



American  
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# AWARDS LUNCHEON

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## AWARDS

Award of Meritorious Achievement

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## HOSTS

William H. Roach, Jr., Esq.

*Chairman of the Board, 2011/12*

Gordon F. Tomaselli, M.D., FAHA

*President, 2011/12*

# AWARD OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT

*The American Heart Association annually confers the Award of Meritorious Achievement on individuals who have rendered important service in supporting our national programs. Created in 1952, the award recognizes an individual for a specific significant accomplishment or project that affects the AHA nationally. Nominations come from affiliates, councils, the Board of Directors and AHA standing committees. The Nominating & Awards Committee recommends the recipients to the Board of Directors for approval.*



## Michael A. Bettmann, M.D., FAHA

Michael is professor and vice chair of the Department of Radiology at Wake Forest University Health Sciences in the Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem, N.C.

He is being honored for three decades of meaningful contributions to the science enterprise of the American Heart Association.

Michael began his relationship with the American Heart Association in 1978,

volunteering in numerous areas including education, research and recruitment, while steadfastly promoting the development of early career members. He contributed to the evolution of Scientific Sessions and ensured the AHA's Research Program evaluation moved into the 21st century.

Michael has had a profound impact on the organization while serving as chairperson of various committees, including the Council on Cardiovascular Radiology and Imaging, Professional Education Committee, CVRI Council Research Committee and the Committee on Research Policy, and national Research Committee. As chairperson of the Ad Hoc Committee on Electronic Abstract Submission and Grading, he was influential in the AHA converting Scientific Sessions abstract submissions to an electronic format. As chairperson of the Early Career Development Task Force, he initiated and guided the development of the *AHA Handbook on Mentoring* and of the Early Career Development Program. He chaired the Exhibits Committee of the Committee on Scientific Sessions Program for two terms as well as the Policy & Evaluation Committee of the Research Committee. Michael also has been author or co-author on numerous guidelines and special writing groups.

# AWARD OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT



Lori Mosca, M.D., M.P.H., Ph.D., FAHA

Lori is professor of medicine at the Columbia University Medical Center and director of Preventive Cardiology at New York Presbyterian Hospital in New York.

She is being recognized for her leadership in the development of the *AHA Effectiveness-Based Guidelines for the Prevention of Cardiovascular Disease in Women*, including its 2011 update.

Lori, a champion of women and heart disease globally, pioneered the concept of gender-specific CVD prevention guidelines in 1999. In

2004, based on her successful research career, she established a benchmark for AHA prevention guidelines by employing a systematic approach to literature review, evaluation and presentation of evidence to support clinical recommendations. She added another standard to engage multiple professional organizations to sponsor and endorse these guidelines, insisting that those who use them have a voice in developing them. The guidelines are the scientific foundation for Go Red For Women and are used extensively by the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute, the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Women's Health and several international professional organizations.

Lori also initiated and engaged strategic alliances to develop consumer-based "living guidelines," the companion document to the 2001 update for health professionals, and has served on the AHA's National Spokesperson Panel, addressing the importance of prevention in women on many occasions. Lori has also been an important mentor for young physicians and scientists.

Lori has served in leadership positions on the AHA Board of Directors as well as on the division and affiliate boards. She chaired the national Women's Heart Disease & Stroke Campaign Task Force and the Population Science Committee on Scientific Sessions Program. She also chaired the AHA Council on Epidemiology & Prevention and served on numerous committees.

# AWARD OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT



## J. V. (Ian) Nixon, M.D., FAHA

Ian is professor of medicine at the Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine and director of Noninvasive Cardiology at the Pauley Heart Center, VCU Health System in Richmond, Va.

He is being recognized for his exceptional contributions as editor of the two editions of *The AHA Clinical Cardiac Consult*.

Ian has been “the driving force” of the book, serving as editor of the second version published in 2007 and the third published in 2010. He has overseen all aspects of recruiting authors, selecting topics, ensuring quality and promoting the book as a superior educational tool. For the second edition, 21,627 books and 1,008 CDs were sold, compared to 5,788 copies and 1,469 CDs of the first book published in 2000. Profits from sales of the book have helped advance multiple programs and policies aligned with the AHA’s mission by providing evidence-based guidelines for evaluating and managing cardiovascular disease and stroke. The quality content also is an invaluable tool for fellows in training, cardiologists, nurses and other healthcare professionals.

Ian has also provided superb leadership while serving on an array of committees for the Council on Clinical Cardiology, including the Committee on Cardiovascular Disease in the Elderly, Long Range Planning/Budget Committee, and the Cardiac Imaging Committee. He served as chairperson and co-chair of the Leannec Society and Postgraduate Education Committee and as co-chair of the Committee on Postgraduate Medical Education. He contributed significantly to several writing groups and the Program Committee for Scientific Sessions.

# AWARD OF MERITORIOUS ACHIEVEMENT



## Kathryn A. Taubert, Ph.D., FAHA

Kathryn is senior science officer for the World Heart Federation in Geneva.

She is being recognized for her 25 years of distinguished service and support to the medical leadership of the American Heart Association in developing and advancing its scientific goals.

During her career at the American Heart Association, Kathryn served as a senior scientist and special assistant to the chief science officer; vice president of Science & Medicine; and director of Cardiovascular Science. Her roles were critical to the American Heart Association becoming a national and world leader in the science essential to the understanding of cardiovascular diseases and treatment and prevention strategies.

Kathryn was a direct link between the association and members of the cardiovascular scientific community around the world. The AHA's development of a highly productive science-based infrastructure is directly related to her efforts. Scores of scientific papers, statements, guidelines and treatises were developed with her tutelage of and strong relationships with numerous investigators, writing groups and task force members. Her contributions to the development of AHA scientific positions helped achieve fundamental changes in public awareness and scientific community interest in the mission of the AHA. She has been a vital part of AHA achievements such as the "sea change" in use of prophylactic antibiotics for infective endocarditis prevention and the increased public awareness of the risk for women to develop cardiovascular diseases. She also positioned the AHA as the leader in developing international understanding of the importance of Kawasaki disease as a leading cause of acquired heart disease in children.

# LOUIS B. RUSSELL, JR. MEMORIAL AWARD

*The American Heart Association annually confers the Louis B. Russell, Jr., Memorial Award on an individual who has rendered outstanding service to minority and underserved populations. The award honors the memory of Mr. Russell, who underwent a heart transplant in 1968 and became an AHA volunteer, actively spreading the AHA's message about heart disease prevention in the minority community. He died in 1974. The award's recipient is an active AHA member/volunteer who is willing to give freely of self to benefit others. The Nominating & Awards Committee recommends the recipients to the Board of Directors for approval.*



## Jennifer H. Mieres, M.D., FAHA

Jennifer is medical director for the Center of Learning and Innovation, chief diversity and inclusion officer, and associate professor of medicine at North Shore-LIJ Health Systems/Hofstra North Shore-LIJ School of Medicine in Lake Success, N.Y.

Jennifer is being honored for reaching minorities and women in an array of roles, including as a cardiologist, researcher, lecturer and manager of multiple programs.

As a nationally recognized expert in cardiovascular health, she is an effective spokesperson for the AHA, taking minority outreach and women's heart health to higher levels. She is called upon by the media regularly, appearing on such programs as "20/20," "The Today Show" and "Good Morning America." She's the author of "Heart Smart for Black Women and Latinas: A Five-Week Program for Living a Heart-Healthy Lifestyle."

Actively involved in clinical cardiovascular research in women, she is one of the lead investigators of The WOMEN Study (What is the Optimal Method for Ischemia Evaluation in Women?). She has presented research papers on cardiovascular disease and women at national and international conferences. She chaired the AHA's writing group on imaging in women and also served as chairperson of the Cardiac Imaging Committee of the Clinical Council of Cardiology.

From the Long Island Region to the Founders Affiliate to the national Board of Directors, Jennifer has provided expertise and leadership to the American Heart Association.

# AHA HEALTHCARE VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR AWARD

*The American Heart Association annually confers the AHA Healthcare Volunteer of the Year Award on an individual who has rendered outstanding contributions to or achievements in cardiovascular disease and/or stroke patient care or improvements in the quality of healthcare delivery. The recipient is to be either a professional (registered or licensed vocational nurse, physician assistant, EMT, etc.) or lay administrator as well as a volunteer at the division, affiliate or national level. The Nominating & Awards Committee recommends the recipients to the Board of Directors for approval.*



## Lynne T. Braun, Ph.D., CNP, FAHA

Lynne is a nurse practitioner and professor of adult health nursing at Rush University Medical Center in Chicago.

She is being honored for contributing to the American Heart Association as a healthcare practitioner, avid advocate and dedicated volunteer.

For the past 25 years, Lynne has been front and center in the planning and execution of AHA professional and public education programs in Chicago. She began her AHA volunteer career

in the early 1980s. Since then, she has been actively involved at all levels of the association as an advocate, public speaker and media spokesperson.

Nationally, Lynne has served on several committees of the Council on Cardiovascular Nursing, which she also chaired. She's also been a member of several guidelines and scientific statement writing groups.

In addition to her growing national involvement, Lynne has also remained active locally through her clinical practice, academic activities and community education. As an advocate, she participates in Lobby Day and has been an active member of the Illinois Advocacy Committee for almost a decade.

Lynne has expanded AHA's Go Red For Women (GRFW) movement through her exemplary committee work and tireless efforts to educate her female patients about heart disease. As a result of her continuous AHA involvement, Rush University Medical Center has embraced several AHA initiatives. In 2008, for example, she led the medical center into a three-year sponsorship of GRFW totaling \$75,000.

# AHA PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

*The American Heart Association annually presents the AHA Physician of the Year Award to a practicing physician who has rendered outstanding contributions to the accomplishment of the AHA's mission to build healthier lives, free of cardiovascular diseases and stroke. The recipient has direct patient-care responsibilities and is an AHA volunteer at the local, affiliate or national level. The Nominating & Awards Committee recommends the recipients to the Board of Directors for approval.*



## Willie Edward Lawrence, Jr., M.D.

Willie is an interventional cardiologist for Midwest Heart Associates in Kansas City, Mo.

He is being honored for being an advocate for his patients and for his extraordinary efforts to fulfill the mission of the American Heart Association.

In private practice and in public and political sectors, Willie has championed the American Heart Association's 2020 Impact Goal. He strongly believes that health disparities must be eliminated to improve the cardiovascular health of

all Americans by 20 percent and to reduce deaths from cardiovascular diseases and stroke by 20 percent.

In the nearly 20 years that Willie has devoted to patient care in an underserved area of Kansas City, he has inspired many as a prevention-focused leader. When 13 cardiologists in his 14-member group moved to a suburban location last year, he recruited more and rebuilt his practice in the underserved community.

Willie's interests and commitment run the gamut of AHA priority areas, from Get With The Guidelines to revenue generation to community education efforts such as Power To End Stroke. As an active Power To End Stroke Ambassador, he has been a keynote speaker annually at Gospel Tour events. He has made presentations in community settings, including barbershops and churches, and recruited numerous community leaders to become Ambassadors.

Willie is the Midwest Affiliate's most enthusiastic supporter of My Life Check. As president of the affiliate, he has challenged each member of its board to develop at least two mechanisms in their institution or company into which My Life Check can be integrated.



