

# PROGRAMME

## Prologue

*Depiction of famous characters in nursing history.*

## Pageant

### SCENE I

*Public Health Nursing*

### SCENE II

*Institutional Nursing*

### SCENE III

*Clinic Nursing*

### SCENE IV

*Institutional Nursing (Men Nurses)*

### SCENE V

*Private Duty Nursing*

### SCENE VI

*Red Cross Nursing*

### SCENE VII

*Industrial Nursing*

### FINAL

# Midwest Nursing History Research Center Newsletter

*Script Writer*

Mr. Robert Scanlon

*Narrator*

W. W. Bauer, M.D.—Director, Bureau of Health Education  
American Medical Association

*Directed by*

Mr. Burr Tillstrom

*Cast chosen from:*

Junior League of Chicago, Inc.  
Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity, University of Chicago  
First District Illinois State Nurses Association  
Student Nurses

*Chorus*

Wesley Memorial Hospital School of Nursing

Costumes loaned by St. Joseph's Hospital

Mercy Hospital

St. Peter's Hospital

St. Joseph's Hospital

Chicago Chapter of the American Red Cross

Chicago Department of Health

# NURSING

UIC College of Nursing | Fall/Winter 2023 | Bi-Annual Newsletter

## Center Announcements

We hope everyone had a terrific Thanksgiving, and we look forward to an exciting and history-filled 2024.

We want to remind you that you can support the MNHRC this Holiday Season. Gifts can be made [here](#). Gifts will help support preservation efforts, special events, and operational costs of the center. If you have any questions about giving or additional gifts to the College of Nursing, please contact Emily Fouts at [epasteri@uic.edu](mailto:epasteri@uic.edu).

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## The Cadet Nurse Corps

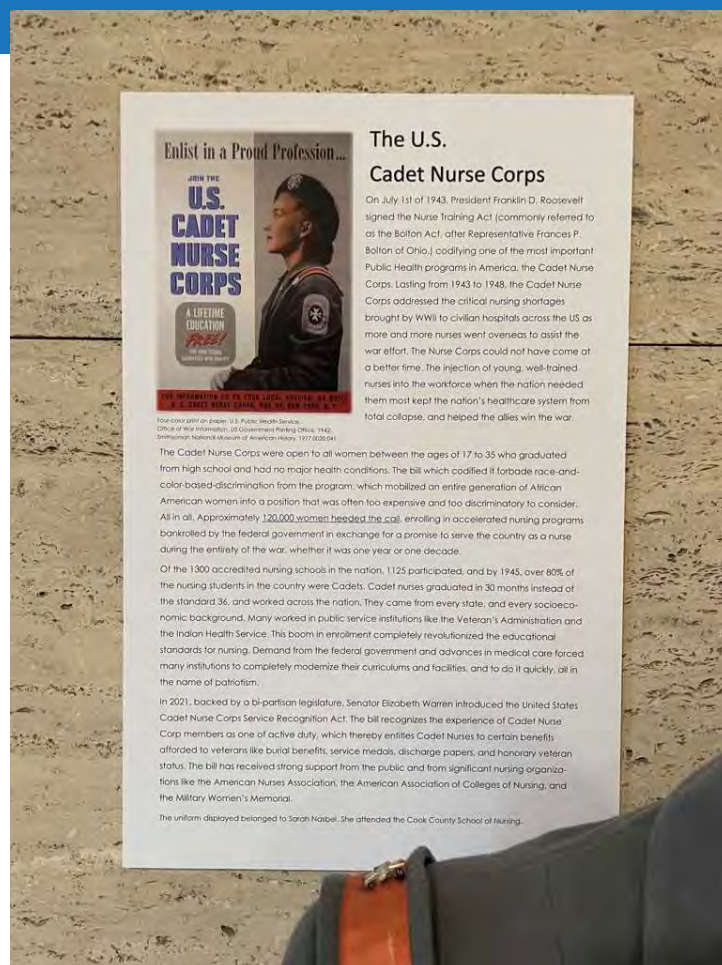


As part of the micro exhibit, on display is an authentic Cadet Nurse Corps Winter Uniform which belonged to Sarah Nasbel, who received her training at the Cook County School of Nursing.

The inside of the case features photographs, patches, and the iconic Cadet Nurse winter beret and purse. In 2021, the Cadet Nurse Corps came to the forefront of the news for many as a bipartisan bill made its way through Capitol Hill which sought to honor those who were part of the program with Honorary Veteran Status, which would grant participants the right to military burial, service medal awards, and discharge papers.

## Lobby Case Rotation

This September, we rotated the exhibit case and mannequin in the CON Lobby, this time mounting a micro exhibit highlighting some of the history and importance behind the World War II Cadet Nurse Corps, which lasted from 1943 to 1948 and was one of, if not the largest facilitator of upward mobility for women across America seeking employment in the nursing field. The Cadet Nurse Corps were open to all women 17-35 regardless of race who were high school graduates. It allowed enrollment in an accelerated nursing program financed by the federal government and matriculated over 120,000 students during its time.





## *In Memoriam, Pat Donahue 1936-2023*

We lost a prolific nurse historian this year. Pat Donahue, RN, PhD, FAAN, passed in May of this year while in hospice. Pat was a student of the noted nurse historian Teresa Christy. She received her Doctorate from the University of Iowa in 1981, where she served as a faculty member and administrator in the College of Nursing for 30 years, retiring in 2006.

Pat was a member of the MNHRC Advisory Committee from its inception in 2013 until 2017. A prolific writer: Pat is best remembered for the 3 editions of the award-winning *Nursing: the Finest Art* (1985, 96, 2011). The books not only recount nursing's history but also reproduced artwork depicting nursing over time. She also served as President of the American Association for the History of Nursing from 1988 to 1990.

Pat was an authority on Isabel Maitland Stewart, an early nurse leader. She also authored biographical sketches on five other prominent nurses, which were ultimately published in the three-volume Bullough, Church, Stein, and Sentz *Nursing: A Biographical Dictionary*, first published in 2004. Ethics was another of her interests. From 1990-92, she held a column in the *Journal of Professional Nursing* where the intersection of nursing and ethics received regular coverage.

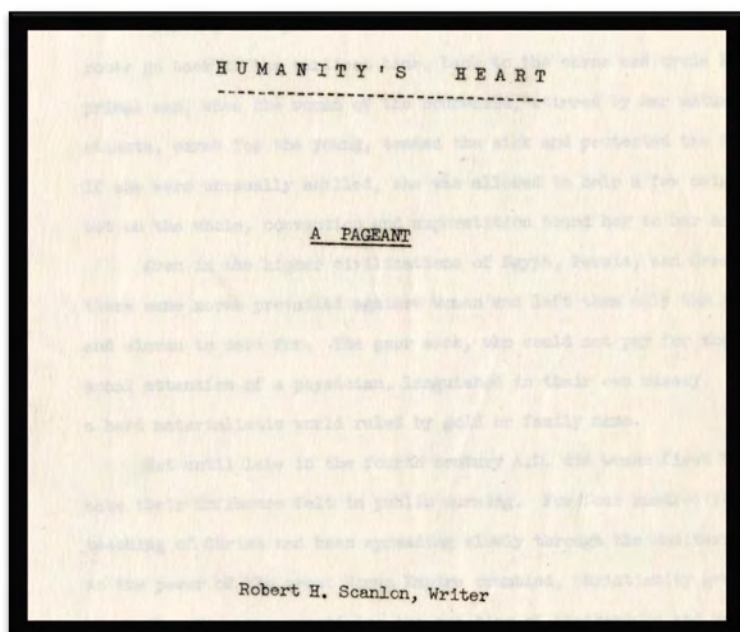
The MNHRC, as well as many other organizations, were fortunate to benefit from the knowledge, energy, and time of such a prolific scholar as Pat Donahue.

Pat is survived by her two children and her brother.

She will be missed.

Image taken from AAHN website



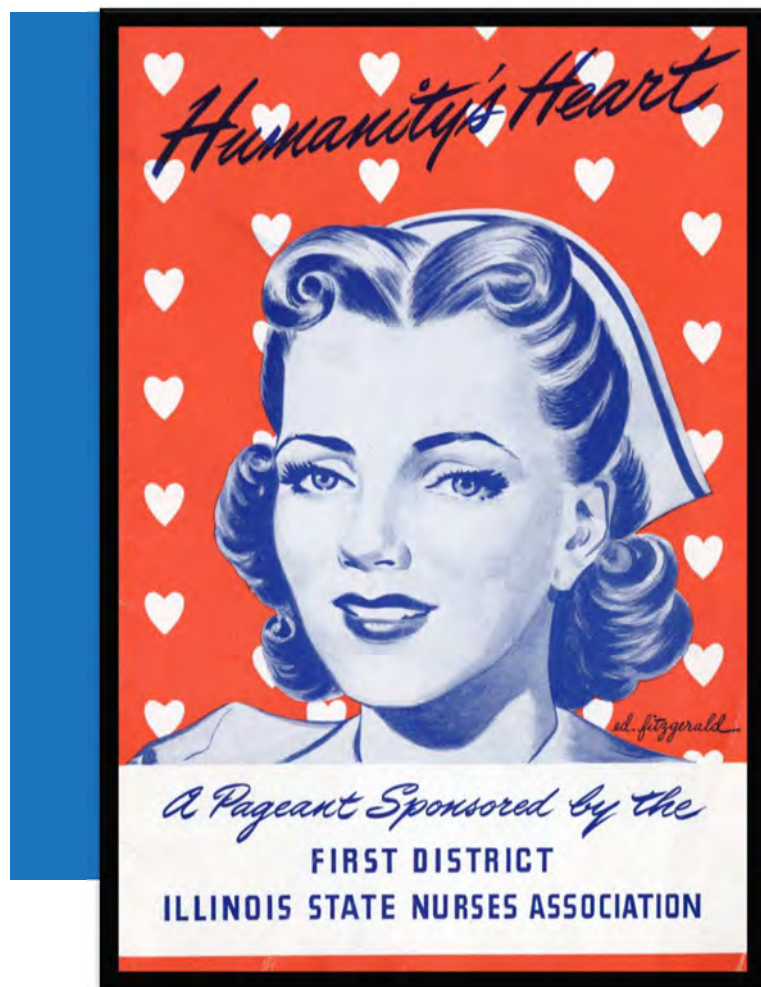


### *From the Archives: The 1947 Nursing Pageant*

Those of us fortunate enough to have visited the Museum of Science and Industry on Chicago's South Side have been left in awe at the exhibits there highlighting the cutting edge of engineering, medicine, and design. Housed in what was once the fine arts palace for the 1893 Columbian Exposition, the interior of the building is now a palace to the innovations of man and his endless pursuit to tame the natural wonders of the world.

With that in mind, it's not surprising to hear that Chicago's nurses have gotten in on this museum magic too. In 1947, organized by the First District of the Illinois Nurses Association under the direction of then president Frances L.A. Powell, *"Humanity's Heart" A Pageant in Nursing History* put on a heck of a show for those who came by.

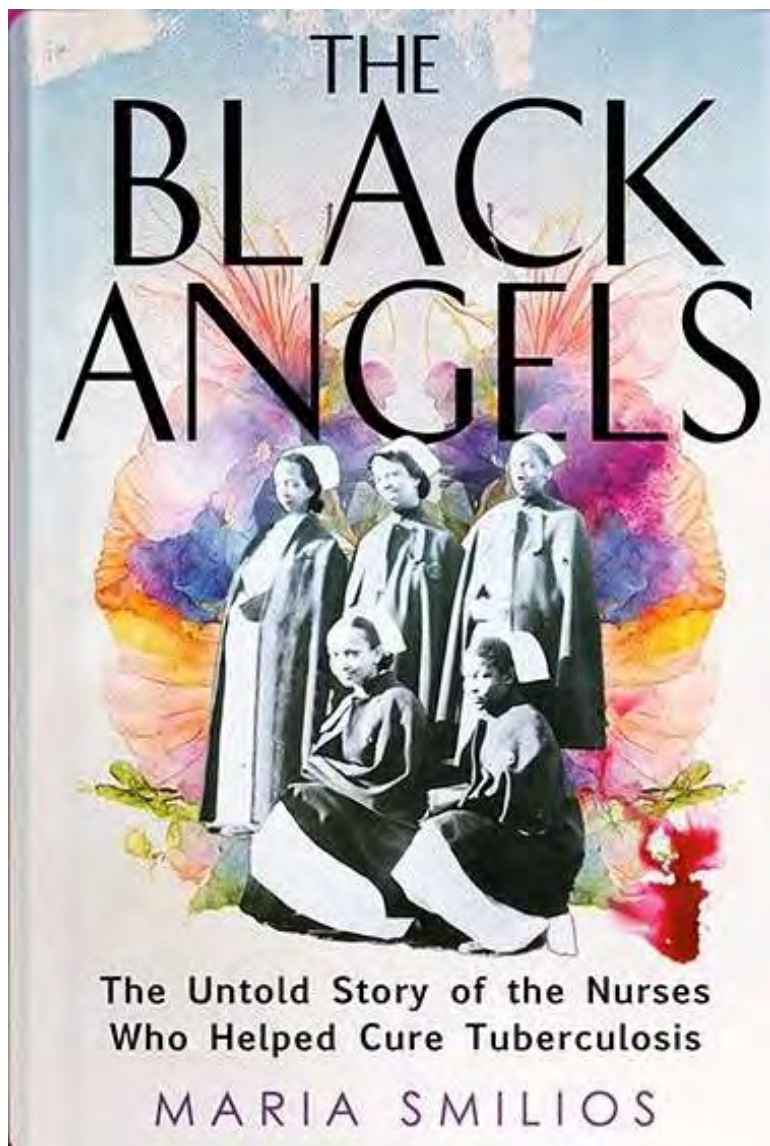
Organized as part of the larger National Public Health Nursing Week in 1947, the pageant was meant to put on an entertaining show, but also to give a glimpse into the life of what it was like to be a student nurse in the modern day, both at the undergraduate and graduate level, in the hopes to convince those who had even the smallest of interests in nursing to enroll in accredited programs across the city and join the healthcare workforce.



The Pageant had a healthy program, including an entire scripted play with 8 scenes from start to finish, including narratives on Public Health, Clinical, and Private Duty Nursing. Interspersed throughout each scene were narratives about prominent nurses like Florence Nightingale and Harriet Fulmer.

Given that the pageant was a full-blown production, the cast involved was chosen from a number of places, including student nurses from across the city, INA staff, and members of the public. The accompaniment was provided by the Wesley Memorial Hospital School of Nursing Choir, and beyond the pageants there were a number of temporary exhibits installed across the museum to highlight the many facets of nursing. What an event it must have been!

A special thanks to Karen Egenes for donating the pageant pamphlet and other records associated with the event which will soon be open to researchers.



### *Black Angels:*

#### *The Nurses Who Helped Cure Tuberculosis*

This past October as part of the MNHRC's speaker series scholar, author, and historian Maria Smilios presented the riveting story of the intrepid young women, the "Black Angels," who, for twenty years, risked their lives working under dreadful conditions while caring for the city's poorest—1,800 souls languishing in wards, waiting to die or become "guinea pigs" for experimental (often deadly) drugs.

In the past, she has written for *The Guardian*, *American Nurse*, *Narratively*, *The Rumpus*, *Dame Magazine*, and *The Forward* among others. *Black Angels* is her first book, and the MNHRC was absolutely honored to welcome her to share such powerful research.

The recording of the full talk can be accessed on the College of Nursing's Youtube channel, @uic\_nursing.



Photo, Penguin Random House



*The Mapping Care Project Goes on the Road Again!*

The MNHRC displayed our Black Nurses in Chicago exhibit at UIC's annual **Power of Nursing Leadership** conference, which brings together nurse leaders from across Illinois. Many nurse leaders engaged enthusiastically with the project, reading through the content and speaking with MNHRC staff about the importance of this kind of public history. Excitingly, some oral history participants in the project, including Angelique Richard, Karelle Webb, and Fred Brown, were among the conference's attendees and were able to see their photos and stories on display for their colleagues.

Dr. Gwyneth Franck and one of the center's Graduate Students, Leora Mincer, also presented the work last April to a heart audience at the Chicago Public Library's King Branch. In attendance at this talk weew a number of project partipants,, including UIC Alum Phyllis Pelt, the currentChapter President of the Chicago Chapter of the National Black Nurses Association Ethel Walton, and Dr. Sandra Webb Booker. Ig you still haven't checked out the project, you can do so by visiting:

<https://mappingcare.digital.uic.edu/page/index>

