

One for the memory books!



# HUMAN Touch

## 2022 AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC FOUNDATION **HONORS** *Gala*

### What an Evening!

The American Osteopathic Foundation celebrated and honored the profession at its 2022 Honors Gala in Boston, MA and virtually on October 28.



Barbara Ross-Lee, DO, AOF Board President and  
Jessica Brown, Mistress of Ceremonies

Barbara Ross-Lee, DO and 2022 Honors Gala Chair, Jill Helenbrook welcomed the sold-out crowd to the Foundation's first in-person Gala in three years, celebrating the opportunity to gather together to honor the excellence and expertise within the Osteopathic profession.

Jessica Brown, co-anchor of ABC's Boston affiliate WCVB Channel 5 News at noon and 4 PM, excelled as the evening's emcee, celebrating the medical students, emerging leaders, and established professionals and the profound impact they have made in the lives of their peers, colleagues, patients, and communities.

*"(the Gala) is a wonderful way for the Osteopathic community to gather together to celebrate tremendous achievements, to reignite our passion for what is yet to be, and to show appreciation for all that we have done together, and all that we will continue to DO!"*

- Barbara Ross-Lee, DO

*"It is an honor for me to serve as Honors chair. I am not an Osteopathic physician. Nor am I a spouse, partner, sibling, or child of an Osteopathic physician. I stand before you as a tremendously grateful patient - and a humble recipient of Osteopathic treatment that dramatically changed my life. I stand before you with heartfelt gratitude for all that you do, day in and day out, for patients – like me – who are in your care."*

- Jill Helenbrook



The Honors Gala is the largest and most important fundraising event for the Foundation. Along with this year's generous sponsors and the more than 700-strong crowd we raised over a half-million dollars in support of our mission!

Jill Helenbrook, 2022 Honors Gala  
Chair

This was a record-setting year and we are immensely grateful to all of the sponsors and donors that made it happen!

## 2022 AOF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD



The AOF proudly recognized Norman Gevitz, PhD, as the recipient of the 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award.

The American Osteopathic Foundation's Lifetime Achievement Award is given annually to one individual whose extraordinary accomplishments and service bring a sense of pride to the Osteopathic profession and achieves greatness through integrity, commitment to service, generosity to others, and community involvement.

Barbara Ross-Lee, DO and 2022 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient Norman Gevitz, PhD

A preeminent medical historian and scholar of the Osteopathic medical profession and its place in American medicine, Dr. Gevitz serves as Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs at A.T. Still University of

Health Sciences in Kirksville (ATSU) where he is also a professor of History & Sociology of the Health Professions.

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).

## 2022 AOF EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR



Natasha Bray, DO, MSEd, received an endless round of applause as she was named the 2022 AOF W. Douglas Ward, PhD, Educator of the Year.

*"Dr. Bray is breaking new ground in medical education through her leadership, partnership, and commitment to rural healthcare. She is an example of the best of our profession and is modeling traits and commitment to each new class of students and residents whose education she touches."*

- Barbara Ross-Lee, DO  
AOF Board President

[Barbara Ross-Lee, DO and Educator of the Year Natasha Bray, DO](#)

Dr. Bray is Dean of the Oklahoma State University College of Osteopathic Medicine at the Cherokee Nation (OSUCOM-CN), the first tribally affiliated college of

medicine in the country. She was instrumental in creating this groundbreaking partnership between OSU and the Cherokee Nation to support tribal community health and increase the number of underrepresented minorities, particularly Native Americans, in medicine.

*"As I have progressed in my medical career, and more importantly in my career as an educator, creating systems that support access to care for patients has been central to my personal mission. The right care, for the right patient, at the right time should be our shared value. The opportunity to create educational opportunities for students living in rural and tribal communities so they can care for their communities is a privilege."*

- Natasha Bray, DO  
2022 AOF W. Douglas Ward, PhD, Educator of the Year

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).

## 2022 AOF NATIONAL EMERGING LEADER

Representing Gold Sponsor, Lincoln Memorial University - DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dean and CAO, Dr. Chris Loyke shared the 2022 State Emerging Leaders representing 15 states. These new physicians in practice are selected for their inspirational

leadership, dedication to excellence in patient care, and commitment to Osteopathic principles. From this group, one individual is chosen as the National Emerging Leader.

This year, Rachel A. Young, DO, of Michigan was announced as the James M. Lally, DO National Emerging Leader Award recipient from this year's field of State Emerging Leaders.

The National Emerging Leader award, given in Dr. Lally's name, serves to honor an outstanding new Osteopathic physician in practice whose leadership inspires others, whose noticeable accomplishments motivate those around them, and whose medical knowledge, combined with patient empathy enriches the lives of those they serve.

Both an educator and practitioner, Dr. Young is the Program Director of the Family Medicine residency at Beaumont Hospital in Grosse Pointe, Michigan and Assistant Professor, at Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine.

*"Dr. Young's dedication and commitment is admirable, and I cannot wait to see where she goes in life. I have no doubt that she will continue to grow as a leader and accomplish great things."*

— Kris Nicholoff, CEO of the Michigan Osteopathic Association

Watch the [award video](#).

## MISSION MOMENT

We were honored to welcome American Osteopathic Association CEO, Dr. Kevin Klauer as our charismatic and energetic 2022 Honor's Gala Mission Moment Auctioneer!

This year, the crowd raised paddles to support the creation of the AOF's Student Osteopathic Medical Association Foundation Endowment Fund for Osteopathic medical student scholarships.

*"It is truly an honor to assist the AOF in its efforts to advance the distinctive practice of Osteopathic medicine through its philanthropic mission."*

- Kevin Klauer, DO

Watch the [video](#).



James M. Lally, DO, Rachel Young, DO, and Chris Loyke, DO



AOF CEO, Rita Forden on the stage with AOA CEO Kevin Klauer, DO

## INAUGURAL LGBTQ+ PRIDE SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED



Student Doctor Austin Bolay and Jeffrey Grove, DO

We were delighted to recognize Austin Bolay, a third-year Osteopathic medical student at the Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine—Louisiana, as the inaugural recipient of the [AOF Jeffrey Grove, DO, LGBTQ+ Pride Scholarship](#).

Established by Jeffrey Grove, DO, this educational scholarship recognizes Osteopathic medical students committed to a course of study to better understand and address the unique healthcare needs of the LGBTQ+ community through Osteopathic medicine.

*"Student Doctor Bolay is a leader within VCOM and a catalyst for change who will improve representation, tolerance, and inclusivity for LGBTQ+ students, physicians, and patients alike. The Foundation is extremely proud to recognize his achievements and to support his efforts through the inaugural PRIDE Scholarship."*

- Rita Forden  
AOF CEO

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).

## GOLDEN TICKET SCHOLARSHIPS



The American Osteopathic Foundation's Golden Ticket Scholarships provide financial assistance to exceptional Osteopathic medical students who carry a significant financial burden.

Golden Ticket Scholarship finalists excel among their peers in academics, display true leadership, possess a strong commitment to the Osteopathic profession, and are active participants within their community. This year, the Golden Ticket finalists were Gabriel Cox, VCOM – Virginia, Lana Maniakhina, VCOM – Carolinas, and Janelle Torres, NSU-KPCM.

Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO, President & Provost, VCOM and AOF Past President

Representing our returning Platinum Sponsor, Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Dixie Tooke-Rawlins presided over the thrilling announcement of the 2022 Golden Ticket Award Winner.

## The 2022 AOF Golden Ticket Winner is...

Janelle Torres - NSU-KPCOM! Student Doctor Torres is a fourth-year student at Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Nominator Elaine M. Wallace, DO, MS, Dean of NSU-KPCOM, says that *"it is Janelle's moral conviction and her unwavering, tireless commitment to improving health equity through her selfless actions that distinguish her as a visionary who serves with grace, heart, and professionalism."*



Student Doctor Janelle Torres

Watch the exciting [awards video](#).

## MORE 2022 AWARD RECIPIENTS



Robin Richardson, DO and scholarship recipient, Student Doctor Githere

Robin Richardson, DO, Heatherington Foundation for Innovation and Education in Health Care Board Chair, was on hand to present the **AOF William G. Anderson, DO, Minority Scholarship** to seven outstanding minority Osteopathic medical students.



AOF President-elect, Dawn Tartaglione, DO along with James Griffin, DO, and AOF/AOCA Outstanding Resident of the Year - Nicole Henry, DO

The AOF partnered with 10 specialty medical organizations to recognize inspiring Osteopathic physicians who excel within their residency

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).

program with the [Outstanding Resident of the Year Award](#).

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).



Karen J. Nichols, DO and scholarship recipient Student Doctor Singh

Herchran Singh, OMS IV, ATSU-SOMA was named 2022 **AOF Karen J. Nichols, DO, LEAD Scholar Award** recipient.

The AOF is proud to partner with Dr. Karen J. Nichols, to provide an annual Scholarship award that recognizes a student whose Leadership, Excellence, Achievement, and Dedication are proven in the classroom and community.

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).



TUCOM Dean, Tami Hendriksz, DO and scholarship recipient Student Doctor Bolourchi

Representing Gold Sponsor, Touro Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, Tami Hendriksz, DO, TUCOM Dean enthusiastically presented the **AOF/AOA Presidential Memorial Leadership Award** to one of her own students - Samaneh Bolourchi, OMS IV.

Read the [press release](#).

Watch the [award video](#).

### Gala Recap

## 2AM AT THE SANDS

The Gala audience was transported back to 1966 to the Copa Room at The Sands Hotel in Las



Andrew Samonsky

Vegas with the musical act - **2AM at the Sands**. It was the perfect end to a perfect evening.

*Thank you to this year's Entertainment Sponsor (and AOF Immediate Past President) Jeffrey Grove, DO.*

## HONORS GALA SPONSORS

**Thank you to all of our 2022 Honors Gala Sponsors!**

### **Platinum Sponsor**

Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine

### **Entertainment Underwriter**

Jeffrey Grove, DO, FACOPP (dist.)

### **Gold Sponsors**

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Dawn Tartaglione, DO

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Barbara Ross-Lee, DO

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### **Gala Recap**



**American Osteopathic Foundation**

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