

What is the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators?

The DAISY Foundation™ was formed in November 1999, by the family of J. Patrick Barnes who died at age 33 of complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP). The nursing care Patrick received when hospitalized profoundly touched his family. The DAISY Award recognition honors the super-human work nurses do for patients and families every day wherever they practice, in whatever role they serve, and throughout their careers – from Nursing Student through Lifetime Achievement in Nursing.

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators, formerly known as the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators, was established in 2021 in collaboration with the Wisconsin League for Nursing (WLN) and The DAISY Foundation. The WLN expanded collaboration in 2022 to include the Arizona and New Jersey Leagues for Nursing. The purpose of the Award is to recognize exceptional nurses in clinical practice or simulation who exhibit, inspire and nurture compassion and respect amongst peers, mentees, students or colleagues. These nurses directly influence learning in clinical practice/simulation and play a crucial role in the formation of exceptional frontline nurses. In turn, these individuals encourage nurses or nursing students to exhibit acts of compassion and build relationships with patients and families.

Nurses eligible for this Award include those who influence and develop nurses or nursing students at the site of direct or simulated patient care. Eligible nurses include those who are formal educators by title/role and informal educators not defined by their job description or title.

Some examples of eligible formal nurse educators include, but are not limited to:

- Clinical, lab or simulation instructors,
- Staff development specialists, and
- Clinical nurse educators.

Some examples of eligible informal nurse educators include, but are not limited to:

- Preceptors for APRN, RN, LPN, graduate nurses or pre-licensure nursing students,
- Mentors,
- Nurse colleagues,
- Charge nurses,
- Resource nurses, and
- Clinical leaders.

This Award is for eligible nurses who are completing work at a New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution.

2025 NJLN DAISY Honorees



Arianna Duncan
MSN, RN, CCRN

Nursing Skills Lab & Simulation Director
Monmouth University
Jersey Shore University Medical Center



Jonathan Anotado Gapilango
DNP, MSN, MMIN, RN, NE-BC, OCN, CCRP

Administrative Director
Robert Wood Johnson University
Hospital, New Brunswick
RWJBarnabas Health



Wendy Rosen
MSN, RNC-OB

Clinical Nurse Educator
Inspira Medical Center
Mullica Hill

What is the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators?

RECIPIENT CHARACTERISTICS

Primary Characteristic (REQUIRED): Fosters a compassionate environment where learners flourish.

Additional Characteristics (recipient demonstrates at least TWO additional characteristics):

- Facilitates spirit of inquiry and lifelong learning.
- Promotes development and advancement of the learner's professional identity.
- Facilitates learner development, socialization, and interpersonal communication.
- Demonstrates collaborative interprofessional relationships.
- Bridges theoretical concepts to clinical practice and promotes critical thinking and clinical judgment.
- Expert resource using wisdom to demonstrate safe, timely, effective, efficient, equitable, and patient-centered care.

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

- Nominee must foster a compassionate environment where learners flourish and demonstrate two additional characteristics outlined in the Recipient Characteristics.
- Licensed nurse involved in the formation of nurses or nursing students (see examples of formal and informal nurse educator roles in award descriptions).
- Guidance/practice must take place New Jersey in a direct and/or simulated patient care setting.
- Current practice in New Jersey and holds an active unencumbered nursing license.
- Eligible licensed nurses including: Registered Nurse, Advanced Practice Nurse, or Licensed Practical/Vocational Nurse.

LIMITATIONS

The work that the nominee is being recognized for must have been work completed at a New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution*.

*The nominee does not need to be an employee of a DAISY Partner Institution in order to be eligible to receive the award, so long as the work they are being recognized for was completed at New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution and they meet the eligibility criteria.

NOMINATION

Nominations are open!

Click or Scan Here to learn more about the nominations process.



Please note that separate submissions are required for each nominee.
Nominations are submitted electronically.

FAQs

Can I nominate a nursing faculty member who does not teach in direct patient care or simulation of direct patient care?

No, this person is not eligible for this particular Award.

However, he or she may be eligible for the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educator Award administered and maintained through the school of nursing. If your nursing school offers the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators, consider nominating the nursing faculty member for this Award! If your nursing school does not offer this Award, rest assured! The DAISY Foundation is excited to welcome all nursing schools as DAISY Partners!



Click or Scan Here to learn more about becoming a DAISY Partner.



Can I nominate an APRN or graduate program preceptor for this Award?

Absolutely! So long as the work the preceptor is being recognized for is being completed at a DAISY Partner Institution in the respective state and they meet the Award eligibility criteria.

I want to nominate a nursing clinical instructor but the school of nursing they work for is not a DAISY Partner Institution. Can I still nominate them?

If the work they are being recognized for was completed at a New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution and they meet the eligibility criteria, then they would be eligible for the Award. For example, if the clinical instructor teaches clinical at a DAISY Partner hospital in New Jersey and the work they do at this hospital with students, staff and patients is the work they are being recognized for, he or she may still be eligible for this Award.

If the work the potential nominee is being recognized for is not affiliated with any New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution, then they would not be eligible for this Award.

I want to nominate a nursing clinical instructor for the work they do as a clinical instructor at a non-DAISY Partner Institution. They are a clinical instructor for a DAISY Partner school of nursing in their respective state. Can I nominate this person?

Yes, so long as they meet the remaining eligibility criteria.

What if I want to nominate someone who is not affiliated with a New Jersey DAISY Partner Institution?

If the potential nominee is not employed by or the work he or she is being recognized for is not at a New Jersey or Ohio DAISY Partner Institution, he or she is not eligible for this Award. However, the DAISY Foundation is always excited to welcome new partners! Consider becoming a DAISY Partner Institution today!



Click or Scan here to request information to learn more about becoming a DAISY Partner.



Multisite Program

The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators is presented by the Wisconsin, Arizona, Ohio and New Jersey Leagues for Nursing.

In January of 2024 the DAISY Foundation expanded their DAISY Award for Extraordinary Faculty to the become the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurse Educators. The Leagues for Nursing in partnership with the DAISY Foundation are proud to provide this award per the above criteria at the State level.

This state award was previously known as the DAISY Nurse Leader Award for Nursing Clinical Educators (DNLANCE).



**2026 NJLN DAISY Award For
Extraordinary Nurse Educators
Sculpture. The awards will be
presented on Friday, November 6.**

**Submit nominations by Wednesday,
September 9, 2026.**