

Update



HELPING PARENTS HELP THEIR KIDS SUCCEED

Smart Kids with Learning Disabilities Announces the 2019 Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award

We are now accepting nominations for the 2019 Fred J. Epstein Youth Achievement Award, a \$1,000 award that 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 19th Anniversary Benefit at the Indian Harbor Yacht Club in Greenwich, CT on the evening of Friday, April 26th. Transportation and hotel accommodations will be provided for the winning student and his/her parents.

The winner of the 2018 Award is Aja Capel from Urbana, IL who excels in engineering and robotics. A strong self-advocate, Aja, age 14, promotes robotics and STEM pursuits to other students, particularly under-represented groups. Her many awards include a Youth Service America Disney Be Inspired Grant.

A Special Recognition Award was presented to Josephine Olson of Winnetka, IL, and a Youth Achievement Award to Jack Quirion of Amston, CT. Six Honorable Mentions were also awarded. To view the 2018 award winners, please visit <http://www.smartkidswithld.org/2018-fred-j-epstein-youth-achievement-award-honorees/>

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/2019award.html. Please submit the application and documentation by the contest deadline of January 30, 2019 to **Smart Kids with LD**, 286 Indian Rock Road, New Canaan, CT 06840. To upload your application and documentation to the cloud, email us at YAA@SmartKidswithLD.org and we will send you a file request invitation. For information, contact us via email at YAA@SmartKidswithLD.org.



“I am a different thinker. I have what I prefer to call learning differences or “diffabilities” because my learning abilities are different—not less than; just different, and I believe different is amazing.” — AJA CAPEL

“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 | 161 East Avenue, Suite 104, Norwalk CT 06851 | 203.226.6831

Nominee

Name _____ Age _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

Nominee 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 286 Indian Rock Road, New Canaan, CT 06840. Applications must be postmarked by January 30, 2019.

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 2019 award, I agree to attend the award ceremony 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: _____