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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Patch Adams announced as Endnote Speaker for the 2020 Annual AHNA Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) announces that Patch Adams internationally known speaker on wellness, humor, and joy will be the endnote speaker at their 2020 Annual Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The event will take place June 1 through June 6, 2020 at the Hyatt Regency Albuquerque with the theme, “Holistic Nurses: Weaving Traditions to Create Solutions & Find Balance.”

About Patch Adams

Patch is a medical doctor, a clown, and a social activist who has devoted 30 years to changing America's healthcare system. He believes that laughter, joy and creativity are integral parts of the healing process.

His suicidal attempts as a teenager got him hospitalized three times in a year and he decided to change all this forever. To give shape to his vision, he earned his Doctor of Medicine degree at Virginia Commonwealth University (Medical College of Virginia) in 1971. Passionate about spreading love and laughter all around, he founded Gesundheit! Institute as a free community hospital. After running it for free for 12 years, he moved out of his cocoon and traveled worldwide, giving presentations and delivering lectures to medical schools and conferences to spread awareness about the alternative medical facilities for treating patients, thereby bringing a change to the existing healthcare system in America. He also made clown trips to hospitals, elder homes, orphanages, war zones, natural disaster sites, and refugee camps. Of late, he is working hard to re-build Gesungheit Institute as a community eco-village health care facility in Pocahontas County, West Virginia, which will include a 40-bed hospital and other amenities such as theater, horticulture, vocational therapy, and arts and crafts shops.

Doctors and patients in his model relate to each other on the basis of mutual trust, and patients receive plenty of time from their doctors. Allopathic doctors and practitioners of alternative medicine work side by side in Patch’s model. Patch and his colleagues have practiced medicine at the Gesundheit Institute together in West Virginia that way for 43 years in what Patch refers to as their “pilot project.”
About AHNA

The American Holistic Nurses Association (AHNA) is a non-profit specialty nursing professional membership organization that serves as the definitive voice for registered nurses who practice holistic nursing.

Founded in 1981, AHNA’s primary mission is to advance holistic nursing through Practice, Community Building, Advocacy, Research and Education. The association is dedicated to the continued development of evidence-based holistic research, self-care methods for nurses and non-pharmacological pain management. AHNA offers networking opportunities to its members along with continuing nursing education through webinars, self-study programs, publications, conferences, and scholarship and grant opportunities.

AHNA currently services more than 5,500 members through 166 local chapters in the U.S. and abroad. Holistic nursing is recognized by the American Nurses Association as an official nursing specialty with a defined scope and standards of practice.

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