



Citation

of

LOUISE FLETCHER

on being presented the degree of

DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS, Honoris Causa

Louise Fletcher has obtained a level of success in her career that comes only to a chosen few. In 1975, she received the Academy Award as best actress in an extremely popular film. She engaged in fierce competition with other actors and actresses who were also reaching for stardom, and she achieved her goal. There is no more widely recognized designation of quality in the performing arts than this.

Ms. Fletcher knows, however, that success in one's craft brings more—not less—responsibility to the individual who has achieved it. She used the acclamation which she received for being a great actress to become a great person. On receiving the Academy Award on national television, she signed her love and appreciation to her deaf parents, the Rev. and Mrs. Robert Fletcher. She accepted membership on the Board of Directors of the Deafness Research Foundation. She developed television presentations and permitted her picture to be on posters encouraging people to learn more about and to respond generously to the needs of hearing impaired persons.

Gallaudet College, by means of this citation, expresses deep appreciation to Louise Fletcher. In the midst of and following blinding success in her career, she remembered a very special group of people and renewed her commitment to them. Ms. Fletcher is held in extremely high regard by Gallaudet College, a love and affection equal to that enjoyed by her wonderful parents.