



Orange County Government  
Office of County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus  
**NEWS RELEASE**

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**County Executive Neuhaus helps celebrate 35<sup>th</sup> annual Youth Bureau  
Awards luncheon**

*Approximately 400 guests joined in the celebration of 97 honorees*

Goshen, N.Y. – Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus on Wednesday attended the Orange County Youth Bureau’s Annual Luncheon and presentation of the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual County Executive’s Youth Awards at Kuhl’s Highland House in Middletown.

“The students who were recognized today are doing wonderful things in their communities and should be proud of their accomplishments,” Neuhaus said. “It’s important to honor these young men and women and their families. Today’s luncheon was a terrific event for our Youth Bureau, which does a great job providing programs and services for children and families in Orange County. Being around young people like these is always an inspiration to me.”

Approximately 400 guests joined in the celebration of 97 honorees, which included students from Orange County, youth workers, school-based professionals, local businesses and County employees. Many students honored with the Positive Change Leading to Success Award have overcome tremendous adversity to be successful and become role models for other youth. A number of youth receiving the Spirit of Success Award have proven to be an inspiration in spite of significant physical and/or medical difficulties. Other youth who make significant contributions in their communities received the Outstanding Citizenship/Volunteerism/Leadership Award.

Adults, business and community partners were also recognized for their many contributions that make a difference in the lives of young people and their families. The award nominations were submitted the beginning of spring by Orange County schools, municipalities and not-for-profit community-based organizations that work with children/youth. Winners were selected by members of the Awards Committee, which consists of members from the Youth Bureau's Youth Advisory Board.

“This luncheon is a wonderful opportunity to recognize inspiring youth and the adults and businesses that support them,” Orange County Youth Bureau Director Rachel Wilson said. “We appreciate that County Executive Neuhaus continues to be supportive of this event and all of our Youth Bureau initiatives. We're grateful for the investments from the County Legislature, State Office of Children and Family Services, and donations from the Community Foundation of Orange and Sullivan's Friends of the Orange County Youth Bureau fund have helped us provide monetary awards and medals over the years.”

For more information, contact Justin Rodriguez, Assistant to the County Executive for Communications and Media Relations at 845.291.3255 or [jrodriguez@orangecountygov.com](mailto:jrodriguez@orangecountygov.com).

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(From left to right) Orange County Executive Steven M. Neuhaus with Ja'hlaysia Brown and Maritza Soto of the Boys and Girls Club of Newburgh at the Orange County Youth Bureau's Annual Luncheon at Kuhl's Highland House in Middletown on Wednesday, June 7th. Brown and Soto were recipients of Positive Change Leading to Success Award (grades 2-8);



Orange County Youth Bureau Director Rachel Wilson speaks to the audience at the event.