

# JASMINE MACIAS

July 17, 2000 - August 14, 2008



## JASMINE'S STORY

*Jasmine started her schooling at Oneonta in 2004 when she was 4 years old, in the preschool class with Ms Irma. In the beginning she was soft spoken, shy and quiet but very soon blossomed into a beautiful little girl with a heart of gold. She enjoyed coming to school and everyone wanted to be her friend.*

*Early in the summer of 2008, Jasmine, along with her mom and grandma went on a fun vacation to Spain. During the vacation Jasmine was often very tired and on the trip home took a turn for the worse. When they arrived in Los Angeles, her mom took her straight from the airport to see*

*her doctor. After many tests, Jasmine was diagnosed with leukemia and admitted to Children's hospital in Los Angeles where we all hoped she would receive the treatment that would help her get better.*

*Many of us were able to visit Jasmine in the hospital, taking with us presents, cards and letters from her friends at school. As always, Jasmine was her happy, perky self, showing us the many art projects she had made and talking happily about Hannah Montana, her favorite celebrity idol. She also told us really funny stories about what her friends did at school and how she missed being at Oneonta. We assured her that we missed her more and couldn't wait for her to return to school.*

*However, soon after our visit, her illness grew worse and finally took its toll on her little body. On August 14th, 2008, Jasmine passed away peacefully. It was with great sadness & sorrow that we said goodbye to our precious little friend who was a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader in Ms Vangie's class when she passed on.*

*Jasmine was a wonderful friend to all; she was kind, compassionate, trustworthy, tender, humble, helpful and sincere. Jasmine was not your typical 8 year old; she had a way of affecting everyone who knew her in a very positive way. On one memorable day, Ms Dorothy was sitting in her class, not in the best of moods & feeling down. Jasmine walked up to her and said, "Ms Dorothy, I like it when you smile." Coming from someone so little, this was very uplifting for Ms. Dorothy and she remembers it like it were yesterday.*

*Even when she was sick, Jasmine never wavered in displaying a positive attitude and her trademark happy nature. It is for this reason that we decided to celebrate Jasmine's memory in a very special way every year.*

*Jasmine's mom, Rosy, along with all of us at Oneonta, decided that we would keep Jasmine's memory alive by granting a \$500.00 tuition scholarship award to one special student who exhibited similar traits to*

*Jasmine's. Rosy would raise half the money for the award by selling Sees Candy during our annual fundraiser every December; the school would do the same.*

*Every year the elementary teachers nominate 2 children from each class, Kindergarten through 6<sup>th</sup> grade, who they feel qualify for the award. We then narrow it down to one student. We feel this student epitomizes the qualities that Jasmine so wonderfully displayed throughout her short life.*

*We want EVERYONE to know that we can all learn something from Jasmine's short life; that is, to smile more often, be kind to others and always reach out to those in need. This world will be a better place if we all live like Jasmine did in her short time with us.*

***REST IN PEACE LITTLE ONE!***