Get to know your YES Clinical Committee Member: Brenton Finklea, MD

Instagram: @BrentonFinkleaMD

Do you have an OR quirk? Music you always listen to/won’t listen too? Something you always wear? Something you always do?
The most important part of any surgical day is the playlist. OR preparation time is split evenly between case planning and music selection, with particular attention paid to funk. Surround sound speakers keep everyone in the zone. I also have a bag of surgeon’s caps that I’ve collected over the years from various countries and institutions I’ve worked with. Each day I’ll pick a different cap and be reminded of those friendships and partnerships.

How do you unwind after a stressful day? Taking my dog on a hike, an evening spent flyfishing on our local river, or a long bike ride on the roads or trails around Philly will usually do the trick.

If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life what would it be? Anything in dumpling form. Soup dumplings are life.

What is the most unique place you’ve traveled/visited? The most unique place I’ve probably been to is probably somewhere under the ocean, such as my most recent dive trip to Bonaire.

Who is your hero – in ophthalmology or personally? I idolize all of those who have thrown their heart and soul into their work and strive to push their own boundaries for the betterment of the world.


Fly-In Scholarship Opportunity for YES—Applications Due June 12

ASCRS YES members (residents, fellows, and physicians in their first 5 years of practice) in the U.S. are invited to apply for the ASCRS/YES Legislative Fly-In Scholarship Program, which will support travel, accommodations, and registration to attend the Alliance of Specialty Medicine Legislative Fly-In, taking place July 17–19 in Washington, D.C.

The Fly-In will enhance younger members’ understanding of public policy issues affecting ophthalmology and provide networking opportunities with established ASCRS members, including Society leadership. Attendees will hear from leaders in Congress, administration
officials, and other subject-matter experts before visiting with their own legislators on Capitol Hill.

Learn more about the scholarship, the application process (due June 12), and more here.

**Special Benefits for YES to Attend the ASCRS Summer Meeting**

The [ASCRS Summer Meeting](#) is headed back to "Music City": Nashville, Tennessee! Join ASCRS for a long weekend and experience skills transfer labs (included with registration!), focused educational programming, and networking opportunities.

*Special benefits* for YES members include heavily discounted registration and complimentary hotel stays for up to 3 nights for residents and fellows!

[Click here](#) to learn more about the program and onsite activities.

The *early bird deadline* is June 26. [Register now](#) and mark the ASCRS Summer Meeting—*A Taste of ASCRS* down for a few days on your summer schedule!

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### Cataract Awareness Month

June is [Cataract Awareness Month](#). As the society dedicated to cataract surgery education and the needs of anterior segment ophthalmologists, ASCRS is engaging in a specific social media and public relations effort.

As a member, you can piggyback on the materials that ASCRS is producing and help spread the word about Cataract Awareness Month.

- **Share social media posts**: Each day, ASCRS is going to be posting on Instagram, Facebook, and/or Twitter about various facts and insights related to cataract surgery. Like and share these posts with your patient audience.
- **Send a press release to your local news**: Request (email kmathes@ascrs.org for) a customizable press release to send to your local news outlet. If your local news picks up the story, they can help spread the word about Cataract Awareness Month to your community and might even call upon you to speak as an expert on the topic.

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**ASCRS Annual Meeting 2023 Recap**
ASCRS Annual Meeting, which took place in San Diego, California, in May, was a success, offering many opportunities and events for young eye surgeons, including a full day of YES programming, dedicated symposia, a Resident/Fellow Best of Paper and Poster session, dedicated YES skills transfer labs, and several unique networking opportunities.

Thank you for coming and for your involvement! See you next year April 5–8 in Boston, Massachusetts!

Take Advantage of These Educational Opportunities with ASCRS

- **YES Connect webinars**: There are more than a dozen hour-long, binge-worthy webinars on demand. These webinars feature YES members and experts discussing various topics such as interviewing for your first job, basics to billing, working with industry, clinical research in private practice, ASCRS advocacy, and more!
- **Ophthalmology Quicksand Chronicles Eureka Moments Podcast**: Watch this bonus episode filmed live at the 2023 ASCRS Annual Meeting! Hosts Nicole Fram, MD, and Elizabeth Yeu, MD, spoke with experts, Zaina Al-Mohtaseb, MD, and Brandon Ayres, MD. Each guest showcased their own eureka moments and surgical pearls. Don’t forget to subscribe to the ASCRS YouTube channel or your favorite listening platform for future updates about new episodes!

Helpful Links and Resources:

ASCRS YES Membership
ASCRS YES Education
ASCRS Clinical Education
ASCRS Online Tools

Official YES Hashtag: #ASCRSYES

Don’t want to sift through your email to find the latest news and resources from ASCRS? For up-to-the minute updates, alerts, community conversation, and more, download the ASCRS App.