



New Hospitalist: Welcome Dr. Arinaitwe

The Division of PHM welcomed Dr. Doreen Arinaitwe to their team in January. Dr. Arinaitwe She has been an IM Hospitalist at Crouse but is now joining us in Pediatrics. Dr. Arinaitwe shared the following with the Crier: "Hello! My name is Dr. Doreen Biribwa Arinaitwe (pronounced: "Ary-night-way"). I was born and raised in Kampala, Uganda prior to Syracuse, NY becoming my new home. I went to Binghamton University and SUNY Upstate for med school before spreading my wings to Columbia, Missouri for a Med-Peds residency. Post residency, I worked as a Med/Peds hospitalist and did some Physician advisor work in another Columbia- this time in Tennessee. That's how both of my kids were born in the same city; Columbia but in two states (Columbia, MO and Columbia, TN). As our family grew, my husband and I decided to come back home to Syracuse, NY to be closer to our extended family.



I am really excited about joining the Pediatric hospitalist team at Upstate for so many reasons. It is truly a great honor to serve my community while contributing to a place that holds such fond memories of my formative years as a medical student. Outside of medicine, my interests include exploring the outdoors with two toddlers who smile and wave at strangers (because that's what our neighbors in TN did), cooking, traveling, swimming or going to a group exercise class. I love reading non-fiction, lately via audiobooks. It feels great to be back home!" Dr. Arinaitwe tells the Crier she has already been actively recruiting for Upstate's College of Medicine; Class of 2049. "That's my son Daudi listening to his sister, Namara's lungs."



We are excited to have the whole family join us!

We Were There, for Critical Care

We are always excited to hear about faculty, staff, and residents presenting at national conferences. We received a live update from SCCM's Critical Care Conference in January. Drs. Wratney and Rush are joined by Dr. Abeir Mohamed and Jennifer Murphy in the picture below. Dr. Lexi Sirota also presented at the conference.



We are very proud of them all!

Appreciating Our Students on (at) the Spot

Program Leadership and several other faculty had a special night out with several of the Upstate students who applied to our program. The get-together was at the Hops Spot on January 25th. It was a good time to chat and find out how our students are doing after completing their interviews, and also to be available to answer any questions they have about our program. Three of the faculty who attended had completed both their medical school and residency at Upstate (Drs. Kennedy, Suryadevara, and Wali). The evening was planned by our Recruitment Chair, Dr. Holly Stacey.

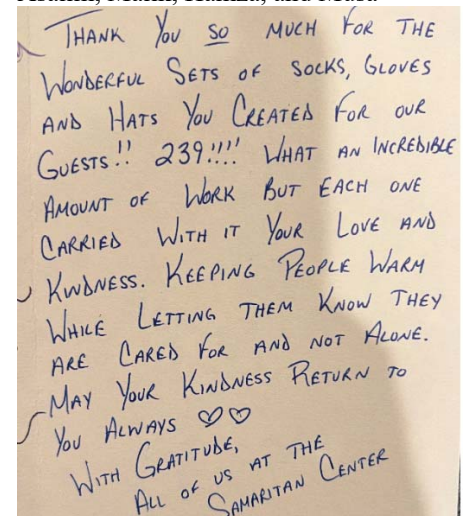
Another Successful Winter Drive

From Asalim Thabet

Thank you to the generosity of many, my sons and I are proud to report back that we were able to collect so many gloves, hats and socks for those in need. Every year we surpass the number from the year prior, and we have accomplished that amazing feat again this year. This year, we were able to package more than 239 sets of winter items (each set containing winter gloves, hats and socks) for the Samaritan Center. In addition, we had so much extra items that we were able to make another generation donation to an additional rescue shelter in town!

Thank you again,

Asalim, Malik, Hamza, and Musa



The Mid-Winter Party!

The Department of Pediatrics hosted a lovely mid-winter party for the entire department on January 17th at the Jammer's Sports Bar and Restaurant. We heard it was a great mix of residents and faculty, the food was great, and a good time was had by all! Thank you to Chief Rida for the picture of a few of the resident party-goers!



Interview Update

Interviews are over (do we hear a big sigh of relief?). We interviewed almost 200 applicants, in 10 interview days, with 10 resident-led virtual social hours. We can't say it enough – thank you to all of the faculty and residents who helped make this a great interview season so far. That includes a small get together with faculty and several Upstate students who applied here (see above). This coming month we are planning two more virtual second-look social hours (2/8 and 2/22). It is not too late for residents to sign up if you are interested in either the 2/8 (URM) event or 2/22. We are looking forward to a great match in March

Senator Schumer Visits the GCH

The GCH hosted a visit and press conference from Senator Chuck Schumer on 1/29 and our very own Dr. Jana Shaw was there! Jonathan Archey, Asst. VP of Government Relations wrote that “Everyone on his team was extremely grateful, and they're confident it will help draw attention to an important pediatric health issue, and will help make next year's RSV season a little easier for our patients, families, and incredible caregivers.”



Syracuse.com also covered the story and noted that “Upstate, which hosted Schumer's visit Monday, has a special connection to the RSV immunization, which was approved by federal regulators last year. Three Upstate babies were the first ones in the world to receive clinical trials of the new drug during its development a few years ago.”

<https://www.syracuse.com/health/2024/01/most-cny-babies-go-without-miracle-rsv-drug-schumer-vows-federal-action.html>

Where Are They Now?

The Michigan-Upstate Connection

Former resident Richard Johnson shared the following Upstate Peds Reunion picture in Michigan (basically a typical day at the office) with us:

Pictured below, left to right:

Dean Karahalios (2021): Peds Cardio
Raya Safa (2013): Peds Card. Crit. Care
Laaibah Ejaz (2023): Peds Crit. Care
Richard Johnson (2022): Peds Crit. Care



Richard tells the Crier they are “All proud SUNY Upstate Alumni. This was on the ICU unit in a break room. We routinely work together but never got around to documenting a picture together. So I orchestrated a meeting lol. We had lots of laughs reminiscing, particularly about the good Dr John S Andrade.”

We also received a holiday card from Dr. Elizabeth Krieger that showed us a little of what she has kept up to since graduating (Class of 2017). See if you notice a theme in most of the pictures.



In her spare time, Beth is an Assistant professor of Heme/Onc at the Children's Hospital of Richman.

In the News –

Valentine Ball for All – Feb 7th

The Upstate Foundation and Salt City Road Warriors will host the Valentine Ball for All Wednesday, Feb. 7 from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Drumlins Country Club. The event is open to any child or children age 3 and up and their parent(s), guardian or caregiver. The event will offer entertainment, special guests, face painting, photo booths, a craft project, gifts and more. Proceeds will benefit the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Campaign.

Attendance is limited, so register soon at Valentine Ball (upstatefoundation.org). For more information, email Danielle Bright at BrightD@upstate.edu.

Sensory Friendly at Syracuse Stage

Did you know that our very own Upstate Golisano Center for Special Needs helps the Syracuse Stage be able to offer several of their productions in a sensory-friendly format? In fact, coming up in February and March they will be offering three sensory-friendly versions of their spring performances which include: Clyde's - Tuesday, Feb. 13, at 7:30 p.m. Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express - March 26, at 7:30 p.m. Once - May 14, at 7:30 p.m. Sensory Friendly Performances provide relaxed accommodations by keeping house lights dimmed, but not off, lowering the sound in the theatre, encouraging patrons to come and go as they please, and offering Sensory Rooms for use before and during the show. Dr. Roanne noted that they usually need volunteers to help with these special events. For more info on the plays, or to purchase tickets:

<https://www.syracusestage.org/>

A Close Shave for a Great Cause

The St. Baldrick's Foundation is holding their annual fundraising event on March 24th. It is not too late to join Team Upstate and have your head shaved for Upstate kids' cancer. “Team Upstate is looking for ‘Shavees’ to help raise money for the St. Baldrick's Foundation, which directly funds pediatric oncology research. The event will be held on March 24th at the Spinning Wheel - 7384 Thompson Rd, North Syracuse, NY. This is an Upstate community affair, so feel free to ask your children, partners, family, and/or friends if they want to join the team, shave their heads, and help fundraise for a great cause! Individuals who join before March 5th will receive a Team Upstate shirt.” (poster attached)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

2/3 Abeir Mohamed
2/7 Clara El Nakib
2/14 Winter Berry, Steve Blatt
2/18 Leonard Weiner
2/22 Kate Okhman
2/23 Aly Soliman
2/27 Abimbola Olufayo-Aluko

HELP BUILD AN UPSTATE TEAM

Because of research,
today about 90% of kids
with the most common
type of cancer will live.



23.330 U RU

**SHAVING EVENT:
MARCH 24**

**SPINNING WHEEL
NORTH SYRACUSE**

**JOIN OR DONATE TO
THE UPSTATE TEAM**
WWW.UPSTATE.EDU/SPECIALEVENTS

OR USE QR CODE
TO GO TO THE
TEAM PAGE.



St. Baldrick's Foundation funds research and clinical trials dedicated to childhood cancer, including several studies at Upstate.

If you plan to participate in the St. Baldrick's shaving event, consider joining an Upstate team.

All participating "shavees" will receive a Team Upstate t-shirt.

For more information on joining the Upstate Team, contact :

Abigail Venskus
venskusa@upstate.edu

Please contact by March 5, to build our team and distribute shirts.

Check out these

SENSORY FRIENDLY

performances at the **Syracuse Stage!**



Tuesday, February 13th
7:30 p.m.



Tuesday, March 26th
7:30 p.m.



Tuesday, May 14th
7:30 p.m.



Accommodations:

- House **lights dimmed**, but not off, throughout the show
- **Lower sound** in the theatre
- **Patrons** encouraged to **come and go as they please**
- **Sensory Rooms available** for use before and during the show
- **Sensory friendly safety kits** that include fidget toys, sunglasses, and ear plugs for patrons to use while at the theater



Buy your tickets today!

All tickets for Sensory Friendly performances for the 2023/2024 are **\$35** and may be exchanged or returned for a **100% refund up until show time**. Tickets and subscriptions may be purchased through the **Box Office** (315-443-3275) or at www.syracusestage.org