

Betha Whitlow DSA Award Script 2018

Maureen Burns and Meghan Musolff

Introduction by Margaret Webster

- SLIDE 1 MW Margaret's Introduction
- SLIDE 2 MW VRAF Internship Award Presentation – Maria Nuccilli
- SLIDE 3 MW DSA Recipient Announcement
- SLIDE 4 MW Photo of Betha Distinguished Service Award Recipient

SLIDE 5 MM It's all about quality leadership, efficiency, productivity. Betha is remarkably organized and focused on results. She leads through example and always does a share of the work, if not the lion's share.

"In each case, Betha provided inspired leadership--with her trademark charisma--and cultivated collaborative working relationships; Betha's involvement ensures that deliverables are of the highest quality."

-- Elizabeth Schaub

SLIDE 6 MB Betha is a champion of education and has provided record service on the VRA EdCom, SEI, & involved herself in VRA Foundation educational work such as the internship award and regional workshops--maybe trying for a Guinness Book World Record!

"Her commitment to professional development and education for professionals at all levels is rare and invaluable to our community."

--Ian McDermott

SLIDE 7 MM Betha has her finger on the pulse of what VRA needs on the education front and inspires others to get involved. Her

resume explodes with a mind-boggling list of conference presentations and workshops, all cutting edge.

“Whether it’s professional development or new technologies or any number of things, Betha will be participating in the type of session that inspires you to return home after the conference and do something new or better.”

-- Amy Trendler

SLIDE 8 MB

Everybody wants to work with Betha!

“Betha has many strengths: her approachable nature, her talent for encouraging participation and inspiring excellence, her ability to listen and reflect, her humor and wit, and most importantly, her passion for the Visual Resources profession.”

--Beth Haas

SLIDE 9 MM

There is no doubt that Betha has been a phenomenal asset to the Visual Resources Association.

“I remain somewhat in awe of Betha Whitlow. Her innate intellectual capabilities, perennial optimism and seemingly endless store of energy make her a huge asset to the organization.”

--Kathe Albrecht

SLIDE 10 MB

Betha always responds to the call of duty (I think she has forgiven me for some of the things I asked her to do when I was on the Board!). For example, she has two Strategic Planning Task Forces under belt (intensive work). Betha always has the best interests of this organization and its members in the forefront of her mind.

“When asked to serve on task forces she has consistently answered the call of the organization and has been at the heart of most of the significant organizational planning efforts of the past decade.”

--Brian Shelburne

SLIDE 11 MM While doing so many things for VRA, Betha does not neglect the home front, her list of service on the University of Washington campus is just as lengthy and imagine the attention her dogs get! She has served on a wide array of campus committees and been involved in several impressive collaborative digital projects there too.

“In all these activities in which I have interacted with Betha she has shown herself to be a creative thinker, expert project manager, and a caring and supportive mentor, colleague, and friend.”

--Rina Vecchiola

SLIDE 12 MB Let's see a show of hands, if you have worked with Betha on any VRA activity, please raise your hand.

“Her mentorship and advocacy throughout her VRA tenureship has been influential and visceral. She made me want to take on more leadership roles within VRA because of her passion and dedication to the VRA Association.”

-- Jennifer Kniesch

SLIDE 13 MM Betha does most of her work for VRA quietly, inclusively, and collaboratively—working behind the spotlight, more than in it, with great humility and aplomb. We should have had Wonder Whitlow shirts made for today!

“Too often we only see and reward those who are in the limelight, while not valuing the workers in the trenches who are continually doing the tasks that move an organization forward. Betha has never sought the spotlight and but is often the one working behind the scenes to make things happen. Without people like Betha, VRA would not be the successful organization it is.”

-- Macie Hall

SLIDE 14 MB Not one to rest on her laurels, we are all excited to see what is next!

“The only problem will be how to acknowledge all the great work she will be doing for years to come because that will happen, and I can’t wait to see what she comes up with next.”

--Rebecca Moss

SLIDE 15 MM/MB Thank you, Betha! The wonderful work you have done for VRA is so appreciated.