

MOVING UP: Jacob D. Steiger, Distinction: 2008 Holt Leadership Award winner

Palm Beach Post Staff Writer
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Delray Beach's newest facial plastic surgeon is 31 but certainly doesn't lack experience.

Last year alone, Dr. Jacob D. Steiger performed almost 900 surgeries. This year, Steiger, a Florida native who grew up in North Miami Beach, opened his own practice.

Education: M.D. from the University of Miami Honors Program; fellowship in facial plastic surgery at the University of Michigan; residency in head and neck surgery at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School

Age: 31

Personal: Single, lives in Boca Raton

Hobbies: Sculpture, art history, surfing, boating and diving

Career highlight: 'The opportunity to work with masters in my specialty. I have learned from professionally, personally and value their friendship.'

Recently, Steiger was chosen as the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery's 2008 Holt Leadership Award winner.

It's one of the most prestigious honors given by the organization. The award was announced in Chicago at AAO-HNS's recent 2008 Annual Meeting and OTO Expo, the largest meeting of head and neck specialists in the world.

The honor is given annually to the resident or fellow who best exemplifies the attributes of a young leader - honesty, integrity, fairness, advocacy, enthusiasm -as well as exemplary efforts to promote the missions and goals of the AAO-HNS/Foundation.

Steiger also received the 2007 Carniol Award, given by the University of Pennsylvania for research and innovation in the field of facial plastic and reconstructive surgery.

He was 23 when he finished medical school at the University of Miami School of Medicine.

Press clip courtesy of



He completed his internship and residency at the University of Pennsylvania, where he was the youngest surgeon on staff. At the University of Pennsylvania, he became chief resident in the Department of Otorhinolaryngology-Head And Neck Surgery.

Steiger continued his training as a fellow in facial plastic and reconstructive surgery at the University of Michigan Health System, where he served on the faculty in the Division of Facial Plastic Surgery prior to moving to South Florida to open his practice.

He's the only doctor in his family, but his dad, who worked as an auto mechanic, was an inspiration.

"I was always taking things apart and putting them together again," Steiger said. "I thought, wouldn't it be cool to do the same on people?"

He said he was attracted to the cosmetic side of surgery. "You can see the results right away," he said. "I like having a positive impact on people's lives, helping them to be physically and emotionally happier. And I learn something from each of my patients."

- *Mary Thurwachter* **Jacob Steiger's favorite quote:**

'What we do for ourselves dies with us. What we do for others and the world remains and is immortal.'

- *Albert Pine, English author*