

ASCLS is excited to introduce the ASCLS Voices Under 40, a monthly recognition of one of our many, talented and committed young professionals under 40 years old. The ASCLS Voices Spotlight has been developed to honor ASCLS members who have shown exceptional commitment to ASCLS, the laboratory profession, and their community at large at a younger age in their professional career. Each month we spotlight one of the Shining Voices who were selected from many nominations across the country.

Please meet Krystal Bullard M.S. Clinical Laboratory Science, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> from Memphis, Tennessee.

Krystal is currently working as a Medical Technologist II in the HLA Laboratory at St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. She is responsible for performing laboratory tests and determining the accuracy of the results. Krystal also assists in maintaining Quality Program records to help meet accreditation standards, along with troubleshooting and preventative maintenance of testing platforms. Krystal helps to evaluate and test new procedures and/or analyzers, establish maintenance protocols, as well as inventory control. In addition to her benchwork, Krystal was recently selected to be a part of a LEAN team initiative.



"ASCLS has become a part of who I am," Krystal mentions in her personal statement. Today Krystal serves as the ASCLS-TN President as well as the Region III Treasurer. Krystal continues to be active in ASCLS because she truly believes in the organization's mission statement. Not only has ASCLS provided her with necessary continuing education credits, but it has taught her leadership and introduced her to a large network of laboratory professionals.

When asked what her favorite personal accomplishment has been within ASCLS, Krystal responded with, "Being a member of the legislative campaign to prevent the dismantling of the MT/MLT licensure in Tennessee. As the ASCLS-TN president, I

sent an alert to all our members notifying them of the bills and implored them to contact their representative using the informational document created by ASCLS-TN leadership in response to the bills. Also, I took an active role in corresponding with the representatives and senators that would be on the committee to discuss these bills and answering their questions. The members of ASCLS-TN did a fabulous job banning together with other medical professionals from all over the state to keep these bills from being enacted."

Krystal was highly recommended for this award by her peers. One of her nominators has this to say, "She is inventive and innovative in finding solutions to problems and new incentives to participation. As a leader, she can harness the good ideas of those she is leading to accomplish greater goals than anticipated. She has shown outstanding contributions to ASCLS and our profession and is an outstanding candidate for the Voices Under 40 Award."

Outside of ASCLS, Krystal's greatest achievement is teaching herself how to crochet using videos and tutorials. Her baby outfits are beautiful and intricate. One of Krystal's friends even used an outfit she crocheted in a newborn photoshoot.