



Golden Ticket winner, Nicholas Sullivan, is presented with his award by 2018 Honors Gala Chair, Dawn Tartaglione, DO, left, and AOF Board President, Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO, right.

AOF AWARDS ENRICH PROFESSION'S BRIGHT FUTURE

Industry recognition is one of the American Osteopathic Foundation's five strategic priorities. Through the scholarships, grants and awards program, AOF continues to honor and recognize DOs, residents, students, teachers and affiliates who set the bar a little higher each year.

This year's 2018 award recipients are truly outstanding on so many levels; including the AOF/AOA Presidential Memorial Leadership winner Captain Michael Paul Brisson, OMS IV, a former MEDEVAC Blackhawk Helicopter Pilot who is now focused on bringing osteopathic family medicine to underserved communities in Alabama. And, the AOF's Burnett Osteopathic Student Research Award winner, Heather Johnson, OMS IV, whose research into the clinical effects of OMT is strengthening the knowledge base of the profession.

These are just two of the awe-inspiring osteopathic students recognized by the AOF this year. Please see pages 4 - 6 for a full award listing, and [visit the AOF website](#) to read more about the outstanding class of 2018 award recipients.



IMPORTANT DATES

October 31

Last day to submit
HOPE Grant Applications

October 31

Last day to submit
Rossnick Humanitarian Applications

November 27

GivingTuesday

December 10

Winter AOF Board Meeting

RAY E. STOWERS, DO, RECEIVES PRESTIGIOUS AOF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

The AOF Lifetime Achievement Award honors an individual who has made significant, fundamental contributions to osteopathic medicine. Ray E. Stowers, DO, the 2018 Lifetime Achievement Award recipient, is unparalleled in his service to the profession.

Dr. Stowers is currently Vice President of Academic Affairs for the Arkansas College of Health Education and Dean of the Arkansas College of Osteopathic Medicine. He also was the founding Dean of Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Throughout his career, Dr. Stowers always sought to improve the status quo, and has followed leadership opportunities that enabled him to do so, including as AOA president and as the first DO to serve on the federal Medicare Payment Advisory Commission, better known as MedPAC. "I never did think about doing it for the sake of being president. I was just getting into a position to make a difference with the way things are. The thing that's driven me the most -- looking to where I could make the biggest difference," he says.

AOF Board President Dixie Tooke-Rawlins, DO, says Dr. Stowers has "truly achieved greatness through integrity, commitment to service and community involvement. This award recognizes his combined body of exemplary work, demonstrated leadership, and passion for, and unwavering commitment to, the osteopathic profession. He truly represents the best of what osteopathic medicine is all about."



CALIFORNIA LEADER – BRIAN LOVELESS, DO, NAMED AOF PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Brian Loveless, DO, the 2018 AOF Physician of the Year, embodies the osteopathic philosophy in every action, word and deed.

"Osteopathic medicine is about looking at the whole person – mind, body & spirit. My approach is by making my patients laugh, by bringing kindness and compassion to them. This human quality to what we do really makes a big difference," he says.

Currently the Assistant Professor of NMM/OMM at Western University of Health Sciences College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific, Dr. Loveless has also served as President of the Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons of California and is an expert reviewer for the Osteopathic Medical Board of California.

He is an advocate for patients and the profession, regularly participating in osteopathic advocacy events at state and national levels. "The man is a fighter," says James M. Lally, DO. "He will fight for his patients, he will fight for a cause, he will fight for what he believes in."

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DR. LOVELESS ~ CONTINUED

Dr. Loveless is committed to giving back to his community, having served as team physician for local high school athletes and staffing a monthly OMT clinic. He is also a graduate of the Costin Institute for Osteopathic Medical Educators, a chapter author for the Foundations of Osteopathic Medicine textbook, and has published numerous articles.

“Patients are the focus of all that Dr. Loveless does,” says Paula M. Crone, DO, Dean at COMP. “He is the embodiment of all that osteopathy represents. His patients admire him, colleagues look up to him, and students aspire to be like him.”

“Osteopathic medicine is about looking at the whole person – mind, body & spirit. My approach is by making my patients laugh, by bringing kindness and compassion to them. This human quality to what we do really makes a big difference.”

– Brian Loveless, DO

AOF NAMES LMU-DCOM LEADER 2018 EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR

The AOF 2018 W. Douglas Ward, PhD, Educator of the Year Award went to J. Michael Wieting, DO, a teacher with unwavering dedication to the tenets of osteopathic medicine and a true passion for passing those tenets on to future generations of DOs.

Currently the Senior Associate Dean at Lincoln Memorial University-DeBusk College of Osteopathic Medicine (LMU-DCOM), his goal as an educator is to provide a bridge to help his students to reach their goals. “I had a mentor once tell me the way to pay him back for letting me stand on his shoulders and learn from him was to one day let others stand on my shoulders and learn from me. I look at that as my obligation to the profession, my way to leave a legacy.”

Dr. Wieting takes one-on-one time to mentor his students, and is deeply committed to making a difference for patients and in his community. He has served multiple educational leadership roles, including professor at LMU-DCOM and Michigan State University, as well as residency program director and faculty.



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– J. Michael Wieting, DO

Brian A. Kessler, DO, FACOFP, Vice President and Dean, LMU-DCOM, says, “His students know he gives the best of himself in the classroom setting. He encourages students to expand their horizons through research and leadership positions and, above all, expects them to embrace the same dedication to service that he holds and carry it forward in their careers.”

EMERGING LEADER AWARD HIGHLIGHTS UNECOM PSYCHIATRIST

The James M. Lally, DO, Emerging Leader Award recognizes DOs in practice less than five years whose actions inspire their peers to improve the osteopathic profession and public health. As the 2018 recipient, Ryan M. Smith, DO, says “I am entering into a cohort of dedicated, inspiring leaders who have the potential to thrust osteopathic medicine forward at this important juncture in its history. This award, to me, is the pinnacle of achievement for a developing leader in our field.”

Dr. Smith is Clinical Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, Director of the Division of Psychiatry at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM) and Chief of Psychiatric Medicine at Eastport Health Care, where he is the sole psychiatrist in a hundred-mile radius. In 2018, he was inducted as a fellow of the National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators and was named the Maine Osteopathic Association’s Young Physician of the Year award in 2016.



Cheryl Doane, DO, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs at UNECOM, says, “Dr. Smith is very impressive. He promotes osteopathic medicine and its philosophy, uses his skills to better the profession, has made noteworthy accomplishments during his time as a leader, and has made a positive impact through his contributions in education and osteopathic organizations.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO 2018 AOF SCHOLARSHIP, GRANT AND AWARD RECIPIENTS

The AOF is honored to support and recognize the great work being done in schools, communities and underserved locations around the world to improve local and global health care, one patient, research project or student at a time. (Note: the list below recognizes scholarships, grants and awards distributed through 10.05.18).

AOF / AOA PRESIDENTIAL MEMORIAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

CPT (P) Michael Paul Brisson, OMS III

AOF BURNETT OSTEOPATHIC STUDENT RESEARCHER AWARD

Heather Johnston, OMS IV

AOF CARING FOR COMMUNITIES AWARD

Suburban Community Health Promoters Program & Mary Elizabeth Vitucci, DO

AOF DONNA JONES MORITSUGU MEMORIAL AWARD

Aleka Liazis Smith

Amiee Finch

Anne Victoria Whitehead

Anouar Smaine

Ashley Osak

Brandi Jensen

Chyna Hopkins

Daniel Koestner

David Hornack

Faigi Derman

Gabriel Baracker

Genell Patterson Wheeler

George Skinner

Hannah Ash

Jennifer Lohmann

Justin Troyer

Justina Boles

Kenny Slimp

Laura Kingsley

Lauren Lutz

Martin Rogers

Miriam Gibson

Molly Grow

Patrick Davies

Rachelle Shader

Sara Kruse

Sara Rowshanshad

Sarah French

Terrance Rose

Theodore Edwards, Jr.

(deceased)

Whitney Ottenhoff

2018 AOF SCHOLARSHIP, GRANT AND AWARD RECIPIENTS ~ CONTINUED

AOF GOLDEN TICKET SCHOLARSHIP AWARDEE

Nicholas Sullivan, OMS IV

AOF GOLDEN TICKET SCHOLARSHIP FINALISTS

Gregory R. Liller, OMS II
 Sarah Cottrell-Cumber, OMS IV
 Starr Matsushita, OMS IV
 Stephanie L. Davenport, OMS III

AOF HOPE GRANTS

Peter Boucas, OMS IV

AOF HUMAN TOUCH COMMUNITY IMPACT GRANTS

Andrea Weir
 Ashley Burkart
 Divya Padmanabhan
 Jonathan Hughes
 Namratha Jan
 Neil Huben, Elizabeth Adeyemi (Co-Leads)
 Shreel Parikh

AOF JAMES M. LALLY, DO, EMERGING LEADER AWARD

Ryan M. Smith, DO, MS

AOF KAREN J. NICHOLS, DO, LEAD SCHOLAR AWARD

Alyssa Ritchie, OMS III

AOF LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Ray E. Stowers, DO

AOF OUTSTANDING RESIDENT OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Alexandra McKenna, DO - Family Medicine
 Angela K. Tyson, DO - Pediatrics
 Heather Nicole Hensley Ivy, DO - Radiology
 Helen Kristina Martinez-Costa, DO - OBGYN
 Margo N. Carlin, DO - Osteopathic Surgery
 Matthew Brandon Barker, DO - OMM
 Michael Groover, DO - Orthopedics
 Nicolette Rosendahl, DO - Internal Medicine

AOF PAUL S. MCCORD MEMORIAL AWARD

Priya Shah, OMS III

AOF PHYSICIAN OF THE YEAR

Brian Loveless, DO

AOF PRAIRIE STATE SCHOLARSHIP

Amber Brown, OMS IV

AOF ROCOVICH RESEARCH AWARD

Nicole Angelo, OMS IV

AOF ROSSNICK HUMANITARIAN GRANT

Benjamin Kelley, DO
 Carmen Gaddini, OMS II
 Christina Price-Jackson, DO
 Daniel Truong, OMS III
 Dianne Winter, OMS IV
 Diondra Burney, DO
 Elizabeth Crow, OMS II
 Emily Dries, OMS I
 Emily Hudson, OMS IV
 Eric Kim, DO
 Erin Davis, OMS IV
 Esther Quintero, OMS IV
 Fiona Hodges, OMS II
 Jacqueline Levene, OMS IV
 Jennifer Giza, OMS III
 Jessica Testa, OMS IV
 Josh Thompson, OMS III
 Kathryn Petersen-Thompson, OMS III
 Katie Smeltzer, OMS IV
 Kimberly Matz, DO
 Kyle Blair, OMS IV
 Liana Dagdavaryan, OMS IV
 Megan Franzetti, OMS I
 Megan Kauffman, OMS III
 Monica Q. Paulson, OMS IV
 Nathan Palmer, OMS IV
 Patrick Abler, OMS I
 Peter Boucas, OMS IV
 Robin A. Craig, DO
 Rushi Patel, OMS III
 Sarah Freeland, OMS II
 Waseem Sous, OMS IV
 William Secor, OMS I
 Willie V. Jones, OMS II
 Zuyuan Huang, OMS III

AOF THOMAS A. QUINN, DO, OSTEOPATHIC SCHOLARSHIP

Wallie Martinez-Vega, OMS III

AOF TURFLER FAMILY MEMORIAL LECTURE AWARD

Dennis J. Dowling, DO, MA, FAAO

AOF W. DOUGLAS WARD, PHD., EDUCATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD

J. Michael Wieting, DO, MEd

2018 AOF SCHOLARSHIP, GRANT AND AWARD RECIPIENTS ~ CONTINUED

AOF WELCH SCHOLARS GRANT

Abdul Ansari, OMS III
 Adam Wolberg, OMS III
 Andrew Korneffel, OMS III
 Andy Bui, OMS II
 Chelsea Reynolds, OMS III
 Chukwudubem Obianagha, OMS II
 Daniel F. Sullivan, OMS IV
 Haley A. Prough, OMS III
 Jacob Thatcher, OMS IV

Janyne Mallender, OMS III
 Jeffrey Blakesley, OMS IV
 Jillian Allen, OMS III
 John R. Ekblad, OMS II
 Johnson Shepard Zhang, OMS IV
 Jolysa Gallegos, OMS II
 Kelly Champlin, OMS II
 Lenny Rostomian, OMS III
 Michelle Brown, OMS III

Nafee Talukder, OMS IV
 Patrick Chizek, OMS IV
 Ryan Schumacher, OMS III
 Sara Maguina, OMS II
 Taylor Sullivan, OMS II
 Tuyen Ngoc Tran, OMS III
 Yitzhak Lee, OMS IV

AOF WILLIAM G. ANDERSON, DO, MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP

Kaylette C. Jenkins, OMS III
 Zuri Hudson, OMS IV

The American Osteopathic Foundation extends its heartfelt congratulations to celebrate all the outstanding osteopathic medical students, residents, and physicians for their academic achievements and clinical excellence.

Their accomplishments and excellence contribute to keeping osteopathic medicine at the forefront of the medical profession.

INAUGURAL ROCOVICH RESEARCH AWARD

To expand its strategic research initiative, AOF launched the Rocovich Research Award. This new award will recognize one outstanding osteopathic medical student, resident or physician annually who is researching and publishing on the biomechanical, biomedical, or clinical aspects of OMT.

The 2018 recipient is Nicole Angelo, a fourth-year osteopathic medical student at the New York Institute of Technology College of Osteopathic Medicine. The project that earned her this award examined the effect of OMT on concussion subjects. In the randomized, controlled study, subjects received two OMT treatments over a one-week period to assess whether the treatments improved symptoms, balance and neurologic inflammation. Results will be published in *JAOA – The Journal of the American Osteopathic Association*.



CELEBRATING A YEAR OF GROWTH, REFLECTION AND COMMUNITY

In keeping with a time honored tradition, the AOF celebrated its many accomplishments, including expanding its existing funding base, and building in new grants to support the growing needs of the profession.

Celebrating these achievements and pledging their support to future initiatives, AOF partners converged at the 2018 Honors Gala, held October 5 in San Diego, California, in conjunction with the AOA's annual OMED conference. Approximately 700 guests gathered to honor award recipients and to celebrate the osteopathic community.

The single largest fundraiser of the year for the osteopathic profession, the [AOF Honors Gala](#) raises funds to support:

- Academic scholarships that empower and inspire students
- Research grants that support innovative discovery
- Global humanitarian outreach that provides medical services to underserved populations
- Service projects that encourage students, residents and physicians to remain engaged and connected within their local communities

A special THANK YOU to all 2018 Honors Gala sponsors, whose support made this year's signature event one of our best, and most memorable events yet! [See the full list on the AOF website.](#)



Guests at the Honors Gala take time out for a "selfie" to document the evening.



Student doctors and DOs gather to celebrate the accomplishments of their peers.