

Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award



The Parker J. Palmer Courage to Teach Award honors program directors who find innovative ways to teach residents and fellows, and to provide quality health care while remaining connected to the initial impulse to care for others in this environment. Parker J. Palmer is the author of the book *The Courage to Teach*; his promotion of the concept of “living divided no more” has proven relevant to teaching in academic health centers.



Patricia M. Franz, MD

Program Director for Obstetrics and Gynecology
Beaumont Health, Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak
Royal Oak, Michigan

Nominators had this to say:

“Dr. Franz was instrumental in materializing a resident initiative to create a gynecology student-run free clinic through Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine (OUWB). This clinic is held monthly at the Gary Burnstein Community Clinic in Pontiac, Michigan, and Dr. Franz leads a resident team in supervising OUWB medical students as they provide uninsured women in Southeast Michigan with access to world-class care and a medical home. This opportunity has grown so popular that medical student participants have to be selected by lottery. Both medical students and residents repeatedly laud the teaching experience Dr. Franz delivers and the inspiration she instills in listening to, caring for, and advocating on behalf of our patients.”

“Dr. Franz thoughtfully designs monthly simulation sessions where residents are encouraged to teach one another and to serve as role models for OUWB medical students. Dr. Franz also challenges residents to reflect on difficulties encountered in previous cases and to test simulation model modifications in preparation for future cases.”

“Dr. Franz is an educational innovator. Her creativity and contributions in the domain of simulation is a constant source of amazement to me and many others. She is the living embodiment of courage and sacrifice. Her love, joy, and enthusiasm for resident education remains undiminished. “