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American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Honors Awardees at Annual Meeting

CHICAGO – May 18, 2023 — The [American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry](https://www.aapd.org/) (AAPD), the leading authority on children’s oral health, will celebrate the 2023 winners of its prestigious awards during the organization’s AAPD 2023 annual meeting in Orlando from May 25-28.

Distinguished Service Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Kevin Donly*

The Distinguished Service Award is the most prestigious award given by the AAPD. Presented only when the AAPD Board of Trustees identifies a truly worthy recipient, the award recognizes individuals who have made a major contribution, on a national or international level, over their entire career to advocacy for children, improvement of children's health or to a health profession related to children. The Miller Foundation supports this award.

Kevin J. Donly, D.D.S., M.S. is currently a Professor and Chair in the Department of Developmental Dentistry and Professor in the Department of Pediatrics at the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. He received his D.D.S. in 1984, Certificate in Pediatric Dentistry in 1986, and M.S. in 1986 from the University of Iowa.

Dr. Donly is a Diplomat of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry, was on the Board of Trustees for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, was on the Board of Directors for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Foundation, is the previous Chair of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Council on Post-doctoral Education, is Past-President of the American Society of Dentistry for Children, is Past-President of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry and was the Pediatric Dentistry Commissioner to the Commission on Dental Accreditation. He has published over 400 chapters, manuscripts and abstracts associated with pediatric dentistry, prevention, dental restorative materials research and clinical utilization.

Pediatric Dentist of the Year: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Jessica Meeske*

Established in 1998, this annual award honors a pediatric dentist who has made significant contributions to the dental profession and the specialty of pediatric dentistry through clinical practice, academics or policy development over the past year. Recipients will also have devoted extensive volunteer leadership service to the dental profession and the specialty. This award is sponsored by NuSmile.

Dr. Jessica Meeske is a pediatric dentist in Hastings and Grand Island, NE. She is the senior partner of Pediatric Dental Specialists of Greater Nebraska. Dr. Meeske is a graduate of Hastings College and the University of Missouri-K.C. College of Dentistry. She completed further training in pediatric dentistry and public health at the University of Iowa, College of Dentistry. Dr. Meeske is board certified by the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry.

Dr. Meeske is currently the vice chair of the ADA’s Medicaid Reform Task Force and is the past chair of the Council on Advocacy for Access and Prevention. She is the president-elect of the Nebraska Dental Association where she has helped to pass more than 15 bills in the Legislature related to access to dental care. She has served in numerous leadership roles with AAPD including past trustee and councils of membership, dental benefits, and government affairs. Dr. Meeske is part-time faculty at UNMC College of Dentistry where she teaches dental students and residents in pediatric dentistry. She has given numerous lectures on children’s oral health issues with specific emphasis on ensuring that all children

have affordable access to dental care. She provided testimony to the U.S. House Subcommittee on RAC Audits and Aging for the ADA.

Dr. Meeske's awards include the NDA's 2003 New Dentist of the Year, the ADA's 2002 Golden Apple New Dentist of the Year, the Nebraska Rural Health Association's 2002 Health Care Provider of the Year, the University of Missouri, School of Dentistry's 2003 Young Alumnus of the year. Her colleagues have elected her into the American College of Dentists and the International College of Dentists. Dr. Meeske was selected by the UNMC's Chancellor to receive the Jack G. Elliot Award for Outstanding Service in Health Care to Nebraskans and in 2010 was awarded the Edward Shils Award, a national dental public service award.

Dr. Meeske is active in the Hastings Community through her involvement as a past president of Hastings Public Schools School Board and on the Board of Trustees at Hastings College. She and her husband, Todd Pankratz, have two grown children.

Jerome B. Miller "For the Kids" Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Matt Geneser*

This award is presented annually to an up-and-coming clinician, researcher or academician in pediatric dentistry for their outstanding efforts directed to children's oral health and welfare. The Miller Award was established in May 2007 by AAPD Foundation, to honor former AAPD and Foundation President Dr. Jerome B. Miller for his many years of service to children, philanthropy and giving back to the profession of pediatric dentistry.

Dr. Matt Geneser is clinical professor of pediatric dentistry and full-time faculty member in the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at the University of Iowa. A native Iowan, he attended the University of Iowa (BS 2002, DDS 2006) before obtaining his certificate in pediatric dentistry from St. Joseph Hospital in Providence, Rhode Island (2008). After a short stint in private practice, Dr. Geneser took on a full-time academic role at the University of Iowa in 2011.

Dr. Geneser served as graduate program director at the University of Iowa Department of Pediatric Dentistry from 2012-2019 and currently directs the undergraduate clerkship experience for dental students. He is heavily involved in teaching at both the pre-doctoral and post-doctoral levels while maintaining a busy faculty practice. Since 2012 he has also directed a Nasoalveolar Molding (NAM) Clinic for infants with cleft lip and palate.

He is the immediate past president of the North Central District of the AAPD and serves as a member of the Council on Government Affairs. From 2013-2022, Dr. Geneser served as the AAPD's Public Policy Advocate for state of Iowa. He also currently serves as a consultant for the AAPD's Scientific Program Committee as well as being a board examiner for the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a member of the ABPD's Qualifying Examination Committee.

Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Angela Stout*

The Merle C. Hunter Leadership Award is presented to an AAPD volunteer who has provided exemplary leadership service in the volunteer structure of the organization over the past year. This award, established in 1998, honors the memory of Merle C. Hunter, AAPD Executive Director from 1968-1986.

Angela M. Stout, D.M.D., M.P.H. is a pediatric dentist in private practice in Erdenheim, Pa., as well as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at the Kornberg School of Dentistry at Temple University. She completed her dental degree in 1993 at Temple University School of Dentistry and a three-year pediatric dental residency at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh in 1996. While teaching full time at University of Pittsburgh School of Dental Medicine, Dr. Stout completed a Master's Degree in Public Health at University of Pittsburgh Graduate School of Public Health. Dr. Stout is a passionate

child advocate in the prevention of child abuse and neglect. She is the former Chair of the Pennsylvania Dental Association's P.A.N.D.A. (Prevent Abuse and Neglect through Dental Awareness) Coalition and is the lead participant on the team of trainers for the Pennsylvania child abuse license certification course.

Dr. Stout is presently the dentist for the School District of Springfield Township. She holds offices and memberships in many professional, community, and academic organizations as well as being on staff at the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, Saint Christopher's Hospital for Children, Abington Hospital Jefferson Health, Chestnut Hill Hospital, Temple University Hospital and Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. She lectures on numerous topics as well as training predoctoral and postdoctoral students and residents.

Dr. Stout was named Philadelphia Magazine's Top Dentist in 2010 through 2023. She is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and a Fellow in the American College of Dentists, the International College of Dentists and the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry. She is the Northeast District Trustee for the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, the Vice President of the Pennsylvania Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, a member of the Advisory Board of PA AAP's Healthy Teeth Healthy Children and a member of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society. Dr. Stout is a graduate of the AAPD Foundation's Leadership Institutes of Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and Advanced Leadership Institute of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business.

Dr. Stout enjoys spending time with her family and friends especially at the beach in Ocean City, NJ and in Happy Valley for Penn State football.

Manuel M. Album Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Mary Kaye Richter, awarded posthumously*
The Manuel M. Album Award is presented annually to the individual or organization that has made the greatest contribution to the oral health of children with special needs. The award, established in 1997, honors Manuel M. Album, who devoted an entire career in pediatric dentistry toward improving the oral health of children with special needs. The Album Society supports this award.

Mary Kaye Richter founded the National Foundation for Ectodermal Dysplasias (NFED) and acted as the organization's executive director until December 31, 2010. She founded the NFED in 1981 after a dentist diagnosed her young son as being affected by hypohidrotic ectodermal dysplasia. Under Ms. Richter's leadership, the NFED became the largest clearinghouse of information on ectodermal dysplasias in the world, which it remains today. The organization has served over 10,000 affected individuals in over 90 countries since its founding 42 years ago.

Ms. Richter worked at the national level as an advocate for the dental needs of not only individuals affected by ectodermal dysplasias but all special-care patient populations. On several occasions, she provided testimony to Congress, which resulted in increased funds for the National Institutes of Health. Ms. Richter served on national committees in Washington, D.C. like the National Advisory Dental Research Council at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) and the National Alliance for Oral Health, where she served as co-chair. She played an integral role in the formation of the National Oral Health Information Clearinghouse and the National Alliance of Oral Health.

Her tireless efforts to improve the health and well-being of individuals affected by ectodermal dysplasias have been recognized by the Academy of Dermatology, the Society of Pediatric Otolaryngology, the Illinois State Medical Society Auxiliary, the US Department of Health and Human Services, and with the first-ever Patient Advocacy Award presented by the Friends of the NIDCR.

Mary Kaye Richter died from cancer on November 24, 2022. Her legacy lives on through the many families she impacted with her work and dedication to the ectodermal dysplasia community.

Dr. Lewis A. Kay Excellence in Education Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Clarice Law*

This award, established in 2011, honors the director of the pediatric dental program determined to best exemplify the dedication and values set forth by Dr. Lewis A. Kay: outstanding leadership; commitment to educating pediatric dental residents to provide children with comprehensive quality oral health care; and contributions to society and the profession of dentistry which bring recognition to their program. This award is sponsored by Pediatric Dental Associates, Ltd.

Dr. Clarice Law, DMD, MS is an Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry and Community Oral Health at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Dr Law received her DMD from Harvard School of Dental Medicine in 1995. She completed specialty training in Pediatric Dentistry and Orthodontics in 1998 at UCLA School of Dentistry and the MS in Oral Biology in 2000. She is Board Certified in both specialties. Dr Law was full-time faculty at UCLA School of Dentistry, teaching both disciplines to dental students and residents, until her transition to UTHSC in 2022. Dr Law has enjoyed involvement in both specialty communities, recently completing a two-year term of service on the Board of Directors of the Pacific Coast Society of Orthodontists.

Within the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, she has served on the Inservice Exam Committee, the QE Prep Board Review Course, and the Behavior Guidance Clinical Practice Workgroup. Dr Law is married to filmmaker Ian Eyre and has two children, a 17 year old son and a 14 year old daughter, who have influenced both her orthodontic and behavior guidance practices immensely.

Suzi Seale Coll Evidence-Based Dentistry Service Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Yasmi O. Crystal*

The Evidence-Based Dentistry Service Award, established in 2016 by the AAPD's Evidence-Based Dentistry Committee (EBDC), recognizes pediatric dentist(s) who have made a major contribution, on a national or international level, to the dental profession and the specialty of pediatric dentistry through evidence-based clinical practice, academics or policy development over the past year. Nominees are solicited from the membership and considered by the EBDC, which shall make the final selection.

Dr. Yasmi Crystal is the founder and senior specialist at Comprehensive Pediatric Dentistry in New Jersey where she has been in private practice for over 30 years. Concurrently she is Clinical Professor of Pediatric Dentistry at New York University (NYU) College of Dentistry and she is on the medical staff of the Robert Wood Johnson, Rutgers University Hospital.

Dr. Crystal has a DDS degree from Universidad Tecnologica de Mexico (UNITEC), a DMD from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey (UMDNJ), Pediatric Dental specialty training from Eastman Dental Center, University of Rochester and an MSc in Clinical and Translational Research from CTSI, NYU School of Medicine.

Dr. Crystal is a Diplomate and an Examiner for the written and oral sections of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry. She is very active in numerous professional organizations including the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD), the International Association for Dental Research and the International Association of Pediatric Dentistry. She is a manuscript reviewer for several major journals including Pediatric Dentistry, JDR, JADA, IJPD, BDI, JOCPD and several others. Dr. Crystal has participated in the writing of national guidelines to improve the practice of Pediatric Dentistry. She has presented lectures and continuing education courses to varied health care audiences in the US and across the world. She has published numerous research articles in peer reviewed scientific journals on topics of

Caries Management, Risk Assessment and Minimal Intervention Approaches including Silver Diamine Fluoride therapy, and the Role of Conscious Sedation for delivery of care in Pediatric Dentistry.

As a researcher, educator and with over 30 years' experience as a private primary care provider, her presentations blend evidence-based recommendations with down to earth approaches that work for the provision of care in public and private settings in the US and abroad.

Paul P. Taylor Award: *The 2023 award was presented to Dr. H. Cem Güngör for Direct Pulp Capping of Primary Molars with Calcium Hydroxide or MTA Following Hemorrhage Control with Different Medicaments: Randomized Clinical Trial. Pediatr Dent 2022;44(3):167-173.*

The Paul P. Taylor award is given to the lead author of the most prestigious journal article in Pediatric Dentistry from the previous year. This award is determined by the AAPD Editorial Board and the AAPD Awards' Committee. The Baylor Pediatric Dentistry Alumni Fund graciously supports this award.

Dr. Beverly A. Largent Access to Care Innovator Award: *The 2023 award recipient is Dr. Deidra T. Rondeno.*

Established in 2022, this award seeks to shine a light on a selected individual whose efforts are making a difference for children in their community as an outstanding grantee of the AAPD Foundation. This award is sponsored by Elevate Oral Care.

A native of New Orleans, **Deidra Rondeno, DDS**, graduated from Meharry Medical College School of Dentistry in 1996. She completed a General Practice Residency at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in 1997, one of the few programs in the U.S. that offers specific training in the treatment of patients having developmental disabilities. She founded the DDD Foundation in 1999 and opened the clinic to patients in 2002. Dr. Rondeno is a member of the American Dental Association, The Academy of General Dentistry, the Georgia Dental Association, the Georgia Dental Society, Hinman Dental Society, the Northern District Dental Society, American Academy of Developmental Medicine & Dentistry and the International College of Dentists.

For more information on the 2023 award recipients and AAPD, visit www.aapd.org.

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry (AAPD) is the recognized authority on children's oral health. As advocates for children's oral health, the AAPD promotes evidence-based policies, best practices, and clinical guidelines; educates and informs policymakers, parents and guardians, and other health care professionals; fosters research; and provides continuing professional education for pediatric dentists and general dentists who treat children. Founded in 1947, the AAPD is a not-for-profit professional membership association representing the specialty of pediatric dentistry. Its 11,000 members provide primary care and comprehensive dental specialty treatments for infants, children, adolescents and individuals with special health care needs. For further information, please visit the AAPD website at www.aapd.org or the AAPD's consumer website at www.mychildrensteeth.org.

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