Aashika Desai

University of Arizona | Arizona HOSA | College Freshman

Education:

- University of Arizona Honors College (**Baird** Scholar, **Flinn** Scholar Semi-finalist) Graduation Date: May 2025
  Bachelors of Science in Neuroscience
- Indian Classical Singing (Hindustani ICM) 2004 – Present
  - Sangeet Divaakar Final Bachelor's Equivalent Degree (Years 1-5)
  - https://sites.google.com/view/aashika-desai/home

Summary Statement

When I started HOSA my Freshman year of high school, I felt like a shy, tiny baby bird. It was through HOSA's state conferences, International Leadership Conferences, and my experience as both high school Chapter President and Arizona HOSA State President that I was able to cultivate my bird wings and learn to soar. Whether it was through fundraising for Be the Match, hosting confidence-boosting workshops, or spreading love via social media, HOSA empowered me and I strive to continue empowering more HOSA members. As a potential member of HOSA's IEC, I believe my connections across Arizona as well as the nation in conjunction with my leadership and communication skills can help us expand HOSA worldwide in order to positively progress global health and continue growing passionate, future health professionals

HOSA Experience

- **Arizona HOSA State President - *21-22***
  - Lead over 10,000 members, host conferences, conduct monthly state officer meetings, create social media
- **State Medalist In Research Persuasive Writing and Speaking**
  - Silver 2018 ; Gold 2019-2022
- **Chapter President: Paradise Valley High School CREST - *20-21***
  - fundraised for Be the Match; led weekly officer meetings; presented HOSA to District Board of Representatives
- **Arizona Platinum Member - *20-21***
- **Barbara James Service Awardee - *20-21***
  - Received the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for Barbara James hours completed

Job/Volunteer Experience

- **Gothard Lab - (Research Intern) - *21-present***
  - Contribute to organization of NHP interaction videos, attending weekly lab meetings, and presenting during weekly meetings
- **Maricopa County Public Health Medical Reserve Corps - (Covid-19 Vaccine Volunteer) - *Jan. - Jul. 2021***
  - Responsibilities included patient check-in, follow-ups, reminders, and post-vaccination observation.
- **FARE (Food Allergy Research & Education) - (Advisory Board Member and Lobbyist) - *Present***
  - Joined allergy-related projects and lobbied for food allergy public policies with Legislative Assistants of Rep. David Schweikert and of Sen. Mark Kelly
- **Senior Living Homes - (Music Facilitator). - *Present***
  - Responsibilities include: singing Indian Classical Singing notes to patients with Alzheimer's to promote mood enhancement and potential memory improvement.

Extracurricular Activities

- **Mayo Clinic Internship (postponed due to Covid-19) - *20 - Present***
  - Paired with a Clinical Rheumatologist/Immunologist Mayo Mentor
- **PASTA (Peers and Students Taking Action) - *20- 21***
  - Project Leader of organization to create kits and mentoring to foster children during the Covid-19 pandemic
- ***Member of Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-Health Honorary) - 21- Present***
  - *Complete health related volunteering/fundraising and spread information related to pre-health careers*
- **Member of Flying Samaritans - 21 - Present**
  - Learn how to check blood pressure, blood glucose, and spread public health awareness to underprivileged population

Awards

OSHA 10 Healthcare Certificate / BLS Certified - 2020

Language Studies and Spanish Language and Culture Certificate - in progress

EMT Certification - in progress