



ASCLS is excited to introduce the ASCLS Voices Under 40 Award, a monthly recognition of one of our many, talented and committed young professionals under 40 years old. The ASCLS Voices Spotlight has been developed to honor ASCLS members who have shown exceptional commitment to ASCLS, the laboratory profession, and their community at large at a younger age in their professional career. Each month we spotlight one of the Shining Voices who were selected from many nominations across the country.

Please meet Jesse L. Day, MHA-S, MLS(ASCP).

Jesse is the founder/executive director of the former National Coalition for the Advancement of Laboratory Professionals (NCALP) and a cell therapy scientist at Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Jesse serves ASCLS in many ways, most notably as the current ASCLS-Tennessee president and ASCLS Ascending Professionals Forum vice chair. He has also served as a councilor-at-large in the ASCLS Developing Professionals Forum and on the Scope of the Practice Position Paper Task Force. He has been an active laboratory professions advocate (#Labvocate) in person and on social media platforms since he joined ASCLS as a student in 2018.



Jesse continues to be active in ASCLS because he strongly feels the need to advocate and fight for recognition and provide support for individuals in our profession and the great importance of the separate and distinct roles that medical laboratory scientists, medical laboratory technicians, medical laboratory assistants, and phlebotomists play in healthcare. As evidence of this, he has formerly instructed phlebotomy students, is an ASCP career ambassador, created and presented at Medical Laboratory Professionals Week and high school MLS career presentations, as well as served as a laboratory advocacy project lead at a former organization. He served as the only laboratory professional during an international medical relief trip to Haiti and founded the National Coalition for the Advancement of Laboratory Professionals, which has since disbanded as they achieved their goals.

Jesse's proudest personal accomplishment is to be both a first-generation high school and college graduate. He additionally successfully completed a master's degree in healthcare administration. He has seen the impacts of social injustice and the opioid crisis on his community and has been motivated to advocate and support others to achieve their goals. As he stated, "Knowledge is perhaps the only thing

that can never be taken from us—It may always seek to serve our goals if we harness it.”

Jesse was highly recommended for this award by his peers. One of his recommenders noted his ascent up the career ladder from phlebotomist to MLS to leadership with active advocacy and passionate enthusiasm along the way. They noted his ready and active service in many areas with constant advocacy in-person and on social media platforms such as LinkedIn and Facebook. His commitment to professional excellence is demonstrated by his certification as an MLS and licensure in Florida and Tennessee and readiness to lead, teach, and advocate in all avenues available to him.