ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

Achievement Award 2021

PRESENTED TO

Sherri L. Burr '81

SHERRI L. BURR, CLASS OF 1981, the Alumnae Association is pleased to honor you with the Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Sherri, as a legal scholar, teacher, journalist, author and activist, you have dedicated your career to protecting the arts and the rights of artists, showcasing the lives and work of diverse Americans. You joined the University of New Mexico law faculty in 1988, after receiving a juris doctor degree from Yale Law School and a master's degree in public policy from Princeton, specializing in entertainment law and intellectual property. An expert in legal issues for writers, artists and photographers, you were honored with a Regents Professorship and the Dickason Endowed Chair. While teaching law, you helped establish the African and Africana Studies Program at the University of New Mexico and founded, hosted and produced an award-winning weekly arts television program, Arts Talk, that ran for nineteen years.

You have written twenty-six legal and business books, many for artists on the law and rights around artistic works. In 2019 you published "Complicated Lives: Free Blacks in Virginia, 1619-1865," a book of historical research tracking your own family, including the enslaved people of Aaron Burr, that has received national attention. You were invited to join the Authors Guild Foundation Board of Directors, whose mission is to "educate, support and protect American writers to ensure that a rich, diverse body of literature can flourish." Since your retirement from the University of New Mexico, you have become a full-time writer, journalist and community activist.

Sherri, for your outstanding accomplishments, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Achievement Award on this, your fortieth, reunion.

MARIA Z. MOSSAIDES '73
PRESIDENT
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

LIZ LIERMAN
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE