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LIU Post Student Honored with AHRC Foundation Scholarship Award

(Woodbury, NY) – After overcoming her own struggle to receive accommodations in the educational system, Kaitlyn Lynch (**Mount Sinai**) became inspired to dedicate her life to being an advocate for children with diverse learning styles and needs. This year’s recipient of the Blanche Fierstein Scholarship Award, Lynch was honored at AHRC Foundation’s 64th annual Rose Ball in June.

The scholarship commemorates the extraordinary contributions of dedicated Board Member, Blanche Fierstein and supports exceptional candidates pursuing advanced degrees in the field of special education.

Lynch is a current graduate student at LIU Post, pursuing a Master’s degree in Childhood Education/Special Education. In addition to pursuing her advanced degree, Lynch is a special education teacher in the New York City Public School System and has completed numerous student teaching placements over the years.

Lynch’s personal obstacle solidified her desire to teach children with special needs and has given her the insight to help them succeed. “I understand and appreciate the accommodations needed for these special learners, and will fight to see that these needs are met,” said Lynch.

Through her education and work experiences, Lynch has had the opportunity to impact a diverse array of children with special needs and is inspired by her students each day. “As an educator, it is my job to ensure that my students are learning and excelling to the best of their ability in the classroom regardless of outside factors,” noted Lynch.

Blanche Fierstein’s impact is one that AHRC Nassau hopes to instill in others through awarding the scholarship annually. Fierstein will continually be remembered as an uncompromising leader in the field of special education whose singular vision and ability to inspire others shaped special education curricula and created unprecedented opportunities for people with special needs.

Background: In 1994, the Nassau County AHRC Foundation, a non-profit, tax-exempt organization, was formed to ensure that regardless of budget cuts and changes in the political and economic climate, compassionate, community-based programs for people with intellectual and other developmental disabilities will continue now, and for future generations.

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Photo caption: Rose Ball Chairman and AHRC Board of Directors Vice President, Tom Moore, alongside Andrea Fierstein, daughter of Blanche Fierstein, and AHRC Board of Directors President, Howard Jurist, presented Kaitlyn Lynch with the Scholarship Award at the Rose Ball.