

2025 Sarah Loguen Fraser Alumni Scholarship Recipient



“I’ve always approached learning with purpose and hunger because higher education was never guaranteed—it was something I had to earn. From a young age, my parents taught me that knowledge is power, even as they sacrificed to keep that power within reach. Financing my education wasn’t an option for them. Watching them give everything to help my brother graduate high school was humbling and motivating. I knew each step forward came at a cost. That understanding fueled my ambition. I pushed myself to excel—not just academically, but in leadership, service, and mentorship. Now, as a third-year medical student at Upstate, I continue to grow in a space that challenges and grounds me. In the classroom, clinic, and community, I’m shaped daily by those who remind me of the physician I’m becoming.” - Schyler Turner, MS3

Excerpts from Schyler’s Scholarship Application:

One of the most impactful aspects of Dr. Fraser's legacy was her deep love and care for children. She devoted much of her life to supporting the well-being of young people, particularly those in marginalized communities. I share this passion for helping children, which is why I am pursuing a career in medicine with a particular interest in pediatric surgery. My love for children and desire to serve them fuels my determination to not only provide clinical care but also to give them the tools to thrive. Through my leadership role as the Community Service Director for Upstate’s Student National Medical Association (SNMA) and the Surgery Club, I am a strong advocate for equipping minority students with the tools they need to be successful. In the Syracuse community, I have seen firsthand the low literacy rates many of our children have, however, I have also seen the profound impact education can have on children's futures. It was here that I witnessed just how crucial it is for children to have access to the resources and guidance that will help them reach their potential. Like Dr. Fraser, I am committed to ensuring that every child I encounter is seen, heard, and given the opportunity to succeed.

Dr. Fraser’s vow to always help those in need is something I strive to live by each day. I have applied this in my own work through initiatives like “The Girls Room,” a mentorship program I created during the early years of the COVID-19 pandemic to empower young girls in my community. This program provides guidance and support to help these girls recognize their potential, much as Dr. Fraser used her position to uplift and encourage those around her. For me, it’s not just about teaching medical skills or providing resources, it’s about being a source of support and encouragement, helping others see the possibilities within themselves.

In many ways, my journey mirrors hers. As a child of parents who made sacrifices for me to pursue my dreams, I am continually reminded that nothing is out of reach if I’m willing to work for it. Like her, I want to make sure that no one in need of care is ever turned away—whether it’s in my local community or abroad. I’ve already begun to accomplish things I once thought were out of my grasp, and I’m just getting started.

As I continue my journey through medical school, I keep Dr. Fraser’s values close to my heart. Like her, I believe that medicine is not just a profession, it is a calling to serve humanity, to make a tangible difference in the lives of others, and to be a source of hope and healing.

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