

# **UT Southwestern / Children's Medical Center – Dallas**

**2023-2024**

## **Pediatric PL-1 House Staff**

This booklet is intended to help integrate our pediatric interns into the busy and bustling interdisciplinary teams that keep our hospital running.

The entries here may offer you starting points for worthwhile conversations and interactions. In addition to basic geographic and training background facts, some facets of what our interview process noticed and appreciated in individual intern applicants are listed. For each intern, these lists include some – but not all – of their past endeavors and passions. They mention early – but not exclusive or restrictive – areas of interest.

The thoughtful and personalized cultivation of new colleagues and their diverse talents is essential to our long-term mission as an academic medical center and to our immediate levels of function.

The attending who pulled me aside years ago in a hallway to “welcome another Cubs fan to prerounding” started a profoundly meaningful relationship with a grin and a wink. Given my lack of interest in baseball (and especially the Cubs), this conversation rapidly morphed to discussions about our patient’s renal function, which may have been the intent all along. Regardless, the fact that I still recall this conversation so vividly proves its impact. Likewise, the nurse who kindly and expertly taught me how to plot vital trends on a bedside monitor at 2AM did more for me and my patients than I think she ever realized.

I hope you, too, are willing to take time to thoughtfully engage with our trainees. If so, I strongly suspect you can directly help and develop them, and our institution.

*-Jeff McKinney*

# Lea Abou Haidar, MD



- American University of Beirut Faculty of Medicine, MD
- American University of Beirut, Lebanon, Nutrition & Dietetics, BS
- Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Mass Gen Hospital & UT Southwestern
- Member: GHHS
- Co-authored article on the implementation and obstacles of pharmacogenetics in clinical practice in the British Journal of Clinical Pharmacology
- Research: Studied metabolomics and genetic sequencing of novel mutations in two patients with rare metabolic disorders & performed extensive chart reviews
- Volunteer: Global Smile Foundation, Lebanese Medical Students' International Committee, AIESEC Global Exchange Program, HEAL Clinic
- Language other than English: Arabic, Armenian, French

Career Interests: General Pediatrics, Gastroenterology, Genetics

Hobbies: Traveling, running, pilates/yoga, singing, dog-sitting

# Adedamola Badewa, MD



- Georgetown University School of Medicine, MD
- University of Minnesota, BS in Biology
- Member: GHHS
- Selected as keynote speaker for Office of Diversity Forum at Georgetown in 2019
- Elected as Diversity Representative Chair for the Class Council at Georgetown University
- Designed a YouTube channel (The Badewa Playbook) from the view of 2 underrepresented members in medical school
- Research: studied racial and ethnic disparities in the timeliness of nephrology care for patients with CKD
- Volunteer: Hattie Holmes Senior Wellness Center, HOYA Clinic
- Language other than English: Kru, Ibo, Yoruba, Spanish

Career Interests: NICU, General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Swimming, anime, traveling

# Ayesha Batool, M.B., BS



- King Edward Medical University in Pakistan, M.B., BS
- College of Physicians And Surgeons Pakistan (CPSP), Pediatric Residency
- Reviewer for the Pediatric OnCall Journal since 2017
- Awards: Jamal Bhutta Gold Medal in FCPS-II Pediatrics
- Worked at the Army Liver Transplant Unit in Rawalpindi as well as the Combined Military Hospital in Sargodha, Pakistan
- Gave multiple lectures to medical students at the CMH Medical & Dental College in Lahore, Pakistan
- Research: studied & published as first author regarding the prevalence of inherited metabolic disorders in infants at the tertiary care hospital in Rawalpindi
- Volunteer: YAROH Welfare organization
- Language other than English: Punjabi, Urdu

Career Interests: Medical Genetics, Hematology-Oncology

Hobbies: Gardening, painting

# Alberto Bremauntz Enriquez, MD, PhD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD, PhD
- Rice University, BS in Chemistry
- Graduate Student in the McFadden lab at UT Southwestern, where he completed his PhD
- Awards: Received the CPRIT Training Grant in 2020
- Served as the MSTP representative in the Student Leadership Council and as a teacher in the summer medical student journal club
- Research: dissertation research focused on EWS-FLI1 translocation & how its biochemical properties drove Wing Sarcoma proliferation
- Volunteer: MD Anderson Cancer Center, MTSP STAR Mentor
- Language other than English: Spanish

Career Interests: Psychiatry and Pediatrics (Triple Board); Hematology-Oncology

Hobbies: Cooking, Gardening, Classic Music, Film

# Jennifer Cardona, MD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD
- Texas A&M University, College Station, BS in Biomedical Science
- Member: GHHS
- Served as the Student Affairs Committee Chair for the GHHS branch in Dallas
- Worked as the summer Student Genetics Fellow in 2020 at the Children's Medical Center Dallas
- Research: focused on medical education through a project that allows for first year medical students to take histories at Clements Hospital with feedback on their performance
- Volunteer: Therapeutic Arts Relieving ACEs, Peer Advocate Program at UTSW, United to Serve Health Fair in Dallas, Health Professions Recruitment & Exposure Program
- Language other than English: Spanish

Career Interests: Medical Genetics

Hobbies: Discovering local restaurants, listening to podcasts, attending live events

# Dana Chatila, MD



- American University of Beirut Faculty of Medicine, MD
- American University of Beirut, Lebanon, BS in Biology
- Post-Doctoral Research Fellow at Indiana University since 2021
- Member: GHHS
- Worked as as researched and project lead for multiple studies conducted at the Indiana University School of Medicine
- Research: Focuses on identifying risk factors affecting BMI changes in patient with CNS tumors receiving chemotherapy vs radiotherapy vs no intervention
- Volunteer: American Diabetes Association Camp, HEAL Student-Led Clinics, Remy Rbeiz Young Heart Foundation, Lebanese Red Cross Youth Department
- Language other than English: Arabic, French, Spanish

Career Interests: Endocrinology

Hobbies: Planning social events, traveling, yoga, music, going to the gym



# Victor Daescu, MD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD
- The University of Texas at Dallas, BS in Biology and Healthcare Management
- Advisory council member on the UT Dallas Davidson Management Honors Program
- Awards: William Grant McLaughlin Pediatric Neurology Medical Student Research Award 2021, 1<sup>st</sup> place in 2018 HOSA International Conference in Behavioral Health
- Served as a Peer Mentor for UTSW first year medical students
- Research: Studied the relationship between cytochrome C oxidase and clinical severity in the SURF1 Leigh Syndrome
- Volunteer: Dallas Country (contract tracing during COVID-19 pandemic, HOSA, United To Serve Health Fair)
- Language other than English: Spanish, French, Romanian

Career Interests: Pediatric Neurology

Hobbies: Building computers, writing (science fiction), reading

# Isha Darbari, MD



- University of Maryland, School of Medicine, MD
- University of Maryland College Park, BS in Biology, Minor in Spanish Language, Business, and Cultures
- Member: GHHS
- Awards: Research Poster Finalist at the American College of Physicians Annual Meeting (2022),
- Worked as a clinical research at Children's National Medical Center in 2020
- Research: Studied the impact of socioeconomic factors and an initiative to offer HLA typing to all patients with sickle cell disease and their siblings
- Published in the Pediatric Blood & Cancer Journal "Views of parents of children with sickle cell with pre-implantation genetic diagnosis"
- Volunteer: My Life My Story at the VA, ADHD & Neurodiversity Network, Esperanza Center
- Language other than English: Spanish, Hindi

Career Interests: Hematology-Oncology

Hobbies: Mindfulness, meditation, journaling, weightlifter, singing, dancing

# Abel De Castro, MD



- University of Arizona College of Medicine - Phoenix, MD
- Azusa Pacific University, BS in Biology
- Member: GHHS
- Student Health Outreach for Wellness (SHOW)
- Outstanding Health Professional Student: For exemplary service, initiative, and leadership as a Street Medicine – Phoenix Health Professional Student
- Honorable Mention for Outstanding Poster Presentation, American Association of Cancer Research, 2018
- Gencarella Family Research Grant Recipient, Azusa Pacific University, 2017
- 1st place Men's 5k 25-29 Filipino American Association of Pittsburgh Fall Classic Race, 2022
- Research: Co-lead a variety of research projects through SMP. Coordinated interdisciplinary research. Study topics included: using SMP as a means for distributing the COVID vaccine, SMP as an avenue for interdisciplinary education.

Career Interests: Internal Medicine - Pediatrics

Hobbies: My wife and I love responsibly enjoying wine and going to major wine destinations around the world. Cooking, Basketball, Marvel Cinematic Universe enthusiast

# Annesha Dutta, MD



- University of Texas Medical Branch John Sealy School of Medicine, MD
- University of Texas at Dallas, BS in Biomedical Engineering
- Awards: The Drs. Edgar and Imelda Cortes Scholarship in Medicine (2020), The Stuart Moldaw Scholarship (2020), The Butterfly Project Community Service Award (2021)
- Served as a mentor in the American Medical Women's Association
- Research: Investigated the risk factors associated with acute otitis media and its preventative measures in the pediatric population
- Volunteer: St. Vincent Hospital to Home Program, St. Vincent's Student Clinic, The Butterfly Project
- Language other than English: Bengali, Japanese, Spanish

Career Interests: Pediatric Hospital Medicine, NICU

Hobbies: Cooking, watching anime, listening to podcasts and music

# Stacie Evans, MD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD
- University of Georgia, BS in Biological Science
- University of Pau (France), University Diploma French Studies, 2019
- University of Alcalá (Madrid, Spain), studied Environmental Sciences, 2018
- Awards: UT Southwestern Scholarship (2019-2023)
- Research: Created a comprehensive database of children with Hirschsprung disease and anorectal malformations at Children's Health
- Volunteer: English Conversation Partner Program, El Paso Medical Mission Trip, Men's Shelter Health Fair
- Language other than English: Spanish, French

Career Interests: Pediatric Neurology

Hobbies: Spending time with family, listening to French music, watching Spanish Netflix

# Areli Flores Camargo, MD



- Tecnológico de Monterrey Escuela de Medicina, Mexico, MD
- Awards: Academic Merit Scholarship at Tecnológico de Monterrey (2013-2020)
- Worked as the school physician at CEMAC Montessori School in Mexico City, supervised and updated the school's COVID-19 protocol
- Research: assisted in publication of multiple papers regarding therapies and technologies for Type 1 diabetic patients
- Co-founded the Consortium for International Trainees in Immunology at TCH to provide resources and education to non-English speaking patients with primary immunodeficiencies
- Volunteer: University Health Fair, peer tutor and mentor, Children's choir co-director, medical staff at Christian's Children's Summer Camp
- Language other than English: Spanish

Career Interests: Endocrinology, Immunology

Hobbies: Watercolor, oil painting, fencing, running, traveling

# Allison Foster, MD



- The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio Long School of Medicine, MD
- Oklahoma Baptist University, BS in Biology
- Awards: Magna Cu Laude (2019), Founder's Academic Scholarship Recipient
- Served as a counselor at Camp Sweeney in 2017
- Research: studied topics including COVID-19 and pregnancy along with adolescent reproductive health
- Published a review article "Breaking the Glass: A Historical Review of Women in Medicine"
- Volunteer: University Admissions Committee, counselor at Royal Family Kid's Camp, Good Shepherd Ministry Clinic

Career Interests: Adolescent, General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Reading (fantasy & contemporary romance), traveling, scrapbooking

# Samuel Gao, MD



- University of Texas Medical Branch John Sealy School of Medicine, MD
- Rice University, BA in Biology
- Awards: Senior AOA Eligible Candidate
- Dedicated multiple hours as a volunteer for the St Vincent's Student-Run Free Clinic to provide care for the underserved in Galveston
- Performed at many venues to use his musical talent to uplift patients & families
- Research: Investigated the effects of SSRIs in children with diagnosed speech delays to determine effects on speech articulation and vocabulary
- Volunteer: Galveston Symphony Orchestra, Gardens for St. Joseph's Hospital, Plant it Forward (Houston), Galveston Healing Arts Orchestra, Pediatric Virtual Music Program
- Language other than English: Chinese

Career Interests: Psychiatry and Pediatrics (Triple Board)

Hobbies: Music (piano, violin), videogames, gardening



# Shyam Harinarayanan, MD



- Pediatric Resident, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Bhubaneswar, India)
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences (Bhubaneswar, India), MD
- Mohan Kumaramangalam Medical College, India, M.B., BS
- Awards: Best Outgoing Student of the Medical School (2018) ,Gold Medal in Pediatrics (2017)
- Research: Performed randomized clinical trial to assess efficacy of non-invasive agents for sedation in children undergoing MRI. Also explored the prognostic role of serum lactic acid, lactate clearance, and uric acid levels in patients with acute coronary syndrome
- Volunteer: Resident lead on the COVID response team, organized blood donation camps at the Government General Hospital
- Language other than English: Hindi, Tamil

Career Interests: Cardiology, Hematology-Oncology

Hobbies: Table tennis, cricket, Carnatic music, cooking

# Zina Housammy, MD



- McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center, MD
- University of North Texas Health Science Center, MS in Biomedical Sciences
- University of Houston, BS in Nutritional Sciences
- Served as the podcast team lead for “Nutrition in Medicine” to create a longitudinal nutrition curriculum
- Research: Worked on a QI project that involved improving Vitamin D supplementation in newborns
- Volunteer: McGovern Academic Success Initiatives, Health Professionals Against Interpersonal Violence, served as Peer Mentor, UT Health Cares Annual Health Fair
- Language other than English: Arabic

Career Interests: NICU

Hobbies: Cooking, fitness, reading, exploring coffee shops, reading Korean dramas

# Shalini Jose, MD



- USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, MD
- University of South Florida, BS in Biomedical Sciences; also studied Criminology
- Awards: USF Kosove Society Scholarship (2019, 2020), MD Scholars Achievement Scholarship (2019-2023), MCOM Student Travel Award for Research (2021)
- Served as the Vice President for the USF Pediatric Interest Group
- Research: Evaluated the statewide implementation of non-occupational Post Exposure Prophylaxis program for HIV by Child Protection Teams across Florida
- Volunteer: Child Abuse and Death Review Committee, USF Health Service Corps, The SHARE Collective
- Language other than English: Malayalam, Spanish

Career Interests: Child Abuse, General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Watching movies, listening to music, boxing

# Christopher Keys, MD



- Yale School of Medicine, MD
- Harvard Law School (Cambridge), J.D.
- University of Birmingham, Alabama, post-baccalaureate in pre-medical studies
- Brown University, BA in International Relations
- Served as a Senior Editor for the Harvard Law Review (a student-run legal periodical)
- Research: Worked at the Harris Lab at UAB on research related to melanocyte stem cells and aging
- Worked as an associate attorney at Spotswood Sansom & Sansbury on commercial litigation matters
- Volunteer: Spirit of Luke Charitable Foundation, M-Power Ministries Health Center, Palliative Care Scholars
- Language other than English: French, German, Spanish

Career Interests: Pediatric Hospitalist Medicine

Hobbies: US and European History, foreign languages, jogging, watching soccer & cricket

# Pavithra Kolla, MD



- University of Missouri-Kansas City School of Medicine, MD
- University of Missouri-Kansas City, BA in Biology
- Awards: Golden Key Honor Society
- Served as the Community Service Chair for the Pediatric Interest Group as well as the President for the Golden Key Honor Society
- Served as the Clinic Manager at the Sojourner Health Clinic (free student-run clinic)
- Research: Evaluated the epidemiology, immune response and diagnosis of COVID-19 infections at Children's Mercy Hospital
- Volunteer: Kansas City Health Department, Community Health and Wellness Fair, Camp Cardiac
- Language other than English: Telugu

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Drawing, painting, DIY projects, journaling, puzzles

# Harriet Leahy, M.B.B.Ch



- Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland (RCSI) School of Medicine, M.B.B.Ch
- University of College in Dublin, BA in Psychology
- Awards: Leonard Abrahamson Gold Medal Award in Medicine
- Worked as a peer educator, teaching the basics of point of care ultrasound (POCUS) as part of simulation
- Worked as research assistant in the Department of Neurology at RCSI
- Research: Analyzed data regarding the delivery and barriers to neurology medical education
- Volunteer: RCSI Pediatric Society, RCSI Simulation Innovation Committee, RCSI Music Society
- Language other than English: French, Irish Gaelic

Career Interests: Emergency Medicine, cardiology

Hobbies: Singing, piano, running, photography, skiing, horseback riding

# Tiffany Le, MD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD
- Johns Hopkins University, BA in Public Health Studies
- Awards: UTSW 60<sup>th</sup> Annual Medical Student Research Forum Award, UTSW Melba Williams Scholarship, Johns Hopkins University Certificate of Achievement in Public Health
- Worked as a clinical research assistant at Boston's Children's Hospital (2018-2019)
- Research: Performed a retrospective cohort analysis analyzing the effects of SARS-CoV-2 infection on placental pathology and patient outcomes
- Volunteer: UTSW Home and Abroad Magazine, Agape Dermatology Clinic, St. Joseph's Home for Chronically Ill Children
- Language other than English: French

Career Interests: NICU

Hobbies: Eating dessert, reading (mystery novels, romantic comedies), traveling

# Jim Liu, MD



- The University of Texas Southwestern Medical School, MD
- Duke University, BS in Biology and Global Health
- Awards: Stanback Fellowship Award (2018)
- Worked at a funded internship with the non-profit Clean Water for North Carolina, regarding outreach about well water contamination (2018)
- Research: Designed and created a research protocol that examines the efficacy of nicotine gum with behavioral counseling to reduce betel nut usage in Saipan
- Volunteer: United to Serve, COVID-19 Vaccination Project, North Dallas Shared Ministry
- Language other than English: Chinese, Spanish

Career Interests: NICU, Global Health

Hobbies: Mountain biking, skiing, photography, college basketball



# Jonathan Marilao, MD



- Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, MD
- University of California, Los Angeles, BS in Psychobiology and minor in Scandinavian Literature and Culture
- Awards: Stanback Fellowship Award (2018)
- Student representative on the Pediatrics Clerkship Steering Committee to assist faculty in curriculum improvements
- Research: Currently analyzing the relationship between pediatric head trauma and caregiver video game usage. Also conducted a QI project at an outpatient family medicine practice to improved patient awareness of GERD symptoms and treatment options
- Volunteer: Student to Student Talks, UCLA Pilipinos For Community Health, Coaching Corps

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Southern California Blue Sports (UCLA, Dodgers, Chargers), exploring bakeries

# Lith Nasif, MD



- University of Florida College of Medicine, MD
- University of Florida, Microbiology and Cell Science
- Awards: First Place UF Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium, UF Presidents Award
- Treasurer, Muslim Medical Student Association
- Co-authored review article on potential therapeutic targets for COVID-19, and multiple articles on the cellular pathology of Type 1 Diabetes
- Research: Evaluated outcomes of long-term hypertension in patients with coarctation of the aorta; benchwork investigating microtubule homeostasis
- Volunteer: Medical Reserve Corp, Rahma Mercy Clinic, Equal Access Clinic, Noah's Endeavor Adapted and Inclusive Recreation
- Language other than English: Arabic

**Career Interests:** Cardiology

**Hobbies:** 3D design and printing, soccer, biking, long boarding, sailing

# Christopher Noyes, MD



- Boston University School of Medicine, MD
- Brown University, BS in Biology
- Awards: AOA
- Boston University School of Medicine Dean's Scholarship
- Leadership: Leader of Service PRIDE focusing on helping at-risk LGBTQ youth in Boston
- Publications: First author on DDX4 expression in small cell lung cancer
- Member: Eli Shapiro Academy Honors Society
- Research: studying patients taking second generation antipsychotics and naltrexone, and their metabolic outcomes
- Organizer: Designed new faculty workshop series on incorporating gender and sexual inclusivity into medical school curriculum
- Volunteer: Peer advising program for first year medical students

Career Interests: Psychiatry and Pediatrics (Triple Board)

Hobbies: Music, community action, cooking

# Megha Patel, MD



- Wright State University Boonshoft School of Medicine, MD
- Ohio State University, BS in Biology
- Presentation Retinal hemorrhage in pediatrics in the setting of abusive head trauma, Dayton Children's Department of Child Advocacy
- Research: Sociodemographic differences in breastfeeding rates for children, quality improvement in colorectal cancer screening
- Teaching: Ultrasound workshop for third year medical students
- Work experience: Peer tutor for USMLE Step 1 Exam
- Volunteer: In room observer for medical student standardized patient exams,, Vaccine Clinic
- Language other than English: Gujarati

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Volleyball, softball, sewing/knitting

# Alexis Preston, MD



Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Salsa making, read, tennis

- McGovern Medical School at UT Health Sciences Center at Houston, MD
- Baylor University, BS in Biology
- Member: Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society
- Award: UT Houston Physician's Scholarship
- Vice President of Community Outreach for Association for Nutrition in the Health Profession
- Publications: First author on a peer reviewed book chapter for clinical, radiological, and pathological assessment of the Thorax
- Research: Involved in the Produce Rx Study, which investigates how providing fresh produce via alternative delivery methods affects long-term health outcomes
- Work Experience: McGraw Hill Case Files Series Student Editorial Board, Case Investigator in Texas Health Contact Tracing for COVID-19
- Coordinator: School supply drive coordinator during COVID
- Volunteer: Cerner E-ordering committee, Houston food bank volunteer, Reach out and read, Nutrition classes in local middle schools

# Shahryar Rana, MD



- Weill Cornell Medical College in Qatar, MD
- Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Nemours Children's Hospital
- Awards: Dean's Honor List, Medical Student Research Award
- Grant Award: Weill Cornell Medicine Medical Education Grant, Undergraduate Research Experience Program Grant
- Manager, COVID-19 Eastern Mediterranean Region Physicians' Group
- Media Manager, COVID-19 Demystified, an organization that explains the latest COVID-19 research to the general public
- Research: computational analysis to propose peptide vaccine for SARS-CoV2, developing museum telehealth art therapy pilot program to address mental health
- Work Experience: Debate coach and instructor
- Volunteer: Masjid Freehaven working to oversee visits to the sick and elderly in the community, Student Volunteer for Qatar's Ministry of Public Health
- Language other than English: Urdu

Career Interests: Peds Neurology

Hobbies: Running, writing poetry and performing at live events, sketching, painting, playing the drums

# Aaron Rohlman, MD



- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill School of Medicine, MD
- University of North Carolina, BS in Biology
- Award: UNC Athletic Director's Scholar Athlete Award, UNC Basketball Richard A Baddour Award
- Coauthored multiple articles on effects of ethanol exposure during adolescence
- Research: studied whether adjuvant radiation therapy improves outcomes in patient who underwent HIPEC for DSRCT, examined mouse model and human brain specimens for the effects of binge drinking on development
- Medical Mentor, Progressing as Tar Heels: Guided student athletes as they navigate throughout the graduate school application process
- Work Experience: Bloomer Hill People's Clinic, Student Health Action Coalition
- Volunteer: The Summit Church refurbish apartments for refugees and provide support for survivors of human trafficking, Special Olympics

Career Interests: Hematology/Oncology

Hobbies: UNC basketball, bodybuilding, video games, cooking/baking, collecting sneakers

# Mason Rostollan, MD, MS



- University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine, MD
- University of Central Arkansas, MS in Biology
- University of Central Arkansas, BS in Biology
- Member: Society of DBP, American Society for Bioethics and Humanities
- Editor/Peer Reviewer, Publications
- Research: Caregiver disclosure of autism diagnosis to their children, characterization of health risks in Rwanda
- Graduate Teaching Assistant- Anatomy and Physiology/Human Structure and Function, Undergraduate Chemistry
- Volunteer "Camp Wannaplay," engaged with children hospitalized at Arkansas Children's Hospital
- Volunteer Jewel Moore Nature Reserve Technician, provided life science education tours of nature reserve

Career Interests: Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

Hobbies: Hiking, cooking, reading, puzzles



# Regan Rowland, MD



- University of Missouri-Columbia School of Medicine, MD
- University of Missouri-Columbia, BS in Biochemistry
- Award: Rural Scholar, Top Poster at Rural Track Program, Lester R Bryant Scholar offering pre-acceptance into medical school in Missouri
- Research: Involved in QI improvement regarding safe sleep to decrease the rate of SIDS, identified knowledge gaps in topics such as STIs, pregnancy, and preventive care among patients
- Mentored undergraduate and medical students about the process of applying to medical school
- Teaching Assistant, Biochemistry
- Volunteer NICU volunteer, involved in providing recommendations on Blue Ribbon Panel regarding medical school curriculum changes, St Baldricks

Career Interests: Emergency Medicine

Hobbies: Cooking, board games, watching UFC, enjoying time with puppy Teddy

# Garrett Sacco, MD



- University of Nebraska College of Medicine, MD
- Baylor University, BA in Medical Humanities
- Member, Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Vice President, Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Co-Leader, Arts in Medicine at University of Nebraska Medical Center
- Publications Committee Chair, American Medical Association
- Research: literature review on patients with rheumatoid arthritis and influence of disease progression on ADLs, studied influence of kinesiphobia on physical activity in adolescents during ACL recovery
- Work Experience: Neurology medical scribe
- Volunteer: Hospital buddies volunteer, medical provider at Open Door Mission Free Health and Healing Clinic

Career Interests: Pediatric Neurology

Hobbies: playing drums and piano, digital art and graphic design, mountain biking, baking

# Khushboo Saha, MBBS



- Lady Hardinge Medical College, India, MBBS
- Award: Academic Distinction by University of Delhi in pathology, microbiology, physiology and anatomy
- Founder, Be the Change: a quality improvement initiative for medical and nursing undergraduates in India
- Leader, Anti-Tobacco Squad: a tobacco cessation initiative
- Research: studied factors necessitating the need for readmission and revision surgery in mucormycosis, studied knowledge and practices surrounding stroke among rural women in Delhi
- Tutored elementary school children of diverse cultural backgrounds from underserved areas
- Volunteer: Facilitated research with Nationwide Quality or Care Network in New Delhi, Primary Care Intern for SAMA (a resource group for women and health), Volunteer to administer oral polio vaccine to children in New Delhi
- Language other than English: Bengali

Career Interests: Pediatric Neurology

Hobbies: dancing (Kathak, Salsa, Bachata), painting, cooking, basketball, photography

# Marisa Salazar, MD



- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine - Arizona, MD
- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine - Arizona, MS
- Princeton University, BA in Chemistry (summa cum laude); Certificate in Materials Science and Engineering
- Member: American Medical Association, American Academy of Pediatrics, Phi Beta Kappa Society of Sigma Xi
- Excellence in Public Health Award -U.S. Public Health Service Physician Professional Advisory Committee, 2021
- Mayo Clinic Alix School of Medicine President's Strategic Foundation Scholarship - Full-tuition, merit-based scholarship, 2017-2023
- Passed Spanish Clinician Cultural and Linguistic Assessment by ALTA Language Services
- Awards: Moses Taylor Pyne Honor Prize -Highest general distinction conferred on an undergraduate by Princeton University, 2017; Everett S. Wallis Prize in Organic Chemistry, 2017; Robert Thornton McCay Prize in Physical Chemistry, 2017
- Research: Project 1: Retrospective chart review of end-of-life intensity of care for patients who died after receiving allogeneic hematopoietic cell transplantation at Mayo Arizona. Project 2: Narrative review of financial toxicity at end-of-life and bereavement for patients with cancer and their caregivers, in adult and pediatric populations in the United States.

Career Interests: Internal Medicine - Pediatrics

Hobbies: Learning languages, baking, dancing, painting

# Madison Schoeberl, MD



- Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center School of Medicine, MD
- Auburn University, BS in Biomedical Science
- Awards: TTHUHSC School of Medicine Dean's Ambassador, AU Cellular and Molecular Biosciences Undergraduate Summer Research Scholar Award
- Secretary, TTUHSC Pediatric Interest Group
- Secretary, TTUHSC Service in Medicine Pre-Clinical Elective
- First Author of paper on in vivo tracking of staph aureus
- Research: Focused on tracking Vit D levels in children undergoing chemotherapy
- Tutor, TTUHSC School of Medicine Peer Associated Learning Program
- Volunteer: Sitter for Texas DFPS, COVID 19 Vaccine Clinic Volunteer for City of Lubbock Health Department, Ronald McDonald House

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Volleyball, running, baking, college football

# Halen Scott, MD



- Louisiana State University School of Medicine, Shreveport, MD
- Centenary College of Louisiana, BS in Biology and Neuroscience
- Awards: Ellis H Brown Leadership Award, first place for Oral Presentation at Centenary's Student Research Forum
- President, Northwest Louisiana Medical Society- Medical Student Partnership
- American Medical Association, MS4 Representative
- Louisiana State Medical Society, Student Delegate
- Co-authored paper on the relationship between insulin signaling deficiency and immobility in model organism and the response to antidepressants
- Tutor: General Chemistry
- Volunteer: Camp counselor for local children with special needs, Student Ambassador for prospective students at LSU, St Jude Miracles on the Red

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: hosting game nights, reading, running, traveling

# Tyler Shimfessel, MD



- University of Kentucky College of Medicine, MD
- University of Louisville, BS in Bioengineering
- Member, Lexington Medical Society American College of Physicians
- Member, American Academy of Family Physicians
- Dr. Preston P. Nunnelley Scholarship from the University of Kentucky College of Medicine recipient
- Johnson and Johnson Encore Gold Award recipient
- DePuy Synthes Joint Reconstruction, Warsaw, IN - Created and implemented an Access database that significantly improved case coordination among R&D, Regulatory, and Medical Safety groups, leading to improved service to the customer, 2017
- Cum Laude College Graduate, 2019
- Dean List - 8 consecutive semesters, 2019
- Peer Reviewed Journal Articles/Abstracts: Shimfessel TT, El-Dalati SA, Sekela M, Ahmed, T. BMJ Case Reports. Paradoxical embolisation in right-sided infective endocarditis and patent foramen ovale. (2022 May); 15 (5): 250-272. Cited in PubMed; PMID: 35623657. Pub Status: Published.

Career Interests: Internal Medicine - Pediatrics

Hobbies: Volleyball, hiking, viola (played viola for 8 years and seated 7th in the state)

# Vinita Shivakumar, MD



- Stanford University School of Medicine, MD
- Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, M.P.H.
- Rice University, BS in Biochemistry and Cell Biology
- Community Impact Award, 2021
- Summa cum laude from Rice University, 2018
- Member, Phi Beta Kappa honor society American Medical Association California Medical Association
- President's Honor Roll for 6 semesters, 2014
- Trustee Distinguished Scholarship - Rice University, 2015
- Jackie Schnell Memorial Scholarship - Rice University (Brown College), 2015
- Research: Completed self-directed project analyzing data compiled from Epic on the device cost for common procedures completed by the Stanford IR Department - found high degree of variation associated with device preference. Published findings in JVIR.
- Research: Completed statistical analyses of flow cytometry data collected from Phase 1 clinical trial investigating the supplementation of Vitamin D in boys with X-linked adrenoleukodystrophy - overall found increase in myeloid glutathione over time.

Career Interests: Internal Medicine - Pediatrics

Hobbies: Singing, reading, pandemic hobby is indoor workouts



# Sonal Sian, MD



- USF Health Morsani College of Medicine, MD
- University of South Florida, BS in Biomedical Sciences
- Award: USF Merit Exception Scholarship, Honors Scholarship, USF MCOM Debakey Grant
- President, Pediatric Interest Group
- Co-founder, the Sexual Health and Relationship Education (SHARE) Collective
- Committee member, Child Abuse and Death Review Committee
- Research: involved in evaluation of statewide implementation of nPEP by Child Protective Teams in Florida
- Student Instructor, Boys and Girls Club
- Volunteer with the USF Health Service Corps
- Patient Coordinator, USF Bridge Clinic
- Preceptor, course teaching third year medical students interviewing and differential diagnostic skills with a focus on bioethics, medical humanities, health systems, and public health
- Language other than English: Punjabi

Career Interests: Adolescent and Young Adult

Hobbies: Baking, cooking, strength training

# Katherine Sota Ortecho, MD



- Universidad Peruana Cayetano Heredia  
Facultad de Medicina Alberto Hurtado, Peru,  
MD
- Awards: Annual Research Grant for Medical Students
- First author on publication on an experimental model for cerebral infection with cysticercosis in sheep
- Co-authored chapters on Diphyllbothriasis and Dipylidiasis in Rudolph's Pediatrics
- Research: standardization of an experimental model for cerebral infection with cysticercosis in sheep, deep metagenomic sequencing in cerebrospinal fluid in patients with encephalitis
- Clinical Trial Physician, Cysticercosis Unit in Lima, Peru
- Clinical Research Coordinator, University of Miami Transplant Institute
- Volunteer: Ronald McDonald House, Medical Missions to Peru
- Language other than English: Spanish

Career Interests: Infectious Disease

Hobbies: cooking, baking, making treats for her Australian Shepherd, travel

# Mackenzie Sowers, MD



- University of Alabama at Birmingham, MD
- University of Alabama, BS in Biology
- Member, Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Best Presentation, Medical Student Orthopaedic Symposium
- First author on case report about lead poisoning as an uncommon cause of delirium
- Research: focused on outcomes in joint replacement surgeries, and impact of physiological tests as interventions for improving emotional, behavioral, social, and cognitive wellbeing of children
- Publicity Officer, UAB student run free clinic
- Project Manager, Quality Improvement Initiatives including designing and implementing a novel system for the heart transplant clinic at Children's Hospital of Alabama
- Simulation Teaching Associate for first and second year medical students in the simulation center

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Health and fitness, fostering animals, formula 1 racing

# Riley Syzdek, MD



- McGovern Medical School at the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, MD
- Texas A&M University, BS in Biomedical Sciences
- Award: Lucy Massenburg Scholarship at McGovern Medical School
- Communications Lead, McGovern Medical School Student Ambassadors
- Research: BUN as a marker of protein sufficiency in VLBW infants, comparison of acute and chronic outcomes in HIE between male and female neonates, improving Vit D supplementation in newborns
- Mentor, Professionalism Curriculum with first year medical students
- Manuscript Editor, McGraw Hill Case Files
- Local Outreach Coordinator, Seven Mile Road Houston
- Volunteer: Texas State Guard Medical Brigade, COVID-19 vaccine drive, The Birthday Party Project

Career Interests: Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics

Hobbies: Antiquing, playing instruments (piano, guitar, ukele), hot yoga

# Keishla Valentin-Martinez, MD



- Ponce Health Sciences University School of Medicine, MD
- University of Puerto Rico, BS in Biology
- Member, Alpha Omega Alpha
- Member, Gold Humanism Honor Society
- Visiting Medical Student Scholarship Program Recipient
- Co-author on case report of 29 mo patient presenting with Gower sign found to have Scurvy
- Research: literature review on albinism and Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome, purinergic control in microglia and its association with neurologic disorders
- Volunteer: Puerto Rico Diabetes Association, Mayaguez Medical Center, SPOT Foundation, Pediatric Institute of Asthma/Rare Lung Disease, Hermansky-Pudlak Syndrome clinic
- Language other than English: Spanish

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Pilates/yoga, cooking, movies

# Ashley Victor, MD



- Oregon Health and Science University School of Medicine, MD
- Oregon State University, BS in Biology
- Awards: Frank Stenzel MD and Kathryn Stenzel Academic Scholarship, OSU Dean's Scholarship, Biostatistics Pilot Award
- Section on Pediatric Trainees Liaison, AAP
- Co-Lead, OHSU VolumeUp
- Senior Leader, Women's Leadership Development Program
- Co-authored article on bile salt-stimulated lipase activity in donor breast milk influenced by pasteurization techniques
- Research: Quantifying delivery room resuscitation opportunities for pediatric residents
- Work Experience: Premedical Student Mentor, Camp Counselor Oregon Pacific Area Health Education
- Volunteer: COVID Vaccine Informant, OHSU Baby Cuddler

Career Interests: General Pediatrics

Hobbies: Quilting, photography, baking

# Kimberly Walter, MD



- Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine, MD
- University of Notre Dame, BS in Science-Business
- Member, Alpha Omega Alpha
- President, Pediatric Interest Group
- Member, Diversity and Inclusion Committee  
Summer Book Club
- First author for articles on AI vs Radiologist in the interpretation of screening mammograms, and suspected tetanus in an unvaccinated pediatric patient
- Tutor for mathematics at Saint Thomas More Language College in London
- Camp Sweeney Counselor
- Volunteer: Medical Staff Volunteer Camp Bluebonnet, Feed My Sheep Children's Free Clinic, Peer Messenger for Learning Environment Enrichment Program

Career Interests: Undecided

Hobbies: Basketball, cooking, traveling

# Renae White, MD



- University of Texas Medical Branch John Sealy School of Medicine, MD
- Texas Tech University, BA in Chemistry
- Award: Paul R Stalnaker Scholarship, Highest Ranking Graduate of the College of Arts and Sciences at Texas Tech University
- Secretary, Student Government Association of Galveston at UTMB
- Vice President, Running Club at UTMB
- Student leader, taught mindfulness and meditation to medical students
- Judge Advocate, Phi Chi Zeta
- Research: Political advocacy for medical students
- Volunteer: Presented to rural hospital about mental health in rural communities, crisis counselor

Career Interests: Psychiatry and Pediatrics (Triple Board)

Hobbies: Crafting, exercise, mindfulness, collaborative games, reading



# Li Yang, MD, PhD, MS



- Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China, MD, PhD
- The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, MS in Biomedical Informatics
- Award: Dean's list for best graduating student, Outstanding Faculty Awards, Surgeon in Training Award at The University of Hong Kong Li Ka Shing
- Director, Graduate Innovation Fund
- Pediatric Surgery Fellow at Union Hospital, Tongji Medical College
- Senior Research Staff, Cincinnati Children's Hospital under Jorge Bezerra
- First author and co-author for numerous papers within the field of gastroenterology and pediatric surgery
- Volunteer: Registered volunteer physician for Ali Health Telemedicine, peer counselor at the Counseling Service Center at Tongji Medical College
- Language other than English: Chinese

Career Interests: Gastroenterology

Hobbies: Long distance running, flower arrangements, stand up comedy

