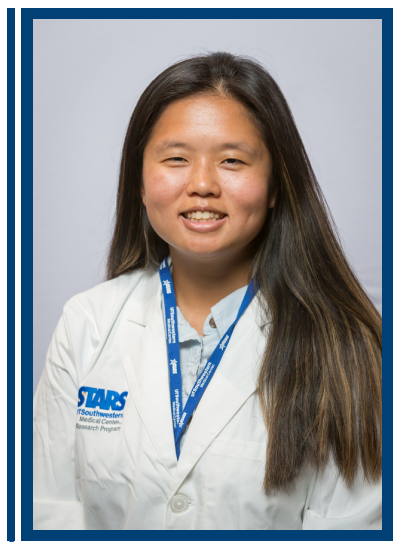


# STARS Summer Research Program for Teachers 2023

The 2023 STARS Summer Research Program for Teacher included seven teachers from Dallas-Fort Worth and surrounding areas. This 8-week program gave teachers an opportunity to work side-by-side with a faculty host. It consisted of activities, seminars, and an individualized research project that contributed to the advancement of science. The teachers were able to showcase and share these advancements during the end-of-program scientific poster session.



## Emma DeVine

St. Andrew's Episcopal  
School

Mentor: [Joel Elmquist,  
D.V.M., Ph.D.](#)

Neuronal Steroid Hormone  
Signaling Regulates Fitness  
via Nuclear Receptors in  
*Drosophila melanogaster* and  
*Drosophila* Feeding Behavior  
in Middle School Science  
Classroom



## Julia Drake

Plano West Senior High  
School

Mentor: [Ralph Mason,  
Ph.D.](#)

Non-Invasive Imaging Used to  
Observe Delay in 4T1 Breast  
Cancer Tumor Growth due to  
Vascular Disrupting Agent and  
Melatonin



## Cory Hamilton

Woodrow Wilson High  
School

Mentor: [Tian Qin, Ph.D.](#)  
*Synthesis of Bicyclo[3.1.1]  
Heptane Precursor*



## Lindsey Hranitzky

Lake Highlands High  
School

Mentor: [Paula  
Hernandez, Ph.D.](#)

Sex Differences in  
Chondrocyte Cells and the  
Influence of Estrogen on  
Inflammation: Production of  
Nitride Oxide



## Shawna Lopez

Cornerstone Christian  
Schools

Mentor: [Paula  
Hernandez, Ph.D.](#)

Sex Differences in Articular  
Chondrocytes and the  
Influence of Estrogen on  
Inflammation: Gene  
Expression



## Felipe Monrooy

Uplift Williams  
Preparatory – Middle  
School

Mentor: [Kenneth Hettie,  
Ph.D.](#)

Identifying & Treating Disease:  
The Benefits of Using Animals  
Models for Cancer Research  
and Science Education



## Lesya White

North Dallas High  
School

Mentor: [Teppej  
Fujikawa, Ph.D.](#)

*Decoding neuronal responses  
to hypoglycemia and exercise:  
insights from TRAP2-  
Cre/ncGFP Mice and pPDH  
Protocols*