

The Center for the Art of Medicine
John Song Awards
2024-2025

“It’s never too early to bring your whole selves to whatever you choose to do. So don’t wait until medical school is over, or residency is over; live your life now and share love in all you do.” – John Song, MD

The John Song Awards program allows University of Minnesota medical students (current MS1-MS3 and MD/PhD) to pursue projects centered around advocacy through the lens of the arts and humanities. These awards provide a platform and funding source for projects sitting at the intersection of community service, artistic creation, and/or research. All participants will share their work at the annual celebration event held each Spring.

Appropriate projects include:

Any project centering community advocacy and engagement through an artistic medium will be considered. Past award recipients have included a range of community-focused and arts-based research projects such as:

1. The creation of “Creativity Cafes”—which built medical student community through artistic and health equity centered programming.
2. The creation of a podcast focused on the work of local community and non-profit organizations.
3. Writing a children’s book centered on neurodiversity, which was later translated into Amharic for distribution to children in Ethiopia.

These projects can be completed individually or with a team. Projects must have a clearly defined outcome and require an explicit product or output by the end of the academic year (i.e. submission of paper for publication, present research at conference, program creation, etc.).

Budget:

There is no minimum amount that may be requested; the maximum granted will be limited to approximately \$2,500. The total amount awarded each year will be based on the number of projects funded.

Timeline:

Proposals are now being accepted for the 2024-2025 academic year. Applications must be received by **midnight, Friday March 22, 2024**. Applicants will be notified in mid-late May of the review committee’s decisions. Funding will be disbursed to student accounts in September 2024 to use in the 2024-2025 academic year.

Review Process:

All proposals will be reviewed by the John Song Awards Selection Committee. Final decisions regarding funding will be made by this committee.

To apply:

- [Submit proposals here: via Google Form](#). The application includes:
 - A written proposal (no longer than 500 words) describing:
 - Goals or needs
 - Activities related to these goals or needs
 - Interest in the proposed area of study
 - A separate document with an itemized budget for the project (including course fees, travel, supplies, etc.)

Application Deadline: By 11:59pm CT, Friday, March 22, 2024

Legacy of Dr. John Song:

The John Song Student Awards were established in 2022 to honor the contributions and philosophy of Dr. John Song—an internal medicine physician, bioethicist, writer, and world traveler. Dr. Song was born in Seoul, South Korea and immigrated to the U.S as a child. He studied English and Film at Brown University and even taught high school English before eventually matriculating into medical school at the University of Pennsylvania.

He completed an internal medicine residency at the University of Minnesota, a bioethics fellowship at Johns Hopkins, and a Public Health fellowship. He helped found the Phillips Neighborhood Clinic and was on the board of directors for “Arm and Arm in Africa”. He spent his life blending writing, humanism, a passion for traveling, and a dedication to vulnerable populations into his medical practice. Dr. Song passed away in 2019, and according to his partner, Jen Song, there was one theme he consistently embodied: “It’s never too early to bring your whole selves to whatever you choose to do. So don’t wait until medical school is over, or residency is over; live your life now and share love in all you do.”

CFAM is honored to continue his legacy through the John Song Awards, which focus on projects at the intersection of art and advocacy/community service.

Financial Aid Impact Statement:

If selected, funding will be accessed through the University’s EFS system and *will not* be processed through the University Financial Aid office. To access funds and ensure adherence to University financial policies, meetings will be scheduled in the fall with the Center for the Art of Medicine’s finance team.

Questions:

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