A sepia-toned photograph of two hands cupping a mound of dark soil. A small, young tree with dense, needle-like foliage grows from the soil. The background is dark and out of focus. A white horizontal band is overlaid across the middle of the image, containing text. A red vertical bar is on the left side of the page, featuring four white circular punch holes.

2007 VIRGINIA MCKNIGHT BINGER

AWARDS IN HUMAN SERVICE

THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION



ADA BEH

JOHANNA CHRISTIANSON

VIRGINIA CLARK

CHARLINITA ELLIS

BERNICE COWL GORDON

RACHEL KINCADE

DARCY KNIGHT

BARBARA LEWIS

MARY F. NELSON

MARK OCHU

EVERY YEAR, I AM AMAZED BY THE DEPTH OF PROFESSIONALISM and passion the recipients of the Virginia McKnight Binger Awards demonstrate in their work, and by the variety of the services they provide. This year's honorees once again illustrate that there is important human service work to be done in many areas of our lives and communities, in support of immigrants and youth, diverse communities, and the disenfranchised.

As varied as the awardees' individual efforts are, I find myself especially moved by the threads that unite them. In our search for ways to make a difference in the lives of others, one such common thread is worth noting.

Running through the stories of several of this year's awardees is a theme that the work they do today — work done selflessly, without desire for recognition, and for little or no pay — often arose from their own personal experiences with adversity. In fact, at first glance, one might mistake our 2007 awardees for those in *need* of service: people suffering the loss of loved ones, survivors of abuse, struggling entrepreneurs, and immigrants from foreign lands.

Yet these 10 outstanding individuals have turned their challenges — hardships not unlike many of our own — into opportunities to help others. They have channeled their learning into curriculums to teach. They have transformed their heartache into heartfelt support. Strengthened by overcoming obstacles themselves, they have drawn on that strength to empower others.

We all face adversity. In loving memory of my grandmother, Virginia McKnight Binger, for whom these awards are named, I encourage all of us to closely examine the challenges we have met and consider what we have learned from those challenges that could be used to help others.

Helping humanity — strangers and neighbors alike — is personal work. This year's awardees show us with grace and creativity what a valuable impact can be made. On behalf of the Foundation and the awards committee, I extend sincere gratitude to each of our awardees for their boundless compassion and humble work on behalf of others.

Erika L. Binger  
Chair, The McKnight Foundation



THE VIRGINIA MCKNIGHT BINGER AWARDS IN HUMAN SERVICE, AN ANNUAL tradition at The McKnight Foundation, reflect the Foundation's deep belief in the virtue and power of compassion. Since its inception, the award has gone to 240 Minnesotans, including this year's group, who have selflessly given time and effort to help others with no expectation of material reward. Each recipient exemplifies the life-changing difference one person can make through service. This booklet announces the 2007 award recipients and describes their work.

The Foundation created the Awards in Human Service in 1985. The awards were renamed 10 years later as a tribute to Virginia McKnight Binger, who served the Foundation for nearly 50 years as a board member, as president from 1974 to 1987, and then as honorary chair until her death in 2002. Although her parents, William L. and Maude L. McKnight, established the Foundation, Mrs. Binger's personal compassion and generosity set the standard for the Foundation's work.

Like Virginia McKnight Binger in her time, those who receive these awards are acutely aware of others' needs. They are nominated in confidence by someone familiar with their work, and the nominations are researched and evaluated independently. To qualify, nominees must live and volunteer in Minnesota and show commitment to helping others achieve a better life, while receiving little or nothing for their own efforts.

The Foundation invites nominations each spring. Beginning in August, a committee of volunteers who are active in various human service fields evaluates the nominations and recommends finalists to the Foundation's board of directors. Each approved awardee receives \$7,500. For more information about the program, visit the Foundation's website at [www.mcknight.org](http://www.mcknight.org).

## PROGRAM

### THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

*710 South Second Street, Minneapolis*

*2:30 p.m.*

*Thursday, November 15, 2007*

### WELCOME

*Kate Wolford, PRESIDENT*

*Erika L. Binger, CHAIR, THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION*

### PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

*Erika L. Binger*

### AWARDS IN HUMAN SERVICE COMMITTEE

*Liliana Espondaburu, ST. PAUL*

*Eva Song Margolis, ST. PAUL*

*Anni O'Neill, OWATONNA*

*Anita Patel, MINNEAPOLIS*

*Mary Robillard, DULUTH*

*Cindy Toppin, ST. PAUL*



“No service is too small for Ada to provide for the families that come her way.”

— Melissa Nembang

**ADA BEH**, who emigrated from Liberia to Minnesota 20 years ago, feels called to serve as an advocate, a mentor, and a community volunteer. Employed as a transitional housing advocate, Ada directs her volunteer efforts to help recently arrived African women and their families adjust to their new environment, secure housing, and move toward economic self-sufficiency. Six years ago, Ada co-founded the Minnesota African Women’s Association (MAWA), a social service organization with a culturally aware staff who serve women from all African countries. Since then, she has worked as an unpaid volunteer and board chair at MAWA; currently, she works part-time as the agency’s social service outreach coordinator, connecting families with resources and support. A single mother of two girls, Ada continues to pursue her education in social work because, she says, “I felt really isolated when I came here. I missed home, I missed family. I didn’t know where to turn. I’ll do anything to help others not go through that.”

With grant assistance from the Minnesota Council of Churches, Ada helps locate and directly place refugees in housing. She also acts as a family mediator when needed, and she attends virtually all gatherings of the area’s growing African community. Ada also coordinates transportation around the region for many African women and youth, who would otherwise miss out on programs and opportunities. Working seven days most weeks, Ada goes the extra mile by supplying her time and personal truck to help move refugees into new homes. She is committed to doing whatever is needed to serve, from cleaning MAWA’s offices to teaching needlework to its program’s young participants. As Ada strives to ensure the success of MAWA, she also enables the success of those it serves.

As a newlywed, **JOHANNA CHRISTIANSON** moved from Amsterdam to Pelican Rapids in 1976. Today, she volunteers full time in support of her adopted hometown. A mother of three, Johanna has experience that includes establishing a volunteer program for parents and community participants at the local elementary school, and facilitation work with a student-led peer support group. She serves as board chair of her local food shelf, and she volunteers at a nonprofit secondhand store that invests its earnings in the surrounding community. Johanna has participated in the city’s Campfire Girls, the Global Volunteers, and the Women’s Civic Club, and she is active in her church. She shares the position of adult mentor for the Youth Crew, a group of high school students who donate time to community service.

For 12 years, as Pelican Rapids’ population has become increasingly diverse, Johanna has served as president of the city’s Multicultural Committee. Through the committee, she sponsors focus groups to discuss the gifts offered and challenges faced by the town’s newcomers. Since 1998, she has coordinated the International Friendship Festival, celebrating ethnic diversity through music and food. In late 1996, when more than 100 Bosnian and Sudanese refugees arrived with only the clothes on their backs, Johanna organized clothing and goods drives and helped connect each family to friends and social services. Johanna extends her helping hand to everyone, visiting with the elderly, driving those in need to nearby towns for services, and inviting people with no family nearby to her own holiday celebrations. “Once I was a stranger, and people welcomed me,” says Johanna. “I know in my heart it’s my turn to do the same.”



“Johanna has challenged Pelican Rapids to grow into a healthy, thriving global village. She has led us to respect each other’s differences and to recognize our similarities.”

— Joan Ellison



When **VIRGINIA CLARK** lost her daughter in 1993, in addition to nearly unbearable grief, she found herself with unexpected new responsibilities as the sole caregiver for her toddler granddaughter. Alone and without resources for support, she provided a stable home for her granddaughter, and her firsthand experience helped shape a network of statewide support for similar kinship families. While raising her granddaughter, and in collaboration with existing efforts large and small, Virginia co-developed the Minnesota Kinship Caregivers Association (MKCA). Now a national model of support for kinship families, MKCA is Minnesota's only nonprofit focused exclusively on such issues. Over time, Virginia has volunteered on its board as both president and secretary, and she continues to attend support group meetings.

While raising three children of her own, Virginia worked for 25 years as an executive secretary for the Minneapolis Public Schools. Today, committed to education and community involvement, she reads to students at local schools and she participates in the Cultural Wellness Center grandparent support group, the Minneapolis NAACP, and the Urban League Guild. Active in the seniors program at the Sabathani Community Center, she also serves as treasurer of the St. Thomas Episcopal Church Women's Group and the Sabathani AARP chapter. A devoted mentor to those facing the challenges of raising children "the second time around," Virginia makes a point of reassuring caregivers that they are not alone. Because many grandparent caregivers live on Social Security, without access to the government funding that would go to foster parents, Virginia has also become an increasingly outspoken advocate of new policies to support grandparents bearing the financial burdens of unexpected child-rearing.



"In her mid-70s and standing under five feet tall, Virginia is looked up to by all who know her."

— Sharon Durken



"Charlnitta truly is the voice for those who do not have a voice. She is a symbol of hope for the inner-city communities where she works."

— Marni Harper

**CHARLINITTA ELLIS** knows that sometimes those issues *hardest* to discuss are exactly the ones we *must* discuss. Having devoted her life to informing young people about the dangers of sexually transmitted diseases, Charlnitta served 15 years as director of the HIV/AIDS/STDs (HAS) prevention and awareness program at The City, Inc. When a cut in state funding forced the program's closure in 2006, Charlnitta shifted to the role of behavior specialist at the organization. The new role has allowed her to continue her direct work providing education and outreach to youth, capitalizing on invaluable relationships she has forged over time with hard-to-reach (and hardly reached) youth, while she eagerly searches for new funding to reopen the doors to the HAS program.

For years, Charlnitta has provided direct, daily outreach to thousands of inner-city youth on the street, in gangs, and in area schools. Invariably, the kids refer to her as "Mama Chi" (pronounced *shy*), because she treats them all as if they were her own children. "All the 'rules' tell you not to get too involved," explains Charlnitta, "but this isn't work for me. This is how I live." Beyond individual and group interventions and community events, she has assisted in hundreds of referrals for sexually transmitted disease testing. Armed with information, young people are encouraged by Charlnitta to share their knowledge with their peers. She also sits on several boards, including those of the Midwest Health Center for Women and the Legal Rights Center, and she advocates in the community and at the legislature in support of school curriculums that address sexually transmitted disease prevention.





“Bernice brings comfort, connection, and hope to individuals facing illness and isolation.”

— Judy Marcus

At age 91, **BERNICE COWL GORDON** has volunteered with healthcare facilities for more than two decades, keeping company, playing piano, and reading aloud. During visits to see her husband at a local care center throughout the 1980s, Bernice found herself also reaching out to his neighbors and to their families. Just two weeks after her husband passed away, Bernice felt called to resume her daily visits to the care center in his memory. Upon request, she eventually expanded her stops to include several additional local care and assisted living centers. At age 78, Bernice joined the Twin Cities Jewish Healing Program, where she received intensive training to increase her effectiveness in serving the sick.

In 1996, Bernice served as a volunteer advisor to the Minnesota Historical Society and the Jewish Historical Society of the Upper Midwest (JHSUM) for the exhibit “Unpacking on the Prairie: Jewish Women in the Upper Midwest.” Formerly a kindergarten teacher for 20 years, she spent hours discussing the exhibit with schoolchildren from around the region. Inspired by the power of storytelling, Bernice established the Dr. Moses and Bernice Cowl Gordon Journal Endowment Fund at JHSUM, to help publish a biennial journal documenting Jewish history in the region. A mother of two (and great-grandmother of 12), Bernice also created a tuition fund at St. Louis Park’s Beth El Synagogue to enable new Russian immigrants to attend preschool and extracurricular programs. Bernice has called her volunteer work “a blessing which has given my life structure, motivation, healing, and enrichment. I know I have received more than I have given.”

Sixteen years ago, single mother **RACHEL KINCADE** began her outreach to homeless youth with special needs. As the executive director of Life House in Duluth, Rachel now serves 700 low-income and homeless youth annually, ensuring them access to housing, education, and employment opportunities. Under her leadership, the city’s supervised housing for homeless youth has expanded threefold, and in partnership with others, Life House has helped establish one permanent and three transitional housing facilities for homeless youth. Rachel’s team also provides these youth, who are seldom seen as community assets, with opportunities for community involvement in Duluth’s Juneteenth festival and Take Back the Night, and fundraising activities for various charities. Through good times and bad, Rachel is committed to constantly reminding these youth that they are loved and their lives matter. “It’s an awesome responsibility,” says Rachel. “The things you say, or *don’t* say, and how it affects people’s lives.”

Rachel has a personal connection to many of the challenges her clients face. Years ago, after freeing herself from an abusive relationship, she lived through a harrowing period of substance abuse and criminal activity; following her treatment and recovery, Rachel fought to regain custody of her baby daughter from the state. Newly determined to succeed, Rachel earned her GED certificate and entered college. In addition to her work today at Life House, Rachel’s community contributions include participation in the Minnesota Coalition for Homelessness, Duluth’s Affordable Housing Coalition, the Governor’s Working Group to End Long-term Homelessness, the St. Louis County “Ending Homelessness in Ten” plan, and the Northland Foundation’s board of trustees. Rather than allowing her burdens to hold her back, Rachel — now a grandmother — is using the lessons from her past to teach and empower others.



“Rachel lives her belief that nobody is beyond hope. By overcoming barriers from emotional walls to bureaucratic red tape, she’s changed thousands of lives.”

— Herb Bergson



Urban arts pioneer **DARCY KNIGHT** has a gift for spotting opportunities others might overlook. In the 1980s, she saw promise in an abandoned 20,000-square-foot building in south Minneapolis, which she subsequently purchased, renovated, and reopened as the Old Arizona center for performing and media arts. In 1993, Darcy established the Arizona Bridge Project, offering mentoring and gender-specific activities to young women. Since 1995, the center has provided free arts-related classes to more than 1,200 teenage girls. Having benefited herself from the past advice of wise women, Darcy believes, “It’s pretty much my responsibility to pass their wisdom along.” Devoted to the success of Old Arizona’s surrounding community, Darcy has served on the Strategic Planning Committee of the Whittier/Phillips Neighborhood Initiative and on the Whittier Alliance board of directors.

Darcy also helps emerging artists in need of lower rental costs by providing artist-friendly rental arrangements for the center’s 125-seat theater. A career in Hollywood as a professional makeup artist for film and television led eventually to her co-ownership of the first school in the Midwest to train and represent professional makeup artists and hair stylists. Darcy subsequently founded the first woman-owned commercial production studio for film and video in the Midwest, and she has served on the Minnesota Film and TV Board. To better understand the issues facing the region’s youth, at-risk communities, and juvenile female offenders, Darcy has pursued training through the U.S. Department of Justice and the Minnesota Department of Corrections, among others. She has also served on the interagency adolescent female subcommittee at the Minnesota Department of Corrections and the Governor’s youth and family enrichment initiative.



“Barbara gives her all without hesitation ... She is a wonderful person to be around, always helping when she is needed.”

— Tonodus Howard



“Darcy has the energy of a child and the wisdom of an elder ... She inspires by example.”

— Elizabeth Trumble

Herself a survivor, **BARBARA LEWIS** now helps others facing domestic abuse. As an advocate with the Domestic Abuse Project in Minneapolis, Barbara directly serves women and children in abuse situations by placing them in permanent safe housing and attending legal proceedings when needed. She also provides resources and referrals to abusers looking for help. After work, her own program, Operation Change, provides a safe house and resources during the evening hours, when fewer programs offer services. Offering support beyond a safe place for survivors to sleep, Barbara frequently holds community meetings to spread the word about domestic abuse prevention. Throughout, she strives to teach the women and children their true value, countering negative messages they may have learned from their abusers.

Barbara grew up in a family of 16 in Chicago’s troubled Robert Taylor housing project. Having left school in junior high, she earned her GED certificate at 38, followed later by a BA from the Minnesota Graduate School of Theology and certification in community health work from the Minneapolis Community and Technical College. A mother of six, Barbara raised her two daughters as strong and independent women, gifting them with the same courage she instills in those she serves. Explains Barbara, “When I was being abused, there was nowhere to go. I was determined that one day I would help other women.” Active in her own community, Barbara was recently elected to the board of arms at Heritage Park, a 900-unit, mixed-income, culturally diverse development in north Minneapolis. From buying holiday gifts for charity to helping enact protection orders for clients, Barbara is happy to lend a helping hand to those who would otherwise be alone.





“Mary’s compassion, patience, and understanding make her an incredible guardian, mentor, and friend for the young people in her care.”

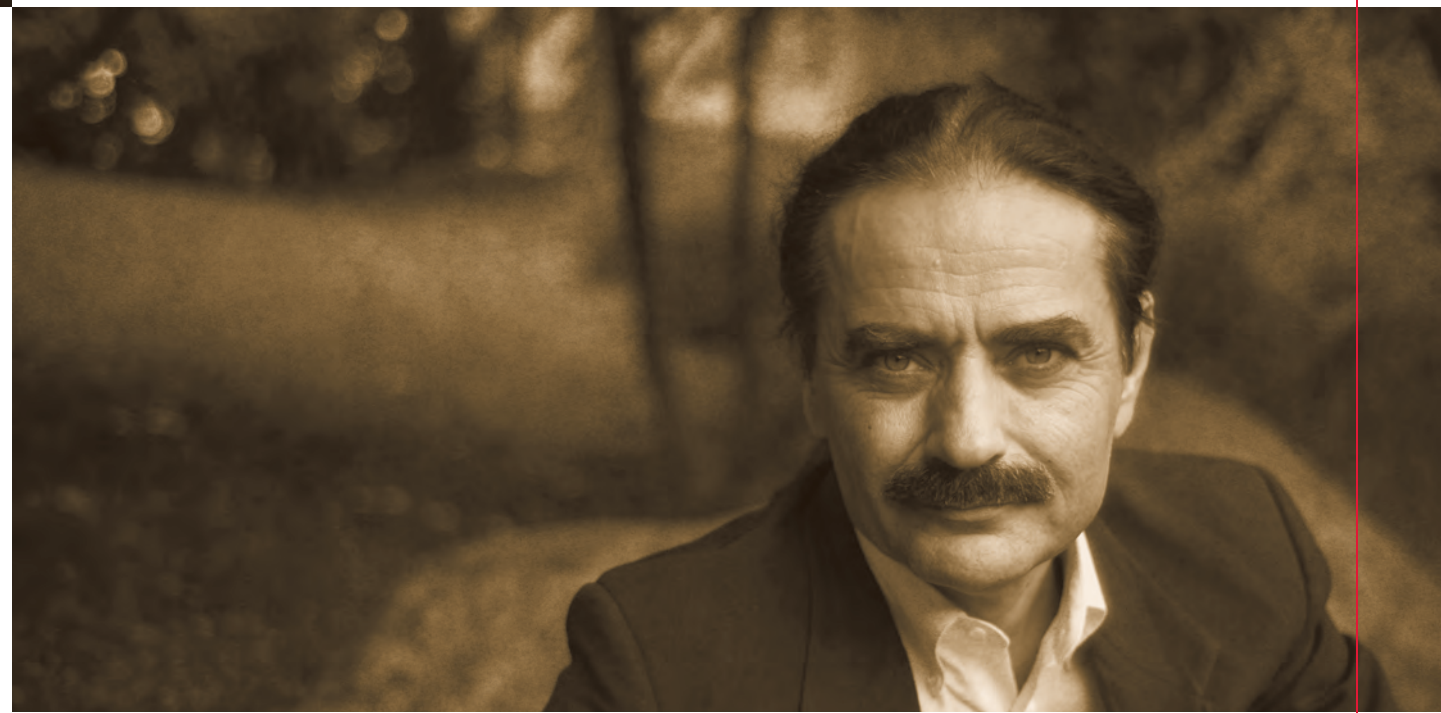
— Brian Dever

From her mother, a landscape painter, **MARY F. NELSON** acquired skills and an appreciation for the power of art. When she was a young mother herself, she edited and designed parenting books as director of publications at MELD, a nationally recognized social service organization offering parenting and child development programs. Soon after the Northfield Union of Youth recruited Mary for her skills, she led a graphic design mentorship and entrepreneurship program for high schoolers; since then, the organization has called on Mary to serve in many roles, from student mentor to interim director. In addition to her history of community work, Mary has opened her home and heart as a foster parent. Since 1992, she has housed and befriended upward of 75 children, generally teenage boys and sometimes five at a time; several current and former foster kids helped initiate her award nomination.

As a site specialist at Bridgewater Elementary School, Mary unites students, parents, and the community, recognizing that kids learn best when they feel connected and comfortable at school. Of her hometown, Mary says that whenever she notices a problem, “We just need to ring the bell loud enough ... This community doesn’t allow problems to go unseen. Once we commit to a solution, we are tenacious.” She has volunteered as a member of Northfield’s Healthy Communities Initiative; a trainer for new foster, adoptive, and kinship care providers; a member of the Mayor’s Task Force on Youth Alcohol and Drug Use in Northfield; and a member of the Children’s Justice Initiative, ensuring that youth are always treated respectfully by the state’s judicial system. Mary has dedicated herself to improving lives and addressing the unique needs of at-risk children and youth in her community.

With **MARK OCHU** at the keys, a piano becomes a tool to decipher and celebrate the connections between life and music. Mark explains, “My work started with music, and tying music to social concerns to help transform people’s lives.” As a founding member of St. Cloud State’s Community Anti-Racism Education (CARE) initiative, Mark helped analyze embedded institutional racism. The findings led to discussions identifying strategies for lasting changes, to help the university fully embrace an anti-racist identity. Mark also served on the board of Create CommUNITY, a collaborative of organizations working to reduce racism. He was president of the St. Cloud NAACP for three years and, while there, Mark secured new office space and equipment for the organization. The branch also established a new community youth council and a college chapter at St. Cloud State, and brought several national NAACP programs to the area. The local memberships nearly doubled.

During his tenure at the NAACP, Mark personally assisted people in filing rights violation complaints with the U.S. Department of Justice, the FBI, the City of St. Cloud Human Rights Office, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, and the State Human Rights Office, resulting in some complainants winning financial settlements. A world-class concert pianist by training, Mark often contributes locally and internationally by sharing his music in private homes, churches, and concert halls, integrating performances with lectures on the history of music and various composers. Recently, he presented a program illustrating composer George Gershwin’s critical role in recognizing the contributions of African American culture. Mark’s commitment and creative expression have made him a community model for advocacy of both the arts and social justice.



“If you call Mark’s home phone his message says you can leave a long message. This is Mark’s style. He has the patience to listen and the skills to get things done.”

— Debra Leigh



## PREVIOUS RECIPIENTS

SINCE 1985, The McKnight Foundation has honored 240 recipients of the Virginia McKnight Binger Awards in Human Service, including this year's honorees.

The recipients from the past 22 years are listed below:

### 2006

Dee Cotten  
May Pa Heu  
Russ Irvin  
Shegitu Kebede  
Sarah Mollet  
Vivian Peterson  
Erik Rodriguez  
Jim Soderberg  
Jodi Townsend  
Patrick Wood

### 2005

Said Salah Ahmed  
Linda Brown  
Wafiq Fannoun  
Melvin Giles  
Ora Hokes  
Beth Holger  
Curtis Levang  
Larry and Noreen Luck  
Sister Jean Thuerauf  
Hedwidge "Hedy" Tripp

### 2004

James Andre  
Elsie Dugar  
Mahmoud El-Kati  
Donna Gillen  
Mary Gnerer  
Daniel Hawkins  
Rayome Clark Koehler  
Mary Maas  
Margaret McBride  
Christine Norton  
Kay Trainor  
Carol Voss

### 2003

Cal Appleby  
James Dodge  
Jayne Frank  
Linda Jemison  
Cindy Johnson  
Nathaniel Khaliq  
Nancy Meyers  
Rajiv Shah  
John Siegfried  
Char Thompson

### 2002

Andrew Benjamin  
Martha Cardenas  
Bonham Cross  
Mohamed Essa  
Ann Hooley  
Jacqueline Kavanagh  
Ed and Fern Ostberg  
Ron Schwartz  
Margaret Smith  
Gail Weigle

### 2001

Susan Baxter  
George Failes  
Bertha Givins  
Maria Inés Hitateguy  
Barb King  
Marge Melich  
Kristine Reiter  
Muriel Simmons  
V.J. Smith  
Sang Vu

### 2000

Jean Andrews  
Melvin Carter, Jr.  
Sylvia Carty  
Richard Endres  
John and Julie Funari  
Hazel Jacobson  
Raleigh Kent  
George Nelsen  
Delroy Schoenleben  
Manuel Zuniga

### 1999

Henry Bruns  
Ernesto DelVillar, Sr.  
Marcelle Diedrich  
Denise Gubrud and Margarita Reese  
Darlene Edwards  
Phoenix Hill  
Geraldine Hull  
Ardis Knutson  
Yako Myers  
Joyce Segelbaum

### 1998

Christine Barich  
Dawn Glaser-Falk  
Joe Huber  
Michael Kirk  
Kevin L. Perez Rodriguez  
Edwin Reich  
Scott Schlaffman  
Choua "Mindy" Thao  
Georgeanna Toftum  
Clorasteen Wilson

### 1997

Marjory Aldrich  
Jim Christy  
Dianne Kimm  
Allan Law  
Sue Liedl  
Larry Cloud Morgan  
William Radueg  
RaeAnn Ruth  
Frankie and Velma Tyson  
Peggy Wells

### 1996

Vivian Blount  
Cynthia Hawkins  
Gregory Horan  
Dale Hulme  
Joe LaGarde  
Percy and Lillian Olson  
Joan Peterson  
Jody Porter  
Dave Ronning  
Georgia Theis

### 1995

Laurice Beaudry  
Dianne Binns  
Leonard Gloeb  
Fran Heitzman  
Algjuan Hixon  
Bruce Lubitz  
Mary Robillard  
Bill Rowe  
Pat Schwartz  
Jamie Slattery

### 1994

John Bobolink  
Lori Ellis Boswell  
Bill Driscoll  
Janet Gostanczik  
Shirley Ellen Jensen  
Art Johnson  
James Francis Kelly  
Katherine G. King  
Forrest R. Osterholm  
Fred Rupp

### 1993

Eileen Bohn  
Francisco Caballero  
Sandra Gessler  
Frank R. Johnson  
David Lund  
Don Mooney  
Tyrone Smith  
Art Stoeberl  
Sheila WhiteEagle  
Eleanore Whitmyre

### 1992

Peggy Holmes Bellecourt  
Dorothy Bilheimer  
Jane Blattner  
Eugene Chelberg  
Dr. Kenneth and Grace Covey  
Dorothy Haynes  
Norma Schleppegrell  
Roger and Donna Urbanski  
Quang Vu  
Glen Wilfong

### 1991

Cynthia Ann Barry  
Shirley Benitez  
Julia Dinsmore  
Dan Edgar  
Terry Ford  
Alice McHie  
Kouthong Vixayvong  
Walter White  
Marie Wing  
Mary Stier Winkels

### 1990

Ruby Alexander  
Dan Celentano  
Cheryl Ford  
Muriel Gaines  
Patrick Hartigan  
Tri Dinh Nguyen  
Phillip Sayers  
Sister Leanore Stanton  
John Stone  
Diane Williams

### 1989

David L. Asmus  
Lois V. Boylan  
Ron Cronick  
Phyllis Gross  
Loeung Khi  
Dana Lehrer  
Sister Charlotte A. Madigan  
William O'Connell  
Leo Treadway  
Diane Ziegler

### 1988

Jewell Anderson  
Willard A. Brunelle  
Dollie D. Foster  
Carol LaFavor  
Kwame McDonald  
Rosita Meehan  
Marvin S. Moe  
Anastasia Sery  
Ray Wilson  
Winona Wilson

### 1987

Robert L. Buckley  
Linda Byrne  
Mary Jo Copeland  
Kathy J. Davis  
John Fields  
Sandra Huff  
Mazi E. Johnson  
Lou Anne Kling  
Norma P. McDuffie  
Pat Schmidgall

### 1986

Barbara J. Colhapp  
San Juana Flores  
Bernice E. Genereux  
Flo Golod  
Louise T. James  
Maxine M. Kruschke  
Robert Russell  
Dana Lee Shato  
Vernell Wabasha  
Dellie Walz

### 1985

Ruth G. Andberg  
Laurie Colbeck  
Alieene Davis  
Juanita G. Espinosa  
Debra Jones  
Elaine La Canne  
Grace L. Sandness  
Lucille T. Silk  
Connie Strandberg  
Justina Violette



## VIRGINIA McKNIGHT BINGER AWARDS IN HUMAN SERVICE

PROGRAM ASSOCIATE *Karyn Sciortino*

COMMUNICATIONS DIRECTOR *Tim Hanrahan*

DESIGN *5 by 5 Design*

PHOTOGRAPHY *Mark Luinenburg*

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*The McKnight Foundation is committed to the protection of our environment, a philosophy that underlies our practice of using paper with postconsumer waste content, and where possible, environmentally friendly inks. This book was printed with soy-based inks on recycled paper containing 20% postconsumer waste.*

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## THE McKNIGHT FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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## ABOUT THE McKNIGHT FOUNDATION

*The McKnight Foundation, a Minnesota-based private philanthropic organization, seeks to improve the quality of life for present and future generations. Through grantmaking, coalition-building, and encouragement of strategic policy reform, we use our resources to attend, unite, and empower those we serve. The Foundation's grantmaking priorities include support of children and families, the region and communities, the arts, the environment, and scientific research in selected fields. The Foundation's primary geographic focus is the state of Minnesota.*

*Founded in 1953 and endowed by William L. McKnight and Maude L. McKnight, The McKnight Foundation has assets of approximately \$2.2 billion and granted about \$93 million in 2006. McKnight is an independent private foundation. More information and program-specific grantmaking guidelines are available at [www.mcknight.org](http://www.mcknight.org).*



THE MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION

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