

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Award Winners Honored at MPA Annual Convention & Exhibition in Traverse City

TRAVERSE CITY — The Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) is proud to announce its distinguished yearly award winners, which were presented Friday, April 11, and Saturday, April 12, at the MPA Annual Convention & Exposition (ACE) at the Grand Traverse Resort and Spa. MPA, its practice settings, affiliated chapters and other related organizations annually present a variety of prestigious awards to recognize pharmacy professionals and individuals/organizations supportive of the pharmacy profession.

MPA Pharmacist of the Year

Jesse Hogue, Portage



The MPA Pharmacist of the Year Award is presented annually as the highest honor in Michigan pharmacy. This lifetime achievement honor is given to a pharmacist who demonstrates professional excellence and exemplary service to the profession in advancing public health at either the state or local level and displays all the traits and characteristics of someone with a true commitment to advancing the pharmacy profession and public health.

Jesse Hogue is the pharmacy education coordinator, the PGY1 pharmacy residency director and an emergency department pharmacist at Bronson Methodist Hospital in Kalamazoo. He received his Doctor of Pharmacy degree from Ferris State University and completed residency training at Bronson Methodist Hospital.

Hogue has been a very engaged member since joining MPA in 1998, having served as president, treasurer and executive board member for the Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists; as an MPA executive board member; as a delegate in the MPA House of Delegates for many years; and as a member on numerous MSHP and MPA committees and taskforces.

He has been recognized in Michigan for his contributions to the profession as a Fellow of MPA and a member of the MPA Pharmacy Hall of Honor, among other awards. Hogue has also been actively engaged at the national level, serving on American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' Councils and Commissions and for many years as a Michigan delegate to the ASHP House of Delegates. He is currently serving as the ASHP House of Delegates Chair and on the ASHP Board of Directors.

Bowl of Hygeia

Farah Jalloul-Rizk, Dearborn



The Bowl of Hygeia derives its name from the Greek goddess of the same name, who was the goddess of health, cleanliness and hygiene. Hygeia was the daughter and assistant of Asklepios, the god of medicine and healing. Her classical symbol was a bowl containing a medicinal potion, with the serpent of wisdom (or guardianship) partaking of it. The Bowl of Hygeia is given to a pharmacist who has made outstanding professional contributions and has participated in community or governmental activities that reflect well on the profession.

Farah Jalloul-Rizk is the chief pharmacy officer for the Michigan Pharmacists Association. Jalloul-Rizk was MPA's Executive Fellow in 2017 and was named its director of professional affairs in 2018. She has also served as the state of Michigan's pharmacy emergency preparedness coordinator since 2018.

Jalloul-Rizk was named MPA's chief pharmacy officer in 2024, expanding her role to take over the association's education department. In this role, her focus is on grants, community pharmacy and engaging students.

In 2023, she was awarded MPA's Distinguished New Pharmacist Practitioner Award (now the Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award) and was honored with the Hubert H. Humphrey Award by the American Pharmacists Association (APhA). Jalloul-Rizk earned her Doctor of Pharmacy and Master of Business Administration from Ferris State University.

Executive Board Medal

Charlie Mollien, Hudsonville



The Executive Board Medal Award is given annually to an individual who has demonstrated an extraordinary personal commitment to MPA. The award was developed to recognize individuals who have been instrumental to the Executive Board and to the Association in advancing pharmacy's agenda.

Charlie Mollien is a pharmacist, attorney, former MPA president and past chair of the Michigan Board of Pharmacy.

He is the pharmacy compliance officer for Meijer pharmacies and leads the company's patient safety, regulatory compliance, drug diversion, privacy and accreditation programs. He is a respected expert in Michigan on pharmacy law and has been recognized as the MPA Distinguished Young Pharmacist and the Pharmacist of the Year for the Michigan Society of Community Pharmacists.

Excellence in Innovation Award

Curtis Collins, Dexter



The Excellence in Innovation Award is presented annually to an individual or team that has demonstrated an innovative pharmacy practice program, resulting in improved patient care or safety, advancement of the profession, enhanced systems or other professional development.

Curtis Collins is a clinical pharmacy specialist, infectious diseases and antimicrobial stewardship, at Trinity Health St. Joseph Mercy Ann Arbor.

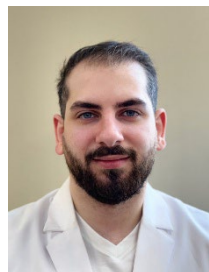
In 2013, Collins initiated and led a multidisciplinary team to rethink and redesign the approach to allergy management at Trinity Health Ann Arbor and Livingston. Collins performed an extensive literature evaluation and ultimately developed an antibiotic side-chain based cross-reactivity chart for the institution's formulary β -lactam antibiotics. Further operational processes were developed for pharmacy staff to improve allergy assessment including historical profile review for tolerance of β -lactam agents, electronic medical record updates and defined communication procedures to clarify allergies and antibiotic choice.

In 2022, the Joint Task Force representing multiple allergy organizations suggested that for patients with a history of anaphylaxis to a penicillin, a structurally dissimilar R1 side chain cephalosporin can be administered without testing or additional precaution. Collins led this process nearly a decade before official society practice recommendations and his work serves as a model for institutions across the world.

The innovative nature of this allergy management work has been recognized through an ASHP Best Practice Award in 2021. Collins has demonstrated strong improvements for patients and revolutionized antibiotic use in patients with allergies at Trinity Health Ann Arbor.

Pharmacists Mutual™ Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award

Mike Nabolsi, Livonia



The Pharmacists Mutual™ Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award (formerly the Distinguished New Pharmacist Practitioner Award) is presented annually to an MPA member pharmacist who has been licensed to practice for less than 10 years and participates in local, state and national pharmacy associations, professional programs and/or community service.

Mike Nabolsi is the pharmacist in charge at Warriors Pharmacy located in Detroit. His passion for community pharmacy has led him to become an advocate for the profession. He is currently serving as president-elect for the Michigan Society of Community Pharmacists.

He also serves on the MPA Government Affairs Committee and is a board trustee for the Michigan Pharmacy Foundation. Nabolsi precepts pharmacy students and is an instructor at the

Wayne State University Eugene Applebaum College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences. His pharmacy experience is primarily in independent community pharmacy.

Fred W. Arnold Public Relations Award
Lambda Kappa Sigma, Wayne State University

This award is presented to a member or team of members who have shown outstanding achievement and dedication to the pharmacy profession through community education and awareness.

The Wayne State University Omicron Chapter of Lambda Kappa Sigma is focused on improving health of women and promoting women in pharmacy. This past year, LKS has offered seminars and trivia events to WSU students to decrease the knowledge gaps they have regarding reproductive health and safe sex behaviors.

LKS members also educated students about House Bills 5435 and 5436 and how to send an email to their legislators to support pharmacists prescribing contraception in community pharmacies and reimbursement for that service.

LKS has been a vocal educator informing communities about the impact the pharmacy profession can have on health, wellbeing and advancing pharmacy services.

Other MPA awards that were presented Saturday or at other events include:

- **Fellow of MPA** – The designation Fellow of Michigan Pharmacists Association (MPA) recognizes the honoree's achievements and dedication to the practice of pharmacy and the community. This distinction signifies the recipient's actions well beyond regular pharmacy practice. The fellowship is divided into three areas: professional actions in practice, public service and Association participation, all of which help define a well-rounded pharmacist. Recipients receive an exclusive lapel pin, a certificate and recognition in *Michigan Pharmacist*. This year's recipients are Benjamin Greathouse of Scottville and Sarah Hill of Howell.
- **Pharmacy Hall of Honor** – The Pharmacy Hall of Honor was established by MPA in 1986 to recognize members who have provided volunteer leadership in service to the Association by participating on committees and in designated Association programs. In addition to the individual's name being displayed in the Pharmacy Hall of Honor at the MPA office, the recipient receives an exclusive lapel pin to signify the accomplishment. This year's inductees are Chadi Abbas of Ann Arbor; Courtney Doellner of Northville; Nada Farhat of Dearborn; Marc Guzzardo of Rochester; Melissa Lipari of Detroit; Insaf Mohammad of Canton; Britany Stewart of Livonia; Hanadi Thomas of Waterford; and Dale Tucker of Clawson.
- **Michigan Society of Community Pharmacists (MSCP) Pharmacist of the Year** – Eleni Morgan, Okemos
- **Michigan Society of Pharmacy Technicians (MSPT) Technician of the Year** – Lisa Ausmus, Waterford
- **Michigan Society of Pharmacy Technicians (MSPT) Service Award** – Rony Foumia, Commerce Township

- **Consultant and Specialty Pharmacists of Michigan (CSPM) Pharmacist of the Year** – Mike Crowe, Grand Blanc
- **Michigan Society of Health-System Pharmacists (MSHP) Pharmacist of the Year** – Insaf Mohammad, Canton (*this award was presented at the MSHP Annual Meeting in October*).
- **Legislator of the Year Award** – Sen. Mary Cavanagh, D-Redford Township and Rep. Julie Rogers, D-Kalamazoo
- **Good Public Health Policy Award** – Doug Hoey, CEO, National Community Pharmacists Association
- **Hank Fuhs Good Government Award** – Wayne Seiler, Northville
- **Ernie Koch Striving for Excellence Award** – Heather Schalk, Haslett

NOTE: Headshot photographs of these award winners are available by request.

About Michigan Pharmacists Association

The Michigan Pharmacists Association strives to serve members by providing support, advocacy and resources that ultimately improve patient care, safety, health and the practice of pharmacy. For more information, visit MichiganPharmacists.org.