



2009 New Jersey State Jefferson Awards



Sam Beard, co-founder of the Jefferson Awards, Josh Stein (son of Andrew Stein who accepted the award), and Daria Placitella, Executive Vice President, Eastern Region, PNC Wealth Management

Honoree Andrew Stein with George Arwady, Publisher of The Star-Ledger

“Do you know someone who makes a difference in your community?”

If you do, then nominate them for the prestigious Jefferson Award by visiting www.nj.com/jeffersonawards

Jefferson Awards honor ordinary people who, through public service and volunteerism efforts, do extraordinary things for other people, their community, their nation, or the environment.



Linda Bowden, President
PNC Northern New Jersey

Honoree Andrew Stein

Andrew B. Stein of Watchung was nominated by Sharyn Stein for establishing the Orphaned Starfish Foundation. OSF is dedicated to working with orphans and disadvantaged children in Latin America. Their goal is to foster lasting change in the lives of these children by providing them with technology training. Struck by the lack of opportunity he saw for the children while visiting an orphanage in Chile, Andrew took action by creating the foundation. OSF has funded the installation of seventeen computer centers in orphanages in Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, Mexico, and Panama. Today, the foundation treats over three thousand children and has implemented programs for scholarships, job training, and job placement. For his dedication to the least fortunate amongst us in the poorest of situations in the developing world, Andrew deserves to be honored.

OSF will celebrate its Fifth Annual Dinner and Auction Gala on Thursday, October 22nd, 2009 at the Ritz Carlton, Battery Park, New York. For more information, visit www.orphanedstarfish.org.

To read the full essay and to learn more about this year's honorees, please visit www.nj.com/helpinghands/jeffersonawards

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