



DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA AWARD RECIPIENTS

Began in 1955

Award Year	Name	Class Year	Area of Distinction
1955	Gladys McCue Thompson	1914	
1956	Virginia Alice McClure	1918	
1957	Dr. Dora Dougherty McKeown	1941	Aviation
1958	Esther Smith Van Soelen	1947	Law
1959	Dr. Irma Highbaugh	1912	Author – Missionary
1960	Thelma Crowley Heatwole	1924	Author – Science
1961	Dr. Miriam Gray	1925	Education – Physical & Dance
1962	Dr. Antoinette Bardwell Lotsof	1938	Clinical Psychology
1963	Jetta Carleton Lyon	1933	Author
1964	Jean Gowin Gragg	1925	Furrier
1965-1974	No award		
1975	Francine Irving Neff	1946	U.S. Treasurer
1976	LuAn Sabbe Lorenson	1956	Law Enforcement
1977	Dr. Mariana Newton	1958	Education – Speech & Communication
1978	Barbara Halsted Lewis	1958	Community Service
1979	Dr. Barbara Lagerstedt Knudson	1946	Criminal Justice
1980	Ruby Kless Sondock	1944	Law
1981	Marilyn Harris Springer	1951	Author
1982	Grace Layton Sandness	1951	Author
1982	Eleanor Obenhaus Wellborn	1931	Author – Medical Technician
1983	Ilona Planken Herlinger	1952	Education – Musician
1983	Esther Smith Van Soelen	1947	Law
1984	Carol Littleton	1962	Film Editor
1985	Kelly Smith Tunney	1960	Journalism
1986	Mary Moore Plane	1946	Vinter
1986	Martha Barr Liebert	1953	Librarian
1987	Machiko Kashiwagi	1962	Marketing
1988	Mary Louise Hail Williams	1956	Education
1988	Marsha Wiley	1966	Law Enforcement
1989	Judy Miao	1964	Marketing – International Relations
1990	Merry Stover	1970	Arts Administration – Business Owner
1990	Sister Rita Witt	1970	Humanitarian – Missionary in Brazil
1991	Gayle Shockey Hoxter	1976	Dietitian, Editorial Board of Shape Magazine

Award Year	Name	Class Year	Area of Distinction
1991	JoAnne Youtz McFarland	1967	First Woman Appointed to Head a Wyoming Community College
1992	Rachel Roush Bard	1941	Author, consulting editor of Peninsula Magazine
1993	Sara Norman Miller	1942	Physical Chemist
1993	Janice Sargent Waide	1953	Youth & Adult Services for the State of Kansas Consultant
1994	No award		
1995	Dr. Beverly Larson	1965	Education
1996	Dr. Jenny Nelson	1976	Author – Education
1997	Doris Kingsbury Gayzagian	1942	Dottey Cottey Creator
1998	No award		
1999	Janet Brown	1971	Law
2000	Mary Owens Walker	1975	Registered Nurse and Nursing Education
2001	Marilyn Speer Hurt	1966	National Leadership in School Nutrition Programs
2001 Delay	Belinda Hargrove	1981	Expert on Airfield/Airspace Capacity and
2002	Ruth Kelley Hayden	1941	Author, Community Leader
2003	Carey Dean Sigler	1968	Nationally Recognized in Physical Education
2004	Khelly Webb	1968	While recovering from a traumatic brain injury wrote 12 Rules for Living Life. She speaks professionally on brain injury to inspire and educate others.
2005	Mary Beaty Edelen	1965	Former South Dakota State House of Representative, where she served for 18 years.
2006	Barbara Trombley	1970	Business Entrepreneur. Owner of The Art Institute Glitter, Inc
2007	Cindy Phillips Acree	1977	Law
2008	Tara Dean Stuart	1952	Education
2009	Julie Beshore Bliss	1964	Education
2010	Susan Carlson	1970	Law
2011	Dr. Susan Krauter	1969	Hospice and palliative care physician; 28 mission trips to Guatemala
	Julie Hunsaker Grandi	1961	Space defense aerospace
2012	Dr. Mary Beth Zimmerman	1962	Nurse Educator and Administrator
2013	Nancy Elston Bogart	1988	Founder and C.E.O. of direct selling company for women
2014	Robin McClellan	1979	Dir. Of Minerals Research Initiatives at Curtin Univ., Perth, Australia; prior U.S. Diplomatic Service missions in India, Australia, Malaysia, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, Mexico, and D.C.

Award Year	Name	Class Year	Area of Distinction
2015	Dr. Mary Beth Garrison McAfee	1960	Exec. Dir. of Great Old Broads for Wilderness Established Bridge Emergency Shelter in Cortez, Colorado
2015	Ilse Gebhard	1960	Medicinal Research Chemist for Upjohn Company, Kalamazoo, MI; member of Kalamazoo Area Wild Ones and former Board of Directors for the Audubon Society of Kalamazoo
2016	Shirley Bush Helzberg	1961	Philanthropist, Community Leader, Co-Founder of University Academy
2017	Dr. Ann Marie Pendergast	1977	International Leader in Cancer Research
2018	Sharon Mathers Secor	1970	Humanitarian Service in Kenya
2019	Amy McCamish Eckhoff	1994	Architect for Rodgers Fine Arts Building, Renovation of P.E.O. Parlor, Chapel/Student Center
2020	Christine Fuller Scheuneman	1970	Law, nonprofit governance, Cottey College Board of Trustees
2021	Morgan Shaw Parker	1996	Marketing
2022	Kandis Green Barker	1977	Education
2023	Rayito Lopez Stephens	1986	Law, Real Estate
2024	Jen Wren Charpentier	1964	Pediatric Nurse Practitioner