

# AMWA's Linda Brodsky Memorial Journal

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*A Word  
of Welcome*

Welcome to the first annual Linda Brodsky Memorial Journal, in honor of my dear friend and colleague who was a world renown ear, nose, and throat surgeon and advocate for gender equity in the workplace. Dr. Brodsky was an author, a prolific researcher, and a consummate mentor. A lifetime member of AMWA and co-chair of the AMWA Gender Equity Task Force, she worked tirelessly for more flexible schedules for women physicians, more humane guidelines for residents, and more women in executive positions.

This journal represents the best of the essays written by AMWA medical students this year across the country on the topic of mentorship. Their heartfelt stories describe the person in their life that has provided guidance, inspiration, and aid through their journey to the medical profession. Those of us on the panel of individuals chosen to judge the essay contest were touched by the genuineness of each stories. We were surprised by how long it took to pick a "winner", as each piece was wonderful to read.

Congratulations to Jessica Means, our first place winner. Jessica describes how she met her mentor, Lauren Schwartz MD, while working as a concert pianist. Dr. Schwartz encouraged Jessica to pursue her interest in medicine and become a physician, assuring her that she would not have to give up her passion for music to do so. I would also like to thank Dr. Schwartz and all the mentors that the medical students wrote about in their essays. Thank you for taking the time to encourage and support the future of medicine.

Thank you Mica Esquenazi and the Medical Student Press for the forum to publish these essays. Finally, I would like to thank Stephanie Pincus MD, Saul Greenfield MD, all of the AMWA medical student leaders involved in this effort, Komal Paladugu, Lori Leonard MD, and Nitza Eliis MD for their support in this process. One of the judges reflected states that the essays she read brought tears to her eyes - they did the same to me and I'm sure that they will do the same to our readers. Read on!

*Roberta*

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