

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Scholarships 2022

*Simone A. Menezes*

## Bob and Tanya Foster Scholarship

Created in 2007 by James R. Foster, DDS '87, in memory of his parents; awarded for interest and proficiency in pediatric dentistry.

*Gianncarlo Cruz, Anna Feng, Julianna J. Masabni, Victoria B. McGuffin, Heidi A. Shay*

## Delta Dental Scholarships

Awarded to fourth-year predoctoral students and second-year dental hygiene students who have shown the most interest, knowledge, and proficiency in pediatric dentistry.

*Ann M. Seelbach, Tiffany T. Zhou*

## Gary S. Leff, DDS, MPH Scholarship Fund for the DDS/MPH Program

Awarded to students on good academic merit and academic standing.

*Mary Anna A. Elliott Ontiveros, Vivian Harris, Landon V. Hirschi,  
Raymond Lu, Clinton Matkins, Ashley M. Miller, Jordan M. Smith*

## Lola B. and James R. Ballinger, DDS Scholarship in General Dentistry

Awarded to dental students who demonstrate a particular interest, knowledge, and proficiency in general dentistry as displayed during their previous academic year. Awardees also have a recognized financial need for support during their time at UTSD.

*Claudia A. Pruneda*

## Ramirez-Rathmel South Texas General Dentistry Scholarship

Dr. Maria Del Carmen Ramirez-Rathmel established this award to help dental students achieve their dreams of entering the profession she has loved.

*Chandler A. Pruitt*

## T. Bradford Willis, DDS, MSD Scholarship in Pediatric Dentistry

Created by UTSD alumnus T. Bradford Willis, DDS '79, of Waco, this award is for a predoctoral student beginning the fourth year of study who has displayed the most interest, knowledge, and proficiency in pediatric dentistry during the third year.

*Paulina N. Ho*

## The Houston Asian American Dental Society Scholarship

Awarded to a fourth-year dental student who demonstrates significant achievements while at UTSD, ranking in the top 5% for cumulative clinical work and contributing to the community through volunteer or missionary work.

*Andrea O. Pajarillo*

## The Triolo Leadership in Dentistry Scholarship

Created by Professor Emeritus Peter T. Triolo, DDS and wife, Dr. Pamela K. Triolo, PhD, RN; awarded for academic standing and exhibiting leadership, collaboration, and compassionate care.

*Matthew Halfmann*

## William "Sam" Leifeste, DDS Memorial Scholarship

Awarded to a student with expressed interest and aptitude for prosthodontics. The late Dr. Leifeste was a 1988 alumnus certified in prosthodontics in 1990. He received numerous awards for clinical excellence.

*Stacey N. Diep, Rachel G. Finelli, Rebecca Trevino*

## Women of Rotary Scholarship

This award is the oldest fund at the School of Dentistry and provides financial support for students.

## OUR MISSION:

*To improve human health by providing high-quality education, patient care, service, and research in oral health for Texas, the nation, and the world.*



## Class of 2022 Awards Banquet

April 21, 2022

Michael Akinyeye  
Sage N. Amin  
Michael B. Andrews  
Sam M. Anton  
Arash Ashouri  
Joshua S. Bear  
Kalin J. Bhavan  
Assalia A. Boulos  
Rachel Cai  
Jay T. Colucci  
Megan L. Crocker  
Gianncarlo Cruz  
Elizabeth A. Cutbirth  
Stacey N. Diep  
Kelly H. Dinh  
Dominic J. DiRusso  
Marlena Dobbs  
Dylan L. Drgac  
Joceylin Duarte  
Mina Elahidoust  
Mary Anna A. Elliott Ontiveros  
Ibrahim Elyamany  
Joshua N. England  
Ryan P. Fahmy  
Noah B. Falls  
Anna Feng  
Rachel G. Finelli  
Jonathan George  
Joshua George  
Kirouls S. Gowid  
Karun B. Grewal  
Salem Hadgu  
Omid Hadj  
Amira H. Haidar  
Matthew Halfmann  
Vivian Harris

Winston A. Heath  
Kimberly B. Heaton  
John K. Herchuk  
Landon V. Hirschi  
Paulina N. Ho  
Kimberly N. Hoang  
Che-Yu Hsu  
Jillian M. Huffman  
Chance A. Hunsaker  
Blake M. Hutzler  
Samuel Johnson  
Lucia Karam  
Elizabeth M. Karkour  
Dooyeol Kim  
Erik T. Le  
Raymond Lu  
Taylor T. Ma  
Selma G. Mahmoud  
Van Anh X. Mai  
Kiran K. Makhnejia  
Julianna J. Masabni  
Clinton Matkins  
Victoria B. McGuffin  
Patrick J. Mendez  
Daniel P. Mendoza  
Simone A. Menezes  
Ashley M. Miller  
Caroline E. Miller  
Daisy Montano  
Ali K. Naji  
Saira Nawaz  
Clayton T. Nguyen  
Torry Nguyen  
Vivan T. Nguyen  
Mary Jocelyn E. Nisnisan  
Patricia A. Nunez

Elvira Nworah  
Bryce A. O'Donnell  
Sarah E. Ohn  
Christopher L. Orosco  
Andrea O. Pajarillo  
Chandler A. Pruitt  
Claudia A. Pruneda  
Homais S. Qadri  
Zahra M. Rasool  
Anish Y. Reddy  
Dane C. Risinger  
John C. Russell  
Sarah Rustom  
Nada M. Saed  
Adam B. Safari  
Laura M. Santo Salvo  
Monica E. Scotka  
Ann M. Seelbach  
Edward A. Senules  
Heidi A. Shay  
Thea E. Sheen  
Nirja Shrestha  
Jordan M. Smith  
Amber R. Stephens  
Tyler A. Stocker  
Kristie M. Tran  
Tina Tran  
Rebecca Trevino  
Tammie M. Trinh  
Michele T. Truong  
Rebecca A. Vaughn  
Nicholas J. Ward  
Melissa A. Wong  
Priscilla Wong  
Alyson Yee  
Tiffany T. Zhou

# Program

Check-in & Photos 5:00 p.m.

Officer Welcome & Reception 6:00 p.m.

Dinner 6:30 – 7:00 p.m.

Welcome . . . . . Chance Hunsaker  
Invocation . . . . . Dylan Drgac  
Military Recognition . . . . . Dr. Jack Joseph  
Dean's Welcome . . . . . Dr. John A. Valenza  
Scholarship Recipients & Award Presentations . . . . . Dr. Robert Spears  
Class Slide Show Presentation . . . . . Anna Feng & Blake Hutzler

## Class Officers

President . . . . . Chance Hunsaker  
Vice President . . . . . Dylan Drgac  
Secretary . . . . . Anna Feng  
Treasurer . . . . . Blake Hutzler

*Class of 2022, thanks to our husbands, wives, families, and friends for their tremendous support these past four years. We realize that our endeavors would have been much more difficult to achieve without your love, patience, and understanding.*

*Photographs from this evening's event will be available at [Go.uth.edu/flicker](https://go.uth.edu/flicker)*

# Doctor of Dental Surgery Awards 2022

**Dr. John A. Valenza**  
ASDA Award of Excellence  
Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award

**Dr. Ralph A. Cooley**  
American College of Dentists Outstanding Student Leader

**Drs. Ralph A. Cooley & Jeff Geno**  
Academy of General Dentistry Senior Student Dental Award  
Houston Academy of General Dentistry Award

**Dr. Mai-Tram**  
The Academy of Dentistry International Student Servant Leadership Award

**Dr. Duc "Duke" M. Ho**  
Texas Dental Association Outstanding Senior Award

**Dr. W. Kenneth Horwitz**  
W. Kenneth Horwitz, DDS, Ethics and Professionalism Award

**Dr. Dath Collins**  
Greater Houston Dental Society Community Dentistry Award

**Dr. David Fray**  
American Association of Public Health Dentistry Recognition Award  
Special Care Dentistry Association/Academy of Dentistry for  
Persons with Disabilities Student Award  
UTSD Alumni Association Award

**Dr. Gary Pillers**  
American Equilibration Society Award

**Drs. Kathy Gibson, Stephen Laman & Jesse "Jay" Welch**  
International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award  
International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

**Drs. Kathy Gibson, Bonita Wynkoop & Jesse "Jay" Welch**  
Ninth District Dental Society Ethics and Integrity Award  
Ninth District Dental Society Award for Collegiality Award

**Dr. Stephen Laman**  
Ivoclar Vivadent Digital Dentistry Student of the Year Award

**Dr. Shalizeh "Shelly" Patel**  
Society for Simulation in Health Care Student Award  
Academy of Operative Dentistry Award  
Academy of Laser Dentistry Award

**Dr. Amity Gardner**  
American Association of Women Dentists - Eleanor J. Bushee Award

**Drs. Amity Gardner & Shalizeh "Shelly" Patel**  
Texas Association of Women Dentists

**Dr. Harold Kolodney**  
American Academy of Implant Dentistry Undergraduate Dental Student Award  
American College of Prosthodontists Award  
Hanau Best of Best Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics  
International Congress of Oral Implantologists/DENTSPLY Student  
Achievement Award

**Drs. Rade Paravina, Joe Ontiveros & Magda Eldiwany**  
Academy of Dental Materials Award  
Society for Color and Appearance in Dentistry  
Southwest Academy of Restorative Dentistry Award

**Drs. Joe Ontiveros & Magda Eldiwany**  
American Academy of Cosmetic Dentistry Undergraduate Clinical Case Award  
American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

**Dr. Michele White**  
James P. Ferguson Award for Excellence in Dental Anatomy

**Dr. Marilia Sly**  
American Academy of Orofacial Pain Outstanding Senior Award  
Academy of Osseointegration Outstanding Dental Student in  
Implant Dentistry Award  
Robert O. Dosch and James L. Rout Award

**Dr. Lacey Harris**  
American Association of Orthodontists Award

**Dr. Dan Bentley**  
Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry

**Dr. Jack Joseph**  
The Brian D. Stone Memorial Award from Dental Lifeline Network

**Dr. Jennifer Chang**  
Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics

**Dr. Dharini Van Der Hoeven**  
Houston Chapter of the American Association for Dental Research Award  
Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Student Award  
Quintessence Award for Research Achievement

**Dr. Nikola Angelov**  
American Academy of Periodontology Dental Student Achievement Award

**Drs. Harry Gilbert & Christopher Daniel**  
Edwards C. Hinds Academy Award  
Houston Society of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgeons Award

**Dr. Clark Whitmire**  
American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Student Award

**Dr. Scott Makins**  
American Association of Endodontists Student Achievement Award  
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Achievement Award  
American Academy of Oral Medicine Certificate of Merit  
and Award in Oral Medicine  
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Dental  
Student Award

**Ms. Emily Sedlock**  
UTSD Informatics Award

**Drs. Shalizeh "Shelly" Patel & Stephen Laman**  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Alumni Members

**Dr. Robert Spears**  
UTSD Student in Applied Basic Science Award  
American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Predoctoral Student Award  
Walter G. Sterling Award

**Ali Mahmood Shakir Al Hatem, 3rd Year Student Council President**  
The John P. McGovern Outstanding Teaching Award  
The John H. Freeman Award for Faculty Teaching