

Mary McMillan Lecture Award

Mary “Mollie” McMillan (1880–1959) is remembered as one of the pioneers of our profession and as the founding president of the American Physical Therapy Association. Born in Hyde Park, Massachusetts, she grew up and was educated in England, where she decided on a career in physical therapy. As the first physical therapy aide to be sworn into service in World War I, she supervised the training of reconstruction aides and came to be known as “The Mother of Physical Therapy” in the US Army. Mary McMillan organized one of the first courses in physical therapy in this country at Reed College in Oregon, and she established the first physical therapy training center in China at Peiping Union Medical College. Her book, *Massage and Therapeutic Exercise*, was the first comprehensive text on physical therapy written by an American physical therapist. During World War II, she treated prisoners of war while enduring the rigors of Japanese internment camps in Manila and Shanghai.

Not only did McMillan devote her life to furthering the profession, but she bequeathed a large part of her estate to its future, providing for the establishment of scholarship funds for students in the field of physical therapy. McMillan’s selfless

devotion to the profession has served as the inspiration for generations of physical therapists, and the ideals and standards she envisioned at the founding of the Association are still the goals we seek today.

The Mary McMillan Lecture Award, established by APTA’s Board of Directors in 1963 to pay tribute to McMillan, acknowledges and honors an APTA member who has made a distinguished contribution to the profession. The award provides an opportunity for the recipient to share his or her achievements and ideas with the membership through a special lecture at the APTA’s NEXT Conference. Nominations for the award may be submitted by individual members and components of the Association. Recipients of the award are recommended by the Mary McMillan Lecture Subcommittee of the APTA Awards Committee and are selected by APTA’s Board of Directors.



Past Recipients

Mildred O. Elson, PT	1964	L. Don Lehmkuhl, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1990
Catherine A. Worthingham, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1965	Robert C. Bartlett, PT, MA, FAPTA	1991
Ruby Decker, PT	1966	Marylou R. Barnes, PT, EdD, FAPTA	1992
Col Emma E. Vogel, PT	1967	Gary L. Soderberg, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1993
Helen Kaiser, PT	1968	Bella J. May, PT, EdD, FAPTA	1996
Margaret Rood, PT	1969	Shirley A. Sahrman, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1998
Lucy Blair, PT	1971	Suzann K. Campbell, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1999
Margaret Knott, PT	1972	Ruth B. Purtilo, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2000
Lucille Daniels, PT	1973	Jules M. Rothstein, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2001
Helen J. Hislop, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1975	Steven L. Wolf, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2002
E. Jane Carlin, PT, DSc, FAPTA	1976	Pamela W. Duncan, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2003
Mary Clyde Singleton, PT, PhD	1977	Marilyn Moffat, PT, DPT, PhD, CSCS, FAPTA	2004
Margaret L. Moore, PT, EdD, FAPTA	1978	Rebecca L. Craik, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2005
Helen Blood, PT, EdD, FAPTA	1979	Stanley V. Paris, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2006
Florence P. Kendall, PT, FAPTA	1980	Katherine F. Shepard, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2007
Susanne Hirt, PT, MS	1981	Anthony Delitto, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2008
Dorothy E. Voss, PT	1982	Carolee J. Winstein, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2009
Nancy T. Watts, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1983	Andrew A. Guccione, PT, DPT, PhD, FAPTA	2010
Eugene Michels, PT, FAPTA	1984	Gail M. Jensen, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2011
Geneva R. Johnson, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1985	Alan M. Jette, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2012
Dorothy Pinkston, PT, PhD, FAPTA	1986	Roger M. Nelson, PT, PhD, FAPTA	2013
Charles M. Magistro, PT, FAPTA	1987	James Gordon, PT, EdD, FAPTA	2014
Ruth Wood, PT, FAPTA	1989	Lynn Snyder-Mackler, PT, PhD, ScD, ATC, SCS, FAPTA	2015