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CONTACT: Rose Cappa-Rotunno
914-513-5179

Wartburg's New Memory Care Center Wins Lighting Design Award

MOUNT VERNON, NY - (July 5, 2025) This past month, Wartburg and KDA Architects won the 2025 PHILAMENTS AWARD from IES Philadelphia for the innovative lighting design of the Wartburg Berkemeier Living Center.

The Philadelphia Section, part of the Illuminating Engineering Society, is a not-for-profit technical society whose purpose is to advance lighting knowledge and disseminate information for the improvement of the lighted environment to benefit society.

The Berkemeier Living Center's award-winning lighting design features tunable circadian rhythm lighting that supports residents' natural sleep-wake cycles, appetite, and body temperature regulation. This innovative system enhances comfort and well-being—particularly for individuals living with Alzheimer's and other dementias—by creating a calming, supportive environment aligned with the rhythms of daily life.

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.

Dr. David J. Gentner, Wartburg's President & CEO said, "Wartburg's President and CEO Dr. David J. Gentner said, "In addition to large windows and natural light, the lighting engineers brought a tunable lighting nuance to the building which we believe will add to the peaceful living and working environment. Congratulations to KDA Architects, Alderson Engineering and the entire design team for this recognition."

Architects Rob Scott and Jennifer Swasey from KDA commented, "This recognition is a testament to the hard work, innovation, and dedication of our amazing team, as well as our commitment to creating spaces that inspire and support vibrant communities. A special shout-out to Jimmy Bates and **Alderson Engineering** for their expertise in engineering the lighting, which features tunable lighting designed to help regulate sleep, appetite, and body temperature cycles."



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 thirteen years running, Wartburg continues to set the standard in senior care, fostering a community where well-being thrives.

Website: www.wartburg.org

Facebook: facebook.com/thewartburg

Instagram: instagram.com/wartburgadultcare

Twitter: twitter.com/thewartburg

YouTube: youtube.com/wartburgny

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/company/the-wartburg-adult-care-community

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