

LDE



Newsletter

**LEADERSHIP DEGREE EMPHASIS
CHAPMAN UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF PHARMACY
CLASS OF 2027**

From left to right, front to back: Samantha Romero, Mariana Velarde-Alvarez, Elena Wu, Rebecca Lim, Clare Dinh, Lauren del Rosario, Ethan Trang, Nathan Nguyen, and Troy Khong

WHAT IS **LDE**?

In 2021, Chapman University School of Pharmacy (CUSP) established the Leadership Degree Emphasis (LDE) Program with the inaugural cohort beginning in 2022. Designed to cultivate the next generation of pharmacy leaders, the LDE program fosters the development of essential leadership competencies, including emotional intelligence, effective communication, strategic management, and collaborative decision-making. Beyond excelling in the classroom and maintaining strong professional standings, students selected for the LDE program coordinate various leadership development and community outreach events that empower their peers to grow as future healthcare professionals. With a commitment to lifelong learning, this program prepares students to make meaningful contributions to the pharmacy profession.

Meet the Students!

LAUREN DEL ROSARIO

Goals after CUSP: Pursue PGY1 and 2 Residency focused in Ambulatory Care and Academia

LDE Impact: The LDE program showed me that leadership is not one-size-fits-all. Great leadership is shaped by the unique strengths, perspectives, and individuality that each person brings.

Fun Fact: I love to read! My favorite books are Tuesdays with Morrie by Mitch Albom and The Year of Magical Thinking by Joan Didion

CLARE DINH

Goals after CUSP: Pursue PGY1 & 2 Residency specializing in Ambulatory Care

LDE Impact: The LDE program has shaped me into a leader prepared to serve others and lead with strength, integrity, and purpose. I experienced growth in countless ways and am forever grateful to have been a part of LDE!

Fun Fact: I love to travel and have been to 13 countries!



TROY KHONG

Goals after CUSP: Either post-graduate residency or fellowship

LDE Impact: The LDE program has strengthened my confidence as a leader and taught me the importance of communication, self-awareness, and adaptability in becoming an effective and well-rounded leader.

Fun Fact: I've never had a bed



REBECCA LIM

Goals after CUSP: PGY1 & PGY2 residency focused in inpatient clinical pharmacy and academia.

LDE Impact: LDE taught me the importance of taking yourself out of your comfort zone and taking opportunities you thought you couldn't do.

Fun Fact: I like to crochet, with my biggest project being a king-sized granny square blanket!



NATHAN NGUYEN

Goals after CUSP: Emergency clinical pharmacist

LDE Impact: The LDE program has challenged me to step outside my comfort zone and recognize my potential to make a meaningful impact as a leader.

Fun Fact: I have a black belt in Tae Kwon Do.



SAMANTHA ROMERO

Goals after CUSP: Ambulatory Care Pharmacist

LDE Impact: LDE showed me that leadership is less about having the right answers and more about being willing to learn, adapt, and support others.

Fun Fact: I'm really good at rock, paper, scissors!



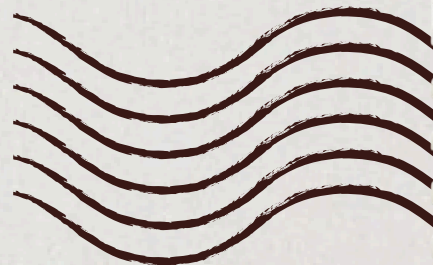
ETHAN TRANG

Goals after CUSP: Health System Pharmacy Administration & Leadership or Acute Care Pharmacy
LDE Impact: The LDE program has shaped me into a more adaptable and purposeful leader, prepared to lead and inspire others in any setting.
Fun Fact: I can twist my thumbs 180 degrees backwards



MARIANA VELARDE-ALVAREZ

Goals after CUSP: PGY-1 Residency
LDE Impact: The LDE Program has aided in my development as a leader. Whether it be through community outreach, patient care, or advocacy, I have grown exponentially in my ability to serve my communities as a soon-to-be pharmacist!
Fun Fact: I competed in a professional acting and modeling competition in high school!



ELENA WU

Goals after CUSP: Industry Fellowship
LDE Impact: The LDE program challenged me to become more intentional about the type of leader I want to be. I have learned to lead with purpose and consider how my actions can positively influence both my team and the people we serve.
Fun Fact: One of my favorite foods are eggs and I have an egg pillow!

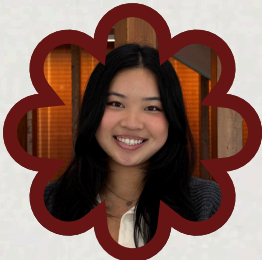


Leadership Positions – Student Organizations

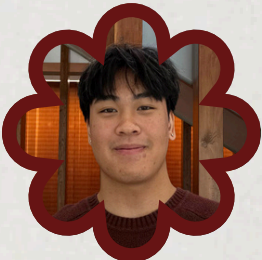
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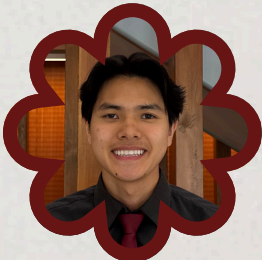
PRESIDENT



VPS OF PATIENT CARE

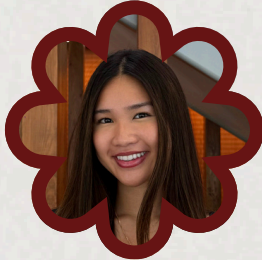


VP OF FINANCE



VP OF POLICY

CSHP

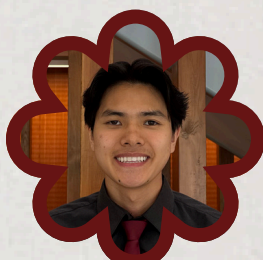


HISTORIAN/PR



CSHP DELEGATE

AMCP



SECRETARY

ACCP



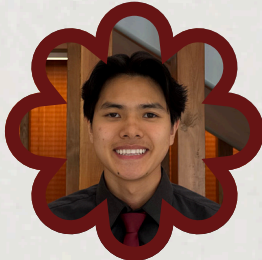
PRESIDENT



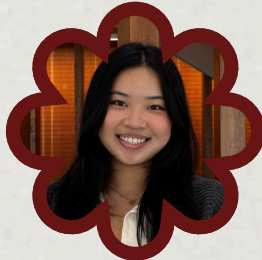
TREASURER



IPHO



PRESIDENT

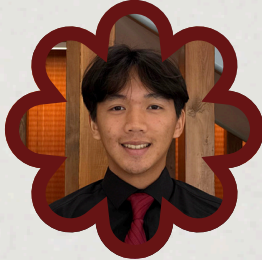


DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL ENGAGEMENT



DIRECTOR OF PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMMING

VAPSA



VICE PRESIDENT

KAPSA



DIRECTOR OF UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

HAP



PRESIDENT



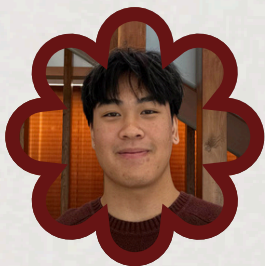
EVENT PLANNER



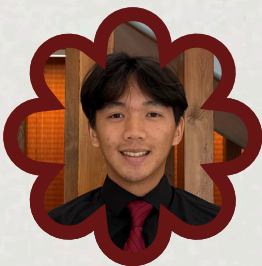
Involvements - Greek Life

06

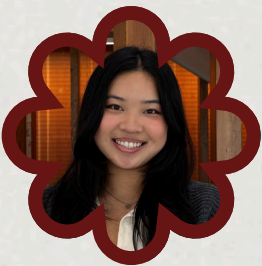
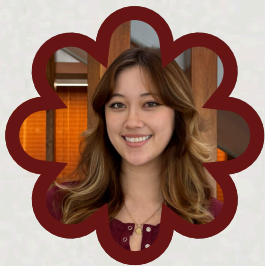
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2ND VICE REGENT



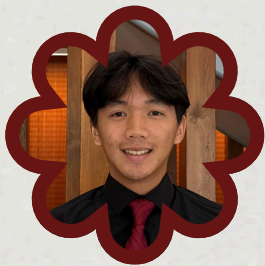
TREASURER



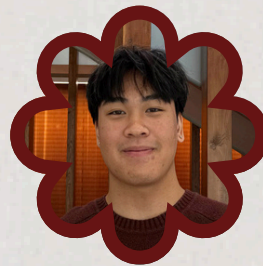
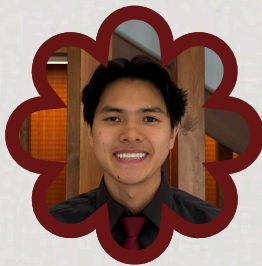
MEMBERS



PX

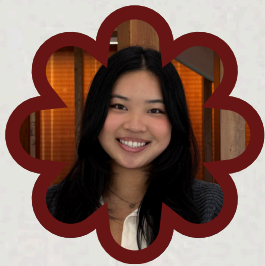


PRESIDENT

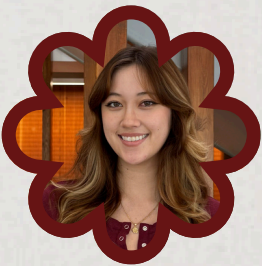


MEMBERS

ΦΛΣ



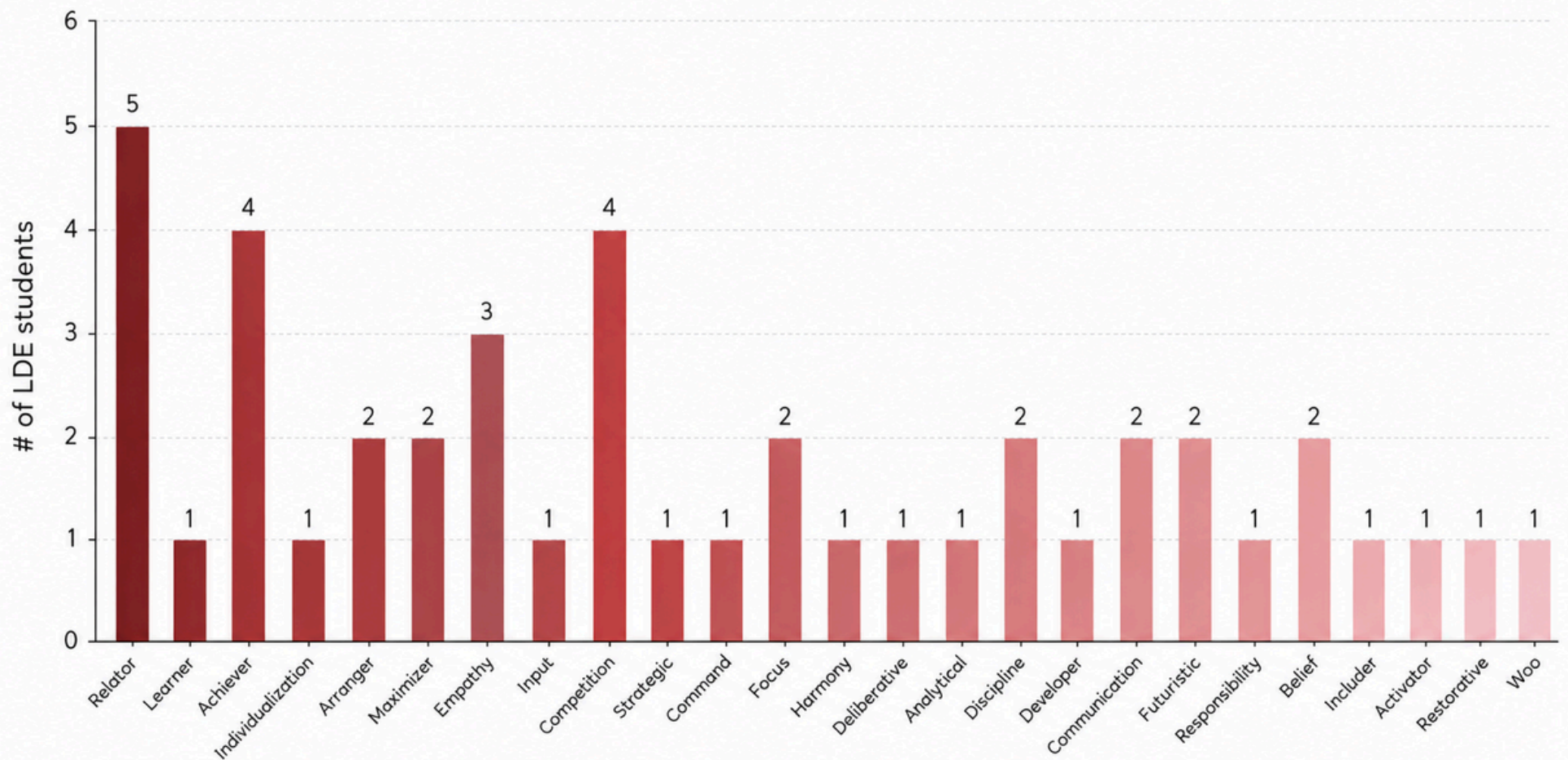
VICE PRESIDENT



SECRETARY/
SERGEANT-AT-
ARMS



CliftonStrengths is an assessment designed to identify an individual's natural talents and highlight how they can be developed into strengths for personal and professional growth. Below is a compilation of the Class of 2027 cohort's top 5 strengths, highlighting the most commonly shared strengths across the cohort.



MEDICARE PART D EDUCATION & ENROLLMENT

In collaboration with OCPA, the Class of 2027 organized a Medicare Part D education and enrollment event at the Westminster Senior Center to support and educate local seniors. Students provided personalized guidance to help attendees better understand their medications and navigate their Medicare Part D plan options, empowering them to make informed decisions about their healthcare.



LDE CLASS OF 2026

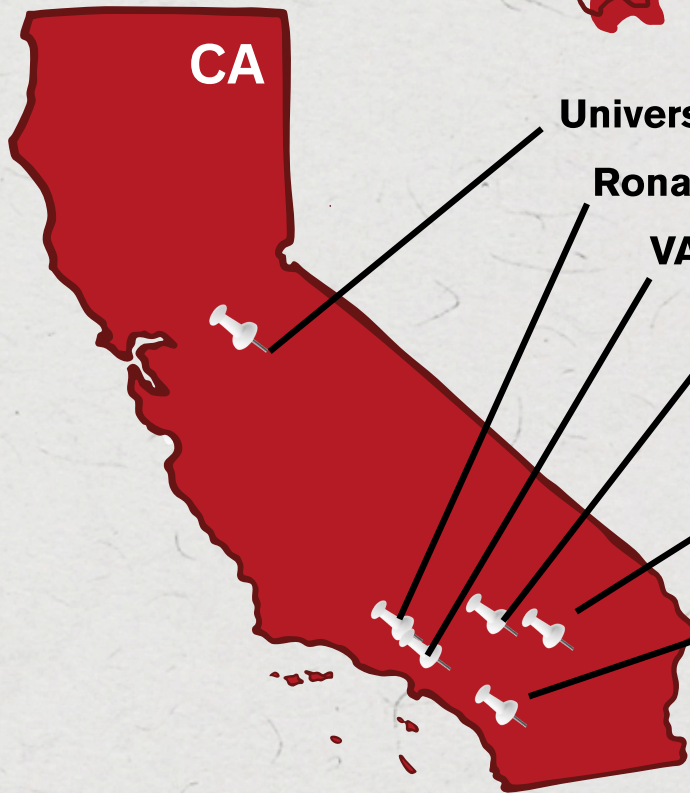
Where are they now?



University of
Washington



Endeavor Health
NorthShore Hospital



University of California Davis

Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center

VA Long Beach Healthcare System

Loma Linda University

Riverside University
Health System

Children's Hospital
of Orange County



All nine members of the LDE Class of 2026 successfully matched! Their dedication, hard work, and accomplishments are truly worth celebrating, and there is no doubt they will continue to thrive and make an impact throughout their professional journeys.

From left to right, front to back: Alex Duong, Rachel Nguyen, Priscilla Sajonas, Vivian La, Tien Dinh, Katelyn Truong, Alice Oum, Philip Tran, and Grecia De La Cruz



A Sneak Peek of the Class of 2026

I am currently pursuing my PGY-1 pharmacy residency at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System (VALBHS).

One of the most rewarding parts of my residency has been the opportunity to care for Veterans in a community that I call home.

Through my rotations, I have been able to work closely with Veterans, build relationships with them, and contribute to improving their medication therapy and overall quality of life.

My experience at VALBHS has also been fun because of the people I get to share it with. I have five amazing co-residents who I share an office with, work alongside, and have gotten to know both professionally and personally.

— *Dr. Alice Oum*

VA



U.S. Department
of Veterans Affairs



CHOC



I'm currently a PGY1 resident at CHOC! So far I've finished my orientation block, took my board exams and am currently finishing up on my Med. Surg. rotation. My responsibilities as a resident include reviewing my patients (~20) before rounds, making recommendations and interventions, monitoring all the anticoagulation on the floor, initiating and monitoring TPNs, and being a resource for drug information questions. I've learned so many nuances in pediatrics and I'm excited to learn more at my next rotation in ID!

— *Dr. Latelyn Truong*



I'm currently completing my PGY1 Ambulatory Care residency at UC Davis Health! My professional interests include Primary Care, Chronic Pain Management, and Substance Use Disorders.

Throughout the year, I get to rotate through a variety of specialty areas and staff at different practice sites. Lately, I've been

working on my research project, which focuses on buprenorphine bioavailability in the treatment of chronic pain. I also love spending time with my co-residents! My experience so far has been amazing, and I'm so grateful for all of the opportunities to learn, grow, and develop my skills as a clinical pharmacist. I'm looking forward to the year ahead!

— *Dr. Priscilla Sajonas*

UCDAVIS
HEALTH



A Sneak Peek of the Class of 2026

Hey Panthers, I am currently doing my PGY1 Pharmacy Residency at Loma Linda University, and I've been learning a lot! As I've been figuring out what I want to do with my life in pharmacy, the LDE program and the mentorship I received at CUSP were pivotal pieces in helping me get here.

To current students: do whatever you can to get involved and get in front of as many people as you can. If I didn't put in the work to build the relationships I've made so far, I wouldn't have scored a residency. I just completed my first block in the Pharmacy Administration program, and I'm excited about the rest of my schedule: MICU, ED, Cardiology/CCU, and more! I have a bomb resident cohort, and I'm having a blast.

— *Dr. Alex Duong*



LOMA LINDA
UNIVERSITY
HEALTH



UW Medicine
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Currently I am living in Seattle, WA after I matched to UW Medicine (University of Washington) for their general PGY1 program. Presently, I am licensed in both WA and CA! As for residency, I am finishing my last week of my first rotation, general medicine, where I am stationed on the floor/service as the clinical pharmacist. Every day, I round with the AMS team, verify orders, triage nurse and provider questions, and manage therapies (anticoag, vancomycin, TPN). I also serve as the preceptor for the APPE student on service! Soon, I will be starting my ambulatory care rotation at the Adult Medicine Clinic. Outside of residency, I am exploring the city and trying new activities (just went paddleboarding for the first time!) with my coresidents, as well as learning to navigate living on my own for the first time. Overall, I could not be more content with my residency experience!

— *Dr. Tien Dinh*

I started my PGY1 residency at UW Medicine and so far have gained some more in-patient experience. I am working through my investigational drug services rotation at UW Medical Center at Montlake where I work with a team of pharmacists and technicians to facilitate Phase I-III trials going on at the UW site.

Moving to Seattle has been a big change of environment and pace but I am blessed to be able to explore this city. I am lucky to have an amazing cohort of coresidents and excited to see how we all grow together in the next year.

— *Dr. Vivian La*



A Sneak Peek of the Class of 2026

Lately I've been deep in my pharmacy informatics residency! Been running a medication evaluation on heparin protocols and experiencing the chaos of merging hospital systems onto a single Epic platform. I've also been on the floors covering inpatient services, handling order verification, rounding, and clinical interventions. Outside of work, I'm enjoying the new scene here, spending time by Chicago's lakefront beaches and visiting beautiful architecture around the city both in Evanston and downtown Chicago.

– *Dr. Philip Tran*



Hello all! It's Grecia De La Cruz from the PharmD Class of 2026 cohort. Since graduation, I have moved out to Moreno Valley and have been devoting my time towards the general PGY-1 residency program here at Riverside University Health System on top of getting licensed! I, along with my co-residents, am still greatly devoted towards pursuing ambulatory care and absolutely adore the population I'm looking after here in SoCal!

– *Dr. Grecia De La Cruz*

I am currently a PGY1 Acute Care Resident at Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center, where I have the opportunity to rotate through various services. Right now, I am rotating through the Adult Infectious Diseases Consult Service where I get to attend rounds with attendings, fellows, residents, medical students, and pharmacists. In this rotation I get to actively be involved in the decision making process to formulate and optimize antibiotic regimens for complex patients.

– *Dr. Rachel Nguyen*



Dear Class of 2026,



Dear Class of 2026,

Congratulations. What a journey it has been from the Mirror View, where you learned to truly know yourselves as leaders, to the Window View, where you learned to see, trust, and lift up the teams around you. Watching you grow through these courses and other experiences in the leadership program has been a great privilege for me.

You leave this program having done more than complete a curriculum; you have found your voice as leaders in pharmacy. Wherever your path takes you next, keep your Personal and Professional Mission Statement close. Let it be your North Star and something to return to for hope, energy, and clarity, especially on the hard days.

I am so proud of who you have become, and I cannot wait to see what you do next. Please stay in touch; I want to hear about every milestone along the way.

– *Dr. Taheri*

Dear Class of 2026,

We are truly in awe of all that you have accomplished, the drive you have shown, and the incredible leaders you have become. Having such a dedicated and hardworking LDE cohort to look up to has been an invaluable source of inspiration, guidance, and motivation for us. From serving as our mentors and leaders to becoming our friends, we could not be more proud of you and all that you have achieved.

We have no doubt that each of you will continue to thrive, make an impact, and accomplish amazing things throughout your journeys as pharmacists. We are so excited to see where this next chapter takes you. The best is yet to come!

– *LDE Class of '27*

Dear Class of 2026,

Although I joined your LDE cohort later in the program, I have been truly impressed by everything you have accomplished and shared during your project presentations. I wish you continued success as you pursue your future goals and aspirations. This is only the beginning, and I look forward to hearing about all that you achieve in the years ahead. Please stay in touch!

– *Dr. Bach*



Dear Class of 2026,

What an incredible accomplishment! You have successfully completed your pharmacy school journey while also earning the Leadership Degree Emphasis—a remarkable achievement that reflects your dedication, perseverance, and commitment to becoming not only excellent pharmacists but also inspiring leaders.

Throughout your time in the program, you have grown as students, professionals, and leaders. The knowledge, skills, and experiences you have gained will serve as a strong foundation as you begin the next chapter of your careers.

As you move forward, remember that leadership is not simply about holding a title—it is about making a difference, serving others, embracing challenges, and inspiring those around you.

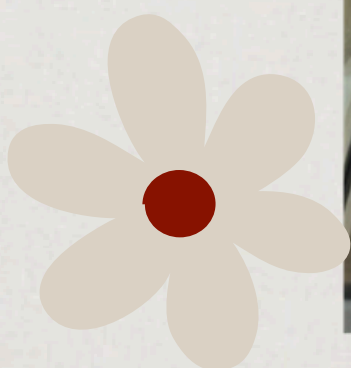
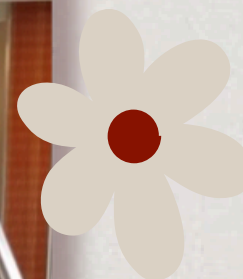
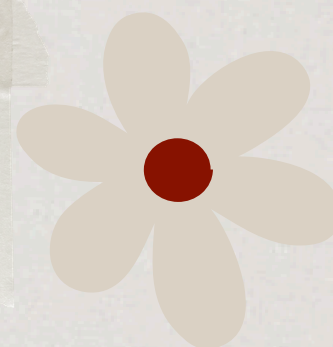
We are incredibly proud of all that you have accomplished and excited to see the impact you will make in the pharmacy profession and beyond.

– *Dr. Lewis*

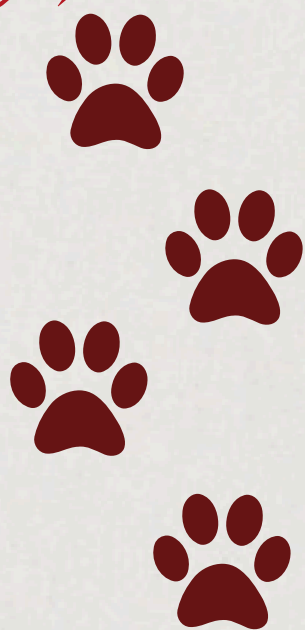
WELCOME

LDE CLASS OF

2028



thank you



2026



2025



good luck

WITH LOVE,
CLASS OF 2027 LDE COHORT