

## Aurora Graduate Medical Education OB/GYN Resident Biographies

### Ciera Danen, MD, PGY 1

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- Hometown: Medford, WI
- Undergraduate Training: Michigan Technological University
- Medical School: Medical College of Wisconsin

Dr. Danen was born and raised in a small town in central Wisconsin before attending Michigan Technological University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences. She then headed back to Wisconsin where she received her MD at the Medical College of Wisconsin.

Dr. Danen's initial interest in medicine stemmed from giving back to her local community. She expanded on this interest through multiple volunteer activities, working as an EMT, and conducting research to identify areas of disparity in underserved populations. She decided to pursue a career in Obstetrics and Gynecology because it combines her love for women's health with the hands-on technical skill of surgery creating a well-rounded and rewarding specialty.

In her free time, Dr. Danen enjoys spending time with her family and friends, attending concerts, and trying new restaurants.



### Laurel Pietrzak, DO, PGY 1

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- Hometown: Big Lake, Minnesota
- Undergraduate training: Carthage College
- Medical School: Des Moines University College of Osteopathic Medicine

Dr. Pietrzak was born and raised in the small town of Big Lake, Minnesota as an only child. She attended Carthage College in Kenosha, Wisconsin where she received a Bachelor of Arts in Biology with a minor in Chemistry. After graduation, she moved to Iowa to attend Des Moines University COM.

Dr. Pietrzak chose to pursue obstetrics and gynecology because it provides the incredible opportunity to create long term relationships with patients while also developing hands on surgical skills. She has a passion for breastfeeding medicine and hopes to obtain her International Board-Certified Lactation Consultant certification after residency to provide mothers with comprehensive lactation care during their postpartum care.

In her free time, Dr. Pietrzak enjoys cooking and baking, reading romance novels, spending time with her husband and rescue cat Reggie, and checking out the best brunch spots in MKE. When time allows, she also enjoys swimming, fishing, and downhill skiing.



## Jarquechia White, DO, PGY 1

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- Hometown: Jacksonville, AL
- Undergraduate training: The University of Alabama
- Master's training: University of Alabama at Birmingham
- Medical School: Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine- Auburn campus

Dr. White was born and raised in a small town in northeast Alabama. She is the oldest of two younger sisters and two younger brothers. She was raised by her single mother, who she looks up to as her main role model.

Dr. White went to undergrad at The University of Alabama where she received a Bachelor of Science in psychology with a minor in chemistry. Shortly after, she worked in mental health with developmentally disabled adults working with them and their social worker to teach them skills such as cooking and cleaning.

She then went on to become a medical scribe while getting her master's degree in biomedical health sciences. Dr. White then attended medical school at Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine in Auburn, AL.

Her passion from obstetrics stems from being raised primarily by women and therefore wanting to be an advocate for women. That passion grew after she received her own diagnosis of stage 4 endometriosis and wanting to cater to that patient population. And she hopes to be a voice and representation for under-represented populations in medicine.

In her free time, Dr. White loves to spend time with her partner, Tanner, and her puppy, Levi. She also loves exploring Milwaukee, traveling, spending time with family and friends, and finding new funky ways to style her hair.

## Nirja Inamdar, DO, PGY 2

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- Hometown: Roanoke, Virginia
- Undergraduate training: University of Virginia
- Medical School: Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine
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Dr. Inamdar was born and raised in Roanoke, Virginia. She has one younger sister. She attended the University of Virginia where she received a Bachelor of Science in Biology. After graduation, she worked as a medical scribe in the Emergency Department and then moved to Pennsylvania to attend medical school at Lake Erie College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Dr. Inamdar chose to pursue obstetrics and gynecology primarily for her passion for family planning but also for the mixture of procedures, surgeries, and continuity of care.

In her free time, Dr. Inamdar enjoys yoga, hiking, reading, and spending time with loved ones.



## Sarai Trenhs, DO, PGY 2

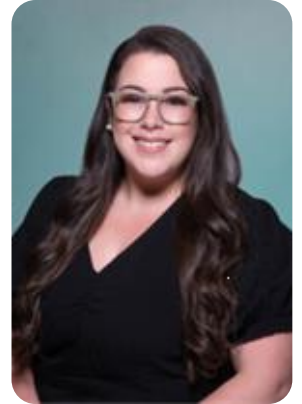
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- Hometown: Miami, FL
- Undergraduate Training: Florida International University
- Medical School: Nova Southeastern University College

Dr. Trenhs was born and raised in Miami, FL where her family settled after moving to the United States from Cuba. She attended Florida International University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences. After graduating, she continued working as a medical scribe and a medical assistant until she moved to Ft. Lauderdale, FL to attend medical school at Nova Southeastern University.

Dr. Trenhs' passion to pursue medicine only strengthened through the years while she worked with patients in underserved populations. She decided to pursue a career in obstetrics and gynecology due to the diversity of the field, and the ability to combine primary care and surgery to further serve her community.

In her free time, Dr. Trenhs enjoys traveling, attending concerts, reading romantic comedies, and hanging out by the water.



## Deemantha Wijekulasooriyage, MD, PGY 2

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- Hometown: Ganemulla, Sri Lanka
- Medical School: Kursk State Medical University, Russia

Dr. Wijekulasooriyage was born and raised in Sri Lanka. After finishing high school he received a full government scholarship from Russian Federation to complete his MD in Russia. After finishing his MD, he moved to Milwaukee, WI and started volunteering in free medical clinics providing primary care for underserved communities in Milwaukee.

Dr. Wijekulasooriyage then got involved with research at the Medical College of Wisconsin doing basic science and clinical research in Minimally Invasive GI Surgery and Surgical Oncology. Dr. Wijekulasooriyage finds the scope of practice in obstetrics and gynecology is unique as it's a discipline dedicated to the broad, integrated medical and surgical care of women's health throughout their lifespans.

In his free time, he enjoys spending time with his friends, traveling, cooking, and volunteering



### **Katherine Antillano, MD, PGY 3**

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- Hometown: Miami, FL
- Undergraduate training: Florida International University
- Medical School: Central Michigan University College of Medicine

Dr. Antillano was born and raised in Barquisimeto, Venezuela. She immigrated with her parents and younger sister to Miami, Florida in 2003 when she was 13 years old. She attended Florida International University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Special Education.

Dr. Antillano is passionate about education, both as a teacher and learner, through her undergraduate years she was involved in different projects helping students with intellectual disabilities. In addition, she worked as an anatomy teacher assistant and chemistry tutor. She believes that teaching and healing are two of the most important things you can do for a person.

Dr. Antillano is devoted to helping the underserved community. During the years before medical school, she created a fundraiser and bought medical supplies that were sent to Venezuela. In addition, throughout the years she has volunteered in different community free medical clinics. Lastly, during medical school she was part of the committee that created, planned and conducted CMED's first free Community Health fair at Mount Pleasant, Michigan. She enjoys dancing, spending time with family and friends, watching TV and movies, new cuisine and traveling.



### **Nimisha Kumar, MD, PGY 3**

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- Hometown: Indianapolis, IN
- Undergraduate training: Indiana University - Bloomington
- Medical School: Indiana University School of Medicine

Dr. Kumar was born in a small town in northeast India but moved to the US with her parents and older sister when she was just one year old. After moving around several cities, her family settled in Indianapolis, IN where they have lived for almost 20 years. She studied biology with minors in Spanish, social sciences in medicine, and studio art at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN.

For medical school, Dr. Kumar headed back to Indianapolis to attend the Indiana University School of Medicine. She chose to pursue obstetrics and gynecology to foster long-term relationships with underserved patients while also having the opportunity to do a variety of procedures. Dr. Kumar has been highly active in obstetrical research and has completed two Cochrane reviews.

In her free time, Dr. Kumar enjoys spending time with her dog, Veer, and her family. She also loves to travel, explore new restaurants, and experiment with different art forms, including drawing, painting, and textiles.



### **Kaylee Potter, DO, PGY 3**

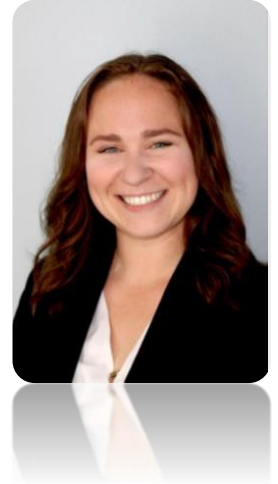
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- Hometown: Dewitt, MI
- Undergraduate training: Grand Valley State University
- Medical School: New York Institute of Technology, College of Osteopathic Medicine at Arkansas State

Dr. Potter grew up in Mid-Michigan before relocating to the west side of the state to attend Grand Valley State University where she received her Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences. She then headed south to attend Medical School at NYITCOM's Arkansas campus.

Dr. Potter's initial interests in medicine stemmed from a passion for giving back to her community. This passion grew through many volunteer positions followed by her time spent working as a CNA and medical scribe. Dr. Potter is passionate about serving her community and excited for a career in women's health. Outside of healthcare she spends time volunteering and fostering animals with the Humane Society.

In her free time, Dr. Potter enjoys house renovation projects, reading romance books, hiking, checking out new breweries and traveling with her husband.



### **Salma Aljamal, MD, PGY 4**

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- Hometown: Milwaukee, WI
- Undergraduate training: Marquette University
- Medical School: Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine

Dr. Aljamal was born and raised in a small village on the outskirts of Jerusalem, Palestine. Years later her family moved to the United States in hopes of a better future for her and her siblings. She eventually moved to Milwaukee and attended Marquette University where she studied Biomedical Sciences and Religious Studies.

Dr. Aljamal's passion and dedication to advancing women's health arises from her unique experiences while living overseas. Having seen and experienced health disparities which disproportionately affected women has left her with a strong desire to pursue a career which focuses on advancing women's health.

In her free time, Dr. Aljamal loves to run outdoors, spends time with her nieces and nephews and enjoys exploring new coffee flavors.



### Erin Foss, MD, PGY 4

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- Hometown: Schertz, TX
- Undergraduate training: University of North Texas
- Medical School: McGovern Medical School, formerly University of Texas at Houston

Dr. Foss was born in San Antonio, Texas and as the child of two Army parents had the great fortune of calling Hawaii, South Carolina, and Texas home. Once her family settled in Schertz, Texas, she received Bachelor's degrees in Biochemistry and English-Creative Writing at the University of North Texas. She knew throughout college that she wanted to combine her love for science and math with her desire to do better for others.

She received her MD degree from the University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, now McGovern Medical School. She began her residency training as a Family Medicine resident physician with the Aurora system, but her love for Women's Health was too compelling. While her path to Obstetrics and Gynecology took a brief detour, she considers herself incredibly fortunate to be able to join the Aurora Obstetrics and Gynecology residency program and looks forward to her career as an Ob/Gyn.

In her spare time, Dr. Foss enjoys board games, baking, and all kinds of crafts.



### Berina Karic, DO, PGY 4

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- Hometown: Waukesha, WI
- Undergraduate training: University of Wisconsin - Madison
- Medical School: Edward Via College of Osteopathic Medicine - Auburn

Dr. Karic was born in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and immigrated to Wisconsin with her parents and older sister in 2001. She received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from the University of Wisconsin Madison. Her calling to pursue a medical career began at an early age, and it grew stronger while working as a medical assistant and medical scribe.

Dr. Karic received her DO degree in Auburn, Alabama. During medical school, she decided to pursue a career in obstetrics and gynecology because it combines the continuity of primary care with the technical skills of surgery creating a field that is both exhilarating and rewarding. Dr. Karic is passionate about family planning as well as providing care to underserved communities.

In her free time, Dr. Karic enjoys spending time with her family, cooking, outdoor activities, and traveling.



## Brittany Schall, MD, PGY4

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- Hometown: Cibolo, TX
- Undergraduate training: Baylor University
- Medical School: University of Texas Health-San Antonio

Dr. Schall grew up in northern California until age 11 when she moved to a suburb just outside of San Antonio, Texas. In high school her competitiveness was evident by competing as a team member and officer on the varsity dance team, being inducted into the National Honor Society, competing in a scholarship pageant and winning a title on her local court, and graduating at the top of her class. She then attended Baylor University where she completed a B.S. in Biology with Summa Cum Laude honors while volunteering in hospice care.

After college Dr. Schall returned to San Antonio for medical school where she was able to truly develop her passions. She immediately got involved in the school's Medical Students For Choice and PRIDE organizations and even went on to become Co-President of MSFC and Vice President of PRIDE further igniting her passion and decision to become an OBGYN. She worked to educate her fellow medical students on abortion care and transgender health by holding multiple patient panels with local community members, teaching Safe Space workshops to other healthcare students, and assisted in opening an LGBTQIA free clinic. She also completed a Reproductive Health Externship prior to starting her OBGYN residency.

She hopes to provide a safe space and wide array of services in her future career including robotic surgery, abortion, and transgender healthcare. In her free time Dr. Schall enjoys spending time with her animals (1 dog and 3 cats), making vulva art, reading/writing poetry, and binge watching a good show.

