

Tribute!

eliminating racism
empowering women **ywca**

2018 AWARDS CELEBRATION

Tuesday, October 30, 2018

#ywtribute

With Title Sponsor



FIFTH THIRD
BANK

AGENDA

YWCA Tribute Awards

October 30, 2018

Noon to 1:30 p.m.

DeVos Place

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Welcome

Lonna Wiersma

President, YWCA Board of Directors

Charisse Mitchell

CEO, YWCA

Tom Welch

Regional President, Fifth Third Bank Western Michigan

Luncheon

Awards Presentation

Emily Irish

Co-chair, Tribute Awards Planning Committee

Todd Harvey

Member, Tribute Awards Planning Committee

The 2018 Tribute Awards are dedicated in loving memory of Victoria Upton



Victoria founded *Women's LifeStyle Magazine* in 1998 as a positive force to uplift women while enhancing our community and our experiences within it. Through her publication, she was a passionate champion of the voiceless and elevated our untold stories into the spotlight. Victoria was an ardent supporter of local and women-owned businesses, the arts, and social equity. She was fiercely dedicated to local institutions through volunteering and partnerships with the YWCA, Community Media Center, Local First, ArtPrize, Grand Rapids Opportunities for Women, Gilda's Club, American Heart Association, Grand JazzFest, Women's Resource Center, and so many more. Through her robust vision, vigorous involvement, and unfailing ability to carve the extraordinary out of the mundane, she was known as an insatiably positive and inimitable force of inspiration across West Michigan. Her boundless enthusiasm and support impacted many in the community and she will be missed by countless numbers. Victoria's legacy will live on at *Women's LifeStyle Magazine* as they continue to honor and to tell the stories of the women in West Michigan. In the broader community, her vision — a place that passionately tells the stories of women — makes her a kindred spirit to the YWCA, the Tribute Awards, and all of those who share that same dedication.

ADVOCACY



Teresa Hendricks

Executive Director/Senior Litigator,
Migrant Legal Aid

Nominated by Mark C. Hanisch

Migrant. To Teresa Hendricks it means one thing – a new person in a new land deserving dignity and respect. It was her experience as a student in Spain – young, alone, and without a place to stay – and later as a breast cancer patient trying to navigate the medical system – frustrated and dismayed by the gaps in information provided to women – that has informed that belief.

Teresa joined Migrant Legal Aid as a summer law clerk more than two decades ago. Today, under Teresa's leadership, they serve the more than 95,000 migrant workers in West Michigan with programs to help with employment, fair pay, health care access, child labor, environmental concerns, and unfair credit practices, among others. Migrant Legal Aid also partners with agencies throughout the community to mitigate the marginalization of migrant workers.

Teresa and her team have won groundbreaking cases with lasting impact and recovered millions of dollars in wage theft and other damages. She established the Victim Language Access Coalition to close a loophole in previous court rules that were designed to assist victims with limited English proficiency. Through her work with the Grand Rapids Community Relations Commission, Teresa drafted an "Equal Services Policy" later adopted by the City Commission.

Teresa also developed a way to minimize the need for lengthy, drawn-out litigation against unscrupulous employers. In 2017, ABC News shined a national spotlight on a particularly unethical farm in West Michigan, resulting in the vendor being dropped by large retailers. With that as her foundation, Teresa has since obtained agreements from a number of grocery retailers pledging not to buy products brought to market with exploited labor.

In 2011, in treatment for breast cancer, Teresa learned that her diagnosis had been delayed for years because traditional mammograms are insufficient to detect tumors through dense breast tissue. Incredulous, she drafted legislation – now state law – to ensure others could be spared a similar experience by mandating patients be informed that they have dense breast tissue and the need for additional screening. Recognizing the migrant community she works with did not have similar information, she worked with local agencies to implement the first-ever targeted breast cancer awareness program for migrant women.

Teresa is currently working on additional legislation that calls for family practitioners to gather and examine family histories for hereditary cancers and to refer patients for further counseling. When the "Early Detection Matters" bill becomes law, it will be yet another example of Teresa's ability to improve lives and the future.



Colleen Holmes

Teacher,
Ottawa Hills High School
Nominated by Ellen Carpenter

For Colleen Holmes, her vision is simple: use art to create a platform for students to express themselves by sharing their stories and experiences.

Colleen uses social justice themes as a framework for her students' projects. In all the places she teaches, most of them have faced a form of social prejudice – whether they come from low-income backgrounds or are confronted with discriminatory challenges. Through art, Colleen helps them to understand how to navigate these feelings in a positive way. She believes art allows them to go beyond the boundaries of what they currently think while also challenging others' beliefs. For her students, she has created a safe, empowering place for them to visually express themselves and their lived experiences in a peaceful and positive way.

Colleen's educational path started early. She participated in Very Special Arts (now ACT, Artists Creating Together) as a student volunteer working with students with disabilities. For the last ten years, she has been a Visiting Artist for ACT bringing her Ottawa Hills High School (OHHS) students as volunteers.

Colleen's belief that art is social commentary provides her with the opportunity to incorporate service

learning as a means of helping students form their own perspectives by better understanding why their help is needed. Partnering with Community Rebuilders and their Housing Connections Center, which offers temporary housing for homeless veterans, she marshalled 120 OHHS students to create artwork honoring veterans, but only after they learned about the Center and those they serve. Working with United Way, Colleen involved OHHS' entire student body in Global Youth Service Day, making it the day's most active high school in all of Kent County. Colleen mentors the girls participating in OHHS' Young Women for Change chapter. She led a University of Michigan summer art camp for students, and secured grant funding to build beautification projects. Students at Grand River Preparatory have also benefitted from Colleen's instruction that emphasizes art with understanding.

For Colleen art has important features that help young people, especially those whose voices are muted by prejudice, ignorance, or isolation – it helps them realize they are capable of changing the world for the better, it creates relationships that can bridge the divides that isolate them, and it gives voice to their thoughts and dreams. She is a truly committed and innovative art teacher who values her students as individuals and immerses herself in supporting them to be successful.

BUSINESS, MANAGEMENT, INDUSTRY, AND LABOR



Jen Schottke

Vice President of Operations,
Associated Builders and
Contractors of Western Michigan
Nominated by Linda Vos-Graham

Jen Schottke has keenly grasped the key link between industry and education, connecting the construction sector to West Michigan's future workforce.

Jen's efforts within Associated Builders and Contractors of Western Michigan (ABC) substantially contributed to a national award in 2017 for workforce development. Jen has orchestrated a collaboration between the Literacy Center of West Michigan, Grand Rapids Community College, and West Michigan Works! to expand the English literacy skills of refugees and then open doors to interview with members of ABC. Jen was also instrumental in developing the ABC Career System – a yearlong recruitment, retention and graduation strategy to identify and match students who have aptitude for the construction industry with career opportunities.

Complementing her work at ABC, Jen chairs the Advisory Board for the Construction Workforce Development Alliance (CWDA) – a collaboration of trade organizations encouraging young people to employ their talents in construction related fields. In this role, Jen has created construction summer camps at Grand Rapids Community College. She was instrumental in establishing the CWDA's "Jump Start" training program that provides a pathway for young adults to receive skills training and ultimately secure employment in

the construction industry. Last year, 88 percent of the students immediately did so. Jen has planned the annual CWDA Rally, pitting construction professionals against one another in friendly competition to raise over \$80,000 for Jump Start scholarships.

Jen has been a leader at MiCareerQuest, an annual career exploration event for 9000+ students in Grand Rapids, where they can test-drive various careers through a unique hands-on experience. She also serves on the Advisory Council for the Academy of Design and Construction (ADC) at Innovation Central High School and chairs the fundraising committee, which has raised more than \$40,000 in the past five years. These dollars fund scholarships for ADC graduates, provide experiential opportunities for students, and furnish critical construction tools for student instruction.

In 2016, Jen expanded her work with Grand Rapids Public Schools when she was appointed to the Board of Education. One of Jen's top priorities is to change the conversation around career pathways by integrating career awareness and readiness into the required curriculum. Providing internships and mentors to students allows them to see how education translates into careers, and thereby transforms the way they approach academics.

In every arena she enters, Jen provides meaningful training and employment opportunities, closing the skills gap facing the construction industry, and building the workforce of our future.

COMMUNITY SERVICE



Dr. Carolyn King, M.D.

Child and Adolescent Psychiatrist,
Pine Rest Christian Mental Health
Services

Co-Founder, Reach Out to Youth
Nominated by Stephanie McNamara

The health and well-being of young people is Dr. Carolyn King's passion. She had dedicated herself to equipping them to be their best selves and to building a community that supports them in doing so.

Dr. King was significant in the creation of Pine Rest's Redwood Unit – one of only a few in-patient units in the nation and the first in Michigan – which fully integrates the complex treatment needs of patients with mental illness and substance use. As its inaugural psychiatrist, she was instrumental in developing its curriculum and protocols. Dr. King serves on the Consumers Issue Committee of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, a nationwide information resource. She is also an Assistant Professor of Clinical Psychiatry at Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine.

Especially close to Dr. King's heart is the organization Reach Out to Youth (ROTY), which she co-founded while still in medical school. Inspired by the adage "if you can see it, you can be it", ROTY encourages children in underrepresented communities to seek careers in science and, in particular, the medical field. In partnership with

medical schools throughout the state, thousands of children ages 7 to 11 years and their parents have participated in ROTY's interactive small group workshops focused on topics such as anatomy, physiology, nutrition, and clinical medicine, as well as preparing children for medical careers and how to lead a healthy lifestyle. For the ROTY program in Grand Rapids, Dr. King developed engaging activity books that have been translated into Spanish and French, and will soon be available in Polish, Chinese, and Arabic.

Issues of mental health can be complex, myth-laden, and difficult to discuss. Dr. King has worked to ensure that as a community we do not shy away from those conversations and distills otherwise confusing information so that it is understandable and accessible to everyone. She has hosted "Medical Moments on Fox 17" and co-hosted "Living Better with Dr. Carolyn King", a monthly show and blog on local radio station JQ 99. She is an annual guest on WOOD TV8 with Maranda in conjunction with ArtPrize, discussing the healing influences of art. Dr. King has also authored a soon-to-be-published book on gender education for young adults titled, "A Kid Named Syd".

At each turn, whether working directly with young people, their parents, or their community, Dr. King is using her gifts as an educator and a physician to build up our next generation and ensure the well-being of all.

PROFESSIONS



Dr. Barbara Wynn

Physician,
Emergency Care Specialists
Nominated by Ken Johnson, MD

Dr. Barbara Wynn embarked on a career in emergency medicine just as it was emerging as a specialty. She has since earned a reputation as a highly respected physician and leader at Spectrum Health's Helen DeVos Children's Hospital and Butterworth Emergency Department. She is involved with the department peer review team, previously serving as chair. She serves on Spectrum Health's quality board and is senior examiner for the medical boards. She also serves as clinical faculty for Michigan State University's College of Human Medicine and the emergency medicine residency program in Grand Rapids.

Alone, these accomplishments are noteworthy. Yet, it is her role as Medical Director of the YWCA's Nurse Examiner Program (NEP) that has helped to provide one of the greatest advances our community has seen in its efforts to address sexual and domestic violence.

Often the only female physician on duty when a victim of sexual assault or domestic violence arrived in the emergency department, Dr. Wynn regularly provided their care, so she well-understood the many challenges – a busy, chaotic environment; long waits for victims prioritized below more medically urgent cases; and a lack of interest from other physicians in conducting the tedious, time-consuming exams and the accompanying prospect of providing court testimony. When discussions

began locally about the creation of a Nurse Examiner Program, Dr. Wynn was an early proponent – advocating for the new model of care, underscoring the ability of specially trained nurses to conduct exams, providing input on protocols, helping to explain the benefits for both the victim and the hospital, and ultimately agreeing to serve as the program's medical director for its adolescent and adult patients.

Over the course of her 22 year tenure, Dr. Wynn has made herself available 24 hours a day, seven days a week. She regularly participates in grand rounds, case review, and the Sexual Assault Advisory Committee, and oversees any changes to medical protocols. In the courtroom, Dr. Wynn expertly and willingly testifies on nurse examiners' findings, which was particularly helpful in cementing the nurses' credibility and the program's reputation in its earliest days. She has co-authored more than 20 nationally published studies, thereby expanding forensic nursing research. Since first opening its doors, the YWCA NEP has cared for more than 6,000 patients, helped communities throughout Michigan establish similar programs, and become a national model.

For the whole of our region, Dr. Wynn has elevated the level of care patients receive by expanding our understanding; setting the highest standards for those she is charged with educating, mentoring, or advising; and demonstrating the most important part of medicine – human compassion.

SPORTS, FITNESS, AND WELLNESS



Dana Lee

Founder/Executive Director,
EmbodyGR

Nominated by Ruth Bell Olsson

Dana Lee is a teacher by trade and by heart.

With a master's degree in education, she has found her own way to expand our understanding of ourselves and one another. EmbodyGR uniquely combines the healing yoga brings to the individual with the healing that service brings to community. In doing so, she has become one of Grand Rapids' most sought after and recognized yoga professionals.

The structure of EmbodyGR is that of any typical non-profit, with a board of directors, mission, and service population. However, as Dana describes, it is more so a community dedicated to including those who are vulnerable, have fallen on hard times financially or emotionally, or need a safe place where they can be assured they will be welcomed and accepted just as they are. It is in such an environment that participants are healed and restored, and then can use that rejuvenation as inspiration to serve others.

Unchecked, stress can be detrimental to one's health. It's associated with high blood pressure, heart disease, obesity, and diabetes. It can disrupt everything from sleep and digestion to memory and concentration, which

in turn can hinder the body's ability to heal or exacerbate existing health conditions. For populations whose very circumstances – homelessness, social isolation, being the target of abuse or prejudice, addiction – create deep and chronic stress, access to yoga and its ability to relax and heal the body is profound.

In addition to her weekly gatherings held at Fountain Street Church, Dana brings EmbodyGR, free of charge, to those in most need throughout our community. In concert with its non-profit partners, EmbodyGR serves more than 400 people in the greater Grand Rapids area. Since its inception in 2014, it has offered over 7,500 hours of yoga, meditation, and empowerment training. Collectively, EmbodyGR participants have returned well over 2,000 hours of volunteer service back into the Grand Rapids community. Through her own personal struggles with an eating disorder, Dana keenly understands the importance of valuing oneself. With Dana's guidance, participants are helped to feel better in their bodies, minds, and hearts, and in turn, direct that energy into building up their community through volunteer service.

Dana's use of yoga as a medical intervention and a tool to build community is being tracked by Spectrum Health. However, Dana continues to measure her impact as she always has...one life at a time.

JUDY LLOYD STUDENT LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP

PRESENTED BY THE YWCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Judy Lloyd

September 18, 1945 to June 1, 2005

"If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader."

-John Quincy Adams

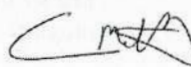
It was this way with Judy Lloyd as well. Her kindness and extraordinary grasp of the issues facing our community inspired countless people to follow her lead. She was a role model for us all, the most graceful and respected of leaders. Judy led in a quiet, unassuming way as she connected individuals and organizations to the benefit of those most in need. She was a cheerleader and a touchstone, knowing who to bring to the table to get a job done and then devoting herself wholeheartedly to the tasks needed to get there. She touched hearts and strengthened our community at the same time. Judy's passing was met with an outpouring of generosity in her memory, which the YWCA has housed at the Grand Rapids Community Foundation and directed to long-term support of our services — all to create a community supportive of women and their families that Judy loved so much.

Judy's two decades of influence at the YWCA is immeasurable. She participated on the Tribute Planning and Selection Committees and helped establish and grow the YWCA's Circle of Women Celebration (now Open Circle) exponentially. Judy was a member of our Finance Committee, helping manage finite resources to effectively address the seemingly

infinite challenges facing women and girls. She led the YWCA's Board of Directors during some of the organization's most historic moments and helped lay the foundation for fundamental change in the national YWCA. In each moment, with each task, Judy offered those she worked with warm words of encouragement and the practical hands-on help to succeed beyond expectations.

With a corps of volunteers who resemble Judy's dedication and quiet leadership, the YWCA has worked hard over the last century to create an environment that allows women and girls to thrive and lead. The Tribute Student Award is an extension of that. We honor those young women who — while still in high school — have already shown themselves to be gifted, competent models for us all. The connection between these young women and Judy is natural and apparent. It is most appropriate that the scholarship should bear her name.

Inspired by Judy's life and work, the YWCA Board of Directors chose to establish the Student Leadership Award in her honor. It is designed to offer practical help to this and future student honorees as they work to fulfill their dreams. It is in this way that we recognize Judy and commit ourselves to a future motivated by her values and example.



Charisse Mitchell, YWCA CEO

STUDENT HONOREE

RECIPIENT OF THE JUDY LLOYD STUDENT LEADERSHIP SCHOLARSHIP



Lauren Hudson

Senior,
Caledonia High School
Nominated by Kelly J. Green

Lauren Hudson loves sports. In sixth grade, she was excelling as a runner and a softball, basketball, and lacrosse player when a diagnosis of Perthes Disease—a rare childhood hip condition in which inadequate blood supply to the head of the femur causes the bone cells to die—sidelined her. The condition and treatments were so severe that she missed much of that school year, all of seventh grade, and most of eighth grade as well. She endured a total of twelve surgeries which included a total hip replacement. Although back on her feet, she still continues weekly physical therapy.

Despite the way that Perthes Disease dramatically impacted her at such a young age, Lauren has not been daunted. Even before rejoining her classmates at school, she joined the Diversity Council. After returning to class, she quickly made up for lost time. She found a new sport to pursue and is now one of the most esteemed members of the Caledonia High School ladies golf team. She maintains a 4.0 and has dual enrolled in college coursework for the past two years. Lauren is a member of the Student and Diversity Councils, is Homecoming Parade Coordinator, and was selected to serve as the Senior Leader to the Positive School Climate program.

Empathizing with the feelings of isolation that medical conditions can create for children, Lauren is a Youth Ambassador for the Children's Healing Center, a local organization that provides a safe, clean and engaging place for children with weak immune systems to play with others. She is the Senior Representative for the mentoring program, AMBY (A More Beautiful You), which pairs middle school girls with outstanding high school role models in a mentoring relationship. Lauren has designed and implemented programming to help the girls navigate changing friendships, seeking independence, personal health and beauty, changing bodies, online safety, career exploration, and more. She leads 70 young ladies at Kraft Meadows Middle School and consults with the district's second middle school as well. Through AMBY, Lauren also helped create and present "The Empowerment Project", a night dedicated to celebrating strong women and attended by more than 300 women.

Her interest in supporting other children and helping them to grow and learn is what guides her future plans as well. With a particular interest in working with children and families in the hospital setting, Lauren intends to pursue a career as a Child Life Specialist. From her own experience she has gleaned tremendous wisdom, and in each endeavor Lauren demonstrates compassion and commitment to improving the lives of others.