



10th Annual Nancy Latimer Convening for Children & Youth

2016 “Nancy” Award Honoree



Elizabeth “Betty” Carlson, Ph.D.

Director, Harris Training Program

Institute of Child Development

University of Minnesota – Center for Early Education and Development

Dr. Carlson’s research focuses on development and psychopathology. She is especially interested in the ways that individuals become vulnerable to psychopathology early in development. Recent research has addressed 1) the impact of trauma on development, including the developmental antecedents and consequences of attachment disorganization, 2) the interrelationship of socioemotional and representational experience in normative development and in the evolution of disorder (i.e., borderline and dissociative symptoms), and 3) representational models of the self and disorder. Future research directions include the impact of early trauma and stress on physical health across the life span.

Special Recognition Award Recipients



Senator Melisa Franzen

Senator Melisa Franzen is currently serving her first term in the Minnesota State Senate after her election in 2012. She represents Senate District 49 which includes the communities of Bloomington, Eden Prairie, Edina, and Minnetonka. Senator Franzen is currently the Vice-Chair on the Health and Human Services Finance and serves on the Transportation and Public Safety Finance, and the Higher Education and Workforce Development Committees and previously served on the Education Policy Committee.

Senator Franzen is a small business owner and is the Co-Founder and President of NewPublica, a public relations and strategic communications firm based in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She was previously an attorney at Target Corporation for eight years where she held various positions in Government Affairs and Community Relations. She earned her Master of Public Policy with a concentration in Economic and Community Development from the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs at the University of Minnesota and her J.D. at Hamline University School of Law.



Representative Ron Kresha

Representative Kresha is serving his second term in the Minnesota House of Representatives, representing central Minnesota. In addition to being Assistant Majority Leader in the House, he is the vice chair of the Education Finance committee and sits on the Education Innovation Policy and Commerce and Regulator Reform committees, among others.

Representative Kresha is the CEO of Golden Shovel Agency and was previously President and Co-Founder of Atomic Learning, an online professional learning company. He earned a Bachelor's Degree from St. Cloud St. University and an M.B.A. from Bellevue University. He is married with five children.

Presenters & Panelists



Denise Mayotte, *Executive Director*
The Sheltering Arms Foundation

Denise Mayotte is the Executive Director of the Sheltering Arms Foundation and the co-chair of the Start Early Funders Coalition. Previously, Denise worked as a program officer for the arts at the McKnight Foundation and as the executive director of the Neighborhood Resource Center. She serves on the board of In Progress, a youth media organization, as Policy Committee Chair of the Strategic Leadership Team for Youth Community Connections in addition to numerous other civic and community leadership roles.



Frank Forsberg, *Senior Vice President for Systems Change and Innovation*
Greater Twin Cities United Way

Frank Forsberg is the Senior Vice President of Systems Change and Innovation. He oversees impact planning, public policy government relations, and external engagement. He came to United Way in December 1999, from Catholic Charities, where he was administrator of the Advocacy and Outreach Division. He has a bachelor's degree in business from St. John's University and a master's degree in public administration from Hamline University. Frank also serves as the chair of the MinneMinds campaign which advocates for increased funding for early childhood initiatives in Minnesota.



Dr. Ruby Takanishi, *Senior Research Fellow*
Early and Elementary Education
New America

Ruby Takanishi is Senior Research Fellow in the Early Education Initiative of New America. From 1996-2012, she was President and CEO of the Foundation for Child Development. She was the Executive Director of the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development of Carnegie Corporation of New York, and served as Assistant Director of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education in the President's Office of Science and Technology Policy. Her faculty positions include UCLA, Yale University, Teachers College, and Bank Street College of Education.

She served as chair of the Education and Learning National Advisory Committee (ELNAC) of the McKnight Foundation from 2012-2015, a member of the Board of First Focus, a national child advocacy organization in Washington, DC, and is the chair of a National Academy of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine consensus committee on the education of Dual Language Learners.

She received her M.A. from the University of Michigan, her B.A. and Ph.D. from Stanford University, and was educated in Hawai'i's public schools.



Lynn Haglin, Vice President/KIDS Plus Director
Northland Foundation – Duluth

Lynn Haglin's experience spans over 30 years in education, administration, community development, and philanthropy, with an extensive background in early childhood, youth development, and intergenerational programming. She began her career as a Kindergarten teacher and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) educator. Since 1992, she has led the Northland Foundation's nationally recognized KIDS PLUS Program, which, under her guidance, has grown into an array of children, youth, and intergenerational initiatives encompassing 52 community coalitions throughout northeastern Minnesota. She holds a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Administration from Western Michigan University and Bachelor of Science degree in Elementary Education from Bemidji State University.



Erin Gavin, Program Director
Education & Learning, The McKnight Foundation

Erin Gavin is program director for Education & Learning at the McKnight Foundation. In this role, she leads McKnight's development and implementation of strategies to improve educational outcomes for Minnesota children, especially those from underserved communities. Erin is a former teacher and literacy intervention specialist. She taught in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota.

Erin received her B.A. from Carleton College in Northfield, Minnesota, earned Minnesota teaching licensures in English and Communication Arts and K-12 Reading Instruction from Hamline University in St. Paul, and completed her M.Ed. in Education Policy and Management at Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts. Erin is currently a doctoral candidate in Educational Leadership and Policy at Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education and Human Development.



Roxana Linares, Executive Director
Centro Tyrone Guzman

Roxana Linares is Executive Director of Centro Tyrone Guzman, a human service agency partnering with Latino communities since 1974. Roxana holds a B.S. in Pharmacy and Biochemistry from Universidad Católica Santa María and an MA in Educational Policy and Administration, with a focus on Comparative and International Education, from the University of Minnesota. Before moving to Minnesota, Roxana taught Science and later served as Assistant Director at the International School of Tintaya in Peru, her native country. Roxana first joined Centro in 2001 as a CURA intern, and was later appointed Director of the Education Department. In January of 2009, Roxana was named Centro's Executive Director, and she has been in this role for the last seven years.



Misty Blue, Parent

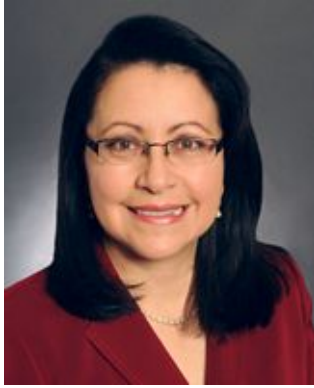
Misty Blue is a member of the Anishinaabe people and an enrolled member of the White Earth Nation. She is currently pursuing a Master's of Public Health at the University of Minnesota while raising her daughter. She is passionate about the intersection of culture, language, community and health and improving the lives of mothers and children. She also works as a graduate research assistant at the Center for Family Development.



Bao Vang, President/ CEO
Hmong American Partnership

Bao Vang, is currently the President/CEO of Hmong American Partnership, a multi-million dollar nonprofit agency serving the Hmong American community in Saint Paul, MN. Ms. Vang has more than a decade of leadership and management experience in business, nonprofit organizations, and government agencies. Previous to her work at HAP, she held management and leadership positions with Ramsey County managing their Financial Assistance Services Division. Bao's financial management and leadership skills has also been put to use in her businesses in tax/accounting, assisted living, and family trust funds.

Ms. Vang holds a M.A. in Public Administration and Management and a B.A. in Business Administration/Accounting. She is a 1999 Bush Fellow, and was listed as one of the 75 Most Influential People in the Twin Cities by Minnesota Monthly Magazine. She has been awarded multiple awards and recognitions over the past decades.



Senator Patricia Torres Ray

Senator Patricia Torres Ray is currently serving her second term as a Minnesota State Senator representing constituents in the Minneapolis area. As the first known Hispanic woman to serve in the Minnesota Senate, she has been a champion for issues affecting children, women and families including education, health and human services and the environment. She has served on numerous Finance Committees in the Senate, including subcommittees on E-12 policy and budget, higher education and workforce development.

She earned a B.A. in Urban Studies from the University of Minnesota and completed a M.P.A. degree in Public Affairs from the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey School.



Rae Jean Hansen, Vice President – Early Childhood
Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation

Rae Jean Hansen is the Vice President – Early Childhood at the Southern Minnesota Initiative Foundation, a regional community foundation covering the 20 counties of Southern Minnesota. She manages the Foundation’s Early Childhood strategies and works closely with communities, organizations, foundations and other partners in applying asset-based methodologies to achieving stronger communities. Since joining the Foundation in 1990, she has utilized her knowledge and skills in workforce, business, early childhood and economic development to guide the Foundation in numerous innovative programs and partnerships.

