

ZSOM Alumni Newsletter

October 2026

Greetings!

With autumn in full swing and the holiday season just around the corner, we hope you're enjoying the vibrant colors of fall, making time for what matters most, and creating lasting memories with family and friends!

As we look ahead, we're excited to celebrate the season with our alumni community at this year's **Alumni Holiday Party** on **Thursday, December 3, from 6:00–8:00 p.m**. at **Tara Rose in New York City**! Join us for a festive evening of reconnecting, catching up, and celebrating together. Be sure to RSVP below!

This fall, the Zucker School of Medicine celebrated its **16th Annual White Coat Ceremony on October 16**, welcoming the Class of 2030 into the medical profession. Through our inaugural White Coat Sponsorship initiative, alumni and faculty helped make this milestone even more meaningful by sharing heartfelt messages of encouragement with incoming students. Read more about this special celebration below!

We're also looking forward to more opportunities to reconnect! **Class of 2022, your five-year reunion is approaching in 2027**! We're exploring plans for a reunion celebration and would love your input. Be sure to complete our interest poll below! And there's more! We're exploring a potential **Alumni Happy Hour on November 12, and we want to know: Philadelphia or Washington, DC?** Cast your vote below and help us decide where to bring our alumni community together next!

Please keep those updates coming in and share your news - you can always email me at **SOMAlumni@hofstra.edu**, or use the **online form** to drop a quick line. I hope to hear from you soon!

All the best,



Anne Dalgish Koestner
Director of Development and Alumni Affairs

Alumni News:

🎉 *Save the Date - Celebrate the Holiday Season with Your Fellow Alumni!*

The most wonderful time of the year is almost here! ✨ We're excited to bring our Zucker School of Medicine alumni together for our annual Alumni Holiday Party on **Thursday, December 3rd**, from **6:00–8:00 p.m**. at **Tara Rose in New York City**! As another year comes to a close, we invite you to step away from the holiday rush and enjoy an evening of festive cheer, great company, and meaningful connections. Whether you're reconnecting with familiar faces or making new connections, it's the perfect opportunity to celebrate the season with your fellow alumni.

We look forward to sharing a wonderful evening filled with delicious food, lively conversations, and holiday spirit! See below for event details and to RSVP, or reach out to us directly at **SOMAlumni@hofstra.edu** with any dietary requests or guests**.**



Zucker SOM Alumni Holiday Party

LOCATION
384 Third Avenue New York, NY 10016

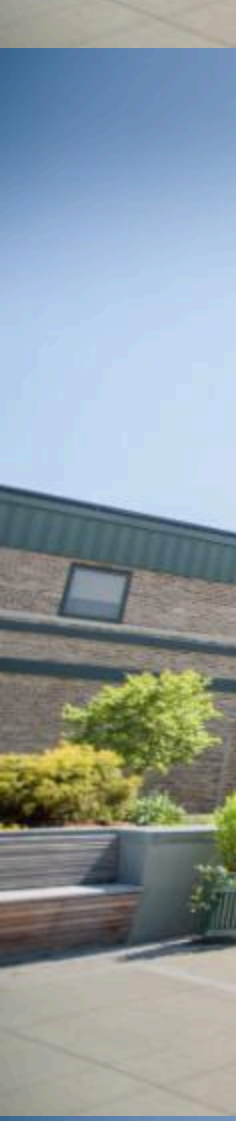
DATE AND TIME
12/03/26 6:00pm - 12/03/26 8:00pm US/Eastern

Celebrate the magic of the season with your fellow ZSOM alumni and friends!

I'll Be There!

Maybe

I Can't Make It



Class of 2022, Can You Believe It’s Almost Been Five Years? 🎓

Five years, countless milestones, and so much to celebrate!

Class of 2022, your five-year reunion is just around the corner! As we look ahead to 2027, the Office of Alumni Affairs is exploring the possibility of bringing your class back together for a special reunion celebration. It would be a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with former classmates, reminisce about your time at the Zucker School of Medicine, and celebrate how far you've come since graduation!

We want to hear from you! Would you be interested in attending a Class of 2022 five-year reunion? Take a moment to complete our quick interest poll and help us explore the possibility of making this celebration happen! You can also email us at SOMAlumni@hofstra.edu with your thoughts and suggestions.

Class of 2022, would you be interested in attending your five-year reunion in 2027?

Yes, I would love to attend!

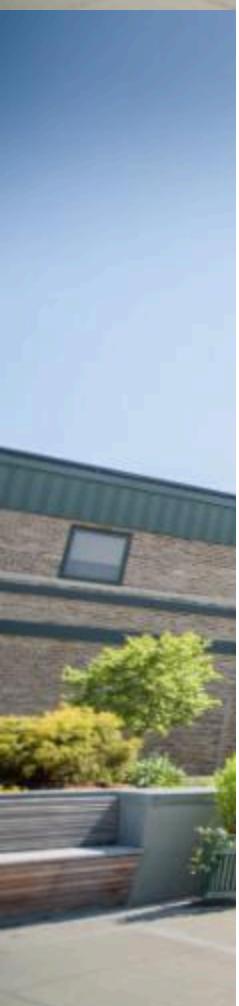
Maybe, depending on the date and location

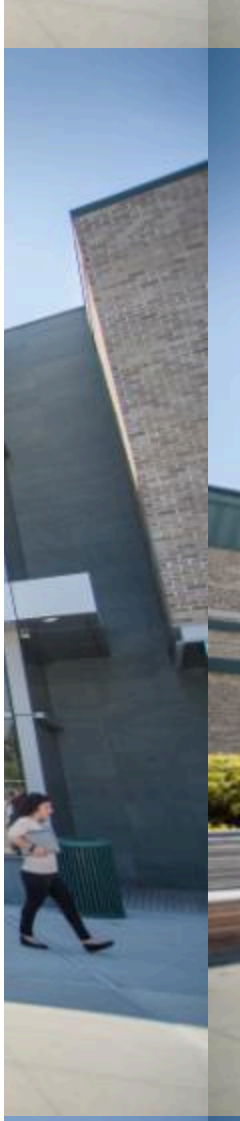
No, not at this time

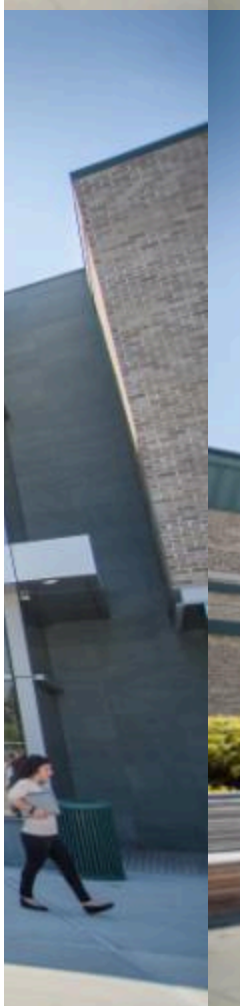
Philly vs. DC: Where would you join us for an alumni happy hour on November 12?

Calling all Zucker School of Medicine alumni in Philadelphia and Washington, DC!

We're looking ahead to a potential **alumni happy hour on November 12**, and we want to know which city will bring out the most alumni! Whether you're in Philly or DC, we'd love the opportunity to reconnect, and bring our alumni community together for a fun evening. Cast your vote and help us decide where to raise a glass!









Philly vs. DC: Where would you join us for an alumni happy hour on November 12?

🍻 **Team Philly!**

🥂 **Team DC!**

📍 **Either city works for me!**

Can't make it this time

A Time of Remembrance: Honoring Tiana Hudson-Jerman, MD

On September 22, our Zucker School of Medicine community came together to honor and remember the life and legacy of **Tiana Hudson-Jerman, MD '22**. The memorial service was an opportunity for family, friends, classmates, and colleagues to reflect on her life, share memories, and celebrate the lasting impact she made on those around her. We are grateful to everyone who joined us in remembering Dr. Hudson-Jerman and honoring the beautiful legacy she leaves behind.







Alumni Classnotes:

Class of 2017:

- Giovanna Manzano was among the speakers at the American Academy of Neurology's 2026 Autoimmune Neurology Conference in Houston, Texas. During the Neurosarcoidosis session, Dr. Manzano joined fellow experts to share insights and discuss important developments in the field of neuroimmunology.

- John K. Sadeghi was recently featured on WBNG 12 News in Binghamton, NY. During the interview, Dr. Sadeghi reflected on his medical training and career journey, highlighting his return to his hometown region to provide advanced cardiothoracic surgical care through Guthrie. He emphasized his commitment to delivering high-quality, compassionate, and patient-centered care to the community where he grew up. Click **here** to watch!

Class of 2019:

- Brian Emmert was recently recognized with two prestigious teaching awards in 2026. The American Academy of Neurology (AAN) honored Brian with the A.B. Baker Teacher Recognition Award at its 2026 Annual Meeting, recognizing outstanding contributions to neurologic education. Brian also received the inaugural Linda Lewis Medical Student Faculty Teaching Award from Columbia University's Department of Neurology, recognizing exceptional dedication to teaching, mentorship, and the professional development of medical students. Congratulations on these well-deserved achievements!

Class of 2023:

- Michael McDonagh recently co-authored a study published in *Frontiers in Endocrinology* titled "*Acceleration of Type 1 Diabetes Onset During the COVID-19 Pandemic*." The research, which began while Dr. McDonagh was a medical student, examined trends in new-onset type 1 diabetes among children during the pandemic. Click **here** to read more!

Class of 2024:

- Amanda Aguilo-Cuadra and Herman Dhillon, alongside fellow alumni Rachel Tannenbaum (Class of 2022), Brittany Kwait (Class of 2023), Christian Leung (Class of 2023), Rachel Weeks (Class of 2025), and Morgan Dressel (Class of 2026) joined us for our Non-Surgical Specialty Career Night on October 19, sharing valuable insights into their medical specialty and career experiences.



Recent School News and Highlights:

Dean Battinelli Shares His Vision for the Future of Medical Education

David L. Battinelli, MD, Dean of the Zucker School of Medicine and Northwell Health's physician-in-chief, recently authored an opinion piece published by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), titled "*The Future of Medical Education: Preparing Students for a New Frontier of Patient Connectivity.*" In the article, Dr. Battinelli discusses the importance of adapting medical education to

advancements in technology and artificial intelligence while emphasizing the need to preserve compassion, communication, and meaningful connections between physicians and patients. Click **here** to read more!



A Special Thank You to Our Inaugural White Coat Sponsors!

This year, the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell introduced its **inaugural White Coat Sponsorship Campaign**, inviting alumni and faculty to play a meaningful role in welcoming the Class of 2030 into the medical profession. Through their generous support, sponsors had the opportunity to share personalized messages of encouragement and inspiration with incoming medical students, which were placed inside the pockets of their white coats ahead of the White Coat Ceremony on October 16, 2026.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the alumni who participated in this special initiative. Your generosity, thoughtful words, and continued connection to the Zucker School of Medicine helped make this milestone even more meaningful for the next generation of physicians. Thank you for being part of their journey!



White Coats, Bright Futures!

This social media initiative highlights accomplishments and stories about our alumni on our website, social media, and internal publications.

If you are interested in being profiled, please complete the short form by clicking the "**Be Featured in an Alumni Spotlight**" button below.

We'd love to showcase what our alumni are up to!

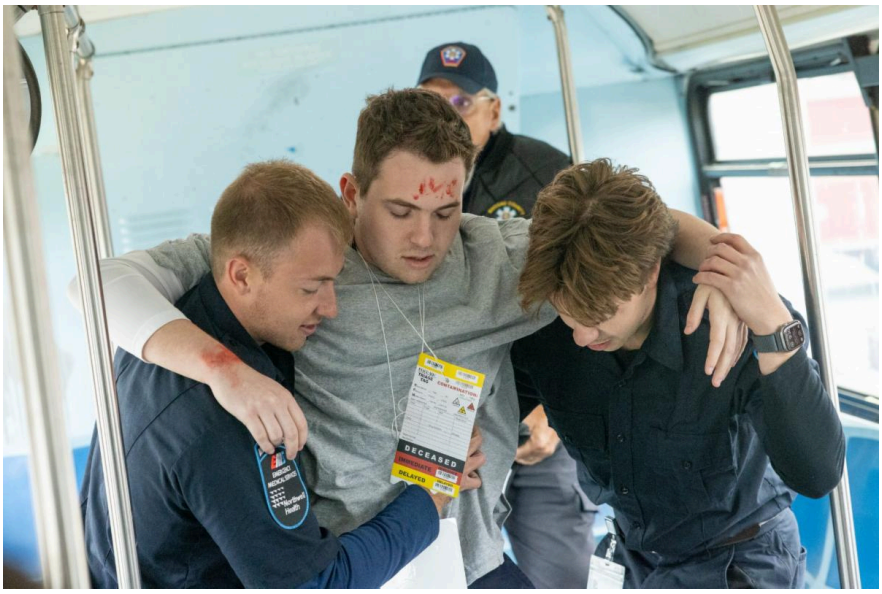
Be Featured in an Alumni Spotlight Here

View Past Alumni Spotlights Here

Student News:

- On July 28, 2026, the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell proudly welcomed the Class of 2030! As part of their introduction to medical education, students completed eight weeks of Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training, culminating in the annual Mass Casualty Incident (MCI) Day on September 25. Through realistic emergency simulations, students gained valuable hands-on experience, strengthening their clinical skills, teamwork, and preparedness for real-world emergencies. We look forward to seeing all that the Class of 2030 will accomplish throughout their medical journey! Read more about the Class of 2030's journey by exploring highlights from their **Welcome Week** and click **here** to learn more about their MCI Day experience!



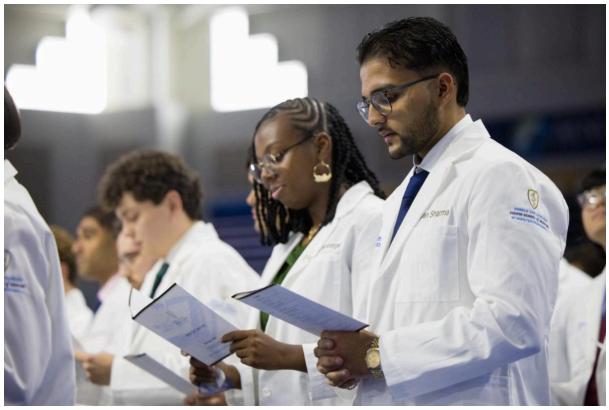


- On July 28, 2026, the Zucker School of Medicine celebrated the completion of the Klar Leadership Development and Innovation Management (LDIM) Summer Immersion Program with a reception at the Hofstra University Club. Marking the program's tenth year, the event recognized seven medical students and their Northwell Health mentors for their innovative summer projects addressing real-world healthcare challenges. Through hands-on

experience and mentorship, the program continues to develop the next generation of physician leaders in healthcare innovation, administration, and leadership. Click **here** to read more!



- Following orientation and MCI Day, Zucker School of Medicine's newest medical students reached another exciting milestone on October 16 at the annual **White Coat Ceremony**, receiving their white coats and committing to humanism in medicine. In celebration of this special occasion, the Office of Alumni and Development hosted Zucker's **inaugural Pre–White Coat Ceremony** celebration for students' families and loved ones. The event was a huge success, bringing families together to share in the excitement and celebrate the beginning of our students' journeys toward becoming physicians! See below for some amazing photos, and click **here** to read more.











Faculty News:

- On September 1, 2026, the Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell announced the appointment of Sanjay Saint, MD, MPH, as its new Chair of Medicine and the endowed David J. Greene Professor of Medicine. A nationally recognized expert in patient safety, Dr. Saint brings nearly 25 years of academic and clinical experience from the University of Michigan and VA Ann Arbor Healthcare System. His leadership and expertise will further support the school's commitment to excellence in medical education, research, and patient care. Adding to this exciting news, Dr. Saint was also recently honored with the prestigious John M. Eisenberg Patient Safety and Quality Award, recognizing his contributions to improving patient safety and healthcare quality. Click **here** to read more!



- Congratulations to Samara B. Ginzburg, MD, Vice Dean and Dean of Education at the Zucker School of Medicine, on being named a 2026 Long Island Influencer in Education by Long Island Business News (LIBN)! This recognition honors educational leaders who are advancing innovation and shaping the future of learning. As a founding member of the school's leadership team, Dr. Ginzburg has played an instrumental role in developing its innovative medical education curriculum, including the PEARLS program, which emphasizes collaborative, patient-centered learning. Click **here** to read more!



- Northwell continues to grow the Northwell Alumni Network, connecting former employees with each other and with the health system. If you are interested in joining, you will get access to job opportunities, programs, communications, and more. You will also get discounted opportunities for CME and Grand Rounds once you are a member of the network. You can click **here** to sign up or **contact me** with any questions you may have.

- Northwell's Office of Physician Recruitment is also available to you with career opportunities - you can learn more at their website here or reach out to them directly **here**.

Interested in supporting the ZSOM Community and leaving a permanent impact for years to come?

We invite our alumni and members of our community to consider supporting our bricks program initiative. With your gift of **$350**, you will have the opportunity to engrave a brick that will be installed in the walkway in the rear of the building, making your mark on the future of medical education!

For more information on how you can support the bricks program initiative, click **here** for our brochure or click **here** to make a brick purchase!



Click here for the Alumni website

Update contact info or send us news here

What would you like to hear more about? Please email me at SOMAlumni@hofstra.edu with updates, suggestions, and requests, and don't forget to connect with us through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and our LinkedIn group!

Support the Zucker School of Medicine

DONALD AND BARBARA
ZUCKER SCHOOL *of* MEDICINE
AT HOFSTRA/NORTHWELL®

*As a community member of the Zucker School of Medicine, you should **not unsubscribe** from this distribution list; doing so will remove you from all ZSOM communications, including announcements, event invitations, notices and more from the School of Medicine.*

Donald and Barbara Zucker School of Medicine at Hofstra/Northwell | 500 Hofstra University | Hempstead, NY 11549 US

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Constant Contact

Try email marketing for free today!