THE POWER OF GENETICS

EXPLORING THE UNIQUE TRAITS THAT DEFINE US

Over the past decade, STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) education has grown in popularity. It helps students develop life-long skills such as critical thinking, problem-solving, innovation and creativity and lay the foundation for a successful future. This was especially the case for Dr. Vishesh Bhatia, who elected to take a Biotechnology course during his junior year of high school.

"The hands-on experience I gained through a cancer research project sparked my passion for combining biology and technology," he said. "It was a pivotal moment that cemented my desire to explore a career in genetics."

Eager to pursue a specialized education, Bhatia researched several universities offering dedicated undergraduate genetic programs. This pursuit led him to travel over 7,500 miles from New Delhi, India, to Iowa State University in Ames, Iowa,

where he could immerse himself in the study of genetics. Following his undergraduate studies, Bhatia continued his education at lowa State University, receiving his Ph.D. in Genetics and Genomics and diving deeper into animal breeding and genomics.

"My education at lowa State laid a strong foundation for my current role, equipping me with theoretical knowledge and practical skills essential for understanding genetics principles and their applications," he said. "These principles form the core of my work, and I have the privilege of applying and refining them daily."

Bhatia joined DNA Genetics as a geneticist in July 2024. In this position, he conducts genetic evaluations and assesses performance to drive continuous genetic improvement. Bhatia said he enjoys the diversity of challenges the role presents, knowing that at the end of the day, his contributions help improve global food systems –



which he finds incredibly fulfilling.

"I'm excited to use my expertise to drive innovation and help DNA Genetics excel in an era defined by genomics and cutting-edge technology," he said. "Our goal is not only to stay ahead of the competition but to solidify our position as the industry leader, delivering the best genetics to our customers. I look forward to playing a part in setting new benchmarks for quality, efficiency and profitability in the swine industry."

In his free time, Bhatia enjoys traveling, cooking, watching college sports and spending time with his family and friends.

To learn more about DNA Genetics' robust genetic program, visit dnaswinegenetics.com.

