



**AAO Council on New and Younger Members
Dr. Javen Durham**

May 22nd, 2023

Greetings,

My name is Dr. Javen Durham, and I am excited to be joining the Council on New and Younger Members as the GLAO Representative. We have our first virtual meeting coming up in a few weeks, and our in-person meeting takes place in St. Louis in February. I will be sure to keep everyone abreast of any new developments.

Our outgoing representative Dr. Kaitrin Kramer had some information to share from annual session:

The New Orthodontist and Resident Conference Luncheon at Annual Session was a great success. The event was sold out! The keynote speakers included Drs. Neal Kravitz, Enrique Cruz, and Nathan Mick. We look forward to planning programming for next year. If there are any new ideas or feedback, please feel free to let us know.

Our AAO staff and CONYM have been working diligently to develop a New Ortho Engagement strategy with key goals. These include:

1. Build awareness and usage of AAO advocacy, education, and other relevant programs.
2. Develop AAO advocates among orthodontic educators.
3. Create a welcoming community where members feel engaged in the AAO and specialty.
4. Offer resources and programs that are based on members needs an easy to consume.

Before I close, I would also like to share information about myself. I am a third-generation Black orthodontist in Detroit, Michigan, which carries forward a rich legacy of dental excellence and community service. As a proud alumnus of the University of Florida, where I completed my undergraduate studies. I further honed my dental skillset by completing my orthodontic specialty at Howard University in 2022.

With my extra time I like to leverage my extensive education and heritage to mentor aspiring dental professionals and engage in local outreach programs aimed at promoting oral health awareness.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. Javen Durham, DDS
GLAO Representative to the AAO Council on New and Younger Members