



INTERNATIONAL FESTIVALS & EVENTS ASSOCIATION
FOUNDATION

THE JUDY FLANAGAN

LEGACY SCHOLARSHIP



Judy Flanagan, CFEE, M.S., has spent a lifetime synergizing people interested in special events and continues to accomplish it by public speaking engagements and consulting on special events, parades, conventions, conferences, and seminars.

Judy graduated from Osceola High School in 1968 while growing up in Kissimmee, Florida. Higher education accomplishments included a B.S. degree in Education, major in Speech and minor in Sociology from Memphis State University, spring 1972 and a Master of Science degree in Communications at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville December 2004, with a thesis titled "Special Event Communication in the Age of Terrorism," to help keep heightened awareness among event planners from all walks of life.

Judy's professional career began at Walt Disney World, Florida in June 1972. On the job education came from Disney Cast Members who had worked directly for Walt Disney in Anaheim, California. The Disney method of perfection has been passed onto generations through work ethics, storytelling, and education; methods that set the stage for Judy's creative style of perfection.

Judy has directed special events and parades for Walt Disney World; Knoxville, Tennessee 1982 and New Orleans, Louisiana 1984 World Fairs; and has been in-

involved with Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in 1977; Gatlinburg's Christmas Parades from 1981-1985; events in Puerto Rico; Ottawa, Canada; Boston, Massachusetts; and other cities in the United States. The 1983 Miss U.S.A. Pageant utilized her services for on-location sites for pre-recording 'fun scenes' throughout East Tennessee. In 1988-90 Judy served as a planning and development scheduler for rides and shows of the Universal Studios Florida phase 1 project, while at Universal City, California. In 1989 she served as an on-site project coordinator building ET's Adventure Ride at Universal Studios Orlando, Florida.

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In 1990 Judy became Director of Special Occasions in the Office of University Relations system-wide at The University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. In 1994 the title changed to Director of Special Events, once it became clear the magnitude of events she was able to stage and produce. Flanagan served seven University of Tennessee presidents including emeriti during her tenure. She staged the university's 200th anniversary events in 1994; groundbreakings and dedication ceremonies; Neyland Stadium's 1996 Expansion Dedication; VOLS 1998 National Championship Celebration in Neyland Stadium; Lady VOLS Basketball Championship Banquets in the Thompson-Boling Assembly Center and Arena; quarterbacked more events than can be counted; and is a professional public speaker on a variety of subjects in special events, parades, conventions, conferences and seminars in the age of terrorism.

Judy Flanagan is listed in the following publications:

America's Registry of Outstanding Professionals, Marquis's Who's Who in America, Who's Who of American

Women, Who's Who in Finance and Industry, and Who's Who in the World; The International Biographical Centre in

Cambridge, England has her listed in The World Who's Who of Women, Who's Who in the World, International Leaders in Achievement, The Dictionary of International Biography, and the International Book of Honor; Strathmore's Who's Who; The American Biographical Institute Notable American Women; as well as other diverse professional publications. She was first recognized in 1981 in the publication Outstanding Young Women of America. She was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award by the American Biographical Institute in 1993 for her work in the entertainment industry. She is a member of the International Festivals and Events Association (IFEA); has served on the IFEA President's Council and IFEA Foundation Board; and the Tennessee Festivals and Events Association's Executive Committee. She received her Certi-

fied Festivals and Events Executive Certification (CFEE) at IFEA's Las Vegas convention in January 2002.

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