

Celebrating a year of excellence and expertise

# AMERICAN OSTEOPATHIC FOUNDATION

DECEMBER 2022

Dear Friends,

What a year! The American Osteopathic Foundation had a remarkable year of mission growth in 2022, stemming from nearly twelve months of strategic planning, goal setting, and concept design. Now serving more Osteopathic medical students, residents, physicians, colleges, specialty organizations, and State associations, than ever before, the Foundation is poised for even greater mission expansion in 2023.

We are heartened by the annual generosity of members of the Osteopathic medical profession in support of our many programs that enable the Foundation to do more each year. *And, we would like to take a moment to thank all who have supported the Foundation in the past – your gift matters – and we are so very grateful for your investment in the future of our profession.*

Our adoption of the Student Osteopathic Medical Association (SOMA) Foundation has produced noticeable growth for this volunteer, student-governed organization. Through their Board's leadership, and with the Foundation's guidance, the SOMA Foundation invested assets for the first time, developed a historic records database, started a national

fundraising campaign, and developed new brand standards. It has been an honor to watch the SOMA Foundation prosper and thrive under this new structure.

Our giving programs also saw considerable growth through enhanced outreach to Osteopathic medical school partners throughout the year. The Foundation doubled the number of financial grants given away through the Sterling Welch, DO Endowment Fund and continued the increase of the number of minority educational scholarships given away through the William G. Anderson, DO Fund as well.

To support the Foundation's growth, we added two staff members early in the year – rounding out our team of dedicated professionals who help advance our mission. In addition, we instituted a state-of-the-art Grants Management System which was utilized by groups such as the Advocates for the American Osteopathic Association (AAOA), the American Osteopathic Academy of Orthopedics Foundation (AOAO-F), and the SOMA Foundation. Our collaborative partnerships grew deeper as evidenced by the inaugural Donna Jones Moritsugu Memorial Award Virtual Happy Hour, designed with the AAOA, that recognized and celebrated spouses of graduating medical students. This new engagement event was so successful, we plan to continue the gathering annually for years to come! The growth of these, and other initiatives, were facilitated through direct collaborations across the profession.

In October, the Foundation welcomed a sold-out crowd to our first in-person Honors Gala in three years. We gathered to celebrate, honor, recognize, and embrace the Osteopathic profession. During the Gala, we paid tribute to Osteopathic medical students, residents, and physicians with numerous Foundation grants, scholarships, and awards. It was a record-setting fundraising event, and we are immensely grateful to all the sponsors, underwriters, vendors, and donors who helped make this event happen! We are also thrilled to share that the Foundation raised more than \$150,000 during Honors to create an endowment that will benefit the SOMA Foundation.

We invite you to experience the excitement of Honors 2022 by perusing the [Tribute Book](#), [press releases](#), and award [video clips](#).

The Foundation's past, present, and future are tied together by a continuous focus on engaging excellence and bridging traditional boundaries to open new paths of discovery and innovation. One way we are forging new pathways of learning is through our Project Future initiative. The Foundation has been speaking to and working with, healthcare subject matter experts from across the country for over 18 months. These subject matter experts are providing a broader context on the future of healthcare based on their experience and expertise in the areas of Professional Identity, Education, Research, and Clinical Practice. We are honored to bring these critical thinkers to the forefront, and we look forward to sharing progress updates in 2023.

Throughout this year, we have continually been impressed by our spirit, innovation, and impact on the field. The American Osteopathic Foundation is truly finishing the year on a high note thanks to the steadfast leadership of our Board of Directors, the generosity of our donors, the strength and vision of our partners, and the dedication of our staff.

And so, as we close out the year, we offer our sincere thanks for all you do – each day – on behalf of the Osteopathic profession.



Barbara Ross-Lee, DO, Board President



Rita Forden, CEO

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***Stay connected with the AOF!***

*Stay updated on our work throughout the year through our e-communications and social media channels.*



**American Osteopathic Foundation**

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