



Thoracic
Surgery
Foundation

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

The Thoracic Surgery Foundation

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Dear Friends of TSF,

I am pleased to share this 2023 Annual Report with news of an outstanding year for The Thoracic Surgery Foundation. Highlights of 2023 include:

- **The largest level of industry partnership support in our history – nearly \$1.1 million**
- **A record year in grantmaking – with over \$1.56 million awarded**
- **Another year of outstanding support from The Society of Thoracic Surgeons**
- **A landmark bequest gift that will positively impact grantmaking for years to come**

Keep reading to learn more about our outstanding 2023 awardees and the donors who support TSF's mission to advance heart and lung health for all. We are grateful for your ongoing support!



Joseph A. Dearani, MD
TSF President

Annual Snapshot

GRANTS & AWARDS ISSUED

TOTAL **\$1,564,004**



TSF NET ASSETS

TOTAL **\$7,506,387**



CONTRIBUTIONS TO TSF

TOTAL **\$3,147,554**



2023 Engagement at a Glance

43

individual **awards and scholarships** granted

1,652

volunteer hours contributed by surgeon leaders to review and select awardees

30%

of STS US Surgeon **Members** made a gift to TSF in 2023



2023 Highlights

Nina Starr Braunwald Center at STS

In October 2023, Dr. Eugene Braunwald and daughters Karen, Jill, and Allison, met with TSF and STS leaders to lay the groundwork for establishing the **Nina Starr Braunwald Center at STS**. In honor of the legacy of Dr. Nina Starr Braunwald, the first female board-certified cardiac surgeon in the U.S., the Braunwald Center at STS is an array of innovative programs, research awards, advocacy efforts, and educational offerings aimed at issues of special interest to women CT surgeons. TSF's Braunwald Research Awards, originally established by the family in conjunction with TSF in 1993, are a centerpiece of the Braunwald Center that continue to provide support to outstanding women surgeon scientists.

To learn more about the Braunwald Center and the legacy of Dr. Nina Starr Braunwald, [view this video](#).



Pictured L to R: Jill Braunwald Porter, Dr. Joseph Dearani, Dr. Jennifer Romano, Dr. Karen Braunwald, Dr. Allison Braunwald Goldfine, Dr. Thomas MacGillivray. Seated in front: Dr. Eugene Braunwald



“The award has given me a head start with research at the onset of my academic career. While my own academic productivity is important, one of the most valuable benefits of this work is that it allowed me to mentor so many people, ranging from undergraduates to medical students, residents and fellows.”



Caitlin Demarest, MD

2023 Nina Starr Braunwald
Research Award Recipient



Historic Bequest Gift from Graydon & Virginia Long

In late 2023, TSF was the recipient of a record bequest gift from the estate of Dr. Graydon Long and Mrs. Virginia Long. **The Longs' remarkable gift of nearly \$500,000 marks the largest single bequest gift to TSF to date.**

Dr. Graydon Long had been a member of The Society of Thoracic Surgeons since 1965 and was a Senior Member at the time of his death in 2019. Dr. Long completed his cardiothoracic surgery residency at the University of Michigan Medical School in 1959. He practiced as a surgeon in the Lexington, Kentucky area from 1959 to 1988. **TSF is indebted to the charitable spirit of Dr. and Mrs. Long, whose generosity will make a significant impact on TSF's grantmaking in the years to come.**



New Conference Scholarships for Residents

As the charitable heart of STS, TSF aims to provide access to the very best in education for cardiothoracic surgeons at all career stages. In 2023, TSF launched **scholarships for cardiothoracic surgery residents to select STS standalone courses**, including the Coronary Conference and the Latin American Thoracic Surgery Conference. Pictured above are the recipients of the Coronary Conference scholarships.



“Their mission model is focused on teaching, training, and skills transfer rather than outright volume of cases performed. This is a significant departure from the usual mission routine where it is almost always about the number of cases performed within the short period of time. In this case, skills and knowledge transfer were given the highest priority and guided other activities.”



Chizoba A. Efobi, MBBS

2023 TSF International Medical Volunteer Scholarship Recipient

Underserved Region: Uganda

Read more about Dr. Efobi's 2023 International Medical Volunteer Experience [here](#).

2023 TSF Awardees

Congratulations to the 2023 Thoracic Surgery Foundation Award Recipients!

These awards are made possible by generous donors including surgeons, related societies, industry partners, and grateful patients who have invested in the future of the specialty.

“

“The experience was truly life-changing, providing not only a broader view of the positive impact cardiac surgery can have on patients’ lives, but also reinforcing my commitment to practicing medicine focused on global well-being.”



Karlos Jennysson Sousa Soares, MD

2023 TSF International Medical Volunteer
Scholarship Recipient

Underserved Region: Peru

RESEARCH



Shin Yajima, MD, PhD
Stanford University

“Stromal cell-derived factor 1α- encapsulated nanoparticles specifically target in the ischemic myocardium and attenuate ischemia myocardial injury”

STS Research Award



Constantine D. Mavroudis, MD, MSc, MTR
Children’s Hospital of Philadelphia

“The effect of preoperative cyanosis on cerebral mitochondrial function following cardiopulmonary bypass and neuroprotective perfusion strategies in neonatal swine”

TSF Research Award



Caitlin T. Demarest, MD, PhD
Vanderbilt University Medical Center

“Testing a novel Pulmonary Assist Device in a sheep model of chronic pulmonary hypertension and right heart failure to evaluate exercise physiology and right ventricular recovery”

Nina Starr Braunwald Research Award



Selena S. Li, MD
Massachusetts General Hospital

"Proteomic predictors of cardiac recovery"

**Nina Starr Braunwald Research Fellowship Award
(Resident)**



Danny Wang, MD
Massachusetts General Hospital

"The role of the gut and lung microbiome in postoperative recovery and complications following oncologic lung resection"

TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award



Jimmy Kang, MD
University of Alberta

"Attenuation of xenoreactive immune response with allogeneic recellularized tissue engineered heart valves"

TSF Resident Research Fellowship Award



Krish C. Dewan, MD, MS
Duke University

"Improving cardiac transplant outcomes through PD-L1 overexpression gene therapy"

**Southern Thoracic Surgical Association (STSA)
Resident Research Award**



Kei Suzuki, MD, MS
Inova

"Single-cell RNA sequence profiling of tumor-immune microenvironment for precision therapy in resectable lung cancer"

AstraZeneca Lung Cancer Research Award



Jeffrey B. Velotta, MD
UCSF School of Medicine & Kaiser Permanente Northern California

"Identifying novel patient outreach strategies to increase Lung Cancer Screening in Asian Americans in an integrated healthcare system"

**AstraZeneca Reversing Health Disparities in Lung Cancer
Research Award**



David Zapata, MD
University of Maryland School of Medicine

Travel to Brussels to study aortic and mitral valve repair

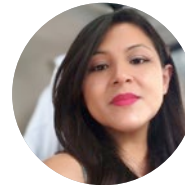
**TSF/Francis Fontan Fund International Traveling
Fellowship**



Valentina Mescola, MD, MEBCTS
University of Navarra, Pamplona, Spain

Travel to 2 sites to learn about setting up a viable OPCAB program – 4-6 weeks at The Valley Hospital

**TSF/Francis Fontan Fund International Traveling
Fellowship**



Laura A. Torrico Davila, MD
Ignacio Chavez National Institute of Cardiology,
Mexico City, Mexico

Travel to Boston Children's Hospital to study assessment, management, and intraoperative techniques for cardiac reconstruction in neonates

**TSF/Francis Fontan Fund International Traveling
Fellowship in Partnership with LACES**



Marcio Rufino Barbosa Jr., MD
Santa Casa de Misericordia de Vitoria, Espirito
Santo, Brazil

Travel to Brussels to learn advanced repair techniques for the treatment of aortic and valvular heart disease

**TSF/Francis Fontan Fund International Traveling
Fellowship in Partnership with LACES**



Ali M. Alakhtar, MD, MSc
McGill University

Structural Heart Fellowship

**Michael J. Davidson Structural Heart
Fellowship Award**



Derrick Tam, MD, PhD
University of Toronto

Advanced cardiac fellowship in minimally invasive and structural mitral valve interventions

**Every Heartbeat Matters Structural Heart Diversity
Fellowship**

EDUCATION



Scott C. DeRoo, MD
University of Washington

Advanced aortic valve repair: strategies for both the bicuspid and trileaflet valve

Nicholas Kouchoukos Award



Mr. Ariyo Lookman Idowu
Lagos State University
Teaching Hospital, Nigeria

Complex pediatric perfusion and device implant surgery

**Sarns Terumo Perfusion
Education Fellowship Award**



Madhuri V. Rao, MD
University of Minnesota

Robotic complex segmentectomy

**Carolyn E. Reed Traveling
Fellowship**



Yazan N. AlJamal, MD
Mayo Clinic

Robotic Coronary Revascularization

**Advanced Robotic Cardiac
Surgery Fellowship**



Simran K. Randhawa, MBBS
University of Colorado

Developing a robotic assisted foregut surgery practice

**Carolyn E. Reed Traveling
Fellowship Award**



Mian Mustafa Kamal, MBBS
Aga Khan University Hospital
Karachi, Pakistan

TAVI: Break the Barriers

**The Levi Watkins Innovation
and Leadership Development
Scholarship**



Dmitry O. Bobylev, MD
Hannover Medical School,
Germany

Clinical protocols, hybrid cardiac surgery, Ozaki procedure, Ross operation

**Robert L. Replegle Traveling
Fellowship Award**



Nicolas Contreras, MD
University of Utah

Robotic esophageal surgery – esophagectomy and benign foregut procedures

**Underrepresented Robotic
General Thoracic (URGT)
Surgeon Development Award**



Pranava Sinha, MD
University of Minnesota

Underserved Region: Uganda

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Jay D. Pal, MD, PhD
University of Washington

Underserved Region: Nepal

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Emily A. Farkas, MD, FACS
Indiana University

Underserved Region: Kenya

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Aldo Elmer Rafael, MD
Baylor University Medical
Center

Underserved Region: Peru

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Carmelo A. Milano, MD
Duke University

Underserved Region: Honduras

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Robert C. Neely, MD
Cardiothoracic & Vascular
Surgeons Austin

Underserved Region: Kenya

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



“The Thoracic Surgery Foundation has not only provided me with financial support but also helped me gain a mentor for life.”

Simran K. Randhawa, MD
2023 Carolyn Reed Fellowship Awardee

HUMANITARIAN



Zachary O. Enumah, MD
Cardiac Surgery
Intersociety Alliance

Underserved Region: Rwanda

**TSF Every Heartbeat
Matters Award**



Adnaldo da Silveira Maia, MD
Dante Pazzanese Institute of
Cardiology

Underserved Region: Kenya

**International Medical Volunteer
Scholarship**



Chizoba A. Efobi, MBBS
University of Benin Teaching
Hospital

Underserved Region: Uganda

**International Medical Volunteer
Scholarship**



Sandeep Sainathan, MD
The University of Miami

Underserved Region: Nepal

**International Medical
Volunteer Scholarship**



Melina Moroz Barg, MD
Dante Pazzanese Institute
of Cardiology

Underserved Region: Kenya

**International Medical Volunteer
Scholarship**



**Karlos Jennysson Sousa
Soares, MD**
Instituto do Coração do
Hospital das Clínicas da
Faculdade de Medicina da
Universidade de São Paulo

Underserved Region: Peru

**International Medical Volunteer
Scholarship**



Aditya Sengupta, MD
The Mount Sinai Hospital

**Saha Scholarship to the STS
Annual Meeting**



**Lin-Chiang Philip
Chou, MD, MS**
Houston Methodist Hospital

*Leadership Program for Health
Policy and Management at Brandeis
University*

Alley-Sheridan Scholarship



Chibueze Onyemkpa, MBBS
Texas Heart Institute/Baylor
College of Medicine

**STS Coronary Conference
Scholarship**



Makoto Mori, MD, PhD
Yale School of Medicine

**STS Coronary Conference
Scholarship**



Mallory L. Hunt, MD
Hospital of the University of
Pennsylvania

**STS Coronary Conference
Scholarship**



Nataliya Bahatyrevich, MD
University of California,
Davis

**STS Coronary Conference
Scholarship**



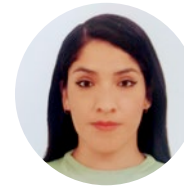
Travis D. Hull, MD, PhD
Massachusetts General
Hospital

**STS Coronary Conference
Scholarship**



Magalí Belen Pereiro
Hospital de Clínicas José de
San Martín - Argentina

**Latin America Thoracic
Surgery Conference
Scholarship**



Ninach Muñante Nima
Edgardo Rebagliati Martins
National Hospital - Perú

**Latin America Thoracic
Surgery Conference
Scholarship**



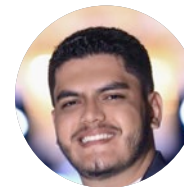
Habib Mantilla Gaviria
Instituto Nacional de
Cancerología - Colombia

**Latin America Thoracic
Surgery Conference
Scholarship**



Andres Stevenson Silva
Hospital San Jose - Chile

**Latin America Thoracic
Surgery Conference
Scholarship**



Jonathan Seixas Pereira
Hospital São Lucas da
PUCRS - Brazil

**Latin America Thoracic
Surgery Conference
Scholarship**

CONFERENCE

Lifetime Honor Roll of Major Gift Donors

TSF gratefully acknowledges these generous donors who have contributed a total of **\$10,000 or more since 1988**. TSF thrives due to the generosity of these individuals, organizations, foundations, and corporations.



TSF Board members accept a generous gift from Dr. Charles Roberts (center) of The Roberts Foundation to establish a future TSF cardiac award.

Platinum \$5,000,000+

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons

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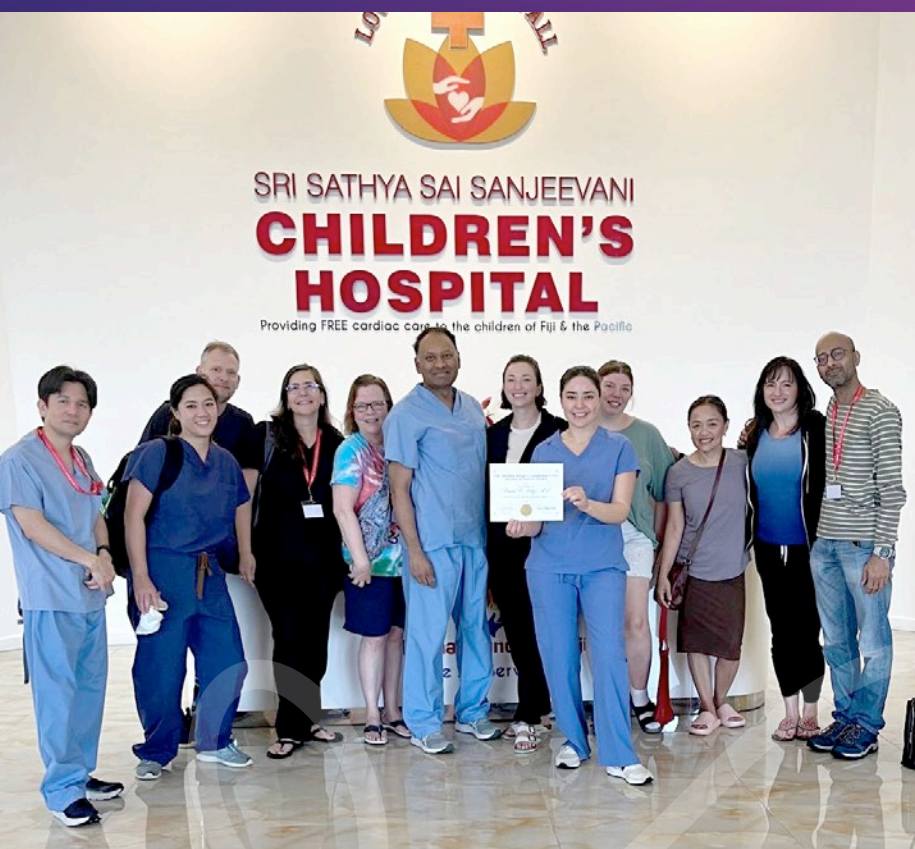
TSF Heritage Society

These generous donors have made plans for a bequest gift to TSF via their estate plans:

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2023 Honor Roll of Annual Donors

TSF recognizes gifts at all levels made from January 1 through December 31, 2023, by generous surgeons, foundations, societies, individuals, corporations, and grateful patients. Their contributions support our mission and the future of the cardiothoracic surgery specialty.



Dr. Shaun Setty (center) and volunteers on a recent Every Heartbeat Matters humanitarian outreach trip to Fiji and the South Pacific.

\$500,000+

The Society of Thoracic Surgeons
Edwards Lifesciences Foundation

\$100,000 - \$499,000

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Peter S. Dahlberg, MD, PhD
David A. D'Alessandro, MD



“In the long-term, the TSF fellowship has further solidified my clinical and academic interest in the subspecialty of heart failure.

It has allowed me to gain crucial background about the processes required to develop new therapies and surgical techniques to be translated to the clinical sphere and the means to establish a track record for subsequent future early career funding.”



Krish C. Dewan, MD, MS

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I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the Thoracic Surgery Foundation and the generous donors behind the 2023 Advanced Robotic Cardiac Surgery fellowship award. I am honored to have been selected for this award, which has provided me with the opportunity to pursue a mini-fellowship in robotic coronary surgery at the University of Chicago, where I gained invaluable skills and knowledge in this field.

The skills and knowledge that I have gained through this fellowship will undoubtedly enhance my ability to serve my patients and advance the field of cardiac surgery. All of which would not have been possible without the generous support of the TSF.

I would also like to encourage other cardiac surgeons to apply for this award and take advantage of the incredible opportunity it provides.



Yazan AlJamal, MD

2023 Advanced Robotic Cardiac Surgery Fellowship Award Recipient



TSF President Dr. Joe Dearani announces recipients of the 2023 TSF Awards during the VIP Reception in Los Angeles.



Three 2023 TSF awardees connected in Brussels, Belgium during their award programs. From L to R: Dr. David Zapata, Dr. Marcio Rufino Barbosa Jr., Dr. Scott C. DeRoo

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Advancing Heart and Lung Health for All



Dr. Aldo Rafael (bottom right) and his team of volunteers during a 2023 humanitarian outreach trip to Lima, Peru

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A New Look for 2024

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At the core of TSF is our mission of advancing heart and lung health for all. We believe this refreshed branding perfectly captures the spirit and energy of The Thoracic Surgery Foundation. The new logo is not just a visual update; it is drawn to elicit a feeling of momentum, reflecting the forward-thinking nature of TSF.

See the new branding in action on our updated website: **ThoracicSurgeryFoundation.org**



1988

Originally designed to symbolize a foundation for progress in cardiothoracic surgery, TSF (then TSFRE) adopted its original logo in 1988.



2024

In a big leap forward, TSF adopts a new, vibrant branding strategy that truly represents the dynamic nature and impact of our work.



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The 2024 Surgeon Match Challenge is underway! The Society of Thoracic Surgeons has generously pledged **\$150,000** to match surgeon donations made to TSF this year.

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