

AJN This Month On the Cover



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This month's cover photo shows the Northwell Health Nurse Choir performing in the September finale of the NBC television show *America's Got Talent* (AGT). The group, comprising 18 nurses from New York's Northwell Health system, first performed in November 2020 at a virtual fundraiser for Nurse Heroes, a nonprofit initiative to support nursing education. The group was formed after Northwell's leadership invited its 19,000 nurses to audition for the choir by submitting a 30-second clip. By the end of the summer, the choir had successfully advanced through AGT's competition, and ultimately made it to the finals.

Choir member Winnie Mele, director of perioperative services at Plainview Hospital in Plainview, New York, told *AJN* that

the group's uplifting performances on the show were intended both to celebrate nursing and to offer a message of hope to fellow nurses in the midst of the pandemic. "We started out by saying, let's get up there and show the nurses who are having trouble finding their resilience that you have to find your joy, whatever it is." The choir also aimed to reassure the public that, as Mele describes, "We know you're frightened, but we're here."

Mele sees a parallel between nursing and lifting up an audience. "The choir is very diverse. If you walked onto a nursing unit at any of the Northwell hospitals, that is what you would see—nurses from all walks of life working toward a common goal. What we did [on AGT] mirrored what we do [as nurses]: bring peace, kindness, and joy to our patients."—*Diane Szulecki, editor* ▼

On the Web

AJN's website, www.ajnonline.com, offers access to current and past issues (from 1900 on), podcasts, article collections—and much more. Bookmark or subscribe to our blog, *Off the Charts* (<https://ajnoftthecharts.com>), to read frequent updates and share your thoughts on what you see in your nursing world. Join us on Facebook (www.facebook.com/AJNfans), and follow us on Twitter (<https://twitter.com/AmJNurs>) and LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/company/american-journal-of-nursing-ajn-). To listen to podcasts and watch videos, click on the Multimedia tab on our website or subscribe to *AJN* podcasts on Apple Podcasts, Google Podcasts, and Spotify.

WHAT WE'RE BLOGGING ABOUT

- In her post "In All Nature's Glory: One Patient's Presurgical Ritual," nurse Barbara Wukovits writes about joining a patient in an unexpected meditative moment (<https://wp.me/p7sy0l-86b>).
- "In the upcoming months, you will grow both through great days and rough days. You'll grow through holding onto confidence and also through wrestling with fear," writes pediatric intensive care nurse Hui-Wen (Alina) Sato in her post "Precepting: Revisiting Ground Rules with My New Grad RN" (<https://wp.me/p7sy0l-85s>).
- In her post "What Nurses Need to Know About Cybersecurity and Patient Health" *AJN* senior editor Corinne McSpedon discusses the threat of cyberattacks on medical devices (<https://wp.me/p7sy0l-856>).

WHAT READERS ARE SAYING ON TWITTER, FACEBOOK, AND OUR BLOG

"I admire [emergency nurses'] bravery, intelligence, and stamina. What they do is amazing!" **"I have been a nurse for 35 years and nothing has changed in acute care. Staffing, staffing, staffing! Safe ratios! Until you fix those, any other measures are pointless."** "I used to have to put the parking brake on at red lights [after working the night shift] because I would doze off at them."

DECEMBER PODCASTS

- **Monthly highlights:** Listen to *AJN* editors discuss the contents of the December issue. 🔦
- **Behind the article:** Editor-in-chief Shawn Kennedy speaks with
 - Alison M. Trinkoff, Sharon J. Tucker, and Sharon M. Weinstein, three of the authors of "Nurses Are More Exhausted Than Ever: What Should We Do About It?" 🔦
 - Pamela J. Grace, author of "Nurses Spreading Misinformation." 🔦
 - Bernadette Capili, lead author of "Cohort Studies." 🔦
- Senior clinical editor Christine Moffa speaks with Caroline Dorsen, one of the authors of "Why Should Nurses Care About the Supreme Court?" 🔦
- **Reflections:** Listen to a reading of Jeanne Kessler's personal essay, "Again in a Heartbeat." 🔦 ▼