

Congratulations to the Class of 2006!

Eddie L. Hoover, MD
Buffalo, New York

Last year *JNMA* began a tradition of honoring the graduates of Howard, Meharry, King-Drew and Morehouse in the annual June issue. Because of publication deadlines last year, we were able to print only the names of the honors graduates. This year, we are proud to present the entire graduating class of our institutions, including information about their background, designated specialty areas as well as their training sites come July. We hope to make this a commemorative issue each year and provide each graduate with an individual copy of the issue in an attempt to promote future interest in the NMA upon completion of their residency. We think that it is an important enough issue that future plans call for publishing a class photograph as an archival event for future generations of historians and others interested in the medical education of African Americans in this country. This would make *JNMA* the only national repository of such a database in the world. We are hopeful that it can ultimately be used in combination with the database compiled annually by the American Medical Association and the Association of American Medical Colleges in tracking the progress of African Americans through specialty training and identifying where they ultimately practice medicine in order to assist healthcare planners and federal, state and local government officials in resource allocation and distribution of services.

As you can see, the honors graduates have been identified for each institution participating in this initiative. To *all* of the graduates of the Class of 2006, we all wish you well in your residency training and in your many years of practice afterwards. The National Medical Association will continue to strive to be your medical organization of choice as it works to promote the health of all Americans—but especially the disparity diseases that disproportionately affect people of color—while simultaneously providing for the professional

and social welfare and well-being of providers of color. Please remember that your learning has just begun and must be a lifelong process. Some of what you have learned and much of the technology you have enjoyed will be obsolete before you complete your training. You will be utilizing technologies that are still concepts or are still on the drawing board before you complete your residency. Issues that will certainly become professional household words early in your practice career will include patient safety; human engineering; healthcare failure mode effect analysis (a prospective assessment that identifies and improves steps in a process, thereby reasonably ensuring a safe and clinically desirable outcome); evidence-based medicine; performance-based prospective payments plans; conversion from a knowledge-based to a performance-based system of board certification and hospital credentialing; and the creation of a culture of “what happened, why, how and how it can be prevented” as opposed to the “same and blame” environment currently in place. Professionalism will be the order of the day, and this may have to come from within, as it is not a feature of the medical school curriculum today. The areas of ethics and advanced directives are constantly changing, and your generation must work to keep this within the domain of the “doctor-patient/family relationship” and out of the hands of the politicians. Finally, patients are going to demand a larger role in the care of their loved ones—as well they should—and medical care, especially complex care requiring hospitalization, is going to have to be demystified and made safer and more user friendly than is currently the case. In most of these areas, common sense and a sense of fairness will serve you well where your medical education may not. Again, congratulations, for you have truly reached a milestone. Although the real work has only just begun, your recently acquired new title of “doctor of medicine” assures us that you are up to the task.

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science

Los Angeles, California

Wendewessen Amde

Alpha Omega Alpha
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
B.S. Psychobiology, UCLA
Medicine–Preliminary
UC Irvine Med Ctr
Ophthalmology
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

Rana Azimi

Hometown: Cerritos, CA
B.S. Physiological Science,
UCLA
Family Practice
White Memorial Med Ctr–Los
Angeles

Adrianna Yvonne Apodaca Barrett

Hometown: Moreno Valley, CA
B.S. Biology, UC Riverside
Obstetrics–Gynecology
Kaiser Permanente–Los Angeles

Susan Rae Brion

Alpha Omega Alpha
Hometown: Colorado Springs, CO
B.A. Biology, Univ of Colorado,
Boulder
Emergency Medicine
Denver Health Medical Ctr

Jennifer K. Brody

Alpha Omega Alpha
Hometown: Oak Park, CA
B.A. Sociology, UC Berkeley
Medicine–Primary/BWH
Brigham & Womens
Hospital–MA

Tamara Noelle Brown

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
B.A. Human Biology, Stanford
Univ
Otolaryngology
University of Southern
California

Sonia Michelle Ceballos

Hometown: Fowler, CA
B.A. Religion, Pacific Union
College
B.S. Nursing, Loma Linda Univ
Obstetrics–Gynecology
Harbor–UCLA Medical Center

Anuj Datta

Hometown: Palos Verdes, CA
B.A. Economics, Pomona
College
Internal Medicine
Harbor–UCLA Medical Center

Minh-Khoi Duong

Hometown: North Hollywood,
CA
B.A. Biology, USC
Psychiatry
Harbor–UCLA Medical Center

Sammy Daniel David Eghbali

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
B.A. Fine Arts, UCLA
2007 Residency

Karim El-Sherief

Hometown: Redlands, CA
B.S. Biology, UCLA
Internal Medicine
University of Southern
California

Michael Angel Jimenez

Hometown: Baldwin Park, CA
B.A. Mol, Cell & Dev Biology,
Yale Univ
General Surgery
St Lukes–Bethlehem, PA

Marsha Lucille Martinson

Hometown: Pomona, CA
B.S. Biochemistry, UCLA
Obstetrics–Gynecology
White Memorial Med Ctr–Los
Angeles

Kathryn Richell Murray

Hometown: Inglewood, CA
B.S. Physiological Science,
UCLA
Psychiatry
VA Greater Los Angeles Hlth
Sys

Jacques Neelankavil

Alpha Omega Alpha
Hometown: Forest Hills, NY
B.A. Comparative Lit,
Dartmouth College
Anesthesiology
UCLA Medical Center

Marcela Garcia Oblad

Hometown: Sacramento, CA
B.A. Political Science, UC Davis
Internal Medicine
Olive View Medical Ctr–CA

Sharon Kenekukwu Okonkwo-Holmes

Hometown: Los Angeles, CA
B.S. Biology, UC San Diego
Family Practice
Northridge Hosp Medical
Ctr–CA

Luis Omar Ontiveros

Hometown: Baldwin Park, CA
B.S., Biology, UCLA
Family Practice
White Memorial Med Ctr–Los
Angeles

Priya Vinod Patel

Hometown: Quartz Hill, CA
B.S. Biochemistry, UCLA
Pediatrics
UC Irvine Medical Ctr

Ameet A. Shah

Hometown: Las Palmas, CA
B.S., Biochemistry, UCLA
Family Practice
Kaiser Permanente–Los Angeles

Erica Imani Shelton

Hometown: Durham, NC
 B.S. Chemical Engineering, MIT
 General Surgery
 Univ Washington Affil Hosps

Michelle Antoinette Banares Torres

Hometown: San Mateo, CA
 B.S. Physiological Science,
 UCLA
 Anesthesiology
 UCLA Medical Center

*For more information contact:
 Margaret Govea, Director,
 Office of Medical Student
 Affairs, magovea@cdrewu.edu*

Morehouse School of Medicine

Atlanta, Georgia

Summa Cum Laude

Michelle Lucero

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Milledgeville, GA
 Emory University
 Univ of Alabama-Birmingham
 Medicine-Preliminary

Magna Cum Laude

Marcelyn Coley

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Miami, FL
 University of Miami
 Mt. Sinai Hospital-NY
 Surgery

Paula Harmon

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Macon, GA
 Spelman College
 Univ of NC Hospitals
 Otolaryngology

Marianne Vandromme

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Kortrijk, Belgium
 Georgia Tech
 Univ of Alabama-Birmingham
 Surgery

Cum Laude

Adama Frye

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Berkeley, CA
 Harvard College
 Mayo Graduate Sch-MN
 Medicine-Preliminary
 Mayo Clinic-Rochester
 Neurology

Candice Jones

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Demopolis, AL
 University of North Alabama
 Johns Hopkins Hospital
 Pediatrics

Aldon Li

Alpha Omega Alpha
 Hometown: Atlanta, GA
 Emory University
 Cedars-Sinai Medical Center
 Internal Medicine

Amy Miller

Hometown: Falls Church, VA
 Spelman College
 Emory University Sch of Med
 Internal Medicine

Ayo Afejuku

Hometown: Ormond Beach, FL
 Georgia Tech
 Emory University Sch of Med
 Psychiatry

Kwame Akoto

Hometown: Gaithersburg, MD
 Johns Hopkins
 Univ of Maryland Med Ctr
 Family Practice

Carla Alvarez

Hometown: Marietta, GA
 Randolph Macon Women's
 College
 Univ of CA-Irvine Med Ctr
 Pediatrics

Gushyalatha Boya

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
 Georgia State University
 U of Texas Med-Galveston
 Internal Medicine

Anastasia Brown

Hometown: Greenville, SC
 Winthrop University
 Morehouse Sch of Medicine
 Psychiatry

Kirk Carruthers

Sebring, FL
 Morehouse College
 Case Western Reserve Hosp
 Psychiatry

Monyette Childs

Hometown: Madison, GA
 Georgia Tech
 Eisenhower Army Medical
 Transitional Year
 Walter Reedy Army Med Ctr
 Ophthalmology

Deitrick Cox

Hometown: Leesburg, FL
 Amherst College
 Cambridge Hospital-MA
 Transitional Year
 Emory University Sch of Med
 Physical Med/Rehab

Brittainy Dark

Hometown: Birmingham, AL
 Florida A&M
 Univ of Texas Med-Houston
 OB/GYN

Bridgette Dingle

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
 Clark Atlanta University
 Univ of Texas Med-Houston
 Pediatrics

Shamieka Dixon

Hometown: Bronx, NY
 Cornell University
 Children's Nat'l Med Ctr-DC
 Pediatrics

Emily Hawes-Van Pelt

Hometown: Matteson, IL
Macalester College
Univ of Arizona Hospitals
OB/GYN

Omar Howard

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Xavier University
Pitt Co Memorial Hospital
Psychiatry
Brody Sch of Med—E. Car.

Kristy Hendricks

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Emory University
Morehouse Sch of Medicine
Psychiatry

Emma Leila Jerome

Hometown: Hanhasset, NY
New York University
UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical
Medicine—Pediatrics

Brooke Johnston

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Appalachian State University
Univ of Utah Aff. Hospitals
Pediatrics

Stephanie Mayrant

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Spelman College
Georgetown Univ Hospital-DC
Psychiatry

Ifeoma Nnaji

Hometown: Nigeria
Spelman College
Spartanburg Reg Healthcare
Family Practice

Sima Patel

Hometown: Lawrenceville, GA
Emory University
Univ of NC Hospitals
Internal Medicine

Priya Prashad

Hometown: Columbia, SC
Wofford College
Univ of Maryland Med Ctr
Pediatrics

Justin Price

Hometown: Rockville, MD
Morehouse College
Johns Hopkins Hospital
Internal Medicine

Kimberly Sanford

Hometown: East St. Louis, IL
Lincoln University/Univ of So.
Florida
Sparrow Hosp—Mich State Un
OB/GYN

Dion Short

Hometown: Elmont, NY
Emory University
Emory University Sch of Med
Psychiatry

Sahil Tah

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Georgia State University
Morehouse Sch of Medicine
Medicine—Preliminary

Andre Teixeira

Hometown: Brazil
Augusta State University
Orlando Regional Healthcare
Surgery

Maria Victoria

Hometown: St. Mary's, GA
University of Georgia
St. Anthony Hospital
Family Practice

Michelle Williams

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
Florida State University
Univ of Florida—Shands Hosp
Pediatrics

Mozella Williams

Hometown: Arlington, IA
Bethel College
Univ of Maryland Med Ctr
Family Practice

Tiffany Williams

Hometown: Atlanta, GA
University of Georgia
University of Buffalo—NY
Anesthesiology

Robin Woodberry

Tampa, FL
Florida A&M
Morehouse Sch of Medicine
Pediatrics

*For more information contact:
Karen Lewis, [klewis@msm.edu](mailto:kewis@msm.edu)*

Howard University, College of Medicine

Washington, District of Columbia

List unavailable at time of printing. For more information contact sgallmon@howard.edu.

Meharry Medical College

Nashville, Tennessee

List unavailable at time of printing. For more information contact pwilliams@mmc.edu.