

Gloria Holland Rogers-2009

Gloria Rogers began her career in 1951 with the City of St. Louis Park and Recreation Division as a Community Center and Playground Director. In 1957, Gloria became the Director of Parks and Recreation for the City of Brentwood, Missouri. For 16 years, she was responsible for the creation and administration of recreation programs for all ages, supervising all parks and facilities. She was also instrumental in the passage of a \$1.795 million dollar bond issue resulting in a state of the art recreation complex, including an indoor ice arena and community center. In 1973 Gloria moved to the St. Louis County Department of Parks and Recreation, where she served as Recreation Manager for 19 years. Her staff knew her as a creative programmer, with contagious enthusiasm. She was recognized as the consummate mentor to young professionals because of her encouragement, patience and willingness to listen. Instrumental in including St. Louis residents with disabilities in numerous recreation programs offered by the county and surrounding area, she helped establish the Special Recreation Council, and served on its board for 13 years. During her career Gloria was involved in various professional and fraternal organizations. She served as the first female president of the Missouri Park and Recreation Association, and also served as MPRA's Vice President and Treasurer. Nationally, she was Chair of the National Council of the National Recreation and Parks Association, served on the National Recreation and Park Association National Task Force-Membership Services Committee, was a member of the National Recreation and Parks Association Great Lakes Regional Council, board member of the American Recreation and Parks Society, and a member of the St. Louis County Junior College District. Gloria Rogers' honors and awards are extensive: MPRA Fellow Award; MPRA Retirement Service Award; and National Recreation and Park Association Distinguished Fellow Award, American Park and Recreation Society. Additionally, she was the first Missourian elected to the American Academy for Park and Recreation Administrators and Junior Jaycee Young Woman of the Year. She was the inspiration for the Gloria Rogers Missouri Park and Recreation Scholarship Charitable Trust Fund.