**Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award**

**Qualifications:**

1) Entry degree in Pharmacy received less than 10 years ago;

2) Licensed to practice in New Mexico;

3) Current member of the New Mexico Pharmacists Association;

4) Practice retail, institutional, managed care or consulting pharmacy in the year selected;

5) Participation in national pharmacy associations, professional programs, state association activities and/or community service.

This Award is presented by Pharmacists Mutual Companies.

This young pharmacist has always been an enthusiastic about pharmacy. She started as a clerk in high school and continued to work as a pharmacy technician as soon as she was old enough to get certified. She continuously came back to work in her hometown community pharmacy as a tech or as an intern while completing her Doctor of Pharmacy Degree and later as a pharmacist.

Driven by a passion for pharmacy and a love of community, this person, while at UNM got involved in every student organization possible and took on leadership in each. She was vice-president and membership vice-president in consecutive years for the American Pharmacists Association-Association of Student Pharmacists at the University of New Mexico where she spearheaded the largest patient counseling competition to that date. She was one of the inaugural members that started the now famous “UNM Community Service Outreach Day.” She continues to travel to national meetings and continues membership in the National Community Pharmacists Association.

Her membership with the New Mexico Pharmacists Association also started when she was a student including making the trip to Santa Fe for Legislative Day, to educate representatives at the round house about the value of our rural community pharmacists. She also participated in performing health screenings at the legislature as well at NMPhA meetings. She continues to serve, currently as SE District counselor.

As a new graduate, she came back to her hometown, and stepped in as the pharmacist at the same store she had worked in since high school. She is an expert with the pharmacy technology, inventory management and is very involved in the day to day operations.

She coordinates the medication synchronization program, medication therapy management and spearheads the pharmacies patient care initiatives. She is very energetic and always ready to lend a helping hand solving the problems of the day. Whether it is giving an immunization, completing a TB test or counseling a patient with Naloxone, you can always depend on her to get the job done.

It is my pleasure to present the Pharmacist Mutual

Distinguished Young Pharmacist Award **To:**

 **Apoorva Tiparti.**