



Association of Vision Rehabilitation Therapist

2026 Professional Development Conference

The Charlyn Allen Award

Charlyn Allen worked in the field of rehabilitation teaching for the state of Missouri for approximately 35 years. The last 10 years she was supervisor for the Missouri Bureau for the Blind. Mrs. Allen was president of the Mid-American Conference of Rehabilitation Teachers (MACRT), then MCHT, in the late 1950s, and currently AVRT, and then assumed a leadership role in all of MACRT's conferences as well as other groups relative to rehabilitation teaching of persons with visual impairment.

Purpose:

MACRT named this award in honor of Charlyn Allen, a remarkable woman who happened to be blind, who exemplified dedication and service to the rehabilitation of persons who are blind. This award is presented annually at our Professional Development Conference awards luncheon.

Criteria:

- A nominee shall be an ACVREP-certified vision rehabilitation therapist.
- A nominee should demonstrate outstanding professionalism and service to the field.
- A nominee shall be a member of AVRT.

Nominating Procedures:

*All nominations should include a letter of nomination outlining biographical information, and a summary of the individual's education and training, employment, leadership qualities, contributions and achievements.

*Any professional colleague of the individual should submit the nomination.

*If possible, a copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae or resume should be included.

*The Awards Committee shall select the award recipient based on nominations provided.

To submit your nomination materials, email John McMahon, Awards Chairman at jspirit211@outlook.com. For more information, contact John by email. All nominations are due by May 31, 2026.