



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

## Journal of Radiology Nursing

journal homepage: [www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-radiology-nursing](http://www.sciencedirect.com/journal/journal-of-radiology-nursing)

## The 3rd Annual International Nurses Day



Donna Margiotta, BSN, RN, CRN \*

*Interventional Radiology, Northwell Health, Plainview Hospital, Plainview, NY*

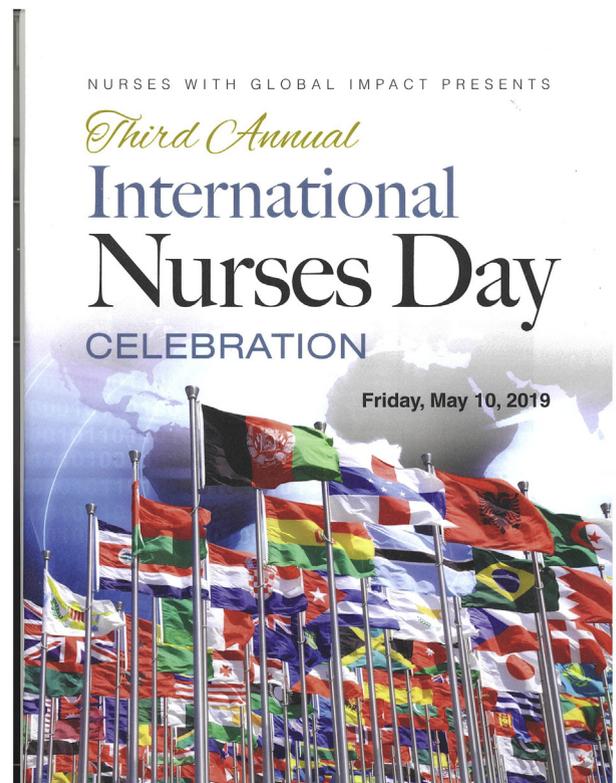
Sponsored by Nurses With Global Impact, the 3rd Annual International Nurses Day at The United Nations was held on Friday May 10, 2019 (See [Figure 1](#)). International Nurses Day is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of nursing's founder, Florence Nightingale. Twenty-one nurses from around the world were honored for their compassion, dedication, and passion for their work. These honorees came from New York, New Jersey, Maine, Massachusetts, Virginia, Pennsylvania, Chile, Kenya, South Sudan, Iraq, Palestine, China, and South Africa. These nurses are role models and will pave the way for future generations of nurses. The nurses recognized and honored at this event have truly given their lives and talents as gifts to others. Their work embodies the essence of nursing...caring for others with compassion.

Nurses with Global Impact was founded in 2016 by Deb O'Hara-Rusckowski, MBA, MTA, RN. She worked in health care for more than 30 years before her devotion to public health and philanthropy. Her organization serves as a resource for nurses and recognizes those nurses doing extraordinary work, making a global impact in health care. Mrs. O'Hara-Rusckowski is a passionate and engaging speaker drawing in the audience with humor, warmth, and enthusiasm.

Leonarda Capponi, my colleague at Northwell Health-Plainview Hospital, and I attended the celebration and presentation of awards, which was broadcast live via webcast on UN Web TV. We met nurses from around the country, networked with the sponsors of the event, and enjoyed breakfast before the presentation of nominees. Each nominee's personal story was moving and inspirational. The celebration concluded with lunch served overlooking the East River.

The first guest speaker, Ruth McDermott-Levy, PhD, MPH, RN is an associate professor and Director at the Center for Global and Public Health at Villanova University College of Nursing. This past January, she returned from a semester as a Fulbright Scholar in Finland, exploring how climate change impacts environmental and global health. She recognizes that climate change may be our greatest public health threat and our greatest public health opportunity.

The second inspirational speaker was Marcus Engel, MS, CSP, CPXP. He is a certified professional speaker providing insight and strategies for teaching the foundation of care giving. During his first semester of college, Mr. Engel was struck by a drunk driver while returning from a hockey game. He was permanently blinded and nearly lost his life. His recovery included over 350 hours of reconstructive facial surgery and 2 years of rehabilitation. He experienced good, bad, and profound health care. His story evoked a myriad of emotions and moved many in the room to tears. He is changing the



**Figure 1.** Program cover of 3rd Annual International Nurses Day. (To see this figure in color the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

Conflict of interest: The author has no conflict of interest.

\* Corresponding author: Donna Margiotta, Plainview Hospital, Plainview, NY 11803.

E-mail address: [irdrn43@gmail.com](mailto:irdrn43@gmail.com).

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jradnu.2019.06.002>

1546-0843/\$36.00/© 2019 Association for Radiologic & Imaging Nursing. Published by Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.



**Figure 2.** Pictured from left to right: RAD-AID Chief Executive Officer, Daniel J. Mollura, MD; Leonarda Capponi, RN, CRN; ARIN Director of Leadership, Donna Margiotta, BSN, RN, CRN; RAD-AID Director of Nursing, Patricia DuCharme, MSN, RN, ANP-BC. (To see this figure in color the reader is referred to the Web version of this article.)

culture of care with the *I'm Here Movement*, which he cofounded with his wife Marvelyne. Mr. Engel was a speaker at ARIN's 2017 Annual Convention in Washington D.C. and shared his story with many radiology nurses.

I met with RAD-AID International's Director of Nursing, Patricia Du Charme, MSN, RN, ANP-BC and Chief Executive Officer, Daniel J. Mollura, MD (See [Figure 2](#)). RAD-AID takes medical imaging equipment and radiology health care professionals to poor regions of developing countries around the world. Founded in 2008, RAD-AID has grown and become affiliated with the United Nations and the World Health Organization and has over 8200 volunteers serving 47 hospitals in 27 countries.

It was an honor to be part of this day and I am proud to be in a profession that can and does make a difference every day, all over the world.

For more information on Nurses with Global Impact go to [www.nurseswithglobalimpact.org](http://www.nurseswithglobalimpact.org). For more information on RAD-AID go to [www.rad-aid.org](http://www.rad-aid.org).