

Update



HELPING PARENTS HELP THEIR KIDS SUCCEED

Announcing the launch of the 2016 Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award

We are pleased to announce that nominations are now being accepted for the 2016 Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award. This \$1,000 award recognizes the strengths and accomplishments of young people with learning disabilities and ADHD. It will be given to a student 19 or younger who has demonstrated initiative, talent and determination resulting in a notable accomplishment in any field—including art, music, science, math, athletics or community service. Honorable Mentions will also be awarded.

The award will be presented at the Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities' 16th Anniversary Benefit at the Stamford Marriott Hotel in Stamford, CT on the evening of Saturday, April 30th. Transportation and hotel accommodations will be provided for the winning student and his/her parents.

The winner of the 2015 Award is Zachary Milestone of Skillman, NJ. Zac has done battle with significant language difficulties and dyslexia, but notes that he lives by the motto, "Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; merely where you start." As a junior at Montgomery High School last year, Zac excelled in math, science, and Mandarin, and has done summer lab work on Alzheimer's Research at Rutgers Medical School. He is also the 2015 Pewter Medalist in ice dancing for the U.S. National Skating Association, and a winner of its scholastic honors award.

A Special Recognition Award was presented to Christopher Lancaster of Clarksville, TN; and a Junior Achievement Award to Emma Isabella Pawl of Ashland, MA. Students from Asheville, NC, Stamford, CT and Sauk Rapids, MN received Honorable Mention Awards.

The application on the reverse side of this announcement may be submitted by parents, teachers, coaches, mentors or students themselves; or an application may be downloaded from the **Smart Kids** website at www.SmartKidswithLD.org/2016award.html. Please submit the application and documentation by the contest deadline of January 31, 2016 to **Smart Kids with LD**, 38 Kings Highway North, Westport, CT 06880. For information, contact us via email at Info@SmartKidswithLD.org.



Zachary Milestone, winner of the 2015 Fred J. Epstein Award, lives by the motto: "Your present circumstances don't determine where you can go; merely where you start." He excels in science, math, and Mandarin and is the 2015 U.S. Pewter Medalist in ice dancing.

“What I say to children with learning disabilities is: We're like anybody else in terms of intelligence. But we're wired differently. If we were in the majority, we'd be trying to figure out how to teach them!”

FRED J. EPSTEIN, MD 1937 – 2006
*Internationally renowned pediatric neurosurgeon
Pioneering physician, researcher, teacher, administrator*

Nominations for the Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award

Smart Kids with LD | 38 Kings Highway North, Westport, CT 06880 | 203.226.6831

Nominee

Name _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number & Email _____

Documented Learning Disability or ADHD _____

School Currently Attending & Address _____ Grade _____

Nominator

Name _____

Relationship to Nominee _____

Address _____

Phone Number & Email _____

Attachments

1. The nominator's written description of the nominee's learning disability or ADHD and achievement (including the impact the achievement has had on the nominee and others).
2. A personal statement from the nominee describing how he/she has dealt with the challenges associated with the learning disability or ADHD.
3. Supporting materials that confirm or demonstrate the nominee's achievement.
4. Documented proof of the candidate's LD or ADHD (a few pages from an IEP, e.g.).
5. A recent photo of the nominee.

Please type your description (no more than 2 pages) and attach all pages and documentation before mailing to the address at the top of this form. Applications must be postmarked by January 31, 2016.

Consent by Parent/Guardian (required)

I hereby authorize **Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities (SKLD)** to use and release information contained in the application for the Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award that I am submitting on behalf of _____ (state name of child), who is my _____ (state legal relationship with child). I understand that SKLD may release information including the Nominee's name, likeness, and narrative information (but not including details of the diagnosis, IEP plan or other supporting documentation) in its newsletter(s), promotional and other written and visual material, presentations and outreach efforts. (Please note that SKLD will not release telephone numbers, email and street addresses or fax numbers without seeking your prior permission.) Additionally, if the child nominated above wins the 2016 award, I agree to attend the award ceremony on April 30, 2016 with the child (who will be expected to give a brief, 3- to 4-minute acceptance speech). Transportation costs and hotel accommodations will be provided by **Smart Kids** for the child and parents.

Signed: _____ Date: _____