



## Patricia Clark Roper

Inducted May 23, 2021

Paulding High School		1973
Bowling Green State University	B.S.	1977
Bowling Green State University	B.A.	1978
University of Cincinnati	M.A.	1983

Integrating the words and music of living, the need to question and connect with others through visual arts forms the core of Patricia Clark Roper, who does not remember a time when she did not draw and who always has a painting percolating in her mind. Art belies rigid mindsets and facile solutions, instead prompting appreciation for diverse approaches to situations and empathy for unconventional thinkers – helpful traits for the person, serious student, and sensitive teacher Patty has aspired to be throughout the years. From making bulletin boards for her mom to painting flats for PHS musicals and posters for her science project for two International Science and Engineering Fairs (Kansas City 1971; San Diego 1973) to creating murals for and with children, memorial portraits, logos, illustrated instructional materials, cards, and social statements, art has always been a vital thread throughout Patty’s personal and professional life. She has donated many works to numerous philanthropic causes and looks to expand the scope of her outreach and service.

After graduating from Paulding High School in 1973, Patty attended Bowling Green State University, student teaching at Colegio Nueva Granada in Bogotá, Colombia, and earning a B.S. in Education in 1977. In 1978, she earned a B.A. in Spanish through the BGSU Academic Year Abroad Program in Spain. She then lived and worked in Madrid and Barcelona, teaching English as a second language through the Berlitz School of Languages de España and studying, drawing, painting, and traveling for two more years before returning to the U.S., where she taught in Paulding Exempted Village Schools for a year. She was then awarded a graduate teaching assistantship and scholarship at the University of Cincinnati, where she earned an M.A. in Spanish Literature in 1983, followed by further graduate work.

Patty’s career on three continents includes teaching elementary, high school, university, and adult students in English and Spanish. In addition to the already mentioned institutions, she also taught at Centerville High School, was a founding teacher at Gladstone Spanish Immersion School in Columbus, taught and volunteered in Princeton City Schools, and spent eighteen years as an instructor in the Department of Romance and Arabic Languages and Literatures at the University of Cincinnati, where she was recognized twice for outstanding teaching by the Darwin T. Turner Scholars Program and was also nominated for the Dr. Simon Anderson Faculty Recognition Award. In addition, she received the RALL Susan R. Cogan Exceptional Service Award in 2016 and 2017.

Patty is forever grateful to her parents, Patrick and Coletta Clark, her family, her teachers – and her husband, Emmett ‘Chip’ Roper, and children, David, Daniel, and Emily, who continue to inspire her to believe in all that is good.