

## **Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) Supports the 5th Annual Korey Stringer Institute (KSI) Gala**

*The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) recently attended the 5th Annual Korey Stringer Institute (KSI) Gala that was held at the NFL Headquarters, located in New York City. By attending PATS demonstrated their support of KSI and the lifesaving research and policy development they continue to investigate and implement.*

Harrisburg, PA ([PRWEB](#)) June 17, 2016 -- The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society (PATS) recently attended the 5th Annual Korey Stringer Institute (KSI) Gala that was held at the NFL Headquarters, located in New York City. The fundraising event looks to raise monetary contributions in order to provide research, education, advocacy and consultation to maximize performance, optimize safety and prevent sudden death in the athlete, soldier and laborer.

In August 2001, Korey Stringer, a Minnesota Vikings offensive lineman, passed away from exertional heat stroke. During Korey's five-year tenure in the NFL he earned pro-bowl honors. Since the time of Korey's death, his wife, Kelci, has worked tirelessly to develop an exertional heat stroke prevention institute to honor her husband's legacy. To that end, she joined forces with exertional heat stroke expert Dr. Casa at the University of Connecticut to make this dream a reality and the institute came to fruition in April 2010.

At this year's Gala, KSI announced the formation of a brand new state of the art performance lab on the University of Connecticut campus through the financial support from Mission Product Holdings, Inc. Also, they announced the partnership with the National Athletic Trainers' Association. Finally KSI gave out three awards in 2016 including the KSI Lifesaving Research Award to Frederick Mueller, the KSI Lifesaving Service Award to Rachel Oats, and the KSI Lifesaving Education Award to Lawrence Armstrong.

Dr. Douglas Casa, the CEO of KSI and Professor at the University of Connecticut, reported, "KSI celebrated its sixth year anniversary at the Fundraising Gala. During the event it was announced that the NATA would join KSI as a corporate partner. Given the rich history of projects that KSI and the NATA have partnered on it was a no-brainer that the relationship should be formalized."

The KSI serves the needs of active individuals and athletes at all levels – youth, high school, college, professional, people who are physically active, recreational athletes – and those who supervise and care for these individuals. Components of these services include: consultations, advocacy, education, research, athlete testing, and mass-market outreach.

Kesley Rynkiewicz, currently a King's College Athletic Training Student who will be attending graduate school at the University of Connecticut this summer stated, "I was privileged to have the opportunity to attend the KSI gala at the NFL headquarters in NYC as a PATS member. The event was one of the most memorable I have been able to attend throughout my undergraduate career." Further Kelsey went on to say, "It was an incredible experience where I was able to meet and network with some of the most influential leaders in the profession of athletic training while supporting the mission of the Korey Stringer Institute – preventing sudden death and promoting safety in sports."

The Pennsylvania Athletic Trainers' Society, Inc. is a progressive organization of licensed health care professionals who work under the direction of a licensed physician. Our society continues to increase public awareness and education regarding Athletic Trainers and the Athletic Training profession while serving as the



premier source of information for public safety, injury and illness prevention, early intervention, patient care, and healthcare delivery for the physically active in the Commonwealth.

“The Keystone to a Healthy and Physically Active Life”



**Contact Information**

**Mike Prybicien**

District 2 National Athletic Trainers Association

<http://www.natad2.org/>

+1 (201) 788-2961

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