

## AYR ROSE BERBERIAN PASSION AWARD

### GEORGE WILLIAMS TRIBUTE:

George Williams in 1844 founded the first YMCA, in London England. Since that historic and eventful date, the YMCA has grown and spread throughout the world and is now established in over 160 countries. George Williams had a vision for the YMCA and this vision has been carried forward by the outstanding and excellent leadership skill of “Y” professional Directors for nearly 170 years.

Most people see the short term but this nominee had the vision to see the finish line and establish the path to navigate the crucial aspects of excellence in leadership and achievement through her volunteer efforts and as a professional “Y” Director. Recognition for LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT is not only distinguished but is a measure of endurance and the giving of oneself to the development of others.

In other words, in the likeness of founder George Williams, this nominee dedicated her time and efforts to the improvement of others and demonstrates ‘SERVICE ABOVE SELF’.

### INTRODUCTION OF Dr. ROSE BERBERIAN:

A PH.D graduate of George Williams College, Rose Berberbian began her career in 1961 as a Program Director with the Farmington YMCA. The majority of her tenure however, was spent at the corporate level in the Detroit Association. In addition to her to organizational development, managerial and finance forte she was also a gifted leader in Human Resources.

Bea Halk, in her nomination stated that Rose was always on the cutting edge of best personnel practices, latest laws and government regulations. Rose led the Detroit “Y” in many new legislative HR initiatives. She was very active in providing HR advice to Michigan YMCA’s and acted as a consultant and trainer throughout the State. Her skills and reputation quickly spread throughout the YMCA movement. She was a member of a core group of five HR professionals that developed the first Urban Group Human Resource Officers Group and was instrumental in developing a nation-wide HR Conferences. Rose was a resource and trainer to both large and small Associations throughout the country. She was also a major contributor to the YUSA in the Hay Salary Administration Program. In addition, she served on a national YMCA health insurance committee and often conducted trainings and presentations.

Rose was one of the first females promoted to a Vice President position and served as interim CEO in Detroit 1994. She was also the first woman to walk in the front door of an ‘all male’ club called the DAC – Detroit Athletic Club.

Following 30 professional years of service to the YMCA, upon her retirement she valiantly took on the leadership role in researching Health Insurance alternatives for those retiring from the YMCA under the age of 65.

Her greatest gift was her willingness to mentor so many young YMCA staff. She always saw the 'big picture' in creating a clear path for those who would follow in her footsteps. She developed systems and trainings always sharing her skills and knowledge, never taking the spotlight but always sharing the credit. She was the 'mentor' that everyone under her wing wanted to emulate.

Rose has been a dedicated leader and member of the Hoosier Buell AYR Chapter for the past 15 years.

#### JOHN 17:21 AWARD STATEMENT:

In John 17:21 Jesus prays for his Disciples saying "THAT THEY MAY ALL BE ONE FATHER! MAY THEY BE IN US JUST AS YOU ARE IN ME AND I AM IN YOU. MAY THEY BE ONE SO THAT THE WORLD WILL BELIEVE YOU SENT ME". It is this application of unselfish giving and oneness for all humanity that was instilled in the Disciples that is also found in Rose Berberian who has given of herself for the betterment of our movement and for humanity.

We wish to recognize one of our most 'INTREPID' and 'UNSUNG' heros from our YMCA family who has excelled in her career and in retirement and has made significant accomplishments in developing, supporting and communicating this PASSION for others.

In summary "TO BE ONE WITH THE FATHER" – this was the inherent vision of the early leaders of the YMCA such as George Williams and the inherent vision of Dr. Rose Berberian.

#### RECOGNITION OF DR. ROSE BERBERIAN:

Our Praise Song reminds us of Rose's dedication and application: "I REFUSE TO SIT AROUND AND WAIT FOR SOMEONE ELSE TO DO WHAT GOD HAS CALLED ME TO DO MYSELF. OH, I COULD CHOOSE NOT TO MOVE BUT I REFUSE!" Rose always knew it was time for her "TO FOLLOW THROUGH AND DO WHAT SHE WAS MADE TO DO!"

It is my privilege to ask Rose to stand and receive the AYR REUNION 2011 JOHN 17:21 PASSION AWARD in recognition of her application of unselfish giving and oneness for humanity for LIFE TIME ACHIEVEMENT.