

Ingram Scholar Alumni Spotlight



CHERIE ALY FATHY, Class of 2012

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DEGREES

B.A. Neuroscience; Vanderbilt University

M.D. & Masters of Public Health; Vanderbilt University

CURRENT LOCATION

Philadelphia, PA

CURRENT EMPLOYER

The Wills Eye Hospital

CURRENT OCCUPATION

Ophthalmology Resident

DESCRIBE YOUR CAREER PATH

After Vanderbilt undergraduate, I attended Vandy Med where I obtained my MD and a Masters in Public Health. After Vanderbilt, I completed my intern year outside of Boston. I'm now in Philadelphia where I am in my second year of ophthalmology residency.

HOW DID THE INGRAM SCHOLARS PROGRAM PREPARE YOU FOR WHAT YOU ARE DOING TODAY?

My Ingram summer project changed my life trajectory. I was fortunate enough to work in the UN camps in Jordan implementing clinic reforms to modernize the health clinics and increase clinic efficiency. Afterwards, I launched Dunia Health, which allowed my team to work on telemedicine efforts in the Middle East. Outside of residency, it's my biggest accomplishment and one of the projects I am most proud of in my life. My time at the UN inspired me to pair my passion for public health with the skillset to conduct evidence-based research that improves our ability to provide efficient care for patients. Ingram helped me realize this dream.

IF YOU COULD DESCRIBE THE INGRAM SCHOLARS PROGRAM IN THREE WORDS WHAT WOULD THEY BE?

My lucky break.

WHAT DOES THE INGRAM SCHOLAR COMMUNITY MEAN TO YOU?

In regards to my classmates/those who were in Ingram before my time at Vanderbilt, the community is one in which I can reach out to for guidance, advice, and mentorship. Nowadays, as an alumnus, I look forward to seeing what the current Ingram scholars are doing and looking to them for inspiration and re-igniting my motivation for creative service and innovative leadership.

BEST INGRAM SCHOLAR MEMORY

All of the small group sessions. I've always been a little shy and this group created such a safe space to share big ideas and derive so much inspiration from the people around me.

WHAT ADVICE DO YOU HAVE FOR CURRENT SCHOLARS WHO WANT TO MAKE THE MOST OF THEIR INGRAM SCHOLAR EXPERIENCE?

Ask your co-scholars about their projects, their passions, their inspirations. Volunteer together. Dream big together. The potential partnerships and learning experiences are endless.