

## NREF News

December 2016

### Chair's Message

Neurosurgery is meaningful work and, each year, we learn about promising research and continued advancements in the field of neurosurgery. Donating to the Neurosurgery Research & Education Foundation (NREF) is an affirmation of the work that we do, a way to show our alliance to an organization that funds the advancement of science and a commitment to the future of our specialty.

Each year, we are fortunate to have a talented pool of exceptional individuals who have taken it upon themselves to lead this foundation — always with a look towards the future. The members of the NREF Board and various committees are committed to a vision of providing support for research and education initiatives that enhance the critical role of improving lives for neurosurgical patients.

This year's applications for research and fellowship programs funded by the generosity of individuals, industry partners, institutions, neurosurgical societies and private foundations are now being reviewed. Our goal this year is not to fund the same number as last year, but to fund more.

To our fellow AANS members, we invite you to lean into your engagement with NREF. You are a part of an extraordinary specialty. Together, we will continue to support education for residents and offer mid-career neurosurgical training, as well as research for all the subspecialties.

With a donation of a planned gift, stock transfer, royalties from a donor advised fund or an outright contribution, your generosity is appreciated. Visit [www.nref.org/Donate](http://www.nref.org/Donate) for other ways to donate during this year-end season of giving, and thank you for your support.

Sincerely,



Make a Donation

Learn More

### #Why I Give

*"The NREF is important as other sources of funding diminish. The NREF jump-starts careers."*  
Robert F. Heary, MD, FAANS.

The NREF is poised to extend the reach of research programs that will bring advances in the diagnosis and treatment of neurological disorders, improve patient care and help advance the future of neurosurgery. Your donation will support research and education efforts that enhance and confirm the critical role neurosurgeons play in improving lives.

Jon H. Robertson, MD, FAANS

NREF Chair

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**Don't throw away your shot ... to see "HAMILTON."**



Support education and research this month with a donation of \$500 or more to the NREF, and you will be entered in a raffle to win orchestra-level tickets to the hit Broadway musical "**Hamilton**" at the Richard Rodgers Theatre in New York, on Friday, June 2, 2017 at 8 p.m. (Travel and hotel accommodations are not included.)

To be eligible, donations must be received by 11:59 p.m. CST Saturday, Dec. 31, 2016. The winning entry will be drawn on Saturday, Jan. 14, 2017.

Each \$500 donation equals one entry. Donate \$5,000 and get ten entries. A **Cushing Circle of Giving** donation of \$25,000 equals 50 entries in the drawing, but more importantly, provides up to seven residents with the opportunity to attend an NREF course all expenses paid – *an unparalleled educational and professional networking experience.*

Donors can target their donation to the fund of their choice. Select from the Rhoton Collection®, Van Wagenen fellowship fund, 25 "Honor Your Mentor" funds, support QOD initiatives or donate to education, research or outcomes in your subspecialty. Donors can give online, in the mail, over the phone or through a donor-advised fund.

**Help us to help you, the specialty *and* the next generation of neurosurgeons with your gift to the NREF.**

To donate and enter the "**Hamilton**" drawing, visit the NREF website at [www.nref.org/Donate](http://www.nref.org/Donate). Thank you for including the NREF in your philanthropy.

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**Support the NREF When You Shop**

With the holiday shopping season here, there are simple, no-cost ways to help the NREF raise much-needed funds.

Register with [iGive.com](https://www.give.com) or [AmazonSmile](https://www.amazon.com/amazonsmile) and designate the NREF as your charity. A percentage of the proceeds from your purchase will be donated to the NREF.

iGive.com has over 1,700 online stores available, and the NREF receives a donation whenever you shop via their site. By using Amazon Smile, 0.5% of the price of selected items will be donated to the NREF at no additional cost to you.

You won't pay more than you would already be spending by shopping via either iGive.com or AmazonSmile, but each purchase has the added benefit of supporting research and education initiatives through the NREF.

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### **Team Registration Now Open for Inaugural Charity Bean Bag Tournament**

The inaugural **Charity Bean Bag Tournament**, hosted by the NREF, is planned for Monday and Tuesday, April 24-25, 2017, in the Exhibit Hall and Learning Center during the 2017 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting in Los Angeles, with proceeds benefiting neurosurgical education and research through the NREF. Anyone attending the 2017 AANS Annual Scientific Meeting is eligible to field a team, including AANS members, guests, corporate partners and affiliated organizations.



“**Bean Bags**,” also known as **Cornhole**, **Baggo** or simply **Bags**, is a popular game in which players take turns throwing bags of corn at a raised platform with a hole in the far end for points, and the winning team will be awarded a traveling trophy.

For more information regarding the tournament, fielding a team or sponsorship opportunities, please contact Joanne Bonaminio at the NREF at [jmb@nref.org](mailto:jmb@nref.org)

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### **Announcing the Newest Members of the Young Neurosurgeons Giving Society**

The NREF Board of Directors established the **Young Neurosurgeons Circle of Giving** this summer to introduce neurosurgical residents into the culture of

philanthropy with the goal of increasing donations over their lifetime and eventual membership in the NREF's premier recognition society, the Cushing Circle of Giving.

The NREF is pleased to recognize the following Young Neurosurgeons Circle Donors:

Silver Level: Stephen T. Magill, MD, PhD

Bronze Level: Lisa Ann Feldman, MD, and Allen Ho, MD

Inclusion into this giving society requires a contribution of \$500 USD or more and provides a variety of benefits. While inclusion in the Young Neurosurgeons Circle expires at the end of residency, all contributions accumulate for acceptance into the Cushing Circle of Giving. For information about the Young Neurosurgeons Circle of Giving, please visit [www.nref.org/Donate](http://www.nref.org/Donate).

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### **NREF Funding: A Springboard for Future Success**

The educational opportunities and research funding provided by the NREF can have a positive impact on a neurosurgeon's career. For many recipients, it is a springboard for future success.

*"I received a 2015 NREF Medical Student Summer Research Fellowship. The research supported by the Fellowship has been published in the Journal of Neurosurgery, and I've had the opportunity to speak at neurosurgical meetings. I want to thank the NREF for their generous support which made this project possible. It has been a tremendous experience for me as I pursue an academic career. The Fellowship allowed me to work closely with physicians who've become instrumental mentors in my life and we are continuing to collaborate on new research initiatives."*

- Eugene Vaios, Harvard Medical School

Your donation to the NREF can be designated for education, research, the Quality Outcomes Database (QOD), outcome studies or any of a number of specific funds, such as honoring a neurosurgical mentor, the Van Wagenen fellowship fund or recognizing those that have served in the military. Help fund the future of neurosurgery and the education of our next generation in your chosen specialty. Visit [www.nref.org/donate](http://www.nref.org/donate) today.

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### **Contact the NREF**

#### **To unsubscribe or update your email preferences:**

You are currently subscribed to receive information from the AANS.

You may [change your email address](#) by logging in to MyAANS.org with your username and password and changing your profile preferences. [->Click here to unsubscribe.](#)

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