



Phoenix Institute of Herbal Medicine & Acupuncture (PIHMA)

College & Clinic

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www.PIHMA.edu

Premiere School in Arizona

- Founded in 1996, PIHMA is the largest Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (AOM) college in AZ.
- First and only accredited Oriental Medical College & Clinic in the Phoenix area.
- First acupuncture program approved by the Arizona Acupuncture Board of Examiners.
- First with graduates employed at Banner Hospitals.
- Innovative academic model including overseas internship experience - Chengdu University in China,
- Partnerships with London College of Traditional Chinese Medicine, American College of Medical Homeopathy, Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine, Southwest Center for HIV and AIDs, local homeless shelters, and Arizona State University College of Nursing & Healthcare Innovation.

Awards & Recognition

- Arizona Small Business Development Success Award, 2005
- Top 50 Minority Businesses, Arizona Business Journal, 2004, 2005, 2008, 2009
- Arizona Corporate Excellence Award, Arizona Small Business Development, 2002
- Top 50 Fastest Growing Companies in Arizona, Arizona Business Journal, 2002
- Top Colleges & Universities, Arizona Business Journal, 2009

Public Service & Board Appointments

- President & Founder, Catherine Niemiec: Commissioner & Site Evaluator for Accreditation Commission for Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine (ACAOM), Founder & Former President of Arizona Society of Oriental Medicine & Acupuncture (AZSOMA); Former Vice-President of the Council of Colleges of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (CCAOM); Advisory Board for the WellCare Foundation, National Association of Advisors for Health Professions (NAAHP), Paradise Valley Community College, & Consortium to Advance Integrative Health & Wellness (CAIHW; formerly Arizona Consortium of Complementary Healing Organizations (ACCHO; served as President); Former VP of Philippine Business Chamber of Commerce.
- Catherine Niemiec led successful petition for legislation to create Acupuncture Board of Examiners in May of 1998.

About the Students

- Student backgrounds: executives, business and finance professionals, military personnel, allied health staff and physicians, academics, homemakers, massage & bodywork, IT personnel, and teachers.
- 10% Hispanic, 12% Asian/Pacific Islander, 6% Native-American, 3% African-American, 36% male and 64% female, average age 40.
- PIHMA has over 130 current students and 118 graduates.
- Upon completion of the 4-year program students are awarded a Master of Science Degree in Oriental Medicine or in Acupuncture.

About the Clinic

- Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine is able to treat over 100 different ailments from pain management to chronic illness to post surgery recovery, insomnia and "facial rejuvenation" therapy.
- Over 200 patients evaluated per week.
- Over 40 student interns and 15 licensed clinic supervisors jointly treat patients at reduced rates.
- Professional licensed practitioners also offer private treatments at our Clinic.
- A professional herb dispensary with patent & raw herbs.

Acupuncture is a Reality

- In 2009, the military began training Army, Navy and Air Force doctors to use acupuncture in combat and frontline hospitals of Iraq and Afghanistan.
- Used to treat veterans in clinics in more than 18 cities across the U.S. for Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD).
- A 2005 National Institutes of Health (NIH) study has found that patients made more visits to CAM providers than conventional medical doctors, paying more than \$12 billion out-of-pocket a year. In 2008, NIH found that CAM spending increased to \$33.9 billion.
- Acupuncture detox is mandated by courts in Miami, Portland and the Bronx for drug offenders versus jail with a 97% success rate of staying off drugs when combined with a 12-step recovery program.
- NCCAOM-certified acupuncturists have the highest level of training in Acupuncture & Oriental medicine (AOM), greatly exceeding that of MD's, DC's, DO's and ND's in AOM.
- World Health Organization states that 60% of the world's population uses traditional medicine and acupuncture while only 40% uses western medicine.