



**Developing the Next Generation
of Ophthalmology Leaders**

**Up close with what makes
the Vanderbilt Eye Institute so special**



**“This is a path
to greatness.”**

— BEHIN BARAHIMI, MD

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anderbilt Eye Institute is training the next generation
of ophthalmology leaders who will move the field forward.

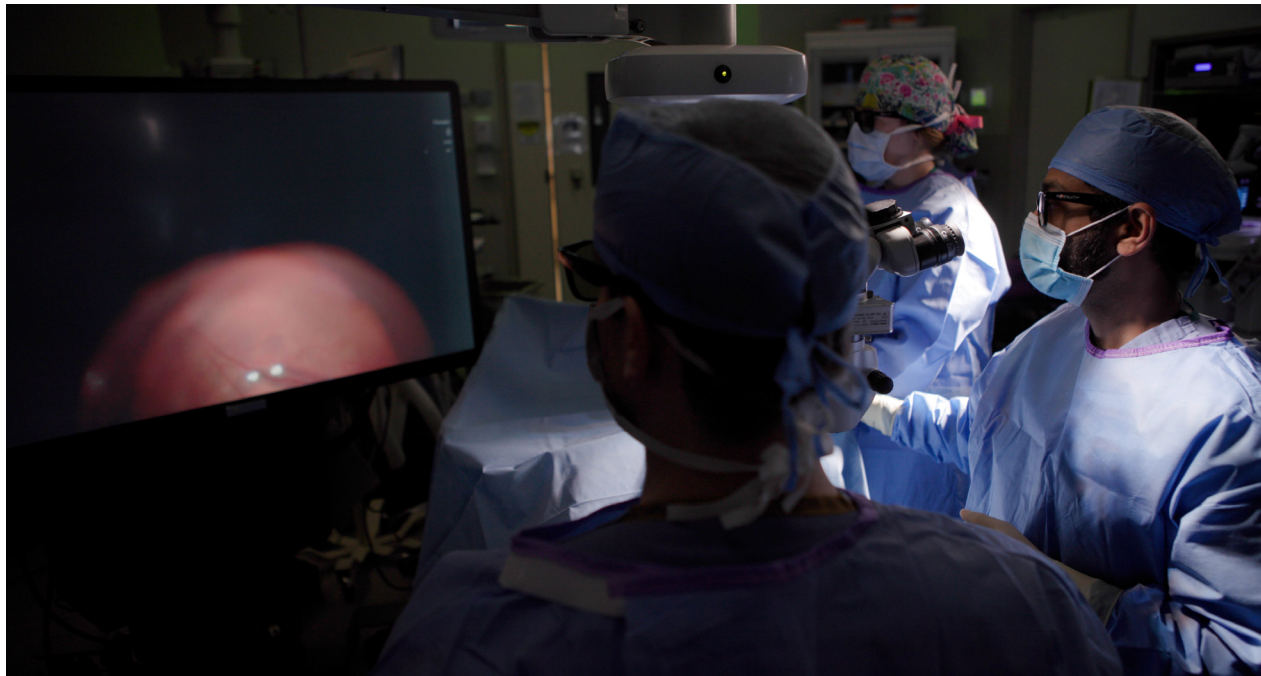


The Eye Institute has been pushing the boundaries for years — assembling the components needed to deliver on our promise of world-class training, education and research.

We've been advancing so quickly national rankings haven't caught up.

So we asked residents, fellows, graduates and faculty what makes the Eye Institute so special, and they couldn't wait to share their experiences.

They hail from all over the world, and each one discovered that the education Vanderbilt offers is unparalleled. So we're going to let them tell you all about it. We hope you can feel their excitement.



The Eye Institute's depth, reach and impact for those who want to improve visual health is one of a kind.

Trainees get hands-on experience across a wide variety of patients from a clinic that sees more than **160,000 patients** a year from a wide swath of the Southeast, as well as two Veterans' Hospitals.

The Eye Institute employs **70 specialists and subspecialists**, many of whom sit on national society boards.

The compact footprint of the medical campus helps trainees build close relationships with faculty. **Residents, fellows, students and attendings round together** to treat patients.

“The people here have demonstrated that they care about my learning. When you find those people, you hold onto them.”

SHRIJI PATEL, MD
VICE CHAIR CLINICAL AFFAIRS,
RETINA FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR

Dr. Patel chose to stay at Vanderbilt after his fellowship in Retina.

SHRIJI PATEL, MD



“What we try to do is take the positive strengths of each trainee and catapult them forward. Our ophthalmology trainees go on to match at some of the most competitive fellowship programs. There is no other academic institution that will train you to be a better ophthalmologist.”

LOUISE A. MAWN, MD, FACS
JEAN EWING LOVE AND JAMES RANDALL LOVE DIRECTORSHIP IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
PROFESSOR & DIVISION CHIEF OPHTHALMIC PLASTIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
ASOPRS FELLOWSHIP DIRECTOR, VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE



“The faculty help you become who you want to be. It's small enough so residents get to know high-level faculty so that they pick up the phone to recommend you.”

BEHIN BARAHIMI, MD
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE

Fellowship Programs

- Glaucoma
- Retina
- Oculoplastics
- Pediatric Ophthalmology
and Adult Strabismus
- Ocular Oncology

“I couldn’t be happier to be here. As a fellow at Vanderbilt, I know that I will be pushed and challenged to be the best that I possibly can be. Vanderbilt is a top institution for research throughout the country.”

ARCHANA NAIR, MD, FIRST-YEAR FELLOW IN RETINA
MEDICAL SCHOOL STANFORD, INTERNSHIP UC SAN DIEGO, RESIDENCY AT NYU

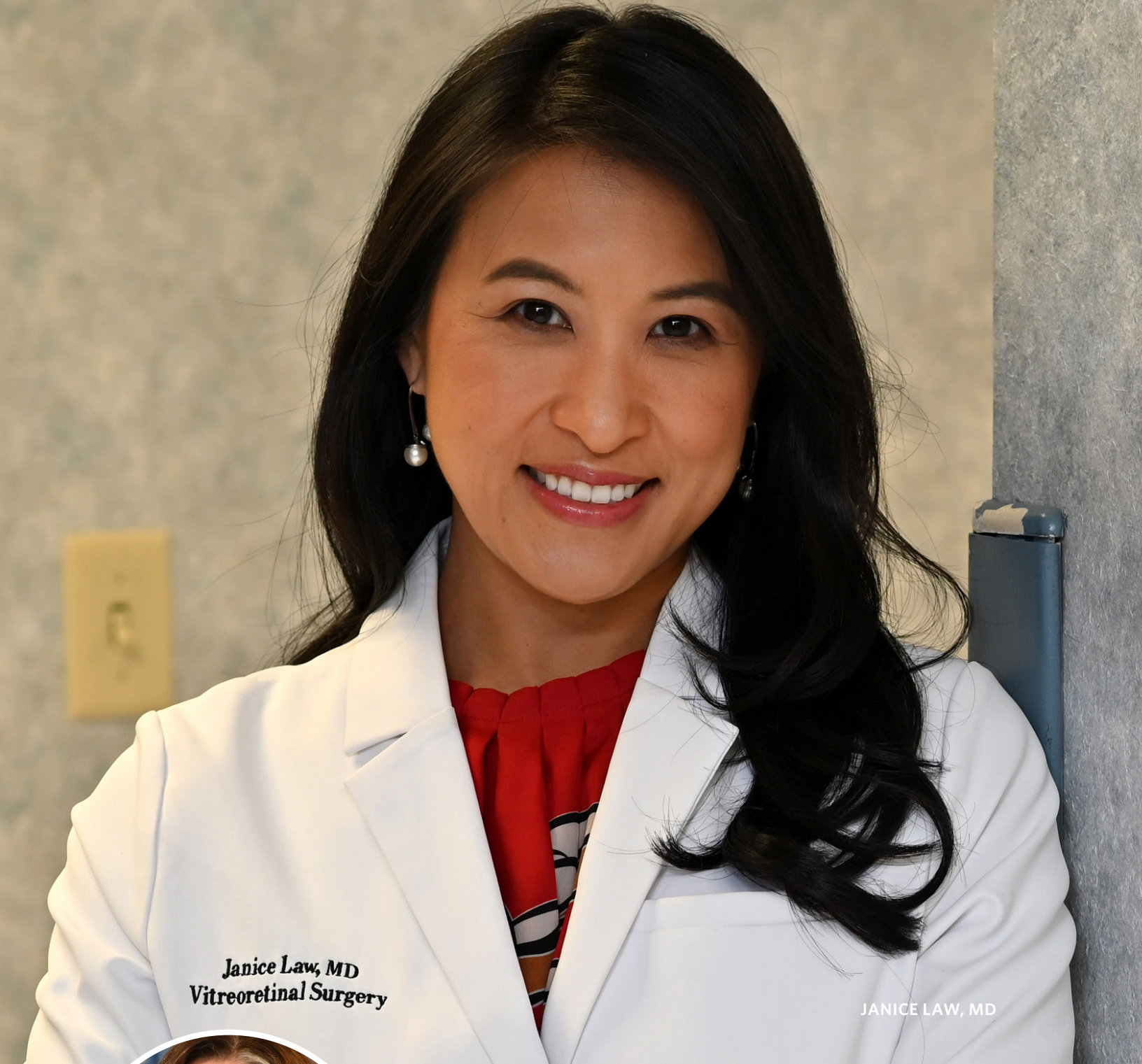


“The facility continues to support me even after I’ve graduated. If I have a challenging patient, I can always give Vanderbilt faculty a call. I loved it there. I love those people.”

KENNY TAUBENSLAG, MD, MPHIL
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND VISUAL SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND MEDICAL SYSTEM,
FELLOW IN VITREORETINAL DISEASES AND SURGERY
VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE

ARCHANA NAIR, MD





JANICE LAW, MD

“Here we’re celebrating differences, striving for inclusivity, and showing cultural sensitivity, recognizing the need for diversity and choosing trainees with equitable measures.”

JANICE LAW, MD
VICE CHAIR FOR EDUCATION, MEDICAL STUDENT DIRECTOR, VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE



“What makes the Vanderbilt Eye Institute unique is our culture. We support our residents. We see them as individuals with unique characteristics and passions and strengths, and we really want to support that and make them feel part of the family.”

JENNIFER LINDSEY, MD
JAMES H. ELLIOT DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION, VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE



“Trainees here are treated as colleagues ... What that means is when you’re seeing patients, it’s one team that consists of the faculty, the medical students, the residents, the fellows. Everyone is invested in the training program.”

STEPHEN J. KIM, MD
PHYLLIS G. AND WILLIAM B. SYNDER ENDOWED CHAIR IN OPHTHALMOLOGY AND VISUAL SCIENCES
RETINA DIVISION CHIEF, VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE

“As a first-year medical student, I was conducting research with one of the senior faculty at the Eye Institute. In my second year, I was presenting the findings at the podium at a national conference. This only happens due to the strong ties between research, education and patient care.”



EVAN SILVERSTEIN, MD
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY, CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL AT RICHMOND AT VCU,
ASSOCIATE RESIDENCY PROGRAM DIRECTOR VCU, MEDICAL SCHOOL VANDERBILT,
RESIDENCY AT VANDERBILT EYE INSTITUTE, DUKE FELLOWSHIP



A strong showing

Vanderbilt Eye Institute has a No. 4 designation nationally for NIH research funding. That's a more than 3-fold increase in less than a decade.

A History of Innovation

Eye Institute accomplishments and advances include those related to:

- Artificial and regenerative vision
- Corneal transplants
- Gene therapy for inherited blindness
- Microsurgical procedures for glaucoma
- Retinal and optic nerve imaging
- Small incision surgery with premium intraocular lenses, achieving 20/20 vision in nearly all cases of cataracts
- Targeted anti-VEGF treatment for AMD and retinal vascular disease



“Our training programs are intentionally structured to create bench-to-bedside excellence. I attribute our continued high level of NIH funding to the culture of collaboration we've intentionally created between the clinicians, researchers and educators.”

DAVID CALKINS, PhD
O'DAY PROFESSOR AND VICE CHAIR AND DIRECTOR FOR RESEARCH

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ashville is a growing city where you can feel the warmth.

It's a booming health-services capital located in a temperate climate, just hours away from other major cities. It's a beautiful melting pot of cultures. It's a music and arts playground where creativity pulses around every corner. It's a lush network of parks and greenways. It's a historian's bucket list kind of place. It's close to rivers, lakes, caves, mountains and other incredible destinations to explore. It's a foodie's fever dream. It's a multi-sports town — did we mention we're the exclusive eyecare provider for Nashville's NHL team, the Predators?

Nashville is whatever you want it to be.



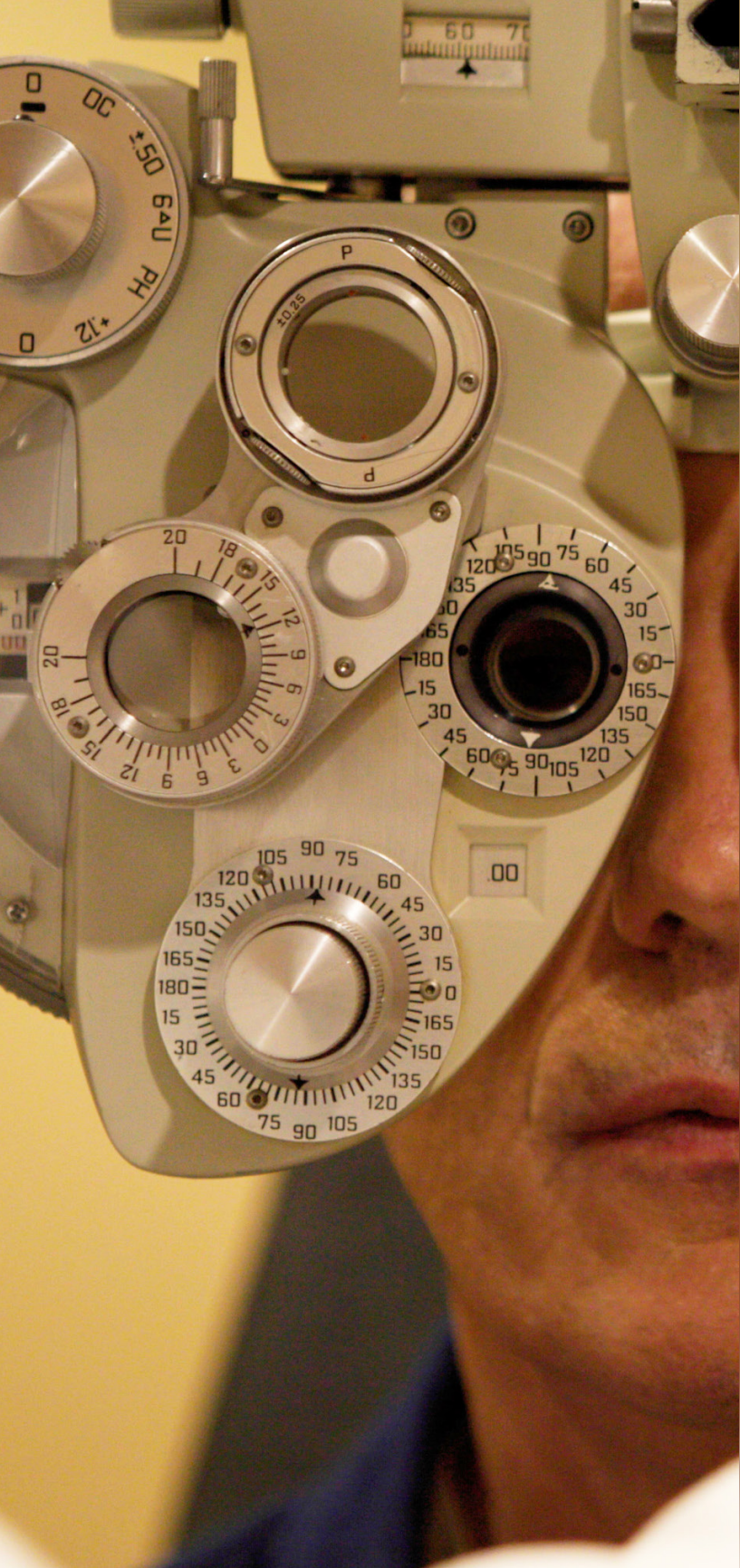
PAUL STERNBERG, MD
G.W. HALES PROFESSOR
AND CHAIRMAN OF
THE VANDERBILT
EYE INSTITUTE

“**W**hat do I look for in someone I want to train?”

It's their inquisitiveness. I want them to ask me questions. The learning is much deeper and much more meaningful. That's what I try to have all of my faculty use as the way they teach. These are bright, well-trained women and men, and we need to treat them as colleagues and we'll both grow from that.”

“Southern hospitality is real. From the people who you see on the street to the front-door staff at the hospital, right away, I felt at home.” **ARCHANA NAIR, MD**

“Living in Nashville and working at Vanderbilt is a wonderful experience. The city is easy to navigate and it's just a wonderful place to raise your family.” **BEHIN BARAHIMI, MD**



Reach out to our Program Directors with questions

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