ity. When leadership is embedded in the roots of nursing practice and education, it creates fertile ground for policy transformation, evidence-based implementation, and innovation. Nurses become not just doers, but drivers shaping systems that work better for patients and communities.

Now more than ever, the call to lead is not just for the few it is for us all. Leadership at every level will be the cornerstone of a stronger, more sustainable, and more impactful nursing workforce. Let us put on the mantle and lead well.

Katoria Westbrook-Stewart, DNP, APRN, AG-PCNP-BC, WCC, is a seasoned nurse practitioner and educator with 25 years of healthcare experience. She is passionate about workforce development, mentorship, and advancing leadership within the nursing profession from the classroom to the community.

## References

Alsadaan, N., Salameh, B., Reshia, F. A. A. E., Alruwaili, R. F., Alruwaili, M., Ali, S. A. A., Alruwaili, A. N., Hefnawy, G. R., Alshammari, M. S. S., Alrumayh, A. G. R., Alruwaili, A. O., & Jones, L. K. (2023). *Impact of nurse leaders' behaviors on nursing staff performance:*A systematic review of literature. *Inquiry*, 60, 1–14.

## https://doi.org/10.1177/00469580231178528

Ystaas, L. M. K., Nikitara, M., Ghobrial, S., Latzourakis, E., Polychronis, G., Constantinou, C. S., &

Gray, R. (2023). The impact of transformational leadership in the nursing work environment and patients' outcomes: A systematic review. Nursing Reports, 13(3), 1271–1290. https://doi.org/10.3390/nursrep13030108

## The Art of Nursing

By Tina Mason

In quiet halls and buzzing rooms,

Where life unfolds and with hope blooms,

A healing touch, a steady hand,

A soul who strives to understand.

They listen not just with their ears,
But heart attuned to pain and fears.
No paint nor clay, but blood and grace,
Their canvas is the human face.

With every pulse, with every chart,
They practice science and wield art.
A whisper here, a gentle nod,
Their presence speaks louder than laud.

They hold the hope that doctors write,
Through sleepless days and endless nights.
Yet ask them why they still endure?
They'll say: because it makes you sure—

That kindness heals, that time can mend, That care begins where rules must end. Each wound they tend, each life they touch, Unfolds a love that means so much.

We advocate with steady grace, Translate the science to each face. As leaders, mentors, guides unseen, We bridge the gaps that lie between.

The art is found in patient care, But also in the way we share— Through protocols we dare refine, And teaching lines we re-design.

Though evidence must chart the way,
We elevate each healing day.
For nursing's art is not just skill,
But passion, purpose, heart, and will.

Here's to nurses—brave, unsung— Whose quiet art is never done. The masterpiece they shape each day Is life itself, in a bright array.

floridanurse.org Volume 73 Number 4 Florida Nurse | 15