



Awestruck and inspired while observing a cardiothoracic surgery, Qwynnton (Qhai) Johnson (COM '24) set his sights not merely on being an observer, but rather on becoming the one who performs the surgery.

Johnson has forged an exemplary path in his academic pursuit, earning the honorable KCU Diversity Scholarship. Learn more about this former pro-soccer-wannabe's journey to medical school, a few of the ways that COVID-19 has shaped his medical school experience, and his aspirations to be an agent of change in the African-American community.

**“THIS
WHITE
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GIVING WITH A PURPOSE

KCU celebrated its second *Day of Giving* on April 5 with donations totaling over \$100,000, dramatically exceeding our original goal of \$30,000 and stretch goal of \$75,000.

Day of Giving is a one-day campaign in which alumni, students and friends come together to celebrate the philanthropic spirit and generosity of the University. This year's funds will impact KCU's *COVID-19 Response Fund* as well as additional areas of need.



 **Kansas City
University**
*Office of Philanthropy
& Alumni Relations*
KANSASCITY.EDU

Upcoming Events

2021 COMMENCEMENT

**MAY 8 | KANSAS CITY
MAY 9 | JOPLIN**

SCHEDULED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS:

THOMAS ELY, DO
President, American Osteopathic Association

LT. GEN. LAURA RICHARDSON
Commander, United States Army North

Awaiting Senate confirmation for March 8, 2021 nomination by President Biden to appointment of Commander, U.S. Army Southern Command

2021 HOMECOMING

SEPT. 23 - 25 | KANSAS CITY

Includes free CME hours for KCU-COM alumni, Class Reunions, Campus Tours and the Alumni Awards Reception

View current Homecoming details at kansascity.edu/homecoming

To learn more about how to stay involved with KCU, please email us at alumni@kansascity.edu.



KCU
*Office of Philanthropy
& Alumni Relations*

reviewed

a quarterly supplement
from KCU Magazine

**SPRING
2021**



CELEBRATING A UNIQUE CALLING

For the Class of 2024, starting med school amidst lockdowns, social distancing, remote learning and heightened civil unrest has brought even greater challenges than normal. But it has also brought an opportunity that is truly unique to this class alone.

On March 2 and 4, 2021, Kansas City University's College of Osteopathic Medicine (COM) Class of 2024 participated in a special celebration to recognize their early and unprecedented hands-on clinical practice in COVID-19 vaccination clinics.

MATCH DAY MANIA



From showcasing a choreographed dance routine to discovering their residency placements with family members cheering by their sides, KCU's Class of 2021 shared their excitement, photos and videos in a virtual celebration of this year's Match Day on March 19.

They matched!

Ensuring all our citizens are vaccinated is key to overcoming COVID-19. KCU is helping to make this happen through two important community outreach efforts.

More than 600 medical students from the Joplin and Kansas City campuses have become certified, participating in the delivery of more than 30,000 vaccinations to date. But some community members are reluctant to get the

shot. That's why KCU's clinical psychology faculty have been conducting "listening tours" to better understand and address concerns among underrepresented populations.

Learn more about these efforts and how a \$150,000 grant from the Henry and Marion Bloch Foundation will help keep this important community outreach going.

GIVING THEIR BEST SHOT



TRANSLATING & NAVIGATING

All of the projects U.S. Army Col. Matt Hoefer, DO, (COM '05) was working on pre-pandemic shifted to the backburner almost overnight.

An aerospace and occupational medicine physician currently assigned as the command surgeon for U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC), Col. Hoefer and his team's primary focus against COVID-19 has been to protect the Army's workforce and families and prevent the spread of the coronavirus while continuing their mission-essential work around the globe.



FOR MORE ABOUT EACH STORY, GO TO [KANSASCITY.EDU/REVIEWED](https://www.kansascity.edu/reviewed)



SPRING REAWAKENING

With new cases of COVID-19 in the region continuing to decrease, nationwide access to the vaccines expanding, and our campus community maintaining an average positivity rate of just over 1 percent throughout the year, KCU recently proceeded to Stage 4 of our *Reawakening Plan*.

This new stage includes the reopening of key campus areas such as study rooms, libraries and fitness centers, as well as a loosening of restrictions regarding small group activities and travel.