

**Emory University School of Medicine**  
**Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences**  
**2012-13 General Psychiatry Residents**

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**PGY-1s**

**Yusuf Ali**



B.S., Morgan State University  
M.D., University of Maryland School of Medicine

Yusuf graduated from Morgan State University. During college, he spent a summer as a Duke University NSF Fellow, which was a 12-week long experience of intensive research culminating with a poster presentation and publication in Cognitive Neuroscience research. Yusuf continued with his interest in research at the University of Maryland SOM and participated in multiple sclerosis research funded by the National Foundation for Multiple Sclerosis Research. His attending on his clinical rotations describe him as having a unique strength in his calm demeanor and comment that he works “impeccable under pressure.” Throughout college and medical school, Yusuf has served as a mentor for young adolescents from disadvantaged backgrounds in the Baltimore City Public School System.

**Nisha Fernandes**



B.A., University of Minnesota  
M.D., University of Minnesota Medical School

Nisha was born in India and lived in several different countries by the age of 10, when she and her family finally settled in Bloomington, MN. She majored in psychology and minored in Spanish at the University of Minnesota, and then continued onto medical school there. She couples matched at Emory with her husband, who will be starting as an internal medicine resident this year. During her undergraduate years, she volunteered in the child and adolescent inpatient unit and fell in love with the field. Her long term plans are to pursue a fellowship in this area. She started doing research in eating disorders as an undergraduate and published a paper based on her psychology thesis. In medical school, she continued doing research focused on better understanding eating disorders and body dissatisfaction in minority group members. She presented a research poster on the consequences of body dissatisfaction among high school students of different racial groups at the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry Annual Meeting. She took advantage of her medical school’s flexible MD program to spend 5 months working with pediatricians and psychiatrists in her hometown of Bangalore, India. She also spent some time in rural Bangalore working in clinics and with public health workers to raise awareness and promote acceptance of mental health. In her free time, Nisha enjoys photography, cooking, exercising, traveling, and spending time with family and friends. Nisha and her husband are really

excited to be moving out of the Midwest and seeing all that this part of the country has to offer. And of course, they are looking forward to spending a few winters without below freezing weather and blizzards!

**Constantine Galifianakis**



B.S., University of Maryland  
M.D., University of Maryland School of Medicine

Prior to medical school, Constantine pursued an interest in film and worked for a major Hollywood production company. His interest in the stories of individuals and communities in this business drew him to psychiatry, and he began volunteering in the Los Angeles County Hospital’s psychiatric emergency room. He later entered medical school after 2 years in the film industry. He was selected for the competitive Combined Accelerated Psychiatric Program which allowed him countless opportunities to explore the field of psychiatry. During medical school, he was also elected into the Gold Humanism Honor Society, placing him at the top of his class for qualities of humanism and professionalism. His Dean’s Letter comments on his leadership abilities, warm personality, and strong work ethic.

**David Goldsmith**



B.S., University of Maryland  
M.D., Emory University School of Medicine

I am very excited to be starting my psychiatry residency, and thrilled to be staying at Emory! I came to medical school with the intention of pursuing psychiatry, after spending time doing research in schizophrenia, neuropsychology, and functional neuroimaging at the University of Maryland as an undergraduate, at the National Institute of Mental Health, and later at Emory. After my first two years of medical school, I returned to the NIMH to further pursue my research interests in cognition, schizophrenia, and imaging genetics. Upon returning to Emory to finish medical school, I was excited to begin my clinical years and found my psychiatry rotations to be extremely rewarding. I hope to pursue a career in academic medicine, combining clinical work, research, and teaching. Though much of my previous work has been in the areas of imaging and schizophrenia, I am open and excited to see where my academic interests take me through residency and beyond. When not in the hospitals, you can find me playing guitar, rooting for my favorite Baltimore sports teams (go O's!), and playing with my daughter Sadie.

### **Chelsea Hickerson**



B.A., University of Tennessee

M.D., University of Tennessee Health Sciences Center College of Medicine

Chelsea's performance in medical school was very impressive and she had consistently outstanding clinical evaluations. She has had a longstanding interest in psychiatry and human behavior, dating back to her college years. She is very interested in the interrelationship between psychological variables and physical signs and symptoms. For her senior project she did a meta-analysis citing the effects of meditation on healing. She also worked as a research assistant studying the way borderline personality disordered mothers relate to their infants. Chelsea has been awarded many honors during her brief academic career, including the award for highest achievement from the psychiatry department at her medical school. In her free time, Chelsea enjoys reading, music, and travel.

### **Todd Hoffenberg**



B.S., Georgia Institute of Technology

M.D., University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

Todd was born and raised in the Atlanta area. He originally built a career in engineering after graduating from the Georgia Institute of Technology where he was a community leader, researcher, and teaching assistant. He continued his community involvement while working as an engineer before deciding to pursue medical education at the University of Miami's regional medical campus. There, he was a leader in multiple interest groups, researcher, and community advocate. He earned recognition as the most outstanding student in his 3rd year Psychiatry clerkship. Outside of his professional interests, he prides himself in his cooking acumen, and he previously competed in professional billiards tournaments.

### **Kathryn "Kit" Johnson**



B.A., University of North Carolina

M.D., Howard University College of Medicine

Those who met Kit on her interview day commented on her excellent interpersonal skills as well as her leadership qualities. She was a recipient of a Minority Student Award for Academic Achievement and she was in the Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Society at the University of North Carolina Wilmington. She earned the Curriculum Committee Award for Academic Achievement in her first year of medical school, which is given to the student with the highest GPA throughout the year. She also received the Hubert

Humphrey Scholarship Award, which is another academic achievement based scholarship. She ended medical school in the top 10% of her class, something she is very proud of!

Outside of her studies, she finds balance by traveling, eating out, cooking, and maintaining a healthy lifestyle. She dances and enjoys other performing arts.

### **Virginia “Paige” Litz**



B.A., Smith College

D.O., Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine

Paige grew up in a small town in southwestern Virginia. She graduated with honors from Smith College, and began a career in the film and television industry in Los Angeles. She worked at several Hollywood studios, as a writer’s assistant for singer-songwriter Bob Dylan and director Larry Charles on the film, “Masked and Anonymous,” and as a stand-in for actress Judy Davis on the film, “Dark Blood.” She is an alumnus of the prestigious Warner Bros. Writers’ Workshop. She also worked as a reporter for a California newspaper and covered several healthcare stories that would ultimately foster her transition to medicine and desire to work with underserved medical populations. Paige excelled in medical school and received “High Honors” or “Honors” in all of her basic science classes as well as her clinical rotations.

### **Maria “Cristina” Poscablo**



B.A., Rutgers University

M.P.H., George Washington University

M.D., George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences

After finishing college in her home state of New Jersey, Cristina moved to Washington, DC to do mammalian development research at the NIH as a Post-baccalaureate Intramural Research Fellow. She went on to complete an MPH at George Washington University and majored in epidemiology. While working on her MPH, she worked at the National Cancer Institute as a Pre-doctoral Cancer Research Training Fellow. Cristina has a passion for teaching and has held positions tutoring high school students and teaching a graduate level statistics course through her first 2 years of medical school. Her research endeavors during medical school were broad, ranging from the descriptive epidemiology of lung cancer to the use of acupuncture in children with cancer to a review of mind body medicine in the treatment of depression, resulting in a number of presentations and publications. Cristina has been involved in a variety of extracurricular work, including medical volunteering abroad and serving on the steering committee for GW’s Student Run Clinic. Her clinical evaluations in medical school consistently comment on her strong clinical skills and caring demeanor. Her interests in psychiatry include child psychiatry, trauma, and integrative approaches to the treatment of mental.

### **Yael Schonherz-Pine**



M.D., Sackler School of Medicine, Israel

Yael has an excellent record to become a leading academic psychiatrist. She completed a very thorough clinical training that included 5 years of child psychiatry residency and also a 3 year program in psychotherapy at Tel Aviv University. She currently is a child psychiatrist in the center for ADHD & Learning Disorders at the Institute of Fatigue and Sleep Medicine in Israel. In this role, she diagnoses and treats sleep disorders in children and adolescents. In addition, she works as a psychiatrist in a national outpatient clinic for diagnosing and treating children and adolescents who suffer from ADHD and learning disorders. She has coauthored several publications on her research and is eager to continue to integrate clinical work with her research career.

### **Mahalia Way**



B.A., University of Michigan  
M.A., University of California, Berkeley  
Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley  
M.D., Weill Cornell Medical College

Haley was born to an eccentric and curious family beyond the reach of television reception in Southern Indiana. She grew up surrounded by the ill-conceived inventions of her ophthalmologist father, the arcane contents of her mother's antique store, and a variety of incompletely tamed wild animals and brothers. Although she expressed an interest in medicine early on, she was discouraged by her family who did not "believe" in female doctors. Undaunted, she began taking premed courses at the University of Michigan, only to be seduced away by Classical languages and literature. She went on to obtain a MA and PhD at Berkeley, writing a dissertation on violence and the body in Roman Comedy. While teaching Greek Mythology at Northwestern and Notre Dame, she became interested in how the stories cultures and individuals tell themselves dictate their expectations for what is possible and likely in the world. Several modern examples of myth in action were drawn from the world of economics, and she became interested in the role of story telling in bubble formation and branding. This led her to study economics at the University of Chicago, followed by a brief stint as an economic analyst in the Antitrust Division in Washington DC. Although the questions posed by economics about human behavior were fascinating, its daily practice proved fairly dull and many of its underlying assumptions – the existence of a "rational consumer," for one – turned out to be myths themselves. At this point Haley returned to her girlhood interest in medicine, now with a head full of fantastic creatures, stories, and languages, ancient and modern. She attended Weill Cornell Medical College in Manhattan where she was editor of the Medical School's literary journal, and a regular attendee at the Moth Storytelling forum. She is currently attached to an eccentric Hungarian neuroscientist in New York with whom she now has a "skyplationship." She has also begun learning to kiteboard.

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**PGY-2s**

**Jessica Cohen**



B.A., Yale University  
M.D., Emory University School of Medicine

Depending on whom you ask, Jessica is either the top student in her class or one of the top 10. That says a lot to me given that some of our best residents have been Emory students. In fact I challenge you to think of an Emory medical student who has not been one of our best residents. Jessica is exceptional and is a Robert Woodruff Fellow and received honors in seven of her eight clinical rotations including psychiatry (of course). She actively participated in research doing a nutritional study of Haitian children and she is presently studying a comprehensive care model for patients with HIV/AIDS, serious mental illness and substance abuse. She has volunteered extensively in projects such as the South Georgia farm workers Project and Physicians for Human Rights. She also is a club player in Ultimate Frisbee with three appearances in national tournaments and she is a marathon runner.

**Sarah Cook**



B.A., Stanford University  
M.B.Ch.B., Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland

Sarah Cook is thrilled to be at Emory! As a Minnesotan with dual citizenship in the US and New Zealand, she pursued medicine in Ireland as she was eager to live in Europe and also reconnect with her Irish roots. Her background helped foster an interest in working with people from diverse experiences. Sarah loves art, yoga, reading, wine-tasting, and discovering new restaurants.

**Andrew Farkas**



B.S., State University of New York

M.S., State University of New York

M.D., University at Buffalo State University of New York School of Medicine

Andrew is a couple's match with Sheril (see below). In his personal statement Andrew stated that he had a "deep interest in public health, particularly relating to issues confronting the medically underserved." Andrew backs up this statement and has been actively involved in his community serving in a student run free clinic and in a rural geriatric clinic while he was in medical school. He received the Marek Zaleski award for academic achievement and community service. He also inducted into the Golden Key National Honor Society and was awarded an undergraduate research grant for a project entitled: Cloning a novel serotonin receptor in *Aplysia californica*. Like many of our incoming residents he is a marathon runner.

**Cynthia Gillikin**



B.S., Wake Forest University

Ph.D., University of Miami

M.D., University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

Cynthia graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Wake Forest after doing research on the ecology and evolution of seabirds that allowed her to travel to the Galapagos Islands and ecological research sponsored by the National Science Foundation. While at Wake Forest she was awarded the prestigious Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship for undergraduate students interested in scientific research. She matriculated to Miami University earning a full scholarship and the Michele R. Bowman Scholarship for researchers focusing on women's mental health. She is a member of the Golden Key International Honor Society and the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society. She earned her PhD doing research on the etiology, prevention and treatment of female adolescent substance abuse in the NIDA supported Center for Treatment Research on Adolescent Substance Abuse. Her attendings on all of her clinical rotations consistently described her as demonstrating "outstanding" clinical skills.

### **Khanh Ha**



B.S., University of Portland

M.D., Keck School of Medicine of the University of Southern California

As a child growing up in the bustling streets of Saigon, Khanh lived a relatively sheltered life, protected by her family from the many ills of a Communist country. Certain cultural taboos also remained enigmas to her despite inquiries. It was not until many years later, after having assimilated herself to Western culture, after seeing time and again how her family keeps quiet about struggles with mental illness, and after witnessing the sadness, fear, and eventual acceptance of mental illness in her patients and their families, did Khanh realize the crucial need for dialogue about psychiatric illnesses in her own community and her role in helping achieve this goal. Medical school experiences gave Khanh the clinical and research opportunities to embrace her newfound interests through multiple psychiatric rotations and through studying and publishing in the area of depression and quality of life. Khanh spent her PGY-1 year in Psychiatry at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center where enriching experiences gave her a solid foundation to build on her career but where unfortunately the reality of limited resources led to the closure of a once great program. Having undergone program closure has taught Khanh many things, mainly that it is more important than ever to fight for those with psychiatric illnesses and to educate communities at large about these issues.

### **Matthew Hughes**



B.S., Texas A & M University

M.D., Texas Tech University School of Medicine

Matthew was characterized on his evaluations as “the best student I ever taught”. In his interviews with our faculty he clearly expressed an interest in developing his clinical skills although he has also been actively engaged in research with a national poster presentation at the Society for Neuroscience. In his interviews and recommendations, Matthew demonstrated that he has developed skills in patient care beyond what would be expected from a medical student. His clinical skills with a diverse patient population were described as “outstanding”. One supervisor stated that: “The types of skills that Matthew demonstrated while interacting with patients cannot be taught.” On his primary psychiatry rotation he was described as “the best student of the year” receiving the “outstanding student of the year” award from the department of psychiatry. He has developed a strong interest in community psychiatry while working at the Texas MHMR and a local transcranial magnetic stimulation clinic. He is also an accomplished lacrosse goalie and is engaged in numerous other athletic pursuits including scuba diving. He is also interested in “string theory” and we challenge the faculty to help him develop that pursuit.

**Sheril Kalarithara**



B.S., Stony Brook University

M.D., University of Buffalo State University of New York School of Medicine

Sheril is the recipient of a number of academic awards including the Presidential Scholar in each of her four years of college. She received the Deans Letter of Commendation for academic excellence for her outstanding performance in the first three years of medical school. She has also been an active participant in her community since high school, taking an important role in the student run free health clinic in Buffalo. In their recommendations, the faculty repeatedly described her as engaging and intellectually curious. This description matched what we noted during her interviews. Sheril has traveled extensively in India, Kuwait, Dubai, South Africa, Indonesia and Thailand. She has diverse interests including ballet, yoga, crew, rugby and was a boxer in college.

**Sipra Laddha**



B.A., New York University

M.D., University of Buffalo State University of New York School of Medicine

Sipra is well known to many of us as she traveled to Atlanta for a second visit. She received a Presidential Honors Scholarship at NYU, won the Rotary Club award for outstanding community service and traveled extensively spending one summer in India on a research project sponsored by the Medical Research Foundation. She was the editor of the Global Health Review and Undergraduate Medical Dialogue. In medical school she was involved in research in children with autistic spectrum disorders. She has a strong interest in the intersection of history, psychiatry and global affairs and published an article on the Rwandan Genocide of 1994 in the journal Global Affairs. She received multiple honors on her clinical courses including psychiatry and the lowest clinical grade she has received is highly satisfactory.

**Cliff Lin**



B.A., Northwestern University

M.D., University of Chicago School of Medicine

Cliff graduated Phi Beta Kappa from Northwestern. Cliff worked internationally including working on a neuropathic pain project with Abbott labs and helping to prepare the submission to the European version of the FDA. He also spent a year in Japan teaching English. He was attracted to Atlanta because of the multicultural feel of the city.

### **Nancy Martin**



B.S., University of Notre Dame

M.D., University of New Mexico School of Medicine

Nancy is a native New Mexican who couples matched with her husband David Martin in the Pathology department. She grew up in an Air Force family and has traveled throughout the world, including India, China, Tibet, and Thailand. She had some of the best recommendations of any candidate we interviewed including multiple references to her work with terminally-ill and underserved, indigent populations. She was inducted into the Gold Humanism Society and received honors for her research entitled “The Impact of Ethanol Exposure on Maternal Behavior in Primiparous Mice”. She has an interest in medical entomology and published an article in Clinical Toxicology entitled “Recurrent, persistent, or late, new-onset hematologic abnormalities in Crotaline snakebite” while in medical school. She enjoys running, Bikram yoga, cooking, and supporting local farming efforts. She won a national recipe contest and was featured in Hallmark Magazine. Her interests in Psychiatry include women’s health and addiction.

### **Abigail Nash**



B.A., Bryn Mawr College

Ph.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School

M.D., University of Texas, Southwestern Medical School

Abigail received A’s on all of her clinical rotations and wrote in her personal statement that she “believes the science of psychiatry is in its young stages and quickly approaching its growth spurt.” She has the skills to combine the understanding of proteins and the role of biophysics in drug development with the clinical care of complex patients. Her PhD in Molecular Biophysics was in a graduate program that included the Nobel laureate Johann Deisenhofer. She published her research as a first author in the journal Biochemistry. She is also a leader in her medical school, graduate program and community. She arranged research symposia to mentor women in the graduate school as well as serving as the first Chairperson for an International Symposium on Photosensory Receptors in Barga, Italy. A friend of mine at UT SW who knew she was interested in Emory wrote the following to me about Abby: “What I want to add is that she is simply a delightful person- warm, thoughtful, mature, big heart, and deeply reflective”. In addition she is an avid volleyball and soccer player.

### **Ryan Sultan**



B.S., Trinity College

M.D., Drexel University College of Medicine

A native New Yorker, Ryan fled the northeast for the warmer weather of South! He has been described as working “tirelessly in service to his patients”. If there was a word that was repeated in his references and evaluations it was “enthusiastic” and this was evidenced by his energy and collegiality on his interview day.

Professionally, Ryan came to Emory for its broad clinical experiences, research opportunities and psychoanalytic training. He is currently involved in a study with Dr. Erica Duncan investigating the increased risk of ischemic cardiac events from atypical antipsychotics. Additionally, Ryan is working on an article concerning learning disabilities and medical education. He is a candidate in the psychoanalytic institute as well as a member of the Grady Ethics Committee. Ryan plans to complete analytic training and pursue a fellowship in child psychiatry.

### **Yilang Tang**



M.S., Capital Medical University, Beijing

Ph.D., Peking University, Beijing

M.D., Peking University, Beijing

Yilang completed a psychiatric residency in Beijing and was a member of the Board of Directors of the Chinese Association for Mental Health. He is presently an instructor in Joe Cubells lab working on research in genetics of mental disorders, drug addiction, Alzheimer’s disease and PTSD. If you look for him you will see him at almost every Grand Rounds. He has authored 26 peer reviewed publications and is first author for eight book chapters. He was awarded a NARSAD Young Investigator Award and was a NIDA fellow. He is also a devoted father and family man and if you want to see him smile (clearly this was not done before his picture) ask him about his wife and children.

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**PGY-3s**

**Andrea Crowell**



B.S., Northeastern University  
M.D., Stanford University School of Medicine

Prior to medical school, Andrea spent 18 months as an Emerging Infectious Disease Fellow at the CDC and 18 months after that performing functional neuroimaging in schizophrenic subjects at Harvard Medical School. At Stanford Andrea was in the Medical Scholars fund as a Doris Duke fellow. She studied neuronal signals measure in subjects undergoing DBS for the treatment of Parkinson's disease, dystonia and tremor. She has a number of publications in this area and she has a patent!

**Rachel Goldberg**



B.A., Cornell University  
M.P.H., Emory University Rollins School of Public Health  
M.D., Emory University School of Medicine

Rachel is well known to many of us. We have been recruiting her for two years based on her excellent clinical skills, character and potential as a psychiatrist. She has a remarkable background. At Cornell, she was a three-time All American athlete, received 4 varsity letters, and set Cornell school record and won Ivy League vault title in 2004. Oh yeah, she also got a 3.95 GPA and a BA in Psychology. She has been involved in neurosciences research since she was an undergraduate (worked as a research assistant in the Center for Medical Genomics) and continued her research at Emory evaluating the effects of atypical antipsychotics on arterial compliance.

### **Bruce Hill**



B.S., Samford University  
M.D., University of Alabama School of Medicine

After graduating from the University Of Alabama School Of Medicine in 1994, Bruce completed internal medicine training at the Medical University of South Carolina in 1997. He enjoyed teaching as a Chief Medical Resident and Clinical Instructor in 1998 and went on to complete a Rheumatology/Immunology clinical fellowship in 2000, receiving the REAP Medical Scholar Award through the VA to do basic science work on nitric oxide in African-American lupus patients. He practiced private practice rheumatology in the Charlotte NC area for 11 years. A brief visit with Dr. John Sarno at NYU supported his growing interest in psychosomatic medicine and psychiatry in 2005.

### **Maryam Hosseini**



B.S., Emory University  
M.S., Georgia State University  
M.D., Morehouse School of Medicine

Maryam graduated from Emory with a BS in Neurosciences and from Georgia State with a Masters in Neuroscience. She has been very active in the community at Grady and is involved in the Rape Crisis Center and tutoring high risk children in reading as part of the Emory Read Program. One of her hobbies is kickboxing. She was heavily recruited by us over the past year and we were delighted that chose to come to our program.

### **Marcus "Bo" Houston**



B.A., Davidson College  
M.P.H., Emory University Rollins School of Public Health  
M.D., Emory University School of Medicine

Bo is an exceptional young man and I have had the pleasure of watching him develop as a physician over the last several years. He has a number of academic achievements at Emory including The Helen Miller Award, Reynold's Program Annual Art and Aging Award and the Betty Ford Center Scholarship. He has been a leader in his class with a strong and enduring commitment to his community. He has worked in Dr. Cubell's lab and has unlimited potential. He is also a committed husband and father to his one year old Anya.

**Ahmed Khan**



B.A., University of Illinois, Chicago  
M.P.H., Benedictine School of Public Health  
M.D., University of Illinois College of Medicine

Ahmed has always been involved in caring for the underprivileged. During undergraduate and medical school he worked in HIV prevention and projects with the Human Development Foundation in Pakistan. He was named the Jeanne Spurlock Fellow by the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry (AACAP) and the 2009 Young Leaders Award from AACAP. On his psychiatry rotation he was described as having a sense of humor, compassion and sensitivity. All of these traits were evident on his interview day with us. One of his hobbies is competitive soccer so we may have to change the faculty student competition from kickball.

**Amanda McMillan**



B.A., Emory University  
M.D., Mercer University School of Medicine

Amanda is well known to the department. Many of you may have met her at the Holiday Party. She did a four week outpatient child rotation at Emory and was described as “outstanding”. She was a research coordinator for Elaine Walker in a genetics study of schizophrenia between her first and second years of medical school and worked with Joe Cubells learning molecular methods to extract and analyze DNA. They both gave her superb recommendations and, having met with her on multiple occasions, I would agree that she is really an outstanding candidate for our program with both research and clinical skills that are impressive.

**Tammy Saah**



B.A., University of California  
M.A., San Jose State University  
M.D., American University of Beirut School of Medicine, Lebanon

Tammy’s personal essay starts with her experiences of going to medical school in a war-torn country. Even though she was born and raised in California, Tammy chose to pursue medical school abroad in Lebanon. She has done research at the Transplant Immunobiology Laboratory at Stanford, research in PTSD in the Lebanese population, as well as research in redefining Axis V and assessing the Burden of

Illness of MDD. She has two peer-reviewed articles published. With her global travel, she brings a number of unique experiences to our program, such as providing free medical care with the Palestinian Red Crescent. She is interested in personality disorders, addiction psychiatry and psychoanalysis.

### **Raj Shekhat**



B.A., Bates College

M.D., University of Rochester School of Medicine

If you were at the Holiday Party, then you met Raj. One of the most personable and engaging applicants we met all year who came highly recommended by my good friend Jeff Lyness at the University of Rochester. Raj spent three years with the government in Washington, D.C. before starting medical school at the University of Rochester. Raj has travelled extensively and first became interested in psychiatry when studying the history of mental illness at Oxford. He is on the border of neurology and psychiatry and has done a number of rotations in India and Poland to develop international electives for students. He and his wife just had a baby boy and they are excited about moving back south to be closer to family. Prior to having his baby boy, Raj enjoyed playing sports, reading, traveling, and eating full meals.

### **Melissa Smith**



B.A., Lagrange College

M.D., University of South Alabama College of Medicine

Melissa grew up in the small town of Selma, Alabama. She played soccer at Lagrange College where she received 4 varsity letters in soccer. Melissa moved to Mobile, AL for medical school to find that there were no women's soccer teams in the area so she took up racing in triathlons. She graduated from medical school in 2009 and completed two categorical general surgery years at Atlanta Medical Center. She is currently playing soccer for a women's team out of Piedmont Park, and she is still racing in triathlons around the southeastern United States.

### **Arshya Vahabzadeh**



Unk Degree, Royal College of General Practitioners, United Kingdom  
M.D., University of Birmingham, United Kingdom

Arshya is a member of the Royal College of General Practitioners and an accomplished physician and researcher. Arshya received his formative education at King Edward Camp Hill School for Boys, England, during which time he represented the School in rugby, basketball, and fencing and was a swimming record holder. He obtained his medical degree at the University of Birmingham, one of England's most reputable academic institutions. He gained several honors including psychiatry whilst also attaining a first place trophy for University weightlifting. He has significant postgraduate clinical training, being both a qualified family physician and psychiatry resident. He has won a number of prestigious awards including the East Midlands Specialty School of Psychiatry Portfolio Prize. During his training under the Royal College of Psychiatrists (RCPsych), he received the RCPsych Trent Division Poster Presentation Prize and coauthored the winning entry of the RCPsych Trent Division Clinical Audit Prize. He is fluent in Persian, has a keen interest in history and is involved with various charity projects including the Kiva project and World Vision. All of the faculty who met Arshya were impressed with his character and personally, I have to give him credit for sticking with the match even though some of the most prestigious programs in the US were offering him positions outside the match.

### **Monica Ward**



B.S., Emory University  
M.D., University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

Monica has a unique background and was a probation officer before medical school. She comes from a family steeped in the legal system- her father is a circuit judge, her mother a family mediator with the courts and her sister is a lawyer. She graduated from Emory after being inducted in the Sociology National Honor Society. She has a long history of involvement in her community including volunteer work with children and cancer survivors and continued this work throughout medical school.

**Justine Wittenauer**



B.S., University of Akron

M.D., Northeastern Ohio University College of Medicine

As a dual citizen with Australia and a former resident of Alaska, Justine has had the opportunity to meet many people from different walks of life. After attending high school in Ohio, Justine was selected to participate in the combined BS/MD program through NEOUCOM. She attended the University of Akron and received a BS with a major in natural sciences and a minor in chemistry. During medical school she participated in two summer fellowships in surgical research resulting in one publication and two poster presentations. She also helped to establish a palliative care interest group at her school by organizing fundraisers and group projects to benefit terminally ill children.

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**PGY-4s**

**John Douglas**



B.S., University of California, Los Angeles  
M.S., Georgetown University  
M.D., Georgetown University School of Medicine  
M.B.A., University of California, San Diego

John grew up in San Diego and has a strong understanding of the business side of medicine. He focused his MBA from UCSD on medically related life science entrepreneurship and has substantial experience working with and writing business plans for early stage biotech companies. He successfully connected these companies with venture capitalists for funding through winning several business plan competitions. John has a strong interest in telepsychiatry and developed the strategy for a group of psychiatrists in San Diego to launch a formal telepsychiatry program. He also has a passion for child and adolescent psychiatry and completed his pediatric internship at Loma Linda University Medical Center. John enjoys the outdoors and frequently travels during the summer to remote lakes in Alaska on fishing trips. He also enjoys weight training, salsa dancing, horseback riding, and basketball.

**Kimberly Fitzgerald**



B.A., Yale University  
M.D., University of Florida College of Medicine

Kimberly was chosen to participate in the research track in Mark Gold's lab at U Fla. Dr. Gold described her as someone who has a unique talent in research and clinical medicine in addictive disease. She gained clinical experience on the research track at the Betty Ford Institute. From that work she coauthored one peer reviewed journal article and two poster presentations. Her evaluations commented on her potential as both a clinician and researcher and made note of her "fantastic ability to work with people as a colleague, build trust, create a team and finish projects".

### **Amy Hostetter**



B.A., Emory University

M.D., University of California San Francisco School of Medicine

Amy was *Phi Beta Kappa* at Emory and after graduation worked in our department investigating psychotropic medications taken during pregnancy and lactation with Drs. Newport and Stowe who helped recruit her back to Emory. She has clinical expertise and research experience that will allow her to fit in with a number of areas including the Mind Body group. She has 10 peer reviewed publications, multiple poster presentations at national meetings and 3 book chapters.

### **Alexandra Sawicki**



B.A., Yale University

M.D., Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University

Alexandra grew up in Atlanta with her twin sister, Nadia, and her parents, professors at Georgia Tech and Georgia State. She attended The Westminster Schools, where she was an outstanding student and was named Georgia Female Athlete of the Year in 2000. Alexandra attended Yale University, where she received a B.A. in English and ran the 5000m on the varsity cross country and track and field teams all four years. At Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where she received her MD, she was actively involved in shaping the excellent medical education curriculum as a member of the Curriculum Committee and developed a didactic conference that introduced psychodynamic concepts to students in the psychiatry clerkship. She also worked with JeffHOPE which provides healthcare for homeless citizens of Philadelphia. Jefferson recognized Alexandra with the Award for Excellence in Professionalism in 2006 and the Baldwin L. Keyes Prize in Psychiatry in 2009. Many of Alexandra's letters of recommendation commented on her skills as a clinician, which were described as "outstanding" and "superb," and also on her teaching ability. She hopes to be involved in medical education while in residency.

### **Nadia Sawicki**



B.A., Yale University

M.D., Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University

Nadia grew up in Atlanta and, in fact, learned to ride her bike (many years ago) on the Emory campus. She attended high school at The Westminster Schools. She headed north for college and ran on both the Varsity Cross Country and Track and Field teams at Yale. She and her cross country teammates won the Ivy League championship in 2000 and 2001. While at Yale, she focused her undergraduate studies on Victorian literature with a specific interest in portrayals of illness. She spent time working with Linton Hopkins before going to medical school and he had the highest praises for her professionalism and skill with patients. Nadia attended medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia and was chosen to be a member of the Hobart Amory Hare Medical Honor Society in her second year at Jefferson. She also participated in JeffHOPE and other community projects. She had wonderful evaluations on her clinical clerkships with her psychiatry attending describing her as “exceptional”. She participated in the couples match with her fiancée in Emergency Medicine.

### **Kelly Scheinberg**



B.A., Brandeis University

M.D., University of Florida College of Medicine

As an undergraduate, Kelly was the Justice Brandeis Scholar and received the JV Cunningham Award for Excellence in Science Writing while at Brandeis. In medical school, Kelly also excelled. In addition, she had a number of unique interests including being the class historian in medical school and co-editor of the year book and being a member of the White Coat Troop, a medical student acting group. She has also spent time volunteering in the medical student clinic for indigent patients and on a medical mission trips to South America.

**Nisha Shah**

B.A., Smith College

M.D., Jefferson Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University

Nisha graduated from Smith as a member of the Smith College Leadership Program. She has some unique life experiences including working with an ambulance team and working with the New York Department of Justice to reduce the recidivism rate for adolescents in juvenile detention. Nisha was very passionate in her interview in her work as President of JeffSOAR (students organized against rape). She also volunteered in JeffHOPE and JeffYES (which provided medical help for homeless adolescents). On her clinical rotations she was described as consistently demonstrating her compassion and interest in her patients and her empathy for underprivileged and disadvantaged patients was evident on her interview day.

**Maria Thottungal**

B.S., University of Toronto

M.A., Case Western Reserve University

M.D., Rush Medical College

Maria was involved in a number of extracurricular activities in medical school including receiving a Schweitzer fellowship for improving access to care for indigent patients, working with a group (Health Educators) in Chicago that discussed and encourage underprivileged children to enter professional careers, and research in understanding and predicting breast cancer in South Asian immigrant women (for which she did a national poster presentation). She was noted in medical school for her outstanding professionalism and her sincerity and commitment to the underprivileged was very apparent on the interview day.

**Emory University School of Medicine  
Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences  
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**PGY-1s**

**Daniel Cucco**



B.S., University of Maryland

M.D., State University of New York Downstate Medical Center College of Medicine

Daniel was born in Brooklyn, New York. His solid performance in medical school is a demonstration of his commitment to academic excellence. His evaluations consistently mentioned his solid clinical skills and medical knowledge as well as his reliability and work ethic. During medical school he served on the curriculum and educational policies committee as a class representative. Daniel also had the opportunity to take two electives that were not required of him, one in emergency medicine and the other in neuroscience, which he passed with honors. He also worked on gathering data for multiple clinical research projects for the department of Emergency Medicine. In his free time he enjoys working on creative projects using graphic design and film. One of his recent projects was designing t-shirts for his medical school's dodge ball team.

**Vera Tate**



B.S., University of Central Arkansas

M.S., University of Central Arkansas

M.D., University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences College of Medicine

My interests can be summed up in one word-disparities. I am primarily interested in improving mental health access through working with primary care physicians in rural or underserved communities. In addition I have an interest in facilitating the ongoing work to decrease the stigma associated with seeking mental health services in disadvantaged/minority populations as well as globally. So whether it is here in the States or abroad, I would like to work to close the gap and to improve access to mental health providers. In my spare time, I enjoy laughing with family and friends, writing, and traveling.

## **PGY-2**

### **Erika Heard**



B.S., Spelman College  
M.D., Duke University School of Medicine

Erica has a full scholarship to Spelman and was elected to the Golden Key, Mortar Board, Beta Kappa Chi, and Alpha Epsilon Delta national honor societies in recognition of her academic achievements. In college she spent a summer studying cellular pathways involved in replication of HIV and a summer at Washington University examining the effectiveness of a community intervention for sickle cell disease. She presented the latter research at the National Sickle Cell Disease Association. Erica matriculated to Duke earning the Wachovia Strickland and Davidson Council scholarships. At Duke Erica studied the mediating effects of social support on perceived stress, depression and hypertension in the African American population. This work will be published in the Journal of the National Medical Association. In the summary in her Dean's letter she was described as an exemplary student who was repeatedly commended for learning, dependability, responsiveness to feedback and interactions with patients and her teams.

## **PGY-3**

### **Aaron Gluth**



B.S., Roanoke College  
M.D., University of Virginia School of Medicine

Aaron's personal statement emphasizes his commitment to the medically underserved- an attribute that Emory residents need to succeed in our program. He demonstrated this commitment on his psychiatry rotation where he was described as "exceptional" and among the "top 10 students that I have taught". In fact the faculty "concluded that he would become a leader in his discipline". These same qualities were evident during his interview day and we are confident that Aaron will add to an already accomplished Med/ Psych program.

## **PGY-4s**

David Mays



B.S., Emory University

M.D., Emory University School of Medicine

Dave Mays is the oldest of 3 children and enjoys playing music, outdoor activities and watching sports. He graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 2002 with Bachelor's degrees in English Literature and Neuroscience. He has been in Atlanta since, and graduated from Emory University School of Medicine in 2009. His clinical and research interests include general internal medicine, community mental health and addiction, and public health issues such as access to care for the underserved and health care system structure.

**Dejuan White**



B.S., Florida State University

M.D., Florida State University College of Medicine

Dejuan was born in Jacksonville, Florida. He remain active on several student boards while at Florida State such as vice-president of the Medical Student Council (MSC), served as the secretary of the Christian Medical Association (CMA) and as the Executive at Large for the Student National Medical Association (SNMA). He has a passion for reaching out to others that are interested in pursuing medicine as a career.

**PGY-5**

**Chevelle Brudey**



B.S., Baylor University

M.P.H., Tulane University School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine

M.D., Tulane University School of Medicine

Chevelle was born in Roseau, Dominica, West Indies. She speaks patios fluently and enjoys rainforest hiking and reading novels.