



# News Release

**For Immediate Release  
March 10, 2011**

**Administrative Offices**  
P.O. Box 2, 630 Route 217  
Mellenville, NY 12544  
Ph: 518-672-4451 Fax: 518-672-0187  
  
Contact: Donna Barrett  
Coordinator of Public Relations  
518-672-4451 ext. 3403  
donnab@coarc.org

## **Apply for Coarc Scholarships and Summer Arts Grants**

**Mellenville, NY:** March is National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month when the Coarc Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter announces scholarship and arts grant opportunities for Columbia County students who experience disabilities or who are pursuing college-level education in a related field. All applications must be received by May 2, 2011. Scholarship and summer arts grant recipients are selected by the committee and announced on or about June 10, 2011. Application forms are available from Joanne DelRossi at 518-672-4451 x3358 or [joanned@coarc.org](mailto:joanned@coarc.org).

Two Mary Markowitz Memorial Scholarships, one for \$750 and one for \$500, will be awarded to adult college students. Applicants must be residents of Columbia County who have been accepted and matriculate in an undergraduate college-level program of study leading to career preparation relevant to work with people with disabilities (e.g. rehabilitation counselor, special education teacher, any allied field). Academic performance and personal recommendations will be considered in awarding the scholarships.

Two Kathelyn Caswell Memorial Scholarships, one for \$750 and one for \$500, will be awarded to graduating high school students. Applicants must be residents of Columbia County who have been accepted and matriculate in an undergraduate college-level program of study leading to career preparation relevant to work with people with disabilities (e.g. rehabilitation counselor, special education teacher, any allied field). Academic performance and personal recommendations will be considered in awarding the scholarships.

Two AXA Advisors Scholarships and two ACES Determination Scholarships in the amount of \$500 each will be awarded to graduating high school students with disabilities. Applicants must be residents of Columbia County who have been accepted and matriculate in an undergraduate college-level program of study. Each applicant must have current Individual Education Plan (IEP) or 504 Plan on file with their school district and verification of this must be sent by the school district. Academic performance and personal recommendations will be considered in awarding the scholarships. Jeff Gabriels and Ed Zaik of AXA Advisors funded the AXA Advisors Scholarships and Coarc employees funded the ACES Determination Scholarships.

Summer Arts Grants will be awarded to school-aged applicants who reside in Columbia County, are enrolled in a special education program in a public school and declared disabled by their local committee on special education. Grant money received must be

used to defray tuition or other expenses incurred in taking art, music, or dance lessons during the summer months.

For information about establishing a scholarship through the Coarc Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter, contact Joanne DelRossi at 518-672-4451 x3358 or [joanned@coarc.org](mailto:joanned@coarc.org). Coarc is a Columbia County, NY, nonprofit organization serving 500 individuals. Its mission is to expand abilities, one person at a time, so individuals experiencing disabilities can achieve their individual goals. Coarc is a chapter of NYSARC, Inc. and more information is available at [www.coarc.org](http://www.coarc.org) or 518-672-4451.

#####

Photo caption: (L to R) Coarc Education Committee Dollars for Scholars Chapter members Ed Zaik, Jeff Gabriels, Mickey Dennis, Diane Whiteman, Mary Ann Harris, Barbara Roemer, Anne Connor and Christine Kirch will select the Coarc scholarship and summer arts grant recipients in June.

