

Honors Convocation

— MAY 17, 2024 —



UNIVERSITY *of* MARYLAND
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Order of Exercise

“America the Beautiful”

Allison Nicole Keyes
Vice President, Dental Class of 2024

Confirmation of Professional and Honorary Degrees

Presiding

Bruce E. Jarrell, MD, FACS
President, University of Maryland, Baltimore

Honors Recognition

Presiding

Mark A. Reynolds, DDS '86, PhD
Dean, Professor

Greetings

Joanne Block Rief, DDS '86
President, Alumni Association

Melvin F. Kushner, DDS '66
Chair, Board of Visitors

Greetings from the Student Government Association

Frances Morales
Dental Class of 2026
President, Student Government Association

Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene Program

Greetings and Remarks to the Dental Hygiene Graduates

Suzanne Burgee, RDH, BS '12, MS
Clinical Instructor, Division of Dental Hygiene
Academic Program Director, Dental Hygiene Program
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics

Remarks and Presentation of Dental Hygiene Graduates

Julia Michelle Boras
President, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024

Pinning of Dental Hygiene Graduates

Honorary Pinner, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024

Suzanne Burgee, RDH, BS '12, MS
Oksana Mishler, RDH, MS, DHSc
Clinical Associate Professor, Division of Dental Hygiene
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics

Doctor of Dental Surgery Program

Remarks and Presentation of Dental Graduates

Justin Arman Tabatabai
President, Dental Class of 2024

Doctoral Hooding of Dental Graduates

Honorary Doctoral Hooders, Dental Class of 2024

Chris Choi, DMD, MS, FACP
*Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Prosthodontics
Co-Director, Predoctoral Prosthodontics
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Ramsay Koury, DMD
*Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of General Dentistry
Department of Comprehensive Dentistry*

The Convocation Oath

Patricia E. Meehan, DDS '93, BSN, FACD, FICD
*Associate Dean for Academic Affairs
Associate Professor, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Presentation of the Frank J. Sinnreich, Jr.

Excellence in Teaching Award
Mark A. Reynolds, DDS '86, PhD

Well Wishes

James Cope, DDS '92
*Clinical Instructor, Division of Prosthodontics
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Recessional

“Pomp and Circumstance”
Sir Edward Elgar

Faculty Marshals

Chief Marshal

Timothy Meiller, DDS, PhD
*Professor, Department of Oncology and Diagnostic Sciences
Director, Oral Medicine, Dental School and the Marlene and Stewart Greenebaum
Comprehensive Cancer Center*

Announcer

Nisha Ganesh, DDS '07, MAEd
*Clinical Associate Professor and Vice Chair, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry
Director, Predoctoral Education*

Dental Hygiene

Lisa Bress, RDH, BS '83, MS '94
*Clinical Associate Professor and Division Chief, Division of Dental Hygiene
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Cynthia Finfrock, RDH, MS
*Clinical Instructor and Senior Clinic Coordinator, Dental Hygiene Program
Division of Dental Hygiene, Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Doctor of Dental Surgery

Adam Eisner, DDS '89, FICD, FACD
*Clinical Instructor, Advanced Education in General Dentistry
Department of Comprehensive Dentistry
Class Advisor*

Andrea Morgan, DDS '90, MS
*Director of Student Advocacy and Cultural Affairs
Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Operative Dentistry
Department of Comprehensive Dentistry
Class Advisor*

Kwanrak Wongse-Sanit, DDS
*Clinical Instructor, Division of General Dentistry, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry
General Practice Director*

Faculty

Ina L. Griffin, DMD
*Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Endodontics
Director, Postgraduate Endodontic Education
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Amelia Orta, DMD, FACP
*Clinical Assistant Professor, Division of Prosthodontics
Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

Platform Party

Mary Anne S. Melo, DDS, MSc, PhD, FADM, FACDH
*Clinical Professor and Chair, Department of Comprehensive Dentistry
Director, Division of Cariology and Operative Dentistry*

Special Guest

Barry L. Cohan, DDS '74
*Clinical Assistant Professor
Past President, Alumni Association
Member, Board of Visitors*



Established in 1840, the University of Maryland School of Dentistry (UMSOD), the world's first dental college, has served as a model for dental education for more than 180 years.

Its faculty, staff, and students are dedicated to achieving excellence in education, patient care, research, innovation, and public service. Together they work to advance oral health and improve lives.

The School of Dentistry originated the Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) degree, which remains a cornerstone program. It also offers Maryland's only baccalaureate, dual bachelor's and master's degree dental hygiene programs; advanced education in general dentistry and seven specialties; graduate programs in dental biomedical sciences and oral experimental pathology; and combined master's and doctoral programs.

Each year, the school's remarkable faculty and programs attract the most promising students from the United States and beyond. The four-year DDS program typically receives significantly more applications annually than the national average of its peer institutions; roughly one in 18 applicants is admitted.

The student body is increasingly diverse. Among the dental students graduating today, more than 25 languages — including Arabic, Farsi, French, Greek, Gujarati, Hebrew, Hindi, Khmer, Igbo, Italian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish, Telegu, Urdu, and Vietnamese — are spoken.

Class members are split nearly evenly between men and women; about 20 percent are members of underrepresented minority populations.

Before enrolling in the DDS program, 10 of the students who are graduating today already had earned master's degrees; one held a doctorate. Sixty percent of the School's DDS graduates typically pursue post-graduate residency or fellowship training programs. Of the 12 graduating dental hygiene students in the Class of 2024, five entered the program holding a bachelor's degree in another field and four entered with an associate degree.

Renowned internationally for its advanced research in Microbial Pathogenesis, Cancer, Biomaterials and Engineering, and Neural and Pain Science, the School of Dentistry attracts leading scientists and clinical scholars to faculty and research positions. Last fiscal year, UMSOD faculty members held 131 active grants and contracts resulting in funding of more than \$66 million.

The School of Dentistry continues to provide a traditional clinical approach to serving the oral health needs of Baltimore and other Maryland communities. During the last fiscal year, faculty, staff, and students provided care through on- and off-campus clinics for more than 21,500 patients annually.

The school also touches the lives of many other Maryland residents each year through hours of service at community events such as the University of Maryland, Baltimore's CURE Scholars program. This program prepares sixth- to 12th-grade students in Baltimore for rewarding research and health care careers. During their dental school years, the members of the Class of 2024 completed nearly 4,000 hours of community service.

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Candidates

Sydney Sadler Bartolich

Julia Michelle Boras

Carolina Darcy Elias*

Laurie Claire Christie France*

Khanh Minh Mai

Ramy Mikhail

Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo*

Kathy Ky Nguyen

Shannon Alicia Schubert

Thanyathorn Vachira-anan

Claire Kristine Alexis Platon Valenzuela

Erica Lynne Zimmerman*

**Candidates in the Clinical Dental Hygiene Leader Track-Dual Degree Bachelor of Science/Master of Science in Dental Hygiene. MS awarded in Summer 2024*

Awards

TO THE CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DENTAL HYGIENE

Summa Cum Laude

University Gold Medal for Scholarship and Certificate of Merit

Erica Lynne Zimmerman

Magna Cum Laude

Certificate of Merit

Khanh Minh Mai
Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo
Kathy Ky Nguyen

American Association of Public Health Dentistry's National Recognition Award

Recognizes a senior who has demonstrated a special interest/achievement in community dentistry and dental public health

Shannon Alicia Schubert

Certificate of Recognition

For consistent achievements in patient care and clinical management

Khanh Minh Mai
Kathy Ky Nguyen

Colgate S.T.A.R. (Student Total Achievement Recognition) Award

Presented to a senior who demonstrates true dedication to the dental hygiene profession, exhibits compassion in patient care, displays enthusiasm for community service and enjoys the role of dental hygienist

Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo

The Dean's Community Service Award

For demonstrating commitment to bettering the community and averaging 15 hours of community service per semester

Erica Lynne Zimmerman

The Dean's Outstanding Community Service Award

Presented to students who averaged 25 hours of community service per semester

Sydney Sadler Bartolich Shannon Alicia Schubert
Julia Michelle Boras Thanyathorn Vachira-anan
Laurie Claire Christie France Claire Kristine Alexis Platon Valenzuela
Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo

The Division of Dental Hygiene Excellence in the Care and Management of Pediatric and Adolescent Patients

Recognizes a senior for outstanding pediatric clinical care

Erica Lynne Zimmerman

The Division of Dental Hygiene Clinical Excellence Award

Recognizes a senior for outstanding clinical performance, application of knowledge in the provision of services, and delivery of total patient care

Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo
Kathy Ky Nguyen

The Division of Dental Hygiene Perseverance Award

Recognizes a senior who most exemplifies the spirit of perseverance and fortitude in the face of overwhelming obstacles before or during their dental hygiene education

Khanh Minh Mai

The Division of Dental Hygiene Prevention Award

Presented to a senior for excellence in the provision of preventive dental hygiene care

Sydney Sadler Bartolich
Thanyathorn Vachira-anan
Claire Kristine Alexis Platon Valenzuela

**The Division of Dental Hygiene Distinguished Professionalism
in Patient and Provider Communication Award**

Recognizes a senior for excellence in patient communication, promotion of oral health literacy, and empathy in the delivery of comprehensive patient care

Vanessa Uyen-Vi Ngo
Shannon Alicia Schubert
Thanyathorn Vachira-anan
Claire Kristine Alexis Platon Valenzuela

Geriatrics and Gerontology Education and Research Program Student Award

Recognizes a senior who has demonstrated particular interest and capability in geriatrics/gerontology

Laurie Claire Christie France

Health Justice Award

Honors the student who has demonstrated the greatest commitment to health justice in delivering care to diverse patients, going above and beyond to ensure trust with patients, and championing patients and communities who may experience disparities in oral health outcomes

Laurie Claire Christie France

Hu-Friedy Golden Scaler

Presented to a senior who has demonstrated outstanding humanitarianism, ethical standards, devotion to the profession and clinical excellence

Erica Lynne Zimmerman

The Lisa Mazza Memorial Award

Honors a senior who has demonstrated outstanding interest and participation in the Student American Dental Hygienists' Association and potential involvement in the Greater Baltimore Dental Hygienists' Association

Sydney Sadler Bartolich

The Maryland Dental Hygienists' Association

Recognizes outstanding interest and potential for active participation in the professional organization

Julia Michelle Boras

The Philips Oral Healthcare Linda E. DeVore Professional Integrity Award

Presented to a senior who mirrors the dignity, civility, honesty, integrity, intellectual curiosity, and responsibility epitomized by Ms. DeVore throughout her professional career as a dental hygienist, faculty member, and Chair of the Department of Dental Hygiene

Thanyathorn Vachira-anan

Septodont Local Anesthesia Award

Recognizes a senior dental hygiene student who gave the most local anesthetic injections

Claire Kristine Alexis Platon Valenzuela

Special Care Dentistry Association Student Award

Recognizes special projects, achievements, and aptitudes of seniors demonstrating excellence and commitment to dentistry for persons with disabilities

Ramy Mikhail

Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society

Sigma Phi Alpha is the national honor society of the dental hygiene profession. Students in the final academic term of a dental hygiene program who rank highest in scholarship, service, and leadership, and exhibit potential qualities for future growth and attainment as recommended by the faculty members shall be elected to membership.

Khanh Minh Mai
Erica Lynne Zimmerman

Doctor of Dental Surgery Candidates

Mahyar Abbariki

BS, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency, Parkland Memorial Hospital/
University of Texas Southwestern Medical School
Dallas, Texas**

Karen Abboud

BS, William Paterson University, Wayne, New Jersey
**General Practice Residency, Morristown Hospital
Ramsey, New Jersey**

Omar Hamdy Abdelwahab

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Brianna Rose Abraham

BS, George Washington University, Washington, District of Columbia
**General Practice Residency, Loyola University Medical Center
Chicago, Illinois**

Hebah Ashraf Abu Shakra

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Georgetown, District of Columbia

Abigail Rae Adams

BA, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware
**General Practice Residency, Penn State Health Saint Joseph Medical Center
Reading, Pennsylvania**

Abnous Afsahi

BS, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
**Periodontics Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Abdullah Al Sayyab

BS, York University, Toronto, Ontario, Canada
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Medical Center
Ann Arbor, Michigan**

Ashleigh Hope Alexander

BS, University of Maryland, Baltimore, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Prince Frederick, Maryland

Victoria E. Alonso

MPH, Florida International University, Miami, Florida
BA, Florida International University, Miami, Florida
Private Practice, Miami, Florida

Hend Altajjar

BS, University of San Francisco, San Francisco, California
BS, Damascus University, Damascus, Syria
Private Practice, Fulton, Maryland

Ariel Denae Anderson

BS, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Laura Anne Anderson

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Interfaith Dental
Nashville, Tennessee**

Alexa Helene Angelos

BS, University of South Florida, Tampa, Florida
Private Practice, Elkridge, Maryland

Ziad Ali Awad

BA, San Diego State University, San Diego, California
Private Practice, Massachusetts

Alexander Quang Minh Bach

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Lehigh Valley Health Network
Allentown, Pennsylvania**

Simren Kaur Bagri

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
Private Practice, Miami, Florida

Keyan Bashiri

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Pediatric Residency, Riley Children's Hospital
Indianapolis, Indiana**

Mary Margaret Beattie

BS, Ohio University, Athens, Ohio
Private Practice, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Shereese Symone Bell

BS, Brooklyn College, Brooklyn, New York
**General Practice Residency, The Brooklyn Hospital Center
Brooklyn, New York**

Akashdeep Singh Bhatthal

BS, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
**General Practice Residency, Evanston Hospital
Evanston, Illinois**

Steven Tyler Boggs

BS, Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah
**Oral Surgery Internship, University of Kentucky
Lexington, Kentucky**

Jade Rebecca Bravo

BS, University of Miami, Miami, Florida
**Pediatric Residency, BronxCare Health System
Bronx, New York**

Blake Hill Buckler

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Medical Center
Baltimore, Maryland**

Phuong H. Bui

BA, Smith College, Northhampton, Massachusetts
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of Rochester
Rochester, New York**

Stephanie Cristine Colon

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Interfaith Dental
Nashville, Tennessee**

Abigail Maria Disman

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Wilkes-Barre Healthcare System
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania**

Daniil Afanasyevich Dolya

BS, Towson University, Towson, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Medical Center
Baltimore, Maryland**

Juhi Dwivedi

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Cassandra Rae Eckert

BS, Stockton University, Galloway, New Jersey
Private Practice, New Jersey

Noureldein Khaled Elshamma

BS, Rutgers University, Piscataway, New Jersey
Private Practice, New Jersey

Renee Saito Fajardin

BA, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry
Veterans Administration Medical Center Bay Pines Health Care
St. Petersburg, Florida**

Farbod Fazilatkhoo

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency, University of Rochester
Rochester, New York**

Atemnkeng Forwang

BA, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
**General Practice Residency, Penn State Health Saint Joseph Medical Center
Reading, Pennsylvania**

Diana Nicole Fridberg

PhD, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri
MA, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, Missouri
MSc, Wolfson College, University of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom
BA, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts
Private Practice, White Marsh, Maryland

Brian Patrick Garner

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, North Bethesda, Maryland

Heywan Gessesse

MS, Charles Drew University of Medicine & Science, Los Angeles, California
BS, San Diego State University, San Diego, California
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Sepulveda Medical Center
Los Angeles, California**

Manveer S. Gill

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, NYU Langone
New York, New York**

Parker Allen Hall

BS, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia
Private Practice, Wilson, North Carolina

David Kamalokahi Harris

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Johns Hopkins University
Baltimore, Maryland**

Vincent Hunter Hebeke

BA, University of Delaware, Newark, Delaware
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, NYU Langone Harbor Health
Cape Cod, Massachusetts**

Alexandra Muss Hegerle

BA, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Private Practice, Herndon, Virginia

Cesar Hernandez

BS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
**General Practice Residency, York Wellspan Hospital
York, Pennsylvania**

Yujin Kim Hicks

BS, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
Private Practice, Maryland

Alexander Nghia Hiep Hoang

BS, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, East Carolina University
Elizabeth City, North Carolina**

Ha Thanh Hoang

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Yohan Hong

BS, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
Private Practice, Maryland

Dae Min Jeon

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**United States Army, Fort Cavazos
Fort Cavazos, Texas**

Esther Yoohyun Jung

BS, University of California at San Diego, San Diego, California
Private Practice, Ardmore, Oklahoma

Sleiman Maroun Kallab

BS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Priyanka Kalotra

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Wellspan York Hospital
York, Pennsylvania**

Katie Jane Kameka

MS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Maryland

Adela Hyo Ju Kang

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
**General Practice Residency, Wellspan York Hospital
York, Pennsylvania**

Alisha Neha Karley-De Franco

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Ashwant Kaur

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Mankiran Kaur

BS, Adelphi University, Garden City, New York
**General Practice Residency, NYU Langone Long Island Campus
Mineola, New York**

Abel Hailay Kebede

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Silver Spring, Maryland

Jemal Kemal

BS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Hackensack Meridian Health
Hackensack, New Jersey**

Nicku Renee Keshavarz

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Evanston Hospital
Evanston, Illinois**

Allison Nicole Keyes

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
BA, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Shoshana Nina Kott

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Advocate Illinois Masonic Medical Center
Chicago, Illinois**

Rahul Kumar

BA, George Washington University, Washington, District of Columbia
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Kristen Taylor Lane

BS, East Carolina University, Greenville, North Carolina
**General Practice Residency, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill Adams School of Dentistry
Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

Brent MacLaren Lawrence
BS, University of Miami, Coral Gables, Florida
Oral Surgery Internship, University of Maryland Medical Center
Baltimore, Maryland

Brandon Thien Le
BS, University of California, Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California
Private Practice, California

Khang Phan Vinh Le
BS, University of North Florida, Jacksonville, Florida
Private Practice, Jacksonville, Florida

Steven Daniel Lebowitz
MBS, Rutgers University, Newark, New Jersey
BS, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona
Private Practice, Phoenix, Arizona

In-Ing Lee
BS, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina
Advanced Education in General Dentistry, NYU Langone
San Jose, California

Kyle Li
BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Rockville, Maryland

Sorina Moniroth Lim
BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Maryland

Tae Young Lim
BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
United States Army, Camp Humphreys Army Base
Pyeongtaek, Korea

Jessica Lee Lindler
BS, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
Private Practice, Baltimore, Maryland

Jason MingKang Luo
MS, Georgetown University, Washington, District of Columbia
BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Prosthodontics Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland

Sanjana Reddy Mamidi
BS, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey
General Practice Residency, Monmouth Medical Center
Monmouth, New Jersey

Mahdi Seyed Mariani
BS, George Washington University, Washington, District of Columbia
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Residency, University of California San Francisco-Fresno Campus
Fresno, California

Kyung Yun Min
BA, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Medical Center
Baltimore, Maryland

Danyelle Molayem

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Prosthodontics Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

James Hyunjong Moon

MM, University of North Texas, Denton, Texas
BM, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, North Carolina
**Pediatric Residency, University of Pittsburgh
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania**

Meena Naimee

BS, George Mason University, Washington, District of Columbia
Private Practice, Fairfax, Virginia

Bahij M. Natour

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Gettysburg, Pennsylvania

Suephie Nazemian

BS, Nova Southeastern University, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
**Orthodontics Residency, University of Colorado
Denver, Colorado**

Christy Ng

BS, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, University of Michigan
Ann Arbor, Michigan**

Claudia My Ngo

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Clarksville, Maryland

Alexander Novoa

BS, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
Private Practice, Miami, Florida

Allison Marie Orlosky

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**United States Navy, Advanced Education in General Dentistry
Navy Medicine Readiness and Training Command
Camp Pendleton, California**

Chimezie Justin Osondu

BS, University of Georgia, Athens, Georgia
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, NYU Langone Dental Medicine Grady-Ben Massell
Atlanta, Georgia**

Zachary Thaddeus Palas

BS, University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Virginia
**United States Army, Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Fort Sill
Fort Sill, Oklahoma**

Bumjoon Park

BS, Brandeis University, Waltham, Massachusetts
**Clinical Fellowship in Oral Medicine and General Dentistry
Veterans Administration Medical Center
Perry Point, Maryland**

Alexandra Nicole Passarello

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Eldersburg, Maryland

Anjali Ashok Patel

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
**Orthodontics Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Krishna Rajesh Patel

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
**Pediatric Residency, University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine/
Children's Hospital of Philadelphia
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania**

Sajani Anantbhai Patel

BS, University at Buffalo, Buffalo, New York
**General Practice Residency, NYU Langone-Brooklyn
Brooklyn, New York**

Gaston (Trey) Perry III

BS, Roanoke College, Salem, Virginia
**General Practice Residency, Harbor-University of California Los Angeles Medical Center
Los Angeles, California**

Natalie Veronica Portillo

BS, George Mason University, Fairfax, Virginia
**General Practice Residency, New Beth Israel Medical Center
Newark, New Jersey**

Izza Kamran Qureshy

BS, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, North Carolina
**Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Veterans Administration Medical Center
University of North Carolina
Chapel Hill, North Carolina**

David Raden

BA, Queens College, Queens, New York
**Clinical Fellowship in Oral Medicine and General Dentistry
Veterans Administration Medical Center
Perry Point, Maryland**

Huize Ren

BS, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan
**Orthodontics Residency, University of Illinois Chicago
Chicago, Illinois**

Andrew George Resh

BS, Messiah College, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania
Private Practice, Hampstead, Maryland

Mina Naguib Rizkalla

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Washington, District of Columbia

Kevin Alexander Rojas

BS, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida
Private Practice, Miami, Florida

Rachel Serena Schneider

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Hackensack Meridian Mountainside Medical Center
Montclair, New Jersey**

Meghan Eileen Segreti

BS, Mercer University, Macon, Georgia
**General Practice Residency, Mountain Area Health Education Center
Asheville, North Carolina**

Daryll Ana Hill Selden

BS, Towson University, Towson, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, One Brooklyn Health
Brooklyn, New York**

Tenzin Sengye

BS, Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington
Private Practice, Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania

Brandon Jaeyoon Shim

BS, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York
Private Practice, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Yoon Shin

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Jessup, Maryland

Austin Christopher Son

BS, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia
Private Practice, Virginia Beach, Virginia

Justin Arman Tabatabai

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, Veterans Administration Medical Center
Washington, District of Columbia**

Nikita Victor Tchoumak

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Pediatric Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland**

Emily Kristine Thaw

BS, Christopher Newport University, Newport News, Virginia
Private Practice, Newport News, Virginia

Shravan Vyas Thiagarajan

BS, University of Connecticut, Storrs, Connecticut
**Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Residency, New York Presbyterian-Queens
New York, New York**

Sydni Leah Thomas

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**Pediatric Residency, University of Illinois-Chicago
Chicago, Illinois**

Joseph Matthews Tilghman

BS, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
**Orthodontics Residency, Medical University of South Carolina
Charleston, South Carolina**

Kayla N. Tinio

BA, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey
General Practice Residency, Jersey Shore University Medical Center
Neptune, New Jersey

Tracy Ellen Trieu

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, Virginia
Pediatric Residency, Virginia Commonwealth University
Richmond, Virginia

Alexander Joseph Trummer

BS, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts
Private Practice, Pennsylvania

Emmanuel Chidozie Utah

MS, Georgetown University, Washington, District of Columbia
BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Advanced Education in General Dentistry, East Carolina University
Fayetteville, North Carolina

Tho Cong Van

BS, University of South Florida, Sarasota-Manatee, Sarasota, Florida
Private Practice, Pasadena, Maryland

Paul David Vanik

BS, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Private Practice, Annapolis, Maryland

Tori Anne Wallace

BS, James Madison University, Harrisonburg, Virginia
Orthodontics Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland

Sara Zi Wei

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Advanced Education in General Dentistry, Interfaith Dental
Nashville, Tennessee

Melisa White Valencia

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Pediatric Residency, University of Maryland School of Dentistry
Baltimore, Maryland

Madison Lynn Whybrew

BS, Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana
Private Practice, Indiana

Brendan Patrick Wille

BS, Salisbury University, Salisbury, Maryland
Advanced Education in General Dentistry, University of California San Francisco
San Francisco, California

Yasmin Bahar Zand

MS, Georgetown University, Washington, District of Columbia
BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County, Baltimore, Maryland
Advanced Education in General Dentistry, NYU Langone
San Diego, California

Laila Zarfeshan

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Gaithersburg, Maryland

Emma Catherine Zent

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
Private Practice, Boston, Massachusetts

Ying Jennifer Zhang

BS, University of Maryland, College Park, College Park, Maryland
**General Practice Residency, One Brooklyn Health
New York, New York**



Honorary Degree Recipient

DENNIS BRAVE, DDS '69

Honorary Doctor of Science

Dr. Brave co-founded RealWorldEndo in 1997. He is a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics and a member of the College of Diplomates.

He received his DDS degree from the Baltimore College of Dental Surgery, University of Maryland in 1969, and his certificate in endodontics from the University of Pennsylvania. He is an Omicron Kappa Upsilon Scholastic Award Winner and a Gorgas Odontologic Honor Society Member.

In addition to having attained the position of Associate Clinical Professor in the School of Dental Medicine at the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Brave is the author of over 100 articles in the field of Endodontics. Among numerous patents to his name are the first radiolucent rubber dam frame (VisiFrame) and the first bioceramic coated obturation system (EndoSequence).

Awards

TO THE CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

Summa Cum Laude

University Gold Medal for Scholarship and Certificate of Merit

Stephanie Cristine Colon

Magna Cum Laude

Certificate of Merit

Abigail Rae Adams	Sajani Anantbhai Patel
Kyung Yun Min	Huize Ren
Allison Marie Orlosky	Andrew George Resh
Anjali Ashok Patel	Brandon Jaeyoon Shim
	Shravan Vyas Thiagarajan

Academy of Dental Materials Award

In recognition of excellence and scholarship in dental materials while pursuing dental studies

Allison Nicole Keyes

Academy of General Dentistry

For displaying characteristics of an outstanding general practitioner

Andrew George Resh
Paul David Vanik

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

To recognize excellence and outstanding achievement in operative dentistry

Steven Daniel Lebowitz

Academy of Osseointegration Outstanding Dental Student in Implant Dentistry Award

To the senior who has shown interest in dental implants

Danyelle Molayem

Adele and Dr. Barry Cohan Pediatric Dental Postgraduate Scholarship Award

For excelling in pediatric clinical care and dedication to becoming a specialist in pediatric dentistry

Nikita Victor Tchoumak

Alexander H. Paterson Memorial Award

For excelling in fabrication of full upper and lower dentures

Abigail Rae Adams

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Dental Student Award

For demonstrating exemplary aptitude and achievement in oral pathology

Shravan Vyas Thiagarajan

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award

For demonstrating high achievement in oral and maxillofacial radiology

Meghan Eileen Segreti

American Academy of Oral Medicine Award

For demonstrating the highest standards of care in diagnosis and treatment of medically compromised patients

Brandon Thien Le

American Academy of Orofacial Pain

For demonstrating the greatest commitment and interest to temporomandibular disorders (TMD) and orofacial pain

Steven Daniel Lebowitz

American Academy of Periodontology Award

For outstanding achievement and excellence in the field of periodontics

Huize Ren

American Association of Endodontists Award

To recognize proficiency in the field of endodontics

Claudia My Ngo

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Implant Student Award

To recognize outstanding performance in undergraduate study and clinical training in the area of dental implant placement

Karen Abboud

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Student Award

For demonstrating outstanding achievement and performance in the area of oral and maxillofacial surgery and anesthesiology

Brent MacLaren Lawrence

American Association of Orthodontists Award

For demonstrating exceptional interest in the development of the orofacial complex

Anjali Ashok Patel

American Association of Public Health Dentistry

For demonstrating special interest and/or achievement in community dentistry and dental public health

Gaston (Trey) Perry III

American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader Award

For demonstrating leadership and outstanding scholastic performance

Allison Marie Orlosky

American College of Prosthodontists Predoctoral Achievement Award

For high academic and clinical proficiency in prosthodontics

Emily Kristine Thaw

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Student Award

For outstanding achievement in dental anesthesiology, anxiety, and pain control

Paul David Vanik

American Student Dental Association Award

In recognition of outstanding leadership and dedicated service to school and community

Brandon Jaeyoon Shim

**The Baltimore Alumni Chapter Alpha Omega International
Dental Fraternity Scholarship Endowment**

For demonstrating outstanding academic achievement and a commitment to providing dental care to the local community

Shoshana Nina Kott

The Dean's Outstanding Community Service Award

For demonstrating commitment to bettering the community and averaging 25 hours of community service per semester

Allison Nicole Keyes

The Dean's Research Award

For demonstrating commitment to research

Mahyar Abbariki

Allison Nicole Keyes

The Diamond Scholar Recognition Award

For academic achievement and pursuit of experiential learning

Sleiman Maroun Kallab

Brandon Jaeyoon Shim

Dr. Curtis N. Adams, Sr. Maryland Dental Society Community Leadership Award

In recognition of outstanding leadership and dedicated service to school and community

Heywan Gessesse

Chimezie Justin Osondu

Dr. George B. Clendenin Award

In recognition of the highest scholastic average at the end of the first year

Huize Ren

Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award

For demonstrating effective leadership; engaging in community service; advocating for diversity, equity and inclusion; championing access to oral health care for underserved and disadvantaged populations; and for possessing a proclivity to enter dental education or organized dentistry

Danyelle Molayem

Edgar J. Jacques Memorial Award

For the greatest proficiency in oral surgery

Andrew George Resh

Kyoung Yun Min

Eleanor Bushee American Association of Women Dentists Senior Woman Dental Award

For the senior woman student who has demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding leadership

Rachel Serena Schneider

Frank C. Jerbi Memorial Award

For excelling in removable partial prosthodontics

Danyelle Molayem

Comprehensive Dentistry, General Practice Directors Award

In recognition of excellence in outstanding senior case presentations

Abigail Rae Adams

Christy Ng

Hend Altajjar

Brandon Jaeyoon Shim

Diana Nicole Fridberg

Yoon Shin

Yohan Hong

Paul David Vanik

Hanau Best of the Best Award

For demonstrating outstanding knowledge and skills in the study and practice of prosthodontics

Dae Min Jeon

Harry B. Schwartz Award

For excelling in fixed partial prosthesis

Hend Altajjar

Harry E. Kelsey Memorial Award for Professional Demeanor

Endowed by former associates of Dr. Kelsey, the first orthodontist to practice in the state of Maryland:

Drs. Anders, Devlin, Hodges, Johnston, and Preis

Huize Ren

Harry E. Latcham Memorial Award

For excellence in complete oral operative restoration

Emily Kristine Thaw

International College of Dentists Humanitarian Award

For being an outstanding example of altruistic leadership and serving humanitarian projects

Ashwant Kaur

International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award

For demonstrating leadership during dental school and potential to continue leading while working in the profession

Justin Arman Tabatabai

International Congress of Oral Implantologists' Predoctoral Student Achievement Award

For displaying the greatest interest in oral implantology/implant dentistry

Meghan Eileen Segreti

Irving I. Abramson Award

For demonstrating outstanding interest, skills, and expertise in the diagnosis and technical aspects of endodontic treatment

Brianna Rose Abraham

Katharine Toomey Plaque

For displaying devotion to the school and to the profession

Justin Arman Tabatabai

Leonard Rapoport Memorial Award

For displaying outstanding academic achievement in pharmacology related to dentistry or craniofacial/oral science

James Hyunjong Moon

Maryland Academy of General Dentistry Award

For displaying high proficiency in clinical care and patient management

Stephanie Cristine Colon

Maryland Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Award

In recognition of the best performance in pediatric dentistry

Keyan Bashiri

Maryland Society of Dentistry for Children Humanitarian Award

In honor of Dr. Sophia Balis: for dedication, service and empathy to the underserved child population in Maryland

Melisa White Valencia

Maryland Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Award

For demonstrating excellence in surgical skills in oral and maxillofacial surgery and pursuing a career in the specialty

Mahyar Abbariki

Maryland State Dental Association Leadership Award

For demonstrating a commitment to, and an interest in, the future of organized dentistry in Maryland

Sleiman Maroun Kallab

Nathan David Gold Memorial Award

For showing the greatest empathy and understanding for patients during clinical practice

Khang Phan Vinh Le

Northeastern Society of Periodontists Certificate of Excellence

For exemplary achievement in periodontics

Abnous Afsahi

Oral Health Foundation of the Pierre Fauchard Academy Scholarship

For scholarship and for possessing exceptional leadership potential, integrity, imagination, initiative, and superb communication skills

Brandon Jaeyoon Shim

Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Dental Student Certificate of Merit

For outstanding and dedicated service to the profession and excellence in the academic and clinical aspects of the program

Suephie Nazemian

Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics

For achieving excellence in prosthodontics

Kayla N. Tinio

Special Care Dentistry Association Award

To recognize special projects, achievements, and aptitudes of seniors demonstrating sincere interest in the health care needs of people with disabilities

Mary Margaret Beattie

Steven Sokol Memorial Award

For most exemplifying the spirit of perseverance and fortitude in the face of overwhelming obstacles during the course of dental education

Alexa Helene Angelos

Timothy O. Heatwole Award

For best exemplifying the qualities of kindness, humanitarianism, and ethical behavior

Allison Nicole Keyes

United States Public Health Service Dental Award of Excellence

To recognize interest in community or dental public health and an interest in working in a public health setting serving underserved populations after graduation

Justin Arman Tabatabai

The University of Maryland, Baltimore Geriatrics and Gerontology

Education and Research Award

Presented to an outstanding senior from each professional school who has demonstrated a commitment to the care of older adults

Sajani Anantbhai Patel

Honor Societies

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society

A national honor society elected by current members of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Honor Society for outstanding scholarship and exemplary standards of professional conduct, ethics, and integrity

Abigail Rae Adams	Anjali Ashok Patel	Justin Arman Tabatabai
Hend Altajjar	Huize Ren	Kayla N. Tinio
Allison Marie Orlosky	Andrew George Resh	Paul David Vanik
Alexandra Nicole Pasarello	Brandon Jaeyoon Shim	Tori Anne Wallace

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honorary Dental Society Kramer Award

Recognizes a junior dental student who has demonstrated scholarship, character, and the potential promise for advancement of dentistry and service to humanity as shown by Dr. William Kramer's dedication to his profession and the principles and ideals of Omicron Kappa Upsilon

Stephanie Cristine Colon

The Ferdinand J. S. Gorgas Odontological Honorary Society

An honor society recognizing students with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher and ranking in the top third of the junior and senior classes

Mahyar Abbariki	Kyung Yun Min	Tenzin Sengye
Karen Abboud	Danyelle Molayem	Brandon Jaeyoon Shim
Abigail Rae Adams	Suephie Nazemian	Justin Arman Tabatabai
Laura Anne Anderson	Christy Ng	Shravan Vyas Thiagarajan
Keyan Bashiri	Claudia My Ngo	Sydni Leah Thomas
Stephanie Cristine Colon	Allison Marie Orlosky	Joseph Matthews Tilghman
Abigail Maria Disman	Anjali Ashok Patel	Kayla N. Tinio
Juhi Dwivedi	Sajani Anantbhai Patel	Paul David Vanik
Diana Nicole Fridberg	Huize Ren	Tori Anne Wallace
Manveer S. Gill	Andrew George Resh	Sara Zi Wei
Adela Hyo Ju Kang	Kevin Alexander Rojas	Yasmin Bahar Zand
Brandon Thien Le	Rachel Serena Schneider	
Sorina Moniroth Lim	Meghan Eileen Segreti	

The Gamma Pi Delta Prosthodontic Honor Society

An honor society recognizing scholarship and interest in the field of prosthetic dentistry

Mahyar Abbariki	Adela Hyo Ju Kang	Meghan Eileen Segreti
Karen Abboud	Alisha Neha Karley-De Franco	Daryll Ana Hill Selden
Brianna Rose Abraham	Mankiran Kaur	Brandon Jaeyoon Shim
Hend Altajjar	Shoshana Nina Kott	Justin Arman Tabatabai
Laura Anne Anderson	Brandon Thien Le	Emily Kristine Thaw
Alexander Quang Minh Bach	Steven Daniel Lebowitz	Shravan Vyas Thiagarajan
Akashdeep Singh Bhatthal	Danyelle Molayem	Sydni Leah Thomas
Jade Rebecca Bravo	Christy Ng	Joseph Matthews Tilghman
Stephanie Cristine Colon	Allison Marie Orlosky	Kayla N. Tinio
Cassandra Rae Eckert	Anjali Ashok Patel	Tho Cong Van
Manveer S. Gill	Sajani Anantbhai Patel	Paul David Vanik
Vincent Hunter Hebekka	Huize Ren	Sara Zi Wei
Sleiman Maroun Kallab	Rachel Serena Schneider	

Convocation Oath

Being admitted to the profession of dentistry/dental hygiene, I pledge myself to the service of humanity — my patients, my community, and my colleagues. The health and well-being of my patients will be my first consideration: I will uphold the highest standards of care for my patients and hold in confidence all they entrust to me. I will promote the welfare of my community by speaking out against injustice and providing unbiased service to those in need. I will strive to merit the trust that society has placed in my profession, faithfully observe its principles of ethics and integrity, maintain the highest standards of personal and professional behavior, and encourage my colleagues to do the same. I am indebted to my teachers, and I pledge to improve my skills through a commitment to continuous learning. I promise to maintain my own well-being and assist my colleagues to do the same. I take this oath freely and upon my honor.

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Yehuda Neuberger
Steven Sibel
Andy Smarick
Farah Helal, Student Regent
Josian Parker, Student Regent

*As final action cannot always be taken by the time this program is printed,
the list of candidates in this program is tentative.
The University of Maryland School of Dentistry reserves the right to withdraw or add names.*

May 17, 2024

