



ASSOCIATION OF DONOR RELATIONS PROFESSIONALS

FOUNDERS AWARD

is hereby presented to

Debbie Meyers

Debbie Meyers, we honor you as the 2022 Association of Donor Relations Professionals Founders Award recipient. The Founders Award is the highest award bestowed by the Association. It recognizes individuals who have had a significant and inspiring impact on the donor relations profession and who exemplify specific ideals of dedication to the profession. This describes Debbie to a T.

The first time I met Debbie, I was sitting in one of the many writing sessions she has offered for ADRP over the years. And now I find myself writing a proclamation for her ... talk about intimidating! Debbie, if you find any typos, we can blame the 10 people who helped me edit this.

The list of volunteer roles Debbie has held with ADRP over the years is endless. She has written numerous articles for the Hub newsletter. Debbie has served on or chaired nearly every committee for the international conference, including marketing, content, and awards.

Not only has she worked to develop content behind the scenes, but Debbie is also a regular conference speaker and webinar presenter, and she served on the ADRP Board of Directors. Debbie has acted as a mentor to countless donor relations professionals, both formally and informally over the years, including myself. Her wisdom and counsel are priceless.

In 2020, when the world turned upside down, Debbie once again raised her hand and said, “how can I help?” As our Volunteer Committee Co-Chair, she rolls out the red carpet for volunteers and runs our quarterly volunteer summits. If that were not enough, she moderates the “Care and Feeding of Donor Relations People” community on MyADRP.

You can easily tell if Debbie is around by listening for her laugh. Her smile is infectious, and her laughter echoing through the hotel lobby at the conference is a beacon that draws people to her. There are no strangers when Debbie is around. If you don’t know her, you should.

Debbie is a well-rounded donor relations professional in her day job as well. She has held roles as a Director of Development and Alumni Relations at her high school alma mater and Development Coordinator at the Orlando Museum of Art. She has had higher education stints at the University of Florida Foundation, Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Maryland, and the Rutgers University Foundation, and has served as the Assistant Vice President at the Chautauqua Institution.

In 2021, she put her years of writing and development experience to work in a new way when she became the Founder and Chief Inspiration Officer of EDiT! If you are looking for a partner to help make your development communications more concise, creative, and effective, give her a call!

To say Debbie cares deeply about our profession is an understatement. Her passion for ADRP is second to none, and I know that when her name pops up in my inbox, it’s likely because she is sharing a new idea to advance the mission of ADRP or recognize an area in which we can grow.

Debbie, you balance sass, snark, and sincerity in equal parts. You lift up those around you, advocate for our profession, and make us a better association. I am honored to present you with the 2022 Association of Donor Relations Professionals Founders Award.

With gratitude,

Angela Altamore
ADRP President

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