

*History of the
Tony Winsor Award*

Attorney Tony Winsor worked for Massachusetts Law Reform Institute and dedicated his 39 years of practice to advocating for the disadvantaged. Attorney Winsor worked endlessly on many cases and battles, but the battle most near and dear to medical interpreters was leading the task of passing the Massachusetts Emergency Room Bill signed into law as Chapter 66 of the Acts of 2000. The law states that all hospitals which provide acute care in emergency rooms or in acute psychiatric services must use competent interpreter services when treating non-English speaking patients. The passing of Chapter 66 of the Acts of 2000 was the forward thrust to professionalize medical interpreters and ultimately allowing disadvantaged patients to have a voice and seek quality care.

MassAHEC Network established the award for medical interpreters in Tony Winsor's name in 2015. The purpose of this award is to honor a person who, like Tony Winsor, has advocated for professionalizing the work of a medical interpreter to improve language access for all persons. The contributions to the field of medical interpreting may include advocating for the utilization of medical interpreters, providing education for medical interpreters, or promoting the work of medical interpreters.

Past Awardees

2015 – Carla Fogaren,
Steward Health Care

**Paving the Way to Health Care Access:
A Day of Learning for Interpreters**

**Tony Winsor Award Recipient for 2016:
Jane Kontrimas**



Words from Nomination Committee:

While we were impressed with the nominations as a whole, Jane's nomination particularly stood out for us. Of note were her overall length of time in the field (interpreting since 1979!), her "front line" experience as a Russian interpreter at Beth Israel Hospital, and the significant body of work that she developed throughout her career. She is a true pioneer and her contributions have made a lasting impact in Massachusetts as well as across the country. We are delighted that she will be honored.

Nominees for 2016:

- **Connie Camelo**, UMass Memorial Health Care
- **Vonessa Costa**, Cambridge Health Alliance
- **Gaye Gentes**, Found in Translation
- **Mursal Khailif**, Cambridge Health Alliance
- **Lisa Morris**, University of Massachusetts Medical School
- **Amy Segal Shorey**, Jessie B. Cox Charitable Fund
- **Rita Vieira**, Lahey Clinic
- **Liliana Zagari**, Lawrence General Hospital

With thanks to the Nomination Committee members:

Zarita Araujo, President, Cross Cultural Communications Systems, Inc.
Neil Cronin, Advocate, Sr. Policy Analyst, Massachusetts Law Reform Institute
Joy Connell, Diversity Officer, MA Department of Mental Health
Carla Fogaren, System Director of Diversity Initiatives and Interpreter Services/
ADA/504 Compliance Coordinator ADAC, Steward Health Care
Roxanne Reddington-Wilde, Action for Boston Community Development, Inc.