

Yale SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
Physician Associate Program



WHITE COAT  
CEREMONY  
Class of 2026  
August 23, 2024

The mission of the Yale School of Medicine  
Physician Associate Program is to educate  
outstanding clinicians and to foster leaders  
who will serve their communities  
and advance quality healthcare.

# Welcome to the Yale Physician Associate Program's White Coat Ceremony

*The White Coat Ceremony is a celebration and an initiation.* Today, senior clinicians welcome the novice physician associate student into clinical medicine. By donning the white coat, the student declares their commitment to learn the skills needed to care for patients with compassion and as part of an interdisciplinary team. The act of robing reminds us that medical skill is not a possession to be owned, but a gift to be passed on to those who follow. The Class of 2026 will also receive their stethoscopes today. Stethoscopes are provided through the generous donations of Yale PA Program alumni.

***We thank the Yale Physician Associate Alumni who have graciously donated stethoscopes to the incoming Class of 2026.***

Benjamin Olmedo, PA-C  
Karen M. Stugensky, PA-C  
Fay R. Peterson, PA-C  
Michael P. Krusch, M.D.  
Howard O. Straker, PA-C  
Stephan T. Garrett, PA-C  
Abigail Torres, PA-C  
Ms. Barbara Wells  
Ronald Berge, PA-C  
Mary E. Caponera, PA-C  
Vickie Christine Gerdon, PA-C  
Cary J. Stratford, PA-C  
Evelyn C. Hamann, PA-C  
Thomas Hopkins, PA-C  
Virginia H. Arvold, PA-C  
David Kotler, PA-C

Thomas L. Brookshire, PA-C  
Mia B. Wigley, PA-C  
James Roger Gosselin, PA-C  
Heather R. Orosco, PA-C  
Angela C. Lemire, PA-C  
Jacob P. Hauptman, PA-C  
Lise A. Noyes, PA-C  
Nicholas W. Martirosian, PA-C  
John A. Bond, PA-C  
Susanne Harris-Flodstrom, PA-C  
Deborah K. Cadman, PA-C  
Anna C. Shafer, PA-C  
Richard D. Hall, PA-C  
Ellen G. Rubin, PA-C  
Kim M. Whitehurst, PA-C  
David Leake, PA-C

Richard E. Chen, PA-C  
Nicholas M. Radell, PA-C  
Jenny L. Rand, PA-C  
Laura C. Kiernan-Troidle, PA-C  
Andrew D. Scala, PA-C  
Peggy DeGeus-Elefteriades, PA-C  
Steven L. Foltz, PA-C  
J. Mark Blue, M.D.  
Craig R. Sheerin, PA-C  
Vincenzo P. Julian, PA-C  
Suellen Nelson, PA-C  
Meri E. Mackey, PA-C  
Carol S. James, PA-C  
Jacqueline M. Frey, PA-C

# PROGRAM

## WHITE COAT CEREMONY

August 23, 2024

Mary S. Harkness Auditorium

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION  
OF THE SPEAKER

**David Brissette, MMSc, PA-C**  
*Program Director*

DEAN'S REMARKS

**Nancy J. Brown, MD**  
*Dean, Yale School of Medicine*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

**Indumathi Dhakshinamurthy, PA-C**  
*Class of 2020*

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF YALE ALUMNI AND STETHOSCOPE DONORS

PRESENTATION OF  
WHITE COATS

**Jonathan Weber, MA, PA-C, DFAAPA**  
*Director, Didactic Education*

READING OF OATH

**Class of 2026**

CLOSING REMARKS

**Beth Samels Cuoco, PA-C, MMSc**  
*Associate Director of Clinical Education*

**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Indumathi Dhakshinamurthy, PA-C**

Indumathi Dhakshinamurthy, PA-C is a graduate of the Yale Physician Associate Program, Class of 2020. Prior to her time at Yale, she studied biomedical engineering and bioinformatics at the University of Connecticut, and was inducted into the AEMB Engineering Honor Society. While pursuing her undergraduate studies, she served as an active first responder for both Stratford Emergency Medical Services and Tolland Fire Department. She later transitioned to in-hospital medicine and joined the Bridgeport Emergency Department as a full-time ED technician.

At the start of the Covid-19 pandemic when student clinical clerkships were paused, Indumathi chose to make her medical skills meaningful and continued serving in her previous roles responding to 911 medical emergencies both inside and outside the hospital. As a newly minted PA during this nationwide health crisis, her first assignment was to lead multidisciplinary teams that travelled throughout Connecticut to expand access to Covid-19 vaccinations.

She subsequently pursued her passion for Emergency Medicine and became the first Yale PA to complete the 18-month Postgraduate Training Program in Emergency Medicine at Yale New Haven Hospital. While in this program she received extensive training in both the adult and pediatric emergency departments, multiple intensive care units, airway management with the Anesthesia Department and a comprehensive ultrasound education. Currently, she continues to use her advanced medical and procedural skills to manage patients of varying complexities in the Yale ED, with an emphasis on patients in the cardiac evaluation unit. Indumathi has a deep dedication to teaching. She continues to provide lectures for Yale PA students and serves as a tutor in the Interprofessional Longitudinal Clinical Experiences (ILCE) program.

In her free time, she can often be found on Connecticut's coastline exploring her interests in birdwatching and biking. She remains extremely close with her previous PA classmates, a friendship they all celebrate with an annual ski trip to Vermont. Indumathi is an honorable discharge from the Connecticut First Company Governor's Horse Guard and former alto in the Yale School of Medicine's acappella group, "The Ultrasounds".

# YALE PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE STUDENTS

## CLASS OF 2026

Dareen Al-Qawasmeh  
Jasmine Ayromlou  
Grace Bag  
Megan Bingham  
Tiffany Chang  
Emma Clark  
Brooke Cohen  
Caroline Dear  
Hannah Dorfman  
Hannah Earnhardt  
Chase Ebert  
Jake Erley  
Sarah Flannery  
Catherine Gannon  
Jerica Golez  
Kari Greenbank  
Brandon Hammond  
Caroline Hoefft  
Frank Hsu  
Tony Jiang  
Eliana Kalman  
Claire King  
Savannah Knisely  
Tiffany Leigh  
Caitlin Leong  
Bridget Llull  
Brooklyn McGrew  
Anthony Michalek  
Kaelie Murray-Simmons  
Leigh Paradis  
McKenzie Prunier  
Claire Sawyer  
Téah Segura  
Alexandra Sexton  
Katherine Trowbridge  
Kristina Wang  
Benjamin Weitzel  
Matthew Whitlock  
Sejean Yang  
Emily Zheng

# YALE PHYSICIAN ASSOCIATE PROGRAM

## PROFESSIONAL OATH

I pledge to perform the following duties with honesty and dedication:

- I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare and dignity of all human beings.
- I will uphold the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.
- I will recognize and promote the value of diversity.
- I will treat equally all persons who seek my care.
- I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.
- I will assess my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.
- I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.
- I will work with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.
- I will use my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.
- I will respect my professional relationship with the physician.
- I will share and expand knowledge within the profession.

These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.

