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Scarborough Pharmacist Mark Polli Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Maine Pharmacy Association has selected Mark Polli as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Polli was presented with the award at the Fall Convention Awards Banquet on Saturday, September 6. The award is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation, the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations and the American Pharmacists Association with support from Boehringer Ingelheim.

Polli graduated from the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy in Boston with a bachelor's of science degree in pharmacy. He is employed as Director, Pharmacy Government & Regulatory Affairs, at Delhaize America. He is a member of the Maine Pharmacy Association and has worked with a number of pharmacy organizations over the years. He served as a State of Maine board member from 1997-2009, acting as board president for three years during that time. He also served on the National Association of Chain Drug Stores (NACDS) Policy Council in Washington, D.C., for over 20 years and on the Pharmacy Legislative Committee of the Food Marketing Institute.

He has been involved with the University of New England (UNE) College of Pharmacy in many capacities. He was selected as "Pharmacist of the Year" at UNE College of Pharmacy in 2010, was the founding director of Experiential Education in 2007-2008, has been a UNE preceptor since the program's inception, and is the Dean's Advisory Council Chairperson.

Polli also gives back to his community outside of the pharmacy space. He is a member of Maine's Project Safe Neighborhoods, serves as a Scarborough Parks and Land board member, and has served as a volunteer in the past at Maine Youth Center in South Portland, ME. For the past 11 years, he has cared for his elderly parents in Massachusetts during most weekends.

Established in 1958, the Bowl of Hygeia Award recognizes pharmacists who possess outstanding records of civic leadership in their communities and encourages pharmacists to take active roles in the affairs of their respective communities. The award is presented annually by participating state pharmacist associations, including those in the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. In addition to service through their local, state and national pharmacy associations, award recipients have devoted their time, talent and resources to a wide variety of causes and community service.

The Bowl of Hygeia is the most widely recognized international symbol for the pharmacy profession and is considered one of the profession's most prestigious awards. The Bowl of Hygeia has been associated with the pharmacy profession since as early as 1796 when the symbol was used on a coin minted for the Parisian Society of Pharmacy. The bowl represents a medicinal potion and the snake represents healing. Healing through medicine is precisely why the pharmacy profession has adopted the Bowl of Hygeia symbol.

Information regarding contributing to the Bowl of Hygeia future is available by contacting the APhA Foundation at 202-429-7565 or info@aphafoundation.org.

About the American Pharmacists Association Foundation

The APhA Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Washington, D.C., is a trusted source of research demonstrating how pharmacists can improve health care. The APhA Foundation's mission is to improve people's health through pharmacists' patient care services. The APhA Foundation is affiliated with the American Pharmacists Association, the national professional society of pharmacists in the U.S. For more information, please visit the APhA Foundation website www.aphafoundation.org. Follow the APhA Foundation on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#) for the latest updates.

About the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations

The National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations (NASPA) promotes leadership, sharing, learning, and policy exchange among pharmacy leaders in all 50 states and Washington, DC, and provides education and advocacy to support pharmacists, patients, and communities working together to improve public health. NASPA was founded in 1927 as the National Council of State Pharmacy Association Executives (NCSPA). For more information, please visit the NASPA website www.naspa.us.