



# Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Foundation RESEARCH GRANTS INITIATIVE

**DATE:**

4/1/2022

**PROJECT TITLE:**

**2022 Lynn Sage Symposium Travel Awards Program  
for Fellows and Residents**

**SUBMITTED BY:**

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# Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium

## Lynn Sage Symposium Travel Awards Program for Fellows and Residents

A primary purpose of Lurie Cancer Center's mission is to train the next generation of cancer specialists. To that end, the Lurie Cancer Center seeks funding from the Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Foundation for the Lynn Sage Scholars Program. The program will invite medical, radiation, and surgical residents and fellows in hematology/oncology to apply for the program that takes place in conjunction with the **24th Annual Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium**. The proposal provides support for 20 participants (5 local and 15 from outside of Chicago).

### PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The Lynn Sage Symposium Travel Awards is an opportunity for residents and fellows to learn the latest clinical and scientific advances in breast cancer research through their attendance at the symposium. It is an unrivaled opportunity to collaborate with peers and esteemed leaders in the breast cancer field and meet breast cancer experts from around the world.

In addition to attending the main symposium sessions, the awardees will participate in a special forum to discuss case studies contrasting the differences and similarities in the management of patients with various breast cancer disease states. In addition, physician speakers from both academic and private practice settings will present their experiences, recommendations, and guidance on the career paths available to residents and fellows.

### PROGRAM OBJECTIVES

- Identify key issues to consider when deciding between oncology careers.
- Outline the differences and similarities of breast cancer research in academic medicine and private practice settings.
- Describe characteristics of a successful clinician in both academic medicine and private practice settings.



### ELIGIBILITY

- A limited number of awardees will be accepted through a competitive online application process.
- A letter of support from the applicant's Program Director or Mentor is required.
- Residents and fellows from the U.S. and abroad are encouraged to apply.
- The awards will be limited to first-time program participants.
- Applicants must demonstrate an interest in the field of breast cancer (hematology/oncology, surgery, radiation, pathology, etc.).

### AWARD DETAILS

- Complimentary symposium registration fee
- Hotel accommodations (non-local awardees only; four-night stay in a shared room or two-night stay in a private room)
- Airfare (non-local awardees only)
- Welcome Reception
- Residents and Fellows Forum
- Meals (breakfast, lunch and break each day of the symposium)



2022 Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium Achievement Awards Program for Fellows & Residents	
Expenses	Budget (based on 20 awardees)
Registration fees, including Continuing Medical Education fees and meals)	\$4,500
Airfare	\$6,000
Awardee shared hotel accommodations (4 nights)	\$7,500
Residents and fellows forum	\$1,200
Program speaker honoraria	\$1,000
Framed award certificates	\$200
Program management	Lurie Cancer Center Resources
Marketing and website	Lurie Cancer Center Resources
Onsite resources	Lurie Cancer Center resources
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$20,400</b>

FELLOWS AND RESIDENTS CAREER FORUM

All awardees attend the Residents and Fellows Forum, which provides them with the opportunity to learn about the career paths of early-career oncologists at the Lurie Cancer Center and obtain valuable advice to help guide the start of their respective careers. The early-career oncologists help awardees identify key issues to consider when deciding between oncology careers (e.g., academic medicine versus private practice). They share their experiences and lessons learned throughout their own career paths. When we request feedback from awardees after the symposium, they often cite the significant value of the Residents and Fellows Forum in helping them determine next steps for their careers.



**Nisha Mohindra, MD**  
Medical Oncology  
Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Northwestern University



**Eric Donnelly, MD**  
Radiation Oncology  
Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center  
Northwestern University



Since its inception in 2013, the program has provided 94 young clinicians from 42 institutions across the country access to the symposium.

Fox Chase Cancer Center  
The University of Texas MD Anderson Cancer Center  
John Wayne Cancer Institute City of Hope University of Pittsburgh  
Brigham and Women's Hospital  
Georgetown University Hospital  
Cedars-Sinai Cedars Sinai Weill Cornell Medical Center  
Penn State Hershey Medical Center  
Northwestern University  
Weill Cornell Medical College  
University of Maryland  
Bryn Mawr Hospital Cleveland Clinic  
The Johns Hopkins Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center  
NYU Langone Medical Center Rush University  
University of Illinois-Chicago  
Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center





### FEEDBACK FROM PAST AWARD RECIPIENTS

I am grateful for the opportunities afforded by the Lynn Sage Conference. I am planning to apply for a Surgical Breast Oncology fellowship early in the new year and thanks to the conference, I was able to discuss the process with other surgical residents, current fellows and program faculty alike. I appreciated the multidisciplinary lecture format of the week as well and would definitely recommend and be interested in attending the conference again in the future.

**Christopher Verdone, MD**  
St. Elizabeth Hospital  
2018 Travel Award Recipient



The Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium was a very educational experience to supplement my breast surgery fellowship training. The conference was comprised of many leaders in the field, with key updates in the management of breast cancer, a constantly changing and evolving field. It is such an exciting time to be in the medical field. In breast cancer specifically, we are learning more and more about tumor biology and transitioning to adapting management/treatment models that incorporate this more in addition to the anatomic pathology we've always known. I was fortunate to be selected as an award recipient along with a mentee of mine, who is several years behind me advancing towards a career in breast surgery. The awards program enabled us to share the experience together and continue our friendship and mentorship going forward. Additionally, as I am currently in fellowship seeking post-fellowship employment, I was able to network with several people at the conference to discuss potential job opportunities. The scholars program provided recipients the opportunity to meet with several physicians a few years into practice to ask questions about employment/ negotiations in a more relaxed setting.

**Lauren Kopicky, MD**  
William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak  
2018 Travel Award Recipient

Being chosen as one of the Lynn Sage Symposium Travel Awards Program afforded me the invaluable opportunity to attend the 2017 Lynn Sage Symposium. The knowledge I gained and the relationships that started or were strengthened at the Symposium will form the foundation upon which I will build the rest of my academic career. I could not have attended the Symposium without the support of the Lynn Sage Scholars Program, and I will be forever grateful. I sincerely hope to continue attending the Symposium every year from here on out!

**Carlie Thompson, MD**  
Cedars-Sinai Medical Center, Breast Surgery Fellow  
2017 Travel Award Recipient

I was honored to be a part of the Lynn Sage Symposium Travel Awards Program this year and have already benefited greatly from my attendance. Through the great presentations and lectures as well as conversing with leaders in the field of breast cancer, I was able to learn more about many of the upcoming advances in breast cancer. Specifically, I learned more about newer targeted agents that are currently being used in the metastatic setting and their mechanism of actions. Based on these learnings, I have started a new research project in collaboration with the medical oncology department at Rush assessing the interaction of these new agents with radiotherapy in order to assess the safety and efficacy of this combination.

**Mudit Chowdhary, MD**  
Rush University Medical Center  
PGY-2 Radiation Oncology  
2017 Travel Award Recipient

The Lynn Sage Breast Cancer Symposium gave me confidence in how I treat my patients with breast cancer. I gained a greater insight in the complexities of breast cancer diagnostics, management, and prognosis from the symposium, the meetings I arranged during my time in Chicago, and the tour of the Lurie Cancer Center facilities.

**Abdul Hannan, MD**  
East Tennessee State University, Resident Physician  
2016 Travel Award Recipient





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