

TCI Supports Youth Education

The Tisch Cancer Institute (TCI) proudly partnered with the [Center in Excellence for Youth Education](#) (CEYE) this past summer in support of programming for high school students whose backgrounds are underrepresented in medicine with the goal of increasing diversity.

Oncology Week—a week-long online forum—exposed students to a broad spectrum of multidisciplinary cancer research, including community engaged research to advance equity. TCI scientists and clinical investigators shared unique perspectives on how they deconstruct and tackle the challenges of cancer. Students learned about:

- Tools for imaging cancer cells
- Cancer metastasis
- Animal models (fly and zebra fish)
- Genetics of cancer and how genes can be manipulated
- Improving health through genetic big data and clinical trials

Special thanks to CEYE Program Director [Kenya Townsend](#) and teaching assistants led by [Mroczek Angelica](#).

CEYE Bioinformatics Program—a six-week onsite program co-led by Deniz Demircioglu, PhD, with TCI's Bioinformatics for Next Generation Sequencing Core (BiNGS)—provided training in biology and data analysis of transcriptomics data (RNA-seq) of breast cancer patients, culminating in final presentations focused on gene expression, visual representation of data, and more. Special thanks to CEYE teaching assistants [Yasemin Schmitt](#) and [Rayyan Nabi](#), and participating post-doctoral fellows and graduate students.

The Lloyd Sherman Scholar Program provided six-week research opportunities with stipends for four students in TCI basic labs. The students will return to the labs part time during the 2022-2023 academic year. Special thanks to the lab investigators for their life-changing mentorship.

Last summer, one student was selected, based on her excitement and interest in cancer biology, to conduct research during the 2021-2022 academic year. [Jerry E. Chipuk, PhD](#), mentored the student who is now pursuing an undergraduate degree in science. Two students were selected from the 2022 summer program to join the BiNGS team for the 2022-2023 academic year.

TCI lab investigators who are interested in hosting a student for a full-year or summer and inspiring them to pursue careers in cancer are encouraged to contact [Janice Gabrilove, MD](#), or [Dan Hasson, PhD](#). Dr. Gabrilove and Dr. Hanson also invite interested faculty to be speakers for these programs and graduate students and postdoctoral fellows to serve as mentors.