

2014 OUTSTANDING ARTS ADVOCATE AWARD

The Lauren & Emily Failla Foundation

With its mission of “Creating a nurturing atmosphere for the expression of health, wellness, art, understanding and compassion for those in the communities Lauren and Emily touched,” the Failla Foundation has been a model of arts advocacy. One of its signature projects as a new foundation was to provide the support needed for Morris Arts to reinstate its highly successful Artist Mentoring Program at Morristown High School during the 2011 spring semester. The Foundation’s mission meshed beautifully with this nurturing, creative art program that enables several highly talented, dedicated art students to work closely with professional artists - developing their talents and assembling their art portfolios enhancing the students’ applications for scholarships, art school admissions and/or careers in art. “Through art, they can build up their confidence ,” said Frank Failla, noting that his daughter Lauren was an artist. “She was so expressive with her art, but she was so shy about showing it to people.”

A Morristown High School senior student expressed appreciation in the following words:

“Mentoring has allowed me to develop my portfolio, and to grow as an artist. It has given me a place to come and be with other students that love art. The program creates a good place for young artists to work and learn. It’s perfect because everyone is here for the same reason, and we love art. I know my art would not be where it is today without the Mentoring

Program”

With the Failla Foundation’s support, Morris Arts also provides each graduating senior with a, professionally photographed disc of their portfolio of works, For two successive years, the Mentoring students were tapped by Mentor Dan Fenelon and the National Park Foundation to help design and create ornaments for New Jersey’s tree for the National Christmas Tree display in President’s Park in Washington D.C.! Mentoring program students go on to attend college arts programs at such institutions as The Philadelphia Art Institute, the Maryland Institute College of Art, the Pratt Institute, the Parsons School of Design, the Fashion Institute of Technology, and Savannah College of Arts and Design, among others.

Therefore, for their commitment to the arts and their advocacy through steadfast support of such programs as the Art Mentoring Program at Morristown High School, Morris Arts is delighted to award the 2014 Outstanding Arts Advocate Award to the Lauren & Emily Failla Foundation.

We invite members of the Failla Family to come forward to accept the award.

March 27, 2014