

# The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual *Upstate Nursing Excellence Celebration*

WEDNESDAY  
OCT | 07 | 2026  
AT 4:30 PM



Marriott  
Syracuse  
Downtown

Tickets and Sponsorships



*Join us for a masquerade to celebrate the faces behind exceptional care*

# 2026 Awardees



## NURSING RECOGNITION FOR EXCELLENCE IN PHARMACEUTICAL CARE AWARD

Leah Rizzo, MSN-ED, RN  
Travis Volitine, BSN, RN  
Alaina Stojkovski, RN  
Medena Kavar, RN, CPN, CCRN  
Kristin Rapasadi, RN  
Heather Coleman, BSN, RN, OCN  
Julie Seguin, BSN, RN

## WILLIAM PAINTER CLINICAL PRACTICE AWARD

Genevieve Gabrielsen, BSN, RN, TCRN

## WILLIAM PAINTER MANAGERIAL PRACTICE AWARD

Beth Wells, MSN, RN

## DAISY INDIVIDUAL AWARD

Christopher Wieland, RN  
Meaghann Riffle, BSN, RN  
Sarah Hirsch, BSN, RN, CMSRN  
Victoria Brown, BSN, RN  
Rebecca Walker, BSN, RN  
Jenny Nguyen, RN  
Makenzie Desbiens, RN  
Ashley Wojtczak, BSN, RN, CCRN  
Robert Castillow, BSN, RN  
Sabrina Naylor, BSN, RN  
Grace Stone, RN  
TBA

## BEE AWARD

Danilo Esperon, HCT  
Ghoffran Alshemmary, HCT  
Roseline Kadio, HCT  
Andrea Gemmill, MHTA  
Tennille Weaver, UST  
Ciara Glen, HCT  
Shannon Knight, SOT  
Printa Benallou, HCT  
John Lando, MHTA  
Gavin Ciszewski, UST  
Nakita Cogger, HCT  
Taylor Coleman, HCT

## UMESCHANDRA PATIL FAMILY PEDIATRIC ENDOWMENT EDUCATION & ENRICHMENT AWARD

Dawn Akkoul, RN, CCRN, C-NPT  
Maisha Brown, BSN, RN  
Shamika Blyden-Mayo, DNP, RN, CNML, CPN  
Renee Buck, RN, CPN, CBRN, CPEN, C-NPT  
Jessica Falgiatano, CPNP-C, CPN, CCRN,  
CFRN, CPEN, CEN, C-NPT, CTRN, TCRN  
Melissa Warner, BSN, RN

## MAUREEN O'HARA AWARD

Michelle Jeski, DNP, RN, PCNS-BC, CPN

## SPIRIT OF SOCIAL WORK AWARD

Loren Ulrich, LMSW

## EXCELLENCE IN GERIATRIC CARE AWARD

Genevieve Gabrielsen, BSN, RN, TCRN  
Kristen Thornton, HCT

## DAISY NURSE LEADER AWARD

Todd Schuler, MSN, MBA, RN

## DAISY TEAM AWARD

6th Floor Orthopedics

## COLLABORATING COLLEAGUE AWARD

Quimonei Bell-Hunter, CMRP

## PRECEPTOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

Diana Clark, RN, OCN

## INNOVATION OF THE YEAR AWARD

"Geospatial Mapping of EMS-Dispatched  
Falls Among Older Adults: Five-Year  
Descriptive Study"

Anthony Scalise, MBA, MS, FNP, RN,  
CCRN, CEN, TCRN, NREMT and Team

## SPIRIT OF NURSING AWARD

Kimberly Cerasani, NP-C

## NANCY PAGE NURSING LEADERSHIP AWARD

Sarah Fries, MBA, MSN, FNP-BC, NEA-BC