

STEVEN K. OKAMOTO, DDS
PROSTHODONTIST
MICHELLE OKAMOTO, DDS
ASSOCIATE

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 310-373-1120
 okamotodds.com

VITALS

EDUCATION:

Dr. Steven is a 1984 graduate of the UCLA School of Dentistry, where he also completed a hospital residency and advanced prosthodontics residency. Dr. Michelle is a 2013 graduate of the UCLA School of Dentistry.

AWARDS & ACCOLADES:

“Top Dentist” – Consumer Research Council
 Special Care Dentistry Association
 Board of Counselors, UCLA School of Dentistry

SERVICES OFFERED:

Preventative care (exams, cleanings, X-rays), restorative, esthetic, implants, Invisalign, ZOOM and custom take-home whitening, athletic mouth guards, diagnosis and treatment of obstructive sleep apnea

BEFORE & AFTER

Today’s digital dentistry allows patients to have the smile they have always dreamed about, along with the function, comfort and health. Computer and scanning equipment has provided an amazing advantage in diagnosing and mapping one’s individual treatment. We can even demonstrate what a patient’s smile will look like before any treatment is started. Our technology can help someone who has lost either part or all of their teeth—turning back the clock and giving them the teeth they had as a young adult. These photos are two examples of how today’s technology is utilized to replace removable completed dentures with an anchored implant bridge.



PRACTICE SPECIALTY

Prosthodontics is one of only nine dental specialties recognized by the American Dental Association. A prosthodontist is a dentist with additional education in the restoration and replacement of missing teeth as well as a wide variety of other esthetic and cosmetic procedures. Prosthodontists are the skilled architects who can restore optimum function and appearance to your smile. Dr. Steven completed a three-year residency in prosthodontics at the University of California, Los Angeles. The residency included lectures and seminars, and intensive laboratory and clinical experience in fabricating crowns, bridges, veneers, inlays, complete and removable partial dentures, and dental implants. While attending the program, he received extensive training in diagnosing and treating temporomandibular disorders (TMD) of the jaw, traumatic injuries to oral structures, congenital or birth anomalies such as cleft palate and oral cancer reconstruction. He also became qualified to manage bruxism and sleep apnea disorders such as snoring.

OFF THE CLOCK WITH DR. OKAMOTO



One of the greatest joys for the doctors and team is sharing dentistry through their community and global outreach efforts. Participation in the county foster program’s Backpacks for Kids, Keiro Senior HealthCare Genki Living Expo, Successful Aging Expo, Orange County Rescue Mission and local classrooms are just a few of the ways they have volunteered individually and collectively in the community. Through patients connected with their churches, temples, universities and the Peace Corps, dental supplies and equipment have been delivered to Nepal, Cambodia, Uganda, Rwanda, Israel and Honduras. Dr. Michelle (as she is called by her patients and dental team) also participated in the dental clinic in Honduras, treating those in rural and impoverished areas who have no access to dental health care. The delightful smiles of those they have touched around the globe (some through a simple introduction to a toothbrush) bring even broader smiles to the doctors and team!

Today’s digital dentistry allows patients to have the smile they have always dreamed about.”

WHAT TREND IS DEFINING YOUR SPECIALTY TODAY?

“The application of today’s technology to everyday practice is evolving the way we diagnose and treat patients. This is evident from how we use digital X-rays, photographs and software to predict outcomes of treatment. We now can utilize computers to predict with a high degree of certainty the orthodontic movement of teeth, the resulting smile and what the specific treatment and dental restorations will look like before treatment has begun. This ability has allowed us to communicate with and understand patient’s individual expectations and goals, bringing about a positive result and successful outcome.”

WHAT’S MOST REWARDING ABOUT YOUR WORK?

Dr. Steven: “Prosthodontics is the intersection between art, science and technology. I have a passion for all three, so this is the perfect fit. Many of my patients are relationships that extend to 30 years. To celebrate their accomplishments and share in the milestones of their lives (graduation, marriage, birth of a grandchild) is truly a pleasure.”
Dr. Michelle: “What I love about dentistry is my ability to improve on my patient’s quality of life—whether it’s something simple to improve their confidence through helping them better their smiles, restoring their function, or taking them out of pain. Those aspects of my work help me feel good about what I do each day.”

PLEASE GIVE A DESCRIPTION OF YOUR PRACTICE.

“We recently opened a 2,500-square-foot, state-of-the-art dental center. Being in dentistry for 30 years allowed me to develop a vision of what lies in the future of dentistry. We envisioned the practice centered on the application of the most advanced technology combined with our extensive and continuing education in dental health. The design of our new office is reflective of the cutting-edge dental arts that we are ready to implement.”

TELL US ABOUT THE STAFF AT YOUR PRACTICE.

“I’ve been blessed with having worked with the same individuals for as long as 17 years, and I believe that is a key component of the success of this practice. Over the years we have created a team of dental professionals committed to providing care in an environment where the foundation is trust and each patient is treated as special. Our team has lives and interests that they share in common with many of our patients: travel, photography, individual and team sports. Members of our team are bilingual in Spanish and Japanese. These links to commonalities put patients at ease when they visit our dental center.”

