



Pathway to Neurosurgery

2021 Program in Honor of Dr. Timothy George

An Initiative by the Congress of Neurological Surgeons

Monday, October 18, 2021, · Austin, Texas

Course Description

This annual program is dedicated to alleviating health care disparities by encouraging high school students from underrepresented groups and/or disadvantaged backgrounds to pursue a career in Neurosurgery.

The Program

High school students will have an immersive experience while attending the CNS Annual Meeting for one day. They will be engaged by lectures from leading neurosurgeons and hear from plenary talk guest speakers, such as Dr. Mae C. Jemison, America's first African American female astronaut. Students will also have the opportunity to participate in a hands-on activity lab to give them insight into a day in a neurosurgeon's life.

After the program, attendees will be eligible to apply for a CNS Path to Neurosurgery Award. This year-long program will connect them with a local neurosurgeon for research, shadowing, and mentorship, participation in networking activities. The CNS Path to Neurosurgery Award includes a monetary stipend and has specific application and participation requirements. The award and program will be discussed in detail during the program.

Program Components and Goals

- Promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion within the neurosurgical community by recruiting students from diverse backgrounds.
- Cultivate an interest in a career in Neurosurgery early in educational trajectories
- Expose high school students to role models in the field of Neurosurgery from underrepresented minority groups.
- Establish a possible pathway to college, postgraduate education, and a possible career in Neurosurgery
- Develop long-term academic relationships with students via face-to-face interaction, mail and/or email correspondence.

Planners:

Maryam Rahman

Tiffany R. Hodges

Volunteers/Speakers:

- Kaitlyn Melnick
- Nnenna Mbabuike
- Brian Nahed
- Sonia Eden
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- Dimitri Laurent
- Garni Barkhoudarian
- Chris Newman
- [Many others....](#)
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PATHWAY TO NEUROSURGERY PROGRAM AGENDA

The program at the 2021 CNS Annual Meeting expects to greet 40 high school students

TIMES	TASK
7:30 AM	Pick up students from school/ nonprofit to the convention center
8:00 – 8:25 AM	Students arrive at the Convention center/brief introduction about the agenda at the entry point of the convention center and splitting them into four groups (red, yellow, blue, green)
8:25 AM - 8:40 AM	Escorted from Entry point to first Plenary session by Medtronic, Breakthrough, and Neurosurgery volunteers
8:40 AM - 9:40 AM	Attend first plenary session (Mae Jemison, Bill Friedman)
9:40 AM - 9:55 AM	Escorted from plenary session to meeting space by Medtronic, Breakthrough, and Neurosurgery volunteers (15min for transition)
9:55 AM - 10:05 AM	Snacks (15min to settle in and get food)
10:05 AM -10:25 AM	Introduction by Tiffany Hodges and Maryam Rahman (program and day in the life of neurosurgeon) (20min)
10:25 AM – 12:00 PM	<p>Rotate through 4 stations (15-20min per station, total of 1.5 hr for session)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Exoscope/bell pepper ii. Medtronic Stealth/stereotaxis and 3-D model iii. Surgical Theater- Virtual reality versus placing pedicle screws in spine model iv. Stryker – Drills
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch with neurosurgeon volunteer at each table to engage the students in discussion over lunch
1:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Bathroom break
1:15 PM – 2:15 PM	Operative videos
2:15 PM – 2:45 PM	Snacks, break, free time
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Meet the Dell/Austin neurosurgeons (15min talks)
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Closing remarks and invitation to apply for the CNS awards (15min)
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	Giveaways and escort to buses
3:45 PM	Back to school / Nonprofit