

Ask Us Anything! Panelists & Bios...

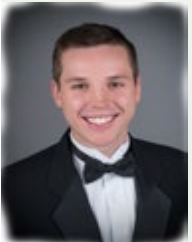


Dr. Sean Aiken, Moderator & Panel Member
Other Panel Members, Dr. Tyler Blount, Dr. Keegan Chandler, Dr. Christopher Costello, Dr. Kyle Dority, Dr. Olivia Estes, Dr. Monali Haldankar & Dr. Heidi West

(Pictured counter-clockwise from top)



Jeanine Pekkarinen, ADA Senior Manager of Client Services will also be on hand to answer questions.



Ticket #: SM9

Saturday, August 26, 2023

11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

“Ask Me Anything”

Panel Discussion and Buffet Lunch



Hear it directly from the mouths of practicing dentists; no questions barred, just real talk with new dentists!

During this open forum, practicing dentists will discuss their life as a dentist. Dentists will take questions and share their experience with how they transitioned from a student to a practicing dentist, finances, student loan debt, finding their first job, the first few years practicing, work-life balance, career path decisions, practice model choices, contract negotiations, licensure and more.



Enjoy the buffet lunch included with this presentation. Lunch begins at 11 a.m.



At the beginning of class, we will hand out a list of common questions that are asked during AMA sessions.

And, of course, feel free to ask your own questions!



Dr. Sean Aiken is originally from Atlanta, Georgia, but now calls Louisville home. He was an NCAA Division I athlete and team captain at The College of William & Mary in Virginia where he lettered for four years in baseball. He obtained a Master’s Degree from Louisville’s Medical School in Physiology and Biophysics before continuing on to Louisville’s Dental School where he earned an additional Master’s Degree in Oral Biology and his DMD. Dr. Aiken earned the Community Outreach Scholarship and James C. Moore Scholarship for his academics and passion for community service while in school. He currently serves as the District 6 representative to the New Dentist Committee of the ADA. When not at the office, he enjoys working on house projects, spending time with his wife, Dr. Taylor Hodge, and their English Shepherd, Tucker.

Dr. Tyler Blount graduated from the University of Louisville School of Dentistry in 2018. After graduation, Tyler completed a one year GPR at University Hospital in Louisville where he had advanced training in treating and managing medically compromised patients. Upon completion of the GPR, Tyler has spent the last four years working in private practice with his father and teaching part-time at ULSD. Tyler provides clinical coverage in the comprehensive care and oral surgery clinics. Dr. Tyler also leads teams of dental students on mission trips to South America during spring break. In the fall of 2022, Dr. Tyler purchased Blount Dental Group from his father and has enjoyed the new challenge of managing his own practice. He desires to continue to expand his clinical skills through high quality continuing education.

Dr. Keegan Chandler was born and raised in Louisville. Dr. Chandler graduated from University of Louisville School of Dentistry 2018. He spent his first two years practicing with Aspen Dental in Bowling Green, KY. In July of 2020, Dr. Chandler moved back to Louisville where he partnered with Dr. Tyler Jury at Jury Family Dentistry. In July of 2021, Dr. Chandler and Dr. Jury purchased a second office in Crestwood, KY. Dr. Chandler is excited for the consolidation of both offices into a new 14 operatory practice with plans to open this July. Outside of the office, Dr. Chandler enjoys traveling with his wife, Natasha, and more recently spending time with his first child, Beckham.

Panelists & Bios...

Dr. Christopher Costello is originally from Seoul, South Korea, but was adopted and moved to America when he was five months old. He spent his childhood in Richmond, KY, before moving to Louisville to attend college. He graduated from the University of Louisville with a B.S. in Biology in 2011, and then continued his education at Louisville's Dental School, graduating in 2015. He has served as President of the Louisville Dental Society and is also a member of the American Dental Association, the Kentucky Dental Association and the Academy of General Dentistry.

Dr. Costello married his wife Hilary in December of 2013. They have twin girls, Sloane and Maren. He enjoys most outdoor activities and is an avid U of L sports fan.

Dr. Kyle Dority was raised in Logan, Utah and graduated from Utah State University in 2018 with a B.A. in History and a B.A. in Spanish. He attended the University of Louisville School of Dentistry where he received his Doctor of Dental Medicine degree in 2022. He is continuing his training at Louisville where he is currently a second-year Periodontal resident. Dr. Dority is fluent in Spanish and loves talking to many of his patients in their native language. In his free time he enjoys traveling with his wife and three daughters.

Dr. Olivia Estes is a general dentist in Walton, Kentucky. She completed her undergraduate education in biology and chemistry at Western Kentucky University and her Doctorate in Dentistry at the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry. She believes in furthering and expanding knowledge within the dental field. She is an active member of the American Dental Association and Kentucky Dental Association. On a local level, Dr. Estes is serving as the President-Elect for the Northern Kentucky Dental Society.

Dentistry runs in Dr. Estes' family! Her dad and sister are both general dentists in her hometown of Cynthiana, KY. Her husband, Dr. Ryan Estes, is a periodontist and owner of Southern Roots Periodontics in Florence and Highland Heights, KY. They welcomed their son, Judge Ryan "J.R." in August 2022. Outside of the office, Dr. Olivia enjoys reading, traveling, spending time with friends and family and cheering on the Kentucky Wildcats!

Dr. Monali Haldankar is originally from Louisville, KY. She received her undergraduate degrees as well as her dental degree from the University of Louisville followed by a one year advanced education in general dentistry certification through NYU Langone Hospitals. She continued on to practice in Denver, CO before moving back home to Louisville, KY, where she owns her own private practice.

Jeanine Pekkarinen has been with the American Dental Association for 14 years where she serves as Senior Manager in Client Services. Her primary role is to collaborate and strategize with state and local dental societies to help grow membership and assist with capacity challenges. One of her favorite parts of her job is partnering with staff and leaders on new initiatives.

Prior to her time with the ADA, Jeanine was with the American Red Cross where she worked as the Director of Preparedness in New York City, responded to large scale disasters and headed up national recovery programs for 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina.

Dr. Heidi West is from Arkansas where she attended the University of Arkansas to earn her Bachelors of Science in Biology with honors. She then moved to Kentucky to study dentistry at University of Louisville School of Dentistry where she graduated with honors and earned her Doctor of Dental Medicine degree. Dr. West is a member of the American Dental Association, the American College of Facial Esthetics, the Kentucky Dental Association, and an elected member of Omicron Kappa Upsilon. She is certified to administer botox and dermal fillers for TMJ/D pain therapy and esthetics. The aesthetic nature of dentistry and precise attention to detail are the things she loves most about the field. She wants to make sure patient care is centered around efficiency and comfort.

