



The Fundamental Role
of the Arts and Humanities
in Medical Education



August 2024 FRAHME Newsletter

This bi-monthly newsletter is designed to keep you up to date on news from the [AAMC's Fundamental Role of Arts and Humanities in Medical Education \(FRAHME\) initiative](#). If you know others who are interested in learning more about integrating the arts and humanities into medical education, please forward this email to them. To subscribe, they can [sign up here](#).

Call for Proposals: Lightning Talks on Innovations in Using Arts and Humanities in Teaching



The AAMC is seeking proposals for five-minute lightning talks during our knowledge sharing session at [Learn Serve Lead 2024: The AAMC Annual Meeting](#) in Atlanta, Georgia. The session will take place Monday, Nov. 11 from 4:30 – 6:00 p.m. ET.

Accepted speakers will have **five minutes (using no more than five slides)** to tell us about the learners they worked with, how the integration of arts and humanities helped them achieve their goals, and how their learners responded.

Timeline:

- Sept. 13: Proposals due. Email frahme@aamc.org with the following information: Your name, job title, institution, presentation title, and 150 word abstract.
- Sept. 27: Decisions emailed to all who submitted.
- Mid-October: Virtual meeting with selected speakers.

Please note that [all selected participants must be registered for Learn Serve Lead](#). One day rates are available. Travel and registration costs must be paid by speakers.

Join Our Virtual Community! Arts and Humanities in Health Professions Education

The FRAHME initiative has created a virtual community titled "Arts and Humanities in Health Professions Education" where members can come together to share ideas and insights, ask questions, and grow professionally.

This group is hosted on The AAMC Communities Network – a private, members-only space where those working in academic medicine can engage in discussions on topics of interest.

To join the community, register for the AAMC Communities platform:

1. Go to communities.aamc.org/home and click "Register for AAMC Communities" in the box at the top of your screen.
2. Enter your information under "Not registered yet? Request an account."
3. Select "Arts and Humanities in Health Professions Education" from the dropdown menu.
4. Click "Sign In" to complete your account. It can take up to one business day for your account to be approved. You will receive a welcome email that confirms your registration.
5. **Please note:** Even if you have an email address and password for AAMC.org, you will need to create a separate login for the AAMC Communities as it is hosted on a different platform. You may use the same email address and password for both.

If you already have an AAMC Communities account:

1. Log into your account
 2. Click on "All Communities"
 3. Click to join the Arts and Humanities in Health Professions Education community.
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Call for Cover Art Submissions for *Academic Medicine*



Academic Medicine is launching its fourth open call for cover art. The journal welcomes photography, sculpture, painting, textile work, and other visual media from physicians, residents, students, staff, and patients. [See submission requirements](#)

Recent Literature on Arts and Humanities Published in *Academic Medicine* and *MedEdPORTAL*

[An Empathy and Arts Curriculum During a Pediatrics Clerkship: Impact on Student Empathy and Behavior](#)

Researchers implemented and evaluated a brief pediatric clerkship arts curriculum to improve empathic behaviors. Their results suggest that a brief clerkship arts curriculum is useful for improving self-reported empathy ratings and empathetic skills, particularly for students identified as having below-average empathy.

What Else We're Reading

[Health Humanities Baccalaureate Programs in the United States and Canada](#), *Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine*

This report describes the importance, growth and types of existing baccalaureate health humanities programs and provides a comprehensive list of current programs and programs in development.

[The Moral Imperative of Countering Antisemitism in US Medicine – A Way Forward](#), *The American Journal of Medicine*

Antisemitism dramatically increased in the United States in 2023, with a 140% increase from the previous year. Authors offer a framework of education, engagement, empathy, and enforcement (4 Es) as key elements to eradicate anti-semitism and other forms of hate.

[Prevalence of Visual Art Education in Medical School Curricula: A National Survey of US Medical Schools](#), *Medical Education Online*

Authors conducted a survey and analysis of the state of existing visual arts-based medical school pedagogies, finding that many but not all medical schools are incorporating the visual arts into their medical education curriculum.

[A New Construct in Undergraduate Medical Education Health Humanities Outcomes: Humanistic Practice](#), *Journal of Medical Humanities*

Authors propose "humanistic practice" as a novel approach to the hoped-for outcomes of health humanities training in medical school. Humanistic practice has the potential to encompass traditional health humanities knowledge, skills, and behaviors while also being concrete and measurable.

[Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging: A Health Humanities Consortium Initiative](#), *Journal of Medical Humanities*

This essay describes the first year of work completed by the Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging committee of the Health Humanities Consortium. The authors offer transferable techniques for other organizations and institutions with particular attention to health care and health professions education.

Featured Artwork from AAMC Constituents



Under Oath by Sophia Geaney, medical student

Artist's Statement:

To explore the influence of being a medical student on my identity, I painted this self-portrait, named "Under Oath." In it, I depict myself wearing surgical scrubs with words of the Hippocratic Oath, taken from an ancient papyrus, projected onto me.

As a medical student, I not only embarked upon a five-year degree but also a lifetime's vocation with other people at its heart. I know that this will be immensely rewarding but it will also come with challenges as I try to meet the societal expectations of what it means to be a doctor. In my painting, I demonstrate this by using the Hippocratic Oath and scrubs to symbolize the external expectations projected onto me both by society and the professional guild I have joined.

Since starting medical school, I have become increasingly aware of how all-encompassing the role of a doctor can be. Without adequately assuming this role, you risk behaving unprofessionally or even endangering the patients you are there to help. Yet, by over-assuming the role of a doctor in society, you can lose aspects of your own identity, to the detriment of both you and your patients. In the future, I hope to be able to maintain a balance between my own individual sense of self and my identity, both as a medical student and hopefully as a doctor. In my painting, I convey this through my gaze, holding eye contact with the viewer as an indication of my own individuality.