“Bowl of Hygeia”

**Award Presentation**

Good afternoon ladies and gentlemen, it is an honor for me to be here today at the NMPhA 2023 Mid-Winter Meeting to present the next award to a very deserving recipient.

Optional: The “Bowl of Hygeia” is the most widely recognized international symbol of pharmacy and derives from Greek mythology. Hygeia was the daughter and assistant of Es-Kah-Lay-Pi-Ous, the God of Medicine and Healing. Her classical symbol was a bowl containing a medicinal potion, with the serpent of wisdom (or guardianship) partaking of it. This is the same serpent of wisdom that appears on the caduceus, which is the symbol of medicine.

The “Bowl of Hygeia” Award is presented annually by participating pharmacy associations in each of the fifty states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico. The recipients are selected by their respective associations for their outstanding record of community service. The Bowl of Hygeia award is sponsored by the American Pharmacists Association Foundation and the National Alliance of State Pharmacy Associations.

**This year’s Bowl of Hygeia winner will receive a plaque honoring her for winning this award. The recipient will also receive a lapel pin that will identify her as a member of a group of outstanding pharmacists, now numbering over 2,500. These pharmacists have distinguished themselves through their actions. Today, we honor a Albuquerque, New Mexico, pharmacist in recognition of her service to the community and to the profession.**

The 2023 Bowl of Hygeia recipient…

graduated from the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy and is owner Duran’s Pharmacy.

She is a very active supporter of the University of New Mexico College of Pharmacy and is a current Board Member with the Independent Pharmacy Cooperative (IPC). She is a member of the National Community Pharmacy Association and a member of Regent Drugs of New Mexico, Pharmacy Development Services, the Restaurant Association, West Downtown Association and the Albuquerque Hispano Chamber of Commerce.

Her commitment to the community is evident with her Pharmacy providing Immunizations, Cholesterol Screenings and Naloxone Kits.

**When we asked her what is the most important asset for leading the profession of Pharmacy ... Her response was *"My most important asset is that I try to stay current with all the changes in the industry. Staying educated and being flexible to change are traits that I try to uphold. I am always looking for ways to improve my knowledge and my service to benefit the community."***

**Our 2023 Recipient’s dedication to the practice of Pharmacy and passion for her community make her a great Award Recipient. The commitment and dedication run in the family – Mona’s father, Robert Ghattas, received the Bowl of Hygeia in 1980.**

**I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you for allowing me to share in recognizing the accomplishments of a deserving recipient and one who epitomizes the principles of the dedicated community pharmacist for which this award was developed.**

**Please welcome and join me in congratulating the newest member of New Mexico Pharmacists Association’s Bowl of Hygeia Award Recipient “family.”**

**Mona Ghattas.**