



Dear SUMMA 2022 Conference Participants,

On behalf of the Stanford University Minority Medical Alliance (SUMMA) Conference Planning Committee, we welcome you to the 31st Annual SUMMA Pre-Medical Conference. We truly hope you find the conference both enjoyable and educational.

SUMMA is a coalition of African American, Latino, American Indian, Asian American, Muslim American, LGBTQ+, students with Disabilities and Chronic Illnesses, and other medical and PA students at Stanford committed to recruiting and retaining diverse medical professionals. The goal of our premedical student conference is to increase your understanding of the medical school admissions process, thereby making strides towards increasing the diversity of students accepted to medical school nationwide.

This year, we chose the theme "Belonging: The Future of Medicine Needs You". The current global health crisis highlighted the health disparities that affect members of underserved and underrepresented communities. We know now more than ever how essential it is to have representation in the medical field. Increasing diversity in medicine is just one of the first steps toward helping create change and improving health care for our communities. We believe you have the power to be that change. Your individual experiences, challenges, and triumphs can contribute to expanding the field of medicine and making it more equitable and accessible for all patients. If you have ever dreamed of entering the health professions, you belong here and we want to inspire and encourage you to pursue those dreams.

Many of you attending this conference, as well as many of the people involved in facilitating it, are the first - the first in our families, the first in our schools, the first in our communities - to pursue a career in medicine. Being the first can be a difficult road to walk. We hope that during this conference, you gain the skills and tools to navigate this road and ensure that while you may be the first, you are not the last

We are especially grateful to the Office of Diversity in Medical Education (ODME), the Stanford University School of Medicine Office of Medical School Admissions, and the Stanford Medical Student Association (SMSA) for their contribution of finances and resources, as well as other support, which enables premedical students to participate in the conference at a nominal fee.

Many people have played an instrumental role in the organization of this event, and without their dedication this would not have been possible. We wish to acknowledge and thank the following people for their time and energy:

- *All of the medical students and undergraduates who organized the conference.*
- *The physicians, administrators, and students who volunteered their time to facilitate and participate in the workshops.*
- *The leadership and staff of the Stanford Center for Continuing Medical Education.*
- *The medical school representatives and their respective medical schools for believing in the overall purpose of the conference and for joining us virtually to share the opportunities available at their schools with us.*

Lastly, we would like to thank **you**, the students, for coming to the conference and making all of our work worthwhile. We wish to encourage you to approach the institutions who have come today to meet you and present information on their programs, to mingle with premedical students from institutions different than your own, and to meet a medical student and ask all of the questions you have (that's why we are here today!). We hope that the knowledge you gain from attending this event can be put to use and passed on to others who could not be with us today. Best of luck in your future endeavors and your dream pursued!

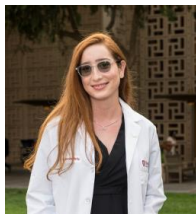
Sincerely,



Abby Chen (M1),



Chris Lopez (M1),



Lisandra Veliz (M1),



Lizette Grajales (PA-S1)

2022 SUMMA Conference Co-Coordinators

Members of Stanford University Minority Medical Alliance (SUMMA)

Staff of Office of Diversity in Medical Education (ODME)

Staff and Faculty of Stanford University School of Medicine