



DOMENICO MASTRODICASA, MD
2025 NASCI RISING STAR AWARDEE

MEMBER

Spotlight



What did winning this award mean to you?

Receiving an award is always meaningful, but this one felt different. NASCI is the society where I first felt welcomed into the cardiovascular imaging community, and many of the people I met through NASCI helped shape the direction of my career. So, in a way, winning the NASCI Rising Star Fellowship felt like a professional homecoming.



How did NASCI impact your career?

NASCI helped me see what a career in cardiovascular imaging could look like as a clinician-scientist. It gave me an early sense of direction career-wise, and just as importantly, a sense of belonging. My first NASCI meeting in 2017 was one of the moments that inspired me to pursue a career as a clinician-scientist in the US.



How has being an award recipient impacted your involvement within the society?

Recognition from a community you admire makes you want to lean in even more. Receiving this award made me feel more connected to NASCI and more motivated to stay involved.



What would you say to someone who is considering applying this year?

Apply. Many in the early career stage wait until they feel completely ready, but this award is about trajectory and potential, not necessarily perfection. So don't wait until your path feels perfectly formed. If NASCI matters to your career and you're committed to cardiovascular imaging, then your story is worth sharing.



Why do you think others should apply for this year's award?

Early recognition can be powerful, especially when it comes from the community you hope to grow within. Awards like this can help build confidence and expand your professional network at a time when both are very important.



What would you say to encourage early-career members to submit an application?

Be honest about your journey, your goals, and why NASCI matters to you. A strong application should go beyond a list of accomplishments to show purpose and a genuine connection to cardiovascular imaging. In other words, tell your story behind the CV!