

STUDENT NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION

EMERGE

BIANNUAL NEWSLETTER

*Highlighting the contributions of SNDA chapters
to their schools and their communities.*

SNDA



SNDA



Hello and welcome to

**MENTORSHIP.
OUTREACH.
EXCELLENCE.**

The second half of 2024 was filled with a myriad of impactful programs. Our local SNDA chapters went above and beyond to provide valuable mentorship to future dental students, foster impact in the communities they're a part of, and maintain a culture of excellence in their chapters.



*Chapters pictured (left to right, to top to bottom):
Dental College of Georgia
Creighton University School of Dentistry
The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine
The University of Maryland School of Dentistry*



MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Hello SNDA Family! I am so proud to share all of the amazing work our SNDA Local Chapters have done in this first edition of the 2025 EMERGE newsletter.

Since the 52nd National Convention, chapters have markedly expanded their reach, continuing to elevate the spirit of SNDA all over the country. This year, my goal has been to enable chapters to reach for the stars by enhancing the resources at their disposal from Nationals. In true fashion, they have risen to the occasion, showing up and showing out on campus and in the community.

I hope this newsletter serves as a reminder of all we can accomplish, and all we have yet to accomplish together. Cheers to another year!

With Love,

SDr. Cheyenne Love

'24-'25 Director of Regional Communications
University of Michigan School of Dentistry
DDS Candidate, Class of 2027

SPRING 2025 TIMELINE

JANUARY

***SNDA FIT** - Double points for physical fitness events

FEBRUARY

***Black History Month** - Double points for events about Black History and Black Excellence

***Mid-Year Delegates Meeting**

MARCH

***03/01: '25-'26 Exec Board Applications open**

***03/03: Torch Scholarship Deadline**

APRIL

***Senior Banquet Notification Deadline**

MAY

***SNDA WELL** - Double points for wellness events

***05/31: Scholarship Deadlines**

JUNE

***Convention Awards & Scholarship Deadlines**

JULY

***53rd Annual National Convention**

July 10th - 13th in Kansas City, MO

SNDA BY THE NUMBERS

1,360 SPE Points Earned

819 National Members

32 Active Chapters

9 Regions

SNDA is growing every year, and last year was no exception. There is strength in numbers!



UTHSC SNDA INSPIRES THE NEXT GENERATION OF DENTAL PROFESSIONALS AT IMPRESSIONS DAY

On November 16, 2024, the University of Tennessee Health Science Center (UTHSC) Student National Dental Association (SNDA) proudly hosted its annual Impressions Day, welcoming aspiring dental students from across the region. This event, held at the UTHSC College of Dentistry, provided participants with a hands-on and comprehensive introduction to the world of dentistry, as well as invaluable insights into the dental school journey.

The day began with a warm welcome from SNDA leadership, UTHSC faculty, and guest speakers, including the Dean of the College of Dentistry and the Dean of Student Affairs. Attendees were inspired by their words and introduced to the goals and mission of SNDA in empowering underrepresented students in the dental field.

One of the event's highlights was the student panel discussion, where current dental students shared their paths to dental school, tips for success, and advice on balancing academics and personal life. Participants appreciated the candid Q&A session, which offered an authentic glimpse into dental student life.

The hands-on clinical activities were another standout, giving attendees the chance to practice indirect vision, create dental impressions, and work with CAD-CAM technology. These interactive stations, led by SNDA members and UTHSC faculty, sparked excitement and curiosity about the dental profession.

Participants also engaged in breakout sessions focusing on key topics like building a strong dental school application, navigating the admissions process, and understanding the importance of diversity and inclusion in dentistry. A tour of the state-of-the-art UTHSC dental facilities rounded out the day, leaving attendees inspired by the possibilities ahead.

The event concluded with specialty roundtable discussions featuring practicing dentists and dental hygienists who offered guidance on various career paths, including orthodontics, pediatric dentistry, and oral surgery. Professional headshots were also offered to participants as a takeaway for their future application needs.

Impressions Day 2024 was a resounding success, drawing in motivated pre-dental students and showcasing the supportive, inclusive community at UTHSC. SNDA is proud to have made a lasting impact and looks forward to continuing its mission of fostering the next generation of dental leaders.



TUFTS SNDA HOSTS A SUCCESSFUL IMPRESSIONS DAY

The Student National Dental Association (SNDA) at Tufts University School of Dental Medicine proudly hosted its signature fall event, Impressions Day, bringing together over 90 pre-dental students from across the country for a day of exploration and inspiration. Designed to introduce pre-dental students to the dental profession, the event featured a dynamic lineup of presentations, lab activities, networking opportunities, and panel discussions, offering participants an authentic glimpse into the life of a dental student.

The day began with a warm welcome from SNDA members and faculty, setting the tone for an exciting and informative experience. Attendees engaged in hands-on lab activities, including alginate impressions, which provided a firsthand look at the technical skills involved in dentistry. These activities not only challenged the participants but also allowed them to appreciate the artistry and precision required in the field.

In addition to the lab sessions, attendees had the opportunity to hear from current dental students, alumni, and faculty during panel discussions and presentations.

These segments covered topics such as navigating the dental school application process, preparing for interviews, and balancing academic and personal life as a dental student. The personal stories and advice shared were both encouraging and motivating, leaving attendees inspired to pursue their goals.

Networking was another key highlight of the day. Attendees connected with fellow pre-dental students, current Tufts students, and faculty, creating a sense of camaraderie and community. The SNDA's commitment to fostering mentorship and inclusivity was evident throughout the event, as participants expressed their gratitude for the welcoming and supportive atmosphere.

This year's Impressions Day was a resounding success, reflecting the dedication and hard work of the SNDA team and the enthusiasm of all who attended. Events like this underscore the importance of outreach in shaping the next generation of dental professionals while reinforcing Tufts' mission to promote diversity and excellence in the field of dentistry.

As we look ahead, we are excited for what the future holds for these aspiring dental professionals and proud of the role Tufts SNDA continues to play in supporting their journeys. Go Jumbos!!



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY GIVES BACK WITH THEIR FREE SMILES CLINIC AND SHOP WITH A DENTIST INITIATIVES

Throughout the Fall Semester, the University of Louisville School of Dentistry Chapter has served their local community by providing free dental care to the uninsured and underserved. The event, Free Smiles Clinic, serves the local community with dental services provided to them by SNDA Chapter Members under the leadership of Dr. Sherry Babbage (Chapter Advisor). During their last event of 2024, they performed 9 exams, 22 radiographs, 2 restorations, 3 prophies, and 12 simple extractions within the span of 4 hours!

In late November, the University of Louisville School of Dentistry Chapter held its annual holiday event called Shop with A Dentist. This event was created to touch the lives of elementary students within the city of Louisville. They were able to take 20 children shopping for all their needs and wants while also exposing them to the career of dentistry. The day was filled with so much joy and happiness. "It was an honor to brighten the lives of so many children through service and mentorship. We are grateful to our numerous sponsors and volunteers for making this event special."



UTHEALTH HOUSTON HOSTS PET THERAPY SESSION

At UT Health Houston, the SNDA chapter found a furry and fun way to promote mental wellness at a critical time in the semester. They partnered with Faithful Paws, a pet therapy organization that brings certified therapy dogs to facilities across Greater Houston, to help dental students relax and recharge before finals. The therapy dogs were a huge hit, offering comfort and a much-needed mental break during a stressful time!



UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND PROMOTES ORAL HEALTH EQUITY AT PATIENTS DAY

Students from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry hosted an engaging oral health room as part of the School of Pharmacy's Annual PATIENTS Day Program. D1 and D2 volunteers led fun activities like dental trivia and flossing games, while D3 and D4 students provided oral cancer screenings. For those without a dental provider, students helped connect them to care at UMSOD. The event showcased the school's commitment to promoting health equity and fostering meaningful connections with the West Baltimore community.



UMICH SNDA DELIVERS CARE AT AMEN FREE CLINICS IN LANSING

Students from the University of Michigan School of Dentistry participated in Amen Free Clinics' dental clinic, hosted in partnership with the Lansing Seventh-Day Adventist Church. With Dr. McKenzie Maynor as precept, UMICH students assisted and provided exams, cleanings, fluoride, sealants, and fillings to members of the Lansing community in need. This event was one of several free clinics that the chapter participates in throughout the state of Michigan -- they also provide care at the HOPE Clinic in Ypsilanti, Taft Clinic in Ann Arbor, and Smiles on Niles.



B.U. PUTS PETAL TO THE METAL WITH THEIR AMALGAM ALLSTARS PROGRAM

The Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine brought together future dentists for an exciting Amalgam All Stars event, hosted in collaboration with ADEA and SNDA! This hands-on workshop allowed students to sharpen their amalgam restoration skills in a supportive environment, with guidance from D2, D3, D4, and AS2 mentors.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT



REGISTRATION FOR THE 53RD NATIONAL CONVENTION IS NOW OPEN!

*SNDA is thrilled to announce our 53rd National Convention! It will be held in **Kansas City, MO from July 10 - 13, 2025**, as we unite with the National Dental Association (NDA) and our extended family of organizations for an inspiring and impactful gathering.*

Host Hotel: Sheraton Kansas City Hotel at Crown Center
2345 McGee St.
Kansas City, MO

SNDA Member Registration Rates

Early Bird Registration (Jan 1 - Feb 1): \$250

Early Bird - Gala Only: \$200

Regular Registration (Feb 1 - Apr 30): \$300

Regular - Gala Only: \$225

Visit www.sndaonline.org to register!



A MESSAGE FROM SNDA'S NATIONAL PRESIDENT

Hi Family!!! I'm Raven Selden, a fourth-year dental student at the UNC Adams School of Dentistry and I am honored to serve as your National President for the 2024-25 term. This year, SNDA has soared to new heights, and I couldn't be prouder of the work we've accomplished together. We're going Above and Beyond to prioritize what matters most—our wellness, education, culture, and community impact.

Through SNDA WELL, we're putting our mental health, self-care, and stress management at the forefront. From fitness challenges through #SNDAFit to local chapter wellness initiatives, we're creating spaces to recharge and thrive!

Our SNDA Study Club has become a hub for collaboration, offering interprofessional events, case discussions, and spaces to share our unique dental school journeys. We've built a stronger academic community by learning and growing together.

Our For Us By Us (FUBU) Initiative in February will celebrate our culture and Black excellence through cultural programming, educational events, and student spotlights, reminding us that SNDA is truly for us, by us.

With SmileSmart, we'll deepen our commitment to service by expanding Lessons in a Lunchbox and launching Annual SmileSmart Events to spread oral health awareness in our communities.

And through the USNDA Pathways Program, we've been mentoring the next generation of dental leaders, strengthening the bridge between pre-dental and dental students.

Registration for the 53rd SNDA National Convention in Kansas City, MO is officially OPEN and this year WE are the STARS OF THE SHOW!!! Don't miss your chance to connect with trailblazers, leaders, and future dental professionals shaping the future of dentistry. Get ready to network, learn, and celebrate our excellence like never before. Secure your spot today and join us as we continue to rise, support one another, and make this the most unforgettable convention yet!

Thank you for all you do to make this organization amazing. See you in the City of Fountains this summer!

Warmly,

SDr. Raven Selden
 '24-'25 SNDA National President
 UNC Adams School of Dentistry
 Class of 2025

Thank you for reading, and see you in Kansas City!

<p>STUDENT NATIONAL DENTAL ASSOCIATION</p>	<p>WWW.SNDAONLINE.ORG IG: @SNDA1972</p>
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