

The Music Educators National Conference's nationwide Student Composition Competition recognizes talented young music students in the United States. Ben is one of only 24 elementary through university-level students chosen from across the country. He is an exceptional student composer, and he represents his school and his community well.

By every indication, Ben has a very promising future. I know that the people of Greater Cincinnati join me in wishing him the very best tonight. We are very proud of Ben's achievements and we hope this is the beginning of a bright and successful career.

LEHIGH VALLEY HERO DONNA  
MULHOLLAND

**HON. PATRICK J. TOOMEY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Mr. TOOMEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Mrs. Donna Mulholland. Mrs. Mulholland, who is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Easton Hospital in my district, recently won the Girl Scout's World of Well-Being Award for service to the community. As a CEO of a major hospital in my district, Mrs. Mulholland has shown a passionate commitment to quality health care. Through years of hard work and diligence, she gained the experience and knowledge needed to make an impact in her field.

In addition to her corporate excellence, Mrs. Mulholland's personal actions also serve as a model for the community. She has been active as a mentor for the Girl Scouts, serving to motivate and inspire other young women to succeed in their chosen fields. Her contributions in business and community service won her this distinction. I applaud Mrs. Mulholland for her professional achievements and her devotion to the Lehigh Valley community. Donna Mulholland is a Lehigh Valley Hero.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
MEDICAL MINORITY EDUCATORS

**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an organization that has done so much to promote the increase of minority personnel within the health professions. Since its establishment in 1975, the National Association of Medical Minority Educators (NAMME) has worked to attract minority students to health professions and enhance the retention and graduation rate of minority students from professional health schools.

Comprised of nearly 300 health educators from approximately 140 health professions institutions, and organizations, NAMME members work in allopathic medicine, osteopathic medicine, dentistry, veterinary medicine, optometry, pharmacy, podiatry, public health, chiropractic, nursing and all of the allied health

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professions. Collectively, they work to promote the recruitment and development of minority faculty, administrators, and managerial personnel in the health professions, support the delivery of quality health care for minority populations, and promote the philosophy of equal educational opportunity.

I am thrilled that NAMME has chosen the City of Worcester, my home town, to serve as the site of their 11th annual conference. As the face of America changes, so too does the face of our health care providers. It is my belief that organizations such as NAMME are essential for the success of the health care profession.

HONORING ALICIA JACKSON OF  
BEAVER DAM, KENTUCKY

**HON. ED WHITFIELD**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate and honor a Kentucky student from my District who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in her community. Alicia Jackson of Beaver Dam, Kentucky is a senior at Ohio County High School in Hartford. Alicia was named one of my state's top honorees in the 2000 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, a nationwide program under which more than 20,000 high school and middle school students were considered for awards.

Alicia is being recognized for her efforts in organizing a week-long series of events to promote Community Traffic Safety Week at her school. Activities organized by Alicia included a crash re-enactment and presentations by guest lecturers.

Alicia is an inspiring example of how we as individual citizens can contribute to our community. People of all ages need to think about how we can work at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods.

Alicia should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of volunteers. I heartily applaud Alicia for her initiative and positive impact on others within her community. She offers an encouraging example of the promise which America's youth offer for the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, on March 8, 2000, I missed 5 recorded votes because I was a witness in a legal action to keep St. Michael Hospital in Cleveland from closing.

If I had been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall 29, 30, 31, 32 and 33.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall votes Nos. 29 through 33 on March 8, 2000, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on each.

IN HONOR OF THE ANCIENT  
ORDER OF HIBERNIANS

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 9, 2000*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Cleveland's Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians as organizations integral in maintaining and promoting appreciation for Irish culture, history and traditions in the Cleveland community.

The Ancient Order of Hibernians is the oldest Catholic lay organization in America. Its roots in America can be traced to 1836 in New York. The group began to assist Irish immigrants to the new world in obtaining jobs and social services. Today, the Ancient Order of Hibernians has shifted its purpose to charitable activities in support of the Church's missions, community service, and the promotion and preservation of their Irish cultural heritage in America.

The Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians was first organized in 1894 in Omaha, Nebraska under the name "Daughters of Erin." The motto of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians is "Friendship, Unity and Christian Charity." Its purpose is to promote Irish history, traditions and culture, and to support the Church through Mission work and Catholic Action activities.

On March 17, 2000, Cleveland's Ancient Order of Hibernians and Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians are hosting the 133rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet accompanying Cleveland's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. These are the oldest and longest running events in the state of Ohio honoring the Irish patron, St. Patrick, and sharing Irish culture, history and traditions with the community.

At the 133rd Annual St. Patrick's Day Banquet, The United Irish Societies Honorees for the 2000 St. Patrick's Day Parade will be recognized. These individuals have given selflessly of themselves to insure the proud Irish heritage will continue. The honorees include: Mr. William Chambers, the Grand Marshall of the Parade; Ms. Nora Carr, the Irish Mother of the Year; Ms. Linda Carney and Mr. James McQuirk, Parade Co-Chairs; and Mr. James McQuirk, the Hibernian of the Year.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Cleveland's Ancient Order of Hibernians, Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians, and all of The United Irish Societies Honorees for the 2000 St. Patrick's Day Parade. The contributions and achievements of these groups and Irish Americans have inspired us all to respect and appreciate the Irish Culture.