

»» SUCCESS STORY

D'UN CONFRÈRE AU-DELÀ DE NOS FRONTIÈRES

*Dr. Malek Kallel Souayah**From the Faculty of Dental Medicine of Monastir (Tunisia)
to Colorado School of Dental Medicine (USA): A Huge Achievement*

Dr. Malek Kallel Souayah, a young and talented dentist, began her journey in the auditorium of the Faculty of Dental Medicine in Monastir, Tunisia. Born in 1990 in Ksibet El Mediouni, a small coastal town in the Tunisian Sahel, she pursued her early education locally before graduating with honors from Lycée Pilote de Monastir in 2009. This achievement set her on the path to fulfilling her dream of studying dentistry at Tunisia's only dental school, the Faculty of Dental Medicine in Monastir.

Dr. Souayah's interest in dentistry was sparked at age ten when a traumatic injury to her front teeth opened her eyes to the profound impact of a smile on self-perception and interpersonal connections. This pivotal moment introduced her to the transformative power of dentistry—the ability to restore lives by restoring smiles.

Throughout her career, Dr. Souayah was actively involved in various community centers across Tunisia and later in the United States, where she worked alongside exceptional doctors dedicated to serving their communities. These experiences deepened her understanding of patient care, emphasizing empathy, communication, and the importance of meeting patients' needs.

A significant turning point in her life came when she relocated to the United States with her family. As an international dentist, navigating the licensing process in the U.S. proved challenging but rewarding.

Dr. Souayah worked as a dental assistant for two years and participated in numerous volunteer programs, including the ACTS program in Aurora, Colorado, supporting the Afghan refugee community. She also completed a preceptorship at Boston University Dental School and remains an active member of the International Association for Dental Research (IADR).

Dr. Souayah graduated with a DDS degree from the International Student Program at the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine, a rigorous two-year course with 40 students from 16 countries. Reflecting on her experience, she stated, "It was one of the most incredible experiences of my life." She graduated with honors in December 2023, receiving the Pierre Fauchard Academy award and scholarship for her exemplary ethical standards and professionalism.



Today, Dr. Souayah is an associate dentist at a prominent private practice in the greater Boston area. She continues to embrace new challenges on her path to success, dedicated to making a positive impact in her field.