

## Darleane Christian Hoffman

Darleane Christian Hoffman was born in 1926 in the small town of Terril, Iowa. She attended Iowa State College in Ames, Iowa, receiving a B. S. in chemistry and mathematics in 1948. She continued her studies at Iowa State receiving her Ph.D. in physical and nuclear chemistry in 1951. During her graduate studies, she met and later married fellow graduate student Marvin Hoffman on December 26, 1951. She began her post-graduate career at Oak Ridge National Laboratory where she served as a radiochemist from 1952-53. In 1953, Darleane and Marvin moved to Los Alamos, NM, where Darleane served as a Project Leader and Associate Group Leader at Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory until 1978. While at LASL, Darleane worked on several important research projects in nuclear chemistry, including discovery of long-lived Pu-244 in nature, and symmetric fission of fermium isotopes. During this time, Glenn Seaborg became interested in Darleane's research, and in 1978 she was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship to work with Seaborg at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory. After the fellowship ended, she returned to Los Alamos National Laboratory in 1979 where she became the first female division leader at LANL in the Chemistry and Nuclear Chemistry Division (1979-82), which later became the Isotope and Nuclear Chemistry Division (1982-84). After 31 years at LANL, Darleane made a career change becoming the leader of the Heavy Element Nuclear and Radiochemistry Group at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and a Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley.

In 1991 Darleane retired from active teaching and co-founded the Seaborg Institute for Transactinium Science at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LNL), where she served as the Charter Director until 1996. During her career she has won several major awards, including a NSF Senior Postdoctoral Fellowship at the Institute for Atomic Energy in Kjeller, Norway (1964), ACS Award for Nuclear Chemistry in 1983 (first woman recipient), ACS Garvan-Olin Medal (1990), U. S. National Medal of Science (1997), ACS Priestley Medal in 2000 (2<sup>nd</sup> woman recipient), and the Sigma Xi Proctor Prize for Scientific Achievement (2003). Darleane and Marvin Hoffman have a daughter, Maureane (M.D./Ph.D.), and a son, Daryl (M. D.)