

The Martha Heinemann Award

Martha Heinemann grew up in Hot Springs, Arkansas and graduated from Southwestern at Memphis in 1960 (now Rhodes College) with a degree in biology. She earned her Master's degree from University of Arkansas in biochemistry. She was a research chemist at the University of Tennessee and the Veterans Administration hospital. Besides her volunteer work with VECA, Martha was associated with Rhodes Alumni, Memphis Symphony Orchestra, Brooks Museum of Art, and the Tennessee Ornithological Society.

The Martha Heinemann Award honors a Board member who has rendered exceptional service to the VECA Board.

Heinemann Award Recipients

2003	Janis Cannon	2010	Nedra Bailey
2004	Helen Johnson	2010	Mike Kirby
2005	Tom McGowan	2011	Chris Floyd
2007	Renate Rosenthal	2011	Lilly Gilkey
2007	Andrée Glenn		
2009	Chuck Fox		

The Mary Wilder Award

Mary Wilder grew up in Michigan and moved to Memphis in 1974 as a VISTA (Volunteers in Service to America). Mary graduated from Western Michigan with a major in education and minor in social work and history. At VECA, Mary has been involved in an array of projects and committees. She has served as Editor of the VE News and she acted as volunteer manager on the project to survey neighborhood homes for historic status leading to VECA receiving the National Register of Historic Preservation designation. Mary has served as president of VECA and in 1993 she received the Ditchtel Award. She also received the Center for Neighborhoods Neighborhood Leader of the Year in 1996. Mary led the project to have VECA rezoned as a primarily residential neighborhood; she helped develop the Pew Charitable Trusts proposal and was founder of the Greenline Gardens following the purchase of the L&N railroad track, now the V&E Greenline. She has worked on the Cypress Creek cleanups and is currently working with the Lick Creek flood plain project. In addition to Mary's work with VECA, she also served as an interim State Representative for District 89.

The Mary Wilder Award was created to recognize institutional excellence who through their work contributes to the Vollintine-Evergreen community.

Wilder Award Recipients

2009	Rhodes College, accepted by Dr. Russell T. Wigginton, College Relations
2010	McLean Baptist Church, accepted by Pastor Glenn Hales, Jr.



2010-2011 Awards

The Margaret Dichtel Award

Margaret Dichtel was one of the founding members of VECA and its first president. She strongly believed that neighbors working in a community organization could accomplish together what they as individuals or government could not. Her faith in the value of neighboring and the importance of grassroots community action remains the VECA philosophy.

The Margaret Dichtel Award is presented annually to a Vollintine-Evergreen resident and VECA member who embodies the principles of neighboring and community action. There is no specific length of membership required and the awardee need not be an officer. The awardee will be an individual who strengthens relationships between community members, tackles problems that threaten the integrity of the community, makes the neighborhood a better place to live, improves VECA's image city-wide, and demonstrates a commitment to the neighborhood and the concept of a neighborhood.

Dichtel Award Recipients

1988	Martha Heinemann	2001	Bill Rehberg
1990	Julie Borys	2002	Tom Fagan
1991	Mike Kirby	2003	Fredha Feaster
1993	Mary Wilder	2004	Craig Jordan
1995	Willette Gray	2004	Len Cobb
1995	Gloria Singleton	2005	Bettye Johnson
1996	Rhodes College	2007	Marci Hendrix
1996	Terry Circle Block Club	2007	Jan Kirby
1997	Linda Nichols	2009	Vollintine Hills
1998	Steve Gadbois	2010	Brad Heinz
1999	Charlotte and Pete Swailes	2011	Barbara Gavalas
2000	Sherry Henson	2011	Ann George
2000	Belinda Kersch	2011	Wayne Stanfill

The Richard Borys Award

Richard Borys moved to the Vollintine-Evergreen community in 1975 and served on various committees in the early years of the organization. Despite dying young at the age of 44, Dick's life was an example of public service. Dick came to Memphis as a VISTA volunteer. He helped design and start the Memphis City and Shelby County Pre Trial Release Program. In 1976 he was awarded the outstanding service award from the Memphis and Shelby County Bar Association for his contributions to the Criminal Justice System. At the time of his death Dick was a vice president at the Regional Medical Center ("The Med").

Dick was active with his children in soccer, coaching up to three teams at a time. He was a member St. Therese Little Flower Church, located at the center of the Vollintine-Evergreen community. Richard Borys served the community in his work, in the neighborhood, at church, and through his children, Claire, Alex and Pete. Dick's wife Julie M. Borys still resides in Vollintine-Evergreen and has served as VECA president, on the VECA CDC Board of Directors, and as active volunteer over the years.

The Richard S. Borys Award was created to recognize public officials who through their work contribute to the Vollintine-Evergreen community. The awardee need not be a Vollintine-Evergreen resident or a VECA member.

Borys Award Recipients

1991	Steve Shular	2003	Rickey Peete
1992	Vernua Hanrahan	2004	Will Keeler
1995	Janis Foster	2004	Rob Keeler
1996	William Stemmler	2005	Twarla Guest
1997	Charles Cook	2007	Richard Beckwith
1998	Barbara Swearingen Holt	2009	Joe Brown
1999	Carol Chumney	2009	Jim Strickland
2000	Wayne Risher	2010	Lieutenant Steven Ware
2001	Charles Granderson		
2002	Don Campbell		