

Contact Information:

Tools for Life – Georgia’s Assistive Technology Act Program

Georgia Institute of Technology | AMAC Accessibility

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Anne Mahaffey Ladd wins the **2017 Tools for Life Melinda Quinn “Squeaky Wheel” Award** at the Institute Designed for Educating All Students (IDEAS) Conference

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

St. Simon’s, Georgia | June 2017 – Anne Mahaffey Ladd, Program Specialist with Georgia Department of Education, was presented with the prestigious **2017 Tools for Life Melinda Quinn “Squeaky Wheel” Award** on June 5, 2017. Anne won the hotly contested prize over other nominees throughout Georgia.

The Tools for Life Assistive Technology Awards Ceremony has been a tradition within Georgia for the last 21 years. The Tools for Life Melinda Quinn Award recognizes and honors an individual who has worked at the community level to develop local grassroots efforts through advocacy. This award was created by Tools for Life, Georgia’s AT Act to promote creativity and encourage AT and universal design principles for equal access of all people.

Anne Mahaffey Ladd accepted the Tools for Life Melinda Quinn “Squeaky Wheel” Award in person in front of 900 educators and assistive technology professionals from throughout Georgia at IDEAS. Anne rose above the other nominees for a variety of reasons; including her ability to advance understanding, access, and acquisition of assistive technology.

Ms. Mahaffey Ladd received a unique hand-crafted bowl created exclusively for the Tools for Life AT Award Winners by Georgia artisans, In the Woods Studio, LLC. These beautiful pieces serve as a reminder of the knowledge, skills and abilities that overflow from Ms. Mahaffey Ladd’s “bowl” as she assists students and other individuals with disabilities in achieving their educational and lifelong goals.

Tools for Life, Georgia's Assistive Technology Act Program, is dedicated to increasing access to and acquisition of assistive technology (AT) devices and services for Georgians of all ages and disabilities so they can live, learn, work and play independently and with greater freedom in communities of their choice.

Find out more at www.gatfl.gatech.edu.