the districts that presently have three living Past International Presidents!

The New York District can also be proud that we have four Kiwanians who have been elected president of the Kiwanis International Foundation, starting with Past Governor (1969-70), Louis "Lou" L. Theiss, Jr., serving as Foundation President in 1992-93. Next was

Past Governor William "Bill" L. Martin, serving the 2001-02 year, followed by John "Jack" J. Harten, Governor (1984-85), serving as Foundation President 2010-11. Now, brings us to Past Governor (2003-04), Peter J. Mancuso, who served during the 2012-13 year. Very impressive achievement by these talented Kiwanians!

In closing, we also had another achievement that very few districts are able to accomplish. That is having a Kiwanis International President, Tom DeJulio, a Kiwanis International Foundation President, Peter Mancuso, and the Circle K International President, Josephine Lukito, all serving at the same 2012-13 year!!

I hope you find this bit of New York history interesting!