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Hello,

We hope this letter finds you well.

The American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST) is excited to announce two significant events for 2024:

AAST Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Essay Contest

Medical students, residents, and fellows are invited to share their perspectives on pursuing a career in acute care surgery or the impact of trauma-informed care on healthcare inequities.

First-place winners will receive free registration to the 2025 AAST Annual Meeting and a two-night stay. Winning essays will be published in Trauma Surgery & Acute Care Open journal.

The contest opens on June 7th, 2024, and the deadline for submissions is July 24th, 2024. Essays (maximum 1,000 words) should be emailed to Kaitlyn Sanders at ksanders@aast.org.

Please download the flyer including essay prompts [here](#) and share with your community.

DEI Networking Breakfast

Join us at the 2024 AAST Annual Meeting for the inaugural Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Networking Breakfast. This event is open to surgical trainees, faculty members, and AAST leadership.

Attendees can expect small, round table discussions, guidance on DEI research, mentorship from senior members, and professional development advice, all over a provided breakfast. Discussion topics will include mentorship, DEI disparity research, health services and outcomes research, and career development.

The breakfast will take place on Thursday, September 12th at 6:15 AM at Paris Hotel in Las Vegas, NV.

Secure your spot now by completing registration here: .

Please share these opportunities with your members. For more information, contact Kaitlyn Sanders [here](#).

Thank you for your attention and support in promoting diversity and equity in acute care surgery.

Best,

Kaitlyn Sanders

AAST DEI Committee Staff Liaison

American Association for the Surgery of Trauma (AAST)

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