ALUMNAE ASSOCIATION OF MOUNT HOLYOKE COLLEGE

ALUMNAE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD 2017





POLLY DIX SCHAAFSMA, **CLASS OF 1957**, the Alumnae Association of Mount Holyoke College is pleased to honor you with the Alumnae Achievement Award. This award is presented to alumnae whose accomplishments and service to society exemplify the values and virtues set forth by the College.

Polly, your accomplished work in the field of archaeology was nurtured shortly after graduation. An art major at Mount Holyoke, your transition from art to archaeology began during a summer field program at the University of New Mexico's Pottery Mound site and your enrollment in a master's program in anthropology at the University of Colorado, Boulder. Since then, you have held a number of professional positions, including research associate at the Museum of New Mexico Laboratory of Anthropology, where you continue to pursue research. Fifty years after your summer field program, you returned to that work, spearheading a collaborative initiative to review the history of research, maps, and excavation profiles of Pottery Mound, reexamining the architecture, rock art, textiles, and much more. This work resulted in you editing *New Perspectives on Pottery Mound Pueblo*, a collection of scholarly essays, adding to your list of publications.

In 2016 your outstanding contributions to the field of rock art were recognized when you were awarded an Honorary Doctor of Science degree from the University of Colorado, Boulder, and an honorary Doctor of Letters from the University of New Mexico. The previous year, an issue of *New Mexico Historical Review* was dedicated in appreciation to your contributions to the field. Your evolving path from art to archaeology provides an inspiring example of the value of cross-disciplinary collaboration. An established expert and true collaborative colleague and mentor, you provide a pioneering spirit and new analytic perspectives to your field.

Polly, for your accomplishments, the Alumnae Association is honored to present you with the Alumnae Achievement Award on this, your sixtieth reunion.