

**ROTARY CLUB  
OF MIAMI**

*Thomas Brown  
McClelland Trust*

# ALUMNI NEWS

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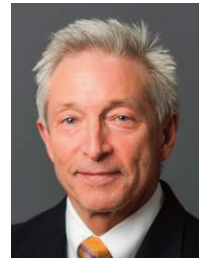
Nov/Dec 2024

## **Alumni Donor Spotlight**

Donations to the Trust, from all sources, are always welcome and much appreciated. It is a pleasure to highlight, every now and then, our TBM Alumni donors for their continued and significant support. Robert Kelly received funding from the Trust to help with his medical school expenses in the early 1980's and has been a supporter since 2018. Here is his story:

*During medical school, I worked at the Rusty Pelican restaurant as a waiter just about every Friday, Saturday and Sunday evening. Over time, it became more difficult to juggle that schedule during my third-year clinical rotations at the University of Miami.*

*I received the TBM scholarship at the beginning of my fourth year of school. At that same time, I sustained an ACL injury that prevented me from working. The scholarship funds allowed me to meet my financial obligations and reduced the amount I had to take out in loans. It lifted a huge burden from my shoulders and really allowed me to concentrate fully on my medical school rotations.*



*After completing my orthopaedic residency at Miami/Jackson Memorial Hospital, I did a sports medicine fellowship in Alabama and then settled into private practice with Resugrens Orthopaedics, in Atlanta. I have been there ever since. It has been a rewarding career, specializing in sports medicine and biological joint restoration.*

*I have never forgotten the kindness and generosity demonstrated by the Rotary Club of Miami and the Thomas Brown McClelland Trust. It is now very important to me to pass that generosity forward. With the cost of a healthcare education ever increasing, students need those funds now more than ever. It is my pleasure and honor to help replenish those funds in the Thomas Brown McClelland Trust for those following in my footsteps.*

Dr. Kelly, the Rotary Club of Miami and the Thomas Brown McClelland Trust sincerely thank you for your dedication to your profession and your generosity!

### **Don't forget! Make Your Donation Count Even More!**

There is still a little time left to send in a TBM donation to count toward the Tim Ryan Match campaign. This opportunity was made possible by President and long-time member Tim Ryan on his passing. The \$23,340 already raised during this year will be matched by his generous gift. Be sure to take advantage of this extended matching opportunity and make your donation now count even more!

## **FIU Scholarship Awards Total More Than \$1 million**

Thomas Brown McClelland Co-Trustees Diane Landsberg and Phil Seipp are proud to announce that after determining the 2024 scholarship awards, Florida International University's Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine (HWCOM) has officially smashed through the \$1 million mark. A single award of \$2,000 in 2009 has led to 47 awards totaling \$166,500 given this year. The FIU \$1 million+ in scholarships received will be celebrated in style early February 2025 with another TBM Pinning event at FIU's HWCOM.

The Medical School at FIU also has a very active Rotaract Club, sponsored by the Rotary Club of Miami. We are proud of them in so many ways. The Rotaract members are dedicated to their studies and also being part of the Rotary world in service to others. We look forward to a long-term relationship with students, staff and faculty.

# What's up?



← **Christopher Bassil ('02)** is a provider at Obstetrics and Gynecology of Atlanta. His specialties are robotic and minimally invasive surgery, pelvic floor disorders, pelvic pain, prolapse and incontinence disorders. Through personal experiences, growth, and learning, he has realized the importance of the Mind-Body-Spirit and supporting resources, in addition to traditional medicine, can be instrumental in managing general well-being, mental focus and clarity, mood and pain disorders, and a variety of other aspects of health.

**Elizabeth Bonachea ('07)** is an Associate Professor of Pediatrics in the clinical division of Neonatology at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus, Ohio. She serves as the Vice Chair for Diversity and Inclusion, Director of Fellowship Education for the Department of Pediatrics, as well as, the Director of the Neonatal-Perinatal Medicine Fellowship. Her research interests include neonatal nephrology, and curriculum design in graduate medical education. Her clinical interests include extracorporeal membrane oxygenation and neonatal renal replacement therapy. →



← **Jennifer Marin ('01)** is professor of pediatrics, emergency medicine, and radiology at the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine and faculty member in the Division of Emergency Medicine. She serves as the medical director for Point-of-Care Ultrasound at UPMC Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and director of emergency ultrasound for the Division of Emergency Medicine. She lectures and teaches internationally and, as one of the pioneers in pediatric point-of-care ultrasound, has published extensively in the field.



← **Joshua Rheinbolt ('03)** is an ophthalmologist and cataract surgeon with Charlotte Eye Ear Nose & Throat Associates in the Concord, NC area. He provides a wide array of eye care diagnosis and treatment including infections, vision issues such as astigmatism, farsightedness and nearsightedness, and dry eye.

**Ricardo "Rick" Romagosa ('98)** is a provider in the Romagosa Barron Dermatology and Skin Cancer Center in Stuart, Florida. The primary focus of the office are the care, comfort and convenience of its patients. He is board certified by the American Board of Dermatology and a fellow of the American Society of Mohs Surgery. →



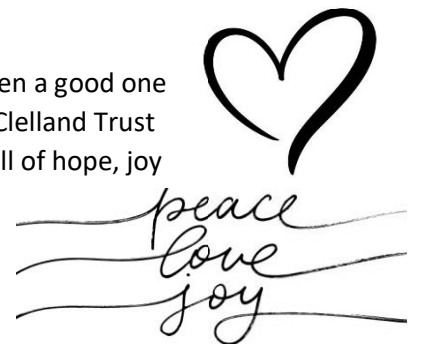
**Eric R. Valladares ('96)** is a laparoscopic, bariatric, and cosmetic surgeon at Vixen Plastic Surgery in Miami. He is committed to excellence, medical ethics, continuous patient care improvement, and upholding the highest ethical standards.



← **Janice Borrows Walker ('98)** is a family medicine physician at Memorial Healthcare System in Pembroke Pines, FL. She cares for patients with everyday illnesses and injuries, as well as hypertension, hyperlipidemia, diabetes mellitus and hypothyroidism. As a patient's main contact for health concerns, she works to assess and treat various conditions while developing trusting and long-lasting relationships.

## Year End Best Wishes!

The end of 2024 is fast approaching, how unbelievable is that? Hope the year has been a good one personally and professionally. The Rotary Club of Miami and the Thomas Brown McClelland Trust wish you, your family, associates and patients a wonderful 2025! May it be a year full of hope, joy and professional satisfaction. Donate now, if you are able, and keep us posted on your accomplishments. If there have been any changes in your snail mail or email address, please let us know ([miamirotarytbmalum@yahoo.com](mailto:miamirotarytbmalum@yahoo.com)).



Please use the enclosed envelope and consider making a *tax deductible* contribution today:

**"Thomas Brown McClelland Trust"**  
P.O. Box 43-1466, Miami, FL 33243



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Amount Enclosed:

Mailing address: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

***In a few words, please let us know what you've been doing:***

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If you have any suggestions, ideas, or thoughts on the newsletter, please contact TBM Alumni Coordinator and Newsletter Editor, Marcia Brod at: [miamirotarytbmalum@yahoo.com](mailto:miamirotarytbmalum@yahoo.com). **We would love to hear from you!**