



Department of Medicine

# DIMOND Residents 2023–2024

**NYU Langone's Department of Internal Medicine Organization for Nurturing Diversity (DIMOND) Program, promotes diversity among faculty and residents while facilitating their personal and professional growth. The program was established in 2000 and is directed by Renee L. Williams, MD, MHPE.**

# DIMOND Residents



**Co-Chair**

## Cristina Fernandez, MD (PGY-3)

**Hometown:** Miami, FL  
**Medical school:** FIU Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** As someone who identifies as URiM, I knew I wanted to give back to the community that helped shape who I am today. DIMOND allowed me to accomplish this in residency through their unwavering support and mentorship. DIMOND celebrates what makes us unique and has built a strong community for those who identify as URiM.



**Co-Chair**

## Shawn Wen, MD (PGY-3)

**Hometown:** San Francisco, CA  
**Medical school:** Emory University School of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** A major strength of training at NYU is the tremendous social, cultural, and ethnic diversity of patients we care for. Likewise, there is so much diversity among our house staff and faculty. I joined DIMOND because it is a celebration of that diversity and represents a supportive space for sharing challenging experiences, finding mentorship, and building community..



**Recruitment  
Liaison**

## Diana Torres, MD (PGY-3)

**Hometown:** Princeton, NJ  
**Medical school:** USC Keck School of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** DIMOND provides a community for those of us who are underrepresented in medicine as well as LGBTQ+ residents and faculty. We share a common goal to increase resident and faculty representation that is both reflective of our patient population and highlights our diverse backgrounds and experiences.

# DIMOND Residents



**Recruitment  
Liaison**

## **Amber Whitley, MD (PGY-3)**

**Hometown:** Morristown, NJ  
**Medical school:** Brody School of Medicine at East Carolina University

**Why I joined DIMOND:** DIMOND provided me with a safe space to be myself and have difficult conversations. Although residency is very challenging, DIMOND is a family and we always support each other.



**Recruitment  
Liaison**

## **Natalie Bhalla, MD (PGY-3)**

**Hometown:** Johns Creek, GA  
**Medical school:** New York Medical College

**Why I joined DIMOND:** I wanted to be a part of a group that promotes and celebrates the diversity we have here at NYU. I wanted to be a part of an organization that is not only a safe space for all, but brings together people with a common goal of supporting and celebrating those underrepresented in medicine.



**Internal Outreach  
Liaison**

## **Yune Nam, MD (PGY-2)**

**Hometown:** Daegu, South Korea  
**Medical school:** Zhejiang University, Hangzhou, China

**Why I joined DIMOND:** Growing up in different countries, my life has been deeply influenced by diverse cultural contexts, and I've always been part of communities that celebrated people from different walks of life. So, it came as no surprise that I gravitated to DIMOND. I am super excited about being part of a force that fosters a sense of belonging where diversity and inclusion in medicine are not just acknowledged but promoted. Looking forward to seeing you at DIMOND meet ups!

# DIMOND Residents



**Internal Outreach  
Liaison**

## Jahnvi Udaikumar, MD (PGY-3)

**Hometown:** Dallas, TX  
**Medical school:** Texas A&M College of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** DIMOND is such a representative group of individuals who embrace inclusion, openness, and a huge sense of community. In being so, DIMOND allows us to build a social awareness and the skills needed to provide culturally competent care for an ethnically and socioeconomically diverse patient population. It is such an amazing group that promotes culture and diversity!



**Internal Outreach  
Liaison**

## Shannon Rashid, MD, PhD (PGY-2)

**Hometown:** Yonkers, NY  
**Medical school:** NYU Grossman School of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** I think fostering equity and inclusion in medicine is one of the most important duties that we have as physicians. Disparities in access to healthcare, quality of healthcare received, and access to careers in STEM all motivate me to continue to work in this space to contribute to correcting those disparities. I was someone who didn't have access to mentors in STEM until later in life, and I know my path to medicine could have been much easier if I had. For that reason, it's important to me to help foster community and outreach to guide future generations of diverse physicians.



**Internal Outreach  
Liaison**

## Juan Cerezo, MD (PGY-2)

**Hometown:** Cliffside Park, NJ  
**Medical school:** Lewis Katz School of Medicine at Temple University

**Why I joined DIMOND:** I joined DIMOND for the community building opportunities it offers for URiMs. I hope to be able to continue to connect with other residents and help recruit a diverse class of new residents to join our community.

# DIMOND Residents



**Secretary**

## **Keith Wong, MD (PGY-2)**

**Hometown:** Hong Kong and Los Angeles, CA  
**Medical school:** UCLA Geffen School of Medicine

**Why I joined DIMOND:** I want to build community with my co-residents and find ways to make our program a more inclusive space for our colleagues. I want NYU to be a place where everyone can show up as themselves fully and shine in their own light.

