

PRESS RELEASE

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DRS. MARILYN MC FARLAND & HIBA WEHBE-ALAMAH TO KEYNOTE ANGEL OF MERCY AWARDS BANQUET & HOLD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR OCTOBER 20, 2016;

ANGEL OF MERCY AWARD NOMINATIONS AND SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED

Detroit, MI, JULY 25, 2016 – The National American Arab Nurses Association (NAANA) announces that its 2016 Angel of Mercy Awards Banquet will feature international cultural competence experts Drs. Marilyn McFarland and Hiba Wehbe-Alamah as keynote speakers. It will be held at Byblos Banquets, 7258 Chase Road in Dearborn on Thursday, October 20, 2016, at 6:00 p.m. Drs. McFarland and Wehbe-Alamah will present “Reflection in the Mirror: The Do’s and Don’ts of Transcultural Communication.”

New this year will be a two-and-a-half hour seminar for healthcare professionals on the topic of “Transcultural Healthcare in Increasingly Diverse Local and Global Communities,” preceding the Angel of Mercy Banquet also held at Byblos Banquets.

Mohammad Rustom, president of NAANA, said, “Inherent in NAANA’s important mission is cultural competence in the nursing profession. We are thrilled that the eminent transcultural nursing author, expert and educator, Dr. Marilyn McFarland, will be with us accompanied by 2013 Angel of Mercy Award winner, Dr. Hiba Wehbe-Alamah, a nursing educator, both from the University of Michigan-Flint.

“The contributions of nurses often go without public acknowledgement. We know that there are several nurses who positively impact the health and well-being of the Arab American community daily, whether they are Arab American themselves or unselfishly serve the community’s needs for care. The board of NAANA believes that we can accomplish the dual purpose of elevating these nurses with the Angel of Mercy Award as well as showcasing nursing as a viable career choice for Arab Americans in our community.”

Nominations for the 2017 Angel of Mercy Award are being accepted at www.n-aana.org through September 30th.

Applications for NAANA’s 2017 scholarships are also being accepted at www.n-aana.org through September 30th for nursing students from the Associate’s Degree level through Master’s Degree.

Marilyn R. McFarland, PhD, RN, CTN-A, FNP-BC is a Professor, Department of Nursing, School of Health Professions and Studies, University of Michigan-Flint. Dr. McFarland earned her PhD in Nursing with a focus in Transcultural Nursing from Wayne State University, Detroit, Mich.; Master of Science in Nursing from Wayne State with a major in Medical Surgical nursing and minors in Teaching in Nursing,



Gerontological Nursing, and Transcultural Nursing; and Bachelor of Science in Nursing also from Wayne State. Her family nurse practitioner certificate was earned from Saginaw Valley State University in 2005. Recognized by the Transcultural Nursing Society (TNS) as a Certified Transcultural Nurse and a Transcultural Nursing Author and Scholar, Dr. McFarland is nationally and internationally recognized for her contributions to Transcultural Nursing.

Hiba B. Wehbe-Alamah, PhD, RN, FNP-BC, CTN-A, is an Associate Professor, Department of Nursing, School of Health Professions and Studies at the University of Michigan-Flint. Dr. Wehbe-Alamah earned her PhD degree and post-Master's certificate in Transcultural Nursing from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, Penn., Master of Science in Nursing (Family Nurse Practitioner) and Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Saginaw Valley State University, University Center, Michigan. She holds an advanced-level certification in transcultural nursing and was inducted as a Transcultural Nursing Scholar in 2011 by the Transcultural Nursing Society. Dr. Wehbe-Alamah also led an interdisciplinary project involving faculty and students from Nursing, Computer Science, and Art departments at the University of Michigan-Flint to create the first Transcultural Computer-Based Simulation Game, CultureCopia©.

Individual tickets for the Angel of Mercy Banquet are \$100; tickets for the Cultural Competence Seminar are \$20; if purchased together, banquet tickets are only \$80, a \$20 discount for the banquet. Individual banquet tickets and tables of 10 tickets as well as ticket for the seminar can be purchased at www.n-aana.org or by [clicking here](#). Sponsorships are available by contacting Renée Ahee at 586-484-2390, by e-mailing events@n-aana.org or by visiting www.n-aana.org.

NAANA was established in 2003 as a voice, a network and a resource for men and women in their pursuit of employment and advancement within the nursing profession. NAANA focuses primarily on the Arab American nurse but it is an inclusive nursing organization fostering knowledge of cultural diversity and sensitivity between members and the community in the area of transcultural health care.

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