

# PRESS RELEASE

*For Immediate Release*

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## **Leaders in organized dentistry recognized**

DENVER, Colo. — On Thursday, May 12, 2005 the Metropolitan Denver Dental Society (MDDS) honored local dentists who have demonstrated outstanding leadership in the dental profession. The MDDS Volunteer of the Year, Chairman of the Year and the Honus Maximus awards were presented to the following dentists at a special ceremony held during the MDDS Annual Meeting held at the Wildlife Experience in Parker.

**Charles S. Danna, DDS**, a Littleton-based general practitioner, received the **2005 MDDS Volunteer of the Year Award** for his efforts on behalf of organized dentistry and the service to the community. Dr. Danna has served on the MDDS Board of Directors since 2002. He currently serves as the chair of the MDDS member services committee and as a member of the public relations, program advisory, leadership development and ambassador committees. He is an active volunteer for the MDDS Domestic Violence Dental Care Program, MDDS Careers in Dentistry Explorer Program and the 9Health Fair.

**Jennifer J. Garza, DDS, MS**, an orthodontist practicing in Castle Rock, received the **2005 MDDS Chair of the Year Award** for her efforts as chair of the MDDS Dental Careers Taskforce and for her leadership in the development of the nationally recognized MDDS Careers in Dentistry Explorer Program.

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During the months of October through January, the Explorer program allows students from across the state, ages 14-20, to gain practical experience in dental careers by interacting with local dentists and participating in activities such as making their own mouth guards. Because of Dr. Garza's enthusiasm and mentorship, the annual program attracted over 35 interested students in Colorado in 2004/05.

**Paul W. Bottone, DDS**, a Greenwood Village-based general practitioner, received the **2005 Honus Maximus Award**, honoring individuals who have contributed to the advancement of the profession of dentistry, or to major improvements in the oral health of the community. Dr. Bottone is a past-president of MDDS and is currently the president of the Colorado Foundation of Dentistry for the Handicapped. He is founder and chairman of the Colorado Dental Association's School Nutrition Ad Hoc Taskforce.

The Metropolitan Denver Dental Society is a 108-year-old organization committed to improving the standard of dental care for the Denver community. The Society, a component of the American Dental Association, acts as the unified voice to advance public awareness and dental education for the benefit of its members and the public.

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