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

Midwest Nursing History Research Center Newsletter

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 <u>here</u> 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 <u>epasteri@uic.edu</u>. Script Writer Mr. Robert Scanlon

Narrator

W. W. Bauer, M.D.—Director, Bureau of Health Educatio 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 Standard Hospital Mercy 1 St. Peter St. Joseph's Chicago Chapter of the American Red Cross Chicago Department of Health

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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.

Enlist in a Prond Profession.

5%

The U.S. Cadet Nurse Corps

On July IsI of 1943. President Fronkin D, Roosevell signed the Nurse Training Act (commonly released to as the Bolton Act of the Representative Frances P. Bolton of Onio.] codifying one of the most important Public Health programs in America, the Cadet Nurse Corps. Lasting from 1943 to 1944. The Cadet Nurse Corps addressed the critical nursing shortages brought by WWI to civilian hospitals across the US as more and more nurses went oversets to asis the war effort. The Nurse Carps could not have come of a better time. The injection of young, well-trained insteal into the workdorce when the nation needed them most kept the nation's healthcare system from fold collapse. and heaped the oligies with the war.

The Cadet Nuse: Corps were open to all women between the ages of 17 to 35 who graduated from high school and had no major health conditions. The bill which costilled II torbad an ace and color based discrimination from the program which mobilized an entry egeneration of Atlean American women into a position that was often too expensive and too discriminatory to consider. All in all Approximately 12000 women headed this call enrolling in accelerated nursing programs bankroled by the federal government if exchange for a promise to serve the country as a nurse during the entries of the was when the it was one year one decade. Of the 1300 accredited nursing schools in the nation. 1125 participated, and by 1945, over 80% of

The funding students in the country were Cadels. Cade runss graduated at 30 months instead of the standard 38, and worked across the nation. They came from every state, and every socioaconomic background. Many worked in Jublic service institutions ike the Veteran's Administration and the Indian Hedith Service. This boarn in enrolment completely revolutionized the educational standards for nuning. Demand from the federal government and advances in medical care forced may institutions completely modernize their curriculums and facilities, and to do it quickly, all in the name of polytotism.

In 2021, backed by a bi-partian legislature. Senator Eixabeth Warren Initiaduced the United States Cadel Nuse Corp Service Recapition Act. The bit recognites the experience of Cadel Nuse. Corp members as not of active duty, which thereby entities Cadel Nuse is certain benefits afforded to veterars like build benefits, service meads, discharge papers, and honorary veteran status. The bit has received atring support from the public and from significant nusing organizaforin like the American Nuses Association the American Association of Colleges of Nusing, and the Wiltory Worrien's Memorya. 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.

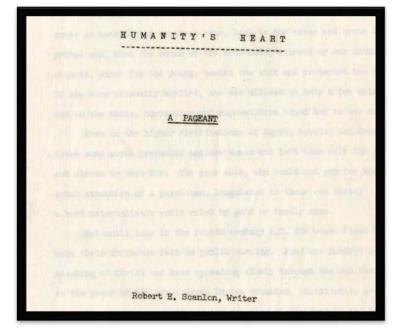
The MNHRC, as well as many other organizations, were fortunate to benefit from the knowledge, energy, and time of such a prolific scholar as Pat Donahue.

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.

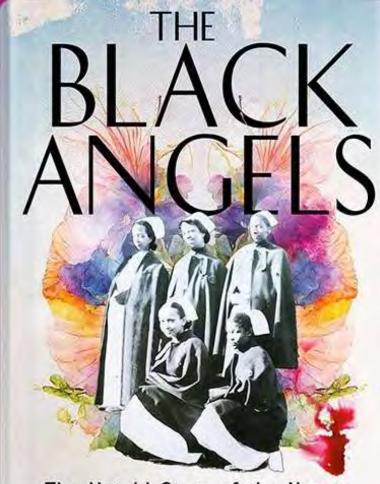
Organized as part of the larger National Public Health Nursing Week in 1947, the pageant was meant to put on an entertaining show, but also to give a glimpse into the life of what it was like to be a student nurse in the modern day, both at the undergraduate and graduate level, in the hopes to convince 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.



The Untold Story of the Nurses Who Helped Cure Tuberculosis

MARIA SMILIOS

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



