

F.A. DAVIS ANNOUNCES WINNERS OF FALL 2024 NURSING & HEALTH SCIENCE SCHOLARSHIPS

Philadelphia, PA, December 2024: F.A. Davis is delighted to announce the winners of its Fall 2024 nursing and health science scholarships for undergraduate and graduate students. Awards of \$1,000.00 will be made to **Mubarak Osman**, a nursing student pursuing a bachelor's degree at East Tennessee State University, **Thomas Casart**, a Medical Laboratory Science student pursuing a bachelor's degree at University of Nebraska–Medical Center, and **Kashika Singh**, a nursing student working toward a doctoral degree at University of San Diego. During these unprecedented and challenging times, they exemplify the commitment of today's students to improving the quality of healthcare for all of us and to giving back to the communities that have supported them on their journeys.



Mubarak Osman is a 32-year-old student at East Tennessee State University pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. Growing up, he lived in a community where healthcare resources were limited. This, coupled with seeing communities in Tennessee devastated by the impacts of Hurricane Helene earlier this year, inspired him to become a nurse. Mubarak is fueled by compassionate care and empathy and hopes to serve in under-resourced communities as a nurse. He views nursing as a path to give back, advocate for others, and create positive change. This scholarship will help him focus on developing the skills

needed to excel in his field.

“Choosing to pursue a career in healthcare, specifically nursing, is rooted in my personal experience and the deep-seated belief that everyone deserves quality, compassionate care. Growing up, I witnessed family members and neighbors struggle to access healthcare due to financial or logistical barriers. Seeing their struggles motivated me to become someone who could make a difference, especially for individuals who might feel overlooked by the healthcare system. Nursing is my path to give back, advocate for others, and create positive change in a field that is both challenging and incredibly rewarding. One of the key qualities that I believe will make me successful in nursing is my resilience. Nursing school is demanding, but my determination keeps me pushing forward, even when times are tough. Balancing coursework, clinical

rotations, and part-time work has taught me the value of persistence and time management. I know that these skills will be invaluable as I step into a fast-paced clinical environment, where quick thinking and adaptability are essential. Another quality that I bring to the table is empathy. I had the opportunity to volunteer during Helene, the tragic storm that hit some communities in Tennessee, where I saw firsthand the impact of compassionate care on patients. Listening to patients' concerns, even when time is limited, and showing genuine understanding can make a world of difference to someone who may be feeling vulnerable. I strive to be a nurse who does not just treat symptoms but also takes the time to make patients feel seen, heard, and valued. Finally, I am committed to lifelong learning. The field of nursing is always evolving, and I want to stay current on best practices and innovations to provide the best care possible. I am not just aiming to meet the standard but to exceed it. I envision myself continuously learning, seeking advanced certifications, and perhaps one day, mentoring new nurses so that I can give back to the next generation of healthcare providers. Receiving this scholarship would be a tremendous help in achieving my goal of becoming an RN. It would relieve some of the financial pressure, allowing me to focus more intently on my studies and clinical experiences. With this support, I can take one step closer to fulfilling my dream of serving as a registered nurse in underserved communities, where I can truly make a meaningful difference.”



Thomas Casart is a 26-year-old student pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Medical Laboratory Science from the University of Nebraska–Medical Center. He did not have a traditional path to healthcare - starting college as an engineering student, then exploring molecular research and veterinary medicine before being introduced to the possibilities of health science through a coworker. He decided to go back to school at UNMC’s MLS program where he discovered his passion. Thomas hopes to use this scholarship to finish his program and continue his professional development to get him to a position that will allow his skills to have the greatest benefit.

“My specific interest in health care initially stemmed from an existential crisis I experienced during Biochem 431. The degree to which we connected our knowledge of the body systems through metabolism and endocrinology blew my mind. I began to see the body as a collection of functions and knew that learning these functions was the key to understanding longevity and quality of life. I became obsessed with dietary health, taking ‘you are what you eat’ literally. I would spout about health and wellness to my peers and mentors, frequently eliciting responses like ‘Why aren’t you pre-med if you care so much?’ I would have gone pre-med if I knew back then how much I would care about healthcare now, but during my transition from mechanical engineering to microbiology the path to medical lab science was not made clear to me. I became heavily invested in microbiology with the

remainder of my time at university, becoming president of the UNL Microbiology Club before COVID sent everyone home. Since then, I've been working various laboratory jobs focused on industry microbiology, with a hint of R&D experience. My current position has my focus on toxicology and the efficacy of autogenous vaccines. Health continued to be a deep interest of mine over the years, but the barrier to entry into medical science seemed too great, with the prohibitive time commitment and the costs unjustifiable. It wasn't until every prominent figure in my life convinced me to ride the tiger of UNMC's MLS program that I felt confident going back to school. Health science is my passion, and I intend to pursue it to the fullest. My grand aspiration is to manage a clinical laboratory, and I'm ready to see where life takes me on my journey to that goal. I'm certain that my abilities and my character will do well in-service to the health of the community, and I know that I must take the reins of my professional development to get me to a position that will allow my skills to have the greatest benefit. Optimism, empathy, communication, resilience, patience, and penchant for learning and teaching will get me to where I need to go. In the MLS program, I've gotten to know so many people who impress me, inspire me, and have shown me such kindness that it surprises me. I don't know why I didn't expect it going in, but I feel truly at home with these people. We share abilities and interests that build long-lasting professional relationships, but the personal qualities I've encountered will make friendships last as well. I've come to know a cohort of peers in my field who build each other up and strive for a collective goal, and that is how I know I will be successful. To quote the father of medicine, 'Wherever the art of medicine is loved, there is also a love of humanity.'



Kashika Singh is a 27-year-old student at University of San Diego studying to become a doctor of Nursing Practice–Adult Gerontology and Family Nurse Practitioner. Kashika strives to treat patients holistically and with the respect and empathy they deserve, just as she was. She will use this scholarship to continue her education and chase her dream.

The scholarship application process was open to students pursuing undergraduate or graduate degrees or certifications in most of the leading nursing and health science specialties. Applicants were required to be enrolled in an accredited program for the Fall 2024 semester, students in good standing with an overall GPA

of 3.0 or higher, and U.S. or Canadian citizens, legal residents, or holders of a valid student visa. Each completed an application form and submitted proof of enrollment as well as a short introduction and essay. Information about future scholarships will be announced on F.A. Davis's web and social media sites.

About F.A. Davis

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