Student opportunities: 6 reasons to connect with NYDHA, your state professional association

1. **Mentoring, networking, involvement:** Through NYDHA and components, students can meet with and gain practical one-on-one information with practicing hygienists on career development, practice and other issues, as well as have opportunities for involvement on committees and professional public education activities.

2. **Poster presentations:** Students, through their schools, present table clinics at the NYDHA Empire Conference in the fall. The top 3 presentations receive certificates and monetary awards. The poster session is visited by conference attendees and is part of our continuing education.

3. **Program discounts:** Student members receive discounts on Empire Conference and other NYDHA program registrations. The conference offers multiple practical and substantive educational programs, including programs designed with student suggestions, as well as ample networking with professionals in oral health.

4. **Web and e-news:** Our web and e-news is designed to share updates on practice, public policy, research news, and opportunities. We welcome suggestions of what you’d like to see.

5. **Voice for the DH profession:** NYDHA is active year-round in advocating for dental hygienists and oral health in the NYS Legislature, State Board of Dentistry and other venues, working for measures that maximize opportunity for hygienists to use their education and experience and improve access to oral health for all New Yorkers. The Association pursues an action agenda of bills and regulations. NYDHA’s policy-making body, House of Delegates, includes a student delegate. Candidate submission forms will be available in the spring through the schools.

6. **Leadership recognition:** Each year NYDHA presents the President’s Award to a student with selection in conjunction with each participating school to the second-year student NYDHA member who has demonstrated excellence in her/his student professional association and participation that goes above and beyond. The student receives a framed certificate presented at the graduation ceremony and complimentary registration to NYDHA’s Empire Conference, and is our President’s guest at the Annual President’s Dinner held during the conference.

**Join us, tell us:** These resources complement ADHA student member benefits. Join us at just $5 student rate/year. Contact your SADHA adviser or info@NYDHA.org. What additional services and opportunities would be of particular interest to you? Tell us at info@NYDHA.org.