AMWA 2018 AWARDS

Presidential Award – Judge Rosemarie E. Aquilina
Judge Rosemarie Aquilina was elected to the 30th Circuit Court for Ingham County in November of 2008. Previously, she served as a 55th District Court Judge for 4 years in her capacity as Chief Judge as well as the Sobriety Court Judge. During this time, Judge Aquilina founded and established the Ingham County Sobriety Court Foundation to assist those in recovery. Judge Aquilina retired honorably from the Michigan Army National Guard after twenty years of service. She became part of Michigan’s history by becoming the first female JAG Officer in the Michigan Army National Guard when she enlisted. Ultimately, she received numerous service medals and awards and became one of the most requested JAG Officers because of her dedication to service the law and the soldiers she served with. Judge Aquilina began her legal career serving as the Administrative Assistant to State Senator John F. Kelly for ten years. Thereafter, she opened Aquilina Law Firm, PLC, during which time she provided both legal and lobbying services. Aquilina Law Firm, PLC became a very successful law firm which resulted in Judge Aquilina becoming the radio talk show host of Ask the Family Lawyer, which became syndicated. Additionally, Judge Aquilina is a published author and her fictional novel, a thriller, Triple Cross Killer, the first in a detective series, published by Fiery Seas Publishing, made its debut in December 2017. Throughout her career, Judge Aquilina has given back to the community in many ways, most recently being a soccer coach and to include having served on numerous boards and commissions, such as the Board of Water and Light and the City of Lansing Elected Officers Compensation Commission. She currently serves as a mentor for the State Bar of Michigan Lawyers and Judges Assistance Program.

Presidential Award – Students Activists of Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School
On the afternoon of February 14, 2018, a mass shooting occurred at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School in Parkland, Florida. Seventeen people were killed and fourteen more were taken to hospitals. In the aftermath of this horrific event, the school community and student body have strongly advocated for legislative changes to prevent gun violence. The “March for Our Lives” anti-gun violence rally is planned for March 24 in more than 50 sister cities, including Philadelphia. They are using social medial to change the conversation about gun control in America. The powerful message and activism demonstrated by students and teachers is inspiring.

Elizabeth Blackwell Award – Michele Barry, MD, FACP
Michele Barry, MD, FACP is Professor of Medicine and Tropical Diseases at Stanford University. She is the Director of the Center for Innovation in Global Health and is Senior Associate Dean for Global Health at the School of Medicine. As one of the co-founders of the Yale/Stanford Johnson and Johnson Global Health Scholar Award program, she has sent over 1500 physicians overseas to underserved areas to help strengthen health infrastructure in low resource settings. Dr. Barry is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (NAM). She currently sits on the NAM Board on Global Health, the Advisory Board for NIH-Fogarty Center, the Board of Directors of the Consortium of Universities involved in Global Health (CUGH) and the Foundation for Advancement of International Medical Education and Research (FAIMER). She has over 180 publications in the areas of tropical diseases, travel medicine, ethics of research overseas and impact of globalization on health. Most recently she ran the inaugural Women Leaders in Global Health Conference at Stanford where 400 women from 65 countries and 250 different organizations attended.

Bertha Van Hoosen Award – Theresa Rohr-Kirchgraber, MD
Born and raised in Southern California Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber completed a bachelors degree at California State University Long Beach, her MD from Weill College of Medicine at Cornell University, and an Internal Medicine Residency at University Hospitals of Cleveland, OH. She is board certified in Adolescent and Internal Medicine. Clinically, she focuses on women’s health, primary care of the adult, care of childhood cancer survivors, and adult eating disorders. Her academic focus is on promoting women in medicine and supporting efforts in women’s health and gender medicine. Dr. Rohr-Kirchgraber was president of the American Medical Women’s Association in 2015-2016 and has served on the Board of Directors as well as various committees and task forces. She is currently Governance Chair. As the AMWA liaison to the American Medical Association-Women Physicians Section (AMA-WPS), she was vice chair of the Governing Council. Currently, she is an Associate Clinical Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at Indiana University School of Medicine, Executive Director of the IU National Center of Excellence in Women’s Health, and the Chief Physician Executive, Eskenazi Health Center of Excellence for Women’s Health.

Woman in Science Award – Pauline Maki, PhD
Dr. Pauline M. Maki is Professor of Psychiatry and Psychology and the Senior Research Director of the Center for Research on Women and Gender at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Dr. Maki received her Ph.D. from the University of Minnesota and postdoctoral training at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and the National Institute on Aging. Her research over the last 20 years has focused on menopause, sex steroids, cognition, and mood. Her studies have identified female-related risk factors for brain aging and dementia in healthy women and women living with HIV. Dr. Maki is Past President of the North American Menopause Society (NAMS), Chair of the Society for Women’s Health Research Interdisciplinary Network on Alzheimer’s Disease, and Immediate Past Head of the Neuropsychiatric Working Group of the Women’s Interagency HIV Study. She has won a number of NIH awards for her research and service, serves as a research and career mentor to many students and junior faculty, serves on executive committees for several women’s health advisory boards, and is a frequent international and national speaker on menopause and women’s cognitive and mental health.
Lila Wallis Women’s Health Award – Wendy Klein, MD, MACP
Dr. Wendy Klein received her medical degree from Case Western Reserve University and is a board certified internist who served on the faculty of the VCU School of Medicine for 25 years. During that time, she co-founded the award winning VCU Women’s Health Center at Stony Point, the nationally designated VCU Institute for Women’s Health, the Women in Science, Dentistry & Medicine Organization (WISDM), and the Women’s Health Residency Program in Internal Medicine. She also founded the annual interdisciplinary Women’s Health Conference, a scientific update for health care professionals. She was also co-editor of the Journal of Women’s Health from 2005-2011. She has served on numerous national initiatives and committees for the American College of Physicians (ACP), the Sex and Gender Women’s Health Collaborative, and the North American Menopause Society (NAMS), and continues to actively mentor senior and junior faculty, residents and students. Dr. Klein has been recognized in Richmond Magazine’s listing of the “Top Docs in Richmond” and in The Best Doctors in America. Dr. Klein remains actively involved in promoting excellence in medical education, in women’s health and in sex and gender based medicine. She is Medical Director of Health Brigade, the oldest free clinic in Virginia, known for its leadership in inclusive care and transgender health, as well for providing care to those least served. Also, in 2015, she was made a gubernatorial appointee to the Virginia Board of Health, upon which she currently serves.

Dr. Larry Zaroff Man of Good Conscience Award - Marshall A. Wolf, MD, MACP
Marshall Wolf MD, MACP, a graduate of Harvard Medical School, trained in Internal Medicine and Cardiology at the Peter Bent Brigham Hospital. In 1972 he was appointed Director of the Brigham’s Medical Residency program. He and his boss, Eugene Braunwald, who had both married medical school classmates, were determined to increase the participation of women in the program. In the 28 years prior to 1972, the PBBH had trained 4 women in the program. During the 28 years of his tenure as program director, Marshall recruited 285 women to the program, more than half of whom have achieved the rank of professor of medicine. He appointed the Brigham’s first woman chief medical resident, Nancy Berliner, and 13 other women he trained became chief medical residents at the Brigham. He now works for one of his former trainees, Betsy Nabel, the President of the Brigham and Women’s Hospital.

Marshall’s commitment to diversity in medical training won him the Harvard Medical School Harold Amos Faculty Diversity Award. He also received the Harvard Medical School William Silen Lifetime Achievement Award in Mentoring. He is most proud that he and his bride of 56 years, Katie (a relationship which began on their first day of medical school at the foot of their cadaver) made training at the Brigham a kinder, more nurturing and supportive experience. He is most ashamed that he was unable to provide Katie, whose mother and grandmother were American trained physicians, with a daughter.

Esther Pohl Lovejoy Award – Ellen Einterz, MD, CM, MPH&TM
Born in New York and a graduate of Indiana University’s School of Science, McGill University’s Faculty of Arts and Faculty of Medicine, and Tulane University’s School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine, Dr. Ellen Einterz first went to Africa (Niger) in 1974 as a teacher with the Peace Corps. As a physician, she directed hospitals in Naka, Nigeria and then Kolofata, Cameroon for over three decades. During the 2014/2015 Ebola epidemic, she was medical coordinator of an Ebola Treatment Unit in Liberia.

Dr. Einterz has published articles on a range of topics including snakebite, malaria, international aid, neonatal tetanus, family planning, traditional uvulectomy, telemedicine, trachoma, and access to healthcare in underserved parts of the world. She is presently clinic physician for the Marion County Public Health Department’s refugee program in Indianapolis and maintains an adjunct affiliation with the Indiana University School of Medicine and Fairbanks School of Public Health. She is the author of Life and Death in Kolofata: An American Doctor in Africa (Indiana University Press, 2018).

Camille Mermod Award – The Legacy Center Archivists and Historians, Drexel University College of Medicine
The Legacy Center is the repository for the records and heritage of Drexel University’s College of Medicine and its predecessor institution, the Woman’s Medical College of Pennsylvania, founded in 1850. Woman’s Med was the first medical school for women and the longest lasting at 120 years. This uniqueness inspired the Legacy Center to collect beyond College records to include documentation of the history of women in medicine worldwide.

Among the largest and most frequently used materials are those found in the American Medical Women’s Association (AMWA) collection and those of its related organization, the American Women’s Hospitals. The history captured in these documents informs the work of scholars, young students and lifelong learners, adding to our understanding of the past and lighting the way to the future.

The professional archivists and public historians who staff the Legacy Center are proud to be the stewards of these collections and are devoted to caring for them and facilitating their use for future generations. We are honored to accept AMWA’s Camille Mermod Award in recognition of exceptional service.

Anne C. Carter Student Leadership Award – Mollie C. Marr
Mollie Marr is an MD/PhD student at Oregon Health & Sciences University currently in her first year of graduate studies in the Department of Behavioral Neuroscience. She received a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Tisch School of the Arts at New York University where she double-majored in Theatre and Psychology and minored in Applied Theatre. She joined Damien Fair’s lab in 2017, and is using neuroimaging techniques and machine learning to understand how maternal stress relates to infant neurodevelopment and ongoing emotional development. In 2017, she was named an ARCS Foundation Scholar and a Society for Neuroscience Early Career Policy Ambassador. She was one of the founding members of her school’s AMWA branch and is currently one of the Executive Chairs. In this role, she helped organize a conference called Strength through Stories and is working to expand research on gender equity in medicine. For fun, Mollie enjoys reading and history.
Exceptional Mentor Award Recipients

Neelum T. Aggarwal, MD
Dr. Neelum Aggarwal is Director of Research at the Rush Heart Center for Women, and an Associate Professor in the Departments of Neurological Sciences and Rush Alzheimer’s Disease Center at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago, Illinois.

Christienne P. Alexander, MD
Dr. Christienne Alexander is a family medicine physician providing patient care at Doctors’ Memorial Medical Plaza in Perry, Florida, a rural site that exemplifies the mission of the College of Medicine, and the faculty advisor for the Family Medicine Interest Group at FSUCOM.

Caroline M. Apovian, MD
Dr. Caroline Apovian is Director, Nutrition and Weight Management at Boston Medical Center, Professor of Medicine and Pediatrics at Boston University School of Medicine, and President, The Obesity Society.

Danielle R. Brittain, PhD
Danielle R. Brittain, PhD, is an Associate Professor of Community Health Education in the Colorado School of Public Health at the University of Northern Colorado.

Katie M. Campuzano, MD
Dr. Katie Campuzano is a practicing Obstetrics & Gynecology physician at Prescott Women's Clinic in Prescott, Arizona.

Mon-Lai Cheung, MD, F.A.C.O.G.
Dr. Mon-Lai Cheung is Partner at Southern California Permanente Group and Assistant Chief of Service for Kern County OB/GYN.

Amanda J. Crosier-Riffle, MD
Dr. Amanda Crosier-Riffle is a psychiatrist practicing in Albany, New York.

Linda Ellis, MD, MJ, MA, FACP
Dr. Linda Ellis is Chief Medical Officer at Independent Care Health Plan in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Saura Fortin Erazo, MD
Dr. Saura Fortin Erazo is a diplomat of the American Board of Family Medicine. Dr. Fortin is a practicing primary care provider at Eskenazi Health.

Raghav Govindarajan, MD, FAAN
Dr. Raghav Govindarajan is a board certified neurologist and neuromuscular physician practicing at the University of Missouri.

Cassandra E. Henderson, MD, CDE
Dr. Henderson is the Director of Maternal Fetal Medicine at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center and Professor of Clinical Obstetrics and Gynecology at Weill Cornell Medical College.

Michelle L. James, PhD
Dr. James is an Assistant Professor in the Departments of Radiology and Neurology, within the Molecular Imaging Program at Stanford University (MIPS).

Louise W. Kao, MD
Dr. Louise Kao is Director, Medical Toxicology Fellowship and Associate Professor of Clinical Emergency Medicine at Indiana University School of Medicine.

Sara Schwanke Khilji, MD, MPH
Dr. Sara Schwanke Khilji is Assistant Professor of Medicine and Director of Interprofessional Education for OHSU Global at Oregon Health & Science University.

Samar Khirallah, MD, PhD
Dr. Khirallah is a Clinical Assistant Professor at Purdue University, Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anatomy & Cell Biology, Indiana University School of Medicine-West Lafayette.

Margaret C. Lo, MD, FACP
Dr. Margaret C. Lo is an Associate Professor of Medicine and Residency Associate Program Director at University of Florida College of Medicine and the Malcolm Randall VAMC in Gainesville, FL.

Lina Mehta, MD
Dr. Lina Mehta is the Associate Dean for Admissions and Associate Professor of Radiology at Case Western Reserve School of Medicine/University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center.

Jeniel E. Nett, MD, PhD
Dr. Jeniel Nett is an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in the Departments of Medicine and Medical Microbiology & Immunology.

Susan C. Pitt, MD, MPHs, FACS
Dr. Susan C. Pitt is a board-certified Assistant Professor of Surgery in the Division of Endocrine Surgery at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health.

Alexis Ramos
Alexis Ramos is a member of UT Health San Antonio Long School of Medicine Class of 2020.

Susan H. Senft, MD
Dr. Susan Senft is an ophthalmologist in Kailua Kona, Hawaii.

Ami A. Shah, MD
Dr. Ami A. Shah is a board-certified radiologist and Director of Mammography and Women's Imaging at New York City Health and Hospitals.

Eve Collins Shank, MD
Dr. Eve Shank works with Weatherby (Locum Agency) and is presently assigned to St. Joseph Medical Center in Eureka, California.

Stephanie A. Storgion, MD, FAAP, FCCM
Dr. Stephanie Storgion is Professor and Chair, Physician Assistant Studies Department, Professor of Pediatrics, Pediatric Critical Care at University of Tennessee Health Science Center, College of Medicine.

Daniel J. Van Durme, MD, MPH, FAAFP
Dr. Daniel Van Durme is Associate Dean for Clinical and Community Affairs, Professor and Chair, Department of Family Medicine & Rural Health, and Director, Center on Global Health at Florida State University College of Medicine.

Amanda Xi, MD, MSE
Dr. Amanda Xi is AMWA Program Co-Director and an Anesthesia Resident at Massachusetts General Hospital.
Resident Division Awards

Charlotte Edwards Maguire, MD Outstanding Resident Mentor Award – Carissa May, MD
Dr. Carissa May is an Ob/Gyn resident physician at Beaumont Health - Royal Oak, affiliated with the Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (Michigan). She attended the University of Southern California and subsequently attended the Indiana University School of Medicine, where she met her husband, Dr. Kennedy Iheanacho. Dr. May enjoys teaching amidst the busy Ob/Gyn service at Beaumont and is a proponent of effective mentorship for both professional and personal success and fulfillment. When away from work, Dr. May enjoys singing, learning foreign languages, and spending time and traveling with her husband and 18-month-old daughter, Bella Cruz Iheanacho. Dr. May looks forward to combining her passions for women’s health, language, and travel, through incorporation of Global Health in her future practice where she can further learn, practice, and utilize French, Spanish, and American Sign Language as an important communication tool with her patients.

Susan L. Ivey, MD Courage to Lead Award – Pauley T. Gasparis, MD
I graduated from Indiana University (IU) School of Medicine and am pursuing a career in breast imaging. I am passionate about advocating for breast health and appropriate breast cancer screening and have discussed these issues on Capitol Hill with our State Senators. With my colleagues, I developed the Women in Radiology Group at Indiana University. This has provided an outlet for women in radiology to encourage one another in their personal and professional lives. I am currently the Faculty Co-Advisor for the AMWA Pre-med branch at IUPUI in Indianapolis, IN. I love mentoring pre-medical students and encouraging them to enter the medical profession. I have hosted multiple events bringing women faculty, residents, and students together to discuss relevant issues. I have also organized multiple visiting professorships with a focus on women in radiology. I love being a part of AMWA because I am passionate about creating a strong supportive network among women physicians.

Elinor T. Christiansen, MD Altruism Award – Sarah A. Eidelson, MD
Dr. Sarah Eidelson grew up in South Florida and attended the University of Miami (UM) for her Bachelor of Science and Doctorate of Medicine. She is currently a PGY-4 General Surgery resident at UM/Jackson Memorial Hospital. Dr. Eidelson took two years off to pursue a research fellowship in trauma, critical care and burns, as well as a Master of Public Health. She runs the Mass Casualty Training for the US Army Forward Surgical Team, in addition to volunteering as a field-of-play medic at last year’s Olympics in Brazil. Helping oversee the surgical clerkship has fueled her passion for both medical education and mentorship.

Susan Love Writing Contest: Elizabeth Brigham, MD
Dr. Elizabeth Brigham is a second year Pediatrics resident at Penn State Hershey Children’s Hospital. Prior to her pediatric residency, she graduated from medical school at Penn State College of Medicine in 2015 and completed a preliminary year in General Surgery. She has a particular interest in pediatric critical care, pediatric trauma, and simulation-based resident education. She has been involved with AMWA since the beginning of medical school serving as the President of her medical school’s chapter and as the Region 3 Supervisor on the AMWA student board.

Medical Student Division Awards

Haffizulla Family Scholarship – Kaitlin Parks
Kaitlin Parks is a third-year medical student at Oklahoma State University Center for Health Sciences (OSU-CHS). As a professional ballet dancer and EMT before medical school, she brings a hearty work ethic, fierce commitment to service, and avid passion to the study of medicine. As the AMWA Region 7 Director, she organized a successful Regional Conference and the Inaugural Interregional Service Project this year benefiting Days for Girls. When she was president of the AMWA OSU-CHS branch, she organized multiple volunteer events, workshops, and fundraisers. She has maintained an interest in Emergency Medicine fueled by clinical experiences as far reaching as Antarctica. Between studying and volunteering, she nurtures an adventurous spirit in the outdoors, and even finds some time to dance. She's currently enjoying her rotations living in a 1971 Airstream she renovated.

Eliza Lo Chin Unsung Hero Award – Sanju Eswaran
Sanju Eswaran is an MD Candidate at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC) School of Medicine. Presently, she is enrolled in the six-year combined BA/MD program and will graduate in 2018. She aspires to one day carry the noble profession as a physician as well as the rewarding role as an educator. Sanju currently serves as the National Recruitment Chair; she previously served as National AMWA Region 7 Director as well as president and vice president of UMKC AMWA. Holding these positions, she has dedicated her time to promote AMWA’s participation in the Midwest by spearheading events pertaining to advancing women in medicine, domestic violence, and women’s health. During her term as the National AMWA Recruitment Chair, she continued to be inspired by the vision of female leaders in medicine and hopes to one day inspire future medical students she will come across.
Global Initiative Against HPV and Cervical Cancer Educate. Empower. Eradicate Shobha S. Krishnan Award – Shilpa Darivemula

Shilpa Darivemula is a fourth year medical student at Albany Medical College. She is the founder of The Aseemkala Initiative, a traditional dance collaborative using the arts to explore women’s rights in medicine. Shilpa met Dr. Shobha Krishnan at the national AMWA conference and, with support from the GIAHC, ASHA, and Elliot Feld of EJFM 102.7, created a dance-based narrative called “To Take on the Unknown”. The piece was shared by Dr. Krishnan at the 31st International Papilloma Conference. This year, Shilpa received the ASTMH Kean Fellowship to conduct research on HTLV-1 and HPV co-infections in Peruvian Shipibo communities. Shilpa currently serves as the head of GIAHC’s Artistic Committee and develops annual visual and movement based campaigns to raise awareness about cervical cancer.

Linda Brodsky MD Essay Award – Alissa Frame

Alissa Frame is an MD/PhD candidate in her graduate research years at the Boston University School of Medicine. She investigates the renal mechanisms that promote age-related hypertension and hopes to expand her basic science studies into the translational realm in the future as a practicing physician-scientist. Outside of her studies, Alissa enjoys backpacking, hiking, and otherwise moving about by foot, reading and writing, and cooking. She spends the majority of time trying to pass those hobbies along to her toddler with an infant in tow, and hopes to serve as a mentor to young women whose goals include both a successful career and a family.

Heller Outstanding Branch Award – The John Hopkins University School of Medicine

Pre-medical Student Division Awards

Student of the Year Award – Nora Galoustian

Nora Galoustian studies Neurobiology and Interdisciplinary Human Rights at UC Berkeley. As a cancer survivor seeking to give back to the community, Nora strives to dedicate her life to medicine. She fundraised over $35,000 for the oncology department at CHLA. Nora then founded and became the head of the Cancer and Women’s Health Committee in Berkeley AMWA, and is currently Project Development Director, organizing chapter-wide workshops and events. She fundraises for the Women’s Cancer Resource Center in Oakland, providing resources to low income and minority women. Nora currently volunteers as an EMT for the Berkeley Medical Reserve Corps, is conducting research on trans-generational trauma and its correlation with cancer, and is Fundraising Director of a non-profit providing humanitarian aid in Armenia. She also helped create a robotic arm to assist patients, winning the $20,000 first prize at the AT&T National Developer Summit.

Member of the Year Award – Lara Rostomian

Lara Rostomian is a pre-medical student at UC Berkeley (Class of 2020) studying Integrative Biology and intending to minor in both Theatre and Global Public Health. AMWA is one of the first organizations she joined when starting out at UC Berkeley and after one year of membership, she is now the Mental Health Committee Head and is looking forward to shifting the committee’s focus towards advocacy and awareness. She was the 2017-18 AMWA Pre-Medical Conference Chair and thoroughly enjoyed planning the 103rd National Conference alongside so many inspiring members. She is currently working as a Health Leads Advocate at West County Health Center in San Pablo and is a student research assistant at the CHAMACOS Research Lab at UC Berkeley’s School of Public Health. She admires AMWA’s mission of empowering women physicians, and appreciates the support and community AMWA has to offer.

Premedical Education Scholarship – Whitney Stanton

Whitney Stanton is a senior at the University of Colorado Boulder working towards a B.A. in Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology. Being from Colorado Springs, it has been nice to attend college only 1.5 hours away! She has served as AMWA’s community outreach chair for the past three semesters. She currently works with a Urologic Oncologist at the University of Colorado Hospital and performs clinical prostate cancer research. She is very excited to be applying to medical school in June, and her current interests are in surgery and emergency medicine.

Premedical Education Scholarship – Tannaz Safari

As AMWA’s Pre-med Region 9 Director, Tannaz has been excited to grow her passion for AMWA. She was extensively involved in AMWA’s 2017 meeting in San Francisco and was awarded the Eliza Lo Chin Unsung Hero Award. She is an aspiring physician who hopes to bring her life and cultural experiences to the various fields of medicine. She is passionate about being able to combine her knowledge in molecular, cell and developmental biology (UC Santa Cruz) and her growing knowledge of public health (University of New England MPH Program) with her work in AMWA. She is currently a Telehealth discharge coordinator at UCSF working in clinical research. Tannaz wants to inspire all members to get more involved and bring their unique skillsets to AMWA and medicine. A nerd at heart, she loves anything related to medicine or hospitals. Her hobbies are working out, reading poetry, playing piano and listening to music.

AMWA Outstanding Branch Award – University of Pennsylvania

Most Active Branch Award – University of Pennsylvania