

Medical Alumni Association NEWSLETTER

March 2025 | Issue No. 90



LAST CALL: Alumni Weekend Registration!

Registration Closes on Friday, April 18, at 11:59 p.m. CDT

Time is running out! **Alumni Weekend 2025 (May 2–3)** is fast approaching, and registration is closing soon. Don't miss this chance to reconnect with classmates, celebrate with fellow alumni, and experience a memorable weekend back on campus.

From Reunion and Half Century Club dinners to CME forums, campus tours, mentoring opportunities, Tea at the Historic Drake Hotel, and more, there's something for everyone—and everyone is welcome!

Early bird pricing may be over, but March Madness is in full swing! **Now through March 31**, when you [register for Alumni Weekend](#), you will receive one of our limited-edition Dr. Willy the Wildcat T-shirts. Don't miss out! After you register, we'll follow up to confirm your size and mailing address. We'll mail these in time for you to wear during Alumni Weekend.

Nearly 400 alumni and guests are already signed up! Secure your spot today—advance registration is required. There is no on-site registration for any Alumni Weekend activities.

We've also arranged discounted hotel rooms at various local hotels, with rates guaranteed until April 3, 2025, or until the room blocks sell out. Be sure to book early to secure your stay.

Spring is here, and we can't wait to welcome you back!

Register Now for Alumni
Weekend 2025



For more information about your reunion, contact:



Katie Ferris

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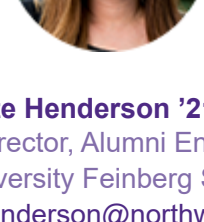
From the Director's Desk:

Dear Alumni,

Alumni Weekend is just over a month away! Please be sure to sign up soon, as many of our tours are filling up. Our hotel block expires on April 3 or when the rooms sell out.

We can't wait to welcome you back to campus this spring, May 2–3, 2025. As always, please reach out with any questions.

Thank you,
Babette



Babette Henderson '21 CERT

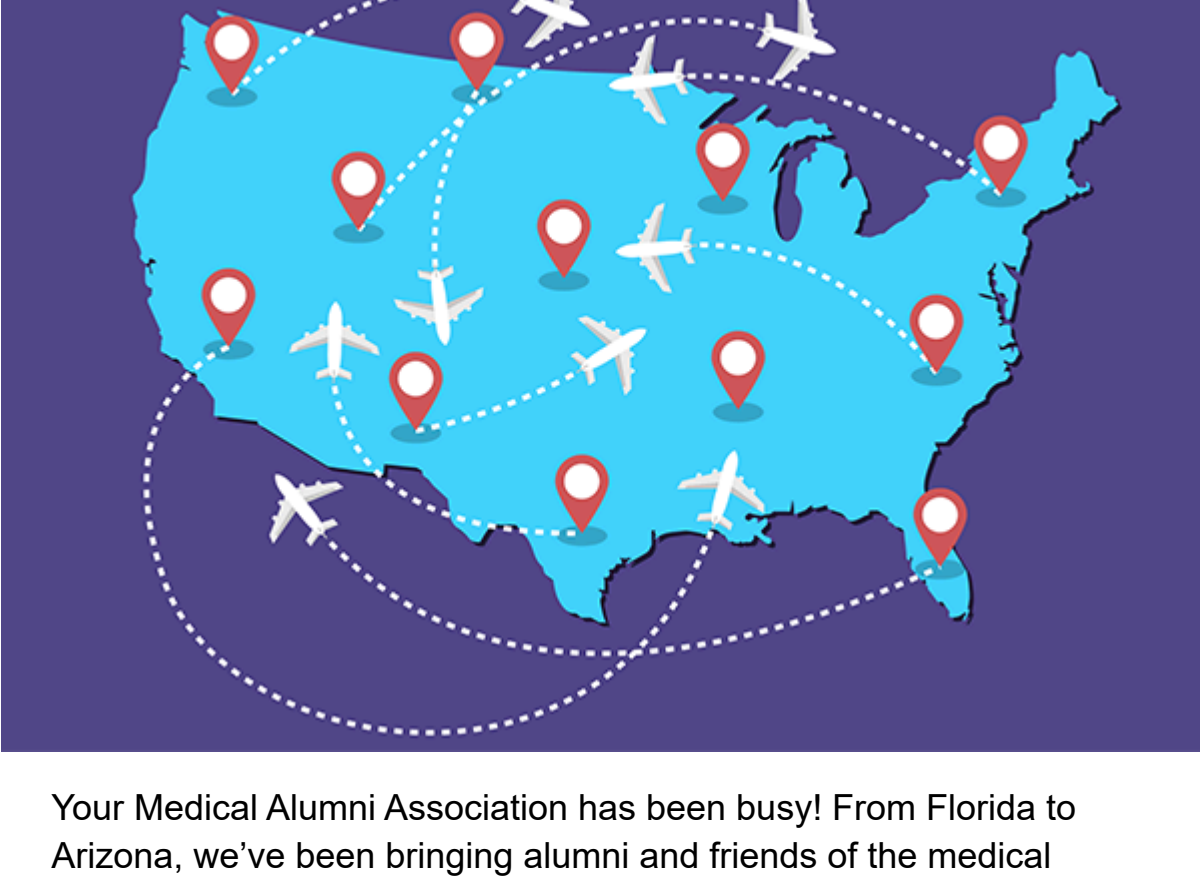
Senior Director, Alumni Engagement

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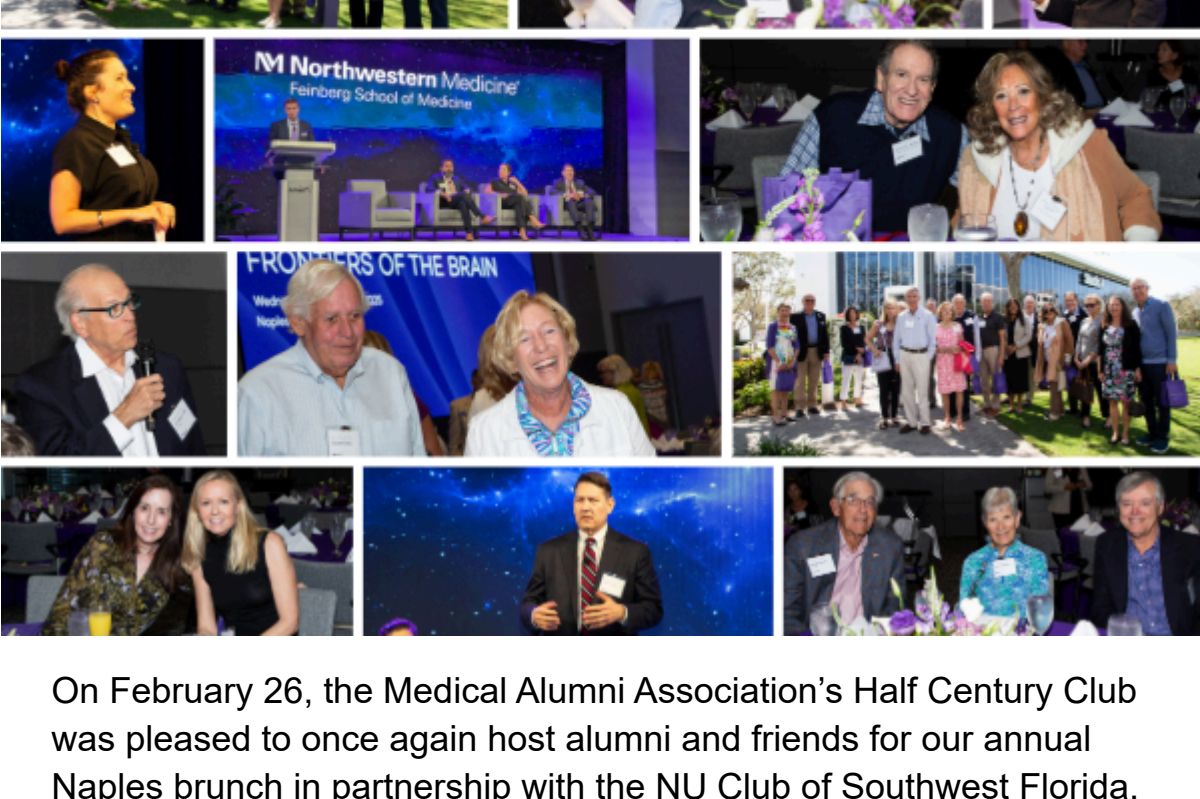
Your MAA: Coast to Coast



Your Medical Alumni Association has been busy! From Florida to Arizona, we've been bringing alumni and friends of the medical school together for memorable events coast to coast.

Read on for highlights from our recent gatherings:

Naples: Brunch and Northwestern Medicine



On February 26, the Medical Alumni Association's Half Century Club was pleased to once again host alumni and friends for our annual Naples brunch in partnership with the NU Club of Southwest Florida. Held at the Arthrex One Conference Center, this year's program, *Frontiers of the Brain*, featured an engaging discussion on neuroscience advancements with **Tamar D. Gefen '12 MS, '15 PhD**; Alfred L. George, Jr., MD; and Sachin Patel, MD, PhD. Guests also toured Studio X, a 24,000-square-foot cutting-edge facility showcasing state-of-the-art media technology.

If you'd like to dive deeper into the groundbreaking research discussed at the event, we invite you to explore the following resources from our esteemed faculty speakers:

- **Tamar D. Gefen, PhD:** Learn more about Dr. Gefen's work at the [Mesulam Center for Cognitive Neurology and Alzheimer's Disease](#), and listen to her episode on the [Research Renaissance podcast](#), where she discusses her research on dementia syndromes, age-related cognitive disorders, and SuperAgers.
- **Alfred L. George Jr., MD:** Discover Dr. George's innovative work by visiting the [Department of Pharmacology website](#), and stream his discussion on genetic causes of epilepsy and targeted treatments on the [Feinberg Breakthroughs podcast](#).
- **Sachin Patel, MD, PhD:** Explore Dr. Patel's research at the [Stephen M. Stahl Center for Psychiatric Neuroscience](#) and tune in to his episode on the [Feinberg Breakthroughs podcast](#), where he explores advancements in mental health research, new treatment possibilities, and the importance of collaboration in psychiatric neuroscience.

The next evening, on February 27, Northwestern Medicine (NM) hosted a reception and conversation with NM leaders about exciting updates from around the health system.

Thank you to everyone who joined us at these events! To stay informed of events in the Naples area and continue being part of our growing community in southwest Florida, reach out to us at medalum@northwestern.edu.

Naples Brunch Photo Album

Phoenix: Dinner and Cubs Spring Training Game



On March 7–8, your MAA hosted our annual events in Arizona, bringing together alumni from across the country for a weekend of fun. We kicked off the festivities with a dinner in Phoenix, where alumni and friends gathered to reconnect and enjoy great conversation. The following day, we headed to Sloan Park in Mesa for a spring training game, where the Chicago Cubs faced off against the Seattle Mariners. The Cubs secured a 9-8 victory, making for a memorable game.


We appreciate everyone who joined us at dinner and the ballpark!

Phoenix Activities Photo Album

MAA Digital Series:
Hosted by Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD

“Four Inspiring Women Who Made a Difference”

Four Inspiring Women Who Made a Difference



Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD

We're thrilled to bring you the newest installment of our MAA Digital Series from our fantastic host and historian, alum **Joseph Gugenheim, '72 MD**.

In celebration of Women's History Month, join Dr. Gugenheim as he highlights the lasting influence of Elizabeth Cobb Ward, Clara Abbott, Margaret Morton, and Ann Lurie, whose philanthropic contributions and commitment to education, healthcare, and scientific innovation have left an indelible mark on Northwestern and the Chicago medical community. Learn how their vision and generosity help create key institutions, fuel groundbreaking research, and transform medical education and training for future generations.

Dr. Gugenheim presents “**Four Inspiring Women Who Made a Difference.**”

Thank you, Dr. Gugenheim!

Stream “Four Inspiring Women Who Made a Difference”

COMING SOON:

Calling all lovers of Abbott Hall: The next episode of our digital series is not to be missed! Join Dr. Gugenheim in May for “Abbott Hall: The War Years,” as he delves into the fascinating history of Abbott Hall during its early years. Completed in 1940, the building originally served as a midshipmen's school before becoming the residence many alumni fondly remember from their medical school years. This presentation will take you through Abbott Hall's role in the war effort, covering key events up until the end of World War II in 1945. Don't miss this insightful look at a pivotal chapter in both the building's history and the lives of those who lived there. Be sure to save the date for May and tune in to celebrate the fifth anniversary of this beloved series!

Catch up on all previous episodes of our MAA Digital Series on our [MAA website](#) and [YouTube channel](#).

MAA Newsletter Spring Schedule Change



Please note that there will be no *Medical Alumni Association Newsletter* in April this year. Instead, look forward to a special edition in May, which will include a recap of Alumni Weekend 2025.

Stay tuned for exciting updates and alumni news coming your way!

March Alumni Spotlights



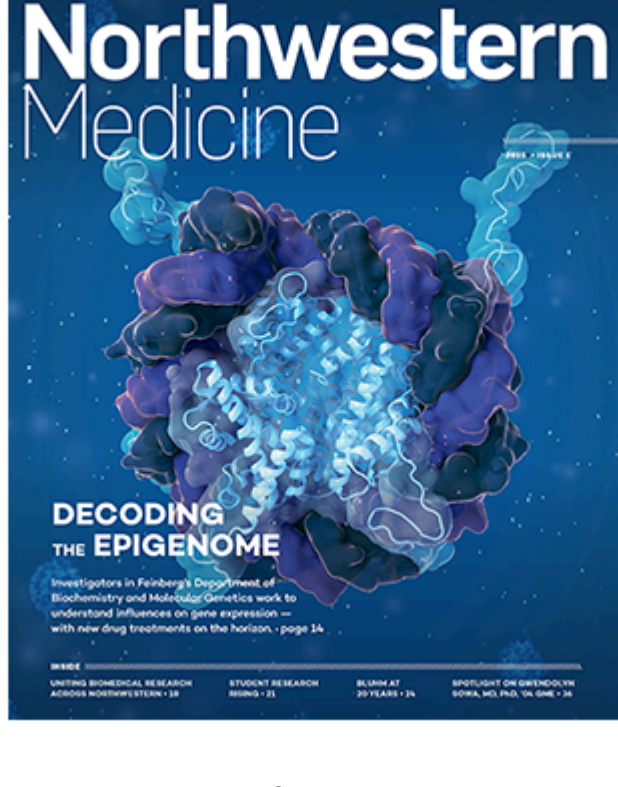
March 6: Dentist's Day

This Dentist's Day, we honor the legacy of our Northwestern University Dental School (NUDS) alumni. For over 107 years, NUDS has produced some of the nation's most accomplished dentists, and we are proud to call them part of the Northwestern family. Your ongoing contributions continue to elevate the field of dentistry, and we are grateful for all you do!

March 30: Doctor's Day

On Doctor's Day, we celebrate the exceptional MD and GME alumni who are making a difference in healthcare. Your work continues to shape the future of medicine and inspire the next generation of leaders. As dedicated professionals in your field, your commitment to advancing patient care, research, and education is truly transformative. Thank you for all that you do!

Northwestern Medicine Magazine



Explore the most recent issue of [Northwestern Medicine Magazine](#):

- Join MAA Board President **Nupur Ghoshal, '01 PhD, '03 MD**, as she reflects on her recent experiences in “[Off Cycle, Off Season, but Not Off Track](#),” sharing insights on the importance of mentorship and how the Medical Alumni Association Board continues to support students, faculty, and alumni alike through meaningful connections and initiatives.
- Get “[Back to Basics](#)” with **Gwendolyn Sowa, MD, PhD, '04 GMER**, a leader in research focused on personalized treatments for low back pain. As co-principal investigator of the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal Diseases’ Back Pain Consortium Mechanistic Research Center, she merges biochemistry, rehabilitation, and biomechanics to improve patient care and outcomes. Her work is helping redefine the approach to chronic pain treatment.
- In the Alumni Profile, “[Focusing on Patient Care and Public Policy](#),” discover how **David Aizuss, '80 MD**, advocates for healthcare improvement through his work with the American Medical Association, addressing key issues in the industry. From improving Medicare access to promoting health equity for all, Dr. Aizuss strives to strengthen the physician-patient relationship and create lasting solutions.
- Visit our “[In Memoriam](#)” section as we honor the lives and legacies of our alumni and dear friends.
- Check out the alumni “[Progress Notes](#)” to hear personal and professional updates from your fellow alumni.
- And more!

Check Out the Latest Edition of NM Magazine

NMO Winter Chamber Concert



On March 7, the Northwestern Medical Orchestra’s annual Winter Chamber Concert featured short performances from thirteen wonderful groups, ranging from an opera duet of “Sous le dôme épais” to the snazzy tunes played by the “Dukes of Streeterville.” A live audience of over 200 guests were treated to works by Beethoven, Dvořák, Schumann, and Vivaldi, jazz and pop favorites, and more. NMO’s musicians come from a variety of careers and training paths, and they worked for months to carve time out of their busy schedules to perfect their pieces.

Enjoy the [concert recording](#), and feel free to share with your friends and fellow music lovers!

Stream the NMO Concert Recording

The Excitement of Match Day 2025



Congratulations to all of our M4s who celebrated Match Day on March 21!

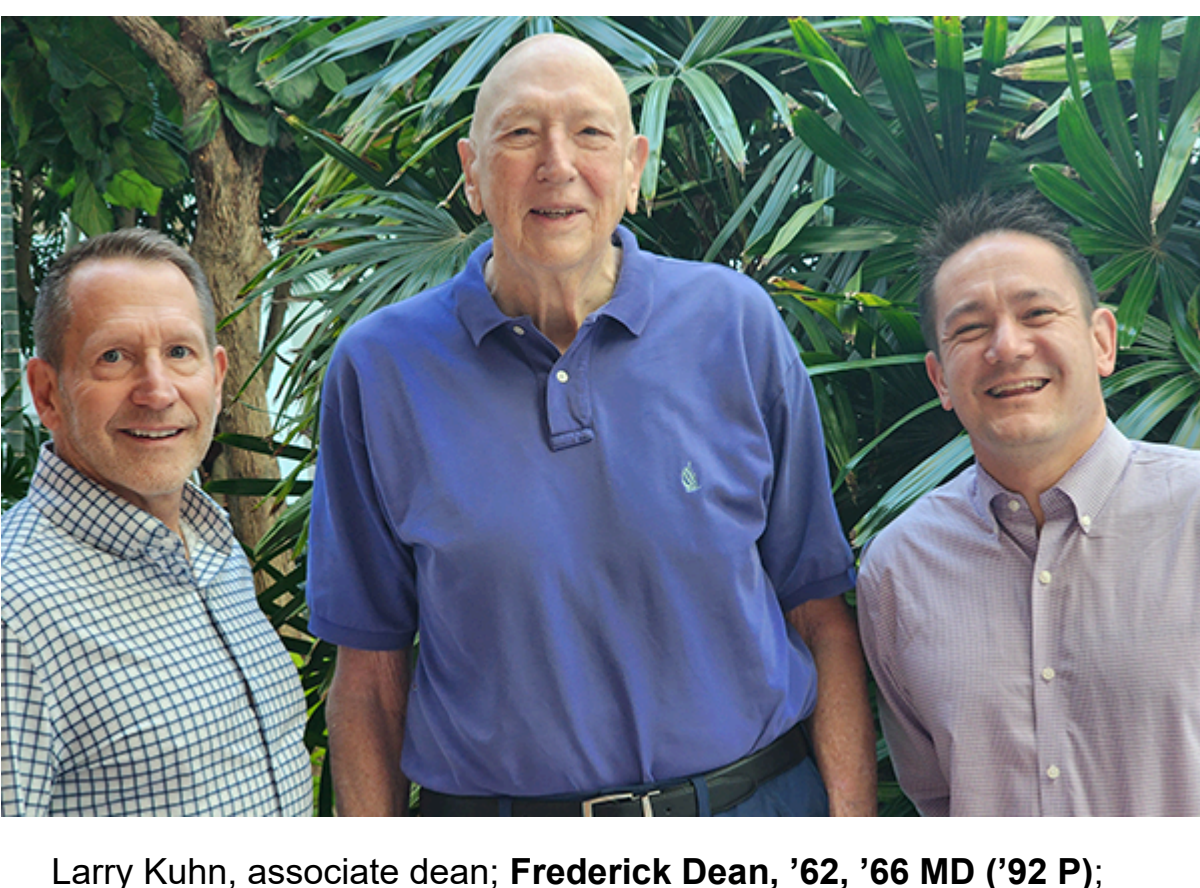
During this exciting event, our M4s learned where they’ll begin their medical residencies. With 148 students matching into ACGME-certified specialties and 68% heading to programs affiliated with a top 25 US medical schools, the future looks bright for these future alumni!

Learn more about Match Day 2025 in the [Feinberg News Center](#) and explore the [full list of match results](#) on our website.

Relive the Magic of Match Day 2025

Learn Where All of the M4s Matched

Reunion in Naples: Connecting with Alumni and Friends



Larry Kuhn, associate dean; **Frederick Dean, '62, '66 MD ('92 P)**; and Vic Maurer, director (pictured left to right), recently reconnected in Naples, Florida. It was a wonderful opportunity to catch up against the beautiful backdrop of the Sunshine State! We look forward to more chances to meet up with members our alumni community across the country.

Congrats Are in Order!



Leonard J. Bernstein '87, '91 MD, '92 GMER, '95 GMER ('27 P), has been appointed medical director of Laser & Skin Surgery of New York. Dr. Bernstein also serves as assistant clinical professor of Dermatology at New York Hospital/Cornell Medical Center and holds an appointment in the Department of Plastic Surgery/Dermatology at Mount Sinai Hospital/New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. A distinguished fellow of several medical societies, he has authored numerous research journal articles and textbook chapters on laser and surgical innovations and has been a speaker at national dermatologic meetings and seminars for over 30 years. Congratulations, Dr. Bernstein!



Sandra A. Carson '75, '77 MD, '81 GMER, has been named the 2025 Distinguished Alumnae of Northwestern University Award recipient. To be awarded this fall, this prestigious annual honor recognizes an outstanding alum who has brought distinction to Northwestern University through exceptional achievements and national recognition in their field. Dr. Carson, the 50th recipient, is celebrated for her contributions to medicine and extraordinary leadership. Congratulations, Dr. Carson!



Colleen D. Fant, '08 MD, MPH, '19 GMEF, has been named co-director of the Center for Global Pediatric Health at the Robert J. Havey, MD Institute for Global Health. Dr. Fant is assistant professor of Pediatrics in the Division of Emergency Medicine at Feinberg and an attending physician at the Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago. Dr. Fant's leadership at the Center will include collaborative efforts with Lurie Children's. She previously played a key role in growing partnerships with Bugando Medical Center in Mwanza, Tanzania, and Maseno University in Kisumu, Kenya. Read more in the [Feinberg News Center](#). Congratulations, Dr. Fant!



Megan E. Melody, MD, '24 GMEF, has recently joined Tampa General Hospital's Cancer Institute as a hematologist-oncologist on the Cellular Therapy team. Dr. Melody specializes in the diagnosis and treatment of lymphomas, including Hodgkin's and large B-cell lymphoma, with a focus on CAR T-cell therapy and bispecific antibodies. Her research explores innovative clinical trials for cellular therapies. Congratulations, Dr. Melody!



Kelly L. Morrison, MD, '01 GMER, was recently appointed to the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and the House Committee on Small Business. U.S. Representative Morrison (MN-03) also serves on the Reproductive Freedom Caucus and as co-chair of the Democratic Women's Caucus Reproductive Health Task Force. Sworn into Congress on January 3, she joined six other Democratic physicians to launch the [Congressional Doctors Caucus](#). Congratulations, Dr. Morrison!



Stephen M. Stahl, '75 MD, PhD, DMedSci (Hon.), DSci (Hon.), has established the [Stephen M. Stahl Center for Psychiatric Neuroscience at Northwestern University](#). His generous gift aims to advance research on psychiatric disorders such as schizophrenia, PTSD, and bipolar disorder. Learn more about Dr. Stahl and the center's impact on the [Feinberg Giving stories website](#). Congratulations, Dr. Stahl!

Do you have news to share with us or know of an alum we should recognize? Post it on our [Facebook](#) page, tag us on [Instagram](#), or email us at medalum@northwestern.edu.

Upcoming Events



Medical Alumni Association: Plan It Purple Calendar

Did you know that the MAA has its very own [Plan It Purple calendar](#)?

With the Plan It Purple calendar, you'll never miss a Medical Alumni Association event!

You can register for events, download a save-the-date reminder to your calendar, and learn more about other University-wide events and offerings.

Bookmark the MAA calendar or visit the [MAA home page](#) to keep tabs on all of our upcoming events.

Visit the MAA Plan It Purple Calendar

Is Aging Inevitable or Preventable? | Radnor, Pennsylvania

Thursday, April 3, 2025 | 5:30 p.m. EDT

The NU Club of Philadelphia, in collaboration with Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, invites you to an upcoming presentation: "Is Aging Inevitable or Preventable?"

Why do some people age faster than others? Tests can now pinpoint how long an individual will live. Do you want to know? Once you know, what's next? Come learn how industry focus has shifted from prolonging lifespan to extending "healthspan" and what that might mean for your future healthcare.

Featuring: [Douglas E. Vaughan, MD](#)

5:30–6 p.m. Registration
6 p.m. Dinner and Presentation by Dr. Vaughan

Location: The Inn at Villanova University | 601 County Line Road | Radnor, Pennsylvania
Cost: \$30 (members), \$35 (non-members)
Includes: Beer, wine, soft drinks, dinner

Register Now for NU Club
of Philadelphia Event

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Alumni Weekend 2025 | Chicago, Illinois

Friday, May 2–Saturday, May 3, 2025

Celebrate in Chicago this spring! Alumni Weekend is the cornerstone event for the Medical Alumni Association. Spend the weekend reconnecting with friends and classmates as you explore campus, participate in lectures and tours, and celebrate at class dinners. We are thrilled to welcome our 2025 reunion classes, as well as all members of our Half Century Club. Not your reunion year? Not a problem! This is truly an ALL alumni event. There's so much to see and do. Visit the [2025 Travel and Accommodations](#) portion of our Alumni Weekend website to book your hotel before April 3 and take advantage of our discounted room rates.

Explore our full schedule of events on the [Alumni Weekend website](#).

Please note: Advance registration is required. There is no on-site registration for Alumni Weekend. Registration closes Friday, April 18. You must register prior to Friday, April 18, to be included in any events.

Make plans to spend the weekend with us. See you in Chicago!

Register for Alumni
Weekend 2025

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SAVE THE DATE: Northwestern Medical Orchestra Spring Concert

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 7:30 p.m. CDT

Join the Northwestern Medical Orchestra for an evening of captivating music by Gershwin, Borodin, and Anna Clyne at the Pritzker School of Law, Thorne Auditorium.

Location: 375 East Chicago Avenue | Chicago, Illinois

The Northwestern Medical Orchestra brings together members of the medical community, patients, and the local neighborhood through the therapeutic power of music.

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SAVE THE DATE: NU Day @ Wrigley | Chicago, Illinois

Wednesday, May 14, 2025 | 6:40 p.m. CDT

Wildcats, let's hit the stands! Join fellow Northwestern alumni, friends of the medical school, students, and fans for an unforgettable evening at NU Day @ Wrigley 2025 as we cheer on the Chicago Cubs against the Miami Marlins. You won't want to miss this unforgettable night at the ballpark!

Wrigley Field | 1060 West Addison Street | Chicago, Illinois

Stay tuned for ticket details and special alumni perks, which will be announced in early April.

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How Alzheimer's Drugs Work

with David Gate, PhD

[Listen to Breakthroughs >>](#)



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Check out the latest episode: "[How Alzheimer's Drugs Work with David Gate, PhD](#)."

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Thank you for engaging with us and staying connected to your alma mater!

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