

# Medical Alumni Association NEWSLETTER

July 2026 | Issue No. 104



## New Connections: Our Growing Half Century Club

The [Half Century Club \(HCC\)](#) continues to bring alumni together through meaningful opportunities to connect, learn, and celebrate our shared Northwestern community.

HCC alumni gathered for a luncheon on July 16 in Skokie, Illinois (pictured above), where they reconnected, shared stories, and enjoyed an afternoon with friends old and new.

Looking ahead, HCC members and guests are invited to join us for the next Have Coffee and Conversations virtual gathering on Tuesday, September 15, featuring fellow alum **Jeffrey Barsuk, '99 MD, '02 GMER, '10 MS**, executive medical director of the Northwestern Simulation Laboratory. Watch for registration information coming soon.

We've also recently expanded our Half Century Club website, making it easier than ever to stay connected, explore resources, and revisit special initiatives, including our Kudoboard archives! We invite you to [check it out](#).

The Half Century Club recognizes Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago and celebrates your lifelong dedication to the betterment of human health.

Membership is automatic! As an HCC member, you'll receive invitations to exclusive gatherings, special Alumni Weekend programming, and early or discounted registration opportunities. We encourage you to stay connected by attending local and virtual events, engaging with fellow alumni, and sharing your stories.

**Questions or interested in learning more? [Contact us](#). We'd love to hear from you!**



**Meghan Monaghan '19 CERT**

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**Gary Rusk '65, '69 MD**

Chair, Half Century Club Committee  
Medical Alumni Association Board

## Call for Submissions: Pearls of Wisdom



**Marlene S. Goodfriend, '69 MD** (pictured above)

Are you a member of our [Half Century Club](#), our esteemed alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago? We'd love to hear from you!

Help inspire the next generation of healthcare professionals by sharing your reflections, words of wisdom, favorite memories, career lessons, or advice for fellow alumni and students. You're also welcome to upload your picture and photos from your time in school, your career, reunions, or other meaningful moments on our [Pearls of Wisdom Kudoboard](#).

Your submission may be featured in an upcoming "Pearls of Wisdom" spotlight in this newsletter.

Ideas to get you started:

- What advice would you give today's students or those just starting their careers?
- What lesson has stayed with you throughout your career?
- What Northwestern memory still makes you smile?
- Is there a patient, mentor, or experience that changed your life?
- What are you most proud of?

We can't wait to celebrate your stories and experiences. Thank you for sharing your wisdom with our alumni community!

Share Your Pearls of Wisdom

**Questions or interested in learning more? [Contact us](#). We'd love to hear from you!**



## From the Director's Desk:

Dear Alumni,

We are looking forward to hosting events in Naples, Florida, and Scottsdale, Arizona, this fall and winter/spring of 2027. If you have a seasonal address in either area, please reach out to me to ensure that we have your updated address information on file. We would love to include you in the events that we are hosting in those locations.

Please reach out if you have any questions.

Thank you,  
Babette



## Babette Henderson '21 CERT

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## Landsberg Society Welcome Reception



Members of the Landsberg Society gathered on July 23 at Gino's East in downtown Chicago for a summer rooftop reception welcoming Northwestern's newest class of medical residents. Alumni, faculty, and friends enjoyed an evening of conversation, connection, and celebration while welcoming the next generation of Feinberg physicians to the Northwestern community.

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this event!

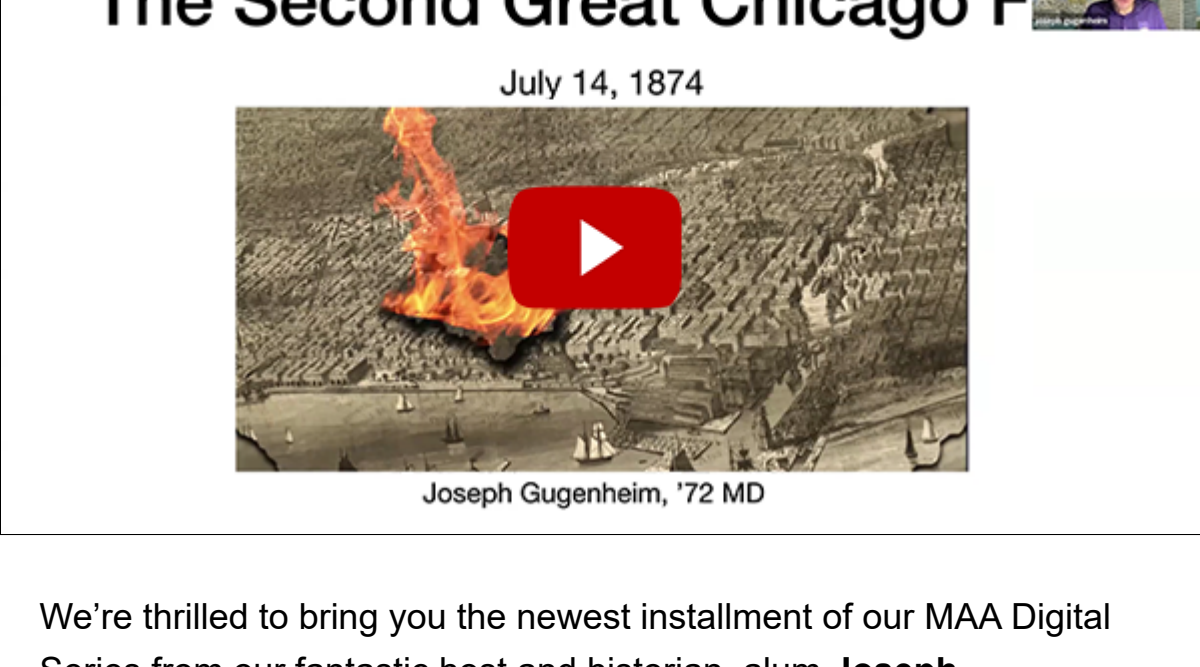
Named in honor of Lewis Landsberg, MD, former Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine dean, the [Landsberg Society](#) was founded by former chief residents who trained under him during his tenure as chair of the Department of Medicine from 1990 to 1999. His leadership and unique approach to medicine greatly enriched resident training at Northwestern.

The Landsberg Society connects former Feinberg housestaff through professional exchange, continuing education, and lifelong engagement.

For questions or more information about the Landsberg Society, please contact MaryPat Mauro at [marypat.mauro@northwestern.edu](mailto:marypat.mauro@northwestern.edu).

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

### "The Second Great Chicago Fire"



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**.

You've likely heard the stories of the Great Chicago Fire of 1871 and the debunked legend of Mrs. O'Leary's cow. However, three short years later, Chicago experienced another devastating fire. In this month's episode, Dr. Gugenheim explores the Chicago fire of 1874 and its lasting impact on the city.

Though not as destructive as the Great Chicago Fire, the 1874 fire played an important role in shaping Chicago's future and the city's changing demographics.

Join Dr. Gugenheim to learn more about this lesser-known moment in Chicago history.

Dr. Gugenheim presents **"The Second Great Chicago Fire."**

Thank you, Dr. Gugenheim!

Stream "The Second Great Chicago Fire"

### COMING SOON:

*"Eight Deadly Weeks in Chicago: The 1918 Spanish Influenza Pandemic"*

Join us in August as Dr. Gugenheim explores the turbulence of the 1918 influenza pandemic and its impact on both Chicago and Northwestern. Through public health measures, wartime challenges, community responses, and a football season disrupted by disease, this presentation reveals how Chicago endured one of the deadliest public health crises in modern history and the lessons that continue to resonate today.

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

## Northwestern Welcomes President Mung Chiang



*"Naturally, people support what they help create."*—President Mung Chiang

On July 1, Mung Chiang, PhD, officially began his tenure as the 18th president of Northwestern University. President Chiang joins Northwestern from Purdue University, where he served as president beginning in 2023.

In his first message to the Northwestern community, President Chiang shared his excitement for the university's future and his commitment to Northwestern's pursuit of excellence.

Alumni are invited to read President Chiang's letter to the Northwestern community on the [Office of the President website](#).

Please join us in welcoming President Chiang to Northwestern!

Letter from President Mung Chiang

## What I Did on My Summer Vacation



Summer is underway, and there’s still time to share your adventures, memories, and favorite moments on our “[What I Did on My Summer Vacation](#)” Kudoboard.

Whether you’ve been traveling across the globe, relaxing at the lake, spending time with family and friends, exploring your hometown, or cheering on your favorite team, we’d love to see how you’re spending your summer.

Share a photo, video, or note about what’s made your summer memorable. Feel free to add captions and stories from your adventures. Bonus points for featuring your Northwestern gear. We love seeing purple around the world!

Join the conversation and share a glimpse of your summer with fellow alumni. We can’t wait to see your photos, stories, and purple pride!

What I Did on My Summer Vacation Kudoboard

## NUPOC News: Advancing Prosthetics and Orthotics

# NUPOC NEWS

The official newsletter of the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center



Check out the July 2026 edition of *NUPOC News*, the quarterly newsletter from the Northwestern University Prosthetics-Orthotics Center. This publication highlights student achievements, staff updates, and more.

[Download the full newsletter](#) and [visit the NUPOC website](#) to learn more about their mission of helping people affirm their lives with hope, independence, and enthusiasm by advancing technology and knowledge about prostheses and orthoses.

NUPOC News: The Official Newsletter of NUPOC

## Congrats Are in Order!



**James “Jimmy” A. Hill ’71, ’74 MD, ’79 GMER (’12, ’16 P)**, longtime Medical Alumni Association (MAA) Board member and former MAA Board president, has been awarded the Northwestern Alumni Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the Northwestern Alumni Association. A distinguished orthopaedic surgeon, educator, and dedicated Northwestern volunteer, Dr. Hill has served on the Feinberg faculty for more than four decades and held numerous leadership roles, including chief of staff at Northwestern Memorial Hospital and as a member of the Northwestern Memorial Hospital Foundation Board of Directors. He also served as medical director of the Orthopaedic Education and Research Foundation and board examiner for the American Board of Orthopaedic Surgery. Dr. Hill provided care as a physician for the 1988 US Olympic Team and has been recognized for his commitment to service, including receiving the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Boys & Girls Club of Chicago Icon Award. Since 1932, the Alumni Medal has celebrated alumni who have made a transformative impact in their fields, performed exemplary volunteer service to society, or demonstrated an outstanding record of support for the University. This year’s alumni medalists join a distinguished group of more than 100 past recipients who truly exemplify the ideals of the University through their life, work, and service. Visit the [Northwestern Alumni Medal website](#) to learn more about Dr. Hill and the other 2026 Northwestern Alumni Medal recipients. Congratulations, Dr. Hill!

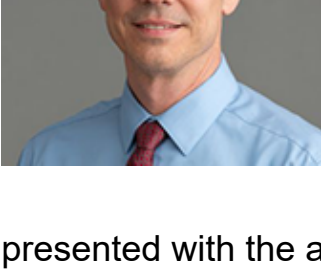
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**Leo A. Gordon, ’73 MD**, presented “[America 250! – Medical Care During the Revolutionary War](#)” to a packed auditorium on July 1 at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles. Hosted by the Cedars-Sinai Center for Arts & Humanities in Medicine, the presentation explored life in colonial America, the state of medicine in the colonies, the health problems of military camp life, the treatment of battle injuries, and issues in the administration of the medical department. A summary of the advances in medicine resulting from the war concluded the presentation. He was introduced by George Washington, general and commander in chief of the Continental Army (*pictured below*). Congratulations, Dr. Gordon!

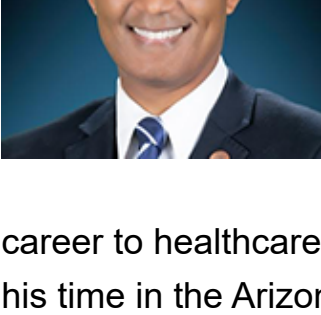


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**Mark Micek, ’93 MD, MPH**, clinical professor of General Internal Medicine at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, has been named the recipient of the 2026 American College of Physicians–Wisconsin Chapter Helen Dickie Distinguished Internist of the Year Award. Dr. Micek will be presented with the award at an awards dinner on September 18 in the Wisconsin Dells. Congratulations, Dr. Micek!

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**Amish M. Shah ’97, ’01 MD**, won the Democratic primary for Arizona’s 1st Congressional District, advancing his campaign for a seat in the US House of Representatives. An emergency medicine physician and former member of the Arizona House of Representatives, Dr. Shah has dedicated his career to healthcare, public service, and community advocacy. During his time in the Arizona Legislature, he focused on issues including education, support for small businesses, and improving public health and safety. Dr. Shah continues to bring his medical background and commitment to service to his work in public life. Congratulations, Dr. Shah!

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**Do you have news to share with us or know of an alum we should recognize? Tag us on [Facebook](#) or [Instagram](#), or email us at**

Upcoming Events



Medical Alumni Association: Plan It Purple Calendar

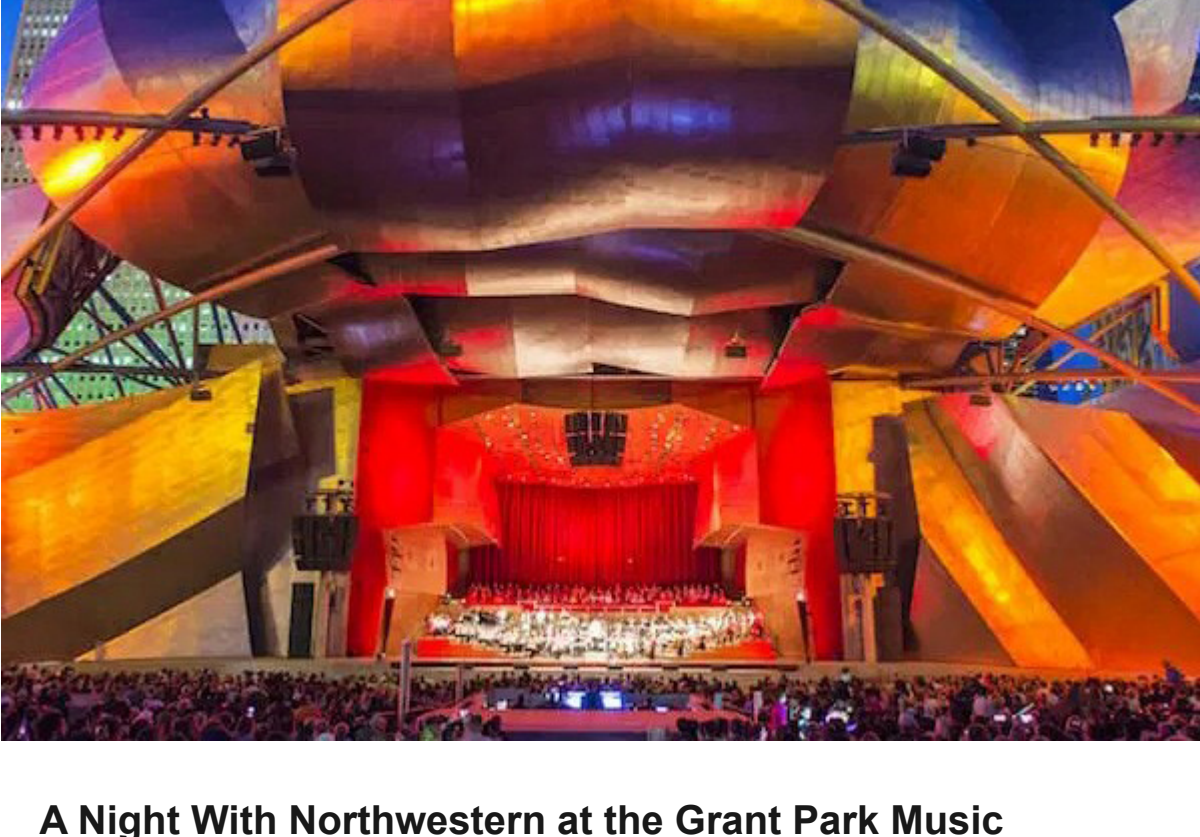
Did you know that the MAA has its very own [Plan It Purple calendar](#)?

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



A Night With Northwestern at the Grant Park Music Festival | Chicago, Illinois

*Saturday, August 8, 2026 | 5 p.m. CDT Reception | 7:30 p.m. CDT Performance*

The Northwestern Alumni Association and the Bienen School of Music invite you to an evening reception followed by a performance of John Corigliano's *Symphony No. 1* and Mozart's *Requiem* at the Grant Park Music Festival.

The private pre-show event will feature a conversation between Dean Jonathan Bailey Holland, the Kay Davis Professor of Music, and **Maestro Giancarlo Guerrero '92 MMus ('22 P)**, principal conductor and artistic director of the Grant Park Music Festival.

**Reception:** Cindy's Rooftop | 12 South Michigan Avenue | Chicago, Illinois

**Performance:** Jay Pritzker Pavilion | 201 East Randolph Street | Chicago, Illinois

**Registration:** \$50 | Includes heavy appetizers, beverages, and a reserved pavilion seat for the performance

*Questions? Email [alumnieducation@northwestern.edu](mailto:alumnieducation@northwestern.edu).*

Register for A Night With Northwestern at the Grant Park Music Festival



CTIP 2026 Annual Pediatric Device Innovation Symposium | Chicago, Illinois

*Friday, August 14, 2026 | 11 a.m.–6 p.m. CDT*

The Consortium for Technology & Innovation in Pediatrics (CTIP) presents its 2026 Annual Pediatric Device Innovation Symposium, bringing together leaders across the MedTech landscape to explore the latest advancements and opportunities in pediatric medical devices. While the symposium focuses on pediatric innovation, all medical device enthusiasts are welcome to attend.

**Location:** Simpson Querrey Biomedical Research Center Potocsnak Atrium | 303 East Superior Street | Chicago, Illinois

The symposium is part of Lurie MedTech Week, a strategic partnership among Ann & Robert H. Lurie Children's Hospital of Chicago, Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine, Lurie Children's Innovate2Impact Program, and CTIP. Several Northwestern alumni will be featured among this year's speakers, and CTIP continues to support Northwestern-led medical device ventures.

*For more information, visit the [CTIP Symposium website](#).*

*Questions? Email [info@ctipmedtech.org](mailto:info@ctipmedtech.org).*

Register for the CTIP Symposium



Medical Alumni Association Get-Together | Minneapolis, Minnesota

*Wednesday, August 26, 2026 | 5:30–7:30 p.m. CDT*

Join your Medical Alumni Association for a gathering with alumni and friends in the Twin Cities!

**Location:** The Market at Malcolm Yards (*Boxcar Lounge: The Blueprint Room*) | 501 30th Avenue SE | Minneapolis, Minnesota

**Advance registration is required.**

*Questions? Contact the Medical Alumni Association at [medalumevents@northwestern.edu](mailto:medalumevents@northwestern.edu).*

Register for the MAA Get-Together in Minneapolis



## What is the Genetic Overlap Between Autism and Schizophrenia?

with Peter Penzes, PhD

[Listen to the Episode >>](#)



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