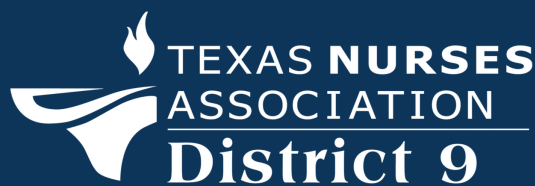


*Your compassion, dedication  
and care touch lives every day.*



**32nd Annual**

*Nursing Celebration*

**Friday, Nov. 8, 2024**

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION



## President's Message

# Welcome

Good evening honorees, supporters, and guests,

It is my privilege to welcome you to the 32nd annual TNA, District 9 Celebration Gala. Those of you who know me are aware that this is my favorite event of the year. With your continued support, we have been able to provide the very important recognition that registered nurses deserve. Since the initiation of Celebration, we have recognized the outstanding work of 650 registered nurses from all areas and levels of practice.

Through the years, we have seen the nursing profession lose nurses and have seen a long-term shortage of nurses across the United States. Nurses in Houston and surrounding areas have worked diligently through natural disasters and pandemics despite personal challenges to continue to support our medical center and hospitals as top ranked in the nation. The support and recognition that we can provide through events such as Celebration are greatly deserved.

To those of you in attendance and those who have helped to sponsor this event, we are grateful. Without your partnership, we could not provide the recognition, scholarships, and grants to support nursing practice, education, and research. To those of you who nominated one of the twenty nurses honored tonight, we honor you as well for serving as the managers and colleagues who recognize the importance of acknowledging excellence in practice.

I would also like to recognize and thank Shawn Vaughn, a well-respected leader in the business community, for his contribution to Celebration. Tonight, we present the second Noble Nurse Award for selfless community service in the TNA, District 9 area. Mr. Vaughn has committed to an annual monetary award for recognition of community service. This award is significant in that it recognizes the efforts of nurses to reach beyond their regular employment areas to patients and other community members who may otherwise not receive education or care. We are grateful to Mr. Vaughn for his foresight and recognition of the importance of the work of nurses.

Tonight's celebration is a special event for our board, planning committee, and each of you. Many of you in attendance are previous honorees and return to recognize others and reunite with colleagues. I hope that you will have a very enjoyable evening reflecting on the incredible achievements that nurses can achieve. We invite you to continue your action to support the work of TNA, District 9 by making a contribution. Any amount will assist us to continue this important work. You can use the QR code here to make your donation. Your generosity will help to support the continued work of nurses.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Terry Throckmorton". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**Terry Throckmorton, PhD, RN**

President

Texas Nurses Association, District 9

## 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## Program

5:00 PM Registration, Silent Auction, and Cash Bar

6:00 PM Dinner and Awards Ceremony

### EMCEE

**Sharron Melton, CW39**



*Sharron Melton is the Morning Anchor for CW39 Houston/KIAH-TV. She is an Emmy-nominated and award-winning journalist with over 20 years of anchoring, reporting, and producing experience. She has been a TV anchor in Houston, Miami, Mobile, Alabama, and Roswell, New Mexico. She is also the host and executive producer of "Sharing the Sugar with Sharron," an international You Tube and Podcast that interviews people about the importance of giving back to their communities. You can connect with Sharron on social media.*

### WELCOME

**Dr. Terry Throckmorton**, *President, Texas Nurses Association, District 9*

**Dr. Amy McCarthy**, *President, Texas Nurses Association*

### RECOGNITION OF SPONSORS

**Karee Carter**, *Chair, Corporate Sponsors*

**Dr. Terry Throckmorton**, *President*

**Dr. Angie Rangel**, *President-Elect*

**Serena Jackson**, *Board Member*

### PRESIDENT'S AWARD

**Dr. Brenda Binder-Sylvester**

### DOROTHY OTTO LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

**Dr. Lucindra Campbell-Law**

### PRESENTATION OF OUTSTANDING NURSE AWARDS

**Dr. Terry Throckmorton**, *Chair, Nominating Committee*

**Dr. Pamela Windle**, *Co-Chair, Nominating Committee*

### PRESENTATION OF NOBLE NURSE AWARD

**Shawn Vaughan**, *Mike Calvert Toyota*

**Dr. Terry Throckmorton**, *President*

### PRESENTATION OF SCHOLARSHIP AND GRANTS

**Dr. Brenda Binder-Sylvester**, *Chair, Scholarship and Grant Committee*

**Dr. Lucindra Campbell-Law**, *Co-Chair, Scholarship and Grant Committee*

**Dr. Pamela Windle**, *Co-Chair, Scholarship and Grant Committee*

### CLOSING COMMENTS

**Dr. Amy McCarthy**, *President, Texas Nurses Association*

### INTRODUCTION OF THE BAND

**Sharron Melton**, *CW39*

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Outstanding Nurse Honorees*



**Charmmie Agriam, MSN, RN, CCRN**

*Clinical Resources and Support Services, Harris Health System  
Operations Administrator, Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital*

Charmmie Agriam holds a Master of Science in Nursing Leadership and is board certified in Critical Care Nursing. She is currently the System Nurse Manager for Clinical Resources and Support Services, Ben Taub (BT) Staffing Office and Virtual Patient Observation Unit for Harris Health and the Operations Administrator for Memorial Hermann Pearland Hospital. She is a member of the American Nurses Association/TNA, the Philippine Nurses Association of America/PNA Metro Houston, and Sigma Theta Tau. She is also a member of the Ben Taub Research /Inspire Committee and has assisted with EBP data collection. She facilitated the development of the Transport Team to assist with critical patients in procedural areas by providing qualified staff, initiation of the rapid admission unit in the Ben Taub Emergency Center, and sustaining the Virtual Observation Unit protocol in providing patient safety and preventing falls. She has a passion for supporting her staff's success, sharing her critical care expertise and mentoring staff and her nursing peer leaders in both interprofessional and operational skills. Her commitment to nursing is evidenced through her involvement in her church, school, and community outreach. Charmmie has recently been honored with the 2024 Good Samaritan Bronze Award.



**Shelita Anderson DNP, MBA, RN, NEA-BC, OCN**

*Memorial Hermann Southwest Hospital*

Dr. Shelita Anderson currently oversees a comprehensive oncology system across 12 acute care hospitals and numerous outpatient services within the Memorial Hermann Health System. She holds a nurse leader advanced certification and is also certified in oncology. Her contributions have been instrumental in spearheading innovative professional and community healthcare education, enhancing clinical knowledge, and ensuring the highest quality assurance standards across all facets of the oncology service line at the organization. She has implemented crucial initiatives that have dramatically improved patient care and accessibility, including a million-dollar transportation and accommodation program ensuring that cancer patients receive necessary treatments without the burden of travel and lodging expenses. She is committed to serving the underserved and has developed vital partnerships with local churches and community organizations to enhance cancer screening and prevention among African American communities, focusing on both breast and prostate cancer. She finds the opportunity to advance health equity very honoring and rewarding.



**Tara Barrick, MSN, RNC-OB**

*Texas Children's Hospital Pavilion for Women*

Tara Barrick currently serves as a Clinical Specialist in Obstetrics at Texas Children's Hospital (TCH) Pavilion for Women. She earned a Master of Science in Nursing with an emphasis in Leadership in Health Care Systems and is certified in Inpatient Obstetrics. As a recognized High-Risk OB and Simulation expert across the organization and community, she is deeply committed to improving patient outcomes and has played a key role in the development of evidence-based postpartum hemorrhage and hypertensive emergency protocols. Her work often sets the standard for evidence-based standards through inspection of outcomes, supporting TCH's continued place as a leader in Texas for High-Risk Obstetrical Care. Tara has a passion for teaching and ensuring that nurses and ancillary support staff are well educated and have a clear understanding of protocols and expectations. She developed a love for simulation and while she supports teams in all areas of nursing education, she truly shines in team simulation. During the pandemic, she developed simulations to prepare nurses to provide the best labor and delivery experience for COVID positive mothers. Not only does Tara teach skills and tools, she also mentors leadership disposition, positivity, and high expectations to drive and deliver results.



**Karee Carter, MSN, RN, MEDSURG-BC, CRRN, WTA**

*Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital*

Karee Carter serves as an orthopedics and rehabilitation clinical nurse and team leader for Memorial Hermann Southeast Hospital. Nursing is a second career for Karee, and she brings to the role dedication and adherence to high standards. In her role as team leader, she consults with numerous groups to coordinate the rehabilitation of patients, promoting evidence-based practice and high-quality outcomes. As a member of the Skin, Wound Assessment Team, she participates in the initiation of protocols to enhance skin care and the prevention of ulcers. She is a constant advocate for nurses, students, and patients and often serves as a preceptor for nursing students from numerous schools within the clinical setting. She is an excellent educator and is a driving force for professionalism in nursing. Karee serves as a board member of TNA District 9, chairs the Professional Development Committee and the Celebration Corporate Sponsor Committee. She mentors nurses to join and be active in their professional associations and plans meetings with staff and other nurses to present the benefits of professional association membership.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Outstanding Nurse Honorees*



**Geraldine de los Santos, MSN, RN, CPAN**  
*Children's Memorial Hermann Hospital*

Geraldine de los Santos is a clinical educator and a certified perinesthesia nurse at Children's Memorial Hermann (MH) Hospital. She is active in several professional associations including ASPAN, TAPAN, and ABPANC, serving as President of TAPAN Upper Gulf Coast Region. She just accepted as the President-Elect for the TAPAN State Component. As an expert in visitation policy and ASPAN Standards and practice guidelines, she is a "go-to- person" for leadership knowledge in perianesthesia nursing. She is the clinical resource for pediatric specialty and provides weekly in-services for staff. Access to care is of utmost importance to her, especially for those underserved children. She raised her practice to a distinguished level for the patient/parent experience by encouraging use of OR tool for family communication during OR procedures and enhancing the post-op discharge process by using easy to read instructions for the patient/families. Geraldine has received numerous awards for professional practice including the Nursing Excellence Collaborator Award from Memorial Hermann, the Good Samaritan Bronze award, MH Nursing Excellence Advocate Award, the MH Nursing Excellence Credibility Award, TAPAN Rising Star and recently, TAPAN Presidential Award.



**Elif Isik, PhD, RN**  
*Texas Woman's University*

Dr. Elif Isik is a professor of nursing at Texas Woman's University. She exemplifies the highest standards in practice, education, and research, and has demonstrated exceptional leadership and mentorship in the field of nursing. Dr. Isik's ability to engage learners and professionals with real-world applications of public health principles has been a key influence on many. Dr. Isik has made significant contributions to the field of nursing research. She was awarded a prestigious grant from the National Institutes of Health and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute for her study to develop an Asthma Self-Management Questionnaire for Adolescents Living with Asthma. She served as an expert panel reviewer for the National Association of School Nurses in asthma management and has contributed to advancing standards in school nursing. Dr. Isik has volunteered extensively to support immigrant families, helping them access essential resources such as healthcare, housing, and education. Dr. Isik embodies the qualities of a professional role model through her leadership, mentorship, research excellence, and dedication to both nursing education and the broader healthcare community.



**Meghan Jones, MSN, RN, OCN, NPD-BC**  
*UT MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Meghan Jones is a role model for nurses at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center. Over her 14 years in nursing, started as ADN level and progressing to her MSN, she has advocated for the nurse at all levels and is an outstanding nurse educator. She is a certified oncology nurse and a nursing professional development specialist. As an educator, she enjoys sharing her knowledge with staff on many topics and develops frequent in-services and programs to foster improved patient care. She consistently assesses the needs of the nurses in her area and develops need specific programs for them. She received the Excellence in Safety Award and presented an abstract in 2023 ONS Congress. She is active in ONS Houston chapter, serving as secretary and treasurer-elect, and as a member of the Legislative Committee. She was a charter member of the National Cancer Institute Cancer Center Collaborative serving as a Nurse Planner and facilitator. She is active in legislative advocacy, attending Capitol Hill Days, Nurse Day at the Capitol, and serving as a panelist at the HCONS Legislative Advocacy Seminar. Her high standards provide a basis for her love of nursing and caring for her patients.



**Jennifer Lahue, MBA, BSN, RN, CENP**  
*Ambulatory Clinic, Harris Health System*

Jennifer Lahue is a nurse leader who has been instrumental in helping establish or expand five clinics for Harris Health System. As a Director of Nursing Strategic Initiatives and Office Based Addiction Treatment (OBAT) program, she has been vital in assisting Harris Health in many projects and partnerships. With a special interest in Opioid treatment, she went beyond by obtaining certifications or special training in Opioid Use Disorders, Collaborative Care for Substance Abuse, Care Manager in Opioid treatments, and CITI Good Clinical Practice. Jennifer is a site principal investigator and program manager for the PROUD study on nursing care of Opioid Use Disorder and has published on this topic. She actively participates in community projects such as Overdose Prevention and Drug Awareness Campaigns and works closely with Houston Police Department and Constable Office. From this partnership, she was recognized with the Shining Star Award from the Houston STAR Drug Court. She is a strong advocate for substance use patients, especially those who are homeless or unhoused. She collaborates with community leaders to help this marginalized population. Jennifer role models this behavior for her colleagues and the students she mentors.

## *32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Outstanding Nurse Honorees*



**Rochelle Mariano, MSN, RN, CPAN, CAPA**  
*Ambulatory Surgery Center, Harris Health System*

Rochelle Mariano is an experienced peri-anesthesia ambulatory nurse at Harris Health System. She was a Clinical Resource Nurse educator before attaining her current role of Nurse Manager. She is a certified post anesthesia nurse and certified ambulatory PeriAnesthesia nurse. Rochelle organizes and conducts numerous programs for the PACU nurses, initiated and facilitated many unit guidelines. Ms. Mariano is held in high regard by her staff and is active on the local and county level using her expertise. She is on many committees and a true patient advocate who mentors new employees, colleagues, interns, and other health care providers. She is active in spreading her love of nursing at local schools, churches and community health fairs. She has created bilingual educational materials for her patients. Rochelle is considered a wonderful educator and nurse leader. She implements evidence-based practice in her unit to benefit patients, families, and the nurses. Her staff state that she assists them in career decision making. She is truly a role model of nursing as evidenced by her recognition as a Harris Health Champion and Harris Health Hero.



**Christina Martin, MSN, RN, NEA-BC, RNC-OB**  
*Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital*

Christina Martin is a Nursing Director at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. Her leadership, expertise, and dedication to patient care, professional development, and community service distinguish her in nursing management. Her commitment to high standards in women's services has earned her a respected role across the healthcare system. As chair of the System Women Services Council, she spearheaded the implementation of key policies to enhance maternal safety. Christina consistently demonstrates her dedication to community health through initiatives such as the annual Community Baby Shower and collaboration with the Mother's Milk Bank of Austin. Her contributions to innovative patient care models, including the Transition Nurse Role and staffing reorganization, reflect her expertise in operational improvement. Christina has focused on improving maternal and neonatal safety through programs like Gold Safe Sleep, Texas Ten Step breastfeeding advocacy, and the expansion of Women's Services. Her policy leadership has facilitated the successful implementation of MEWS, OB Sepsis Protocols, and other safety initiatives that have directly impacted maternal outcomes. Her dedication to patient care, policy development, mentorship, and advocacy for women's health makes her truly deserving of this honor.



**Nitha Mathew Joseph PhD, RN, CNE, CGNC**  
*University of Texas Cizik School of Nursing*

Dr. Nitha Mathew Joseph epitomizes the ideal of a nurse educator. She is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Texas Cizik School of Nursing. Among her many distinctions, Dr. Joseph is a certified nurse educator and certified as a global nurse consultant by the International Council of Nurses. She has been recognized by her alma mater as a distinguished alumni and is a Values Champion at UT Health Houston. She is active in many organizations including TNA and the National Association of Indian nurses in America. She shares her vast knowledge at conferences on the local, state, national, and international level. As a professor, she links class to clinical in a clear manner and is always supportive to her students and truly gets to know her students on a personal level. She is a peer reviewer and has authored several papers. Dr. Joseph is an advocate and activist for minority communities. Her attributes are many and she truly believes that her students represent the brightest hope for the future of nursing.



**Joan Mutai, DNP, MSN/PH, RN, NEA-BC, AMB-BC, GERO-BC, CDP, CMDCP**  
*LBJ Head and Neck Clinic, Harris Health System*

Dr. Joan Mutai is a Clinic Nurse Manager at LBJ Hospital - Head and Neck Clinic in Ambulatory Care Services. Dr. Mutai has a strong focus on quality patient care as evidenced by her involvement in developing protocols, guidelines and implementation of evidence-based projects with measurable patient outcomes. Her DNP project, "Blood pressure reduction using an individualized patient action plan, resulted in improved hypertension management for over 80% of participants. She is a passionate advocate for patients, students, and nursing staff, consistently promoting a patient-centered approach to healthcare. She worked diligently to ensure that patient care was both accessible and equitable. Dr. Mutai advocated for policies that improved patient access to care, initiatives aimed at enhancing hypertension management and led projects to improve clinical outcomes through evidence-based practices. She is a role model for nurses at all levels of practice fostering a culture of continuous learning and professional development. Her involvement in nursing organizations is also an example of how her advocacy extends beyond the clinical setting to include political action in support of quality healthcare.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Outstanding Nurse Honorees*



**Rita Richards, MSN, RN, CEN, NEA-BC**

*Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital*

Rita Richards is the Emergency Department (ED) Nurse Director for the Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. A registered nurse for 14 years, she holds a board certification for Emergency Nursing as well as a Nurse Executive, Advanced certification. She is an active member of several professional organizations, leads several committees, and mentors her staff for career advancement. As an active leader in the System ED council, she developed a Gun Shot Wound algorithm to lockdown the department and ensure the safety of the staff. Rita is quick to share her knowledge via in-services, poster and podium presentations at local, state, and national level. Rita's innovative ideas led to the design and implementation of a comprehensive ED admission strategy to increase efficiency & effectiveness in the Emergency Department. Rita is committed to quality of health care and performance improvement as evidenced by hitting the target on patient satisfaction scores. She is a role model for her peers by representing nursing on community boards and advisory councils.



**Goley Richardson, MSN, BBA, RN**

*UT MD Anderson Cancer Center*

Goley Richardson is the Associate Director for the Nursing Programs: Nursing Practice, Regulatory and Shared Governance at UT MD Anderson Cancer Center. She began nursing career 28 years ago, holds a Master of Science in Nursing Executive Leadership degree along with a Bachelor of Business Administration with a marketing focus. She actively participates in numerous professional associations and committees to mentor nurses in professional practice, impact policy changes and contribute to the nursing profession. She is an active member of the Houston Chapter of the Oncology Nursing Society serving as president, treasurer, and on the Legislative Committee assisting in the planning of annual seminars to engage nurses in legislative advocacy. Her current responsibility entails developing and implementing education about clinical trials for frontline nursing staff to increase compliance and reduce variances to protocol requirements. She serves as a professional role model by mentoring nurses in professional practice, ongoing presentations at local, state, and national conferences and participation in political action to support quality health care, education and management.



**Cynthia Rittenhouse, DNP, RN, NP-BC, EBP-C**

*Memorial Hermann Health System*

Dr. Rittenhouse is an Education Resource Specialist III, responsible for coordinating Clinical Nurse and PCA/PCT orientation, developing staff in-services and preceptor training for the nurse orientation program, facilitator of system nurse residency and fellowship programs, CE nurse planner, and lead developer of regulatory and facility required courses. She is the co-leader of the initial and re-accreditation of the ANCC Practice Transition Accreditation program. Her passion for education and evidence-based practice led to completing the requirements to successfully become one of the first registered nurses in Houston to receive the Evidence-based practice certification, and one of the first 100 certified RNs in EBP. As a published author and active in many professional organizations holding elected board positions, she exhibits expertise in professional practice and exemplifies commitment to nursing by participating in community clinical projects, sharing of knowledge through in-services and planning and implementing process improvement initiatives. Dr Rittenhouse is an advocate for patients, students, and employees contributing to the quality of health care and demonstrating commitment to the profession of nursing.



**Pinky Shani, PhD, MSN, RN, NE-BC**

*Houston Methodist Hospital West*

Dr. Pinky Shani is a Nurse Scientist at the Houston Methodist Hospital West. She holds a PhD in nursing and a board certification in Nursing Executive Leadership. Dr Shani is a well-respected scholar in the field of Nursing Research. Her contributions to the field of nursing research are remarkable to say the least. She has received numerous awards from several universities. She has been the primary investigator or co-investigator in over a dozen research and Evidence Based Practice projects. Her commitment, dedication and contribution as the Nurse Scientist resulted in the community hospital receiving grant funding from national sources. She has had multiple journal publications, most having to do with her primary interest in oncology nursing and its stressful impact on patients and caregivers. Dr. Shani serves as a mentor for her peers on their DNP projects and assists nurse resident groups with their EBP projects. She exhibits expertise in professional practice and exemplifies her commitment to nursing by sharing knowledge through workshops in Abstract Writing and Research Fair.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

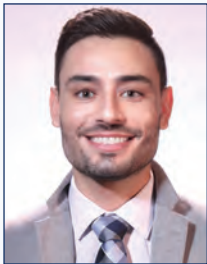
## *Outstanding Nurse Honorees*



**Katherine Simpson, DNP, APRN-BC, CNRN, CVRN-II, LNC**

*University of St. Thomas*

Dr. Katherine Simpson, Assistant Professor at University of St. Thomas has held various positions in nursing and worked with multiple organizations throughout the Houston area. An active community member, Dr. Simpson participates in various activities at Our Savior Catholic Church, the Houston Food Bank, Avanta Health, Healthcare for the Homeless Clinic, and community CPR training sessions. Dr. Simpson serves as the President of both the Advance Nurse Practitioner professional organization and the Texas Association of PeriAnesthesia Nurses UGCR chapter. As an educator, she not only instructs students but also supports other faculty members to ensure a high standard of nursing education. Her initiatives, including the Transition to Practice model for APRNs and the development of a nursing theory aimed at improving patient outcomes highlight her innovative approach to nursing practice. Dr. Simpson embodies the essence of nursing excellence and leadership. Her unwavering commitment to professional development, policy advocacy, and quality patient care makes her a deserving honoree.



**Jarred Smith, MSN, RN, CNML, MEDSURG-BC**

*Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital*

Jarred Smith is a Clinical Nurse Manager at Memorial Hermann Greater Heights Hospital and has contributed significantly to nursing leadership, patient care quality, and community involvement. His departments have earned several prestigious awards, including the Silver Beacon Nursing Excellence Award and the Prism Award of Excellence across three departments. Jarred has also been honored with multiple individual accolades, such as the 2023 Good Samaritan Bronze Award, the 2024 Houston Chronicle Top 200 Nurses Award, and the Memorial Hermann Safety Hero Award, the latter recognizing his lifesaving actions while off duty. He has led numerous initiatives aimed at improving patient safety, most notably reducing fall-related injuries using video monitoring and enhanced safety bed features. He is an accomplished and compassionate leader, demonstrating excellence in nursing management, patient care innovation, and community service. His dedication to quality improvement and lifelong learning continues to positively impact both patients and colleagues, while also nurturing the next generation of healthcare professionals.



**Jill Stonesifer, MSN, RN, NP-BC, CPN**

*Texas Children's Hospital*

Jill Stonesifer has dedicated 28 years to nursing at Texas Children's Hospital as a Specialist in the Nursing Professional Development Department. Known for her innovative approaches, Jill leverages technology and gaming strategies to engage and onboard clinical staff. Her passion for nursing education and clinical training has driven her to pursue advanced certifications and degrees. She plays active leadership roles in professional organizations like the Association for Nursing Professional Development in Houston. Jill has presented at numerous conferences and authored a chapter on the nurse's roles in Evidence-Based Practice. She regularly mentors other educators and collaborates on programs that enhance nursing competencies. She co-lead the Professional student nurse program and streamlined competency management for over 10,000 nursing and clinical staff. Jill Stonesifer is a dedicated, innovative leader in nursing, with a strong commitment to professional development, mentorship, and healthcare quality improvement.



**Erica Tengyuan Yu, PhD, RN, FNAP**

*UT Health Cizik School of Nursing*

Dr. Erica Yu is the Associate Dean and Department Chair for the Undergraduate Studies at UT Health Cizik School of Nursing, where she has made significant contributions to nursing education, particularly in the development of Nurse Residency Programs (NRP) and the Inter-Professional Education (IPE). Dr. Yu developed the curriculum for the NRP, bridging the gap between pre-licensure education and clinical practice to help new nurses transition smoothly into their professional roles. She currently serves on the Vizient/AACN National Strategic Planning Council. She has also been a site evaluator for CCNE accreditation of NRPs. Her dedication earned her induction as a Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice in 2024. She has presented over sixty abstracts at conferences on subjects such as curriculum design, interprofessional collaboration, and professional development. She impacts more than six hundred students annually through IPE activities that engage multiple disciplines. Her expertise extends internationally, as she developed a clinical observation program for nursing students from Taiwan. Dr. Yu is a visionary leader in nursing education, interprofessional collaboration, and academic-practice partnerships.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *President's Awardee*



### **Brenda K. Binder-Sylvester, RN, PhD**

Dr. Binder-Sylvester wanted to be a teacher, but her family influenced her career. Her father was a physician, and her mother was a medical technologist. It was interesting that she combined her interest in teaching with being a nurse. She has enjoyed giving back by being a nurse, a pediatric nurse practitioner, an educator of nurses for 32 years at TWU and HBU (HCU), and by being active in professional nursing organizations.

Texas Nurses Association District 9 was the nursing organization that she chose to join and worked with for over 30 years. During this time, she held many roles which allowed her to give back to her profession. She served on the TNA District 9 Nominating Committee, as the TNA District 9 President, as a Delegate to TNA, and her favorite role, as Chair of the Scholarship and Grant Subcommittee. In this role, she can continue to provide leadership and know that the nurses that receive the scholarship and grant awards will make a difference in health care!

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

## TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

### *Dorothy Otto Lifetime Achievement Awardee*



### **Lucindra Campbell-Law, PhD, APRN, ANP, PMHNP-BC**

Dr. Lucindra Campbell-Law is a distinguished Professor and Divisional Dean of Graduate Programs at the University of St. Thomas Peavy School of Nursing. As the Cullen Trust Endowed Faculty for Healthcare, she also leads the Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner program, advancing the field of psychiatric nursing.

With over 40 years of clinical experience, Dr. Campbell-Law specializes in managing post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injuries, particularly among military service members. Her research centers on dual diagnoses, including bipolar disorder, major depression, and substance abuse, with a strong focus on mental health in underserved populations. Her numerous publications and presentations highlight her expertise and commitment to mental health advocacy.

Dr. Campbell-Law holds dual certifications from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and has earned degrees from Houston Baptist University (Bachelor's), the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (Master's), and Texas Woman's University (Doctorate).

A Fellow of the Alliance of Nurses for Healthy Environments, Dr. Campbell-Law collaborates with the Center for Environmental Excellence and Research, demonstrating her dedication to environmental justice at both local and global levels. She also serves on the Foundation Board of the Harris Center for Mental Health and Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities. Throughout her career, Dr. Campbell-Law has held various board positions with the Texas Nurses Association and TNA District 9, actively contributing to global, national, state, and local policy development. She is a strong advocate for policies addressing diversity, inclusion, and reducing healthcare disparities.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Mike Calvert Toyota*



## **Pamela E. Windle, DNP, RN, NE-BC, CPAN, CAPA, FAAN, FASPAN**

Dr. Pamela Windle is a life-long advocate for community service. Growing up as a child, she worked with her school teacher mom serving the needy in the Philippine community. After arriving in Houston, she began volunteering at U.T.M.D. Anderson Cancer Center with her two children. Pam has been a pivotal figure in the nursing arena within Houston, especially among the perioperative and perianesthesia professional organizations, Philippine Nurses' Association of Metropolitan Houston (PNAMH), and the Chinese-Filipino-American community and has had a long-term dedication to volunteerism over the decades.

Since the 80's, with her involvement with PNA, ASPAN/TAPAN, Filipino Cancer Network and America Heart Association, she has volunteered countless weekends

helping the community through free CPRs, health fairs (blood pressure, glucose checks, giving patient education teachings at several catholic churches, schools, CVS/Walgreens), feeding the hungry, Project Cure, Star of Hope, yearly backpack distributions with our Houston Mayor Turner.

As a National Past President of ASPAN, she encourages her members to help the needy through volunteerism and recognizes the impact the members make. Dr. Windle played a crucial role in strengthening the bonds within the Philippine Nurses Association and expanding its impact on the Houston community, including teaching students at Alief & HISD areas, and extending through her international medical and surgical missions. Her resilience and compassion for others, as a person, wife and mother/grandmother, have also taught her children to do good for others. Dr. Windle holds three certifications: one from the American Nurses Credentialing Center and two from ABPANC. She has earned degrees from Silliman University College of Nursing in the Philippines (Bachelor's), Texas Woman's University (Master's) and the University of Texas Health Science Cizik School of Nursing (Doctorate). She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing and a Fellow of the American Society of PeriAnesthesia Nurses.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Scholarships and Grant Recipients*

*Donna Wooten Scholarship Recipient*

**Gabrielle Stuart**

*Associate Degree RN*

*Lone Star College, Montgomery*

*D9 Carol Coats Award Grant Recipient*

**Blake Swanson, MSN, RN**

*Houston Christian University*

*Title of Project: School of Nursing QI Project: Admission, Retention, Graduation*

*D9 Sabina Fritsch Scholarship Recipient*

**Juliana Munoz**

*Bachelor of Science in Nursing*

*Houston Christian University*

*D9 Grant Recipient*

**Kenessa Landry, MSN, RN**

*Cizik School of Nursing at UTHealth*

*Title of Study (Dissertation): Validating the Nursing Practice Readiness Scale in New Graduate Nurses in the United States New Graduate Nurses*

*D9 Scholarship Recipient*

**Antoinette Cotton, MHA, RN**

*Doctorate Nursing Practice (DNP)*

*University of St. Thomas*

### **History of the Donna Wooten Scholarship**

The family of Donna Wooten, RN, established the Donna Wooten Nursing Education Scholarship in 2008. Friends and family donate funds annually. Donna was a stay-at-home mom to seven children for 27 years. She became a LVN and took her state board exam on her 45th birthday. One of her proudest moments was graduating from RN school at the age of 50, surrounded by her seven children and her second-blessing husband. It was on her 70th birthday that the Donna Wooten Scholarship was born.

### **History of the Sabina Fritsch Scholarship**

In 1972, the estate of Sabina Fritsch donated funds to Texas Nurses Association District 9 to be designated as a Sabina Fritsch Scholarship. Ms. Fritsch was very active in the district and was recognized by Houston medical leaders as being responsible for driving the change in medical care to prevention, a significant contribution by registered nurses who were employed in providing health care in patient's homes.

*Harris, Mary Ann. (November 11, 1953). "Miss Fritsch honored for 36 years' service." The Houston Post.*

### **History of the Carol Coats Scholarship**

The Carol Coats Scholarship recognizes individuals or organizations that have made outstanding contributions to promoting mental well-being, raising awareness, reducing stigma, and providing support to those facing mental health challenges. This award celebrates their dedication to fostering a more compassionate and understanding society, where mental health is prioritized and celebrated.

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Platinum Sponsor*



**PASS the CCRN EXAM  
with Danielle Hardin**

### **Critical Care Training from a Practicing Critical Care Nurse**

Finding the right training should start with the most current methods and expectations of today's medications and protocols. CCRN training for too long has relied on educators who are no longer practicing. Danielle breaks that mold with up-to-date instruction and current on-the-job examples to enhance a nurse's understanding of various advanced technologies and medical equipment commonly used in critical care units. See at [gritnursing.com](http://gritnursing.com)



# Lindgren Media

Producing Visuals & Communications

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Gold Sponsor*



## YOU MAKE US PROUD.

Harris Health has built a team of exceptional nurses. They serve as compassionate, highly skilled care providers and as dedicated innovators working to improve every patient experience.

We are pleased to celebrate four of our nurses for earning the Texas Nursing Association's Outstanding Nurse Award, along with our nominee for Mike Calvert Toyota's Noble Nurse Award.

Thank you, team. And congratulations to all of tonight's honorees.

### 2024 Outstanding Nurses Honorees



Charmmie Agriam



Jennifer LaHue



Rochelle Mariano



Joan Mutai

Mike Calvert  
Toyota's  
Noble Nurse  
Award Nominee



Pamela Windle



[jobs.harrishealth.org](https://jobs.harrishealth.org)

**HARRISHEALTH**

WE LIVE THIS

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



**TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION**

*Gold Sponsor*

**Nurses Are The Heartbeat Of Houston!**



PROUD SPONSOR OF THE



**NOBLE  
NURSE**

OF THE YEAR AWARD

Showing our deepest gratitude  
for those who give so much to  
our community

**MikeCalvertToyota.com**

**2333 South Loop West, Houston, TX 77054 | 833-806-8531**

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Silver Sponsor*

HOUSTON  
**Methodist**  
WEST HOSPITAL

HOUSTON  
**Methodist**<sup>®</sup>  
SUGAR LAND HOSPITAL

**MEMORIAL**<sup>®</sup>  
**HERMANN**

 **UTHealth**<sup>®</sup> Houston  
Cizik School of Nursing

  
**Houston**  
**Christian**  
UNIVERSITY

## Honoring Excellence in Nursing

The University of Texas Medical Branch (UTMB Health) is honored to celebrate the compassion and professionalism of outstanding nurses.

As a trusted leader in clinical care, we understand that excellence begins with those who go above and beyond each day. We proudly recognize the commitment of our nursing professionals and thank them for their unwavering dedication to improving lives.

 **utmb** Health.



PRINTED PROGRAM/SOUVENIR  
BOOKLET SPONSOR

**MEMORIAL**<sup>®</sup>  
**HERMANN**

AWARD SPONSOR

 **SAN JACINTO**<sup>SM</sup>  
**COLLEGE**

 10908 S. Post Oak Rd.  
Houston, Texas 77035  
www.postoaktrophies.com  
Ph: 713-729-1102

Trophies • Plaques • Medals • Laser Engraving  
Glass Awards • Custom Logos • Ad Specialties

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## SILENT AUCTION DONORS

BTL Axe

Massage Envy

Buffalo Bayou Park

Melanie Truong

Frontier Airlines

Nursing Celebration Steering Committee

Gaylord Hotel

Pamela Windle

Great Wolf Lodge

PNA Metro Houston

Haak Winery

Rooftop Cinema

Hart to Heart Designs

Stretch Lab

Houston Astros

Sugar Land Space Cowboys

Houston Museum of Natural Science

Sur La Tab

Houston Texans

Talia Truong

Houston Zoo

Terry Throckmorton

Jon Lindgren

UT Health Cizik School of Nursing

Kendra Scott

Wine Basket from Celebration Committee

Lucindra Campbell-Law

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## COMMUNITY DONORS

The Bhojani Family Foundation

## ALUMNI DONORS

Allegra Jones Baccinelli  
Maribel Bhojani  
Jennifer Ebel  
Alison Elaine Gardner  
Victoria Ginger  
Rosalyn Jones-Waters  
Karen Lyon  
Joanne Monroig  
Edtrina Moss  
Angie Rangel  
Starla Reichel  
Angelle Rhemann  
Susan Ruppert  
Pamela Windle

## FRIENDS OF TNA D9

Elif Isik  
Jeeline Martinez  
Cindy McCauley

## GIFT CARD DONORS

Maribel Bhojani  
Lucindra Campbell-Law  
Cindy McCauley  
Angie Rangel  
Terry Throckmorton  
Melanie Truong  
Patricia Wills Bagnato  
Pamela Windle

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

## *Committees*

### **PLANNING**

Terry Throckmorton, *Chair*  
Nursing Celebration Steering Committee  
TNA D9 Board

### **REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Terry Throckmorton, *Co-Chair*  
Pamela Windle, *Co-Chair*  
Allegra Baccinelli  
Maribel Bhojani  
Jody Collins  
Joylyn Estrella  
Cassandra Green  
Valerie Howell  
Kristin Johnson  
Tricia Lewis  
Roselyn Ogunkunle  
Angelina Rangel  
Zandra Rivera  
Patricia Schwartz  
Elyse Sporkin  
Valerie Stiner

### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

Terry Throckmorton

### **VENUE**

Lucindra Campbell-Law, *Chair*  
Angie Rangel  
Terry Throckmorton  
Pamela Windle

### **DONOR FUNDING/CORPORATE**

#### **SPONSORS**

Karee Carter, *Chair*  
Terry Throckmorton

### **ENTERTAINMENT**

Angie Rangel, *Chair*  
Lucindra Campbell-Law

### **PUBLICITY/MARKETING**

Terry Throckmorton

### **BUDGET**

Melanie Truong, *Chair*  
Terry Throckmorton

### **DECORATIONS**

Terry Throckmorton, *Chair*  
Angie Rangel

### **SILENT AUCTION**

Serena Tobar, *Chair*  
Nursing Students

### **PROGRAM/EMCEE**

Terry Throckmorton

### **SOUVENIR BOOKLET/INVITATIONS**

Maribel Bhojani, *Chair*  
Terry Throckmorton  
Melanie Truong  
Pamela Windle

### **REGISTRATION**

Terry Throckmorton, *Chair*  
Pamela Windle, *Co-Chair*  
Allegra Baccinelli  
Joylyn Estrella  
Valerie Howell  
Tricia Lewis  
Roselyn Ogunkunle  
Zandra Rivera  
Kelsey Saddoris  
Melanie Truong

### **SCHOLARSHIPS/RESEARCH GRANTS**

Brenda K. Binder-Sylvester, *Chair*  
Lucindra Campbell-Law, *Co-Chair*  
Pamela Windle, *Co-Chair*  
Tamu Abreu  
Virginia Bayer  
Sheranda Fesler  
Danielle Fernandez  
Mischelle Hopper  
Mary Kinsey  
Cheryl Lindy  
Nisha Mathews  
Nitha Mathew Joseph  
Edtrina Moss

### **AWARDS/MEDALLIONS**

Melanie Truong, *Chair*  
Maribel Bhojani

### **VIDEOGRAPHY**

Tricia Lewis, *Chair*  
Jon Lindgren

### **STUDENTS**

Celeste Ramirez, *Chair*

### **Special Thanks to:**

JASON JOY CO.  
LINDGREN MEDIA  
NURSING STUDENTS



*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

## TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Best Wishes To  
Texas Nurses District 9 Foundation  
On Your  
32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



**Ed Metoyer**

Metoyer-Roy Printing, Ltd. prints and produces quality printed pieces. For hundreds of companies and organizations, Metoyer-Roy Printing, Ltd. is the first and only call they make to handle their printing needs. Make sure Metoyer-Roy Printing, Ltd. is your first and only call.

We are the best printer for your job.

*from  
Emily and Ed Metoyer  
And The Staff of Metoyer-Roy Printing, Ltd.*

**Metoyer-Roy  
Printing, Ltd.**

**Call 713.338.2159**

5151 Mitchelldale, Suite A-3 • Houston, Texas 77092

metprint@metroypainting.com

*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*



*Notes*

*Notes*



# TEXAS NURSES DISTRICT 9 FOUNDATION

*Texas Nurses Association, District 9*

*Arena Tower 2*

7324 Southwest Freeway, Suite 1453  
Houston, TX 77074

## OFFICERS

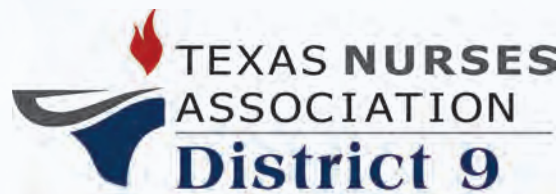
Terry Throckmorton, President  
Marco Ollervides, Past-President  
Angie Rangel, President-Elect  
Reenu Varghese, Secretary  
Melanie Truong, Treasurer

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Maribel Bhojani  
Karee Carter  
Davida Chatman  
Serena Tobar  
Emily Weber  
Pamela Windle

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Shatoi King, Chair  
Amanda Garey  
Tara Johnson  
Leslie Morris  
Denise Stage-McNulty



*32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Nursing Celebration*

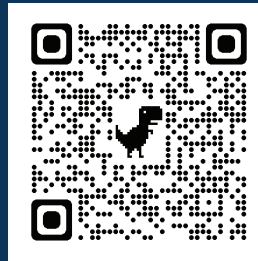
*Souvenir booklet sponsored by:*

# MEMORIAL<sup>®</sup> HERMANN

*QR code to donate*



*QR code to join TNA*



*Metoyer-Roy Printing, Ltd. (713) 338.2159*