

# SPECIAL EDITION

# Bulletin

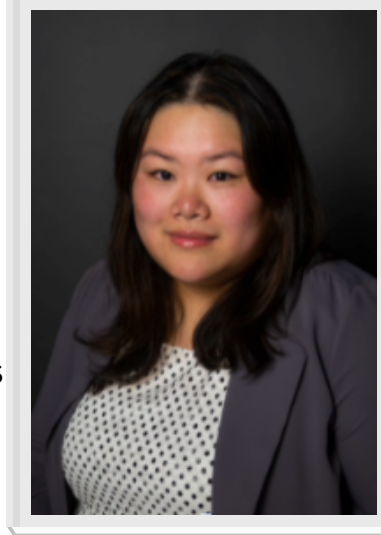
New York City Society of  
Health-system Pharmacists

## MESSAGE FROM THE CURENT PRESIDENT

As we celebrate President's Day, I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the past presidents of NYCSHP for their dedication and hard work in laying the foundation for our organization. Their commitment to excellence embodies this year's theme of "leave it better than you found it." This special edition of our Bulletin highlights their contributions and leadership in NYCSHP.

Our year's theme, "leave it better than you found it," speaks to the ethos of continuous improvement and legacy-building. It's about taking what we inherit and enhancing it, whether that's an organization, a community, or even a personal endeavor. Each past president of NYCSHP has contributed to our organization's growth and success, leaving behind a stronger foundation for the next generation to build upon. By embracing this theme, we honor their efforts and commit ourselves to making a positive impact, ensuring that we leave behind a legacy worthy of admiration and emulation!

**Rebecca Chu, PharmD, BCPS**



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## Bulletin Editors



**Grashma  
Vadakkel,  
PharmD, BCOP**



**Helen Li,  
PharmD**



# John Manzo

## BS, PharmD, FASHP



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

1993-1994

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Launching the “Ask Your Pharmacist” public relations campaign on the New York City Subway System.

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Meeting many colleagues and creating meaningful relationships with members across the City and State while advocating for the profession

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Stay involved and engaged in your profession and professional organizations

**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I have more than 100 Santa Claus decorations.



# Frank Sosnowski

## MS, BS



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

1994-1995

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

The ability to meet so many brilliant and dedicated professionals. I know I can ask for assistance when I have a professional question. I can get an immediate answer and there is not the sense of competition.

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Being a member also provided me with a sense of community. I have met so many individuals throughout the many years that I have learned from and would consider good or best friends for life.

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

There is nothing like collaborating with friends!



# Frances Jordan

## MS, RPh



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

1999-2000

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Installation on a boat

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Meeting people across the state

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Make participation a lifelong commitment. It will pay off!

**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I love to cook.



# Vickie Powell

## BS, PharmD, MS, FASHP, CPEL



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2009

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

After my team building acceptance speech as president, I was approached by the Vice President of New York Presbyterian Hospital Pharmacy and invited to apply for the Director of Pharmacy position that I am still in 22 years later.

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

I am able to network with colleagues across the state and throughout the country. I have made lifelong friendships that have become extended family. I also was hired for a job that I have truly enjoyed for 22 years.

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

It's important to be a member of your professional organization and be active, and networking is one of the keys to success.

**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I love spending the day at the spa.



# Mary Choy

## PharmD, BCGP, FASHP



### **What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2013-2014

### **Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Joining NYCSHP allowed me to give back to my profession and be actively involved in leading the change for our profession. One of the most rewarding experiences as President of NYCSHP was working with members to address public health issues and holding student career events in high schools.

### **What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Publishing a book! Dr. Michele Kaufman and I wrote a book, Healthcare Heroes: The Medical Careers Guide, to give students the tools they need to follow their passions, turn ideas into reality and break barriers in the healthcare world.

### **If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Expand your network and attend meetings! The professional and networking opportunities through NYCSHP continue to be immeasurable.

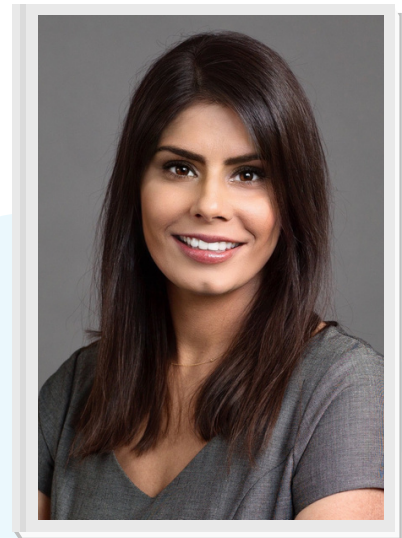
### **Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

The most adventurous thing I've ever done is ziplining in Jamaica with vertical drops.



# Amisha Arya

## PharmD, BCSCP, CJCP



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2014-2015

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Fun times at chapter events and state-wide networking at the annual assembly toga party!

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Fellowship, networking, education, advocacy, lifelong friendships- the resources and connections the organization provides are endless!

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

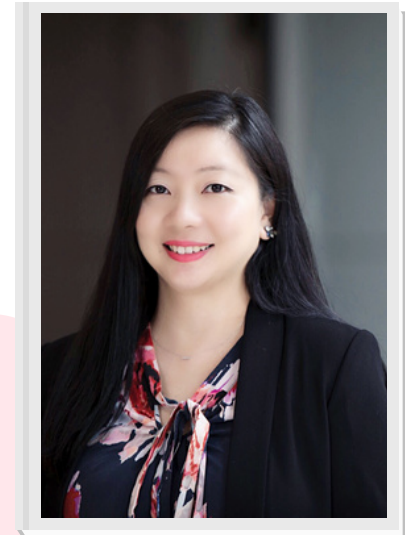
Reach outside your comfort zone, you never know what opportunities are there. Networking with different groups is vital and can provide a valuable range of perspectives.

**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I am somewhat addicted to tetris... I'm on level 1700!



# Yi Guo PharmD



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2015-2016

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Too many! =) I really enjoy working with amazing, smart, and passionate individuals who share a strong interest in advancing the pharmacy profession.

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Networking-helps me build relationships, foster diverse connection, maintain ongoing commitment to professional growth and collaboration.

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Simply just get involved!!!

**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I have a deep passion for travel, and I take great pleasure in exploring diverse cultures and cuisines.



# Jason Babby

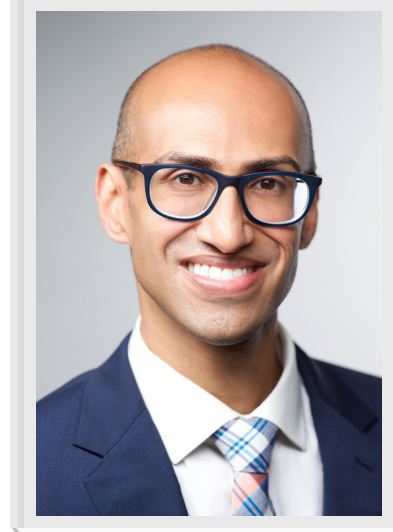
## PharmD, BCPS

### **What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2016-2017

### **Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

The most memorable experience during my presidency was establishing a Global Health Initiative and participating in the first NYCSHP medical mission in collaboration with the Santram Mandir, an organization in Nadiad, Gujarat, India that deeply believes in “Janseva” or volunteer work. In February 2017, a team of 5 pharmacists, four students, and a medical student participated in a mission which highlighted the global impact pharmacists can make on improving access to patient care. We established a pharmacy led clinic at the Santram Eye Hospital where blood pressure screenings, blood glucose testing, over-the-counter medications, and medication counseling were provided free of cost.



### **What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

NYCSHP serves as an exceptional platform for fostering collaboration and cultivating connections among pharmacists across the city. It offers a dynamic space for the exchange of information and the advancement of pharmacy practice. My membership with NYCSHP has proven to be invaluable, both personally and professionally.

On a personal level, being engaged with NYCSHP has enabled me to forge friendships within its extensive network of members. Professionally, NYCSHP has provided me with invaluable opportunities to enhance my leadership capabilities and foster professional growth.

There are numerous opportunities for involvement, networking, clinical, leadership, and professional development as a member of NYCSHP.

### **If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Get involved!

### **Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I love traveling because it opens up a world of new experiences and allows me to connect with people from different backgrounds. There's something truly special about wandering through art museums and exploring historical sites wherever I go. I'm definitely a spur-of-the-moment traveler—I often find myself booking trips just a week or two before I set off on my next adventure!



# Karen Berger

PharmD, FASHP, FCCM, BCPS, BCCCP



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2017-2018

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Creating Grassroots Advocacy Committee!

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Networking, making amazing friends, and lobbying to improve patient care.

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Make lots of friends and keep in touch with everyone- your network can eventually become some of your closest friends. In my case, one of my NYCSHP colleagues became my husband.

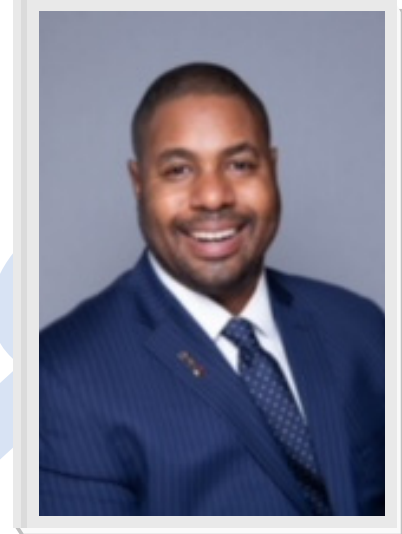
**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I've run 2 NYC marathons, most recently in 2023!



# Charrai A. Byrd

## PharmD, MBA



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2018-2019

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Networking with many members, new and old.

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

It gave me greater collaboration with other hospitals throughout NYC and NYS. It also enabled me to become a member to the Board of Directors for the Council

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

As my mentor always say: each one, teach one.

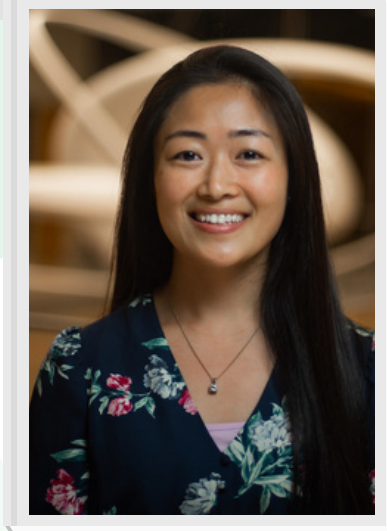
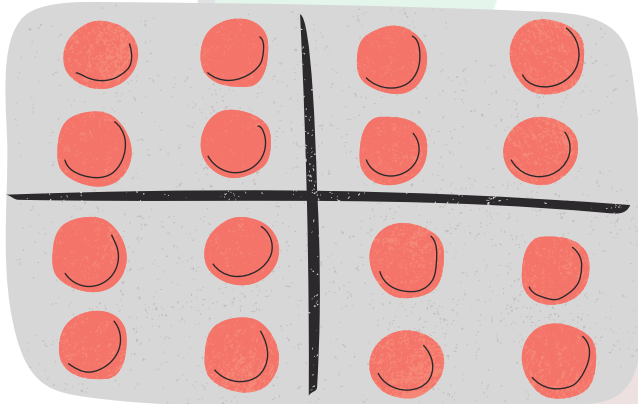
**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

I have an 18 year old dog named Scooter.



# Jamie Chin-Hon

## PharmD, MS, BCOP



**What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2021-2022

**Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Getting to see returning members and to meet our new members in person as we were recovering from the pandemic

**What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

Meeting great life long colleagues and friends at networking and CE programs, great dinner programs. Speaking opportunities. Being able to plan new and exciting programs.

**If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Get involved! NYCSHP's committees events are such a great way to pursue fun and rewarding opportunities for our community. It's a great way to showcase your creativity and give back to others.

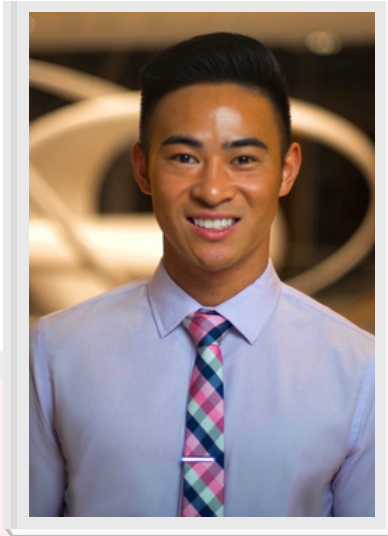
**Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

If sea bass is an option, order the sea bass! (especially at Limani)



# Stephen Eng

## PharmD, BCOP



### **What year did you serve as President for NYCSHP?**

2022-2023

### **Describe one of the most memorable experiences while serving as president of NYCSHP.**

Collaborating with the Delaware Society of Health-system Pharmacists and RunnersRx to host a 5K Run/Walk in Central Park to raise money for the Dr. Lorna Breen Heroes Foundation. It was amazing to see the different organizations come together to support a great cause and offer a month long event focused on mental health and wellness.

### **What opportunities did being a NYCSHP member bring you?**

NYCSHP has provided me with numerous networking opportunities. It has been a pleasure to connect with so many other health-system pharmacy professionals and our industry partners.

### **If you can offer one piece of advice to our members, what would you tell them?**

Don't be afraid to get involved and take on board/committee positions that you would be interested in! There's a lot of learning opportunities one can gain from holding a position and there will always be someone to mentor/guide you along the way.

### **Give one fun fact about yourself! It can be anything!**

My favorite place to travel to is Aruba!