The first experience in Public Dental work was in Nashville Tennessee in 1978, when after one year of training as a 16 year old, Amigos de las Americas sent me to Guatemala for a month to do mass fluoride treatments, help visiting dentists and give out dental supplies provided by the "Lions Club". The next year I stayed two months in Paraguay backpacking into villages to vaccinate children. Almost everyone in that program became healthcare a professional. After 3 years of nursing school, I transferred to Biblical studies and then specifically trained in teaching. Working with an interdenominational ministry, I taught high school math and science. This ministry mentored us in using performing arts and creativity to teach. Finally, after moving to Kentucky in 1995, I was part of the U of KY dental Hygiene program in Elizabethtown.

As a hygienist, my heart was into explaining the biology of the mouth in a way that makes sense. I often would hear, “I never knew that,” or “I wish I had known that long ago.” I began my own survey over years asking such simple questions as "why do people floss?" Most that did not do what they should only have a lack of understanding concerning the science of oral health. I stepped back and considered how much money and time goes into fixing what really could have been prevented by just having time to fully understand the pathology of the mouth in simple terms. I had a heartfelt desire to create a fully fun comprehensive class that teaches children what really goes on. I did not want to tell people what to do but explain why. I have finished a nursing degree so that I can work weekends giving me time to start up a nonprofit that teaches children such subjects as periodontal disease, decay, smoking, nutrition, dental visits, fluoride function and of course "Candy College". I spent 3 weeks in my garage carving a 12-foot teaching mouth that rolls into the schools and is just one of the interactive props used to make dental school fun. Plan Ahead Smiles Program has been reaching more kids every year and is slated to go statewide in the next two years. If it was not for Coronavirus we would have gone to about 20 Counties and seen 15,000 kids since January with a fully equipped dental supply bag. Our volunteer bagger has put together about 20,000 bags. I am grateful to be noted by Colgate for the sake of reaching more children. I have the hopes of changing Oral health by front line prevention - Education.

Han-Na Jang, RDH, MSDH is a clinician working at David Rothkopf DDS located in Washington, DC. She is the founder and CEO of DENTILINGUAL, providing online dental English courses to Korean dental professionals. Using an online learning platform, she teaches Korean dentist, dental hygienists, dental assistants, and dental hygiene students in South Korea, the United States, and Canada how to communicate with patients in English and build up their confidence in speaking English at a dental office.

Han-Na received her dental hygiene education in both South Korea and the United States. While studying in Korea, she had an internship opportunity working at a dental office located in Sydney, Australia. From her internship experience, she learned the similarities and differences of dental hygiene scope of practice and work environment between Korea and Australia. Since then the direction of her life totally changed and wanted to become a dental hygienist abroad.

Han Na received her dental hygiene association degree from Baltimore City Community College and her master’s degree in dental hygiene from the Fones School of Dental Hygiene at the University of Bridgeport.
**Educator of the Year Award**

**Supported by:** [Crest & Oral B]

**Winner: Brenda Armstrong, RDH, MDH**

Brenda Armstrong, Associate Professor and Department Chair, is invested in student success at Dixie State University (DSU) Department of Dental Hygiene (St. George, Utah). Previous to DSU, Brenda contributed to the successful opening and accreditation of the Dental Hygiene Department at Thomas Nelson Community College (Williamsburg, VA), where she served as assistant professor and clinic coordinator. Her educational interests include clinical and didactic instruction, research, public health and service-learning.

She received her Master’s in Dental Hygiene from the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN and her BSDH from Weber State University, Ogden, UT. Brenda has served as chair of the Utah Oral Health Coalition and currently on the UDHA public health and legislative committees. Past awards include the Dixie State University Teacher of the Year – Rising Star 2016, Utah Campus Compact Presidential Award for Community Engaged Scholar 2017, and UDHA Student Mentor of the Year 2019.


Brenda just celebrated 34 years of marriage this year and has one grown son. She is passionate about being in outdoors while hiking in the beauty of Southern Utah.

**Professional Membership Achievement**

**Supported by:** [Crest & Oral B]

**Winner: Tammy Filipiak, RDH, MS**

A dental hygienist with 32 years of experience in clinical, educational and management settings, Filipiak joined Midwest Dental, a Dental Support Organization in 2004 as its Director of Dental Hygiene; and currently serves as the Vice President of Clinical Development and Compliance Officer. As a member of Midwest Dental’s Clinical Support Team, she has responsibilities for orientation and training, developing and planning for implementation of clinical protocols to align with current standards of care, review of current products and technologies, executing strategic organizational initiatives and leading the Clinical Support field team. Midwest Dental provides support services to 230+ dental practices within a geography of 17 states.

A member of the American Dental Hygienists Association (ADHA) since 1986, she served as President in 2017-18 and as the Chair of the ADHA Institute for Oral Health in 2018-19. Filipiak has served the ADHA in a wide range of areas, including council member and chair, as a member of the task force that developed the Standards for Clinical Dental Hygiene Practice and as District VII trustee. She also has held a number of leadership positions within the Wisconsin Dental Hygienists’ Association, including a term as the organization’s president. She also has been recognized for her leadership with numerous awards, including a presidential citation from the ADHA in recognition of her leadership and vision. She also was awarded the 2003 Butler/RDH Health Gums Healthy Life Award of Distinction, and in 2012 was recognized as one of “Six Dental Hygienists You Should Know” by Dimensions of Dental Hygiene. She serves on a number of corporate advisory boards as a key opinion leader, as well as on the advisory board for a dental hygiene education program in WI. She also serves on the Board of Directors for the North Central WI Area Health Education Centers. She has written/presented numerous articles and continuing education courses throughout her career. In addition to her Associate Degree in Dental Hygiene from North Central Technical College, she has a Bachelors Degree in Business from Upper Iowa University, and a Masters Degree in Organizational Leadership and Quality from Marian University.
Ana Paula Mata, RDH. I graduated in 1992 from New York City Technical College in Brooklyn, NY. Native of the Dominican Republic, migrated to US at eight years old. US citizen. Mother of five “children” (all grownups now): Oscar, Christopher, Patrick, Mary and Jake. I have practiced dental hygiene in New York, South Carolina, Florida and Alabama. Currently work in New York State at Community Health Center of Richmond full time. I have worked in general dental offices, geriatrics at senior center, pedodontics, and periodontal practices. Doing what I love: taking care of patients, and helping them achieve good overall health by giving 100% in clinical setting. Listening, helping patient set attainable goals, treatment: sealants, prophylaxis, SRP, irrigation, anesthesia, oral hygiene instructions, nutritional counseling among other things. This profession has not only been my livelihood, but a meaningful career that has impacted me, my family, my patients and my community. Being fluent in Spanish gives me another language to communicate with a large patient population in the Community Health Center of Richmond where I currently work full time.

Apart from my CE I have the following:
ADHA member
April 27, 2019: Mental Health First Aid USA Certificate
April-May 2016: Professional Medical Interpreter Certificate
February 27, 2015: Anesthesia License NY State

I am thankful for my high school teacher Ms. Goldfluss for talking to me about becoming a dental hygienist. My professors for instilling a love for the profession and teaching me the necessary skills to make me a great hygienist, loving the craft and the patients I serve. Specially my mentor: Dr. Archer. Hu-friedy instruments are the best instruments I used in college and until now to treat my patients with confidence.

Twenty-eight years of being able to serve, contribute and get back is awesome! A rewarding career. Thank God for all the blessings.

QuinTess (Kwin-Tess) Bond of Washington, DC graduated from Howard University this spring. She intends to work in the DC area as a clinician. Her goals included: pursing further studies, and more participation and volunteerism with DCDHA.
Beginning with caring for migrant farm worker children in the Sacramento Valley to delivering dental hygiene care to children in Croatia as a newly licensed hygienist, and working clinically in Germany for five years; I have had many life-changing experiences as a dental hygienist that have broadened my perspectives on our profession. However, not all of my experiences as a dental hygienist have been away from my home in California. I have practiced clinical dental hygiene since graduating in 1975 and have had the privilege of caring for some of my patients for over 30 years.

As long as I can remember, I have always wanted to be a teacher, becoming a dental hygienist was a perfect blend of my interest in the health sciences and teaching. While my career as a dental hygiene educator did not follow the trajectory I had originally imagined for myself as a graduate student at the University of Michigan in 1978, I have been to apply my advanced education throughout my career. I have had the opportunity to work with all kinds of students, ranging from entry level dental hygiene students to high schoolers, and I continue to find great fulfillment in my role as an educator and mentor to my dental hygiene colleagues. I have always felt that leading by one’s own example has the biggest impact on students and colleagues. It has given me great pleasure to see former students go on to pursue their goals because of experiences that they have had during their education. It has been a privilege to play a part in that process.

I have also been able to blend my experiences as an educator into my role as a speaker and writer. In fact, my very first continuing education program was while I was living in Germany to dental assistants focusing on oral hygiene and prevention – given in German! Since then, I have gone on to present professional development programs on topics ranging from dental implants to infection control and oral cancer. Writing has given me another opportunity to contribute to the growth of our profession. As the managing editor of the Journal of Dental Hygiene, I work with authors from around the world, assisting them throughout the submission and publication process. It has gratifying to be able to play a small part in supporting the scholarly advancement of our profession.

My guiding philosophy for my career, and life in general, has always been to open to the unexpected and say “yes” to new opportunities. I never could have imagined the many places and directions my career continues to take me. It is truly an honor to be a recipient of the 2020 Award for Excellence in Dental Hygiene.

Emily Boge, CDA, RDH, MPA is the Dental Administrative Chair at Hawkeye Community College in Waterloo, Iowa. In this role, she serves the Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene Program students, the faculty of the programs, and the staff of the Dental Clinic. Prior to accepting this position in July of 2015, she practiced as a fulltime dental hygienist at Dental Associates of Manchester in Manchester, Iowa. In addition to working at the College, she maintains an active career completing research, product development, and evaluation of products for several major dental companies. She also enjoys speaking and writing research for professionals and facts for consumers in dentistry. She enjoys all facets of dental hygiene and prides herself on thinking outside the box when it comes to dental innovation and practice standards; especially when she can apply new ideas to clinical techniques that improve the current standard of care. Emily designed and marketed the Boge513™ scaler, sold by American Eagle Instruments. This instrument won the 2017 Dental Excellence Award: Best New Instrument/Device. Emily also designed the Centennial Scaler, manufactured by Hu-Friedy Instruments and was the 2015 recipient of the ADHA Master Clinician Award. Emily graduated from Hawkeye Community College Dental Assisting (2000) and Dental Hygiene (2003) Programs prior to completing her Bachelor’s in Psychology with a focus in Gerontology (2012) and a Master’s in Public Administration (2015) at Upper Iowa University, and values lifelong education. She is a current doctoral student at Franklin University in Columbus, OH studying to receive her EdD in Organizational Leadership with a badge in Higher Education. As a native rural Iowan, Emily is married to a fifth-generation family farmer and machinist, and they live on their crop farm with their two sons.