

Dr. William R. Stixrud Honored by The Siena School

Prominent Psychologist and Key Leaders Receive Siena Awards for Leadership and Service in Learning Disabilities



Dr. William Stixrud receives the Siena Cypress Leadership Award.

SILVER SPRING, MD, October 19, 2007 – The Siena School (“Siena”) honored **William R. Stixrud, Ph.D.** yesterday as the recipient of The Siena School’s first annual **Cypress Leadership Award**. The award was presented at Siena’s annual fall ceremony held at the school last night. Dr. Stixrud’s Silver Spring practice is among the region’s largest and most widely recognized for its service to students with learning differences and disabilities. Siena also presented three other organizations with its **Key Supporter** award for their service.

“I am truly honored to receive this award,” said Dr. Stixrud. “Given the fact that there are so many talented and dedicated professionals in our community who serve students with learning disabilities, to be selected as the first honoree is particularly fulfilling. It is also fulfilling for me to be associated with The Siena School, which I perceive to be a school with a beautiful mission and the integrity and leadership to carry it out. Students with learning disabilities need educational environments in which they feel both safe and challenged, and it is clear to see that this is what you are creating at Siena.”



In addition to receiving the Cypress Leadership Award, Dr. Stixrud was also presented with citations from **Congressman Chris Van Hollen** and **Maryland State Delegate Jane Lawton**.

“Dr. Stixrud is a hero to this community and to me personally,” said Martha Silk, speaking on behalf of the Learning Disabilities Association of Montgomery County and her personal experiences as a teacher and tutor. “His work has positively impacted the lives of countless families and children in the local area.”

The **Siena School Cypress Leadership Award** was established to annually recognize those individuals who have made exceptional and lasting contributions to the education of children and young adults with learning disabilities. Italian cypress trees have been grown for centuries in honor of famous people. The Siena School also incorporates the cypress tree in its logo to embody its mission of individual growth and development.

In addition to the leadership award, Siena presented its **Key Supporter** award to three individuals and organizations that have generously supported The Siena School’s growth and development over the past year, including:

- **Guinevere Eden, Ph.D.** – a leading scientific researcher in the field of dyslexia;
- **NeuroBehavioral Associates** – a Columbia, MD neuropsychological practice, including Dr. Vince Culotta, Dr. Kirk Griffith and Dr. Sarah Weden; and
- **Meltzer Psychological Services Center, The George Washington University** – for its support of Siena’s programs and directed by **Dr. Risa Broudy**.

Honorees at last night's Siena Fall Awards Ceremony



Pictured (L to R): Dr. Guinevere Eden, Dr. Kirk Griffith, Dr. Risa Broudy, Dr. William Stixrud, Erik Heyer, Dr. Sarah Weden, Dr. Vince Culotta

Last September, The Siena School opened in Silver Spring, MD to provide an outstanding educational program for bright, college-bound students who are challenged by language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia. With the support of numerous local professionals, educators and parents, and under the direction of an award-winning staff, Siena is well on its way to becoming one of nation's premier schools serving students with learning differences.

About William R. Stixrud, Ph.D. - William Stixrud and Associates

William Stixrud is director of William Stixrud and Associates in Silver Spring, Maryland. A licensed psychologist who has been in private practice as a neuropsychologist since 1985, Dr. Stixrud specializes in the evaluation of children, adolescents, and adults with learning disabilities, and in the promotion of self-esteem in children. Prior to entering private practice, Dr. Stixrud served as a staff neuropsychologist at the Children's National Medical Center and the Georgetown University Medical School. He currently is a member of the Clinical Neuropsychology Supervisory Faculty at Children's National Medical Center and holds an appointment as Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the George Washington University Medical School. He has also served as a consultant to the Division of Neuropsychiatry at the



National Institutes of Health. A frequent lecturer on topics related to neuropsychological assessment, learning and executive disorders, brain development, stress, motivation, and sleep, Dr. Stixrud is the author of a book, Plain Talk About Early Development, and has authored book chapters and/or articles on children with epilepsy, adolescent brain development, self esteem, and homework.

About The Siena School

The Siena School is an outstanding new private school in Silver Spring, Maryland serving bright, college-bound students with language-based learning differences, such as dyslexia. Siena's staff and board of advisors include distinguished national, state and local education leaders and professionals. The school was established in 2006 and will grow to serve students in grades 4 – 12. Siena's program is designed for students with mild to moderate learning needs who are experiencing a discrepancy between their academic achievement and intellectual abilities in one or more areas such as reading, writing, oral expression or math. Siena delivers an individualized educational program featuring small class sizes, research-based instructional methodologies, a highly trained staff and an educational environment specifically designed to meet the unique needs of our students. For further information, The Siena School can be contacted at (301) 592-0567 or on the web at www.thesienaschool.org.

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