

NEWS RELEASE

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Jowonio Celebrates 40th Anniversary with Two Special Events!

Syracuse, NY – **2009 marks the 40th Anniversary of Jowonio!** The school was founded in 1969 by a small group of visionary parents who wanted an individualized educational approach for their children. From the beginning, Jowonio accepted a wide range of children, operating an inclusive educational program where typical children and children with special needs learn together in the same classrooms. Jowonio embraces ethnic, social, and economic diversity, welcoming families from all backgrounds and cultures. Today, with a dedicated staff that includes certified teachers, therapists, and social workers, Jowonio serves 180 young children and their families each year, and is nationally recognized as a model for inclusive education.

Jowonio's 40th Anniversary is being celebrated with two special events, both open to the public.

On **May 13, 2009**, **Stickley, Audi & Co.** presents the 4th annual ***Friends, Flowers & All That Jazz***, a festive evening of food, music, and fun in support of Jowonio School. Co-chaired by **Carolyn Audi Fischi & Kristine O'Brien**, Jowonio's premiere fund-raising event will feature delicious cuisine-sampling, highlighting some of the area's most talented chefs and their specialties. Favorite restaurants, bakeries, wineries and brewers will offer a variety of culinary delights at sample stations throughout the gorgeous **Stickley, Audi & Co. Showroom**. Classic jazz by the **Tom McKay Trio** will set the stage for a fabulous Silent Auction and popular raffles. **Tickets remain at last year's reasonable prices** of just \$60 per person or \$100 per couple. Tickets may be ordered by contacting Peter Irwin at pirwin@jowonio.org, or 315.445.4010, ext. 215.

On **October 16, 2009**, Jowonio School will present ***Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities***, an educational conference featuring Keynote Speaker **Paula Kluth**. An author of six celebrated books, and nationally recognized as a leading expert in the fields of inclusive education and autism, Kluth is in great demand as a speaker, consultant and teacher. The day-long conference will be held at the **Holiday Inn in Liverpool**, and will include break-out sessions on inclusion from childhood through adulthood. Attendees will be able to choose from a variety of presentations to meet their interests and educational needs.

The day will culminate with a joyous **40th Anniversary Dinner** for Jowonio families and friends, who will gather to celebrate and share the school's remarkable achievements in the field of inclusive education. The dinner will honor community individuals and organizations that have provided outstanding service to children and adults with special needs, and also recognize long-term Jowonio teachers and staff for their dedication to the school. Entertainment will be provided by the inclusive **Syracuse Community Choir**, whose diverse membership includes Jowonio alumni, parents, and staff.

For more information on Jowonio's 40th Anniversary events, please visit www.jowonio.org.

Calendar Listings

May 13, 2009

Stickley, Audi & Co. presents *Friends, Flowers & All That Jazz*

A festive evening of food, music and fun, in support of Jowonio School

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Stickley, Audi & Co. Showroom, Towne Center, Fayetteville

Tickets: \$60 per person, \$100 per couple; call (315) 445-4010, ext. 215

More information: (315) 445-4010, ext. 215; cb.jowonio@yahoo.com; www.jowonio.org

October 16, 2009

Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities

And **Jowonio's 40th Anniversary Dinner**

An educational conference featuring Keynote Speaker Paula Kluth, followed by a joyous evening honoring Jowonio School and other contributors to inclusive education

Exact times TBA

Holiday Inn, Liverpool

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Jowonio's mission is to provide model inclusive programs for young children, where diversity is celebrated and all are free to learn and grow.

JOWONIO

3049 East Genesee Street

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www.jowonio.org

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