



Thursday, April 25, over 250 volunteers, parent advisers and staff gathered at The Children's Museum of Memphis to celebrate the accomplishments and successes of 2018. Attendees celebrated in their elegant masks and beautiful attire at the masquerade ball.



## Event Photos



View and download the 2019 Volunteer Appreciation Event photos:

[Click Here](#)

View photobooth pictures:

Use the password *sjvolunteer* to login

[Click Here](#)

use the hashtag [#StJudeVolunteers](#) if you share these photos on social media!

## Event Highlights



*James R. Downing, MD, president and CEO, honoring volunteers and parent advisers for their dedication to St. Jude.*

To start the evening, **James R. Downing, MD**, St. Jude president and CEO, and **Janice English**, director of Patient Experience, expressed their appreciation for all of the volunteers and how the work they do impacts St. Jude. **Chaoyan Dong**, the mother of a St. Jude patient, spoke about her experience with volunteers and expressed her gratitude.

**Jennifer Chavez**, Patient Family-Advisory Council chair, introduced the Patient Family-Centered Care Partner in Excellence nominees and winner. This year's Sheryl K. Nienhuis

Memorial Award winners were presented by bereavement psychologist, **Lisa Clark** and child-life specialists **Jennifer Smith** and **Samantha Toohey**.

As volunteers dined, drank and danced, a photo and memory slideshow from 2018 looped in the background.

[View photos from the 2018 memory slideshow](#)

## ***Congratulations to the 2019 Sheryl K. Nienhuis Memorial Award Winners and Nominees***

This award is given annually to the St. Jude volunteer who exemplifies the qualities of Sheryl K. Nienhuis, including commitment, impact and the spirit of volunteerism.

This year, six volunteers from a variety of areas, including Child Life, Helping Hands, the Quality of Life Steering Council, the Ladies of St. Jude and the St. Jude Auxiliary were nominated. In a surprising turn of events, judges insisted on honoring not just one, but two of the nominees.

Congratulations to our two 2019 Sheryl K. Nienhuis Memorial Award winners, **Christine O'Brien** and **David "Paw" Fisher**. Christine could not be in attendance at this year's event; however, her presence was still felt as we were able to honor her through a touching video.



*Pictured: Christine O'Brien, one of our 2019 Sheryl K. Nienhuis Award winners.*



*Pictured (right): David "Paw" Fisher, one of our 2019 Sheryl K. Nienhuis Award winners.*

[View the nominees](#)



*Pictured: Diane McGarry, the 2019 Partner in Excellence.*

## ***Congratulations to the 2019 PFCC Partner in Excellence***

The annual Partner in Excellence is selected from previous Patient Family-Centered Care (PFCC) Champions by the Patient Family Advisory Council. The partner is a staff member whose work with patient families provides a basis for long-lasting partnership and growth of the PFCC program. This year, 13 employees were nominated from various areas of the hospital.

Congratulations to the 2019 PFCC Partner in Excellence, **Diane McGarry**, Patient Experience Office.

[View the nominees](#)

## ***Volunteer Recognition***

Volunteers have always been a vital part of St. Jude, and this is shown through their years of dedicated work.

This year, five volunteers celebrated their 15th year of service: **Carole Blackburn, Phyllis Brown, Joan Rodrigue, Patty Stephens and Rich Van Meter**. Two of our volunteers celebrated their 20 year milestone, **Helen Harbor and Jenny Reddick**. We also congratulate **Marlys Smith** on reaching her 25th year of service.

Seven volunteers were inducted as Lifetime Volunteers: **BJ Bendixson, Chris Clark, Carole Dimaso, Marilyn Fleming, Marcella McCann, Rebecca Rupff, Lori Pearson** and **Shannon Thomas-Lohman**. Five parent advisers were inducted as Platinum Partners: **Audrey Davis, Ashley Dismuke, Debbie Higgins, Bethan Maloney, Tricia McNally and Kelly Waddell**.

We recognize the impact all of our volunteers have made in this year's annual review. We invite you to view the 2018 Annual Review for a complete listing of team accomplishments, names of award nominees, volunteers receiving hour and milestone recognition, the newest Lifetime members, memorial recognition and much more. Copies of this booklet are available in the Family, Guest and Volunteer Services office.

[View the 2018 Annual Review](#)

