



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 Sophia Chandrasekar, MLS(ASCP)<sup>CM</sup> from Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

Sophia is employed by University of North Carolina (UNC) Health as a Lead Medical Technologist II. In her position at UNC Health's McLendon Core Laboratory, she is the Senior Technologist overseeing gas chromatography. She also serves as the Core Lab Dayshift Weekend Supervisor.

Sophia serves ASCLS in many capacities at the state, regional, and national levels. She has served North Carolina's constituent society as a member of their Board of Directors, President, Past President, and Chair of the Nominations and Elections Committee. Sophia pursued opportunities to grow her leadership skills by recently graduating from the ASCLS Leadership Academy.



Sophia is a talented artist skilled in digital graphics which she passionately applies to elevating the laboratory community. She is the creator of the immensely popular "Lab Colors: An NCSCLS Adult Coloring Book" and its sequel "Lab Colors 2: An NCSCLS Adult Coloring Book". Her nominators describe the significant impact these publications have had on the financial health of NCSCLS. Sophia marks the publication of these two books and the enthusiasm and acclaim they received from the laboratory profession as her proudest achievements in ASCLS.

When we asked Sophia why she continues to be active in ASCLS, she responded "My motivation for being involved in ASCLS is that I want to actively impact the laboratory profession with the strengths that I can provide, as well as be a part of a national community of people who all share a variety of experiences and similar goals". Through Sophia's laboratory themed artwork, her service as North Carolina's Spring Symposium Chair, NCSCLS Webmaster, NSCLS Social Media Chair, and Publication Chair of NCSLCS's quarterly publication "The Filter Paper" she

fully utilizes her skillset to positively impact the profession and engage members of the broader community. As a testament to her impact on the profession and in her workplace, one of her nominators said "Sophia has been a "spark plug" in promoting worker morale and wellness of individuals she works with."

In 2020, Sophia launched new Facebook and Instagram accounts for Warbler Works. Warbler Works is another product of Sophia's endless creativity and passion for laboratory sciences. Through these accounts, Sophia showcases lab themed comics and graphics that appeal to both current and aspiring laboratory professionals. Any follower of these accounts can relate to the humor, drama, and humanity she imparts on the profession.