



Inaugural Class of 2029
WHITE COAT CEREMONY

FRIDAY, JULY 25, 2025

Emerald at Queensridge

891 S. Rampart Blvd, Las Vegas, NV, 89145

Three O'clock in the Afternoon

ROSEMAN UNIVERSITY
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE



SCHEDULE of EVENTS



EVENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Adrian Jones, JD
Associate Dean, Student Affairs

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Pedro “Joe” Greer, Jr., MD
Founding Dean

PROCESSIONAL

WELCOME

Adrian Jones, JD
Associate Dean, Student Affairs

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

James O’Connell, MD
President, Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program
Assistant Professor, Harvard Medical School

NATIONAL ANTHEM

INTRODUCTIONS

Karin Esposito, MD, PhD
Senior Executive Dean, Office of Academic Affairs
Chief Academic Officer

WHITE COAT PRESENTATION

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Chief Academic Officer

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Interim Chair, Clinical Sciences

Helen Tempest, PhD
Associate Dean, Foundational Education

GREETINGS FROM THE FOUNDING DEAN

Pedro “Joe” Greer, Jr., MD
Founding Dean

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Renee Coffman, PhD
President and Co-Founder
Roseman University of Health Sciences

MEDICAL STUDENT OATH

Pedro “Joe” Greer, Jr., MD
Founding Dean

CLOSING REMARKS

Adrian Jones, JD
Associate Dean, Student Affairs

PROCLAMATION FROM THE GOVERNOR

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT – *Dr. Renee Coffman*



Dear Guests,

Today marks an extraordinary milestone in the history of Roseman University of Health Sciences. As President and Co-founder, I am filled with immense pride as we gather to celebrate not only the personal achievements of our inaugural College of Medicine class, but also their unique place in our University's legacy.

Twenty-five years ago, when my co-founders, Dr. Harry Rosenberg, Dr. Chuck Lacy, and I began what is today Roseman University of Health Sciences, our mission was to transform healthcare education in Nevada and beyond.

We envisioned a new kind of health professional—clinically exceptional, ethically grounded, and deeply compassionate.

To the 64 students of our inaugural class, you are the living embodiment of that vision. As you receive your white coats today, you step into the noble calling of medicine and the pages of Roseman's history. Your journey as medical students begins now—with purpose, passion, and a profound responsibility to serve.

To the families and loved ones, thank you for supporting the dreams that brought us to this moment. To our faculty and staff, your dedication is shaping the future of medicine. To our supporters and partners, your belief in our mission has made this day possible. Together, we celebrate not only a beginning, but a legacy in the making.

Sincerely,

Renee Coffman, PhD, *President and Co-Founder, Roseman University of Health Sciences*

DEAN'S WELCOME – *Dr. Pedro “Joe” Greer, Jr.*



Dear Inaugural Class of 2029,

It is with immense pride and heartfelt joy that I welcome you to Roseman University College of Medicine. Today's White Coat Ceremony marks a significant milestone—not only in your personal journey toward becoming a physician, but also in the history of our institution. As the founding class, you are pioneers. You carry the hopes, dreams, and mission of a new medical school committed to transforming healthcare through compassion, service, and innovation.

At Roseman, our foundation is rooted in social accountability and a deep commitment to community. We believe that medicine is more than a science—it is a moral calling to serve others, to speak for the voiceless, and to pursue health equity for all.

Our curriculum reflects this belief, emphasizing not only academic and clinical excellence but also empathy, cultural humility, and ethical leadership.

As you don your white coats today, you assume the responsibilities that come with the privilege of caring for others. I encourage you to embrace the following guiding principles as you begin your medical education:

1. **Pursue Excellence** – Commit fully to your learning, your clinical training, and your personal growth. Approach every opportunity with intellectual curiosity and resilience.
2. **Lead with Compassion** – Let kindness guide your care. Listen with intention, speak with empathy, and treat every patient with dignity and respect.
3. **Serve Your Community** – Be present where you are needed most. Engage in outreach and service that reflects your commitment to improving the health of underserved populations.
4. **Honor Diversity** – Respect and celebrate the rich diversity of your peers, your patients, and the world around you. Cultivate cultural competence to deliver equitable care.
5. **Uphold Integrity** – Be unwavering in your professionalism and ethics. Let honesty, accountability, and trustworthiness define your actions.
6. **Be a Lifelong Learner** – Medicine is ever-evolving. Stay curious, stay informed, and stay committed to growth throughout your career.

This moment is not just a ceremony—it is a promise. A promise to serve, to learn, and to lead. Wear your white coat with humility and pride, knowing that you represent the future of healthcare and the heart of our mission.

Welcome to Roseman University College of Medicine. I am honored to walk this journey with you, and I look forward to all you will accomplish as the trailblazers of our inaugural class.

Warm regards,

Pedro “Joe” Greer, Jr., MD, *Founding Dean, Roseman University College of Medicine*

KEYNOTE SPEAKER – *Dr. James O’Connell*



Dr. James (Jim) O’Connell is the founding physician and current President of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program (BHCHP), an organization he helped establish in 1985. For nearly four decades, Dr. O’Connell has dedicated his career to serving individuals experiencing homelessness, providing compassionate and accessible health care on the streets, in shelters, and through innovative outreach models.

He earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and completed his residency in Internal Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital, where he also served as Chief Resident. He holds faculty appointments at Harvard Medical School and is widely recognized as a leading voice in public health, social justice, and primary care for underserved populations.

Dr. O’Connell is the author of the acclaimed book *Stories from the Shadows: Reflections of a Street Doctor*, which chronicles his experiences caring for the unhoused in Boston. Each Roseman University College of Medicine student will receive a copy of his book today. His extraordinary work has been featured in national media outlets and academic forums, and he continues to be a powerful advocate for the dignity and care of society’s most vulnerable.

We are honored to welcome Dr. O’Connell as the keynote speaker for our Inaugural White Coat Ceremony. His lifelong commitment to service and human-centered care embodies the values we strive to instill in our future physicians.

ARNOLD P. GOLD FOUNDATION

On behalf of the Arnold P. Gold Foundation, it is my great honor to welcome you as the very first class embarking on your journey at an institution so deeply committed to the principles of humanism in healthcare. At Roseman, you are joining a community where care is not only clinically excellent but also kind, safe, and trustworthy. The school’s dedication to fostering a culture of compassion, respect, and collaboration is evident in its innovative curriculum, commitment to patient-centered care, and focus on creating inclusive, supportive environments for both learners and the communities you will serve. These are the very qualities that define humanistic medicine and are essential for the future of healthcare.

I have the utmost faith in your Dean, Dr. Joe Greer, whose visionary leadership and unwavering commitment to humanism set the tone for your education and professional growth. As you begin your journey, I offer you two pieces of advice: First, always assume the best intentions in others—believe that your patients genuinely want to be healthy and are trying their best, and that your colleagues are striving to do the very best job they can. This mindset fosters trust and empathy, the cornerstones of humanistic care. Second, remember that you cannot truly connect with or care for others if you neglect your own well-being. Your patients and your community deserve the very best you have to offer, so prioritize caring for yourself as an essential part of your professional life. I am confident that under Dr. Greer’s guidance, you will not only acquire the skills and knowledge to become outstanding physicians but will also help shape a healthcare system where human connection is at the heart of every interaction. Congratulations on this important beginning—I look forward to witnessing the impact you will make as champions of humanism in medicine.

With Great Respect,

Kathleen A. Reeves, MD, FAAP, *President and CEO, Arnold P. Gold Foundation*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The Roseman University College of Medicine is deeply grateful to all who made this historic Inaugural Class White Coat Ceremony possible. This momentous occasion marks the beginning of our students’ journey into the noble profession of medicine, and we are honored to celebrate this milestone with our entire community.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the senior leadership, dedicated faculty and staff of both the College of Medicine and Roseman University of Health Sciences. Your mentorship, guidance, and unwavering commitment to excellence in medical education have laid the foundation for our students’ success.

Special recognition goes to **Optum** for their generous donation of stethoscopes to each member of our inaugural class, a meaningful gift that serves as both a practical tool and a powerful symbol of the healing profession our students are entering. We also thank **The Arnold P. Gold Foundation** for providing the Gold Humanism Pins now proudly worn on every student’s white coat, reinforcing the core values of compassion and patient-centered care.

We are sincerely thankful to the family members and friends who have supported our students throughout their educational journey. Your love, encouragement, and sacrifice have been instrumental in bringing them to this pivotal moment.

We extend our gratitude to the **Board of Trustees** members and **Roseman University of Health Sciences Administration** in attendance today. Your leadership and vision have made this ceremony—and the College of Medicine itself—a reality.

A special thank you to Bree Romero and the staff at Emerald at Queensridge for their partnership in hosting today’s event. We are also grateful to our White Coat Committee, including Jennifer Haley, Kelly Bouchareune, Sydney Miller, Bee Scholz, and Andria Williams, for their dedication and seamless coordination, and to program creators Jason Roth and Amy Glick for shaping a ceremony that is both meaningful and memorable.

Finally, we thank our incredible College of Medicine volunteers for their time, energy, and commitment to making this important milestone so special.

Together, we celebrate not only our inaugural class but also the collaborative spirit and shared purpose that make extraordinary achievements possible. Thank you for being part of this historic day.



MEDICAL STUDENT OATH

As a medical student at Roseman University College of Medicine and as a future physician,
I pledge to practice medicine with humility and with the highest ethical standards.

I will always do what is best for my patients, rejecting greed, ego, and ambition.
In all interactions, I will strive for fairness, respect, and accountability.

With curiosity and discernment, I will uphold excellence in learning and in clinical care.
I will honor the diverse experiences of others and reject discrimination in any form.
I will seek guidance from my mentors, and I will treat every patient with empathy.
I will always keep learning, knowing that growth defines a true healer.

I will uphold honesty and integrity, and I will encourage my peers to do the same.
I will remember that my actions shape how the world perceives medicine.

Today marks the first step in a lifetime of learning.
Let the white coat remind me of my duty to medicine and of the promises I make.

This I pledge in honor and trust.



INAUGURAL CLASS OF 2029



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Embracing Discovery. Committed to Community.*

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