



2016

★ Maryland Women's Hall of Fame
Maryland Women of Tomorrow

Induction and Award Ceremony



***Generations of Excellence:
A Legacy of Leadership***

April 7, 2016
5:30 p.m.

Miller Senate Office Building
Conference Room East
Annapolis, Maryland

Presented by
Maryland Commission for Women
Women Legislators of Maryland
Maryland Department of Human Resources
Friends of the Maryland Commission for Women

Maryland Commission for Women

51 Monroe Street, Suite 1034 • Rockville, MD 20850

301-610-4523

www.marylandwomen.org



Lee Bachu, Chair

The Maryland Commission for Women was first established in 1965 and was set in state law in 1971. An office in the Department of Human Resources, the Commission is a 25-member advisory board whose duties outlined in its enabling legislation include: study the status of women in our state, recommend methods of overcoming discrimination, recognize women's accomplishments and contributions, and provide informed advice to the executive and legislative branches of government on the issues concerning the women of our state. Commissioners are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor, with confirmation by the Maryland State Senate, and serve without compensation.

Officers:

Mythili (Lee) Bachu, Chair, Montgomery County
A. Diane Williams, Vice Chair, Prince George's County
Wandra Ashley-Williams, Secretary, Howard County

Commissioners:

Appointed or Nominated as of the Time of Publication

Homayara Haque Aziz, M.D., Anne Arundel County	Bonnie Nelson Luna, Wicomico County
Marianne Hyang Nam Brackney, Howard County	Marion C. Manski, Baltimore County
Tawanda A. Bailey, Frederick County	April Nyman, Anne Arundel County
Tammy Bresnahan, Anne Arundel County	Betsy H. Ramirez, Prince George's County
Deborah L. Cartee, Anne Arundel County	Anita L. Riley, Carroll County
Gloria Chang, Montgomery County	Carole Jaar Sepe, Frederick County
Patricia E. Cornish, Talbot County	Ummu Bradley Thomas, Caroline County
Lorna P. Forde, Montgomery County	Corinna Yi-Yuan Kuo Shen, Montgomery County
Nicole Ingram, Washington County	Marylou N. Yam, Ph.D. Baltimore City
Velvet Johnson, Prince George's County	Yun Jung Yang, Montgomery County
Doris Hillian Ligon, Howard County	

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Judith Vaughan-Prather, Executive Director
Tammy Wise, Management Associate



2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame & Maryland Women of Tomorrow

Induction & Award Ceremony

April 7, 2016 • 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Introduction of Mistress of Ceremony

Wandra Ashley-Williams Co-Chair, 2016 Women of Tomorrow

Opening

Mistress of Ceremonies: The Honorable Sheila Finlayson, Annapolis Alderwoman

Welcome and Introductions

Mythili Bachu, Chair
Maryland Commission for Women

Greetings

The Honorable Sam Malhotra, Secretary, Maryland Department of Human Resources
The Honorable Roger Manno, Maryland State Senate
The Honorable Susan K. McComas, Maryland House of Delegates
President, Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc.
Lisa Hayes, PNC Wealth Management
Hank Greenberg, AARP Maryland
Friends of the Maryland Commission for Women

The Occasion

Lorna P. Forde, Co-Chair, 2016 Maryland Women of Tomorrow

Introduction of Selection Committee Members

A. Diane Williams, Chair 2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame
Wandra Ashley-Williams & Lorna P. Forde, Co-chairs, 2016 Maryland Women of Tomorrow

2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Honorees

Dr. Sophia Arabatzis Balis, Pediatric Dentistry Pioneer
Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, Educator and Trailblazer
Mary C. Goodwillie, Community Activist, Junior League of Baltimore Founder (*Posthumous*)
Elaine Danforth Harmon, WWII Pilot, WASP (*Posthumous*)
Joanne Katz, Sc.D., Epidemiologist
Lizette Woodworth Reese, Poet (*Posthumous*)

Presentation & Acceptance of Plaque to Maryland Women's Heritage Center

The Honorable Susan K. McComas to Diana Bailey, Managing Director, MWHC

2016 Maryland Women of Tomorrow Honorees

Sofia Corona, 8th Grade, Oklahoma Road Middle School, Carroll County
Simone Gaines, 7th Grade, George Fox Middle School, Anne Arundel County
Megan Hannegan, 11th Grade, North Caroline High School, Caroline County
Bela Pandya, 12th Grade, Northeast High School, Anne Arundel County
Hanna Taylor, 12th Grade, Tuscarora High School, Frederick County

Closing Remarks

Mythili Bachu, Chair

Reception

Miller Senate Office Building, Conference Room West



Mistress of Ceremonies



Alderwoman Sheila M. Finlayson

Sheila M. Finlayson is a native Annapolitan. She attended Anne Arundel County Public Schools, Morgan State University, earning a BS in English, and the University of Wisconsin at Milwaukee, earning an MS in Cultural Foundations. Returning to Annapolis, Ms. Finlayson taught English and public speaking.

In 2002, Ms. Finlayson was elected President of the Teachers Association of Anne Arundel County and had a successful tenure advocating for the professional, economic, human and civil rights interests of educators.

She was elected, and served for six years, as the East Regional Director for the National Council of Urban Education Associations, representing nine states on the east coast. Ms. Finlayson served the students and faculties of Anne Arundel County for 33 years before her retirement in June of 2007.

As an educator, she was a consultant to the Maryland State Board of Education and the National Policy Forum, Washington, D.C., and presented at numerous conferences and conventions at the local, state and national levels.

Ms. Finlayson volunteered on the Boards of Directors for the Maryland Hall for the Creative Arts, the Banneker Douglass Museum, the Community Action Agency and the Wiley H. Bates Development Committee and Legacy Center.

She received gubernatorial and county executive appointments for both educational and historical committees and commissions. She is a trained political organizer, managing numerous campaigns for other elected officials, and a special events coordinator.

Ms. Finlayson is a member of the Annapolis Chapter of the Links, Incorporated. In addition to her local activities, she served the Eastern Area as the Services to Youth Chairperson and the national organization as the Chairperson for the Mentoring Initiative.

She was elected to the Annapolis City Council in 2007.



Friends of the Maryland Commission for Women, Inc.

The Friends of the Maryland Commission for Women (FMCW) is a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization. The FMCW was formed in 1997 for the purpose of supporting, benefitting and assisting the Maryland Commission for Women (MCW) or programs and/or activities that enhance and promote the mission of the MCW, and to receive any funds or properties donated to support the MCW activities. The business and affairs of the Friends Corporation are managed under the direction of its Board of Trustees. The Maryland Commission for Women especially appreciates the FMCW's support for tonight's program.

2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame

A. Diane Williams, Chair

The **Maryland Women's Hall of Fame** is a rich source of biographies of women who made significant and lasting contributions to the history and culture of our state and our nation. Established in 1985 as a partnership between the Maryland Commission for Women and the Women Legislators of Maryland, the Hall of Fame honors Maryland women whose lives and work are of historic significance to the economic, political, cultural and social life of the state, and who serve as role models for future leaders.

Each year the Maryland Commission for Women and the Women Legislators of Maryland call for nominations of women who have made history in such areas as the environment, science and technology, education, the arts, social justice, civil rights, the armed services, and religion. An all-volunteer committee reviews all the nominations and selects those to be inducted into the Hall of Fame each year. The biographies of all the inductees may be found on line at the website of the Maryland State Archives at: <http://msa.maryland.gov/msa/educ/exhibits/womenshall/html/whflist.html>. The biographies are on permanent display at the Maryland Women's Heritage Center in Baltimore (www.mdwomensheritagecenter.org).



2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Selection Committee

A. Diane Williams, Chair, 2016 Maryland Women's Hall of Fame
Linda Fihelly, Business and Professional Women of Maryland
Catherine Gira, Maryland Women's Heritage Center
Dr. Debra Bright Harris, Montgomery County Commission for Women
Delegate Trent Kittleman, Maryland General Assembly, Howard County
Linda Mahoney, Maryland National Organization for Women (MDNOW)
Linda Johnson Thomas, Prince George's County Commission for Women



Dr. Sophia Arabatzis Balis

Nominated by Dr. Norman Tinanoff, D.D.S., M.S.

Dr. Sophia Balis was raised in Athens, Greece, the eldest of three children. She enrolled in the University of Athens, School of Dentistry, graduated with a Doctor of Dental Surgery Degree in 1957 and spent 1958 as a Teaching Fellow in Operative Surgery. Her early experiences shaped her values and perspective based on community welfare and human rights.

In 1959 she came to the United States, enrolled at the University of Pittsburg and worked as an Intern in Pedodontics and Oral Surgery at the Children's Hospital, Pittsburg. From 1960-1961 she interned in Oral Surgery at the Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, and supervised senior dental students in Oral Surgery at the School of Dentistry, Pittsburg.

In 1963 she enrolled at the University of Toronto Dental School, Ontario, Canada and received her second Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1966. She is licensed to practice dentistry in Greece, Canada, and the United States. In 1966 Dr. Balis was appointed Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland, School of Dentistry (UMDS). She was a lecturer and clinical supervisor of sophomore and junior dental students until she retired in July 1991.

Dr. Balis was the first woman to be appointed to the previously all male faculty of the first dental school in the world, established in 1840. Her career in Dentistry at the UMDS spans more than four decades. She opened the way for women in Dentistry and introduced the study of Humanities in Dental Education. She was the first to initiate programs to prevent caries in children with fluoride application in Baltimore in 1968, now a universal practice. Due to Dr. Balis' efforts, thousands of women have graduated as dentists and dental hygienists, and achieved academic appointments as faculty members at all levels of training for dental professionals. Dr. Balis has held academic appointments since her graduation in 1959 from the University of Athens. She served as Dental Attending at Kernan Hospital, Supervising Faculty at UMDS, and as president of the Hellenic American Dental Society regional chapter. She presented at the VIII World Congress of Psychiatry, held in Athens, Greece as well as other international conferences. Dr. Balis received grants from the Maternal and Child Health Services Department. Her research focused on periodontal disease in Fetal Alcohol Syndrome and Down's Syndrome. Her lasting contribution to education is her paper on Humanities in Dental Education.

Dr. Balis worked tirelessly in the community promoting dental health education by lecturing in Baltimore City schools. She worked for Baltimore City Health Department and collaborated with the Maryland Department of Mental Health and Hygiene. She has membership in the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. Dr. Balis continued teaching long after her retirement.

She was honored in 1974 by the Who's Who of American Women, was the winner of the IJ Preneech Prize in Endodontics from the University of Toronto, School of Dentistry and was appointed Professor Emeritus of the University of Maryland Dental School in 2006.

"Every child is a human being in the process of becoming, with an inherent dignity that we have a responsibility to lovingly protect."



Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms

Nominated by Dr. Beatrice Tignor, Ed.D.

Oretha Bridgwaters-Simms, a resident of Upper Marlboro, Maryland, is a recent retiree from the Prince George's County Public School System where she served as Teacher, Guidance Counselor, Principal, Regional Director, Regional Assistant Superintendent, and Executive Officer. She received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education from Knoxville College in Knoxville, Tennessee and a Master's Degree in Guidance and Counseling from University of Louisville in Louisville, Kentucky. She later became certified in School Administration and Campaign Management.

Ms. Bridgwaters-Simms began her career in education in Kentucky, Indiana, and New Jersey. Her nineteen years of devotion as Principal of Glenarden Woods Elementary School earned the coveted Maryland Blue Ribbon School Award. Ms. Bridgwaters-Simms' stellar career as an educator includes being honored with the National Association of Gifted Children's Administrator Award, the Maryland State Association of Destination Imagination's Lois C. Williams Award, Friends of Odyssey of the Mind Award, and the Washington Post Distinguished Educational Leadership Award.

Ms. Bridgwaters-Simms' leadership and commitment to her community goes far beyond her service as an educator, community service, and advocacy for women and youths. Her participation in state and national education initiatives enabled her to develop and establish education policy and utilize technology, innovation and creativity to enrich traditional teaching methods and enhance student-teacher-parent communication. She worked to galvanize women to volunteer and support various campaigns and spurred community participation in the election process. Her leadership has made indelible marks on organizations such as Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., with a membership of over 600 members. She has served in leadership roles on many boards including Vice Chair of the Maryland State Human Relations Commission; former Chair of the Prince George's Community College Board of Trustees; former Chair of Maryland State Advisory Council for the Gifted and Talented Education; judge for Destination Imagination; trainer for the Accelerated Principals Academy; former Secretary for Harriet's List; and facilitator for the Conflict Resolution Center in the Town of Glenarden.

Ms. Bridgwaters-Simms has also been a recipient of many awards and honors including the Prince Georgian of the Year Award, Top Women of Service Award from Washington View Magazine, Senegal Friendship Award, and the Outstanding Person Award from the Washington-Metro Managers Association.

Born in Alexander City, Alabama, Ms. Bridgwaters-Simms grew up in Louisville, Kentucky. She is the oldest daughter of Joe and Mary Norris and the proud mother of Timothy Bridgwaters. She lives in Upper Marlboro with her husband, John.

"I'm never afraid to raise my hand when I know the answer."



Mary C. Goodwillie

Nominated by Cylia E. Lowe, Esq.

Mary C. Goodwillie was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1870. She attended Miss Hershey's School in Boston, there developing a love and appreciation of literature. She came to Baltimore with her family in 1898. Goodwillie was for many years active in the Family Welfare Association and from 1924-1945 was the president of the Baltimore Social Service Exchange. She was also president of the Friends of Johns Hopkins University Library, and during World War I she organized the Red Cross Home Service. For many years she was active in the Community Fund from which she was given a distinguished service medal in 1938. Goodwillie was instrumental in establishing the Junior League of Baltimore, the Contemporary Club, and the Baltimore Poetry Society. She was very much interested in music and the theater.

For many years she was on the Board of the Women's Auxiliary of Johns Hopkins Hospital, and outstanding among her services to the Hospital was her reorganization of the Medical-Social Services Department. In 1940 she was given an honorary M.A. degree by Johns Hopkins University in recognition of her many contributions not only to Hopkins, but to the community. For a time she gave courses in Social Economics at the University. She died on June 28, 1949 and left a legacy to Johns Hopkins of \$10,000. To honor Goodwillie's memory, the Goodwillie Room was opened in Gilman Hall in October 1949 as a special library reading room and lounge. Formerly used as a meeting room for the Board of Trustees, the room was designated as the meeting place for the Friends of the Library.

In 1910, Miss Mary Goodwillie gathered together ten friends to learn about social service, to better understand the needs of the Baltimore community, and to take steps to help ease the plight of the city's oppressed. The group expanded and on April 22, 1912, Miss Goodwillie and her colleagues established the Junior League of Baltimore (JLB) – the fifth Junior League internationally. The young members, many from families where community service was a way of life, quickly immersed themselves in their mission, “to promote voluntarism and improve conditions through trained volunteers.”

The first members met at Goodwillie's house to read and discuss books on civic responsibility. However, soon the women began to see that the JLB offered a way to impact their community in an era before women won the vote. Early JLB literature indicates young members were asked to boycott stores that didn't comply with labor unions to show support for fair wages. Additionally, the JLB hosted what The Baltimore Sun called “probably the first public debate by women ever held in Baltimore on the question of woman suffrage.”

The benefit of her contributions to society and to the advancement and independence of women can be seen in the long and rich 103 year history of the Junior League of Baltimore whose members have been advocates for women, children, people with disabilities, and senior citizens since the organization's founding at the start of the 20th century.

“Girls should learn of the civic work open to them, and...the preparation necessary to offer needed service to their community.”



Elaine Danforth Harmon

Nominated by William A. Harmon

A life-long Marylander of 95 years, Elaine Danforth Harmon was a role model, patriot, and WWII veteran. Born in 1919, she was the daughter of Dr. Charles Danforth (Baltimore dentist and professional baseball player with the 1914 Baltimore Orioles) and Margaret Oliphant Danforth (homemaker), and she distinguished herself early in life by earning a degree in microbiology from the University of Maryland – an extraordinary accomplishment for a woman in 1940.

While an undergraduate at the University of Maryland (College Park) she took flying lessons at the historic College Park Airport. She asked her father to sign the permission form because she knew her mother felt it would be “unlady-like” to be a pilot.

Responding to an ad in the school’s student newspaper, “The Diamondback” which expressed the need for female pilots to support the war effort, Ms. Harmon volunteered. Over 25,000 women nationwide responded, but only 1,300 graduated from the training in Sweetwater, Texas. These women (38 of whom died during service to their country) were/are true heroines of WWII. And, since the war they have continued to be role models for aspiring young women across our nation.

She was very proactive, during the 1970s, in working with the Women Airforce Service Pilots (WASP) organization, and Senator Barry Goldwater, to get the WASP contributions to WWII finally recognized with the award of an Honorable Discharge, and GI benefits from the United States Air Force. In more recent decades she remained active in WASP activities that resulted in the awarding, by an act of Congress, of the Congressional Gold Medal. Resulting from her leadership role in ongoing post-WWII activities, she was invited to the White House Oval Office on two occasions, one with President George W. Bush, and the other with President Barack Obama.

Over the years she has been invited to speak to local (Washington, D.C.) school children. She has been an honored guest at many air shows around the country, and at museums, including the National Air & Space Museum and the Maryland Women’s Heritage Center. She always made sure she attended the annual WASP reunions in Sweetwater, Texas. And, despite declining health, she continued to do all these activities well into her 90s.

Later in her life, she was a guest of honor at the ribbon cutting ceremony for the 1998 opening of the College Park Aviation Museum in Maryland. Due to her many accomplishments, including graduation from the University of Maryland, there is a permanent exhibit, in the museum, honoring her. She generously donated many of her WASP artifacts, including her Congressional Gold Medal, to the museum where they are now on display.

Faced with the adversity of losing her husband at the early age of 45, and left with four teenagers to raise, Elaine Harmon remained true to her life-long motto “Carpe Diem!” which she included with her signature on all correspondence. As a widowed single mom, she guided all four of her children to earn undergraduate degrees, graduate degrees (two from the University of Maryland), and successful careers.

Elaine Danforth Harmon died on April 21, 2015. Throughout her life, she was a proud Marylander, and she was a distinguished member of what has become known as “America’s Greatest Generation.”

“It was a man’s world (during WWII), but we (WASP) did something really great that was needed for the war effort - There is never a day that I don’t think how lucky I am to be a U.S. citizen, and a life-long resident of Maryland - Carpe Diem!”



Joanne Katz, Sc.D.

Nominated by Dr. Katherine Obrien, MD, MPH

Joanne Katz was born in Cape Town, South Africa and moved with her parents and siblings to the United States in 1978. She has resided in Baltimore City, Maryland for 33 years. She received a B.Sc. in Economics and Statistics from the University of Cape Town in 1978, M.S. in Mathematical Statistics from Princeton in 1982, and Sc.D. in International Health from Johns Hopkins School of Public Health in 1993.

She has made extraordinary contributions to the field of public health, blindness prevention and maternal and child health and has been an outstanding teacher and mentor to countless numbers of students.

From 1982 through 1994 she served on the faculty of the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Dana Center for Preventive Ophthalmology in the Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. Since 1994, her primary appointment has been in the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, where she is currently a Professor of International Health with joint appointments in Biostatistics, Epidemiology, and Ophthalmology.

Dr. Katz is a statistician and epidemiologist who has made significant contributions to the health and vision of Maryland and Baltimore City children and the elderly through research to understand the burden of eye disease, improve diagnosis, and identify effective methods of prevention and treatment. This work has focused on those most underserved in Baltimore, but with results that have impact across the United States and beyond, resulting in improved screening and outreach programs to identify those in need of care.

Her work also extends to underserved populations in Asia and Africa where her research has sought to find low cost interventions to reduce micronutrient deficiencies, infectious diseases, and poor reproductive outcomes among pregnant women, adolescents, and young children. Several of these interventions tested through rigorous randomized community based trials are now being implemented as programs in many low income countries. These include vitamin A supplementation for preschool children and chlorhexidine, a low cost antiseptic for umbilical cord care. Through her role as a professor and Director of Academic Programs in the Department of International Health, she has mentored and taught many of the next generation of public health researchers and practitioners, and contributed to the design and content of global health training programs.

She has also served as role model for young female students and faculty. She has received several teaching awards from the student body, is a member of the Delta Omega Alpha Chapter public health honors society, and recipient of the Johns Hopkins Alumnae Knowledge for the World Award. She is the current president of the Faculty Senate of the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health where she also chairs the Institutional Review Board in order to ensure that the rights of research subjects in Maryland, and around the world, are protected. She has served as a board member of Beth Am Synagogue in Reservoir Hill, Baltimore City for the past eight years.

“Women and children worldwide deserve the healthiest lives possible. Cost-effective interventions can do this for even the poorest women if we muster the political will.”



Lizette Woodworth Reese

Nominated by Joe Stewart

Lizette Woodworth Reese and a twin sister, Sophia, were born in 1856 in Baltimore to David Reese from Wales and Louisa Gabler Reese from Germany. Two more sisters and a brother joined the family which worshipped and were buried at St John's. She wrote of Waverly, "it was a green quiet country, with scattered houses, with stretches of orchard and meadow, and although within easy-reaching distance from Baltimore, almost as obscure as though it stood on the edge of a desert." She was educated at St John's and graduated Eastern High in 1873. She taught at St. John's, an English-German School downtown, a city Colored High School and Western High until 1921. Of those 48 years, she wrote "I shall always be deeply thankful for having been a working woman among other working women for so long, for having been a part of the common lot, for reaping experiences which a thousand and others were reaping alongside of me... In passing a public school

building, every American citizen should feel like uncovering his head, in salute to those within who are spending their span of years in the nobilities and sacrifices of this spacious, most ancient of professions."

She never married, spent her entire life sharing Baltimore family homes. Her first poem, *The Abandoned House* was published in 1874 by Southern Magazine. Three years later, 33 poems appeared in her first book, *A Branch of May*. In 1890 she helped form the Women's Literary Club of Baltimore, remaining active for the rest of her life. More books followed: *A Handful of Lavender* (1891), *A Quiet Road* (1896), *A Wayside Lute* (1909), *Spicewood* (1920), *Selected Poems* (1926), *Little Henrietta* (1927), *A Victorian Village* (1929), *White April* (1930), *The York Road* (1931), *Pastures* (1933), *Worleys* (1936) and *The Old House in the Country* (1936) as did publication in periodicals, including *Atlantic*, *Bookman*, *Century*, *Forum*, *Gardens, Houses & People*, *Harper's*, *Ladies' Home Journal*, *Lippincott's*, *Maryland Women's News*, *Nation*, *New Republic*, *Scribner's and Spectator*. She travelled from Massachusetts to Virginia for speaking engagements and was regularly interviewed by the press. She was honored and memorialized by admirers, peers, readers and students; her literary output received constant critical acclaim.

On June 23, 1921 the Baltimore Sun wrote: "In our literary hall of fame she will certainly occupy a high and permanent place." In 1964, *In No Mean City*, Mayor Theodore R. McKeldin stated: "Lizette Woodworth Reese held no political office, designed no monumental buildings, made no millions, lived obscurely, shy to a fault; but her contribution to the kind of thing that makes a city great far outweighs that of many lordly chieftain." The 1987 Baltimore Sun 150th Anniversary Issue proclaims: "Lizette Reese was hailed during her lifetime as one of the most distinguished poets in the country." R. P. Harriss stated: "She has influenced American lyric poetry as no other woman." Bissell Brooke wrote of Ms. Reese: "School and home duties left little time for poetry, so she composed from memory while waiting in the wind and rain for jogging streetcars to carry her to and from school."

Lizette Woodworth Reese, an accomplished and compelling poet, died at the age of 79 on December 17, 1935.

"When I consider life and its few years...I wonder at the idleness of tears." [From the poem "Tears"]

Maryland Women's Hall of Fame Honorees

1985 – 2015

1985

Margaret Brent *
Rachel Carson*
Rita C. Davidson *
Gladys Noon Spellman
Harriet Ross Tubman*

1986

Lillie Carroll Jackson *
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton*
Henrietta Szold*
Jeannette Rosner Wolman
H. Margret Zassenhaus, MD

1987

Clara Barton*
Frances Ellen Watkins Harper*
Juanita Jackson Mitchell
Mary Shaw Shorb, PhD
Helen Brooke Taussig, MD*

1988

Barbara Ann Mikulski
Sadie Kneller Miller *
Mary Eliza Risteau *
Martha Carey Thomas *
Verda Freeman Welcome

1989

Bertha Sheppard Adkins *
Eugenie Clark, PhD.
Lavinia Margaret Engle*
Lena King Lee
Estelle R. Ramey, PhD.

1990

Lucille Maurer
Enolia Pettigen McMillan
Pauli Murray*
Adele Hagner Stamp *
Mary Lemist Titcomb*

1991

Rita R. Colwell, PhD
Mary Elizabeth Lange*
Claire McCardell*
Bessie Moses, MD*
Alta Schrock, PhD

1992

Annie Armstrong*
Anna Ella Carroll*
Rose Kushner
Margaret Collins Schweinhaut
Carmen Delgado Votaw

1993

Rosalyn Blake Bell
Lucille Clifton
Elizabeth King Ellicott*
Jean Spencer*
Martha Ellicott Tyson*

1994

Rosalie Silber Abrams
Mary Elizabeth Banning*
Harriet Elizabeth Brown
Constance A. Morella
Mary Adelaide Nutting*

1995

Jill Moss Greenberg
Mary L. Nock*
Amanda Taylor Norris, MD*
Nettie Barcroft Taylor
Euphemia M Goldsborough
Wilson*

1996

Madeleine L. Ellicott*
Ethel Llewellyn Ennis
Mary Digges Lee*
Brigid G. Leventhal, MD*
Barbara Robinson

1997

Diane L. Adams, MD
Sol del Ande Mendez Eaton
Catherine R. Gira, PhD
Helen L. Koss
Rosa Ponselle*

1998

Constance Ross Beims
Mary Katherine Goddard*
Elaine Ryan Hedges*
Mary Carter Smith

1999

Florence Riefler Bahr*
Lillian C. Compton*
Edith Houghton Hooker*
Elizabeth Fran Johnson
Bernice Smith White

2000

Constance Uriolo Battle, MD
Lois Green Carr
Sonia Pressman Fuentes
Josephine Jacobsen
Rosetta Stith, PhD

2001

Kathleen Feeley, SSND.
Misbah Khan, MD.
Charmaine Krohe, SSND.
Eunice Kennedy Shriver
Sandra W. Tomlinson, PhD

2002

Mabel Houze Hubbard
Florence P. Kendall
Mary Young Pickersgill*
Lorraine Sheehan

2003

Virginia Walcott Beauchamp
Edith Clarke*
Kathryn J. DuFour
Ruth L. Kirschstein, MD
Etta H. Maddox*
Deborah A. Yow

2004

Emily Edmonson*
Nancy Grasmick, PhD.
Esther McCready
Margaret Byrd Rawson
Vivian V. Simpson*

2005

Shoshana S. Cardin
B. Olive Cole*
Susan R. Panny, MD.
Edyth H. Schoenrich, MD, MPH

2006

Susan P. Baker
Liebe Sokol Diamond, MD
Bea Gaddy*
Marilyn Hughes Gaston, MD
Rebecca Alban Hoffberger
Grace Snively*

2007

Colonel Annette M. Deener
Sally T. Grant
Prasanna Nair, MD., MPH.
Karen H. Rothenberg, JD., MPA
Audrey E. Scott

2008

Eleanora Fagan, "Billie Holiday"*
Ramona McCarthy Hawkins, RPh.
Ellen Moses Heller
Pauline Menes
Toby Barbara Orenstein
Emily Wilson Walker, MD*

2009

Iliia Feher*
Diane Griffin, MD., PhD
Harriet Legum
Allyson Solomon
Anne St. Clair Wright*

2010

Claire M. Fraser-Leggett, PhD
Anne Catherine Hoof Green*
Irene Morgan Kirkaldy*
Dr. Bernice R. Sandler

2011

Lucy Diggs Slowe*
Carol Greider, Ph.D.
Barbara Holdridge
Dr. Ligia Peralta, M.D.F.A.A.P.,
F.S.A.H.M
Gertrude Poe
June Willenz

2012

Dr. Maureen Black, Ph.D.
Margaret Dunkle
Honorable Diana Gribbon Motz
Treasurer Nancy Kopp
Dr. Alice Manicur
Gwendolyn Rooks

2013

Helen Delich Bentley
Jean B. Cryor*
Dr. Charlene Mickens Dukes
Hon. Ellen Sauerbrey
Linda Shevitz
Beatrice Tignor, Ed.D.

2014

Dorothy Bailey
Agnes Kane Callum
Renee Fox, M.D.
Susan Goering
Henrietta Lacks*
Ann Cipriano Rees

2015

Beverly B. Byron
Gail de Planque*
Mary S. Feik
Katherine L. O'Brien
Linda Singh
Sue Fryer Ward*

* Posthumously inducted

2016 Maryland Women of Tomorrow

Wandra Ashley-Williams and Lorna P. Forde, Co-Chairs



Wandra Ashley-Williams

The Women of Tomorrow Awards was established in 1997 to recognize and to honor extraordinary young women who have demonstrated a commitment to leadership, community service and academic excellence. Nominations are received from educators, civic, community and religious leaders across the state. An independent committee reviews all the nominations and makes the very difficult decision of selecting the honorees.

This year, five honorees were selected from among the 67 nominees from middle schools and high schools all across Maryland.



Lorna P. Forde



2016 Maryland Women of Tomorrow Selection Committee

Dr. Barbara Dezmon, Maryland State Conference of NAACP

Dr. Charlene Dukes, President, Prince George's Community College

Carol Jaar Sepe, Maryland Commission for Women

Delegate Karen Young, Maryland General Assembly, Frederick County



Sofia Corona, 8th Grade
Oklahoma Road Middle School, Carroll County

Nominated by Sara Findlay, Earth Science Teacher

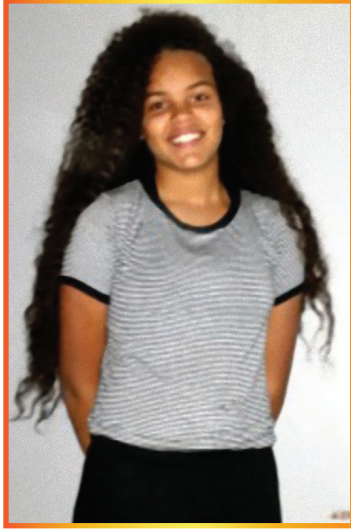
Sofia Corona is an eighth grade student at Oklahoma Road Middle School in Carroll County. Sofia has maintained straight As and a 4.0 grade point average throughout her academic career while participating in all honors classes. Sofia is fluent in both Spanish and English and lived in Colombia for two years.

Sofia enjoys multiple physical activities such as tennis and long-distance running. Recently, Sofia won second place at a 5K race for girls ages 13-19. Sofia is a member of the Baltimore Symphony Youth Orchestras. Since sixth grade, Sofia has been selected as first chair for the All-County Band and was chosen as the alternate oboist in All State. Sofia has traveled extensively to over twelve countries and actively blogs during her trips to share her experiences with others.

For five years, Sofia has dedicated her summers to teaching English to elementary students at a private school in Colombia. Her responsibilities included preparing and supervising classroom activities and guiding discussions. Sofia has already earned approximately 340 community service hours and hopes to double this number by the end of her high school career. Sofia has also participated in numerous collaborations with the Baltimore OrchKids, a Baltimore Symphony Orchestra program designed to nurture promising futures for youth in Baltimore City. Most recently, Sofia played at the “Music for Peace” concert after the 2015 unrest in Baltimore.

Sofia aspires to dedicate her career to bringing food and quality education to the homeless and then plans on retiring to a peaceful life in the Swiss Alps.

“I believe it is a privilege to sacrifice one’s own time to improve the life, or maybe just the day, of another person . . .”



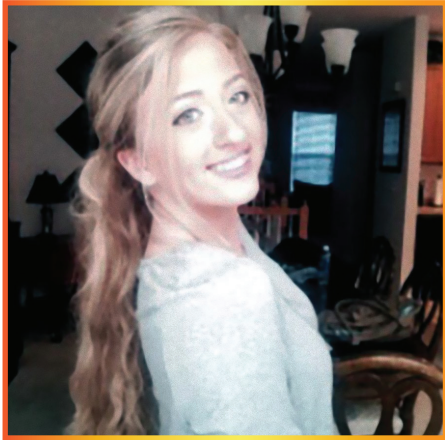
Simone De'Sire Gaines, 7th Grade
George Fox Middle School, Anne Arundel County

Nominated by Brittany Norris, Social Studies Teacher

Simone Gaines is a naturally hardworking young woman, a student who combines exceptional natural ability with a willingness and eagerness to learn. Simone is able to help her peers who do not grasp material, but does so in a way that is both practical and non-condescending. Although Simone is aware of her natural academic ability, she is constantly challenging herself academically and with extracurricular activities. She is an active member in the school community, has started a dog-walking business in the summer, is involved in church outreach and volunteers at the public library, as well as participating as a member of George Fox Middle School Leadership group and as a peer mediator for fellow students. While actively engaged in these extracurricular activities, Simone maintains a high grade point average and develops herself further by actively participating in school activities and community service. With the leadership committee Simone is responsible for making and helping to implement suggestions to improve our school. Through peer mediation Simone helps reach out to peers who are going through difficult times, Simone's extracurricular activities help to make a positive impact on her local community.

She was given the name Simone De'Sire, and she lives up to that name. She desires so much in life, and at the age of 13, is able to see the good in every situation. She clearly has the potential to be an outstanding leader today and in the future.

"A 'Woman of Tomorrow' is wealthy, not by political or social status, but by her ability to see value in life and her relationships with all people."

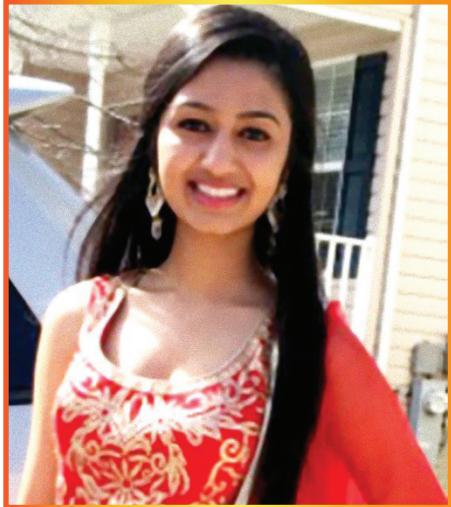


Megan Hannegan, 11th Grade
North Caroline High School, Caroline County

Nominated by Thomas Sapovits, School Counselor

Megan has excelled in school by achieving a 4.25 weighted grade point average and receiving a 4 and a 5 on her previous Advanced Placement exams. She is enrolled in four more Advanced Placement classes this year, including Psychology, English Language and Composition, Chemistry, and Calculus AB as a Junior. Along with those classes she also is a part of Girl Scouts, Student Government, and National Honor Society. She has achieved 190 service learning hours and readily volunteers whatever time she has to her local church, elementary school, and Girl Scout projects. She has spent much of her time serving as a role model to younger children through her volunteer work in summer camps and her local elementary school. She has also been a part of 5K races that were established to help raise funds for projects to better her community. Her aspirations for the future are helping others and serving her community. She plans to complete the requirements to earn the Gold Award for Girl Scouts and improve the world or her community in any way she can. She aspires to achieve a mathematics and/or chemistry degree in college, most likely in Maryland. She has a lot of topics that interest her, so she is still open to plenty of opportunities for her future career.

“A leader should create an inspiring vision of the future and leave people feeling empowered and accomplished.”



Bela Pandya, 12th Grade
Northeast High School, Anne Arundel County

Nominated by James Gondak, School Counselor

Bela Pandya is an extremely strong student. She is compassionate and she is a leader. Academically, Ms. Pandya is at the top of her class. Out of sixteen Advanced Placement classes at our school, she has taken ten. Her 4.35 grade point average makes her the fourth ranked student in her class. Bela loves math; she tutors students who need help and is always willing to go above and beyond for others. Outside of school Bela is a leader. As Tennis Team Captain, Student Government Association Treasurer, Interact Club Secretary, Northeast ELITE, National Honor Society member and Manager of a local Dunkin Donuts, she has proven her responsible nature and ability to relate to others. Her ability to communicate with her peers and adults is impeccable. Bela enjoys the respect and admiration of her fellow students and team mates. She is a leader among leaders. Currently, Ms. Pandya sees herself as an Ophthalmologist in the future. Helping others and compassion are high on her list of characteristics. Bela is an academic all-star and will do wonderful things!

“Through my community service experience, I realized that I don’t have to do things just to get something back. I serve because I like making people feel as though they matter, and . . . at the end of the day because I feel as if I have made a difference in the community.”



Hanna Taylor, 12th Grade
Tuscarora High School, Frederick County

Nominated by Christina Wahl, School Counselor

Academically, Hanna has excelled with an earned weighted cumulative grade point average of 4.0938 and a weighted class rank of 79 out of 336 students. Hanna has taken Advanced Placement courses, honors level courses, and dual enrollment courses through Frederick Community College.

She has been in multiple leadership roles including Webmaster and Publications Director of Frederick County Association of Student Councils, presenter at the Maryland Association of Student Councils' Fall Leadership Conference, President of Tuscarora's Model United Nations, Homecoming Dance Chairman in 2014, and Fundraising Director at her church. She is a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, Key Club, Student Government, Class Club, and Track Team. She volunteered her time throughout high school at the local elementary school as a Homework Club Tutor and as a Math Facts Club helper for another local elementary school. She also volunteers annually for the Kiwanis' Gift Wrapping Fundraiser at the Francis Scott Key Mall. She volunteers at Perfect Balance, Inc. as a gymnastics coach. She participates in dance at Bettie Jane's Center of Dance Art. And, somehow Hanna finds time to work 35 hours per week at Chipotle and PacSun.

Hanna plans to major in Fashion Merchandising and Business Management. She plans to attend the Fashion Institute of Technology and minor in Italian. Hanna will continue volunteering in the community. She plans to bring the Model UN to FIT, to travel and volunteer in other countries. She will continue her education beyond four years to whatever excites her next.

"A Woman of Tomorrow...creates a better tomorrow for herself and the world. A Woman of Tomorrow thinks about the future and wants to be part of the change that creates a better future for everyone."



2016 Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc.

Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly, Inc., better known as the Women's Caucus, was established in 1972 to foster cooperation among women holding state legislative office and to increase the participation of women in politics. Key to the organization's success is its framework, wherein issues can be debated and policies refined, without losing sight of the overall mission: to improve public policy that affects women's lives and increase the number of women elected and appointed to public office in Maryland.

The mandate of the Women Legislators of the Maryland General Assembly is: to research and develop legislation assisting women; to encourage the greater participation of women in Maryland government; and to communicate and cooperate with other women's organizations.

The Women Legislators of Maryland was the first Women's Caucus in the nation. For more information, visit its website: womenlegislatorsmd.org.

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