

NEWS RELEASE

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Jowonio Presents Conference on Inclusion October 16 event designed for educators, therapists, parents and advocates

Syracuse, NY – On October 16, 2009, Jowonio School will present *Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities*, an educational conference featuring Keynote Speaker **Paula Kluth**. As the centerpiece of Jowonio's 40th Anniversary Celebration, the one-day conference will be held at the [Liverpool Holiday Inn](#), and will focus on inclusive education from childhood through adulthood.

Open to the public, *Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities* is designed to serve educators from pre-school through college, therapists, social workers, counselors, parents of children with special needs, and those who advocate for an inclusive society at the local, state, and national levels. Attendees may select from 10 different presentations that discuss the current state of inclusive practices and explore promising new models that promote optimal learning environments for everyone. A complete conference brochure, with registration form, is available at www.jowonio.org, or by calling (315) 445-4010, ext. 215.

On the evening of October 16, Jowonio will host a joyous **40th Anniversary Dinner** for families and friends, who will gather to celebrate and share the school's remarkable achievements in the field of inclusive education. Hosted by **Congressman Dan Maffei**, a Jowonio graduate, the dinner will honor community individuals and organizations that have provided outstanding service to children and adults with special needs. Entertainment will be provided by the inclusive **Syracuse Community Choir**, whose diverse membership includes Jowonio alumni, parents, and staff. Dinner information and registration is available at www.jowonio.org, or by calling (315) 445-4010, ext. 215.

Keynote Speaker Dr. Paula Kluth

Paula Kluth is a consultant, teacher, author, advocate, and independent scholar who works with teachers and families to provide inclusive opportunities for students with disabilities and to create more responsive and engaging schooling experiences for all learners. Her research and professional interests include differentiating instruction, and supporting students with autism and significant disabilities in inclusive classrooms.

Paula is a former special educator who has served as a classroom teacher, consulting teacher, and inclusion facilitator. She works with teachers in K-12 schools, pre-schools, and early intervention programs. She also regularly works with family organizations and disability-rights and advocacy groups.

She is the author of *"You're Going to Love This Kid": Teaching Students with Autism in the Inclusive Classroom*; the lead editor of *Access to Academics: Critical Approaches to Inclusive Curriculum, Instruction, and Policy*, and the co-author of four upcoming texts: *A Land We Can Share: The Literate Lives of Students with Autism*; *Joyful Learning: Active and Collaborative Structures for the Inclusive Classroom*; *You're Welcome: 30 Innovative Ideas for Inclusive Schools*, and *Just Give Him the Whale: 20 Ways to Support & Honor the Interests of Students with Autism*. For more information on Paula Kluth, visit www.paulakluth.com.

Jowonio School

Currently celebrating its 40th Anniversary Year, Jowonio School is a non-profit school enrolling children with a wide range of abilities both in home and school-based programs. 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.

For more information on Jowonio School, please visit www.jowonio.org.

Calendar Listings

October 16, 2009

Celebrating the Promise of Inclusive Communities

An educational conference featuring Keynote Speaker Paula Kluth

8:15 am – 4:00 pm

Holiday Inn, Liverpool

Registration: \$115.00, includes lunch (\$185.00 if registering for conference and dinner)

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

October 16, 2009

Jowonio's 40th Anniversary Dinner

A joyous evening honoring Jowonio School and community leaders in inclusive education

5:30 pm – 8:30 pm

Holiday Inn, Liverpool

Registration: \$80.00 (\$185.00 if registering for dinner and conference)

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

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

PHOTOS

The photos below are also attached in higher resolution.

Photo 1: Keynote Speaker Paula Kluth



Photo 2: Children thrive in an inclusive environment



JOWONIO

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www.jowonio.org

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