Founders Awards
Dorothy Garrigus Adams Award for Excellence in Fostering Professional Standards

PURPOSE
The Founders Awards offer homage to the six founding nurses of STTI and the director of nursing at Indiana University for their insights in 1922 that advanced scholarship, leadership, research, and practice. The awards recognize extraordinary excellence.

ELIGIBILITY
Nominee must be an active member of Sigma Theta Tau International. STTI Board of Directors, STTI staff, STTI consultants and contracted staff, and members of the judging committee are not eligible.

NOMINATIONS
Two active members or a chapter are required to nominate an individual.

CRITERIA
• Demonstrates a leadership role in encouraging the use and promoting the growth of professional standards
  o Stimulates the public and professional demand for professional standards
    ▪ Advocates professional standards
    ▪ Participates in legislative matters pertaining to professional standards
  o Advances professional standards through collaboration with local, state, and national or international groups
  o Communicates standards of nursing to professional lay groups
  o Fosters interdisciplinary collaboration in professional standards of practice
• Expands understanding of professional standards to increase the quality and quantity of practice
  o Assists nurses to acquire knowledge of professional standards
  o Assists nurses to interpret and apply professional standards
  o Creates materials that address professional standards
  o Presents workshops/seminars on professional standards
• Utilizes professional standards to advance nursing practice
  o Demonstrates expertise in professional and technical performance
  o Stimulates use of professional nursing standards to improve quality of care
  o Serves as a role model of the implementation of professional standards
• Participates in the evolution and/or interpretation of standards of the profession
  o Proposes standards for professional practice
  o Prepares written explication of standards
  o Interprets professional standards for peers and/or public, reviews and/or analyzes standards of practice in a variety of settings, and serves as an expert witness
  o Provides consultation on professional standards
• Is involved in other significant areas of fostering professional standards

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS
Supporting documents required below must address the criteria. A complete online nomination consists of:
• Online entry form and payment
• Supporting narrative (1-2 pages)
• Three (3) letters of support from national and global leaders – internal and external to nursing
• Nominee’s curriculum vitae
• Letter of acceptance

CONTACT INFORMATION
For further information or to make a contribution to fund this award, please contact Adrians Cleveland at +1.317.634.8171 (International), 888.634.7575 (U.S./Canada toll-free), or email adrians@stti.org.