ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

ALUMNAE MEDAL OF HONOR 2020

PRESENTED TO

Karena Strella ’90

KARENA STRELLA, CLASS OF 1990, the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to honor you with the Alumnae Medal of Honor. This award is presented to an alumna for eminent service in promoting the effectiveness of the Alumnae Association and/or College. Significant leadership, specific accomplishments and stellar service have been consistent over an extended period of time and broad-based across multiple areas of involvement, which include classes, clubs, global regions, groups, the Association and the College.

Karena, you are a dedicated and loyal alumna, serving Mount Holyoke in multifaceted ways. The impact of your volunteerism is widespread within the Mount Holyoke community and beyond. Now chair of the Mount Holyoke College Board of Trustees, you have served the College for more than twenty-five years. As a class agent, you have worked with the Office of Advancement to actively engage classmates as they approached their thirtieth reunion, with ideas for hosting events and recruiting individuals for a special challenge pool. Engaged in your local club, you have hosted and participated in many events in California, South Hadley and across the country. Stepping in to serve as chair of the Board of Trustees following the unexpected passing of Mindy McWilliams Lewis ’75, you have made a seamless transition to the role.

As a College trustee, you helped lead the process that resulted in the appointment of Sonya Stephens as president, earning high marks for being inclusive, transparent and timely. As chair of the Education Committee, you were a capable leader who asked probing questions with a real focus on curricular reform, reminding all that education is the core mission of the College. Several have called you the most transparent leader they have ever encountered, guiding with clear and earnest expectations and true honesty. Colleagues and classmates alike share their excitement in seeing the continued impact you will have on the wider Mount Holyoke community.

Karena, for your eminent service, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Alumnae Medal of Honor on this, your thirtieth, reunion.

Maria Z. Mossaides ’73
President
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College

Nancy Bellows Perez ’76
Executive Director
Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College