Congratulations, Class of 2018!

On June 22, seven Preschool students were honored in a graduation ceremony at the school. Families and teachers gathered to enjoy the students’ singing and the graduates’ beautiful spoken words about their favorite activities. Executive Director Dr. Pamela Paskowitz and Principal Amy Ryan distributed diplomas to Ali Abusharia, Serena Burns, Aiden Donnelly, Wilson Marte-Mejia, Sufyaan Mondal, Ahmad Nawaz and Dajoun Williams.
Speaking Out!
Summer 2018

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Our sincere appreciation to Paul
Lavenhar of PL Communications for
his generous donation of design and
production of the school’s newsletter.

Speaking Out is a publication of the
Development Office. Every effort for
accuracy has been made. We apologize
for any errors or omissions.

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Playtime is Also Learning
Time at the Preschool

Aiden and Lauren
Wacky Wednesday

Sufyaan dressed for the 100th Day of school

Robert and Finn at Cloverland Petting Zoo Visit

Father’s Day—Robert

Mother’s Day—Michael

Fun with Travelin’ Tumblers

Natalie and Even at Olympics Day

Releasing Butterflies
Retirement of Susan Chorost and Joan Rudominer

Susan Chorost retired from Summit Speech School this spring after 30 years of service. She worked superbly in many capacities--as a Parent Infant Specialist, “Speech Correctionist,” Preschool Coordinator, Interim Itinerant Mainstream Support Coordinator and a Technical Coordinator in our Audiology Department. Susan started her involvement with the school in 1969, when her son, Michael, entered our Preschool. The Rubella epidemic affected Susan during her pregnancy, and Michael was born hard of hearing. When Michael was 3, Susan finally found the right experts and obtained a proper diagnosis and hearing aids for her son. She had worked as a special education teacher of the blind, and quickly switched to teaching her deaf son to listen and speak. Michael’s first months in Summit Speech School brought out his ability to speak so quickly that it was “like turning on a lightbulb.” It is no wonder that Susan dedicated the rest of her career to achieving this practically miraculous transformation in other children.

Joan Rudominer retired from Summit Speech School in June after 18 years of service. She taught the infants, toddlers and parents in our Parent-Infant Program with great dedication, compassion and success. Joan, also known as “Auntie Joan” to some of the students, was a warm, steady presence in the homes of families in our early intervention program. She not only taught her students, ages birth-3, to listen and talk, but also kindly and clearly pushed parents to reach for the stars so that their children could fully participate in the hearing world. Joan gracefully imparted a sense of urgency to parents to talk, talk, talk about anything and everything in the crucial developmental years before age 3 when a baby’s brain is most ready to acquire spoken language. Joan was great with tiny children and great with parents at this complex process!

Save the Date!
Summit Speech School Listening Expo 2018

October 17th 2018 • 2:30 - 6:30

Hearing technology exhibits, short presentations, therapy and teaching tips, information on Listening and Spoken Language, giveaways and more!

Ideal for Directors of Special Services, Case Managers, Teachers, Speech Pathologists, Teachers of the Deaf, Audiologists and Parents.

Save the Date!
Summit Speech School’s 2nd Annual Benefit Concert

Mark Rivera & The Little Big Band
Rocking the Night Away with music, dinner, dancing, cocktails and auction

FAIRMOUNT COUNTRY CLUB
400 Southern Blvd. • Chatham, NJ

$150
Smart Casual Attire

Celebrating Over 50 Years
Summit Speech School's
2nd Annual Benefit Concert

Mark Rivera & The Little Big Band
Rocking the Night Away with music, dinner, dancing, cocktails and auction

FAIRMOUNT COUNTRY CLUB
400 Southern Blvd. • Chatham, NJ

$150
Smart Casual Attire
At the 28th Annual Spring Benefit, Summit Speech School celebrated the success of two recent public high school graduates, A.J. Dansky and Jack Sullivan, who were each born profoundly deaf and attended all of Summit Speech School’s programs from infancy on. Mothers Tracy Dansky and Laura Sullivan served as Co-Chairs of the Spring Benefit Committee and Masters of Ceremony at the event. The two fathers, Joe Dansky and Gerry Sullivan, presented their thoughts on the Gift of Speech, and the two young alumni delivered beautiful speeches on growing up as a deaf child. This year the audience also enjoyed a video featuring the two student speakers and their moms. The video is posted on our website www.summitspeech.org.

The April 24th event, attended by over 250 supporters, was held at Fiddler’s Elbow Country Club in Bedminster. The Honoree was local realtor Sue Adler, who runs the 100th Home Sale Charity Program and spreads the word about Summit Speech School to home buyers in Northern NJ. The School raised over $200,000 at the luncheon to support programs for deaf and hard of hearing children.

“With the professional help from Summit Speech School, I gradually began to catch up on the language path that had been blocked by my deafness.” - Jack Sullivan

“All thanks to my years at Summit Speech School and my cochlear implants: I go to sleepaway camp, I was captain of my high school basketball team, I get good grades, I have a part time job, I laugh with my friends, I play my music too loud, I go out on the weekends, I fight with my siblings, the list is never ending. My inability to hear the same way others do is something that will never change, but I don’t let it hold me back from anything.” - A.J. Dansky
The Spring Benefit Committee
Summit Speech School is very grateful to the members of the 28th Annual Spring Benefit Committee, who work hard as volunteers for many months to create such an elegant and successful fundraiser.

We are also grateful to our generous sponsors:

CHAMPION
Bayview Fund of the Community Foundation of New Jersey
Randi and David Silverstein

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Kay and Brian Preston
The Silver Lining of Summit
Stella & Dot – Leslie Minsch
ALUMNI NEWS

PLEASE SEND US YOUR NEWS (high school, work, college, sports, moves, marriages, children, and more...):

development@summitspeech.org We’d love to hear from you!

Implants
Magnetic, Cochlear,
Helping, Working, Listening
It’s amazing to hear!

—Poem by Devon Kiessling, middle school student

Alumna Sandra Honig: Sandra started Summit Speech School at 17 months and graduated at age five. She graduated from the highly acclaimed Academy for Information Technology (AIT) in Scotch Plains and attended Springfield College in Massachusetts and received her BS and MS in Physician Assistant Studies in 2016. Sandra is currently a physician assistant practicing gastroenterology in the southcoast region of Massachusetts. She continues to swim competitively in open swim competitions after swimming on her college team.

Alumna Lina Reiss, Ph.D., from the Preschool class of 1980, is now an Associate Professor in the Otolaryngology Department at Oregon Health and Science University, and researches hearing loss, hearing aids, and cochlear implants. Identified with profound hearing loss at age 2 1/2, Lina was able to go to mainstream K-12 schools, graduate from Princeton University and earn her Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins University.

Alumna Delia Preston, will start in September at the Morris County School of Technology’s Academy for Design, a public high school “of choice” that draws students from across Morris County and combines comprehensive academics with Career and Technical Education. Delia’s passion has always been fine art, and she is excited to focus on this area of study in high school.

New Parent to Parent Evening Meeting Series

This past school year Summit Speech School initiated a new, free public Parent to Parent evening meeting series for networking and information on topics such as siblings, grandparents, transition, advocacy, technology, literacy, and community. The meetings start with a guest speaker followed by questions and answers and story sharing.

This spring, pediatric audiologist Jane Madell spoke about her new film, The Listening Project. Her documentary showed young adults speaking about growing up deaf in a time of rapidly improving hearing technology. Their poignant stories told of loving family support, stinging judgment by others, career challenges and successes, and the importance of accepting their deafness on their own terms. One of our Summit Speech School students, Becca Von Langen, is featured in the film.

Returning Alums Inspire Parent Training Group

Several Summit Speech School alumni graciously returned to help parents in the Parent Infant Program by talking about their challenges and successes as technology-assisted deaf teenagers in the hearing world. They explained how they built a comfort level with their hearing devices and communicated the nature of the technology to their mainstream teachers and other students.

The also related how they explored interests and made friends in sports, music, and social and community activities. We thank these students for being an inspiration and vision of hope for the parents just starting out their journey.

Nancy Schumann, Alum Anne Kleinle, Mom Joanne, Danielle Catanzaro, Anne’s SSS Preschool Speech Therapist

Jane Madell presents her film to parents

Alum Carly Skibinski, Audiologist
Ellen Hansen, Executive Director
Pamela Paskowitz, and Alum Dayle Paustian

Alum Ian Bregman with Teacher of the Deaf Elfie Eismann and Mom Maia Bregman

Nancy Schumann and Dayle Paustian

Alum Jeffrey Plump

Alum Marissa Perrone, Parent Infant Coordinator
Nancy Schumann, and Alum Angie Philipschek
Tributes Received: January 1 through July 31, 2018  Gifts to our Tribute Fund are a thoughtful way to recognize an anniversary, remember a friend, associate, or relative while providing needed support for the children we serve. An acknowledgment is sent to the person or the family of the individual recognized. Your name and the purpose of the gift will be known, but not the amount of the gift. Your gift is tax deductible. Note: Minimum tribute donation is $25.00

IN HONOR OF . . .
The Chorney Family
NY/NJ Link Developer LLC.
Joseph Colamedici
Gloria Jean Morton
AJ Dansky
Lisa & Evan Druckman
Kelly & David Ianello
Joan Rudominer
AJ Dansky and the 2018 Spring Benefit
Michele & Jason Frieder
Jenny & Gary Grossman
AJ Dansky and her speech at the 2018 Spring Benefit
Leslie & Neil Lilien
Ruth Steckelman
AJ Dansky’s acceptance to Tulane University
Diana Lieb & John Sands
Max Dansky’s Bar Mitzvah
Leslie & Neil Lilien
Diana Lieb & John Sands
Bunny & Stephen Schwartz
Lisa Delano
Paul Funari
Conor Doherty
Shirley & Jon Shook
Jonathan Eichler’s Bar Mitzvah
Beth Kramer
Arlan Eisler’s Birthday
Sylvia & Bruce Brauner
Arlan Eisler’s Speedy Recovery
Diana Lieb & John Sands
Lauren Frumkin
Arlene & Mitch Frumkin
TJ Hacker
Stephanie R. Sheaffer
Nancy Hovey
Joan Dancker
Nancy Hovey’s 60th Birthday
Joan Dancker
Daniel Khouri
Herbert Buehler
Noah Kramer’s College Graduation
Beth Kramer
Ken Libby
Kevin Libby
Kathy & Charles Luchs
Kelly A. Erhardt-Wojie
Lucia Mangano
Lisa Belli
Heather McBride
Kevin Libby
Jasmine N. McCall
Rita Ridley
Tom O’Neill
Elizabeth & Gerard O’Neill
Delia Preston
The Estevez Family
Natalie Rosenthal
Jennie Rubin
Nancy Schumann
Brian Saluzzo
Poppy Segal’s Special Birthday
Suzy & Michael Freeman
Neil Kaufman
Jo & Louis Silverstein
Max Silverstein
Hattie Segal

IN MEMORY OF . . .
Frances Barker
Susan Ford
Lillian Buehler
Herbert Buehler
Mary Chesnavage
Mary Ann & Frank DeCristofano
William Houpit
John Becker
Susan Chorost
Nancy Grune
Ellen K. Hansen
Tracy & Steve Nickelsburg
Pamela Okaly
Pamela A. Paskowitz
Angela & William Schneller
Robin Von Langen
Claire Kantor
Karen & John Bodnar
Yogesh Kumar Khanna
Rajat Khanna
James McNamee
Madeline & Joseph Longo
Robert Morton
Gloria Jean Morton
William Reynolds
Pamela A. Paskowitz
Barbara Ann Ryan
Anonymous
Maria & Joseph Artelli
Janice & Richard Campbell
Carmen Covert
Patricia & Christopher Jackson
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Simon’s Birthday and Wedding Anniversary
Melanie Simon & Mark Flinn
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Martha & David Clarkson
Joan Rudominer
The Teachers at Summit Speech School
Dorothea Riedinger
Ellen Tompkins Thibodo
Solar Landscape
Tristan Trabije
Thelma Tabije
Maxx Wortman
Deborah & Michael Balesterri
Adeline Grace Yankoski
Margaret & Jerry McKitish

Players enjoyed the best weather possible on Wednesday, May 9th at Roycebrook Golf Club in Hillsborough for Neil’s 16th Annual Charity Golf Event. Supporters netted over $8,000 for Summit Speech School’s programs that teach deaf children to listen and talk.

Neil Kleinwaks, one of Summit Speech School’s most energetic supporters, organized the event and was auctioneer and master of ceremonies at the post-game luncheon. Thank you Neil and thank you to our generous sponsors:

Neil Kleinwaks, Auctioneer and Event Host

Mike Duffy, Mark Schlobohm, Scott West
Remember Summit Speech School in your Will or Trust!

Have you ever wanted to make a substantial gift to Summit Speech School but paused to do it because you might need those funds for yourself in the future?

If you said “yes,” then there’s an easy answer. You can donate to Summit Speech School with a specific dollar amount in your will or with a percentage of your estate. You can alter your plans at any time based on your personal circumstances.

Including Summit Speech School in your estate plans allows you to create a beautiful legacy gift that continues to transform the lives of deaf children so they can fully participate in the hearing world.

Thank You!

To learn more about planned giving, simply contact Jerry Volk, Director of Development at 908-508-0495 or by email at jvolk@summitspeech.org.