



## NEWS RELEASE

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### COARC OFFERS SCHOLARSHIPS AND SUMMER ARTS GRANTS

**Mellenville, New York (March 11, 2009)** The COARC Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter announces scholarship opportunities for Columbia County residents who are pursuing college-level education. Six \$500 scholarships totaling \$3000 are available: two Mary Markowitz Memorial Scholarships, two Kathelyn Caswell Memorial Scholarships, and two Annual COARC Employee Sponsored (A.C.E.S.) Determination Scholarships. All applicants must be Columbia County residents, and academic performance and personal recommendations are considered in awarding the scholarships. Applications must be received by May 1, 2009.

Mary Markowitz Memorial Scholarships are offered to adult college students who are accepted and matriculate in undergraduate college-level programs of study relevant to work with individuals experiencing disabilities (for example, rehabilitation counselor, special education teacher or an allied field). Kathelyn Caswell Memorial Scholarships are available to graduating high school students who are accepted and matriculate in undergraduate college-level programs of study relevant to work with those experiencing disabilities (for example, rehabilitation counselor, special education teacher or an allied field).

The two A.C.E.S. Determination scholarships will be awarded to graduating high school students who are experiencing disabilities. Applicants must be students who are accepted and matriculate in undergraduate college-level programs of study and must have current Individual Education Plans (IEP) or 504 Plans on file with their school districts. Verification by school districts is required. Any course of college-level study is acceptable.

In addition to these scholarships, the COARC Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter also offers Summer Arts Grants to school-aged applicants who reside in Columbia County and who are also enrolled in special education programs. Grant money is awarded to students to pay for tuition or other expenses associated with enrolling in art, music or dance lessons during the summer months.

Scholarship and summer art grant recipients are selected by the COARC Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter and the recipients will be announced on June 15, 2009. More information and application forms are available from Joanne DelRossi, 518-672-4451 x3358 or joanned@coarc.org.

COARC is a Columbia County not-for-profit organization whose mission is expanding abilities, one person at a time, so individuals experiencing disabilities can achieve their personal goals. COARC provides an array of services and programs that benefit more than 600 individuals and it employs more than 400 area residents. Established in 1965, COARC is the Columbia County Chapter of NYSARC, Inc. It is primarily supported through state and federal funding, and also by individual and corporate members and other foundations. Information about COARC employment, program services, donation opportunities and membership is available at [www.COARC.org](http://www.COARC.org) or 518-672-4451.

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