

ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

# ELIZABETH TOPHAM KENNAN AWARD 2014

PRESENTED TO



*Elizabeth W. Bauer '59*

**ELIZABETH W. BAUER, CLASS OF 1959**, we honor you today with the Elizabeth Topham Kennan Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments in the field of education exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Elizabeth, your energy, vision, and ability to make things happen have changed the lives of thousands of people living with disabilities. You've fought for legal and human rights, access to education, and protection from abuse and neglect—often making personal sacrifices to attain these goals.

Your leadership and passion as an educator and advocate have made a significant impact in the state of Michigan. You founded the Michigan Protection and Advocacy Service (MPAS) and negotiated amendments to Michigan's Persons with Disabilities Civil Rights Act in 1989-1990. Though you retired from MPAS in 2001, your work continued during an eight-year term on the Michigan State Board of Education, where your efforts led to the adoption of the Universal Education Vision and Principles.

You've traveled the globe as a board member of Disability Rights International, mentoring staff in local organizations and promoting the human rights and full participation in society of people with disabilities. Today, you continue to share your expertise as the chair of Detroit's WAY (Widening Advancements for Youth) Academy, a school for students who struggle in traditional high school settings.

For your care and compassion for adults and children with disabilities; for creating inclusive communities, schools, services, and programs; and for advocating for policies that ensure access and opportunity, the Alumnae Association is pleased to present to you the Elizabeth Topham Kennan Award on this, your fifty-fifth reunion.

CYNTHIA L. REED '80  
PRESIDENT  
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

JANE E. ZACHARY  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE