

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**American Academy of Optometry Foundation Announces Recipients of the 2020 Johnson & Johnson Vision Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care Grants**

**ORLANDO, Florida, May 8, 2020** – The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is pleased to announce the **2020 Johnson & Johnson Vision Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care Grant** recipients. This award recognizes outstanding fourth-year student clinicians who have demonstrated skillful knowledge of the contact lens field. Each winner will receive a \$500 educational award and a personalized plaque commemorating their accomplishment.

**2020 Recipients and Institutions Attended:**

- Alice Han, Illinois College of Optometry
- Tyler Kerr, Indiana University, School of Optometry
- Patrick Patterson, Inter American University of Puerto Rico, School of Optometry
- Nicholas Pike, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, School of Optometry
- Abigail Zielke, Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University
- Taylor Erhardt, Midwestern University Arizona, College of Optometry
- Esther Lee, New England College of Optometry
- Kristen Moore, Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry
- Crystal Victor, Nova Southeastern University, College of Optometry
- Jasmine Barker, The Ohio State University, College of Optometry
- Liandra Jung, Pacific University, College of Optometry
- Janice Chau, Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University
- Taylor Kiyota, Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University
- Jared Freedman, Southern College of Optometry
- Mariya Klyuzner, State University of New York, College of Optometry
- Mohammed Haque, University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry
- Connie Chen, University of California Berkeley, School of Optometry
- Megan Wagner, University of Houston, College of Optometry
- Caroline Mendus, University of Missouri - St. Louis, College of Optometry
- Camille Leblanc, University of Montreal, School of Optometry
- Nitya Murthy, University of Pikeville, Kentucky College of Optometry

- Brooke Segerstrom, University of the Incarnate Word, Rosenberg School of Optometry
- Angela Zhang, University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science
- Esther Lautz Abuata, Western University of Health Sciences, College of Optometry

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation is thankful for the professional relationship between the Foundation and Johnson & Johnson Vision. Johnson & Johnson's outstanding support to raise the bar of optometric education to a new level is a remarkable reminder of their ongoing commitment to the industry's high standards.

For more information, visit <https://www.aaopt.org/home/aaof>.

#### **About the American Academy of Optometry**

The American Academy of Optometry (AAO) inspires excellence in optometric practice by fostering research and disseminating knowledge in vision science through its journal, *Optometry and Vision Science*, and the continuing education presented at its annual meeting. Fellows of the Academy are committed to the premise that learning is a lifelong obligation of a professional, as is the commitment to expand the profession's knowledge base through ongoing fellowship and exchange. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.aaopt.org>.

#### **About the American Academy of Optometry Foundation**

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is the 501(c)(3) philanthropic arm of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) and was founded in 1947 for the "upholding, broadening, fostering, promoting and aiding of optometric education; the profession of optometry and its practitioners." The organization provides financial support for optometric research and vision and eye health education to improve patient clinical care. For more information, visit the website: <https://www.aaopt.org/home/aaof>.

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