



2018 Eugene L. Gottlieb JCO Student of the Year PRESENTED BY AMERICAN ORTHODONTICS

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University of Pennsylvania Student Dr. Samaneh Mojarrad Wins 2018 Eugene L. Gottlieb JCO Student of the Year Award, Presented by American Orthodontics

The Journal of Clinical Orthodontics is proud to announce Dr. Samaneh Mojarrad from the University of Pennsylvania as the winner of the 2018 Eugene L. Gottlieb JCO Student of the Year Award, presented by American Orthodontics. Dr. Mojarrad was selected over 21 other students from schools around the United States in a two-stage, months-long competition judged by members of the JCO editorial board, winning more than \$8,000 worth of prizes from American Orthodontics, JCO, and Dolphin.

“This recognition is a beautiful culmination to a long and challenging dental journey, and I am honored and privileged to be selected as the winner of this prestigious award,” said Dr. Mojarrad. I would like to thank all my professors and faculty, friends and classmates, and especially my ‘Penn Ortho family,’ who have supported, influenced, and inspired me throughout my education. To my family, I am eternally grateful for your endless love and encouragement; your presence is the biggest blessing of my life. At last, I would like to congratulate all the finalists. Let our drive fuel the passion we share to move our profession forward; together we can leave behind a legacy that the storm of time cannot destroy.”

Dr. Mojarrad was born in Iran but moved to the United States with her family when she was 2. She moved back to her home country for high school, finished dental school at the National University of Iran, and returned to the United States to become an orthodontist. After completing her second round of dental education at the Boston University Goldman School of Dental Medicine, she attended the University of Pennsylvania for her orthodontic training. She intends to go into private practice while remaining involved in academia through teaching. A complete profile of Dr. Mojarrad will be published in the March issue of JCO and posted on JCO’s Facebook page.

Dr. Mojarrad is the third Student of the Year award winner; she joins previous winners Dr. Moataz Elmahdy and Dr. Krystian Jarosz. The University of Pennsylvania is the third different school to produce a winner over the three years of the competition. The award program grew out of JCO’s central mission to specialize in the clinical side of orthodontics. “We believed there was a gap in student recognition,” said JCO Editor Dr. Robert Keim. “Almost all of the awards were for research, which is of course important, but no one was rewarding clinical excellence. We thought we were the perfect vehicle to address that gap.”



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The award's title sponsor, American Orthodontics (AO), is the world's largest privately held manufacturer of orthodontic products, proudly based in Sheboygan, Wisconsin, and dedicated to providing quality products, dependable delivery, and personalized service. "AO is dedicated to supporting orthodontic education and the future of the profession, and we are very proud to sponsor the JCO Student of the Year Award recognizing the best and brightest in orthodontics," said communications manager Matt Klitzke.

The award is also sponsored by Dolphin, which provides 2D/3D imaging, diagnostic, treatment planning, case presentation, practice management, and patient education software for orthodontists. Mobile and Cloud applications are available.

The competition was held in two stages. Every school in the United States was allowed to nominate one current student. Each nominee submitted two letters of recommendation and a personal essay. Nominees were then given the materials from an unpublished case and asked to write a complete treatment plan, including all possible alternatives, within a two-week time frame. Three JCO board members whittled the 22 nominees down to 12 finalists in November.

Each of the finalists then submitted a complete report for a case he or she had worked on. A wider panel of JCO board members voted for the winner.

"As we pass the third year of this competition, we cannot be happier with how it has turned out," said Dr. Keim. "Every year we face an incredibly difficult decision, which is a credit to the nominees and the orthodontic schools. We are proud to have Dr. Mojarrad represent us and the orthodontic community as the third winner of the award. Our specialty's future is good hands."

JCO was founded in 1967 by Dr. Eugene L. Gottlieb, after whom the Student of the Year Award is named. Published monthly, it is the only peer-reviewed publication that emphasizes the everyday clinical and management aspects of private orthodontic practice.

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