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Maine Osteopathic Association Celebrates Leadership and Excellence in Medicine at 114th Annual Convention

[ROCKPORT, ME] – The Maine Osteopathic Association (MOA) celebrated its 114th Annual Convention June 13–15, 2025, at the Samoset Resort in Rockport. The hybrid event welcomed more than 100 osteopathic physicians, medical students, and guests for continuing medical education, professional development, and a series of celebrations—including the installation of new leadership and recognition of outstanding members of the osteopathic community.

This year's Convention marked the beginning of a new chapter for the MOA, as **Kathryn Brandt, DO** was officially welcomed as the Association's next President. Dr. Brandt is a proud alumna of the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNE COM) and a widely respected physician-educator. She is board-certified in Family Medicine and Neuromusculoskeletal Medicine, and has devoted her career to teaching, advocacy, and the integration of osteopathic principles into primary care and chronic disease management. Dr. Brandt has held leadership roles at Maine-Dartmouth Family Medicine Residency and UNE COM, and has served on the MOA Board of Directors since 2017. She now steps into the role of President for a two-year term from 2025 to 2027.

The Association also presented its most prestigious awards at the **MOA Awards Ceremony & Presidential Celebration**, recognizing individuals whose contributions exemplify the values of osteopathic medicine in Maine.

2025 MOA Award Recipients:

- **Distinguished Service Award**

Donald V. Hankinson, DO

A pioneer in osteopathic education and clinical leadership, Dr. Hankinson was honored for his lifelong contributions to osteopathic medicine in Maine and beyond. From founding the Division of Osteopathic Medicine at Maine Medical Center to mentoring generations of students at UNE COM, his influence is profound and enduring.

- **Louis Hanson, DO Physician of the Year Award**

Megan Brewer, DO

Chief Medical Officer at Community Clinical Services in Lewiston, Dr. Brewer was recognized for her compassionate care and fierce advocacy for underserved patients. Her work exemplifies the spirit of osteopathic medicine in challenging, high-need environments.

- **Young Physician of the Year Award**

Catherine Batz, DO

A family medicine and neuromusculoskeletal specialist in Gardiner, Dr. Batz has quickly become known for her whole-person care, clinical excellence, and meaningful patient relationships.

- **Sandra Featherman, PhD Osteopathic Champion Award**

Frank Willard, PhD

A legendary Professor of Anatomy at UNE COM, Dr. Willard was honored for his decades of transformative teaching, groundbreaking research, and tireless dedication to advancing osteopathic science and philosophy.

2025 MOEF Scholarship Recipients:

Through its partnership with the Maine Osteopathic Educational Foundation (MOEF), the MOA also awarded four scholarships of \$2,500 to exceptional osteopathic medical students:

- **Dawson Turcotte**, UNE COM – A Skowhegan native dedicated to rural primary care in Maine.
- **Joshua Webber**, UNE COM – A future physician with strong roots in Maine and a passion for serving underserved communities.
- **Emily Caron**, UNE COM – Matched into the Rural Track of Maine Medical Center Psychiatry Residency; known for her osteopathic approach to mental health care.
- **Isaac Peacock** – Matched into Family Medicine at Central Maine Medical Center; deeply committed to hands-on, whole-person care in Maine.

Additional Highlights:

The Convention featured over 20 hours of AOA Category 1-A CME programming, board elections for both the MOA (Jennifer Eaton, DO of Brunswick, ME & Thomas Pentzer, DO of Sidney, ME) and MOEF (Audrey Okun-Langlais, DO of Kennebunk, ME) and live music from the Dani Tribesman Band. Special thanks were given to UNE COM student volunteers and the Maine-Dartmouth OMM residents for contributing their energy and expertise throughout the weekend.

About the MOA:

The Maine Osteopathic Association is a professional organization representing over 1,000 osteopathic physicians, residents, and students. Its mission is to support the osteopathic profession through education, advocacy, and service, ensuring high-quality osteopathic health care for the people of Maine. <https://www.mainedo.org/news-from-the-moa>

Photos and media inquiries available upon request.