

KIRKWOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING

# *Pinning Ceremony*

MAY 16, 2021



“ TO DO WHAT NOBODY ELSE WILL DO, A WAY THAT NOBODY ELSE CAN DO,  
IN SPITE OF ALL WE GO THROUGH; THAT IS TO BE A NURSE. ”

RAWSI WILLIAMS

# ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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## Welcome

Dr. Kathy Dolter

## Opening Remarks

Dr. Lori Sundberg

## Faculty Speaker

Brianne Hildebrandt

## Student Speaker

Alexandra Antczak

## Special Recognitions: Listing of Awardees, Nominees, and Other Honorees

Mildred Montag Scholarship Award – Tracey Michalec

Mary Mahoney Leadership Award – Erin Vandivier

Mary Strong Professionalism Award – Lydia Funk

Outstanding Student Award – Kaitlyn Knuth, Lauren Samson  
& Brenda Wilslef

Good Catch Awards – Madison Watts

Guardian Angel Awards – Erin Vandiver

Daisy Awards – Missy Cummer

Chandler Whitehead

James Stark

## Presentation of Pins

Dr. Kathy Dolter

## Closing Remarks

Dr. Kathy Dolter

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*Thank you for joining us today!*

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### MILDRED MONTAG SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

The Mildred Montag Scholarship Award is given to a Nursing student who demonstrates outstanding scholarship within the Nursing program. It is named for Mildred Montag, Ph.D., who founded the Adelphi College School of Nursing in 1942 and later became known and recognized for her influence and impact on Nursing education.

Mildred, born in Struble, Iowa, in 1908, sought to alleviate a critical shortage of nurses after World War II by decreasing the length of the Nursing education process to two years. She completed her doctoral studies at Columbia University Teachers College with her doctoral dissertation, "The Education of Nursing Technicians," which focused on the creation of an associate degree Nursing program for community and junior colleges.

In 1958, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation funded Mildred's implementation of an associate degree Nursing program at seven pilot sites in four states based on her doctoral dissertation.

Since this initial pilot, the number of associate degree Nursing programs has grown to well over 1,000. Over 50 percent of all nurses who graduate each year in the United States graduate from associate degree programs in Nursing.

### AWARDED TO:

### Tracey Michalec

This award is given to a Nursing student for outstanding scholarship in the Nursing program and is given to the student with the highest GPA in the Nursing program.

This semester's Mildred Montag Award is being presented to Tracey Michalec in recognition of her outstanding academic achievement. Besides being "top" in terms of scholarship, she is described by her instructors as professional in all classroom, lab, and simulation interactions. A resource for other students, Tracey always helped her peers to understand difficult concepts and was a cheerleader to her fellow students on exam days. Always demonstrating a positive attitude, Tracey was a curious and pro-active critical thinker. An exemplary student, she was always working continuously to build her knowledge base. One clinical instructor described Tracey as: "one of the best students I have had during clinical, energetic and always happy, it is hard not to smile when she is around. Tracey spends time working with other students, staff, and patients to ensure they are getting the help they need. She always arrived at clinical at least 15 to 20 minutes early to make sure she is ready for her day and was never afraid to ask a question to the nurse, students, or instructor." Kind and caring to patients, her peers and instructors, Tracey was and is an outstanding student, a positive role model, and one of the most professional, knowledgeable and honorable of nurses.

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### MARY MAHONEY LEADERSHIP AWARD

The Mary Mahoney Leadership Award is given to a Nursing student who demonstrates outstanding leadership within the Nursing program. It is named for Mary Elizabeth Mahoney, who was the first African American woman to graduate from nursing school in the United States.

Mary graduated in 1879 from the Training School of Nurses at the New England Hospital for Women and Children. Throughout her 40-year career as a nurse, she provided exemplary patient care, made outstanding contributions to nursing organizations, raised the status of African American nurses, and was widely recognized within her field as a pioneer who opened the door of opportunity for Black women interested in the nursing profession.

Mary was one of the first Black members of the American Nurses Association and was a co-founder of the National Association of Colored Graduate Nurses (NACGN) whose mission was to advocate for more opportunities for formal training for African American nurses and to eventually integrate the nursing profession. Mary was inducted into the American Nurses Association Hall of Fame in 1976 and the National Women's Hall of Fame in 1993.

### AWARDED TO:

### Erin Vandivier

This award is given to a Nursing student for outstanding leadership in the Nursing program and is given to a student who demonstrates a positive attitude in all circumstances; who role models positive behaviors in the classroom, lab, simulation, and clinical environments; who displays an ability to work as a member of a team, leading and/or following as the situation demands; who communicates in a positive manner, listening and speaking with emotional intelligence; and who assists, guides, and mentors other students.

This semester's Mary Mahoney Award is being presented to Erin Vandivier in recognition of her outstanding commitment to excellence in nursing leadership. Erin is described by her instructors as always going above and beyond for her patients, fellow students, and unit floor staff to provide the best care possible for the patient. A huge team player, Erin would answer call lights for all patients – even those not assigned to her, going directly to the patient's room to offer assistance. Always ready to help her fellow students, she frequently asked other students how she could assist them and was willing to answer other students' questions with patience and understanding. Described as working well under pressure, her performance and attention to detail was exceptional. Erin is and will continue to be a strong leader and a positive role model for the nursing profession.

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### MARY STRONG PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

The Mary Strong Professionalism Award is given to a Nursing student who demonstrates outstanding professionalism within the Nursing program. It is named for Mary Strong, a former Kirkwood Nursing faculty member, who retired in August 2016 after 36 years of teaching.

Mary was committed to advising, guiding, and educating future nurses. As a professor of Nursing at Kirkwood, she made a difference in the educational journey of multitudes of Kirkwood graduates. She set high standards for her students, colleagues, and herself, and she never wavered in her commitment to produce outstanding bedside nurses. She believed that a professional nurse is a nurse who is conscientious in their actions and reactions, has high standards for themselves and their fellow nurses, has a caring attitude for others, and brings a sense of calm when comforting patients.

### AWARDED TO:

### Lydia Funk

This award is given to a Nursing student for outstanding professionalism in the Nursing program, who best demonstrates what it means to be a professional nurse — a nurse who is conscientious, caring, compassionate, comforting, and competent in the care of patients.

This semester's Mary Strong Professionalism Award goes to Lydia Funk. Lydia exemplified professionalism, combining the art and science of nursing with her professional bedside manner. Even working with the most confused patients, Lydia had a way of putting them at ease. Not afraid of accepting new challenges as a student, Lydia was an exceptional student nurse and is now ready to make a difference for others in her new role as a professional nurse!

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### **SPRING 2021 INDUCTEES INTO THE KIRKWOOD EPSILON OMICRON CHAPTER OF THE OADN ALPHA DELTA NU HONOR SOCIETY FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING**

The OADN Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society recognizes the academic excellence of students in the study of Associate Degree Nursing. Inductees must meet the following criteria: attain an overall 3.0 GPA prior to entry; attain and maintain a 3.0 GPA in all nursing courses; demonstrate conduct on campus and in the clinical areas that reflects integrity and professionalism; and complete an educational project.

The society encourages the pursuit of advance degrees in the profession of nursing as well as continuing education as a life-long professional responsibility. Additionally, the society participates in the recruitment of qualified individuals into the profession of nursing. The Epsilon Omicron Chapter of Alpha Delta Nu was established at Kirkwood in the Fall of 2017. With this semester's inductees, the Epsilon Omicron Chapter now has inducted 48 students into Alpha Delta Nu!

Alexandra Antczak

Lauren Samson

Jordan Vandewalle

Kaitlyn Knuth

Hunter Smith

Erin Vandivier

Tracey Michalec

James Stark

Chandler Whitehead

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD

Each year, Nursing students are selected by the faculty as Outstanding Nursing Students. To be nominated, a student must have a 3.3 cumulative Kirkwood grade point average. Outstanding students are typically recognized and receive a medallion at the annual Outstanding Student Awards ceremony. The 2020 and 2021 Outstanding Student Awards ceremonies were cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This class's Outstanding Student Award recipients are:

AWARDED TO:

**Lauren Samson**

*Outstanding Student for 2020*

**Brenda Wilslef**

*Outstanding Student for 2020*

**Kaitlyn Knuth**

*Outstanding Student for 2021*

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### GOOD CATCH AWARD

Kirkwood also would like to recognize the students who received a “Good Catch” or an “Excellence in Care” Award. The “Good Catch Award” is given to students who: “Promoted quality and safety in clinical practice by recognizing an event or circumstance which had the potential to cause harm to a patient, but which did not occur due to the corrective action or other timely intervention by the recipient.”

“Good Catch Awards” were earned by the following Spring 2021 graduate:

AWARDED TO:

**Madison Watts**



## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### DAISY AWARDS

We would like to recognize our outstanding students who have received the international Daisy Award for extraordinary nurses for the care provided in their health care employment setting.

The Daisy Award is given in in deep appreciation of the employee's commitment to extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate patient care that will make a meaningful difference in the lives of so many people.

This year, we would like to recognize Missy Cummer for receiving two Daisy awards during her employment at St. Luke's Hospital Cedar Rapids in September 2020 and November of 2020.

Please join me in congratulating Missy Cummer for receiving two Daisy Awards for her extraordinary clinical skill and compassionate care!

AWARDED TO:

**Missy Cummer**

## ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING SPRING 2021 PINNING

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### GUARDIAN ANGEL AWARDS

The Guardian Angel Award is presented by families to health care team members for providing compassionate care to the patients and their families during the loved one's stay at St. Luke's Hospital Cedar Rapids. Families offer a donation to St. Luke's Foundation in honor of a St. Luke's employee, doctor, volunteer or department for their work, and those individuals receive a Guardian Angel award. The donation helps fund program and equipment that add to the quality of care at St. Luke's. Please join me in congratulating, Erin Vandiver, Chandler Whitehead, and James Stark for receiving the Guardian Angel Award. Erin has received 3 Guardian Angel awards during her time working as a Patient Care Technician in the inpatient hospice unit at St. Luke's Hospital in Cedar Rapids. Chandler and James earned their Guardian Angel Award through the care of assigned patients during their preceptorship at St. Luke's. Congrats to all!

AWARDED TO:

**Erin Vandiver**  
**Chandler Whitehead**  
**James Stark**

## SPRING 2021 ASSOCIATE DEGREE NURSING GRADUATES

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Angelina Abbott  
Ashley Amendt  
Alexandra Antczak +\*  
Delaney Bair  
Iliriana Ballazhi  
Carter Bauer  
Samantha Baum  
Carrie Carnahan  
Missy Cummer  
Kathryn Dehaven  
Samuel Denci  
Emily Dewitte  
Gwen Doolittle  
Hannah Ekstrand  
Logan Elliott  
Katherine Fitzgerald

Rachel Flowers  
Madison Frost  
Lydia Funk +\*  
Nikki Greene  
Jennifer Hood \*  
Rylie Kane  
Alie Kensett  
Hillary Kigen  
Kaitlyn Knuth +\*  
Morgan Langfitt  
Megan Lappe  
Xochitl Leconte  
Danielle Mahnke  
Tracey Michalec +\*  
Lauren Motis  
Yaneth Pena

Lauren Samson +\*  
Taylor Schuttinga  
Holly Senft  
Hunter Smith +\*  
James Stark +\*  
Andrew Strub  
Adam Swanson  
Morgan Toussaint  
Jordan Vandewalle +\*  
Erin Vandivier +\*  
Madison Watts  
Chandler Whitehead +\*  
Brenda Wilslef  
Abbegale Wilson

*On behalf of the ADN Class of 2021 we would like to thank our lecture, clinical, and lab instructors who taught us; our preceptors; friends and family who supported us; and our fellow nursing student colleagues.*

\*Member of Kirkwood Student Nurses Association

+\*Member of Alpha Delta Nu Nursing Honor Society

## NURSING DEPARTMENT FACULTY AND STAFF

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### *Department of Nursing Mission*

*Guiding, advising, and educating caring, competent nurses for the future!*

#### **FACULTY**

Stephanie Bennett, MSN, RN

Erica Bernard, MSN, RN

Deb Forbes, MSN, RN

Marla Grosvenor, MSN, RN

LJ Herdrich, DNP, MSN, RN

Brianne Hildebrandt, MSN, RN

Kayla Hubler, MSN, RN, CPN

Kiley Jordan, MSN, RN

Ruth Lane, MSN, RN

Nicoleta Nica, DNP, MSN, RN

Tammy Pickart, MSN, RN

Jessica Rozek, MSN, RN

Laurie Simmons, MSN, RN

Jennifer Storer, MSN, RN, CNE

Trisha Swartzendruber, MSN, RN

Kim Woods, MSN, RN

#### **STAFF**

Kathy Dolter, PhD, RN

Lauri Hughes, MBA

Annie Butler, M.Ed.

René Morris

Yvonne Sippy, BA

April Smith

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