

FACULTY EXCEPTIONAL MOMENTS IN TEACHING



The Norton College of Medicine recognizes exceptional teachers with the monthly “Exceptional Moments in Teaching” program. Honorees are selected via student assessments from courses and clerkships. Recognized teachers—including medical faculty, residents, nurses and other educators—are those who challenge students and provide an exceptional learning experience.

Jaclyn Sisskind, MD, an assistant professor of Pediatrics at Upstate Medical University, is the **February 2025** recipient of the **Exceptional Moments in Teaching recognition**.

COMMENTS FROM DR. SISSKIND’S STUDENTS:

“Dr. Sisskind is a role model in the field of pediatrics. One aspect of pediatric care that she excels in is the promotion of literacy. As part of a grant that she acquired for Upstate Pediatrics, each of her patients are given a book to keep to promote literacy and reading for pleasure. Her ability to promote literacy to the greater pediatric population of Syracuse, in addition to providing excellent care and education to patients and their families is what makes Dr. Sisskind an exceptional teacher, both to medical students and to the patients for whom she cares.”

“Dr. Sisskind is a compassionate advocate for all patients, and strives to create a safe, welcoming environment for any child, no matter their background. She uses subtly inclusive language and sets a standard for all of us to do the same. Dr. Sisskind creates instant rapport with each patient, meeting them where they are at. She is playful, caring, and kind, the perfect qualities for a pediatrician. Dr. Sisskind has an expansive view of public health that extends beyond a child’s physical health. As the “readiatrician,” she recognizes the power of books to advance a child’s wellbeing. When a patient is struggling with their identity or family structure, for example, she prescribes the perfect book that will help the child cope and realize they are not alone. Her compassion is inspiring. Her inclusivity is the gold-standard. I will be a better physician having worked with her and learned from her. Most importantly, her patients could not be luckier to have her as their advocate.”