Dixie Durr, born on July 11, 1940, began working at MSU in the 1960s, where she taught dance until she retired in 2005. Durr received her PhD from Ohio State University, her MA in theatre from Michigan State University, another MA in the Anthropology of Human Movement from New York University, and her BA in dance from Butler University. She was also a certified teacher of Labanotation. A number of dance journals have published Durr's work, and she is also highly accredited for her choreography work while at MSU. The National Dance Association recognized her with a Presidential Citation in 1994 and in 2004 she received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Michigan Dance Council. At MSU she was a member of the Faculty Professional Women's Association, serving as its president. Durr was the recipient of the Paul Varg Alumni Award for Faculty presented by the MSU College of Arts and Letters Alumni Association and recognized by the College of Education in 2006 with a Crystal Apple Award. She passed away on September 2, 2007.