



# The VESALIUS TRUST

for Visual Communication in the Health Sciences

## NEWSLETTER

January  
2025

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Wil Hamilton  
– Vice President

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– Treasurer

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– Secretary

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Grace Hsu

Derek Ng

Ashley Ulm

Nicholas Pontone  
2024 Inez Demonet  
Recipient

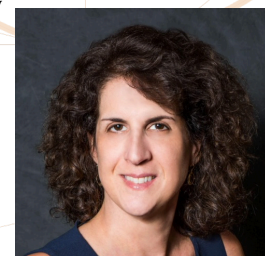
Tina Schott  
– Executive Director

Welcome to our first issue of the new Vesalius Trust Newsletter! We will be updating the events on our student award winners, presentations for the AMI meetings as well as important information concerning the Trust and upcoming projects.

### A Message of Gratitude from the President:

Another year has flown by at the Vesalius Trust. I want to give thanks to all who have hung in there and supported the Trust in the many activities that we undertake.

If you attended the AMI conference in Rochester this summer, you saw our volunteers at work promoting the Trust alongside our Trustees and Executive Director Tina Schott at the VT booth, at the annual silent auction, and from the podium as we celebrated our programs. We continued our proud support of the schools of medical illustration and biomedical communications by presenting scholarship awards to 18 students this year. It was also the 2<sup>nd</sup> year that we held our Lucille Innes student showcase, where students were able to talk about their work and network with other students and the professional members.



Joan Tycko, President

Your donations have a huge impact on the Trust's ability to foster the study, research and practice in visual communication of health information at all levels. The Trust currently has 10 funds that support student learning and professional development in our field. In this past year we were able to support professional education in medical-legal illustration for the first time through our Martin E. Finch Speakership Fund. In the upcoming year we will make our first award to a student with an innovative thesis in the area of cardiovascular or neurological health, through a new Steven Harrison Fund.

Please consider joining us again this year to help ensure the future of this important mission.

The Vesalius Trust is a 501(c)3 charitable foundation, which means, as an individual or corporate donor, you can deduct up to 100% of your adjusted gross income by contributing to the Trust.

I ask as you read through the other articles in this newsletter, that you please keep us in mind when making donations this winter. The Trust is grateful for your support and needs your support to continue.

All the best for a prosperous New Year!

*Joan*

Joan Tycko, Certified Medical Illustrator  
President

### Friends of the Trust

A Friend of the Trust is committed to the sustainability of the Vesalius Trust, and provides generous support in a way that guarantees stable infrastructure and management. A Friend of the Trust pledges to make a significant donation over a five-year period to provide a solid foundation for future Trust activities and stewardship. Please consider making a pledge this year to help to sustain the work of the Trust.

**Thank you to our current Friends of the Trust**

# INEZ DEMONET AWARD



Nicholas K. Pontone  
2024 Research Grant Recipient  
and Inez Demonet Scholar  
by VESALIUS TRUST  
at Johns Hopkins University in the Health Sciences

**NICHOLAS KILNER-PONTONE**, winner of the 2024 Inez Demonet Award. He attended a magnet high school for visual arts in Baltimore County, MD where he realized he wanted to go to art school and learn to be an illustrator. He graduated with honors from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn NY in 2020 with a BFA in Illustration. He freelanced as an illustrator while cultivating an interest in biology, working in landscaping and gardening. The pandemic taught him the importance of effective scientific communication; during this time, he discovered medical illustration. He enrolled at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, to build upon a lifelong interest in the sciences. In 2022 he enrolled in the Medical and Biological Illustration Program, Johns Hopkins University. While a student he was awarded the Joseph M. Dieter Jr. Scholarship for Creative Design Excellence, a merit award from the AMI 2023 student salon, as well as a 2024 Vesalius Trust research grant.

He is currently growing his career as a medical illustrator, and one day hopes to have his own garden.

## STUDENT AWARDS

### ALAN COLE



Tonya Burge  
2024 Alan Cole Scholar  
by VESALIUS TRUST  
at Johns Hopkins University in the Health Sciences



**Tonya Burge**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine

### JOYCE MCGILL



Jayne Leggatt  
2024 Joyce McGill Scholar  
by VESALIUS TRUST  
at Johns Hopkins University in the Health Sciences

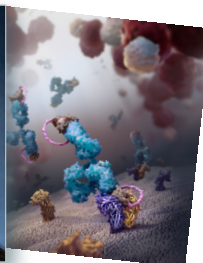
**Jayne Leggatt**  
University of Toronto



## VESALIAN SCHOLARS



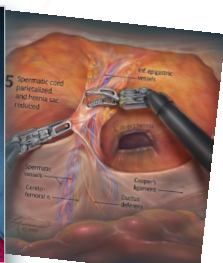
**Annemarie Gundel**  
Rochester Institute of  
Technology



**Ann Seliger**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



**Grace Herzberg**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



**Sarrah Hussain**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



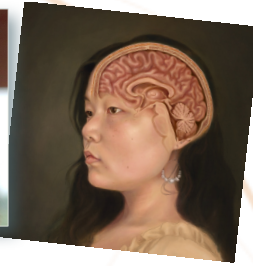
**Alex Kontos**  
University of Illinois  
at Chicago



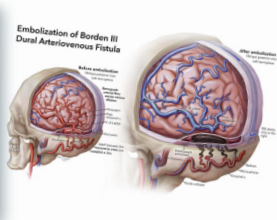
# RESEARCH GRANTS



**Samantha Li**  
University of Toronto



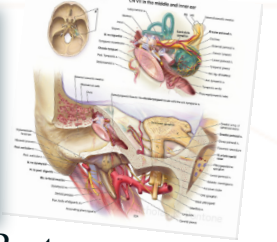
**Juno Shemano**  
University of Toronto



**Chloe Woodin**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



**Mia Nickell**  
Augusta University



**Nicholas Kilner-Pontone**  
Johns Hopkins University  
School of Medicine



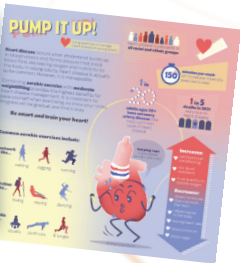
**Beatrice Chen**  
University of Toronto



**Raisa Rodriguez Maldonado**  
University of Illinois at Chicago



**Natalie Lucas**  
University of Toronto



**Khorizon Dunn**  
University of Illinois at Chicago



**Riley Cutler**  
University of Illinois at Chicago

## The 2024 Silent Auction

Highlighting the fun activities for the Trust this year was the Silent Auction held at the AMI Annual Conference in Rochester. The more than 500 attendees in Rochester made the bidding fun and profitable for the Trust! All items were donated by AMI members and Vesalius Trust supporters. Of note were original Russell Drake sketches donated by Bill Westwood, Steve Harrison works of art, a legacy of valuable books from Ron Boisvert and so much more.

Adding in the Hummingbird book, "I Hum Every Day", illustrated and donated by Wil Hamilton, which sold out at the booth, the latest edition of the InSaNe comic, at the end of the day, over \$6,000 was realized at the AMI meeting, 100% of which goes to support student scholarships.

If you would like to donate for the 2025 Auction, donations are accepted at the Trust Headquarters in Placitas, New Mexico, or simply bring them with you if you are planning to attend the AMI conference in Grand Rapids, Michigan, July 16-19. VT will have a booth where you can drop off your donations.



### *I Hum Every Day*

Wil Hamilton illustrated the *I Hum Every Day* book, by Matt Farmer and has donated copies to the Trust. The book follows Hummer's adventures from egg to adult in a delightful mix of art, science and fantasy that's sure to spark the imagination of young children and early readers everywhere. Share the thrill of flight lessons from Mom, dangers from above and human encounters from a hummingbird's perspective. Book design and publishing was done by Richard Weaver

Order yours today and have it signed by Wil Hamilton with an original drawing by the artist. Click here to place your order on the VT website. Books are softback and run for \$30 plus shipping. Additional donations are always welcome!

Also available on VT store page at <https://vesaliustrust.org/store>

### InSaNe Comic

The InSaNe Comic has been an annual publication since 2011 and is now in production for its 12<sup>th</sup> issue. As a fundraiser for the Vesalius Trust, each issue is first made available at the annual meetings of the AMI. The pages are created as a graphic narrative comic and contributed by the Medical Illustrators and students that volunteer for each issue. They can be obtained for a donation at the VT table where we also have back issues on display. They are also on our website store page at <https://vesaliustrust.org/store>



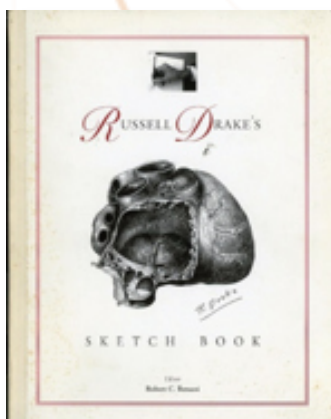
### Do you have the Russell Drake Sketch Book?

The VT office has copies of Russell Drake's sketchbook, containing 128 pages showing his techniques in sketching, inking and carbon dust techniques.

Russell Drake trained directly under Max Brödel at Johns Hopkins and was a renowned medical illustrator at the Mayo Clinic from 1917 – 1961.

The book also comes complete with 6 separate frameable sheet drawings from the author.

\$35 plus shipping, also available on the VT website







## VESALIUS TRUST COLLECTION

The Association of Medical Illustrators established the Vesalius Trust as a non-profit public foundation in 1988 with a mission to provide funding to support education and research in visual communication for health sciences. In 2010, the Vesalius Trust, spearheaded by Marcia Hartsock, CMI, collaborated with the Lloyd Library making the Lloyd the repository for the Trust's collection of original artwork of professional medical illustrators. It is the goal of the Lloyd Library to care for, preserve and provide access to this collection for education and research.

### Art & Anatomy Tour of Southern Italy 2024

This Art & Anatomy Tour was organized and hosted by our good friend, medical illustrator Marie Dauenheimer, with help from creative director Joanna Ebenstein and Morbid Anatomy Foreign Correspondent Eleanor Crook.

This exciting tour included travel to Naples, Pompeii, the Amalfi Coast, and the island of Sardinia. Attendees stayed at 4 and 5 star hotels with balconies and ocean views in Naples, Sorrento, and Cagliari.

The tour guests visited fascinating sites of historic interest including rare book collections, anatomical museums, as well as art and archeological sites.

#### Tour highlights included:

- Sansevero Chapel and Museum including the "anatomical machines"
- University Library of Napoli rare book collection
- National Archeological Museum in Naples
- Naples Anatomical Museum
- Capodimonte Art Museum
- Pompeii
- Amalfi Coast towns of Sorrento, Positano, and Ravello
- University of Cagliari's Wax Anatomical Museum featuring waxes by Clemente Susini plus Archeological treasures of Sardinia



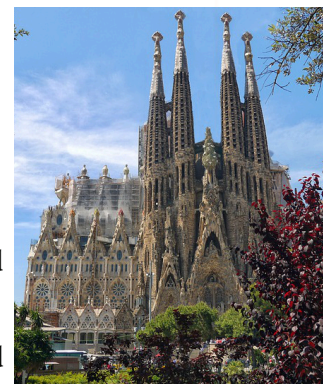
### Art & Anatomy Tour of Spain 2025

The tour will run from October 7 to 17, 2025. Beginning in Madrid's Plaza Mayor historic district, you will visit the Thyssen-Bornemisza and Reina Sofía museums that feature Renaissance to modern artworks from Caravaggio, Dürer, to Dalí, Hopper and Picasso. Special tours of the Puerta Museum of Anatomy and attendance to the medical conference at the University of Madrid's Faculty of Medicine are scheduled. Also during the 6 days in



Madrid, are visits to San Fernando Academy of Fine Arts to see the Goya collections and frescoes as well as a look at the National Anthropology Museum. Enjoy a trip to Toledo and the El Greco Museum. Before leaving Madrid, you will be treated to a special pre-opening tour of the Prado Museum without the crowds to experience works of Goya, Velázquez, Rubens, El Greco, and Hieronymus Bosch, oh my! What a garden of Earthly Delights!

Then off to Barcelona to experience Gaudí's Park Güell and the Basílica de la Sagrada Família. Walk through the Picasso Museum and the Anatomical Theater of Barcelona. The tour finishes with an excursion to Montjuïc for its architecture and National Museum of Catalan Art. Sign up by February 1<sup>st</sup>.



#### What's in store for 2025?

Planning is in process for an online auction around the Valentine's Day holiday. Donate your heart-inspired artwork, crafts, jewelry and anything else to inspire donations for this fun event around this fun "cardio" event! Look for an email and social media seeking donations and to launch the auction!

#### Hello from New Mexico

In case you didn't know, the Vesalius Trust is back in New Mexico under Schott Management Group. After a two-year absence, Tina Schott has returned as our Executive Director. Please feel free to contact Tina with your thoughts and messages at [vt@vesaliustrust.org](mailto:vt@vesaliustrust.org).

The office address is:  
1 Ridge Court, Placitas, New Mexico 87043