UCLA Auxiliary Honors Outstanding Students

The UCLA Health System Auxiliary honored 28 outstanding medical, nursing and volunteer students on May 1 at the UCLA Faculty Center. The students were selected based on academic performance, personal recommendation, extracurricular activities and contributions to the health system. The yearly event is sponsored by the Auxiliary, which raises funds for the awards from proceeds of its thrift and gift shops.

Myra Porter, exiting president of the Auxiliary states, “Over the years we have encountered so many deserving recipients that we feel impassioned to do all that we can to facilitate their educational goals so that they may fulfill future starring roles in our society.”

Cindy Zapel kicked the meeting off by presenting next year’s board for approval: Joyce Canning is the new president and Elinor Green is the vice president. This year, 16 of the awards were given to student volunteers, 12 of whom were Care Extenders, who along with an excellent academic record have contributed a significant number of hours to UCLA Health. The volunteers each served well over the minimum of 150 hours in the past calendar year to qualify for the award.

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Private philanthropy plays a vital role in enabling UCLA Health to help countless patients heal. By remembering UCLA Health in your will, living trust or estate planning, you can express appreciation for programs important to you and have the assurance they will continue to thrive in the future. Donors can enhance their personal financial plans and security while making gifts that otherwise might not be possible by giving to the UCLA Health endowment or to the UCLA hospital of their choice. It is possible to reduce or eliminate income or transfer taxes and enjoy tax savings while turning appreciated assets into an income.

For example, with a Charitable Gift Annuity, a donor receives a fixed, lifetime income by donating cash or property to The UCLA Foundation for UCLA Health’s future benefit. The beneficiary receives a generous payment rate, according to his or her age. For example, the current payment rate at age 65 is 4.7 percent, it increases to 5.8 percent at age 75, and to 9 percent at age 90.

UCLA honors these dedicated contributors with exclusive membership in the UCLA Legacy Society. Please let us know if you have already named UCLA in your will or estate planning so that you can receive the benefits of membership.

Estate and life-income gifts of all sizes have a crucial impact. Learn more about how you can help at www.legacy.ucla.edu or contact Tara L. Sakraida, Esq., director of Gift Planning, at (310) 794-6056, or via email at tsakraida@support.ucla.edu.

At UCLA Health, we recognize the power of collaboration. The partnerships we cultivate with individuals and organizations such as the Auxiliary form links in a chain that strengthen our ability to fulfill our mission. As we continue our journey to provide excellent care delivered with compassion, your efforts stand out. Often referred to as the “heart” of the hospital, the Auxiliary exemplifies support of our goals and we appreciate the important work you do.

In the spirit of gratitude, I would also like to thank Myra Porter for her leadership as the UCLA Health Auxiliary President. Her efforts have been greatly appreciated and we wish her the best. In addition, I offer my welcome to the new President, Joyce Canning, who is sure to continue Myra’s legacy of commitment.

A legacy is, in fact, an additional way you can ensure that programs you care about continue to help others. The commitment to include UCLA Health in your will or estate plans can help the Auxiliary continue to make a difference in our patients’ lives now and for years to come. Gifts both large and small have an impact. You can find more information on various options in the accompanying article, “A Gift with a Future.”

Alliances such as yours play a pivotal role in UCLA Health’s efforts and I extend my appreciation to each member of the Auxiliary for being an ambassador of our mission, and to those who have already included UCLA Health in their will. Your contributions make a world of difference in the lives of our patients, their families and our staff, and I thank you.

David T. Feinberg, MD, MBA
President, UCLA Health System
Chief Executive Officer, UCLA Hospital System
Associate Vice Chancellor, UCLA Health Sciences

Letter from Dr. Feinberg
Seventy percent of the awards given through the Auxiliary are funded by private volunteer donors who wish to support our student volunteers for their service. Other awards in this program have been established in honor of long-term volunteers who have given thousands of hours of service over their lifetime to UCLA Health.

Dr. David Feinberg, CEO UCLA Health, spoke at the event, as well as Dr. Eugene A Washington, Vice Chancellor, Medical Sciences and Dean, David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Theodore Hall, professor, Clinical Radiology, also presented awards at the event.

Congratulations to the following students who received the awards for 2012:

**Nursing Awards**
- Gerardo Flores, Phoebe Raduns, Sarah Sisk
- Yohan Kim, Zenith Rahman

**Lucia Kagan Nursing Award**
- Amanda Shaw

**Student Volunteer Awards**
- Amy Barbour, Barsegh Barseghian
- Jack Bergal, Katherine Diep, Christian O’Donnell
- Anuvir Singh, Naomi So, Allyson Taylor, Jasmine Tekiyeh
- Ruth Turner, Kevin Widjaja, Aprajita Yadav

**Maddie Katz Memorial Award** — Sharona Hariri

**Mary K. Holmes and Kay Handler Honorary Award** — Danielle Mihora

**Theodore T. Flesch Memorial Award** — Pranav Joshi

**DGSOM Humanism Award** — Aldrich S. Albano

**Medical Student Awards**
- **Dr. Sherman Mellinkoff Award** — Christine Thang
- **Martin B. Covel, M.D., Memorial Award** — Kelsi McCoy
- **Barbara and Martin Pops Award** — Jennifer Phan
- **Ormie and Baldwin Lamson Award** — Carlos Sandoval
- **Ann Bauman Emergency Memorial Award** — Thomas Buretta
- **Dr. Gerald S. Levey Award** — Cecil Patel
Dear Volunteers,

I am very excited to be writing my first “Director’s Corner.” It has been six months now of serving as Director of Volunteers, and I am truly loving the position. Life in the Volunteer Office is never boring, and I feel so fortunate to be working with a great staff along with our many wonderful volunteers!

We have many exciting things planned for the future. In the next few months we will begin rolling out our automated volunteer application system. This project has been months in the making, and countless hours have been spent designing and re-designing this system. A big thank you to our own volunteer, Jacquie Stafsudd, who is heading up this project.

Another program currently being expanded is with our Care Extenders. Many of you have encountered Care Extenders at our UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica as you walk through the front entrance. They serve as wonderful greeters and offer assistance to those entering the facility. Silva Thomas, who oversees the program, will be working on expanding the program to Westwood where the Care Extenders will be stationed in many of the ICUs, as well as the main entrances.

Finally, we have many exciting and wonderful things happening with our People Animal Connection program. Not only was it recently featured on the Dr. Oz Show, but our PAC teams will soon have their own “trading cards” to distribute to the many patients visited while here at the hospital. Erin Rice has accomplished so much in her short time as being Director of PAC. The staff in the office enjoy our visits with the PAC teams who often stop by to say hello.

Please mark Friday, October 18, on your calendar for our very special Auxiliary Awards luncheon. We will have a different venue this year and are all looking forward to it.

May you all have a happy, healthy and relaxing summer!

Carey McCarthy
Director of Volunteer Services
Welcome Erin Rice!
UCLA PAC Program Director

Erin Rice is the new director of the UCLA People-Animal Connection program. She moved from New York City to the Los Angeles area in 2008. Erin and her dog, Finn, have been volunteering with the PAC program since 2009. Erin was motivated to join the UCLA Health due to her passion and commitment to the program. Prior to UCLA, Erin worked in the investment banking Industry for 14 years.

The UCLA People-Animal Connection program provides patients and their families with healing, comfort and companionship through its animal-assisting therapy. It is volunteer-based and operates solely with generous donations. Next year will be its 20th Anniversary. Erin is currently working on several projects with PAC. Over the past year, PAC has been visiting the UCLA Powell Library during finals week to offer students with stress relief during their study breaks. PAC also has a “Tuck-In-Teams” program in which teams visit and say goodnight to patients whose families and friends have left for the day. PAC will be participating in the PBS special ‘Shelter Me’ (information on shelterme.tv or shelterme.org). This involvement is particularly close to Erin’s heart because her dog Finn is a rescue dog. In addition, PAC will also have a segment with Dr. Oz which airs on ABC. This summer, PAC will be partnering with City National Bank and their “Reading Is the Way Up!” program to launch a Reading to the Dogs program for pediatrics patients.

Dear friends, colleagues and staff,

I look back at my past two years as your Auxiliary president with great pride. I have worked with wonderful people who helped contribute to the success of the Auxiliary, and I am so proud of the accomplishments we have made together.

This year, we donated $1,000,000 to the UCLA Daltrey/Townshend Teen Cancer Program. We continue to support patient aid, grants and projects, including the People-Animal Connection and UCLA Tiverton House.

This past May, we held our Annual Spring Awards Luncheon at the UCLA Faculty Center, honoring amazing medical, nursing, and student volunteer award recipients.

I know the Auxiliary will be in the best of hands with our new President, Joyce Canning, our new Executive Vice President, Elinor Green, and the irreplaceable Hanna Fairchild, our Auxiliary Administrator. I would like to thank all of our employees whose hard work throughout the year made our contributions possible.

Have a wonderful summer.

Respectfully,

Myra Porter
UCLA Health Auxiliary President
Volunteer Rosemarie Wolff wins CI-CARE award

BY ELAINE EASTWOOD

Rosemarie Wolff was honored as a C-I-CARE award this March 2013 for her outstanding customer service and passion for helping others. Her sons, daughter-in-law, and one granddaughter were in the audience as well as her physicians Dr. Peter Galier and Dr. Daniel Wohlgernter. Rosemarie currently volunteers at the Information Desk as one of our Welcome Ambassadors. She has been at UCLA Medical Center, Santa Monica for the past 8 years, and prior to the Information Desk she volunteered in Human Resources and the Surgical Waiting Area, accruing thousands of hours. She also helped me with volunteer file audits in my office.

Rosemarie was born in Vienna, Austria, and was raised in New York City. She graduated from Hunter College with a degree in psychology and moved to Los Angeles in 1962. She was married to her husband for 55 years and has two sons and four grandchildren. Her husband passed away in 2005. Rosemarie founded her own business, a staffing company, at a time when it was difficult for a woman to run a business. She had two offices handling executive, technical, administrative, clerical, etc. from full-time career positions to temporary jobs. She sold it in 2004. When her husband passed away, she started volunteering at Santa Monica, Emeritus College and the Broad Stage.

Rosemarie is grateful that hospital administration listens when she has ideas that she feels could be beneficial. Then if an idea is appropriate, the hospital implements it. We are so grateful to Rosemarie for her dedication to volunteering and the desire she has to provide exemplary service.

Care Extender Program Expanding

BY SILVA THOMAS, DIRECTOR CARE EXTENDER PROGRAM

Exciting changes are underway for the Care Extender Program! A proud member of the hospital community since its inception in 1995, the Care Extender Program presents volunteers with the opportunity to experience the world of medicine from a unique hands-on and clinical perspective that can only be provided by a healthcare pioneer such as UCLA Health.

Over the years, the program has expanded to include an upwards of about 550 volunteers working in 25 different departments in both the Westwood and Santa Monica medical centers. Until recently, the majority of departments available to Care Extenders were based in Santa Monica, with only seven departments in Westwood. Starting this August, however, the program will include the Pediatric ICU and Liver ICU departments as well as main lobby escorts in Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center. In the future, the program hopes to further expand into additional Ronald Reagan nursing units and the adjacent 200 Medical Plaza.

The Care Extender Program is honored to be a part of the healthcare team and will continue to do its best to contribute to a positive healing experience, one patient at a time.
Jackie Lang has selflessly dedicated her life to helping others and gained a huge perspective on the importance of life from it. She was recognized recently for encompassing all of the values of UCLA Health and going above and beyond to make patients and nurses feel at ease at the Bowyer Oncology and Hematology treatment center in Westwood. She began volunteering three years ago after she had retired from teaching because she enjoys helping people and being around others. During her 34 years as a teacher, Jackie taught French subjects including: language, history, literature and art at junior high school, high school and even UCLA!

She shares a personal connection with the volunteer center because her mother and mother-in-law passed away from cancer. Jackie remembers how long and difficult the hours are during treatment and made it her mission to help patients and make their time during treatment go by faster. Although she helps the nurses, most of her time is spent talking to patients about everything from sports to children to nostalgic moments. Regardless of the background of the patient, Jackie noted that everyone shares the same values and importance in terms of family, health, nature and the world. Her time volunteering and seeing the dedication and humanity of the nurses remind her of the everyday joy in living. Jackie describes the patients as incredibly courageous and strong. One of the patients calls Jackie “the angel” because of her kindness and positivity, but Jackie feels very humbled by that term because to her, all of the patients are her angels.

Jackie plans to continue to volunteer as long as she can and feels enormously blessed to be able to gain the most important lesson on how precious life is and how resilient and strong people can be. We are beyond thankful to have Jackie as part of the volunteer team and greatly appreciate that her experience not only impacts her own life, but also all of the people who she is surrounded with.
Memorials and Tributes

The UCLA Health Auxiliary thanks the following friends who have donated to our Memorial and Tribute Fund.

MEMORIAL AND TRIBUTE FUND

IN MEMORY OF:

Lorna Weinstein
Lorna Weinstein
Joe Goodman

DONOR:

Cindy and Bob Zapel
Gail and Lee Silver
Gail Conway

GRACE’S BASKET

Enid Baron
Pamela Kerman

DONOR:

Pauline and Dr. Albert Kramer

IN TRIBUTE TO:

Dr. and Mrs. Bernard Churchill
Kathy and Jack Barron

DONOR:

Molly and Dr. Walter Coulson
Kay Handler

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