



RED SHOE GALA BRUNCH
Awards Ceremony
Hosting
Conn HyPAC Silent Auction
Tiffany Juliet House
Glastonbury, CT
November 7th, 2021



HONORING
Maria Cholewinski, RDH, MSED
President

Kristin Minihan-Anderson, RDH, MSDH
Incoming President

Jill Mancini Fitzgerald, PharmD
Merit Award Recipient

Nutmeg Spirit Award Recipient
&

Jenifer Mancini, RDH
2021 MABEL C. MCCARTHY
AWARD RECIPIENT



Connecticut
Dental Hygienists' Association



Dental Hygiene Oath

**In my practice as a dental hygienist,
I affirm my personal and professional commitment
To improve the oral health of the public,
To advance the art and science of dental hygiene,
And to promote high standards of quality care.**

**I pledge continually to improve my professional
Knowledge and skills, to render a full measure of
Service to each patient entrusted to my care,
And to uphold the highest standards of professional
Competence and personal conduct in the interest of The
dental hygiene profession and the public it serves.**



Connecticut
Dental Hygienists' Association

**Red Shoe Gala
& Silent Auction
Tiffany Juliet House
Glastonbury, CT
Sunday November 7th, 2021**

Program

- Mistress of Ceremonies -----Misty Peterson, RDH**
- 2021 President-----Maria Cholewinski, RDH, MSED**
- 2021-2022-----Introduction of the Board of Trustees**
- 2022 President -----Kristin Minihan-Anderson, RDH,MSDH**
- Leslie Brin Andrews Spirit Award-----TBA**
- Merit Award-----Jill Mancini Fitzgerald, PharmD**
- Mabel C. McCarthy Award----- Jen Mancini, RDH**



ADHA - CT 2021 Executive Board

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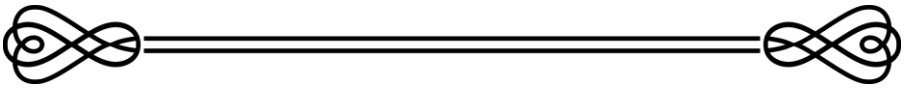
*“Just below the Litchfield Green, in the
Litchfield Professional Building.”*

Jen,

We are so proud to have you in our office on both a professional and personal level. Your hard work and unparalleled dedication to your patients is an inspiration to us all. You are not only a magnificent hygienist but also a wonderful coworker.

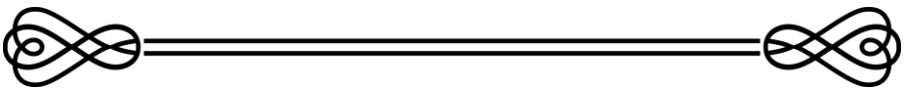
Congratulations Jen!





*Congratulations on a job well
done as ADHA-CT President 2021.*

From the Southeastern Component.



Congratulations!



Jenifer/Mom

We are so happy and excited for you on receiving

THE MABEL C AWARD



You have worked with such love and compassion for ADHA CT. Be proud of all your accomplishments. We loved supporting you and always will. We love you with all our hearts.

Love Rich, Ava, Salvatore, Emma



2021 ADHA-CT President



Maria Cholewinski, RDH, MSED

Welcome to the Mabel C. McCarthy Red Shoe Gala luncheon! It is wonderful to be here in person after a year of isolation. As the 2020-2021 ADHA-CT President, I would like to thank all of you for sharing in this celebration of our accomplishments over the past year and best wishes to the 2021-22 Board of Trustees.

The Mabel C. McCarthy Red Shoe Gala honors a hygienist who has promoted the dental hygiene profession in an outstanding manner. Our 2021 recipient of this award is Jenifer Mancini, RDH who has practiced as a dental hygienist for over 11 years and gave countless hours to ADHA-CT.

The 2021 Merit Award recipient is Dr. Jill Fitzgerald from UCONN Pharmacy School. Her role in training Connecticut hygienists in the administration of the Covid-19 vaccine proved vital for the dental hygienists to become involved in the mass vaccination process. She has demonstrated dedication through intense hours of commitment, which has not gone unnoticed.

The Legislative Committee of ADHA – CT has worked tirelessly alongside our lobbyist from the Kowalski Group to involve dental hygienists as providers in teledentistry/telehealth. Our legislative leaders spent many hours writing and presenting testimony to legislators regarding telehealth. The committee has also supported additional bills to resolve issues with health disparities and inequities, and increase access to dental care with the broadening and expansion of dental patient opportunities. The legislative committee met with diverse key legislators regarding our role in access to oral health. Communication was fluid between the lobbyist and the legislation committee despite the pandemic.

In addition, the ADHA-CT new mentorship program affords guidance and assistance to new graduates stepping into the profession of dental hygiene. Pairing new graduates with seasoned professionals presents a unity and a newfound cohesiveness among colleagues.

An expansion of our Constant Contact communication platform between our state and among components broadened the transparency among members. These new lines of communication will present access to every dental hygienist to keep all abreast of the latest updates in our profession.

I am proud to announce that I have signed on ADHA-CT to be part of The Coalition to Improve Dental Hygiene Licensure, which supports multi-state licensing and national reciprocity.

As my term as your President concludes, I thank the members of the executive board, board of trustees, councils, and committees, members and all the volunteers for all their hard work and input to make this year a successful one. It has been a pleasure serving as your President.

Better Together,

Maria Cholewinski, MSED, RDH

ADHA-CT Incoming President



Kristin Minihan-Anderson, RDH, MSDH

Thank you Maria, Board of Trustees, Council Chairs and Committee Members for all you do to make ADHA-CT so great! I look forward to working with you all as President. It is my hope that we can educate members, non-members and the public who we are as a professional organization and all we do. The educational journey to becoming a dental hygienist is rigorous and vast, it is my hope to have that understood and respected so we can expand our profession!

Kristin Minihan-Anderson, RDH, MSDH

Congratulations

Congratulations to our incoming President Kristin Minihan- Anderson! We wish you the best year and are looking forward to all you have to offer ADHA-CT! You are an amazing woman, mentor and friend. We are so proud of you.

*We love you,
Miranda, Melissa & Jen* 

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Jenifer Mancini, RDH
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Hygiene and we are
SO proud of you!*

Dr. Spadola, Dr. Vincent, and Staff

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2021 Merit Award Recipient



Jill Fitzgerald, PharmD

Dr. Jill Fitzgerald is the Director of Experiential Learning and Continuing Professional Development and Associate Clinical Professor in the Department of Pharmacy Practice at the University of CT School of Pharmacy. She graduated from the University of CT School of Pharmacy with her BS degree ('86) and completed her PharmD ('89) at the University of North Carolina. Jill's career has involved many aspects of pharmacy practice including community practice, hospital practice, teaching and hospice care. She has been a Staff Pharmacist, Pain Management Specialist, Clinical Coordinator at a community hospital, pharmacology professor for PA's and a facilitator and course coordinator for the University of Florida's distance learning PharmD program.

As Director and Associate Clinical Professor, she is responsible for the introductory and advanced pharmacy practice experiences and developing activities for pharmacist continuing education. Her teaching responsibilities are in the Pharmacy Skills Development courses that span the didactic curriculum and a Pain Management Elective open to health professional students.

Jill was instrumental in the development and deployment of a vaccinator training program for health care professionals in accordance with the CT DPH Commissioner's Letter authorizing COVID 19 vaccinations.

Meet This Year's Mabel C. McCarthy Recipient



Jenifer Mancini, RDH

I graduated from the Tunxis dental hygiene program in 2010 with an Associate of Science degree and I've worked in private practice for the last 11 years.

During my second year of hygiene school I participated in a service learning project to the Navajo Nation in Monument Valley, Utah. We had a chance to get acquainted with the local children and their families, learn about their culture and discover the dire need for access to dental care. We screened children of all ages, collected data and provided fluoride treatments and education. As a result of our efforts and supporting data, this became an annual trip to include sealant placement and coordination for continued care!

I became an active member of ADHA-CT in 2010 after graduation. I have always valued being part of my professional organization, which started during my dental hygiene education as I was a SADHA member and attended component meetings regularly with my mentor Beverly Butterfield, RDH.

As a result of my involvement in the Northwestern component, I had the great opportunity to get involved at the state level. I am the past Treasurer of ADHA-CT, serving two terms from 2016-2020.

I've had the opportunity to learn various roles within ADHA-CT over the years including the Scholarship Committee, participated on the Annual Session Committee, the HyLight Chair, assisted in the transition after the elimination of the executive director position and currently serve on the P & P Committee.

As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic, I was appointed to the Governor's Re-open CT Dental Sub-group, I partnered with other Health Professionals including Dentists, Hygienists', Dental Assistants, the Dental Commissioner, the President of CSDA and members of The Department of Public Health to establish best practice guidelines for hygienists and dental professionals returning to work. This was a great collaboration and learning process of which I am extremely proud to have been a part.

Also, I currently participate on our own ADHA-CT COVID Taskforce to help assist our fellow dental colleagues with any work safety and work environment concerns they had during the process.

The pandemic provided the unique opportunity to become trained and certified to administer the Covid Vaccination. I participated in both the UCONN and DPH Covid 19 Vaccine Administration for Healthcare Professional programs as well as the hands on skills training in January 2021. This has been truly rewarding to be a part of the solution during this challenging time.

I was honored to be chosen as a CT Delegate for last year's annual session which was held virtually. I participated in our District II workshop meetings via Zoom, attended our virtual HOD where I participated in Reference Committee C and wrote testimony in opposition to PRs 16 & 17.

My role as a Delegate for CT was a great learning experience and I found it interesting to attend via zoom. We voted using Poll Everywhere and Survey Monkey. I also attended many informative CEs, visited the exhibitor floor and did some networking during our annual conference virtually!

I had the pleasure to serve as race director for the Dental Dash 5k run/walk from 2017 to 2020. This has been a successful fundraising event and a lot of fun to plan and organize. I enjoyed working with the Thomaston town officials as well as my colleagues to make this event thrive each year. I especially loved having the dental hygiene schools participate.

I have had the opportunity to mentor dental hygiene students in my office as well as attend our state and component meetings together in past years. It is my hope to instill the same passion that I had as a dental hygiene student, teaching them the value of being part of our professional organization, that they have a voice. They are our future!

My passion for serving patients is demonstrated through my volunteer efforts at Connecticut's Mission of Mercy Dental Clinic every year since 2009. The last year we held the clinic prior to the pandemic provided me the opportunity to serve as dental hygiene department lead.

I continue to serve as the Treasurer for the Northwestern component since 2011, as well as other roles including Social Media, Ways & Means and the Scholarship Committees.

I'm thankful for the continuous support of my wonderful husband Rich and children Ava, Sal & Emma -- they have been a huge part of my journey. I'm proud to share this wonderful honor with them as they have participated in many of our social events over the years and volunteered every year for the 5k event and allowed me the opportunity to be so active within our association!

I'm proud to be a member of ADHA-CT. I enjoy learning and growing in my profession. I'm thankful for the many wonderful friendships I have made and I look forward to continuing the journey!

THANK YOU to my ADHA-CT colleagues and friends for this amazing privilege. I am beyond grateful to be the recipient of the Mabel C. Award!!



MABEL C. McCARTHY AWARD RECIPIENTS

Ethel Swimmer, RDH	1978
Laura Peck Fitch, RDH	1979
Virginia Fessenden, RDH	1980
Mary Rencsko, RDH	1981
Pauline Sampieri, RDH, MS	1982
Carmel DiLeone, RDH, MS	1983
Rita Johnston, RDH	1984
Alice Frino, RDH, BBA	1985
Beverly Whitford, RDH, BS	1986
Linda Bohacek, RDH	1987
Janet Carroll-Memoli, RDH	1988
Jeanne Maloney, GDH, MS	1989
Jocelyn Roman (Poisson), RDH	1990
Carol Ondeck, RDH	1991
D. Jean Lewis, RDH, MPH	1992
Vittorina Nardello, RDH, MS	1993
Jody Bishop-Pullan, RDH, BS	1994
Susan Magnuson, RDH	1995
Inez Cullen, RDH	1996
Josephine Brann, RDH	1997
Dinah Auger, RDH	1998
Marcia H. Lorentzen, RDH, BS	1999
Joyce A. Turcotte, RDH, M.Ed.	2000
Caryl Robotti, RDH, BA	2001
Mary Calka, RDH	2002
Mary Moran Boudreau, RDH, MBA	2003
Claudia Turcotte, CDA, RDH, MS	2004
Linda Ferraro, RDH	2005
Linda Isis Primus, RDH, MHS	2006
Pamela Young, RDH, BS	2007
Celeste Baranowski, RDH	2008
Leslie Andrews, RDH, MBA	2009
Mary Claire Kacerik, RDH, BS	2010
Meg Zayan, RDH, MPH, EdD	2011
Wanda Nelson, RDH, MS	2012
Sandra Stramoski, RDH, MSDH	2013
Tracey Andrews, RDH, MPH	2014
Susan Miklos, EFDA, RDH, BSDH, MSDH	2015
Laurel Risom, RDH, MPH	2016
Marie Paulis, RDH, MSDH	2017
Doris Raposo, RDH, BSDH	2018
Kristin Minihan – Anderson, RDH, MSDH	2019
Sharon Efron, RDH, MS	2020

2020 Mabel C. McCarthy Recipient



Sharon Efron, RDH, MS

Sharon Efron RDH, MS is honored to receive the Mabel C. McCarthy Award from ADHA-CT (American Dental Hygienists' Association- Connecticut) for 2020.

Sharon started her dental hygiene career in 1979, with an Associate of Science degree from the Fones School, University of Bridgeport. After 11 years of private practice, she transitioned to corporate dental hygiene working for Oral-B (and then Procter & Gamble), She loved selling Oral-B products on QVC for ten years! She now teaches "Lunch and Learn" Webinars for Waterpik.

Sharon received her Bachelor's degree in Dental Hygiene Business and her Master's in Organizational and Effective Leadership. After retiring from full time dental sales in 2012, she switched to part-time teaching. She has been an educator for Fones, Tunxis and now at Goodwin University. At Goodwin she is the Community Outreach Coordinator. She has taught first and second year clinic, Oral Pathology, Nutrition and Community/Public Health. Sharon is published in RDH Magazine and Access Magazine.

Sharon has been an active member of ADHA-CT, from the Hartford Component to Trustee of ADHA- CT Northeastern now. She has held multiple roles as an officer for her professional organization and is most proud of being the ADHA- CT President in 2014, and ADHA District II Delegation co-chair in 2014, at Las Vegas, NV, for the National meetings.

Sharon is an ADHA's "Unleash Your Potential" Leadership Training participant (2013). She enjoys lobbying in Connecticut with peers and students and supporting her profession. She is an advocate for Dental Therapy and was glad to see the bill pass in Connecticut.

Sharon is the Student Liaison and CSDA (Connecticut State Dental Association) Liaison for ADHA-CT which has given her the opportunity to network for Dentistry in Connecticut. She is an ADEA (American Dental Educator's Association) member and a IFDH (International Federation of Dental Hygienists) member, and has served at ADHA as a student research poster judge for many years.

Sharon feels her biggest reward lies in mentoring, knowingly and unknowingly. Mentee's have told her how her mentoring as helped them. She feels this is the best of all. She wants to leave ADHA-CT supported by great leaders who can continue leadership and excel. Sharon says "I can give them the history, support, and guidance, but it is up to them to lead in the future and make it theirs." She is "proud of their accomplishments over the years, and loves watching them grow into their roles".

Sharon thanks her husband, children, and grandchildren for their support, for their continued encouragement, for her time invested in ADHA-CT. When not working (or home in the year of Covid-19), she loves to travel, theater/movies/books, and visiting with her friends all over the world, especially her beloved Israel. Besides dental hygiene, she has also enjoyed being a Ballroom Dance Instructor, Travel Agent, and managing a singer from Israel for his US Concert tours.

Sharon states "Make sure to have a work/life balance, but remember what is really important, and keep it interesting! Make the important things a priority, but be prepared to 'not sit under the tree whose seeds you have planted'. Set things up for others to work with, and pay it forward, help others, and remember the camaraderie of Dental Hygiene, which has been so good to me. We need to support each other."

She ends with, "Thank you again, to my mentors, and for this honor. I am profoundly grateful.



2020 Merit Award Recipient



Dr. Jen Boyce

Dr. Jen Boyce, a native of Sandy Hook, earned her BS in Biology from the University of Scranton in 1986. After graduating from the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine in 1990, Dr. Boyce completed a general practice residency at Danbury Hospital, affiliated with Yale University School of Medicine. While continuing as an attending at Danbury Hospital through 1997, Dr. Boyce transitioned from an associate dental partner to owning her own dental practice in 1993. Dr. Boyce established her office in Danbury in 1995 and continued to practice in Danbury for 24 years.

In 2015, after a casual invitation from Dr. Wendy Garcia to “come and see the clinic” at the Fones School of Dental Hygiene, Dr. Boyce was invited to join the faculty as an adjunct clinical professor. Since that time, her role has developed to include involvement in local anesthesia education including local anesthesia and local anesthesia continuing education courses, lasers in dental hygiene continuing education (as a course co-developer) as well as an active educator in periodontology II class and dental materials lab.

In addition to supporting dental hygiene in Connecticut, Dr. Boyce testified to support the Dental Therapy legislation bill that passed in Connecticut in 2018. She continues to support the advancement and empowerment of dental hygienists, in Connecticut present and future.

In 2019, Dr. Boyce left her full-time private practice to concentrate her efforts with dental hygiene education. In 2020, Dr. Boyce became the full-time administrative dentist at the Fones School of Dental Hygiene. She has enjoyed collaborating with faculty, staff and administration, as dental hygienists and dental hygiene education navigates the challenges presented during these difficult times. She is currently working with grant funds on site at Fones called “Senior Smiles”, providing care to our local Bridgeport seniors who cannot afford their dental care, to benefit their oral health.

2020 ADHA-CT President



Dana Northway, RDH

Good evening everyone! Welcome to our first ever virtual Mabel C McCarthy Red Shoe Gala! As ADHA-CT President, I'd like to express my thanks for sharing with us these special moments as we celebrate our accomplishments for the past year, and prepare for 2021, led by Maria Cholewinski, our incoming ADHA-CT President. The Mabel C McCarthy Red Shoe Gala honors a dental hygienist who has promoted dental hygiene in an outstanding manner.

This year we are honoring Sharon Efron, who began her dental hygiene career in 1979.

Congratulations to ADHA-CT members and our COVID-19 task force, headed by Marie Paulis. The 2020 pandemic presented the dental community with great challenges, and ADHA-CT certainly rose to that challenge. Working with our lobbyists, the Kowalski Group, we were able to work with the Connecticut Department of Health and the Connecticut Dental Association, to craft guidelines for dental offices and protection for all the hygienists in the state of Connecticut. Little did we know what was in store for us this year. And although I know this crisis is not over, I know we will continue to be there for our fellow hygienists.

As my presidency comes to an end, I'd like to express my gratitude to each member of my Board of Trustees, my executive board, council and committee chairs and members, and all of you who have provided support for me over these last twelve months. I truly could not have done it without you.

Thank you to those who encouraged me to step into a leadership role and saw my potential even when I was not sure I could be what you thought I could be. I recently saw a sign that said, "She believed she could, and so she did", and it so perfectly described my journey this past year. Although I must admit the believing was sometimes the most difficult part!

What more can I say? 2020 will be remembered for a long time as a year of challenges, sorrows, and heartbreak, but also a year to innovate and find new ways to continue a productive life. And though I am retired, I am not done with this chapter of my life with ADHA-CT.

So Maria, I pass the gavel to you, to continue to lead our association through whatever challenges arise. You have many supporters, don't hesitate to reach out to them and ask questions; they've been where you are. I wish to you a successful year. Congratulations.

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Congratulations Jen for receiving the Mabel C. McCarthy award. We have seen all of your hard work and dedication throughout the years. You were also an integral part of both of our presidencies. We love you!

Melissa and Miranda

Congratulations Jenifer on receiving such an outstanding award. This is well deserved for all the time and hard work you do for your organization. Enjoy your red shoe gala brunch we are all proud and happy for you.

Love You



Joann , Nunzio , Nonna Maria , Stephanie , Wayne , Nico , Julian , Alex , Nunzi , Nicole



Congratulations Jenifer Mancini on the Mabel C. McCarthy Award. The entire Northwest Component is proud of you and also thanks you for all of your hard work and dedication to ADHA-CT.

The Leslie Brin Andrews



Established 2019

Congratulations to the Nutmeg Spirit Award recipients Individuals who have shown "Nutmeg Spirit" as embodied by and blessed through the effervescent Leslie Brin Andrews

2019 Bruce Lorentzen

2020 MaryEllen McLoughlin

The Leslie Brin Andrews Nutmeg Spirit Award, established in 2019, given in memory of Leslie Brin Andrews by her loving husband Gary Andrews.

Continued best wishes and Congratulations to the 2021 Nutmeg Spirit Award recipient

Congratulations to the Nutmeg team on a Job well done!



Thank you for your support of ConnHyPAC. an organization that helps ADHA-CT financially sustain advocacy goals. **Donate \$20 - receive the PAC pin.** Continue with PAC's Red Shoe Auction today and/or PAC's Online Auction during November, **PAC and your rewards are even greater!** Connhypac@gmail.com.

2020-2021 ConnHyPAC Directors: Jax Mulligan, Thais Hochdorfer, Marissa Wilkison, Marcia Lorentzen

*Congratulations, Jen, as recipient of the
Mabel C. McCarthy Award!
It is well deserved!!!
All the best-Dinah*

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**Special Thanks
to all
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who helped
make this day
possible**

To my daughter Jenifer,

You are destined for great things! I am very proud of your accomplishments! Your generosity and compassion show in the care you give to others every day!

Love, Dad

