FEATURED SPEAKER

A PERSONAL JOURNEY WITH TREACHER COLLINS SYNDROME

(10:45 – 11:15 AM, HENSEL PHELPS WEST)

Francis Smith, PhD

I have lived with the rare craniofacial disorder Treacher Collins syndrome and endured numerous facial reconstructive surgeries, hearing and speech therapy, bullying, and other challenges. My life has provided me with adventure and opportunity to cultivate my surprising musical and artistic talent. I have been inspired to pursue a unique career involving craniofacial research and public engagement. I began my training in craniofacial biology at King's College London, then pursued my PhD in craniofacial science at the University of California San Francisco. I have undertaken postdoctoral research fellowship training at the University of Calgary and now at the University of Colorado. I am also involved in public engagement for craniofacial research and awareness globally.