



The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.

Presents the

DOROTHEA M. LANG PIONEER AWARD

Honoring annually exceptional CNMs/CMs who have exhibited vision and leadership.

The Legacy of Dorothea M. Lang 1933 ~ 2017



The A.C.N.M. Foundation's most prestigious award is aptly named for the Foundation Past President, the late Dorothea M. Lang, CNM, MPH, FACNM, whose visionary leadership has advanced the profession of midwifery in countless ways. Perhaps it was the circumstances of her birth - being born into the hands of a midwife at the home of her missionary parents in Japan - that imbued her with the lifelong commitment to ensure that midwifery care is available to all women of the world. This tenacious commitment has become Dorothea's enduring legacy, which serves as an exemplary model for all midwives! Dorothea received her nurse midwifery education in 1959 from the combined Maternity Center Association/Johns Hopkins University affiliate program. In 1965, she received a Master of Public Health degree from Columbia University. Her professional accomplishments are numerous: she served as a midwifery consultant in Japan, Puerto Rico, throughout the U.S. and the world; she led ACNM as an officer and President; she was a member of the committee that developed the first Joint Statement with ACOG; she received many honors including the ACNM's prestigious Hattie Hemschemeyer Award; she served on the U.S. committee for the only ICM Triennial Congress held in the U.S. - the year was 1972 and ACNM had less than 1,000 members and represented ICM at the U.N. Perhaps the accomplishment that best exemplifies Dorothea's innovative and courageous pioneering spirit was her tireless promotion of the value of midwives for women and families in New York State. In 1965, when less than 50 U.S. midwives practiced full scope midwifery, she took on New York City. Beginning as a nurse educator in the Maternal-Infant Care Project, she convinced the city that midwives were integral to improving maternity care. She developed a separate department and developed programs that provided midwifery care from prenatal clinics, through the hospital, and back to the community. From two hospitals to 23 and leading the most comprehensive midwifery care in the U.S. at the time, Dorothea overcame the problems inherent in big city finance, politics, and logistics to provide health care to underserved populations. Unwilling to stop there, Dorothea courageously stimulated discussion of non-nurse pathways in the 1970s and into the late 1990s when a single standard of midwifery, entered through post-nursing or post-health science pathways, became the law in New York. She was honored with NY Midwife License #001.

Her mandate to midwives, says it all: ***“Yes, go where opportunities are already great! But also go to places where conditions are terrible! That is where you will show what you as a midwife can truly bring to health care and the community.”***

**Principal Award Sponsor:
The Sparacio Charitable Foundation, Inc.**

*The A.C.N.M. Foundation, Inc.
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Cambridge MA 02238-0272
www.acnmf.org*

Dorothea M. Lang Pioneer Award Recipients

2002

Johanna E. Borsellega, CNM, MA, FACNM
Myriam Castro De Casteneda, CNM, MPH, FACNM

2003

Cathy Collins Fulea, CNM, MSN, FACNM
Betty Kapp, CNM, MSN
Lorraine Sevcovic, CNM, MS
Mary Sweeting, CNM

2004

Barbara Brennan, CNM, BS, FACNM

2005

Ruth Coates Beeman, CNM, MPH, FACNM
Charlotte "Pixie" Elsberry, CNM, MSN, FACNM
Leah Albers, CNM, DrPH, FACNM

2006

Tiffany Coleman, CNM, MPH

2007

E. Jean Downie, CNM, BSN
Patricia Urbanus, CNM, MSN, FACNM
Lillian Runnerstrom, CNM, PhD, FACNM

2008

Elizabeth M. Cooper, CNM, EdD, FACNM
Joan K. Slager, MSN, CNM, FACNM

2009

Elaine Mielcarski, MS, NP, CNM, FACNM
Gwendolyn V. Spears, PhD, CNM, FACNM

2010

Margaret Ann Marshall, CNM, EdD, FACNM
Julia Lange-Kessler, CM, BSN, MSM

2011

Shirley Okrent, CNM, BS, FACNM
Patricia Aikins Murphy, CNM, DRPH, FACNM

2012

Debrah Lewis, CNM, MS, LM
Frances Ganges, CNM, MPH, RM

2013

Suzie Sizemore, CNM, ARNP
Victoria H. Burslem, MSN, CNM, RN

2014

Laraine H. Guyette, CNM, PhD, FACNM

2015

All ACNM Pioneer Midwives, 1955 – 1985

2016

Susan A. DeJoy, CNM, MSN, PhD, FACNM
Carol A.L. Howe, CNM, DNSc, FACNM, FAAN
Kay D. Sedler, CNM-ret, MN, FACNM

2017

Rosemary J. Mann, CNM, MSN, JD, PhD
Susan J. Leibel, MSN, MPH

2018

Anne M. Richter, RN, MPH, CNM Ret.
Barbara Hughes, CNM, NP, MS, MBA, FACNM

2019

Alice Bailes, CNM, MSN, FACNM
Marsha Jackson, CNM, MSN, FACNM
Ellen Martin, MS, CNM, FACNM

2020

Mary K. Barger, PhD, MPH, CNM, FACNM
Elaine M. Moore, MSN, CNM, FACNM
Margaret A. Taylor, MS, CNM, FACNM

2021

Pandora Hardtman, DNP, CNM, FACNM
Elizabeth Hill-Karbowski, PhD, CNM, FACNM
Pamela Reis, PhD, CNM, NNP-BC, FACNM