

ESMERALDA GAYTA | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED] | [REDACTED]

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Motivated dental student with strong leadership experience, research exposure, and a growing passion for surgical and craniofacial-esthetics-based specialties. I am particularly interested in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery because I value high-acuity, procedural-driven care and the ability to immediately restore function and quality of life. I am equally drawn to Orthodontics due to its blend of biomechanics, long-term treatment planning, and the life-changing impact of facial growth guidance and esthetic transformation. Across both fields, I am committed to equity, representation, and expanding care for underserved communities in Puerto Rico.

## EDUCATION

**Universidad Ana G. Méndez, School of Dental Medicine — Gurabo, PR**  
**Doctor of Dental Medicine (DMD) | Expected 2028**

**California Baptist University — Riverside, CA**  
**Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences | 2022**

## LEADERSHIP & PROFESSIONAL INVOLVEMENT

American Student Dental Association (ASDA), Universidad Ana G. Méndez

**President & Founding Member | 2024–Present**

- Founded the university's first ASDA chapter and built the inaugural executive board and committee structure.
- Leads strategic planning, chapter operations, and high-engagement programming across advocacy, community service, and professional development.
- Represents UAGM at District 5 and National ASDA events to elevate visibility for Puerto Rico.

ASDA District 5 Cabinet

**Advocacy Chair | 2025–2026**

- Develops district-wide advocacy curriculum, workshops, and campaigns to expand student participation in dental policy.
- Coordinates projects promoting legislative awareness, equitable representation, and access for underrepresented territories.

- Collaborates with national ASDA, ADA, and local dental leaders to bridge policy knowledge gaps among students.

Oral Surgery Club – UAGM

**Secretary | 2025–Present**

- Manages communication, event scheduling, and meeting documentation for the Oral Surgery Club.
- Assists in organizing hands-on suture workshops, resident panels, and specialty-focused educational sessions.
- Coordinates guest speakers and develops opportunities for students interested in OMFS exposure.

Orthodontics Club – UAGM

**Secretary | 2025–Present**

- Oversees organization-wide communication, event coordination, and session planning.
- Helps facilitate seminars on biomechanics, growth and development, and contemporary orthodontic systems.
- Supports faculty and resident collaborations to expand pre-doctoral exposure to orthodontic principles.

Dental Association for Equality

**Events Coordinator | 2025–2026**

- Plans inclusive events and discussion spaces to expand cultural competence and DEI awareness.
- Collaborates with faculty and students to promote equity-centered conversations in dental training.

## RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Universidad Ana G. Méndez — School of Dental Medicine

**Dental Researcher | 2025–Present**

- Investigating oral–systemic pathways in oncology patients, focusing on periodontal inflammation and cancer-related outcomes.
- Conducts literature analysis, data collection, and interdisciplinary collaboration with medical and dental partners.

- Contributes to protocol design for clinical and observational studies related to oral health in vulnerable populations.

California Baptist University, Department of Biological Sciences

**Undergraduate Research Assistant | Spring 2022**

- Participated in a recombinant *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis* (Bti) project to enhance mosquito larvicidal toxicity.
- Engineered bacterial strains expressing a *cyt1Aa:binA* operon.
- Conducted electroporation, SDS-PAGE, microscopy, and bioassay preparation to analyze strain performance.

**WORK EXPERIENCE**

Chick-fil-A — Rancho Cordova, CA

**Human Resources Representative | Dec 2024 – August 2024**

- Managed HR support for 120+ employees, including conflict resolution, onboarding workflows, and compliance documentation.
- Facilitated staff development, recognition programs, and employee-wellness initiatives.

**Hiring Manager | Aug 2023 – Dec 2023**

- Oversaw recruitment pipelines, interviews, orientation, and training for new staff members.
- Improved retention strategies and scheduling systems, strengthening daily operational efficiency.

**Languages**

- English – fluent
- Spanish – native
- American Sign Language - Conversational