



Volunteer Spotlight: Jonathan Daniel DC, DiHom, Dipl. Ac. (NCCAOM)[®], L.Ac.

The NCCAOM Committees, Panels and Taskforces, who are appointed by the Board of Commissioners, assist in governing by investigating, deliberating, and analyzing special issues on behalf of the Board.

Some of NCCAOM's committee members have served the organization for many years in varying capacities, on various committees, taskforces or panels or as an NCCAOM Board Commissioner. Their work often goes unseen by the public, but they are an integral part of our organization. Beginning with this newsletter, we will feature one of our volunteers in each issue. We are truly grateful for their work and their service to the NCCAOM.

[Learn more about volunteering with the NCCAOM!](#)



Jonathan Daniel is the first of our Volunteers to kick off our new newsletter feature: The Volunteer Spotlight. We selected Jonathan because of his many years of volunteer service to the NCCAOM. He began his volunteer service in 1993, nearly 27 years ago! His years of service have been consecutive except for a brief break. Among his current committee work, Jonathan previously served on the NCCAOM Board of Commissioners as well as a Globalization Taskforce in 2006 and the Research Taskforce in 2007 and has also served on the board of ASNY.

After graduating from high school in 1965, Dr. Daniel worked as a volunteer orderly at Sharon Hospital in Connecticut, which fueled his passion for health and wellness. He later attended the University of California, Berkeley with majors in Biochemistry, Biological Sciences and Psychology, graduating with a BA in 1969. He expanded his education, beginning a Masters program in Experimental Psychology at San Francisco State College from 1971-1973 but left before completion to spend a year in Israel. Upon his return, Dr. Daniel attended Western States Chiropractic College in Portland, Oregon where he was first exposed to Chinese medicine via a correspondence course in Acupuncture from the North American College of Acupuncture. Although extremely interested in the medicine, he decided to pursue one system at a time and subsequently graduated in 1977 as a Doctor of Chiropractic. He has practiced extensively and has shared his talents for healing in Oregon, California, New York, and following his initial visit years prior, spent 8 more years in Israel at the Vegetarians and Vegans Movement clinic in Tel Aviv. He also studied Homeopathy through the British Institute of Homeopathy, obtaining a DiHom

A man of many talents, Jonathan Daniel also speaks nine languages!



We are grateful for his many years of quiet dedication to the mission and vision of the NCCAOM and recognize him as a very valuable Volunteer.

What motivated you to apply as a volunteer for the NCCAOM all those years ago?

I enjoy treating people. It gives me great satisfaction to see people get better from their problems. It is also a great opportunity to learn something more about how to care for people. However, I am not very comfortable with self-promotion. I would prefer that my work would speak for itself. And I have also wanted to make a contribution to the field of “complementary” or “alternative” medicine in general, and in particular traditional Chinese medicine in the United States on a wider scale than just being a practitioner.

What kept you coming back as a volunteer?

My desire to contribute on a larger scale than just being an individual practitioner has continued. Working for the NCCAOM is a great opportunity to contribute to the profession as a whole.

How have you observed growth in the NCCAOM as an organization throughout your years of serving?

It certainly has grown, for sure. There has always been a question of what the role of the NCCAOM should be. Should it be merely the certifying organization for the practice of traditional Chinese medicine or should its scope also be wider, as a leader in the field, pointing in the direction of enabling traditional Chinese medicine to become a valued, as well as recognized profession in health care in the United States, as well as in the rest of the world. As you can tell by my earlier answers, I tend to favor the latter approach.

What do you wish other people knew about the fields of Acupuncture & Oriental Medicine?

That it is a whole and complete system of health care, for the prevention and treatment of disease and that its abilities in the prevention and treatment of disease go far beyond what is conventionally considered to be what it is capable of doing.

What might someone be surprised to know about you?



Other than being a polymath and an autodidact, there are many things that might surprise people, among them being that I have played many musical instruments. I usually take up learning how to play an instrument based upon a particular style of music that I want to learn how to play. My first instrument was the guitar, which I started learning when I was 11. I am currently thinking about learning to play on an 88-key keyboard in order to play Ragtime, among other things.

What do you do when you are not working?

I study Talmud, Midrash and Kabbalah and do translations of Kabbalistic works for an organization.