**California Society of Medical Assistants**

**Edgar Palarea Award Winner**

**Hayward, CA**

**April 21 - 23 2017**

I am honored to have been chosen for the 2017 Edgar Palarea award. Thank you to the CSMA Executive committee for choosing me.

This is my second year attending this meeting and it was exciting to see a lot of familiar faces from last year, as well as new ones. I also got to see people I have not seen for five years, since our graduation from Chabot College, where this years meeting was held. It was nice to see familiar ground and the place where this journey of medical assisting started for me in 2011-2012. I began working immediately after graduation in May and became a CMA in September of 2012.

I would like to thank current President Joyce Nakano, taking over for Gini Marquette, for the invite last year. I learned a lot of great information, including topics such as Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, Advance Directives, and how to properly code with ICD-10.

I would encourage every Medical Assistant to attend the CSMA Annual Meeting as you get to learn about a lot of great topics that change from year to year. You also make a lot of friends and connections with people in the field. People come from both Northern and Southern California so there are connections from all over this great state.

Thank you to Kristina Perkins who hosted us and did a fabulous job.

Can’t wait to see everyone next year and I hope you enjoyed the conference

Ryann Haggerty CSMA (AAMA)