



## **Rising Star Award**

Catherine Hudak joined iMentor this fall and was matched with a 15 year old girl from Brooklyn. Catherine's mentee has a big heart but has been faced with very serious challenges in her life. As if by instinct, Catherine knew exactly how to support her and share advice in a way that her mentee could be open to and understand. It has not been easy, but Catherine still was able to be a sort of lifeline to her mentee throughout this trying year. The impact Catherine has had on her mentee and will continue to have is simply too large to measure. It is with great respect and gratitude that we present Catherine with this Rising Star Award tonight.

## **Longevity Award**

Richard Frank has been mentoring with us since 2006 and we feel so lucky to have him in our iMentor community. If you want to spot Richard in the crowd at an iMentor event, he is the mentor who is leaning forward, nodding earnestly as he actively listens to his 17 year old mentee. His enthusiasm can't be beat. Richard understands the importance of being a consistent force in a young person's often unpredictable life and is proactive in every communication he has with his mentee. As his program coordinator says, "Richard is super genuine, and this translates into everything he does." It is for serving as such an inspiring role model over the years at iMentor that we present Richard with this Longevity Award.

## **iMentor Dedication Award**

Joe Mellilo has been a mentor with us for 10 years and has mentored 5 teenagers in our program. Joe enthusiastically goes out of his way to attend events, and if his mentee cannot make it he gladly steps in for absent mentors. His program coordinators throughout the years have been impressed with his positive outlook and ability to communicate so well with mentees. By demonstrating such strong values, Joe has inspired mentees to hold themselves accountable for their actions, view the world optimistically and attend class consistently. Joe will be the first person to tell you that iMentor is one of the most important aspects of his life, and it is for this sort of dedication that we present Joe with this iMentor Dedication Award.