



Engaging Minds, Enriching Lives

For Immediate Release

October 14, 2024

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**Nancy Rotering, Mayor of Highland Park, Ill., and Political Advocate,
to Receive 2024 Alumnae Award from The Alumnae of Northwestern University
(Photo available)**

EVANSTON, Ill. --- Nancy Rotering, Mayor of Highland Park, Ill., is the recipient of The Alumnae of Northwestern University's 2024 Alumnae Award. The award, established in 1976, is presented annually to an outstanding alumna who has made significant contributions in her field and who has attained national recognition. Educators, journalists, doctors, scientists, and artists are included among The Alumnae's roster of awardees. As mayor, reelected for a fourth term, she has reformed city government and built a culture of transparency, collaboration, and ethics, leading the city in prioritizing fiscal responsibility, investing heavily in infrastructure and public safety, while promoting community vibrancy.

"As the 49th recipient of our Alumnae Award, Nancy will join a distinguished group of women bringing honor to the women of Northwestern University," says The Alumnae president Carol Willis.

Rotering has fought to reduce gun violence for more than a decade, including leading the Highland Park City Council in passing a municipal assault weapons and large capacity magazine ban in 2013, which withstood a legal challenge by the National Rifle Association (NRA) in federal court. In 2023, in the wake of the July 4, 2022, Highland Park shooting, the State of Illinois passed a state-wide assault weapons ban. She continues to lobby for gun violence prevention legislation at the state and federal levels.

Following the 2024 festivities, Rotering said "Independence Day has traditionally been a special opportunity for our community to come together with beloved traditions. As we continue our journey as one Highland Park, we do so with respect, compassion, and support for all whose

lives were forever changed on July 4, 2022, while maintaining the community spirit that has always been a hallmark of Highland Park's Independence Day events.”

Rotering earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Stanford University, a master's degree in health service management, marketing, and finance from Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management, and a juris doctor from the University of Chicago Law School. Her career experience includes work as a financial analyst in General Motors' Treasurer's Office, serving as a planning commissioner for the City of Highland Park, and as a legislative aide for an Illinois State Representative. Prior to becoming mayor, she practiced law with McDermott Will & Emery in Chicago, focusing on health care fraud and abuse.

In 2015, recognizing an increasing need for human services in the face of reduced resources, Rotering founded the North Suburban Legal Aid Clinic, providing free legal services and equal access for justice to northeastern Illinois residents navigating housing, immigration, and domestic violence matters.

A strong proponent of advocacy and political engagement, she teaches *Women and American Political Leadership* at Northwestern University and is proud to be recognized as the 2022 Outstanding Instructor by its School of Education and Social Policy (SESP). She is a member of the Northwestern Women's Board, the Council of 100, and Founding chair of the Women's Health Research Institute Advisory Board at Northwestern's Feinberg School of Medicine, focusing on elevating the need for basic medical research to recognize gender differences.

In 2014, *Today's Chicago Woman* named Nancy Rotering to their “100 Women of Inspiration” and *Forbes* included her in their “Forty Over 40” list. In 2022, she received the Lake County (Illinois) Harriet Tubman Award, the Lake County Democratic Women Resist Award, the Blue Crescent Outreach Foundation Social Action Sapphire Award, and the New Trier Democrats Defender of Democracy Award.

Nancy Rotering will receive her award on Monday, October 14, 2024, at noon, at The Hilton Garden Inn, Evanston. She will be introduced by Ivy Dumont, survivor of the 4th of July parade shooting, Director of Community and Programming for Aftermath, a nonprofit organization; Nicole Woitowich, PhD, executive director of the Northwestern University Clinical and Translational Services Institute and research assistant professor in the Department of Medical Social Sciences; and Vic Maurer, director, Major Gifts, Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University.

The Alumnae of Northwestern is an all-volunteer organization of women that raises funds for a wide range of projects to benefit the University. It shares the University's academic resources with the community through its Continuing Education program, which is celebrating its 56th year of bringing daytime noncredit courses to the public. The Alumnae has given more than \$10 million to the University in the form of grants, fellowships, scholarships, and an endowed

professorship, and has provided funds for special university projects and summer internships. For more information, visit The Alumnae website (www.nualumnae.org).

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