

## NYCPM's First Virtual Graduation Celebrates Class of 2020



*VP of Academic Affairs & Academic Dean Michael J. Trepal, DPM, administered the Hippocratic Oath; it was recited by the 2020 graduates during their virtual commencement ceremony.*



NYCPM's first virtual graduation was held via Zoom on May 15, 2020, the original date for the Class of 2020's in-person graduation at Lincoln Center. In addition to the date, a number of other features from NYCPM's traditional commencement ceremonies were retained. The names of each award winner was called (and their photos and award names displayed). Each graduate's name was also announced (there were 85) and the names and photos displayed, including those of three graduating residents and one student, Emma Akinyi Salome Otieno, who simultaneously earned both a DPM from NYCPM and an MPH from the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.

After the names of the graduates were called, VP of Academic Affairs & Academic Dean Michael J. Trepal, DPM, administered the Hippocratic Oath; it was recited by the graduates and was both seen and heard echoing each other in a powerful online choreography. After President and CEO Louis L. Levine conferred the degree of doctor of podiatric medicine, speeches by **Class President Kwame Novinyo Doh, DPM** and **Class Valedictorian Milad Motalebi Kashani, DPM** concluded the ceremony. In their remarks and congratulatory comments, faculty members and Mr. Kashani reached high, quoting Albert Camus (Dr. Trepal) and Dickens (Mr. Kashani) among others, perhaps in an effort to ensure that these virtual proceedings would have the gravitas and memorability of past 'live' graduations.