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### **Wartburg's New Memory Care Center Wins Architecture & Design Award**

MOUNT VERNON, NY – (November 6, 2024) This past month, Senior Housing News, a National Healthcare publication, announced that Wartburg's new memory care center (The Berkemeier Living Center) as a 2024 Architecture & Design Award winner.

The Senior Housing News Architecture & Design Awards recognize cutting-edge design, excellence and innovation in senior living. The annual awards contest celebrates unique projects and companies that are improving the lives of seniors through innovative design. "The entries for the 2024 SHN Architecture & Design Awards went beyond my expectations," said Tim Mullaney, Editorial Director of WTWH Healthcare. "This year, nearly 80 entrants pushed the envelope on innovative architecture and design across the continuum of care. They continue to raise the standards for care, operations and amenities through breathtaking projects."

The Berkemeier Living Center at Wartburg exemplifies modern architectural innovation, beautifully integrating contemporary design with cutting-edge technologies within a historic campus setting. This project represents a fresh reinterpretation of a traditional care model, honoring Wartburg's storied past while addressing present-day needs. The building not only meets the increasing demand for specialized services but also pays homage to Wartburg's second President, Reverend Dr. Gottlieb C. Berkemeier, who served as director for thirty-six years. Wartburg's Berkemeier Living Center secured third place in the Stand-Alone Memory Care category. Other awardees include LiveWell River Homes in Plantsville, CT and Story Cottage Meridian Hills in Indianapolis, IN.

KDA was both Architect and Interior Designer. Dr. David J. Gentner, Wartburg's President & CEO said, "KDA's approach complimented the unique character of the campus' architecture, topography, and neighboring buildings. Other design fundamentals included keeping short walking distances, using large windows with views and natural light. KDA was such a pleasure to work with and I have no doubt this healing environment will serve generations to come."

Architects Rob Scott and Jennifer Swasey from KDA commented, "The Berkemeier Living Center at Wartburg stands as a testament to thoughtful design that honors historical roots while embracing the future of senior care. KDA is honored to share in this achievement with David Gentner and the amazing Wartburg team. We celebrate the collaboration and



drive for innovation that focused on one goal – creating a dignified home for your cherished residents.”

A key feature of the first floor is the Music Therapy space, operated by the renowned Institute for Music and Neurologic Function (IMNF). This room is designed to enhance residents’ physical, emotional, and neurological well-being through innovative music therapy programs. The ceiling’s colorful, playful acoustical shapes not only provide a visually engaging environment but also ensure optimal sound quality. Additionally, an operable wall allows this space to expand or contract in response to program needs, linking it flexibly with the multipurpose area.

The building will be LEED (Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design) certified by the U.S. Green Building Council. Attaining LEED certification signifies that a building is exemplary in conserving energy, lowering operating costs and being healthy for occupants.

### **About Wartburg**

Nestled in Mount Vernon, NY, Wartburg stands apart with its holistic approach to senior living and healthcare. Unlike other adult communities, Wartburg offers a vibrant 34-acre campus where residents enjoy integrated services that extend well beyond typical care. Whether it is independent living, assisted living, rehabilitation or adult day care, Wartburg’s continuum of care is designed to meet diverse needs with excellence. Their dedication to families extends beyond medical care, providing robust caregiver support at every stage. Recognized as one of the "Best Nursing Homes in New York State" by U.S. News & World Report for a remarkable twelve years running, Wartburg continues to set the standard in senior care, fostering a community where well-being thrives.

Website: [www.wartburg.org](http://www.wartburg.org)

Facebook: [facebook.com/thewartburg](https://facebook.com/thewartburg)

Instagram: [instagram.com/wartburgadultcare](https://instagram.com/wartburgadultcare)

Twitter: [twitter.com/thewartburg](https://twitter.com/thewartburg)

YouTube: [youtube.com/wartburgny](https://youtube.com/wartburgny)

LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/the-wartburg-adult-care-community](https://linkedin.com/company/the-wartburg-adult-care-community)

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