

# AIRWAY


MIDDLE TENNESSEE SCHOOL OF ANESTHESIA



more apparent with the increasingly culturally diverse population, which affects every healthcare provider in the United States. By engaging in more culturally competent care for our patients, we (CRNAs) will improve the health care experience and outcome

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I want to take this opportunity  
to thank you for your interest and

# CLASS OF 2015

## COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES HELD

### MS and DNAP Degrees Conferred

Commencement exercises for the Middle Tennessee School of Anesthesia Class of 2015 were held Friday, November 20, 2015 at the Madison Campus Seventh-day Adventist Church. Both Master of Science with a Focus in Anesthesia and Doctor of Nurse Anesthesia Practice degrees were conferred.

Mary Elizabeth "Ikey" DeVasher ('69/'94), PhD, CRNA, Dean Emerita led the procession of MTSA board of trustees, administration, faculty, and graduates while carrying the MTSA mace. A welcome was given by MTSA President Chris Hulin ('06), DNP, MBA, CRNA followed by the invocation by graduate John Myers. MTSA Chairman Art Runyon-Hass, MD, PhD, gave

opening remarks followed by Steve Haley, MDiv, President of the Kentucky-Tennessee Conference of Seventh-day Adventists who presented an homily reflecting MTSA's spiritual values and roots. He was introduced by graduate Nikki Marotta. The commencement address was presented by Laurence (Larry) Lancaster, EdD, ACNP, retired MTSA faculty. He was introduced by graduate Denise Miller. MTSA President Hulin presented the diplomas.

Each year MTSA graduates well-exceed requirements



Planning is underway for the Third Annual MTSA Mission & Awards Gala on Thursday, May 5, 2016 at Nashville's Country Music Hall of Fame. "This year's event was so nice," says Gala Chairperson Michele Arant. "The evening of dining, recognition, and celebration is a tradition that we will also benefit the School. Each committee member is working hard to make sure everyone will have a good time and enjoy having a part in furthering the mission."

One significant change for the 2016 Gala is that all proceeds will fund the mission trip program – with plans to incorporate both local and international. The School sponsored its first mission trip – which was to Haiti – in 2007 when MTSA Program Administrator Rachel Brown ('97) DNP, CRNP, and I participated. "We have plans to expand trip opportunities to more locations next year," explained MTSA President Chris Hulin ('06) DNP, MBA, CMAA. "I came from a combined mission and exploratory trip to Haiti and was able to see the collaborative mission opportunities. I am grateful for the efforts of the Gala Committee and their interest in funding our new mission trip program as a way to demonstrate the MTSA mission and heritage than to serve the community."

The event will also build community involvement and raise awareness for MTSA while celebrating its heritage. Recognition will be given by honoring and recognizing alumni, individuals, and organizations, partners, and others for their dedication, engagement, and support of MTSA.

Five specific awards will be presented as nominations for distinguished alumni and community friends. The awards include the Mary Elizabeth "Ikey" DeVasher Alumni Distinguished Service Award, the Dr. Robert Downs, MD Leadership Excellence Award, the Philip A. Edwards Philanthropy Award, and the Mission & Heritage Award.

The evening will include a reception, dinner, entertainment, and private Country Music Hall of Fame & Museum tour for all guests. The event is open to all including faculty, students, physicians, medical groups, community, and community individuals. There are several opportunities to



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Thursday, May 5, 2016

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# National CRNA Week

## Nurse Anesthetists Make a Difference— One Patient at a Time

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MTSA will celebrate the thousands of nurse anesthetists across the country and the difference they make to their patients and the U.S. healthcare system during observance of the 17th annual National CRNA Week January 24 - 30, 2016.

This year's theme, *Making a Difference – One Patient at a Time* reflects how CRNAs dedicate themselves to each of their patients before, during, and after surgery. CRNAs stay with their patients throughout their procedure to ensure the safest anesthesia experience possible.

