



ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Presented to
Nancy B. Kenyon '56



NANCY B. KENYON, class of 1956, we honor you today with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose achievements and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the college.

You majored in political science and government at Mount Holyoke. In 1963, you began championing the cause of fair housing when you joined the staff of the Fair Housing Council of Northern New Jersey. During your tenure, you were instrumental in convincing the Department of Housing and Urban Development to initiate the Fair Housing Initiatives Program, which assists organizations serving victims of housing discrimination. You subsequently directed fair housing projects for the Ford Foundation and acted as a training consultant for the states of New York and New Jersey and the city of New York.

In 1975, you relocated to San Francisco to serve as a housing consultant for the NAACP's school desegregation litigation. In 1985, you and four colleagues founded Fair Housing of Marin, a nonprofit agency dedicated to equal housing opportunity and human rights. Since its inception, you have directed the agency. In 1988, you founded the National Fair Housing Alliance based in Washington, D.C., and subsequently served on its board for twenty years.

Your tireless advocacy has earned you the respect and the gratitude of countless individuals, in addition to numerous awards and honors. In 1988, you received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Humanitarian Award from the Marin County Human Rights Commission. In 1992, the Mental Health Association of Marin presented you with its award for outstanding community service to the mentally ill. Six years later, you were honored with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's award for outstanding fair housing service in the Pacific/Hawaii Region. In 2005, you received the Pioneer Award from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for your pioneering work in the area of racial discrimination in senior housing facilities.

Throughout the decades, your belief that equal access to housing is everyone's right has never wavered. Colleagues describe you as intrepid—and inspiring—when you take action on behalf of someone whose rights you believe have been denied. Always, you have stepped up to create solutions. Your dynamic leadership and passion literally open doors.

You have improved lives and strengthened communities by caring about the vulnerable and promoting equity for all. In recognition of your exemplary commitment to the ever-changing struggle to end housing discrimination, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you on your fifty-fifth reunion with the Achievement Award.

Cynthia L. Reed '80
President
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Jane E. Zachary
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

