



2026 Personnel Awards for Black Scholars Recipients

Heart & Stroke and Brain Canada are excited to announce the recipients of the 2026 Personnel Awards for Black Scholars (BSA). This program aims to promote strategic growth in heart and/or brain health science within Black communities by supporting students as they pursue their post graduate studies.

Following Heart & Stroke's rigorous peer review process, **12 trainees** are being supported from the 2026 BSA competition in pursuing their post graduate studies. We are pleased to celebrate the following recipients:

Doctoral

Arneaud, Ayanna (Université Laval)

The Therapeutic Role of Monocytes in Alzheimer's Disease: Effects on Vascular Amyloid Beta

Campbell, Chantel (University of Toronto)

Decellularization of Mechanically Biomimetic Tissues for Pediatric Pulmonary Valve Repair

Erome-Utunedi, Oghenefejiro (University of Calgary)

The CCL2–CCR2–TRPV1 Axis: A Novel Mechanistic Link Between Peripheral Inflammation, Febrile Seizure Susceptibility, and Autonomic Dysregulation

Kumapayi, Peace (York University)

Home is Where the Heart is: Advancing Virtual Cardiac Rehabilitation for Black Homebound Older adults in Toronto

Mohammed, Oluwatobi (McMaster University)

Evaluating SCORE! (Strengthening Community Roots: Anchoring Newcomers in Wellness and Sustainability Implementation): Fidelity, Adaptation, and Impact of a Community-Based Cardiovascular Health Promotion Intervention

Musa, Asma (University of Toronto)

Advancing Culturally Appropriate School Food Programs for Black Children in Toronto

Waul, Lacey (University of Toronto)

Evaluating the Role of Liver- and Muscle-Derived HFE2 in the Regulation of Blood-Brain Barrier Integrity

Master's

Augustma, Shaggy Junior (McGill University)

Rho Kinase Signaling in CADASIL-associated Small Vessel Disease

Getachew, Aaron (University of Alberta)

Examining the Role of Liver Prosaposin in Obesity-Associated Cardiometabolic Dysfunction and Cardiovascular Disease

Marcus-Chidozie, Ihechiluru (Memorial University of Newfoundland)

Role of MicroRNA-132 in the Regulation of Macrophage Cholesterol Efflux and Foam-Cell Formation in Atherosclerosis

Oyateru, Oyinkansola (University of Manitoba)

The role of GLP-1 receptor agonists in the prevention of chemotherapy-mediated cardiotoxicity in breast cancer

Reid, Ariana (McMaster University)

Targeting interleukin-15 in atherosclerotic coronary artery disease