

# Shils Fund Honors Health Care Entrepreneurs and Oral Health Innovators at 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards Event

*NYU College of Dentistry Plays Host to 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Shils Stars Dental Student Competition*



The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund recently held its third annual Shils Stars Dental Student Competition and its 17th annual awards ceremony. Ola Adel Farrag, a student at the University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, took first place in the student competition. (Photo: Business Wire)

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NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund, Inc., a nonprofit organization dedicated to innovation in health care, held its third annual Shils Stars Dental Student Competition and its 17<sup>th</sup> annual awards ceremony on October 16 at New York University College of Dentistry.

**The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund recently honored health care entrepreneurs and oral health innovators at its annual awards ceremony.**

“Our event is an exciting opportunity for health care entrepreneurs to motivate, educate, and engage with one another in a mission to advance innovation in oral health,” said Steven W. Kess, President of the Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial

Fund's Board of Directors. "From our competition showcasing young entrepreneurs to the recognition of social entrepreneurs who help expand access to care, Dr. Shils' legacy lives on in elevating the contributions of the next generation of health care leaders."

The Shils Stars Dental Student Competition included submissions from U.S.- and Canada-based dental students who pitched their ideas, innovations, and inventions to a panel of judges led by Stanley M. Bergman, Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer of Henry Schein, Inc. The competition results were:

- 1<sup>st</sup> Place, \$2000: Ola Adel Farrag, University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine – "P-File" New Endodontic File
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, \$1500: Michael Schiappa, Columbia University College of Dental Medicine – Oral Capnography Accessory
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, \$1000: Dr. Supontep Teerakanok, Boston University Henry M. Goldman School of Dental Medicine – The Fabrication of Novel Orthodontic Cement
- 4<sup>th</sup> Place, \$500: Fareed Tareen, New York University College of Dentistry – The Invisible Needle Syringe

The evening concluded with an awards reception that recognized people, organizations, and programs that safeguard the oral health of underserved communities and populations and positively influence the dental community. The evening began with the **2019 Shils Fund Innovator Awards**, a prize given to people and programs from across the health care community in recognition of their bold impact on the field and their respective communities. The awards, which include \$1,000 to a charity of the winner's choice, were presented to:

- **Teresa A. Dolan, DDS, MPH, Vice President & Chief Clinical Officer, Dentsply Sirona** – In recognition of her outstanding "Excellence in Industry" entrepreneurial efforts, dedicated leadership, and unique skill set, which has enabled the technologically driven oral health education program of Dentsply Sirona to reach more than 400,000 dental professionals worldwide.
- **Joseph Brofsky, DMD, Section Head, Department of Pediatric Dentistry at Cohen Children's Medical Center** – In recognition of his "Excellence in Community Service," leading and expanding the Nassau County Dental Society's Give Kids A Smile program, one of the largest events of its kind in the country, to advance the oral health, and by extension overall health, of thousands of underserved and special needs children.
- **Meg Booth, MPH, Executive Director, Children's Dental Health Project** – In recognition of her "Excellence in a Nonprofit Organization" efforts to transform the status of children's oral health across our nation through her innovative leadership of the Children's Dental Health Project.
- **Dr. Stephen LeBeau, President, nanoMAG LLC** – In recognition of his "Excellence in Research" ground-breaking efforts to significantly advance the development of

bioabsorbable implants made of high-strength magnesium alloys with the potential to transform this area of oral health care delivery.

**The Special Recognition Award**, which acknowledges people and programs for their work to improve the oral health and well-being of others, was presented in absentia to **Dr. Karen Fields-Lever, Founder & Owner, 28 to Brush Dental Studio and Mobile Dentistry Program**. Dr. Fields-Lever received the award in recognition of her entrepreneurial efforts to expand 28 to Brush Dental Studio's delivery of care to more than 3,000 patients, as well as the creation of a mobile dentistry segment, which raises awareness of oral health's importance and brightens the smiles of more than 16,000 students.

**The Cohen-Volpe Award** is given to those who have made outstanding contributions to dentistry or its allied sciences, and is named for two distinguished clinicians, researchers, and educators: Dr. D. Walter Cohen and Dr. Anthony Volpe. This year's award was presented to **Daniel H. Fine, DMD**, Professor and Chair, Department of Oral Biology, Rutgers School of Dental Medicine, Senior Vice Dean of Research, Graduate School of Biomedical Science. Dr. Fine was recognized for his longtime, unwavering dedication to the field of integrated medical and dental research of oral infectious diseases, significantly advancing the ability of health care professionals to successfully treat their patients, and ultimately helping to improve our nation's overall health.

#### **About The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund, Inc.**

Friends and colleagues of Dr. Shils, who are also prominent leaders in the dental industry, founded the Dr. Edward D. Shils Entrepreneurial Education Fund in 2002 because they knew that Dr. Shils wanted to leave a legacy of entrepreneurship. In 2012, the Fund was renamed The Dr. Edward B. Shils Entrepreneurial Fund, Inc. and became a registered 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. Through annual awards, partnerships and other branded events, the Fund honors the pioneering vision of Dr. Shils and helps foster inspiration and initiative in current and future healthcare entrepreneurs. For more information, please visit: [www.ShilsFund.org](http://www.ShilsFund.org).

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