The Honos Civicus Society, an initiative of the Tisch College of Civic Life, selects and publicly recognizes graduating students from all Tufts schools who engaged in meaningful service and leadership activities or otherwise strengthened civic life, on campus and beyond, during their time at Tufts.

This year, honorees from the schools of medicine, dental medicine, nutrition, and veterinary medicine came together on the Boston campus for a joint induction ceremony in which we celebrated their accomplishments and encouraged them to strengthen their commitments to civic life within the health professions.
Ben has focused on high school health/science education and mentorship during his time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine (TUSM). This has included three years of leadership in Team Cathedral Project, a program of 30 TUSM students who support Cathedral High School (CHS) students through direct classroom education, small group sports medicine discussions, and mentorships with career guidance. Ben helped to create initiatives where TUSM students teach health/science subjects at CHS multiple times per week, improve CHS student-athlete health literacy, and provide pre-participation sports physicals to students who do not have access to a regular physician. After graduation, Ben plans start his general surgery residency at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center.
Seda Christine Babroudi

During her time at Tufts University School of Medicine, Seda Babroudi has focused on youth mentorship and medical education. As director of Health Impact Partnership, an afterschool program at English High School in Jamaica Plain, she designed a comprehensive curriculum to encourage civic engagement and the pursuit of higher education among students from underserved backgrounds. As a three-time physical diagnosis coach in the TUSM/UMass Boston Enrichment Program, she helped introduce undergraduate students to careers in clinical healthcare and medical problem-solving. Seda also participated in the Problem-Based Learning course at TUSM as a facilitator, working with first-year medical students to hone their clinical reasoning skills. Seda is eager to continue her medical training at Tufts Medical Center in the field of internal medicine, where she hopes to combine her interests in cardiology and palliative care.

Diana Bartenstein

Diana has focused on wellness for individuals experiencing homelessness during her time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine. This has included involvement with Boston Health Care for the Homeless Project (BHCHP), where she started a new program, Skin Care & Empowerment for All (SPA), that provides women with relaxing treatments such as face masks, foot soaks, and massages, in addition to education about skin health. Diana has also been an active member of the dermatology clinic at BHCHP, where she completed a quality improvement project to improve communication of biopsies results and is conducting a retrospective chart review to assess the clinic's impact since it started in 2009. Diana plans to go into dermatology after graduation at the Harvard Combined Dermatology Residency Training Program, following her preliminary year in internal medicine at Brigham & Women’s Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts.

Ann Cheung

During her time at Tufts University School of Medicine, Ann Cheung has focused working for the medically underserved of the Greater Boston area. This has included involvement as part of the Sharewood Project, a student-run free health care educational project, which provides basic acute health care and insurance referrals to patients in need. Ann’s work as the Director of Advancement involved using the management skills she had learned from business school prior to her medical career to innovate the funding structure for Sharewood’s budget (which includes starting the Sharewood Fleece fundraiser and receiving a $20K grant from AthenaHealth), redesigning its volunteer orientation curriculum to increase the number of school physicals seen on a daily night, as well as finding Sharewood’s new home at St. Paul’s in Malden. Ann plans to continue her interest in quality improvement for the medically underserved at her pediatrics residency program at Children’s Hospital Oakland in July.
Kimberly Dao

Kimberly has focused on advocacy, outreach, and working with underserved populations during her time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine - Maine Track. This has included leadership positions in The Phoenix Project, The Sharewood Project, Passamaquoddy Outreach Program, Primary Care Progress, and the Maine Medical Association-Medical Student Section. She has also participated in other outreach programs including Medical Outreach Maine, Kids in Chemotherapy and their Students (KICS), and Bounty Share. Whether providing free care to the uninsured, facilitating group discussions with incarcerated individuals, or spending an afternoon with her mentee during his chemotherapy session, Kimberly has found these extracurricular activities to be some of the most rewarding experiences during medical school. Kimberly plans to go into family medicine after graduation in Seattle, WA at Swedish Family Medicine Residency-First Hill.

Joshua Dower

Joshua has focused on serving the medically-underserved populations of the greater Boston area during his time as an undergraduate and medical student at Tufts University. This has included significant involvement with the Sharewood Project, a free healthcare organization in Malden, MA operated by Tufts University School of Medicine students which provides basic healthcare to members of the local community regardless of their ability to pay. Over the past 8 years, Joshua has volunteered with the project in many capacities. In 2015, Joshua served as the project’s Executive Director, helping to oversee patient care, establish strong connections with the Malden community, and create new initiatives to help expand the project’s clinical coverage. He was also instrumental in securing Sharewood’s current location within Malden, allowing the project to continue to serve a population in high need for free healthcare. Following graduation, Joshua will begin his Internal Medicine residency at Tufts Medical Center.

Jacqueline C. Hodges

Jackie is interested in working with underserved communities both domestically and abroad to increase access to care, and is also interested in promoting patient agency and improving the patient experience. She has pursued these interests as an MD/MPH candidate and Tufts Student Service Scholar, performing volunteer work, clinical research, and program design and evaluation in collaboration with Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) and Duffy Health Center. She contributed to the development of a doula program (Companeros de Parto) at GLFHC to provide labor support to Latina women, and is currently working on evaluation of the Duffy HCV Program, which utilizes the shared medical appointment model for Hepatitis C treatment. She was selected to be a Compassion Scholar by the Schwartz Center for Compassionate Care during her third year, and is working with TUSM faculty and staff to integrate a thread on the patient experience and shared decision making into its curriculum. Jackie will be starting her internal medicine residency this summer at the University of Virginia.
Alice Kaufman

Alice Kaufman focused on social determinants of health during her time as a Tufts medical student. She particularly focused on helping the underserved, primarily Latino population of Lawrence access nutritious food through her work with faculty and staff at the Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC). She helped the clinic begin a program to screen all patients for food insecurity and offer assistance to the hungry. She worked with GLFHC and the Greater Boston Food Bank to help start a mobile food market to provide GLFHC patients with free produce. She also worked with Project Bread to help GLFHC patients get in-person assistance in the clinic in accessing local food resources. She helped conduct research assessing the feasibility and impact of the food insecurity screening and intervention program at GLFHC. She plans to continue working with the underserved Latino community during her family medicine residency in Lawrence.

Ariel Lefland

During her time as a medical student at Tufts University School of Medicine, Ariel has focused on improving access to care and advocating for the medically underserved. This has included volunteering at and serving as the General Clinic Director of the Sharewood Project, a student-run healthcare and academic organization that provides free acute care, school physicals, and social services to the underserved community of Boston. Working closely with the other members of the executive board and volunteer students and physicians, Ariel's work as the General Clinic Director helped improve clinic efficiency, allowing a record number of patients to be seen, expand the on-site and over-the-phone interpreter program, and build a robust academic program at the clinic. After graduation, Ariel plans to complete her neurology residency at Duke University.

Eli Madden

Eli has been an involved member of community during his combined MD and MPH studies at Tufts. He has been an active member of the Tufts Student Service Scholar’s program, intentionally training in underserved communities and clinics around Boston. As the recipient of a Tisch College of Citizenship and Public Service Fellowship, he spent two months in Northern Haiti working with local pediatric and NICU populations, community health workers, orphanages, and youth with diabetes groups. He has served as an admissions ambassador and medical education representative for the medical school. He has also created and started research on Pre-exposure prophylaxis for at risk populations and hopes to continue this LGBT focused work throughout his career. He is thrilled to begin training as an Emergency Medicine resident at SUNY Downstate/King’s County in Brooklyn and continue his passion for working to improve the health of underserved communities.
Lauren Malishchak

Lauren Malishchak has focused on learning to care for underserved patient populations during her time as a student at Tufts as a member of the Tufts Student Service Scholars Program. This has included serving as the Director of Women's Health at the Sharewood Project in 2015, during which time she trained women's and sexual health counselors around topics of sexually transmitted diseases and pregnancy, amongst others; addressed a variety of sensitive patient concerns; and worked with other members of the clinic's executive board on administrative tasks. She also spent time during summers and electives both shadowing and working with Boston Healthcare for the Homeless. In June, she will be starting residency in internal medicine at Brigham and Women's Hospital as a member of the Department of General Medicine primary care track. She plans on pursuing a career in academic primary care, with focuses on caring for urban underserved populations, addiction medicine, and primary care management of chronic infectious disease.

Christina Matulis

During her time at Tufts University School of Medicine, Christina has been an active community member who has focused on adolescent health and development and medical education. She volunteered regularly with the IDEAS in Medicine program, where she worked with middle school students at the Eugene Wright Science and Technology Academy in Chelsea, MA to help improve their scientific literacy and critical thinking skills. As a public health coordinator for the program, she collaborated with teachers and fellow Tufts students to create a standardized science curriculum that introduced students to the scientific method as well as a public health curriculum that focused on nutrition and obesity. She also served as a peer facilitator for the Community Service Learning program. After graduation, Christina plans to complete her emergency medicine residency at Brown University/Rhode Island Hospital, where she hopes to further develop her interests in public health and medical education.

Caroline Melhado

During her time at Tufts, Caroline Melhado has focused on surgical education in international settings including Malawi and Haiti and health literacy in local communities. She is a member of the Tufts Student Service Scholars and worked with mentors, providers and patients to learn about how non-English speaking patients learn about their health at a community health center in Lawrence Massachusetts. She was a Doris Duke International Clinical Research Fellow based in Malawi for a year in medical school and focused on researching to improve pediatric surgery outcomes and thoracic trauma outcomes in the capital of Lilongwe. She hopes to pursue a career researching to improve outcomes in global surgery, specifically pediatric and trauma surgery. She will be starting a General Surgery Residency at University of California San Francisco next year.
Nathan Christopher Potter

During his time at Tufts, Nathan focused on health disparities in the incarcerated population. He co-founded the Phoenix Project, a community service group that runs health workshops in a local jail and post-release facility. Over the course of several years, he was able to help raise awareness about health issues faced by inmates as well as facilitate dozens of workshops reaching hundreds of inmates. Nathan is going on to a residency in emergency medicine at Christiana Care Health Systems in Delaware, where he hopes to continue his work with marginalized populations.

Emily C. Serrell

Emily has focused on advanced care planning, healthcare disparities in urology, and healthcare for the homeless during her time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine. With Advancing Care Together, she completed “Respecting Choices” certification, organized an educational session for students to learn to facilitate conversations about end-of-life and healthcare proxies, and participated in many such conversations with Boston-area patients. She was also a student leader for Portland Care Collaborative, a student group working at Preble Street, Portland, ME’s homeless resource center, shelter, and food kitchen. She helped social workers to identify medically unstable individuals who needed immediate care, as well as transition recently hospitalized, homeless clients back to the community. Emily will go into urology after graduation and is starting residency this summer at the University of Wisconsin.

Michael P.H. Stanley

As a man of arts & letters, he has penned stories, poems, and lyrics for the benefit of several hospitals and health outreach programs including the Shriners Hospitals for Children, and was the first student member to join the Maine Health Center for Medical Humanities, where he piloted a student-initiated seminar series. Curious of the intersection of culture and care, he opened and maintained a dialogue with the Pleasant Point Passamaquoddy Tribe concerning community health and medical education that so far has produced a mentorship program and a nutritional program with an overarching aim to provide undergraduate and graduate educational opportunities of addressing the health needs of this Native American population. He has been accepted to the neurology residency program jointly held by the Massachusetts General Hospital and the Brigham & Women’s Hospital.
Mary W. Tam

Mary Tam has focused on improving health access and education to English proficiency patients during her time at Tufts University School of Medicine. This has included her leadership and teaching role in Tufts Interpreter Program, which trains bilingual medical students to care for patients in languages other than English. This program prepares students to volunteer as an interpreter at Sharewood Project, a student-run clinic and to bridge communication barriers during patient encounters during and beyond medical school. During her term, she expanded involvement of Tufts Interpreter Program to Tufts Medical Center, Boston Children’s Hospital, and the local Chinatown community. She and other volunteers from the program represented Tufts by running an annual health screening fair in Chinatown, Boston. More recently, she volunteered as a health educator in Tufts Community Wellness Initiative, which promotes health literacy and prevention of common diseases. Mary plans to go into Ophthalmology after graduation at SUNY-Stony Brook.

Ryan Noelle Walker

While pursuing a combined MD/MPH degree at Tufts University School of Medicine, Ryan has continued to focus on women’s health, educational and health disparities, and community medicine. As the Co-President of Tufts’ Student National Medical Association (SNMA) Chapter, Ryan mentored medical, pre-medical undergraduate, and high school students, collaborated with local organizations for a Youth Homeless Clothing/Supplies Drive and Prison Program Book Drive, and organized SNMA’s 2016 Annual Multicultural Performing Arts Gala. She also served as a Sexual Reproductive Health/Women’s Health Counselor at the Sharewood Project, a student-run health clinic serving underserved and underinsured persons. Ryan is also a member of the Tufts Student Service Scholars (TS3) program, which inspired her to organize community health center visits for medical students to learn about Boston communities, health systems, and service opportunities. She is a National Health Service Corps Scholar and Gates Millennium Scholar. Ryan will be continuing her training in Family Medicine at Greater Lawrence Family Health Center.

James Whitledge

Jim Whitledge focused on care for homeless individuals during his time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine, volunteering at St. Francis House in Boston, which provides food, clothing, shelter, healthcare, and help with housing and employment. He was the St. Francis volunteer coordinator for Tufts medical students, volunteered in the shelter’s foot care clinic, and organized various day center activities for shelter visitors, including music performances by Tufts students, meditation, and bingo. He is happy that during his time at St. Francis House and since, the number of Tufts student volunteers has greatly increased, as has the breadth of volunteer opportunities available, all of which will hopefully benefit shelter visitors. Jim is excited to start emergency medicine residency at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center in June, and wants to remain involved in providing care and helping people overcome homelessness in the future.
Alyssa Wohl

Alyssa Wohl has focused on sexual & reproductive health education and counseling, and working with underserved populations during her time as a student at Tufts University School of Medicine. This has included involvement as a Sexual and Reproductive Health Counselor for Sharewood, Tufts' free clinic; project coordinator for the Let’s Talk program, which visited public schools to discuss HIV and stigma with adolescents; and as a member of Tufts Student Services Scholars, a group of students devoted to working with underserved populations. After graduating, Alyssa will be a resident in Pediatrics at Brown University Hasbro Children's Hospital. She hopes to eventually work as a doctor of Adolescent Medicine.
Juhi Chaudhari

Juhi Chaudhari is a dedicated public health professional and a champion for the people in the throes of addiction. During her time as a Master of Public Health student at Tufts University School of Medicine, she was part of Lowell PEERRS, a harm reduction program serving people who inject drugs in the Merrimack Valley area of Massachusetts. Her unflagging efforts have helped prevent the spread of diseases like HIV/AIDS and hepatitis C in the community. Apart from that, Juhi has volunteered for organizations like the BEST Hospitality training institute- where she taught English to non-native speakers- and the DreamFar High School Marathon- where she motivated students who would otherwise fall through the cracks. She has also been a part of the Chinatown Love your Block clean-up initiative. Jahir plans to continue serving medically-underserved populations in Massachusetts after graduating from the Public Health and Professional Degree Programs.
Elizabeth Marbury Jacobs

Marbury focused on community nutrition and sustainable food systems as a dual degree MS/MPH student at Tufts. She combined her passions for health, gardening and working with older adults as a 2016-2017 Boston Albert Schweitzer Fellow. As a Schweitzer Fellow, Marbury partnered with Springhouse Senior Living Community in Boston to develop and lead a community service project to address the physical, mental and social well-being of aging adults through the creation of a gardening club. This project utilized a raised bed garden as a therapeutic and nurturing tool for improving resident health. Vegetables and herbs grown in the garden were harvested by residents and delivered to the Springhouse kitchen to be incorporated into the meals served to residents. After graduating from Tufts this past December, Marbury moved to Jackson, Mississippi and now works for The Partnership for a Healthy Mississippi.

Michaela Hurley

As an MPH student, Michaela has been proud to help promote gender equality, provide healthcare to underserved members of her community, and mentor Tufts’ undergraduates in public health. When a transgender woman faced difficulties applying to a Tufts’ sorority chapter, Michaela traveled to two international sorority conferences to advocate for gender equality and to change the organization’s diversity statement. Also, Michaela mentored several students in the Healthcare in America class, for which she served as Teacher Assistant. During her breaks from school, Michaela volunteered at the Western Tidewater Free Clinic which services medically underserved individuals in the Suffolk, VA region. Michaela worked in the clinic in a variety of capacities from administrative to clinical. Upon graduation, Michaela looks forward to starting medical school at Albany Medical College in NY.
As a student at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Sama Abdul-Aziz has been involved with a wide array of civic engagement initiatives. However, she has focused on providing oral health care and education to homeless and runaway teens and young adults at Bridge Over Troubled Waters, located in Downtown Boston. As the student director of their dental clinic, Sama was able to act as a liaison between Bridge Over Troubled Waters and the student volunteers, ensuring that the community could best be served. After graduation, Sama will be entering a general practice residency at Massachusetts General Hospital where she hopes to pursue a career in hospital dentistry.
Jonathan Batlle

Jonathan Batlle was born and raised in Gainesville, Florida by his parents John and Laura Batlle. He also has a younger brother named Dylan who is a first year student at TUSDM. After graduating with his B.S. in Biology from the University of Florida, he moved to Boston to start dental school. Jonathan has always been involved with service work, including 5 construction mission trips and 5 dental service trips, ever since his freshmen year of high school. As a senior at TUSDM, Jonathan assumed the positions of President of The Academy of General Dentistry, Vice President of Hispanic Dental Association, and Alumni Liaison Chair for his class. Jonathan wants to thank his parents for always pushing him to be involved in service leadership. Next year, he will be doing an AEGD program at Fenway health here in Boston.

Elizabeth Betances

Elizabeth in an active member in the Student Hispanic Dental Association, serving as President from 2017-2018. Elizabeth volunteered as a Dental Central Global Connections Liaison during her first two years. Elizabeth’s community service initiatives include oral health education at local elementary schools, health fairs, churches, senior centers, and high schools. She also participated in three Global Service Learning trips to the Dominican Republic. In 2016, Elizabeth participated in the Summer Research Fellowship Program where she performed research on Global Service Learning. Elizabeth’s other projects include the Nuestros Niños competition, in which she and a team won an award for developing a tool to promote oral health among Hispanic children and families. In 2017, Elizabeth received the Dental Trade Alliance Foundation scholarship for her dedication to community.

Steven Boucher

Steven Boucher was the treasure for the Sharewood dental clinic. The Sharewood dental clinic provides oral health screenings, provides the appropriate referrals for care, and provides fluoride varnish application, at no cost to the public. His role as treasurer required him to account for the supplies needed to run day-to-day functions of the clinic and order more supplies when needed. He would also volunteer to perform oral health screenings, referrals, and apply fluoride varnish. He was a member of the Sharewood clinic for all four years at Tufts School of Dental Medicine. Aside from the Sharewood clinic, he volunteered at New England Center for Homeless Veterans, serving meals. After graduation, Steven hopes to become a general dentist in the Army and pursue employment and continuing education in the area of public health.
Kevin Campbell

During his time at TUSDM, Kevin demonstrated a strong commitment to community service and oral health advocacy. Kevin was among the coordinators for Give Kids A Smile, an annual event held at TUSDM aimed towards providing free dental services and education to disadvantaged children. He was also involved in events such as Tufts Community Day, Special Olympics: Special Smiles, Oral Cancer Walk, and Smile, Share & Care. Kevin contributed many hours of service to the Mission of Mercy of Connecticut, Museum of Science, and Nantucket Public Schools. Outside of TUSDM, Kevin volunteered regularly with Taiwanese American Professionals Boston and Boston Cares, professional networking organizations that connect members with opportunities to help communities in need. After graduation, Kevin will be doing a GPR at Naval Medical Center San Diego; he plans to continue with his regular community service engagement and hopes to be involved in grander projects in the future.

Alec Eidelman

Alec’s values for supporting and advocating for his surrounding communities can be attributed his community upbringing. While attending Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, he developed his capacity to contribute to promotion of health outcomes for his patients and underserved populations. Participating, researching, and leading efforts to advocate for access to healthcare, and expansion of benefits has directed his interest to address the critical U.S. healthcare system shortages. These experiences led him to pursue to the combined DMD/MPH Degree. Alec hopes the skills developed through understanding current determinants of health faced by people of all cultures will help guide his practice in serving patients from all populations and striving to enforce professional, efficient, and competent care for all. He is excited to continue his training through Harvard School of Dental Medicine by providing primary oral health care in an integrated public health and inter-professional environment.

Holly Fadie

During her time at TUSDM, Holly strived to improve access to oral health care for special populations including children and adults with developmental disabilities while enriching the educational experience of dental students interested in the care of patients with special needs. She started the first student chapter of the American Academy of Developmental Medicine and Dentistry (AADMD) at Tufts, for which she served as President for the past three years. Through this, Holly fostered a collaborative, informative and community service oriented network of students, faculty and special care experts who engaged with children on the Autism Spectrum, adults with developmental disabilities, adults with psychiatric illness, and the Special Olympics. Holly worked to improve access to oral health care for children through the first Give Kids a Smile Day at TUSDM and as an executive member of the Pediatric Dental Club.
Robert Geary

Robert is a person committed to serving the common good through global outreach, policy advocacy, and personal volunteering. Robert has been working with the St. Rock Haiti Foundation to improve the oral health care and health care delivery model for the members of the Haitian community. He’s an active member of their clinical committee and has been to St. Rock a number of times while in dental school. He has worked with the local Dentist and Dental School to improve the oral health in the area and implement the basic package of oral healthcare. At home, he has volunteered for policy initiatives and has lectured first year students regarding ethical considerations for global outreach at TUSDM. He began his pursuit of obtaining a Master’s in Public Health and looks forward to continuing that journey. He hopes through future initiatives that others will see that sustainably contributing to the common good yields a return on investment far greater than monetary compensation.

Lauren Gerkowicz

Lauren has been involved in a wide range of service and civic engagement activities while a student at Tufts School of Dental Medicine. Lauren served as the community service co-chair for her class which enabled her to organize, participate in and promote service activities such as painting and revamping the Josiah Quincy School dental clinic, establishing ‘Tooth Talks’ at the Castle Square Tenants Organization, developing oral health promotion tools, and partaking in oral cancer awareness walks. In addition, Lauren was actively involved with the Hispanic Dental Association. Through the HDA, she helped plan and attended health fairs in the community, taught oral hygiene instruction in elementary schools, and served as a mentor for a summer program for high school students (TAHSS) interested in health professions. Lauren was also fortunate to travel to the Dominican Republic with the HDA for two global service learning trips. After graduation, Lauren will start Orthodontic Residency at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, MN.

Sareena Gillani

Sareena Gillani has always been dedicated to service and civic engagement. She traveled to Honduras with the Global Dental Brigades and was also an intern at the Aga Khan Dental Clinic in Mombasa, Kenya. During her time at Tufts, she was involved in civic engagement activities with different organizations. Sareena devoted most of her time throughout her four years to Smile Squad and the South Asian Medical and Dental Association. She served as President for both organizations during her final year. With both organizations, Sareena conducted oral cancer screenings, provided oral hygiene instructions, and applied fluoride varnish to the children at various events such as the New England Wellness Fair, Oak Street Fair, and at the Boston Children’s school. Sareena is immensely grateful for the opportunities and she looks forward to giving back to the community throughout her career. After graduation, Sareena will attend a General Practice Residency in New York City.
Michael Golub

As a first year dental student, Michael used his connections with Healthcare International, a Jamaica-based non-profit organization focused on providing medical and dental care to the underserved areas of Jamaica, to start and develop a global service learning outreach program at Tufts. Since its inception in 2016, the Tufts global service learning outreach program has grown to include 14 students and 4 faculty members. The group has provided a sustainable model of dental care to thousands of Jamaicans, who would otherwise have no access to dentistry. Michael has also served on the global service learning committee as a student representative to this group whose goal is to advance Tufts’ identity in global outreach. Michael will begin his residency this summer in the Tufts Orthodontics program and he looks forward to developing a non-profit organization that recruits and educates dental professionals interested in dental outreach.

Krysten Herrero

During her time at TUSDM, Krysten has used the knowledge she has acquired in the classroom and the clinic, as well as 8 years of volunteering experience on a medical mission in Ecuador in order to reach out to the underserved populations, specifically in the Hispanic community, in Boston. Through her role as Vice-President of the Hispanic Dental Association and as a member of the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry, Krysten has been able to participate in various community outreach events and helped lead a team that placed 2nd at the Colgate-Palmolive “Nuestros Niños” competition where they created a tool to promote parent involvement in children’s proper hygiene techniques. Krysten is committed to engaging her local community in service aimed towards oral health. After graduation, Krysten plans to continue her work with the pediatric population as a Pediatric Intern in Richmond, Virginia at Virginia Commonwealth University.

Agatha Kao

While at Tufts, Agatha was heavily involved in the American Student Dental Association (ASDA). Day in and day out throughout the four years as an elected class representative, she proactively made sure that opportunities, resources, and events were created and made available to all of the student body through the ASDA platform, including lobbying/advocacy, wellness, career planning, community service, leadership development, and social events. Her active involvement in organized dentistry extended to the District level where she worked closely with five other New England dental schools from 2015-2018 as well as served on the Massachusetts Dental Society Health and Wellness Committee from 2015-2016 and the New Dentist Committee from 2016-2018. Following graduation, Agatha will begin her career in private practice in Massachusetts and stay active in organized dentistry in both the Massachusetts Dental Society and the American Dental Association.
Mary Keezal

Throughout her time at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Mary has focused on serving her community both locally and abroad. Over the years, Mary participated in various outreach projects and events within the Greater Boston area ranging from Health Fairs to Oral Cancer screenings and Dental education. Mary was fortunate to serve as the Tufts Hispanic Dental Association (HDA) Community Service Representative and travel to the Dominican Republic to provide free dental treatment and education to people in need. Mary also became the Founder and Director of Tufts University Dance Marathon, which is student-run organization that hosts year-long fundraising efforts to support our local Children's Miracle Network hospital, Boston's Children's Hospital. Following graduation, Mary will attend an Orthodontic Residency at Jacksonville University in Florida.

Timothy Kim

During his time as a dental student at the Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Timothy made sure to focus a portion of his time to outreach work. Wanting to combine his love for dentistry and community service, he was ecstatic to be able to go to Jamaica during his second year to do volunteer work with the Global Service Learning department at TUSDM as well as Health Care International. It was during that trip that he further affirmed that he would always have a passion in helping those who needed proper dental care. He quickly realized that as providing immediate dental care was important, creating a sustainable healthcare system was key. Finding a deep connection with the local population that he helped treat, Timothy returned to Jamaica during his third and fourth years. Performing service work during a given time of each year is a tradition he is committed to withholding. After graduation, Timothy will start an endodontics residency program at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine.

Kimberly Meyers

Kimberly focused her community service efforts during dental school on serving the Chinatown community and better understanding how to apply health literacy principles to patient interactions and outreach. She enjoyed serving as one of the D’18 class Community Service Co-Chairs. She organized and created curricula for multiple oral health related workshops in Chinatown ranging from child and maternal health to geriatrics. She was involved in spearheading inter-professional collaborations with medical and nutrition students for similar projects. Her favorite endeavor was the renovation of the ‘Smart Smiles’ dental clinic at the Josiah Quincy School. Kimberly participated in the year-long elective health literacy course. This was an invaluable educational leadership opportunity where participants learned about health literacy, numeracy, attributes of health literate organizations, barriers to care, and much else. Following graduation, Kim will be completing an AEGD at the Winslow Indian Health Care Center, an Indian Health Service site in Arizona.
2018 Honos Civicus Inductees

Sangita Murali

Sangita loves working with people of all ages, especially those with dental phobias and anxieties. She attributes her empathetic patient care approach to her parents who serve as role models for compassion and humanity. Sangita is passionate about creating supportive environments to empower people from diverse backgrounds, including the South Asian, geriatric, and homeless women's communities. As Tufts Chapter president of the American Association of Women Dentists (AAWD), Sangita has been afforded endless opportunities to connect with her community. One of her favorite ways to engage adolescents involved teaming up with Science Club for Girls to promote their self-confidence and literacy building in STEM. Sangita is also grateful for the opportunity to have meaningful interactions with her community's senior population through a Saving Senior Smiles Massachusetts Dental Society (MDS) Foundation grant. After graduation, Sangita looks forward to providing affordable orthodontic care as a resident at the Georgia School of Orthodontics.

MiJung Myung

Throughout her dental school career, MiJung has focused on community service related to increasing access to healthcare. As an Albert Schweitzer Fellow, she designed and implemented a civic engagement project – to introduce high school students from immigrant families to the health sciences field. MiJung enjoyed spending her spring breaks in Haiti to treat patients in villages where there is no access to dental care. At Tufts, she participated in a Health Literacy Intensive course, Pratt 2 Psychiatric Unit oral-health program, and the Pediatric Collaborate Practice program, providing dental screening and oral hygiene instruction to special-needs children. MiJung plans to work for a community health center as a National Health Service Corp (NHSC) scholar after graduation.

Leigh Ortiz

During Leigh’s time at Tufts University School of Medicine, she was involved in multiple activities including community service and advocacy. She has participated in a wide range of student groups, including Alpha Omega International fraternity, American Association of Women in Dentistry (AAWD), Hispanic Dental Society (HDA), American Association of Developmental Medical and Dentistry (AADMD), Tufts LGBTQA and TUSDM Hillel. Leigh participated in the Hispanic Dental Association one-week service-learning trip in the Dominican Republic where she provided care to the underserved population. Additionally, in her fourth year, Leigh had the opportunity not only to partake in an unforgettable externship at the Winslow Indian Health Care Center in Arizona serving the Navajo Indian population, but a Special Care rotation as well, where she was able to help treat persons with varying mental and physical disabilities. Leigh will be starting a one-year General Practice Residency at Bellevue Hospital in NYC this summer.
Aekta Patel
Throughout her four years at TUSDM, Aekta has been involved in various community service activities. A significant part of her first two years involved working with Dental Central, a website that helps raise awareness of volunteering opportunities within the Tufts Dental community. Later on, Aekta became involved in the American Student Dental Association, where she worked with undergrad students on Predental Day and volunteered at the YMCA and New England Center for Homeless Veterans. She also founded the Head & Neck Cancer Organization to raise awareness of oral cancer at Tufts Dental. This year, she will be traveling to Nicaragua to provide dental care to the underserved community in Jinotega, and cannot be more excited to be ending her journey with this mission trip! She looks forward to further pursuing her passion of civic engagement after graduation, and hopes that her skills and compassion make her into the best healthcare provider she can be!

Tuvy Phan
During her time at TUSDM, Tuvy Phan focused on dental education, health literacy, leadership, and advocacy. Tuvy is an advocate for dental education both at the local and national level. This included involvement as the American Dental Education Association (ADEA) D18 Class Representative and Member-at-Large on the Council of Students, Residents, and Fellows (CoSRF) Administrative Board. Most notable from these leadership roles, Tuvy was able to help create a national informational resource, "The ADEA Chapter Toolkit", located on the ADEA website. In addition to her involvement with ADEA, Tuvy has been committed to narrowing the communication gap between the patient and dental provider. Through her research, Tuvy created a chair-side tool in the form of an educational booklet called, "TIPS: Tufts Information on Prevention Success." This educational resource was used to better educate patients in the Tufts pre-doctoral clinic on oral hygiene and disease prevention. After graduation, Tuvy plans to practice as a General Dentist in Miami, FL.

Tracy Tchintchin
An integral part of Tracy’s time at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine was civic engagement. She was devoted to her work with the Justice Resources Institute, where she provided counseling to disadvantaged and underserved youth. She also held leadership positions with the American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry at Tufts and has been a part of many oral health care initiatives with the school’s Public Health Department. This includes the Sharewood Project, Bridge Over Troubled Waters, Happy Teeth Healthy Bodies, as well as others. Her dedication to serving the underprivileged has motivated her make the commitment to do so over the span of her life. Tracy aims to use her background in health policy and administration and dental medicine to combat health disparities and improve access to care among populations in need.
Mikenah Vega

Mikenah was born in Miami, Florida and raised in Brockton, Massachusetts. Mikenah graduated from MCPHS University with a Bachelor of Science degree in Premedical Studies and Medical Humanities in 2014. While in dental school, Mikenah has been engaged in a multitude of projects that demonstrate commitment to dental public health and the improvement of our community here at TUSDM. On the executive board of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA), she led projects that serve minority and underserved students both in the dental school and in the community. She has spent time at local area churches conducting oral health literacy research and engaging in health fairs to promote the importance of oral health both in English and Haitian creole. Mikenah has been a long-term member of TUSDM’s admission committee and deeply enjoyed her involvement in increasing and fostering diversity at TUSDM.

Shayla Walker

During her time at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Shayla Walker has been focused on serving the underserved population. She spent two years as the New England Center for Homeless Veterans Director in ASDA. This position provided her the opportunity to give back to the local community and also to veterans who have served our country. Over the years, Shayla spent time in the Hispanic Dental Association, Delta Sigma Delta International Dental Fraternity, Smile Squad and Project Bridge educating children and young adults about the importance of oral hygiene. Each group has given her the opportunity to use her knowledge whether in the local community or abroad. Shayla has been grateful for the opportunities to give back to the community while at Tufts and plans to continue to do so throughout her career. After graduation, she will move to North Carolina for a General Practice Residency.

Jared Wirth

While at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine, Jared became very involved with global service dental outreach. Two years in a row, Jared traveled with a team to remote rural communities in the mountains of Jamaica, to provide much needed essential dental care. Working out of local school classrooms, he helped to provide oral health and hygiene education, as well as oral urgent treatment for severely decayed or hopeless teeth. Motivated to improve the sustainable impact of his team, Jared organized and introduced atraumatic restorative therapy. This initiative allowed his team, for the first time, to perform restorative dentistry saving crucial teeth in a clinic setting where power and water were unreliable. Following graduation, Jared will return to Washington state to work in his family’s group practice. He hopes to remain actively involved in global service outreach, helping to connect local dentists with communities in need abroad.
Trista Wyman

Trista Wyman has been involved in a range of civic engagement activities throughout her time at Tufts University school of Dental Medicine. The majority of Trista’s community outreach comes from her participation in Tufts Global Service Learning Program for the past two years. Through this program, she helped provide oral hygiene instructions, preventative oral care, and simple extractions in rural communities of Jamaica. Trista was also involved with Cradles to Crowns, Bridge Over Troubled Water, and New England Center for Homeless Veterans. Trista will be working with National Health Service Corps for the next four years, starting her career as a general dentist emphasizing the importance of preventative oral care, nutritional habits, and overall self worth in underserved areas of the Midwest.
Anabelle Harari

Anabelle has focused on nutrition interventions and physical activity for multiple populations during her time as an MS/DPD student at the Tufts Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Simmons College. This has included involvement with Green City Growers, Dana Farber Cancer Institute, ChildObesity180, the FLEX study, and working with an RD on sports nutrition and eating disorders. As a social media and marketing intern with CO180, she coordinated educational curricula, created interactive tools, and wrote blog posts for the organization’s network of 7,000 schools across the country. During her time as a student, Anabelle organized several yoga and meditation retreats, and taught workshops on mindful eating. After graduation, Anabelle will be staying in Boston to complete her dietetic internship at Massachusetts General Hospital, and plans to become a Registered Dietitian Nutritionist focused on mind-body approaches to health.
Kelly Ann Kundratic

Kelly Kundratic has focused on agriculture policy during her time as a student at The Friedman School. This has included involvement and leadership in Let's Talk, Friedman Student Council, Friedman OneHealth organizations within the school, Starbucks’ Partner in Community Service, Maryland FFA Association, and the United Network for Organ Sharing outside of school time. Kelly's involvement in these organizations has assisted in building fundamental relationships at the intersection of related disciplines. Kelly has committed to working for a non-profit in a unique private/public partnership dedicated to agriculture policy issues in Pennsylvania's Capital after graduation.

Julie Kurtz

Julie studied Agriculture, Food & Environment and Public Health while at Tufts, in efforts to support a food system that helps everyone thrive, without exploiting people or nature. Her civic engagement in Boston began in her home Roxbury/Dorchester neighborhood, where she is an active neighbor, and has taught cooking/nutrition classes with Cooking Matters, and other neighborhood centers. As a student-leader of Friedman Justice League, she helped bring farmworkers and campesino farmers to campus to speak about unseen inequities in our food system, facilitated conversations between faculty and students to enhance diversity, social justice and inclusion on campus, and supported the development of a direct service internship scholarship for students. After working with Migrant Justice this summer in Vermont, she aims to move to DC in the Fall to support fair food systems through economic research and advocacy.

Jacqueline M. Lauer

Jacqueline has been an active and involved community member during her 6 years at Tufts, where she pursued both an MS and PhD in Food Policy and Applied Nutrition at the Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. She has volunteered with numerous organizations during this time, which have greatly enhanced her experience as a student at Tufts. Jacqueline was an LGBT advocate and helpline volunteer at Fenway Health for 2.5 years; a citizen class instructor with Instepp, Inc in Durham, NC; and a dedicated assistant at Sanyu’s baby home for 2 years while doing her PhD research in Uganda. Currently, she remains an advocate for victims/survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault at the Durham Crisis Response Center. She is thrilled to have the opportunity to further pursue her passion for international nutrition research as a Postdoctoral Fellow at Boston Children’s Hospital/Harvard School of Public Health next year.
Alejandra Cabrera Mondragon

Alejandra has focused on community interventions to address health disparities during her time at Friedman through both practice and research. This has included leadership in Grodojo, a program she co-founded in Lowell, Massachusetts that empowers urban youth through martial arts, nutrition education, and academic support. Alejandra’s work has provided dozens of families with the tools to lead healthier, fulfilling lives. In addition, Alejandra was actively involved in the Friedman community. She co-chaired the Friedman Justice League and was a graduate student representative for the Committee on Social Justice, Inclusion, and Diversity, which seeks to increase the recruitment and retention of students, staff, and faculty from underrepresented backgrounds. After graduation, Alejandra plans to continue working with urban youth in Lowell and will be directing a food justice teen employment program this summer.

Kathleen D. Nay

While at Tufts, Kathleen advocated for food producers and cultivated students’ skills in writing and advocacy to amplify stories of food system change. In Spring 2017, she engaged in qualitative research with Massachusetts fishermen to understand their experiences and needs through personal storytelling. The project highlighted reasons fishermen feel excluded from regulatory processes that impact their livelihoods and identified ways for policymakers and the public to support local fishing communities. Kathleen also served as co-editor of The Friedman Sprout, a student-run publication that encourages students to practice factual, persuasive writing, give and receive feedback from peers, and grow confidence in developing communications skills. During her time as co-editor, Kathleen fostered partnerships with Friedman Justice League and Friedman Food Policy Action Council to provide a platform for students to champion issues on policy and justice. After graduation, Kathleen will join Perfect Day, a California-based startup developing healthy, sustainable, animal-free dairy products.

Corey O’Hara

Corey’s research, fundamental to his PhD experience at the Friedman School, has been in studying dietary transitions and inequities among poor smallholder farming communities in Nepal. For his research, he designed and secured funding for the MAWTW project, implemented by International Development Enterprises (iDE) and supporting 10,000 women farmers with financial literacy and nutrition training, water resource development, and access to new markets. During this time, he helped design and later document the work of Anukulan, a project currently assisting more than 100,000 vulnerable households to respond to climate-related shocks and stresses. In addition, Corey sits on two nonprofit boards and is an active alumni supporter of Tufts—serving on the Tufts Alumni Council and as chair of the Friedman School’s Giving Committee, whose efforts
2018 Honos Civicus Inductees

continue to support the next generation of nutrition students. After graduation, Corey will continue his international research at the intersection of food security, gender, and sustainable rural development.

Alexandra Raczka

Alexandra has focused on food systems planning during her time as a dual degree student in the Urban and Environmental Policy and Planning Department and Friedman School of Nutrition Science and Policy. This includes working with the Boston Collaborative for Food and Fitness, which supports community-led health and wellness efforts in Dorchester, Roxbury, and Mattapan. She also interned at the Massachusetts State House for the Joint Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Agriculture. While at Tufts, Alexandra participated in a number of community-based projects, including piloting an assessment of food access in Massachusetts for the Metropolitan Area Planning Council. As a result of this project, communities throughout the state have work to ground the findings to assess food access in their communities. Alexandra will pursue work in food systems planning with the Sustainable Business Network of Massachusetts and work to make the food system more equitable and sustainable.

Tessa Joy Salzman

Tessa has focused on farm labor rights and farmworker health and safety during her time as a student at the Friedman School in the Agriculture, Food & Environment program. She is also getting a dual degree in Urban Policy & Planning. During her 3 years at Tufts she has been an active leader in the Friedman Justice League (FJL), which aims to increase diversity and equity in our curriculum and institution. Tessa has helped FJL host a farmworker awareness week, bring diverse speakers to the seminar series including farmworkers from the Coalition of Immokalee Workers, engage professors around social equity in the classroom, and raise funds for a direct service internship scholarship. After graduation, she plans to continue policy advocacy and research to improve living and working conditions for farmworkers in the U.S.
Pamela Bay

During her time at school, Pamela has played an active role in her school and her community. She frequently gives hospital and farm tours as well as informational outreach presentations to local school and community groups. She also volunteers yearly at the Geek is Glam STEM expo for girl scouts. Pamela has spent time providing free veterinary services for low-income and homeless communities and intends to continue this work in the future. She is also dedicated to spreading mental health and wellness awareness within the veterinary profession and has started multiple programs within her school to help achieve these goals, such as founding the SAVMA Wellness Committee and facilitating in Cummings Thrive. Upon graduation, Pamela will be entering a small animal rotating internship at Veterinary Emergency and Referral Group in Brooklyn, New York in the hopes of pursuing a career in emergency and critical care.
Nicole Becich

Nikki Becich is looking forward to working locally in Western Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and globally in the Ecuadorian Andes following graduation this year. During vet school, she was involved in providing care to underserved human and animal populations through wildlife and community medicine. In the coming year, she will be involved with sustainability and conservation education to communities in economic distress in a post-coal and steel production area facing increasing fracking activity. A Spanish speaker, she will also continue to participate in ongoing efforts to support organizations doing in-situ habitat conservation in Latin America with the National Aviary and Avian Conservation Center of Appalachia. At Cheat Lake Veterinary Hospital in West Virginia, she hopes to provide pet owners with affordable emergency, surgery, and general medical services, and continue to be a mental health and wellness advocate for her clients of every species.

Stephanie Chubb

Before enrolling in veterinary school, Stephanie taught math in a low-income public school. This experience coupled with her love for veterinary medicine spurred her interest in promoting educational equity and improving access to the veterinary profession for children that come from underrepresented racial and socioeconomic backgrounds. She has volunteered her time at career days and as a math tutor at an elementary school while completing her veterinary and public health degrees. Her research projects evaluated outcomes for Tufts’ low-income community practice clinic and separately, an investigation into zoonotic disease and the human-animal bond in homeless pet-owning populations. She has been active in her community, teaming up with a local pet food pantry at a soup kitchen and providing free pet food and pet care services for low-income pet owners. Stephanie will be starting an internship at a low-income community practice clinic based in a vocational high school in June.

Deirdre Craven

Deirdre Craven has been an active and involved community member while pursuing her DVM degree. She has participated in several outreach trips through Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM) to the Navajo Nation as well as to underserved Y’upik villages in rural Alaska. These trips provide community education about disease management as well as necessary veterinary care to both family and food animals. Throughout veterinary school, she has remained involved with the Community Cats Spay/Neuter Clinic to control feral cat populations in the Worcester area as well as volunteering with Spay Day for rescues in North Carolina. While at Tufts, she ran two Boston marathons for JP’s Team, raising money for Boston Medical Center, Boston’s safety net hospital. After graduation, Deirdre will proudly join CareFirst in Raleigh, NC, in large part because of their commitment to the community.
Jade Jerolmon

While at Cummings, JD participated in several programs helping people with limited financial resources access veterinary services for their animal companions. She volunteered at vaccination clinics and spent time at a shelter and multiple spay/neuter clinics and programs that offer subsidized care to low-income pet owners. JD particularly enjoyed spending time at Tufts at Tech, collaborating with clients, veterinarians, and other students to create workable plans to care for animals within a budget. She was a student coordinator of an outreach program that brought vaccination clinics to Worcester Public Housing sites, and co-wrote a grant through the AVMF and organized outreach clinics to bring veterinary care to pets of people experiencing homelessness. JD will be working at a small animal practice in Western Massachusetts, and plans to be involved in community medicine programs in the future.

Andrew Reicherter

During his time at Cummings, Andrew centered his focus on leadership and community medicine within underserved pet populations. Andrew became president of both the veterinary class of 2018 and the on-campus service fraternity of Alpha Psi. During his preclinical years at Tufts, Andrew spent time between clinics on community service rotations both home and abroad. Andrew’s work abroad included a month-long campaign through the rural areas of Belize providing veterinary care to pet and farm animal populations. State side, Andrew has volunteered his time in several partnerships including a humane relief trip to the Apache reservation of White Mountain Arizona with the Humane society of America and a two-week long training program with the ASPCA of Asheville North Carolina aiding in the pet population control effort. Andrew spent most of his elective clinical time within local shelters and community clinics. These efforts included Tufts’ very own spay neuter/community cat clinic, work within the community clinics of Tufts at Tech, Angel at Nashoba, and the Pets in Need clinic of Rhode Island. Andrew plans to complete a small animal rotating internship at the Redbank Veterinary Hospital in hopes of becoming a staff emergency doctor while also serving in-need pet populations.

Maxbetter Vizelberg

During his time at Tufts University Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine, Maxbetter immersed himself in community service, focusing on positively impacting the lives of both man and animal. As a member of the Tufts University Pet Loss Support Hotline, he counseled pet owners grieving the loss or potential loss of their pets. He volunteered in monthly community cat clinics dedicated to the trap, neuter, and release of feral cats in Worcester. Through a program made possible by Combined Jewish Philanthropies, he visited senior living communities in the Greater Boston area and spent time with the residents, engaging them in art projects such as blanket-making for homeless individuals. Maxbetter looks forward to serving patients as a veterinarian in a small animal private practice in Cambridge after graduation.
Victoria Warner

During her time at Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, Victoria has been involved in community service on a worldwide scale. Through Christian Veterinary Mission (CVM), she spent time in Arizona on the Navajo Reservation; Tamil Nadu and West Bengal, India; and Uganda helping provide reduced cost veterinary care to pets and livestock in rural communities. She also helped train people in the communities on how to provide basic veterinary care and assisted in developing farms. In her local community, Victoria has helped provide veterinary care to the pets of low-income families and the homeless population through a Tufts selective. She has also been involved in feeding the homeless and welcoming refugees to the community through her church. Victoria plans on going into general practice in the Worcester area. She would like to become more involved with Worcester’s refugee population and to lead trips with CVM to other countries.