



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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AMCNO Awards \$200,000 to Graduating Medical Students

CLEVELAND, OH – The Academy of Medicine of Cleveland & Northern Ohio (AMCNO), a leading organization in physician advocacy, awarded its largest gift ever this year as part of the organization’s ongoing celebration of its 200th anniversary. The AMCNO gave \$200,000 to 20 medical students graduating from Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of CWRU, Northeast Ohio Medical University, and Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Kristin Englund, MD, president of the Academy of Medicine Education Foundation Board, said that this class of scholarship winners were chosen for their dedication to improving the health of their communities and their desire to push the field of medicine even further.

“For more than 60 years, the AMCNO has awarded scholarships to medical students to help them on their paths to becoming the best healthcare providers they can be,” Dr. Englund said. “This group of scholarship winners is continuing that legacy, and we are proud to honor the efforts they’ve already made and aid in the work they will go on to do.”

The scholarship winners were announced at the AMCNO’s Bicentennial Gala on May 4, 2024. The gala, which was held at the Western Reserve Historical Society, also marked the opening of an exhibit at the museum charting 200 years of medicine in Cleveland. That exhibit will remain open to the public throughout the summer.

In awarding scholarships, the AMCNO prioritizes students who aim to go into primary care specialties, including family medicine, internal medicine, and pediatrics as part of the organization’s commitment to improving the issue of primary care workforce shortages.

The following students each received \$10,000 from the AMCNO:

- Victor Akinditan, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Michael Dube, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Amelia El-Mahdy, DO, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Ross Ferrise, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Dareon Michael Freeman, DO, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
- DeAngila Jones, DO, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Su Kim, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Nino Kovaljesko, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University

- Samuel Kulifay, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Nathan Law, MD, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Ryan Love, DO, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Ali Murra, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Precious Oyem, MD, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine of CWRU
- Caitlin Rader, DO, Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine
- Diya Ramanathan, MD, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Rebekah Russell, MD, Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
- Olivia Safady, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Gina Tubo, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Alexa Wawrzyniak, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University
- Kenneth Wong, MD, Northeast Ohio Medical University

The 2024 scholarships were made possible with support from sponsors including the NOMS Foundation, the Mt. Sinai Foundation, Marymount Hospital Medical Staff, Hillcrest Hospital Medical Staff, Dr. Richard Fratianne, the Eisman Family Scholarship Fund, the St. Luke's St. Vincent's Medical Staff Foundation, University Hospitals, and the AMCNO Past Presidents' Club.

The AMCNO awards scholarships annually to graduating medical students from area medical schools. For more information about current winners, and to stay up to date with future scholarship opportunities, visit amcno.org/scholarship.

In addition to the scholarships and gala, the AMCNO's Bicentennial year has included a volunteer event with MedWish International and a historical Lower Lecture featuring Dr. Peter Angood. For more information about the AMCNO's Bicentennial thus far, including photos and videos from events and previous news coverage, visit amcno.org/bicentennial.