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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

ARKANSAS PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION HONORS INDIVIDUALS WITH 2018 AWARDS

LITTLE ROCK, AR – The Arkansas Pharmacists Association (APA) with other sponsoring organizations, presented eight awards to deserving individuals on Thursday, June 7, during its 136th Annual Convention held at the Northwest Arkansas Embassy Suites from June 7-9.

“2018 has been a difficult year for Arkansas pharmacists with the pharmacy benefit manager (PBM) reimbursement crisis dominating headlines at the beginning of the year and threatening to close independent pharmacies,” Arkansas Pharmacist Association CEO Scott Pace said. “However, with the leadership of people like our 2018 award winners, Arkansas pharmacists will continue to fight for our patients and improve our communities across the state.”

APA 2018 Award recipients include:

2018 Pharmacist of the Year: David Smith, PD of Conway. This award recognizes pharmacists for outstanding contributions to the profession and the advancement of pharmacy.

2018 Distinguished Young Pharmacist of the Year: Greta Ishmael, Pharm.D. of Cherokee Village. This award recipient must have graduated from pharmacy school less than 10 years ago and be active, involved and interested in the future of the profession.

2018 Bowl of Hygieia Award: Cissy Clark, Pharm.D. of Earle. The award, sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations, with support from Boehringer-Ingelheim, was established to honor pharmacists who have contributed to the progress of their community through community service.

2018 Innovative Pharmacy Practice Award: Whitney Bussell, Pharm.D., of Benton. This award was established by the APA in cooperation with the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations to recognize a pharmacist who has demonstrated a prominent spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship in the practice of pharmacy.

2018 Cardinal Health Generation Rx Award: Olivia Anderson, Pharm.D., of Beebe. This award honors a pharmacist who has demonstrated outstanding commitment to raising awareness of the dangers of prescription drug abuse among the general public and among the pharmacy community.

2018 Guy Newcomb Award: Governor Asa Hutchinson. This award recognizes individuals who, by their legislative influence and leadership, have distinguished themselves as political friends of Arkansas pharmacy.

2018 Charles M. West Leadership Award: Mr. Kyle Harvey, fourth-year student at the UAMS College of Pharmacy, received an award to recognize his leadership skills and contribution to the profession of pharmacy.

2018 Arkansas Pharmacy Foundation Award: Ms. Kyeshia Ward, fourth-year student at the Harding University College of Pharmacy, received an award from the Arkansas Pharmacy Foundation to recognize her leadership skills and contribution to the profession of pharmacy.

The Arkansas Pharmacists Association, founded in 1882, is the statewide professional association representing approximately 2,200 pharmacists in Arkansas. APA strives to further the professional advancement of pharmacists, advocate the value of pharmacy, and safeguard the health and well-being of every Arkansan. Its mission is to advance a professional and business environment for Arkansas pharmacists to be successful and fulfilled in serving patients.

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