



2010

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Recommended Citation

Hatch, Rachel, "Alumna Nathan Honored with Gale Keeran Spirit of Success Award" (2010). *News and Events*. Paper 1293. <http://digitalcommons.iwu.edu/news/1293>

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Alumna Nathan Honored with Gale Keeran Spirit of Success Award

March 10, 2010

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. – Illinois Wesleyan University alumna Barbara Nathan was honored Tuesday, March 9, with the 2010 Gale Keeran Spirit of Success Award at the annual Women’s Health Night at the Interstate Center in Bloomington.

According to the award sponsor, the Illinois Heart & Lung Foundation, the recipient of the award possess a “spirit of success” that has made this community a better place to live. The honor was named after the late Gale Keeran, a community leader and former chair of the Bloomington Cultural District.

A 1980 graduate from Illinois Wesleyan, Nathan spent 15 years in nursing and hospital administration with BroMenn Healthcare in Normal. In 1996, she became the executive director of the Community Cancer Center and its Foundation, which has raised more than \$9 million for a continuum of cancer care from community education on prevention and early detection, to treatment and survivor services.

Active in national associations dedicated to health, Nathan has served on the Board of the American College of Oncology Administrators (ACOA) since 2004, and is completing her term as ACOA President.

Her community and volunteer activities have included the Bloomington Kiwanis, YWCA and the United Way. She has also held regional and local positions with various national cause-related medical organizations, such as the ALS Association, Susan G. Komen “Race for the Cure” and the American Cancer Society.

The American Academy of Medical Administrators (AAMA) recently named Nathan the 2009 Healthcare Executive of the Year.

Nathan is the second person with ties to Illinois Wesleyan who has been bestowed the award. Director of Alumni Relations Ann Harding received the inaugural Gale Keeran Spirit of Success Award in 2002.

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