

## Gamma Phi Beta Recognizes Muriel Lipsey Smith With Carnation Award

July 9, 2024



Centennial, CO – Gamma Phi Beta presented Muriel Lipsey Smith (Manitoba) with the prestigious Carnation Award at the Sorority’s 81st Convention in Chicago, Illinois. The award recognizes members whose outstanding achievements in fields outside the Sorority have brought them honor or great distinction. Smith attended the University of Manitoba, where she was initiated into Alpha Kappa Chapter of Gamma Phi Beta. She also attended the Oxford Institute of Education in Oxford, England.

Smith's vibrant career spans political activism, community leadership and unwavering dedication to women's rights. In collaboration with the World Affairs Council in Minneapolis, she actively participated in a women's study group in international affairs. Her involvement with the YWCA led her from committee member to president and eventually to the national board, where she attended the World YWCA Conference in 1975. Inspired by the burgeoning women's movement, which the YWCA was in the thick of, Smith decided to become politically active. She joined the New Democratic Party (NDP), which led her to becoming the first female president of the Manitoba NDP and a candidate in several elections.

In 1981, Smith, along with six other women, made history by being elected to the provincial government, marking a significant shift in representation. As Canada's first female deputy premier, she held numerous ministerial roles in departments like economic development, tourism, community services, corrections, labor, health and status of women. Within all her roles, she successfully pioneered innovative programs, many relating specifically to women.

After her 1988 electoral defeat, Smith immersed herself in the United Nations Association, serving as president locally and nationally and attending five UN World Conferences. She remains active in women's organizations and cherishes her family life as a mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Smith's mantra has always been clear: Until all are free, none of us are.



Since 1974, Gamma Phi Beta has presented the Carnation Award to members who excel in their careers and positively represent themselves and the Sorority. The award recognizes impressive personal accomplishments and identifies role models within the organization. This year's additional Carnation Award winners are Annie Mitchell (Puget Sound), Dr. Callie Cox Bauer (Minnesota-Twin Cities) and Cheryl Darcel Gunter (Tennessee-Knoxville).

### **About**

Gamma Phi Beta was founded on November 11, 1874, at Syracuse University by four bold and courageous women. The Sorority's mission is to build confident women of character who celebrate sisterhood and make a difference in the world around us. Headquartered in Centennial, Colorado, the Sorority has chartered 190 collegiate chapters across the United States and Canada and has more than 250,000 initiated members.



9155 E. NICHOLS AVE. SUITE 330 CENTENNIAL, CO 80112

T: 303.799.1874 | F: 303.799.1876

[GAMMAPHIBETA.ORG](http://GAMMAPHIBETA.ORG)