

April 27, 2015

Stuttering Association for the Young 55 West 39th Street Suite 1001 New York, NY 10018

Dear Friends:

It is an honor to send my personal well-wishes as you celebrate the Stuttering Association for the Young's 13th Annual Benefit Gala.

As you know, I personally understand the terrible fear and frustration of a stutter. My stutter embarrassed me and made me question myself and my abilities daily. But, I was lucky to find love and support through my family. For more than a decade, the Stuttering Association for the Young has welcomed children who stutter into a community that understands their challenges with speech. Through a summer camp, after school and weekend programs, and speech therapy, the Stuttering Association for the Young makes sure that every child has a chance to succeed.

If I could share one piece of advice with all of the children, teens, and adults at this year's Gala, it would be this: When you commit yourself to a goal and when you persevere in the face of struggle, you will discover new strengths and skills to help you overcome not only this challenge, but future life challenges as well. I promise you—you have nothing to be ashamed of, and you have every reason to be proud.

Again, thank you for never relenting in your important work. I wish you nothing but the best in the days and years to come.

Joseph R. Biden, Jr.