



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 24, 2014

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East Greenwich Pharmacist Katherine Kelly Orr Honored for Outstanding Community Service

Washington, DC – The Rhode Island Pharmacists Association (RIPA) has selected Katherine Kelly Orr, PharmD, AE-C, as the recipient of the 2014 Bowl of Hygeia Award for outstanding community service. Orr was presented with the award at the RIPA 140th Annual President’s Dinner and Awards Banquet on Thursday, October 23. 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.

Orr is currently the director of academic and student affairs for the University of Rhode Island (URI) College of Pharmacy in Kingston, RI. She earned her Doctor of Pharmacy degree from URI College of Pharmacy in 2001.

As a highly accomplished professional, Orr was nominated by peers and unanimously selected to receive this year’s Bowl of Hygeia Award. Prior to her current position, she served as a community pharmacist and clinical assistant professor of pharmacy. She gives countless hours of her time working with a variety of state, regional and national organizations. Orr is well known by students, colleagues, patients, and her family for her kindness, energy, passion, commitment to advancing the profession and service to students and patients alike. She has served in many pharmacy leadership capacities, including her current role as chair of the Rhode Island Board of Pharmacy and former role as president of RIPA. Outside of the pharmacy arena, Orr donates her time and continues to lend her expertise as a pharmacist through her involvement with the Rhode Island Asthma Control Coalition (2004 to present), Rhode Island Association of Asthma Educators, and Pharmacy Partnership for Tobacco Cessation Speakers Bureau (2005 to present).

Since 1999, Orr has been an active and fully engaged member in RIPA. She has served in a leadership capacity in many different roles during her tenure, including student representative (1999-2000), Communications Committee member (2002-2009), Council of Administration member (2002-2009), Face of Pharmacy Planning Committee member (2005-2010), secretary (2005-2006), president-elect (2006-2007), president (2007-2008), Continuing Education Committee member (2007-2011), immediate past president (2008-2009), and awards chair/co-chair (2010-2013). Outside of her involvement with RIPA, Orr serves as chairperson of the RI Board of Pharmacy (since 2013) and has been an active board member since 2008. Regionally, she has been involved with the Northeast Community Pharmacy Practice Group since 2002. She has also been involved with the planning of the New England Pharmacists Convention Self-Care Championship Committee since 2008. On a national level, Orr is an active member of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy and the American Pharmacists Association.

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 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.