

Brighton Area Women's History Roll of Honor

2017 Honorees

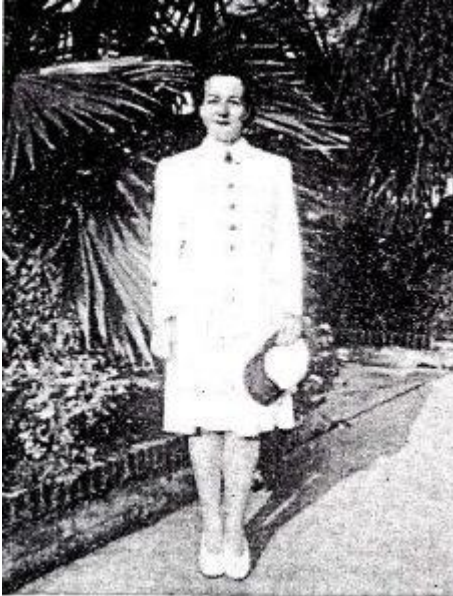


Gloria Klepser Downing, EdSpec, (1929–2016) was a founder and early president of the state-wide Michigan Association for Gifted Education and in 1980 was recognized as Educator of the Year by the Talented and Gifted Association. As Director of Enrichment Programming for Brighton Area Schools (BAS) from 1985–1996, Gloria supported the launch of the Magnet Program for gifted students of grades 2–5. Her career at BAS began in 1973 in support of Title I/remedial learners. After retiring in 1996, Gloria formed GKD Associates providing educational consultation and served as a field supervisor of Michigan State University Student Teachers until 2000. Gloria enjoyed community theatre and performed in many musical productions both as an

actor and pianist. Gloria directed Christian education for churches in Ohio, Iowa, and Michigan before becoming Education Chairperson for the Ann Arbor District Council on Ministries. Gloria earned a BA from Wayne State University, a MA in Education/Reading from Eastern Michigan University, and an Education Specialist in Special Education & Gifted from Wayne State University.

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Priscilla Luce Durante (1923–2008) was a 1941 Brighton High School graduate and served in the US Coast Guard from 1943 to 1946 during World War II as a Pharmacist's Mate Third Class. She trained at N.O.P, Detroit, MI, Coast Guard Training School in Palm Beach, FL, ODCGO, 11th N.D, and Coast Guard Base in Los Angeles. She also served at Coast Guard Barracks, in Washington, D.C. and at the Coast Guard Separation Center in Detroit, MI. After her discharge from military service, Priscilla's occupation was Hairdresser II.



Lucy Newman Lyon (1916–1997) was a 1934 Brighton High School graduate who served in the US Navy Air Corps during World War II from 1943–1945 as an Aviation Machinist's Mate First Class. She trained at the US Navy Training Station in Brox, NY, the NATTC in Memphis, TN, and the NAS in Ottumwa, IA, before being discharged from the US Navy Training Center in Great Lakes, IL. After her military career, Lucy worked at Baker–Eberle Aviation Corporation at City Airport in Detroit, MI, and in her later years, she was a tutor for children.

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Claudia Ann Roblee has co-owned and operated ArtVentures since 1987 and received a Certificate of Recognition from the Small Business Majority for exceptional advocacy and leadership on behalf of the small business community. She served as co-chair of the Brighton Merchant's Association from 1994-1998 and has been very active in Brighton City government including city council membership from 2007-2013, planning commission member from 2005-2008, Downtown Development Authority (DDA) board member from 1994-1998 & 2013-present, principal shopping district board member from 2007-2013, Envision Brighton World Café committee chairperson from 2010-2013, Brighton arts & culture commission chairperson from 2007-present, member of the economic development council from 1997-2013, and many project specific committees. For two years, Claudia chaired Farm to Table, a Brighton Farmers Market awareness event, for the Brighton Area Chamber of Commerce. Claudia also served as Lindbom Elementary PTO secretary from 1999-2005 and co-chaired the playground equipment replacement fundraiser Claudia was ordained as an interfaith minister in 2008.

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Pat Schuch, PE, was the first woman engineer in several auto plants from 1977-1982, and was the first woman superintendent of the GM Lordstown Assembly and Fabrication Plants from 1986-1989 managing 350 employees. Founder and president of Integra Resources, LLC, Pat has delivered leadership and personal development workshops on six cruise ship lines since 2009. Author of *Driving in the Middle Lane: Business and Life Lessons from the Auto Industry* published in 2015. Pat has cared for 22 foster children from 1998-2016 and mentored teens from the W.J. Maxey Boys Training School from 2009-2010. Board director of Pregnancy Helpline of Livingston County from 2003-2006 and its president from 2004-2005. Pat also served as the first president of the Oak Pointe Ladies Golf Association in 1996-1999 and as a board director of the Oak Pointe Homeowners Association from 2002-2003. Pat earned a BS in Physics from the University of Dayton, a MA in secondary school administration from Wright State University, a MBA in general management from Harvard University, and a Doctor of Management in organizational leadership from University of Phoenix.

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Athletic Championship Honoree:



Abby Krzywiecki was honored as the 2016 Miss Softball winner by the Michigan Interscholastic Softball Coaches Association, the STATE CHAMOS! Softball Player of the Year, MLive Detroit's Softball Player of the Year, and a Flosftball First Team All-American. Abby holds the Michigan High School Athletic Association's record for hitting 20 home runs in the 2016 season.