30 UNDER 30

The 30 Under 30 program recognizes trailblazing young alumni who have demonstrated professional success in any industry, significant community involvement or a commitment to maintaining a lifelong relationship with Temple University. 30 Under 30 highlights outstanding Owls from the more than 52,000 young Temple alumni who exemplify what it means to be Temple Made.

Binh Le, CST '17, POD '21

PHOTO: RYAN S. BRANDENBERG

Best foot forward

Dreaming of becoming a superhero during his childhood, Binh Le now wears scrubs instead of a cape. But he still feels like he landed pretty close. Working as a professional podiatrist in eight hospitals and at Wound Care Experts center in Las Vegas, Le performs surgeries and provides other complex treatments that can save the lower limbs of patients and restore their livelihoods.

For a high school anatomy class, Le took a field trip to Philadelphia's Mütter Museum and by chance saw a Temple flag flying at the Center City campus. After his research revealed highly regarded medical programs, Le was "sold" and only applied to Temple for his undergraduate biology studies.

Le wasn't sure at first what medical field he wanted to pursue. But when a Temple Health advisor visited his undergraduate biology class and asked students to raise their hands for interests in various disciplines, none went up for podiatry. That's when he sensed an opportunity.

Le found a mentor in John Scanlon, POD '81, former chief medical officer of Temple Health's Chestnut Hill Hospital. While working as a medical scribe at Chestnut Hill as an undergraduate, Le met Scanlon and was able to learn more about the field of podiatry through shadowing. Later, Le completed a formative podiatric residency at the hospital.

"Not many people realize that there are only 11 accredited podiatry schools in the entire country," said Le. After getting my bachelor's, Philadelphia felt like my new home, and I had a lot of Temple pride, so the School of Podiatric Medicine was my number one choice."

Le has ambitions to create a better healthcare system. After sitting in on meetings during Temple Health's acquisition of Chestnut Hill Hospital in 2022, Le learned about some of the economics of the healthcare system and now plans to launch a healthcare consulting company focused on increasing patient access to care.

Harmonious healer

Cleaning up toxic pollutants from uranium mines and landfills is sometimes actually the easy part of her job, said Rebecca Feldman. As a remedial project manager for the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Superfund program, Feldman is responsible for overseeing the restoration of some of the most environmentally contaminated places in America. Many of her sites in the Pacific Northwest are on tribal lands where trust in the federal government is low, requiring collaboration and a dedication to environmental justice.

Temple's diverse community helped prepare her for interacting with people from all walks of life. As a member of Temple's Diamond Marching Band, Feldman immersed herself in life as an Owl. She enjoyed performing the university's alma mater and leading fans in cheers and, she says, the spirit behind the songs became intrinsic to her identity.

As a geology major, she credits the low student-teacher ratio within the Department of Earth and Environmental Science for providing a high level of attention to each student.

"EES has amazing staff who are very passionate about what they do," said Feldman. "They come from amazing, respected universities. If you have a question, they want to help you. If you want to be involved, they will involve you."

In the mountains of Nepal, Feldman studied groundwater contamination during her sophomore year. It was part of her fieldwork experience that pushed her out of her comfort zone. The following summer, she worked with the Spanish government as a field geologist studying volcanoes on the Canary Islands off Western Africa.

For a time, Feldman focused on volcanoes, studying them while earning a master's in geology in Iceland. But a career in environmental remediation ultimately seemed more practical, and she took a position studying water pollution with the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. After two years she landed with the EPA, and fell in love with the job.

Rebecca Feldman, CST '18

PHOTO: RYAN S. BRANDENBERG

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Stellar scientist

Where the sun meets the water is where you'll find Alex Cagle. At California-based startup Noria Energy, Cagle helped invent cutting-edge, floatable solar arrays designed to sit atop man-made bodies of water and collect energy from the sun. From late 2024 to mid 2025, he served on the company's business development team to begin deploying the technology across the country and aid the fight against climate change.

Cagle says that to successfully transition the United States to renewable energy sources, just under 1 percent of the country's land would be needed for solar and wind arrays, an area larger than Vermont and New Hampshire combined. Installing solar on water bodies helps alleviate that pressure while providing additional environmental benefits.

Cagle arrived at Temple University to pursue a very different passion: soccer. A standout goalkeeper from a small-town in Wisconsin, highlights from a successful career with the Owls include playing in front of thousands of spectators at American Athletic Conference games, being named assistant captain during his senior year and earning Temple's 2017 Male Scholar-athlete of the Year honor.

As an environmental science major working with Sujith Ravi, an associate professor in the Department of Earth and Environmental Science, Cagle blossomed into a scientist. "Working with Dr. Ravi and his laboratory provided me the grant funding and mentorship to conduct a two-week experiment at the leading renewable energy laboratory in the world," said Cagle of his research project with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Colorado.

Building on his education at Temple, Cagle earned a doctorate of energy systems at the University of California, Davis, where he studied floating solar arrays for his thesis. He immediately began applying knowledge he gathered throughout his studies at Noria Energy, researching the environmental impacts of its arrays and helping to develop motors that allow floating solar panels to rotate and track the sun.

PHOTO: RYAN S. BRANDENBERG

Alex Cagle, CST '18

Haley Lockstein, CST '19, DEN '23

PHOTO: JOSEPH V. LABOLITO

Charitable chief

As chief resident of a dental department at a major urban hospital, there's little that Haley Lockstein hasn't seen. Each day she's responsible for overseeing eight first-year dentistry residents at the Albert Einstein Medical Center in North Philadelphia, as they assist the practice with everything from routine cleanings for hospital employees to emergency surgeries to addressing trauma in victims of domestic assault. Often, they're coming up with creative solutions to deliver the best care possible, even if a patient is underinsured.

"Unfortunately, a lot of dental insurance is poor, and doesn't cover most things," explained Lockstein. "But at our residency, we do everything we can to try and get people what they need."

A Bucks County, Pa. native, Lockstein came to Temple to study biology for practical reasons. The school was close to home and offered her generous scholarship on top of already affordable tuition, she said.

Lockstein chose to stay with Temple for dental school because of the Kornberg School of Dentistry's reputation for high clinical requirements and robust alumni network in the region. After being elected president of the school's chapter of Alpha Omega, an international dental organization, she met Marc Rothman, DEN '88, an oral surgeon at Einstein. He invited Lockstein to shadow his office, helping lead to her residency at the hospital.

Kornberg alumni practice a multitude of specialties, such as periodontics or pediatric dentistry. Lockstein gravitated toward the lab, where she helped research potential links between mental and dental health. Now at Einstein, Lockstein is again engaged in research, investigating topical medications to prevent cavities for those wearing braces.

Now an orthodontic resident, Lockstein plans to pursue a career as an orthodontist, which requires three more years of residency at Einstein. The decision has roots in an evolutionary biology course that piqued her interest as an undergrad. "It's just so cool seeing cranial growth, and how children, over time, develop," she said.