



Indian Doctors Association

Greater Houston

December 2022 Edition

President's Message



Dear IDA Family...

Wishing you all a Merry Christmas and a very happy and prosperous New Year.

We had an excellent Memorial-Galleria mixer at Mr. D's Studio. Our guest speaker Mr. Amir Dodhiya presented an enlightening talk on Will and Trust. Compliments to Mai Colachi for the sumptuous food they served.

Our next event is the IDA Gala at the Royal Sonesta on January 21st, 2023. Our keynote speaker will be Dr. Peter Hotez from Baylor College of Medicine. We have lined up an excellent entertainment program for that evening. Mr. Ronobir Lahiri from California will sing and play music on his accompaniment, the sitar. Ms. Abby Govindan will perform stand-up comedy followed by an entertaining dance by local talents. We will end the night with a

DJ/dance by Desi Junction. We promise to bring you all to the dance floor and make your night memorable.

The flyer for the Gala is available on our IDA website. We are expecting more than 600 people that evening. Please register with your family friends as seats are limited.

IDA highly values education and mentoring. Each year IDA provides scholarships to High School Seniors of the Greater Houston Area. The 2023 Scholarship Application has been completed. Five outstanding students have been selected, and they will each receive the 2500\$ scholarship award.

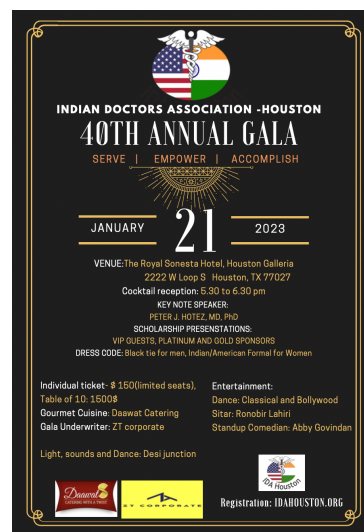
Have a wonderful holiday and happy New Year. I hope to see you all at the Gala.



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*Atasu Nayak, MD
President*

IDA Gala



[Click Here](https://www.idahouston.org) to Register

IDA Scholarship Updates: UTHealth Houston Endowed Scholarship Update #1

Over the years, [McGovern Medical School](#) has prided itself on offering a low student tuition. It has been brought to light that the school is also low in something else – student scholarship funds. In fact, McGovern Medical School ranks last among all U.S. medical schools in available scholarship funding.


Looking to help change this statistic, the Indian Doctors Association of Houston has generously donated \$25,000 to McGovern Medical School to establish an endowed scholarship for students at McGovern Medical School on **September 25, 2020**. Starting in fall 2022, an annual scholarship of about \$1,125 will be granted to an outstanding student who is a member of the South Asian Medical Student Organization.

“We are pleased to partner with McGovern Medical School to support the next generation of health care professionals,” said **Jignesh Shah, MD**. “During these unprecedented times, it is more important than ever to invest in our students. We look forward to seeing these students continue developing into compassionate, intelligent, high-performing leaders who will change lives in Houston and across the world.”

Scholarships help to lift the financial burden of medical school students. They are also an important tool in student recruitment. The first scholarship recipient is **Jerril Jacob**, Award Amount: \$1,800.

A NOTE FROM YOUR STUDENT SCHOLAR

THANK YOU



Jerril Jacob
Pronouns: he/him/his
Hometown: Sachse, TX
Undergraduate Alma Mater: The University of Texas at Dallas
School: McGovern Medical School
Degree: MD
Expected Graduation Year: 2025
Award Amount: \$1,800

The Indian Doctors Association of Houston Scholarship
2022-2023

Dear Dr. Shah,

I am writing to express my sincere gratitude to you as a recipient of The Indian Doctors Association of Houston Scholarship. I was thrilled to learn of my selection to receive a scholarship from this fund and I am deeply appreciative of your support.

I graduated from The University of Texas at Dallas with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2019 and a Master of Science in Healthcare Leadership in 2020. During my medical school career, I have played multiple roles. As an academic senator for the 2025 cohort, I focused on ensuring effective communication between professors/physicians and students, as well as, listening to my classmates and understanding what is needed to improve their classroom experience. I am also a senate treasurer and a student ambassador.

These experiences have allowed me to work with a diverse group of intelligent peers, as well as learn critical values outside of medicine. The opportunities that I gained through my experience as a medical student have allowed me to develop valuable professional skills such as the ability to form interpersonal relationships, empathize with patients, and adapt to different circumstances. Through my clinical and educational experience at UTHealth Houston, I am committed to improving the economic and social climate of the healthcare industry.

In hopes of one-day practicing medicine, I aim to bridge the gap between the administrative and clinical disciplines of healthcare. With healthcare costs constantly rising, I hope to educate others on the importance of preventative medicine and its ability to improve quality of life and reduce long-term costs. In addition, having experienced the value of working with underserved populations through various mission trips and volunteer/shadowing opportunities, I hope to reach underprivileged communities that lack proper medical care. I hope to leverage these skills and experiences in my role as a healthcare leader.

Through this scholarship, you have lightened my financial burden which

"I am incredibly grateful for your willingness to help the next generation of upcoming physicians."

A NOTE FROM YOUR STUDENT SCHOLAR

Why did you choose UTHealth Houston?

I chose UTHealth Houston because McGovern Medical School provides a collaborative environment that fosters positive peer culture and provides top-level research and educational opportunities.

allows me to focus more on the most important aspect of school, learning. Your generosity has inspired me to help others and give back to the community. I hope one day I will be able to help students achieve their goals just as you have helped me.

Sincerely,
Jerril Jacob
Expected Graduation Year: 2025

About Your Student Scholar

Jerril Jacob graduated from The University of Texas at Dallas with a Bachelor of Science in Biology in 2019, and a Master of Science in Healthcare Leadership in 2020. Growing up in Oman, Muscat, Jerril was able to immerse himself in various cultures - giving him both an opportunity to learn and grow from those he admired. Coming to UTHealth Houston, Jerril is eager to explore different specialties that fall within his values and passions to serve the community. In his free time, Jerril enjoys playing music with his local church, playing outdoor sports, as well as spending quality time with his family.

UTMB Endowed Scholarship Update #2

Endowed Scholarships are a form of gift to a college or university used to fund scholarships. The perpetuity gained is used for the benefit of

students. Funds distributed from the endowments are used for scholarship support for students. **In Jan 2020**, IDA established its first ever endowment to The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston - \$25,000.

The Indian Doctors Association of Houston (IDA) has established an endowed scholarship at the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) to recognize outstanding students who are part of the university's South Asian Medical Student Association. The scholarship is the association's first award created at an academic health science center. Dr. Charles P. Mouton, executive vice president, provost, and dean of the UTMB School of Medicine, thanked the IDA for its commitment to the school's educational mission. "The medical students who earn the Indian Doctors Association of Houston scholarship will become skilled physicians dedicated to making new health care innovations," he said. "We are very grateful to the association for providing crucial financial assistance to tomorrow's leaders in patient-centered clinical care."



Nantian Harsell | MS4
UTMB School of Medicine, Class of 2023

Dear Dr. Jignesh Shah and the Indian Doctors Association of Houston,

My name is Nantian Harsell. I am a fourth-year medical student at John Sealy School of Medicine. I am writing to thank you for the generous scholarship. I was very thankful and appreciative to learn that I was selected as the recipient of scholarship offered by the Indian Doctor's Association in Houston. It was an honor to be recognized for my academic performance and passion for research in medical school. Moreover, getting a scholarship from your

organization relieved the financial burden of the residency application tremendously since I am a non-traditional medical student who decided without significant monetary support from the family. Just a little bit more information about me. I am a first-generation immigrant and worked as a clinical dietitian in the intensive care unit for three years before deciding on returning to medical school. Throughout my medical school journey, I have worked diligently to maintain excellent academic grades and published basic science articles in the field of otolaryngology and pathology with a focus on COVID and Lassa Virus. Since I have decided on going into diagnostic radiology this match cycle, I am currently doing radiology research with a focus on MRI brachial plexus and compare CT chest imaging of patients with different COVID strains. I also spend my spare time volunteering at the local free student run clinic and cooking Sunday brunch for homeless people in Galveston at a local church. Currently, I am in the process of applying for diagnostic radiology. I hope to stay in Houston or Galveston area for radiology residency and continue to pursue my research interest. Ultimately, I would like to be an diagnostic radiologist in the academic setting when I complete my residency and fellowship training. Thank you again for your generosity. With the unpredictable future ahead of this competitive application season, the recognition from your organization provided me with confidence in my academic performance and the monetary support from your organization will help me apply to more residency programs to secure a residency spot. I would love to update you on where I end up matching for residency. I hope one day I will be able to inspire and help medical students achieve their goals just like your organization did.

Sincerely
Nantian Harsell
School of Medicine, class of 2023
University of Texas Medical Branch

IDA Memorial/Galleria Mixer



For more pictures, [click here](#).

India Ministry of Culture: Kohima Museum



The Kohima Museum takes visitors closer to the lives of the tribals living in Nagaland. Built with an aim to introduce tourists to the rich culture and tradition of the 16 tribal groups of Nagaland, the Kohima Museum takes visitors on an enriching tribal experience. The museum is located in Upper Bayavu Hills and displays gateposts, endemic regional animals and birds, statues,

jewellery items and pillars. What makes the museum worth a visit is the fact that its exhibits beautifully depict the everyday life of the Naga people. The museum also houses life-size models that depict the costumes, weapons and jewellery worn by the people of Nagaland. If you are travelling with your kids, make sure to visit the museum as it will enhance their knowledge about the rich diversity of India.

For more information, [click here](#).

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Members and events are highlighted on our social media channels.

IDA Speakers Bureau

Please update your membership profile on [idahouston.org](https://www.idahouston.org) if you would be interested in becoming a motivational speaker for IDA at our future events.

IDA Physician Specialty Awareness Videos



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