

Dr. Jay Curtis Stager was honored with the 2023 Dr. Elizabeth W. Thorndike Adirondack Achievement Award in recognition of his contributions to climate change and lake ecology research. His writing has been featured in prominent publications, such as National Geographic and the New York Times, and he is the author of four books. Additionally, he serves as the Draper-Lussi Endowed Chair in Paleoecology and Lake Ecology at Paul Smith's College. At the same awards ceremony, Tanner Pignone was presented with the 2023 Richard D. Morse Award, recognizing his successes as a student and musician at the College. As a Marine Corps reservist, Tanner finds parallels between the duties of the military and his music. Assemblyman Billy Jones attended the event, offering congratulations to the awardees and presenting his legislative priorities. Remarkably, Kary Johnson, Tanner, and Curt performed an Adirondack version of "Country Roads" at the Awards Luncheon. Pictured at left and clockwise: Assemblyman Billy Jones; Dan Fitts, Paul Smith's College Trustee Kathy Welling, Curt, and Paul Smith's College Professor and ARC President, Mel Johnson; Kary Johnson, Tanner, and Curt performing; and Tanner Pignone. Photos by Stephanie Tyski.