The ADA Foundation (ADAF) has announced the winners of the 2015 Smile Champion awards for Give Kids A Smile® (GKAS), which recognize outstanding volunteer and corporate efforts to strengthen and expand the GKAS program.

• Dr. Cavan Brunsden, a pediatric dentist in Old Bridge, N.J., has been named the recipient of the Jeffrey Dalin, DDS, Give Kids A Smile Volunteer Award. Brunsden has been involved with Give Kids A Smile since the program’s inception in New Jersey in 2003. GKAS N.J. primarily operates as a one-day treatment event on the first Friday in February of each year. In 2014, an estimated 400 volunteer dentists and more than a thousand other volunteers provided more than $1 million in treatment services to more than 4,300 children. Since 2003, more than 36,000 children have been treated in New Jersey through its GKAS program. “Give Kids A Smile is an opportunity to establish a trusting relationship with a child that leads to a lifetime of healthy, happy smiles,” Brunsden said. “Nothing gives me greater pleasure than to open the door to those in need so that they can learn the importance of oral health care.”

Colgate-Palmolive has been named the recipient of the Steven W. Kess Give Kids A Smile Corporate Volunteer Award. Colgate-Palmolive has donated more than $700,000 to the Give Kids A Smile program since 2008, as well as substantial in-kind donations throughout the year. In 2015 alone, Colgate contributed more than 300,000 sets of Colgate Cavity Protection Toothpaste and Colgate Smiles Youth Universal Toothbrushes for children who participated in Give Kids A Smile Day events all over the country.

The awards presentation will take place during the ADA Foundation Give Kids A Smile Volunteer Recognition Reception today at the Marriott Marquis, 901 Massachusetts Ave. NW.

Dr. Brunsden to receive Dalin Award; Colgate to receive Kess Award

‘Smile Champion’ awardees to be honored today

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administration, scheduled for tonight. Host sites are two of the world-renowned Smithsonian museums: the National Museum of Natural History and National Museum of American History. Both museums will be closed to the public, giving you private access to the exhibitions.

Another social event on the agenda also features a visit to a museum. You can sign up for a tour of the Dr. Samuel D. Harris National Museum of Dentistry in Baltimore, scheduled for Saturday afternoon. The $40 event is worth two C.E. hours. The 7,000-square-foot museum offers visitors the opportunity to view 40,000 historic artifacts, including George Washington’s ivory denture, as well as interactive exhibitions designed to inspire people to make healthy choices about oral health.

Live educational sessions
One educational highlight of ADA 2015 promises to be Dr. Stephan L. Buchanan’s “The Art of Endodontics: A Live 3-D Clinical Demonstration,” taking place Friday from 2:30–5:30 p.m. in Room 202 on Level 2 of the convention center.

This live clinical demonstration — to be done on a patient’s upper first molar — will show the procedures and the tools Buchanan uses, as well as the cautions he considers, so each procedural step builds toward a predictably ideal treatment result.

The course costs $89 to attend.

Vast exhibit hall
The exhibit hall, with more than 550 exhibitors, will feature hands-on courses, a dental office design center, a live-patient CAD/CAM stage and more — all free of charge. The hall provides an all-under-one-roof opportunity to test out the latest products and ask questions of the experts. You can touch, feel and compare thousands of instruments and services from the top industry vendors while receiving discounts on items you would normally purchase throughout the year.