

# 2021 Honors Convocation Awardees

## **A MESSAGE FROM JOHN J. REILLY JR., MD**

*Richard Krugman Endowed Chair*

*Vice Chancellor for Health Affairs*

*Dean of University of Colorado School of Medicine*

Congratulations to all of the recipients of awards and recognition at the 2021 Honors Convocation, and a special thanks to all of the donors and sponsors who make these awards possible every year. While we could not physically be together for this ceremony, you have the best wishes and congratulations of the entire CU medical community for your accomplishments in clinical care, teaching, research and community service. These awards represent recognition for outstanding contributions in our core missions. As you embark upon the next phase of your medical education, thank you for all the time and effort that these honors celebrate. .

## **A MESSAGE FROM BRIAN DWINNELL, MD**

*Associate Dean, Student Life*

Congratulations to the University of Colorado School of Medicine Class of 2021 and the Honors Convocation awardees. In addition to recognizing the recipients of these awards, we would also like to thank the CU Foundation, Office of Advancement, our generous benefactors, the clinical and basic science leaders determining the awards, and the staff of the Office of Student Life who help make these awards possible.

We are saddened by missing the opportunity to present these awards in person. We are honoring some truly remarkable students and faculty, who deserve to be recognized in a formal ceremony, with peers, family and friends. While we know this online recognition is not an adequate substitute, we sincerely appreciate the understanding of our awardees and those close to them. The response from our students and faculty to the COVID-19 pandemic has been nothing short of inspirational and will serve as an example for generations to come.

You are all aware how challenging the medical school experience can be. There isn't a practicing physician who doesn't recall this overwhelming journey, and it is clearly more difficult now than it ever has been. The amount of material has dramatically expanded and society has become so much more complicated, which equates to added to pressure. This makes the accomplishments of those we are honoring even more extraordinary.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

## DEPARTMENTAL AWARDS

### DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY

**Robert W. Virtue Award:** Kyra Rodi  
*For a medical student in Anesthesia who has exhibited the most concern for patients*

**C. Walter Metz Award:** Scott Cao  
*For excellence in performance in Anesthesiology*

**Cynthia Hampson Award/Class of 1991:** Jesus Cardenas  
*For excellence in Anesthesia with the intent to pursue a career in Anesthesiology*

### DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE

**Pisacano Award:** Filiberto Morales  
*For the senior entering Family Medicine who best models the characteristics of Dr. Nicholas Pisacano: scholarship, leadership, and service*

**Felix Martinez, MD Memorial Award:** Filiberto Morales  
*For the senior(s) entering Family Medicine who best models the qualities, character, and service of the late Dr. Felix Martinez*

### DEPARTMENT OF MEDICINE

**John Ryan Award:** Simon Feseha  
*For outstanding work in Internal Medicine*

**Gold Headed Cane Award:** Mackenzie Garcia  
*For a senior student who shows exemplary promise as an outstanding physician*

**Thomas Neff Award:** Mike Levy  
*For the senior student who has demonstrated unique humanitarian concerns toward the total health and well-being of patients with unrelenting patience and compassion*

**American College of Physicians Award:** Yaa Asare  
*For exemplary performance and outstanding promise in medicine*

**James Waring Award:** Amber Fleck  
*Diligent scholarship and devotion to duty in the field of Internal Medicine*

DEPARTMENT OF NEUROLOGY

**Stuart Schneck, MD Endowed Award:** Zainab Zullali  
*For a senior student who has demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding performance in Neurology with exceptional humanism in all interactions.*

DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY

**University of Colorado Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award:** Katherine Turner  
*For excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology*

**Dr. Harold and Mrs. Judy Kaye Award:** Ellen (Shade) Awoniyi  
*Demonstrated stellar academic performance to students who will pursue specialty training in Obstetrics and Gynecology*

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

**Department of Ophthalmology Award:** Ann Strong & Dallin Millner  
*For demonstrated academic excellence and outstanding performance in Ophthalmology.*

DEPARTMENT OF ORTHOPEDICS

**Frank Scott, MD Excellence in Orthopedics Endowed Award:** Adam Peszek  
*For academic excellence, professionalism, and outstanding performance in Orthopedics.*

DEPARTMENT OF PATHOLOGY

**Sara D. Winter, MD Award:** Jaclyn Anderson  
*For academic achievement with an outstanding commitment to medicine, fellow students, and society*

DEPARTMENT OF PEDIATRICS

**Franklin Gengenbach Award:** Hannah Benjamin  
*For outstanding performance in Pediatrics by a senior student*

**Lange/McGraw Hill Award:** Christina Stevens  
*For outstanding performance in Pediatrics by a senior student*

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

**Franklin Ebaugh Award:** Lillian Svete  
*For outstanding performance in Psychiatry by a senior student*

DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY

**Alden Harken Basic Science Research Award:** Alan Quach  
*For outstanding research in Surgery*

**George Packard Award:** Brett Wiesen & Madeline Patton  
*For outstanding performance in Surgery*

**Owens-Swan Award:** Madeline Huey  
*For outstanding promise in Surgery*

CENTER FOR BIOETHICS AND HUMANITIES

**Henry N. Claman, MD Medical Humanities Award:** Brenna Cameron & Amelia Davis  
*For outstanding contributions to the Medical Humanities in healthcare programs*

**Narrative Medicine Award:** Brenna Cameron, Amelia Davis & David Sabio  
*For support of the practice and publication of writing*

**RESEARCH & PRESENTATION AWARDS**

**Adler Awards**

Michael Aaron Vrolijk  
Karima Hamamsy  
Yeshai Dollin

Corey Walsh  
Alexandra Lauren  
Hope Rietcheck

Carley Little  
Claire Koljack

Max Cabrera  
Madeline Huey

**MSA Awards**

Phase I - Student Choice

Student Name	Thematic Area	Project Title	Mentor
Melissa Laughter	Basic Science	Multifunctional fluorocarbon-conjugated nanoparticles of varied morphologies to enhance diagnostic effects in breast cancer	Daewon Park
Andrew Tannous	Basic Science	Inflammatory Signaling in Acutely Induced Hyperinsulinemia and Hyperlipidemia in Normal Weight Women-The Reprometabolic Syndrome	Nanette Santoro Andrew Bradford
Carlos Jaquez	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	Gender Differences in Academic Publications	Jody Vogel
Nikki Bloch	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	The Ancient Roots of Modern Medicine: Development of an Interdisciplinary, Undergraduate Pre-Health Course	Jackie Elliott
Megan Kunkel	Clinical Science	Open Surgical Ablation of Ventricular Tachycardia: Utility and Feasibility of Contemporary Mapping and Ablation Tools	Wendy Tzou
Christina Stevens	Clinical Science	Prevalence of Nocturnal Hypoxemia in a Cohort of Fontan Patients Living at Altitude	Joseph Kay Roni Jacobsen

Ian Lawrence	Global Health	Impact of an Educational Workshop on Laboratory Evaluation of Preeclampsia in La Paz, Bolivia	Lorna Moore Colleen Julian
Sanjana Garimella	Global Health	WHO Package of Essential Noncommunicable (PEN) Disease Interventions for Primary Health Care	Leana May Madiha Abdel-Maksoud
Brian Adams	Public Health and Epidemiology	Evaluating the cost of antimicrobial resistance and errors in estimates: a systematic review and meta-analysis	Leana May
Haylie Petrick	Public Health and Epidemiology	Comparison of maternity care outcomes among rural Colorado hospitals using birth certificate data	Mark Deutchman Bethany Kwan

#### Phase IV - Student Choice

Student Name	Thematic Area	Project Title	Mentor
Dallin Milner	Basic Science	Pancreatic Tumor Microenvironment Modulation by EphB4-ephrinB2 inhibition and Radiation Combination	Sana Karam
Gavriel Roda	Basic Science	Optimizing Nicorandil for Spinal Cord Protection in a Murine Model of Complex Aortic Intervention	Brett Reece
Michael Aaron Vrolijk	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	Teaching How to Care for Trans/Gender Non-Conforming Patients: It Is Easier Than You Think	Alison Shmerling
Josten Overall	Bioethics, Humanities, Arts, and Education	Middle School to Medical School (M2M): An outreach program developed and implemented on the Anschutz Medical Campus encouraging underrepresented in medicine (URM) middle school students to pursue careers in medicine	Deb Seymour
Hannah Imlay	Clinical Science	Acute Stress Disorder and Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder in the Outpatient Burn Population	Arek Wiktor Kiran Dyamenahalli
Erin Biringen	Clinical Science	Psychotropic Medications in Oncology	Elissa Kolva
Darean Hunt	Global Health	A Community Based Participatory Research Initiative Addressing Alcohol Use in the Refugee Population from Burma	Leana May Janet Meredith
Kaitlyn Brunworth	Global Health	Selection of trainees for global health electives: a literature review	David Richards
Maximillian Cabrera	Public Health and Epidemiology	DEFINING LGBTQIA+ INCLUSIVITY IN THE COLORADO HEALTHCARE SETTING.	Rita Lee
Mackenzie Garcia	Public Health and Epidemiology	Assessing Identity-Based Bias in Problem-Based Learning Curriculum Through a Community Lens	Rita Lee

**MSA Outstanding Medical Student Research on COVID-19:** Graciela Mujica  
For excellence in research by a senior student specific to COVID-19

**Neil and Catherine Hamilton Award:** Melissa Laughter  
For excellence in research by a senior student

**Joseph and Regina Glaser Research Prize:** Delia Shash

For superior research by a senior medical student

**Neil and Catherine Hamilton Award:** Melissa Laughter  
*For excellence in research by a senior student*

**Joseph and Regina Glaser Research Prize:** Khyla Burrows & Anthony Scott  
*For superior research by a senior medical student*

## TEACHING AWARDS

### KAISER PERMANENTE TEACHING AWARDS

*Selection by Medical Student Council*

**Outstanding basic science teacher:** Dr. Anna Neumeier

**Outstanding clinical teacher:** Dr. Bruce McCollister

## SERVICE AWARDS

**Alex Rodriguez-Prieto Endowed Memorial Award:** Anthony Scott

*For a student who has exceptional motivation and has encouraged and helped their classmates achieve the goal of becoming a physician. "Though Alex is no longer with us physically, his spirit and memory encourage us each day to strive to be kind and compassionate physicians. The character and friendship he demonstrated set an example for us all, and there is no other student more deserving of this award." (2013).*

**Kenneth Atkinson, MD Endowed Memorial Scholarship:** Abigale Bryant

*For a fourth-year medical student pursuing a career in Primary Care with the expressed interest in providing medical care to historically underserved or marginalized communities.*

**Joseph W. St. Geme Jr., MD Award:** Deedee Colussy

*For exceptional ability in promoting the overall mission of the School of Medicine*

**Medical School Admissions Committee Award:** Mackenzie Garcia

*For dedication and service to the Admissions Committee*

**Honor Council Award:** Hunter Greer

*For excellence in furthering the precepts of the Honor Code*

**Richard D. Krugman Award:** Sara Muramoto

*Richard D. Krugman, MD served as Dean of the University of Colorado School Of Medicine for 25 years. Fondly known as the "Dean of deans" across the nation, Dr. Krugman established this award for a student who portrays the spirit of service, fosters caring for all people, is compassionate, creates connection, and values innovation.*

**Robert J. Glaser, MD Award:** Khyla Burrows & Anthony Scott

*For exceptional leadership and service to the senior class; selected by the graduating class of*

**Hippocrates Award:** Yaa Asare

*For a future physician who most completely epitomizes the ideals and noble traditions of the Profession of medicine as set forth by Hippocrates; selected by the graduating class*

**Murphy Pediatric Award:** Megan Kunkel