You can make an impact today

education | research | service projects | international outreach | industry recognition
inspire and empower through education
open new doors for discovery through research
support the osteopathic community through service projects
bridge the international divide through humanitarian outreach
celebrate outstanding efforts through industry recognition
Dear AOF partners,

On behalf of the American Osteopathic Foundation (AOF) and its Board of Directors, we are honored to share this 2017 Annual Report. In 2017, the AOF focused on its core values to ensure that all projects and initiatives reflect the Foundation’s mission and values, including education, research, community service, international outreach, and professional recognition.

To guide these efforts, AOF recruited three new board members in 2017 and created a New Physician in Practice position to guarantee the next generation’s priorities are represented in leadership.

Another innovation launched last year was the Golden Ticket Scholarship. One of AOF’s largest awards, it rewards excellence in osteopathic medical student achievement while addressing the burden of student debt. Unlike other scholarships, the Golden Ticket affords four “runner-up” scholarships in addition to the award winner to further recognize and reward exceptional students from across the country.

AOF is proud to offer innovative programs, and will continue to implement new strategies each year that support and promote the profession, foster connections, identify opportunities that enrich and advance osteopathic medicine, and ensure our relevance in a rapidly changing landscape.

Above all, AOF has YOU, our donors, to thank for everything we accomplished last year. Your continued commitment and dedication enables the Foundation to advance its mission locally, nationally and across the globe.

With sincere thanks for all you have done, and will continue to DO.

Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO
2018 AOF President

Peter B. Ajluni, DO
2017 AOF President

Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO
Peter B. Ajluni, DO
AOF inspires and empowers the next generation of osteopathic physicians through numerous grants and scholarships, while also recognizing excellence in the profession through its distinctive recognition awards.

“Dr. Querubin didn’t seek leadership when he entered medical school, but he soon found the need for community outreach impossible to ignore.

As founder of a local CPR initiative, Dr. Querubin donated hundreds of kits to teach CPR to 1,500 students each year. He has organized community “walks with a doc” and blood drives, amassing over 450 volunteer hours his first three years of medical school. He worked on the committee that developed advanced care planning education being adopted statewide.

AOF will continue to invest in the future of osteopathic medicine through educational scholarships and awards. In doing so, the Foundation hopes to further drive advancements throughout the osteopathic medical educational continuum.

‘For a full list of scholarship recipients, see page 8 - 2017 Award Recipients.'
Research opens windows to the wonder of innovation and discovery. Through its grants program, AOF advances osteopathic research projects, supporting students and physicians who are shedding light on medical insights and changing how we treat patients.

The study that earned Dr. Di Giacinto this award examined whether osteopathic manipulative medicine (OMM) was beneficial in treating chronic ulcers. It was the first to show objective evidence that patients treated with lymphatic OMM experienced a measurable reduction in swelling. “It was thrilling to explore one of the fundamental techniques of OMM and, through research, take the first steps towards its validation,” says Dr. Di Giacinto of this pioneering study.

Dr. Di Giacinto’s research team hopes to establish a partnership between VCOM–Carolinas and osteopathic postdoctoral programs on a large multi-center clinical trial to expand initial findings.

AOF awards encourage early-in-practice researchers, giving them support and recognition to continue to focus on research throughout their careers. By expanding relationships with osteopathic medical schools and corporate partners, the Foundation aims to give DOs and osteopathic medical students the opportunity to expand the knowledge base of osteopathic medicine through focused, groundbreaking research.

I’m involved in research because I want to help the next generation of physicians better care for the next generation of patients. If we’re doing the same thing each generation, we’re not helping. It’s our responsibility to push forward for our patients.

“I’m involved in research because I want to help the next generation of physicians better care for the next generation of patients. If we’re doing the same thing each generation, we’re not helping. It’s our responsibility to push forward for our patients.”

Burnett Osteopathic Student Researcher Award
Brian Joseph Di Giacinto, OMS IV
2017 Recipient

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Improving Wellness in Communities

Metropolitan Detroit area has one of the highest rates of obesity in the United States, and its county ranks last in the country in health outcomes. That’s what Richard Bryce, DO, the 2017 AOF Caring for Communities Award winner, wanted to address.

The Community Health and Social Services (CHASS) Center launched a “Fresh Prescription” program to improve health for the 11,000 patients it serves. Providers prescribe fruits and vegetables to patients, which can be filled at the on-site farmer’s market. This helps patients make the connection between what they eat and how they feel-- directly aligning with osteopathic medicine’s approach to care.

Increasing Community Health and OMM Awareness

AOF HumanTouch Community Impact Grants empower osteopathic students to improve their communities’ health by funding collaborative volunteer experiences. Jessica Yi, OMS III, received an AOF HumanTouch grant in 2017. In the end, her project achieved three primary objectives: 1) Provide OMM treatments to underserved populations; 2) Give DO students practical OMM experience outside of lectures; and, 3) Raise public awareness of the osteopathic profession and OMM.
AOF grants help bridge the divide by bringing DO expertise to reach medically underserved populations through international outreach programs.

“Humanitarianism is a fundamental aspect of osteopathic medicine. Patient centered care is at the core of our education, and nowhere is this better exemplified than in mission work.”

– Hallie Lehman, DO

AOF Rossnick Humanitarian Grants provide students, residents and physicians the opportunity to take humanitarianism to an entirely new level, sharing the compassion of the osteopathic profession around the world.

The AOF’s international grants program continues to reach across continents through our support of DOs and students who travel far and wide to bring health care to the world’s most underserved populations.

In 2017, AOF provided funding that encouraged medical mission work in nine countries on three continents, positively impacting the lives of thousands of patients who may have otherwise gone without care.
Held on October 6 in Philadelphia, AOF’s Annual Honors Gala is the industry’s single largest fundraising event that benefits the entire osteopathic profession.

2017 W. Douglas Ward, PhD, Educator of the Year Award Winner

Dr. Terry established the OMM department at his medical center to ensure trainees could continue their osteopathic education throughout residency.

As an educator, his students say he spends as much time listening as he does talking - a factor crucial to his students’ success. Though his time is at a premium, his students’ education is a priority second only to the health of his patients.

2017 Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

George T. Caleel, DO

Awarded posthumously, Dr. Caleel’s Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes his outstanding and unprecedented 60 year career as an educator at Midwestern University/CCOM. His impact on osteopathic medicine has been extraordinary, and widespread throughout the profession. Dr. Caleel was a leader within AOA’s osteopathic graduate medical education accreditation. Among his many admirable qualities was the ability to break down barriers that DOs often faced. “For all of his successes his true love was education,” recalls his wife of 40 years, Rebecca. “He held it in the highest regard, regularly emphasizing its importance, and cherished his role as mentor and professor.”

2017 Physician of the Year Award Winner

Ross Zafonte, DO

Ross Zafonte, DO Earle P. and Ida S. Charlton Professor and Chair of the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Harvard Medical School (HMS) is the first DO to be named Chair of any department at the school. He also serves as Chief of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at Massachusetts General Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, as well as Senior Vice President Medical Affairs Research and Education at Spaulding Rehabilitation Network.

Dr. Zafonte is a pioneer in the field of traumatic brain injury (TBI). He has published extensively on this topic as the author of more than 300 peer review journal articles, abstracts and book chapters. Moreover, he co-edited the premier textbook on TBI, Brain Injury Medicine: Practice and Principles. He has presented countless lectures at prestigious conferences, both nationally and internationally. His work is collaboratively funded by the NIH, National Institute for Disability, Independent Living and Rehabilitation and Department of Defense.
2017 Award Recipients

AOA Presidential Memorial Leadership Award
Katherine Kirby, OMS IV

Burnett Osteopathic Student Researcher Award
Brian Joseph DiGiacinto, DO

Caring for Communities Award
Community Health and Social Services Center/Richard Bryce, DO

Donna Jones Moritsugu Memorial Award
Adrian Powell
Alyssa “Aly” Giles
Andrea Godfrey
Andrea Miller
Angela Marie Mrozinski-Kalcec
Candice Spake
Cheryl Barbe
Claude Jubran
David A. Gonzalez Mineros
Emily Maierhofer
Haly Craft
Ingrid McDonald
James M. Russo, Jr.
Jennifer Maertin
Kayla Johnson
Kevin Smith
Melissa Terrell
Michael Stec
Rhea Ferguson
Ryan Harris
Ryan Shillington
Sally Shukry
Samantha Koehler
Syed Sumair Sibtain
Victoria Faucheux
Yolanda Mabry

Golden Ticket Scholarship
Vanessa Halvorsen, OMS III (Grand Prize)
Daniel Sullivan, OMS III
Eric Goldwaser, OMS III
Kortnee Koziara, OMS III
Ryan Paulus, OMS IV

James M. Lally, DO, Emerging Leader Award
Julianne P. Sees, DO

Karen J. Nichols, DO LEAD Scholar Award
Juan Rizal Querubin, OMS III

Lifetime Achievement Award
George T. Caleel, DO

Outstanding Resident of the Year Award
Bryan Sweeney, DO – OB/GYN
Christopher Mussman, DO – Surgery
Daniel Griffin, DO – Internal Medicine
Daniel Knapp, DO – Radiology
Eric G. Huish Jr., DO – Orthopedic Surgery
Jordan Beckett, DO – Pediatrics
Kate Hughes, DO – Emergency Medicine
Matthew Nelson, DO – Family Medicine
Monica Zaki, DO – Neurology/Psychiatry
Saundra Holseth, DO – OMM

Paul S. McCord, DO, Memorial Scholarship
Esther Kwak, OMS II

Physician of the Year
Ross Zafonte, DO

Prairie State Scholarship
Roshni Delwadia, OMS II

Thomas A. Quinn, DO Osteopathic Scholarship
Joshua Herring, OMS II

W. Douglas Ward, PhD Educator of the Year
Richard Terry, DO

Welch Scholars Grants
Abdul Walters, OMS II
Austin Rutledge, OMS IV
Brian P. Geraghty, OMS IV
Caleb Hentges, OMS IV
Christian L. Menezes, OMS III
Christine Chevalier, OMS II

Corban Caldwell, OMS II
Courtney Cook, OMS II
Dakotah Farel, OMS III
Darryn L. Winter, OMS III
Emily Gorell, OMS III
Jaqueline Levene, OMS III
Jeffrey Hayes, OMS III
Jesica Ruffin, OMS IV
Jessica Mercado-Ortiz, OMS II

“Winning this award isn’t about one person being a leader. Being a leader is about encouraging everyone to step up.”
– Saundra Holseth, DO
2017 Outstanding Resident of the Year in OMM

Kayla Prokopakis, OMS III
Kenyon J. Grand, OMS III
Luke Shadiow, OMS III
Megan Sears, OMS III
Mia Nevala, OMS II
Michael Morris, OMS III
Natalia Sapiarz, OMS III
Nathaniel Alan Pearl, OMS III
Patricia A. Russo, OMS II
Pei Hsuan Chan, OMS III
Rebecca Ruebsamen, OMS III
Sienna Laughton, OMS II
Sophia Panaccione, OMS III
Stanley Cheng, OMS III
Vatche Melkonian, OMS IV
Vincent Desiato, OMS II

William G. Anderson, DO, Minority Scholarship
Willie C. Gilbert, OMS III
Statement of Activities and Changes in Net Assets

Revenues

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<th>FY2017</th>
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<td>Individual Contributions</td>
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<td>Other Contributions</td>
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<td>Investment Return</td>
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Expenses

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<td>General &amp; Administrative</td>
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<td>$1,588,937</td>
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Net Assets

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<td>CHANGE IN NET ASSETS</td>
<td>$1,293,663</td>
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<td>NET ASSETS AT END OF YEAR</td>
<td>$13,391,081</td>
<td>$12,097,418</td>
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Many thanks to our 2017 Corporate Partners
thank you
to our 2017
generous benefactors

AOF’s ability to support the profession is directly related to relationships created with YOU – both longtime supporters and new donors. Even the smallest individual gift can have a lifelong impact on our award recipients, on the power the individual wields with every donation, allowing the AOF and the profession to do more.

It is with tremendous gratitude that AOF thanks those partners and individuals without whom none of this would be possible.

$30,000- $59,999
A.T. Still University of Health Sciences
Kirkville College
Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine-Auburn Campus
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Michigan State University
College of Osteopathic Medicine

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Midwestern University Chicago
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Osteopathic Foundation of East Orlando Florida
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Marian University College of Osteopathic Medicine
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College of Osteopathic Medicine
Osteopathic Founders Foundation
Osteopathic Foundation of East Orlando Florida
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Rocky Vista University
College of Osteopathic Medicine
University of New England
College of Osteopathic Medicine
Western University Health Sciences/College of Osteopathic Medicine

$5,000 - $7,499
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Spaulding Rehabilitation Network
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University of Pikeville/Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine
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American College of Osteopathic Internists
American College of Osteopathic Neurologists & Psychiatrists
American College of Osteopathic Pediatricians
American College of Osteopathic Surgeons
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American Osteopathic College of Radiology
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Dr. Timothy J. Buffey

$1,000 - $1,999
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American College of Osteopathic Emergency Physicians
Dr. James D. Bernard
Dr. Thomas A. Boyle
Dr. John M. Brace
Dr. John B. Bulger
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Dr. Ernest Geib
Dr. Stanley E. Grogg
Dr. Pran R. Iruvanti
Johnson & Johnson
Dr. Susan L. Ledbetter

* Deceased

AOF would like to thank all donors who graciously contributed amounts lower than $1,000; but are too numerous to list in this publication. Your contributions are truly appreciated and enable the Foundation to advance its mission, each and every day.

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American Osteopathic Foundation

Mission Statement

To support programs and services that promote osteopathic medicine and enhance patient-centered care.

Make your impact today

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