

151st COMMENCEMENT | May 20, 2023

School of the Professions | School of Education and Individualized and Multidisciplinary Studies | School of Arts and Sciences



BUFFALO STATE
The State University of New York



SUNY BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY

1300 Elmwood Avenue
Buffalo, New York 14222-1095
www.buffalostate.edu

BUFFALO STATE ALMA MATER

BENGAL PRIDE

Buff State you taught us to believe,
Be inspired and achieve.
With great minds and caring hearts
We're here to lead and serve.

With hope anew we'll venture forth,
It's with one voice we proudly roar
We are Bengals to the core.

In years to come, we'll reminisce,
Filled with joy for times gone by.
We'll not fail you Alma Mater,
Change the world for good.

Though we must leave our Elmwood home,
In our hearts for ever more
We are Bengals to the core.

—Dawn Pustelnik

D. BRUCE AND GAIL JOHNSTONE COMMENCEMENT SUPPORT ENDOWMENT FUND Recognizing Global Diversity at Buffalo State University



Buffalo State University embraces international diversity and welcomes students from many parts of the world. This ideal is supported by the generosity of the D. Bruce and Gail Johnstone Commencement Support Endowment Fund.

Dr. Johnstone, with the support of his wife, Gail, served as president of Buffalo State from 1979 to 1988 and as chancellor of the State University of New York from 1988 to 1994. The Johnstones' values emphasize global education as well as the importance of student diversity to enhanced learning.

COMMENCEMENT GARDEN

The president of Buffalo State and the entire campus community honor the Class of 2023 by continuing the tradition of the Commencement Garden. Inaugurated in 2000, the permanent garden is located outside the main entrance to the Sports Arena. The garden represents the messages of environmental awareness, growth, and continuity, all visions embraced by the graduating class. Please enjoy the garden and use it as a backdrop for taking pictures of your graduates.



WELCOME TO BUFFALO STATE'S 2023 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES!

Today is a very special day at Buffalo State University.

Today we gather to celebrate the individual and collective accomplishments of this year's graduating class. Through passion and perseverance, each member of the Class of 2023 has earned a degree from this great university. Congratulations on this life-changing achievement!

Of course, life's greatest successes are often realized with the support of others. We take time today to thank family and friends who have helped encourage their loved ones to earn a degree. Please know that your support is a vital part of the educational process. We also thank our dedicated Buffalo State faculty and staff, who play a pivotal role in preparing our students to reach their full potential.

My greatest wish is that each graduate finds personal happiness, contributes positively to their community, and pursues a career doing what they love.

Finally, I encourage every graduate to stay connected—in person or online—with Buffalo State. You are a member of the Buffalo State alumni family and will forever be welcome here. We know that the best is yet to come, so please keep us informed about the big and small triumphs in your life. Roar on, Bengals!

Sincerely,

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D.
President

CONFERRING OF DEGREES



KATHERINE S. CONWAY-TURNER, PH.D.

Katherine S. Conway-Turner, Ph.D., began her tenure as the ninth president of Buffalo State University on August 3, 2014. As president of SUNY's largest and only comprehensive university located in an urban setting, Dr. Conway-Turner oversees and manages more than 1,500 faculty, staff, and administrators who provide more than 75 undergraduate and 60 graduate academic degree programs each year.

President Conway-Turner's vision for Buffalo State to become "Buffalo's University" through engagement, excellence, and social responsibility has been embraced and is paying off in dividends for both the university and the community. The university's commitment to service has been recognized nationally under President Conway-Turner's leadership. In 2016, Buffalo State was among five colleges and universities from across the country chosen to share in the Washington Center's annual Higher Education Civic Engagement Awards. The university has also earned the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Community Engagement Classification under President Conway-Turner, as well as accolades from the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

President Conway-Turner earned her Ph.D. and M.A. in social psychology and her B.A. in microbiology, all from the University of Kansas.

Before coming to Buffalo State, President Conway-Turner was provost and vice president for academic affairs at Hood College in Frederick, Maryland, from July 2010 until July 2014. From 2004 to 2009, she was provost and vice president for academic affairs at SUNY Geneseo. She was the dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences at Georgia Southern University and associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Delaware, where she also served as director of the women's studies program and graduate program coordinator. She was an American Council on Education (ACE) fellow at the College of New Jersey, and she has held teaching positions at Santa Clara University and California State University, Long Beach.

President Conway-Turner is married to Dr. Alvin L. Turner, a psychologist licensed in New York and Delaware, who is engaged in the independent practice of psychotherapy, supervision, training, and forensic psychological services. They have three adult daughters, and in 2016 they became first-time grandparents.

SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS CEREMONY 9:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

The Rockwell Brass

Ricky L. Fleming, *Director*
Professor, Music

PROCESSIONAL

The Rockwell Brass

Gerard J. Puccio, *Mace Bearer*
Chair and SUNY Distinguished Professor,
Creativity and Change Leadership

CONVENING

Linda A. Dobmeier, '71
Chair, Buffalo State Council

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

Victoria J. Furby, *Director*
Associate Professor, Music

WELCOME

Katherine S. Conway-Turner
President, Buffalo State

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Miggie K. Wong, Class of 2023
Master of Science, Creativity and Change Leadership

Presenters

Eunice A. Lewin
Trustee, State University of New York

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS STUDENT ADDRESS

La'Shea Green-Thomas, Class of 2023
Master of Science, Creativity and Change Leadership

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Lucy A. Candelario
Executive Director, The Belle Center

Presenter

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Deneen Hernandez, '88
Retired Forensic Examiner, Federal Bureau of Investigation

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

James Mayrose
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Carol A. DeNysschen
Dean, School of the Professions

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

RECESSIONAL

Please join the campus community in celebration at a reception in the Campbell Student Union.

CAPTURING THE MOMENT Commencement is an important day and one that our graduates will long remember. As a courtesy, a professional photography company, Island Photography, will capture each graduate's special moment during the ceremony. You are also invited to use the Commencement Garden, in front of the Sports Arena, as a photo backdrop. A link to view individual portrait proofs taken by Island Photography is provided at <http://commencement.buffalostate.edu/capturing-moment>.

SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS



DENEEN HERNANDEZ, CLASS OF 1988

Deneen Hernandez is an enrolled member of the Seneca Nation of Indians from the Cattaraugus Reservation in Western New York who possesses roughly 30 years of varied law enforcement experience.

Ms. Hernandez is a recently retired forensic examiner for the Federal Bureau of Investigation Laboratory Division in the Cryptanalysis and Racketeering Records Unit in Quantico, Virginia. She was detailed to the Tattoo and

Graffiti (TAG) program, where she examined and deciphered codes and symbols submitted to the unit to help identify suspected criminal or gang-related activity.

For the past 16 years, Ms. Hernandez has provided intelligence on suspected illicit gambling records, such as bookmaking or gaming devices, conducting forensic examinations on those documents to determine their legality.

Familiar with examination techniques in the preservation of evidence, Ms. Hernandez was also an adjunct faculty member in undergraduate criminal justice, forensics studies, and graduate public policy studies at various colleges and universities. She holds certification as a forensic examiner of illicit bookmaking records and gambling devices. She is also a certified instructor with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services, the Office of Public Safety (formerly the Bureau of Municipal Police), the New York State Commission of Correction, and the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

Ms. Hernandez is a national trainer and board member for the National Partnership for Careers in Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security. She also volunteers with the Forensic Outreach Service in London, England. She is a member of the American Public University System's Criminal Justice Industry Advisory Council, located in Washington, D.C. She volunteers for Pathful Connect, introducing the field of forensics to students, and is a cyber guide for eCyberMission, sponsored by the U.S. Army Educational Outreach Program in Washington, D.C., assisting students with their STEM projects. She also serves as a member of the FBI's American Indian and Alaska Native Advisory Committee and the lab division's Diversity and Inclusion Network of Champions.

Ms. Hernandez received the 2020 Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) Professional Team Achievement Award and Individual Award for translating and promoting missing persons posters in the Navajo language, which helps the U.S. Intelligence Community expand its source base and supports the efforts of the Presidential Task Force on Missing and Murdered American Indians and Alaska Natives (Operation Lady Justice). She was also awarded Ragan's 2021 Corporate Social Responsibility and Diversity Award in the Social Impact: Community Affairs category, and the 2022 American Indian Science and Engineering Society's Professional of the Year award.

Ms. Hernandez holds a bachelor of arts in political science from SUNY Fredonia and a master of science in criminal justice from Buffalo State, and is ABD (all but dissertation) in public service leadership at Capella University.

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



LUCY A. CANDELARIO

Lucy Candelario serves as the executive director of the Erie Regional Housing Development Corporation's Belle Center, one of the region's largest all-encompassing human services agencies, located on Buffalo's Lower West Side. Ms. Candelario has nearly 30 years of knowledge and expertise in the nonprofit industry, which includes her time as former executive director of West Side Community Services.

At West Side Community Services, Ms. Candelario introduced science-based programming to the range of human services already offered by the center. The youth-oriented programs offered opportunities for Buffalo's most underserved children to positively channel energy and relieve stress and engage with role models and educational resources throughout the community.

Ms. Candelario's community service involvement includes membership on the board of trustees for the Buffalo and Erie County Public Library, the Buffalo Prenatal-Perinatal Network, the Community Action Organization of WNY, West Buffalo Charter School, the Buffalo

Community Center Collaborative, the Hispanic Women's League, and Mudpies Children's Museum.

Ms. Candelario's leadership was demonstrated in 2017, following Puerto Rico's devastation from Hurricane Maria, when she made the Belle Center a primary point of contact for relief efforts. She designated the center as a drop-off location for much-needed donations, coordinated and led volunteer efforts, oversaw local fundraising initiatives, and held weekly public information sessions on collection and disbursement programs.

Throughout the years, her efforts have been recognized through numerous awards, including the New York State Senate Women of Distinction Award (2018); the Community Leader Family Award from the National Federation for Just Community of Western New York (2016); the University at Buffalo's Distinguished Alumni Award (2014); and the NFL Hispanic Heritage Leadership Award (2013).

Born and raised in Buffalo, Ms. Candelario is a graduate of Grover Cleveland High School and the University at Buffalo, where she earned her bachelor of arts.

Ms. Candelario puts family above all else. She is the mother of Daniel and Victoria; grandmother of Daniel Jr., Dominic, Valentino, and Diana Lu; and mother-in-law to Dariana and Richard.

SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS STUDENT ADDRESS



LA'SHEA GREEN-THOMAS, CLASS OF 2007 AND 2023

La'Shea Green-Thomas has earned a master's degree and graduate certificate in creativity and change leadership while working as the administrative assistant in the Higher Education Administration Department at Buffalo State.

A native of Buffalo, she has more than 20 years of experience in the field of childhood education. She strives to be an agent of change and consistently models commitment in pedagogical and andragogical environments. She is a lifelong learner who maintains the ability to engage, connect, and direct others who are not afforded equitable educational experiences. Noted for her work with at-risk youth, young adults, and adults from diverse populations, Mrs. Green-Thomas is adept as a group facilitator in problem-solving and conflict resolution.

Mrs. Green-Thomas worked for a nonprofit organization in Western New York from 2008 to 2021, starting as a site coordinator, creating and implementing programming for school-age youth and advancing to roles as an education manager administering after-school programs, summer

camp, and the leadership academy. She concluded her time with the organization as an assistant director in the Youth Services Department, managing seven inner-city programs and one Southtowns program overseeing 85 team members.

Mrs. Green-Thomas serves as a community and youth advocate, sitting on the boards of directors for the Osborne Association for youth of incarcerated parents, 4-H Cornell Cooperative Extension, Engineering and Technology Academy of Distinction Charter School, Rebecca Rose Recovery Centers of WNY, and Spirit of Truth Urban Ministries; and Buffalo State University's Graduate Student Association and President's Medal and SUNY Chancellor's Award committees.

She holds a graduate certificate in adult education (2022) and a bachelor's degree in business administration and economics (2007) from Buffalo State. She also earned her associate's degree in business management at SUNY Erie. Mrs. Green-Thomas has received the SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship, the Graduate Student Association Merit-Based Scholarship, the Ron Brown/ITEC Scholarship, and the Phillip Santa Maria Award for Student Leadership in Equity and Campus Diversity.

She is the wife of Sherman Thomas Jr. and mother to three sons, Shermarion, Nehemiah, and Noah Thomas.

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE



MIGGIE K. WONG

Miggie Wong has earned a master of science in creativity and change leadership, attaining a 3.96 GPA while working full time as a development associate at the Burchfield Penney Art Center (BPAC). In her role at BPAC, she leads the membership program and assists with visitor and member engagement, events, and fundraising.

Ms. Wong has performed exceptionally well academically and excelled in every aspect of her career, demonstrating that it is possible to balance the two responsibilities through hard work and focus.

Her academic research has focused on the intersection of creativity and mental health and how creative experiences can mitigate the effects of trauma. Through her research, she has been able to articulate specific ways in which engagement in the creative process can help people advance their own coping skills in response to traumatic experiences. She aspires to share

the tools of creative problem solving to help people with mental challenges related to anxiety and panic disorders. In addition to her master's program work, she has earned microcredentials in applied creative thinking and problem solving and creative education.

A talented mentor, Ms. Wong has shared her expertise by providing creative problem-solving facilitation for undergraduate students in the course CRS 205: Foundations in Creative Thinking. She has also translated learning modules into Cantonese for Creativity and Education and assisted in facilitating a National Science Foundation-funded Ideas Lab for the American Society for Engineering Education.

An accomplished artist, Ms. Wong has showcased her work in exhibitions and media platforms in Hong Kong, California, and Western New York. She published her first book, *14 Days Quarantine Meal Drawing Project*, after visiting her native Hong Kong in 2021. She has received the American Association of University Women's Career Development Grant for women of color pursuing their first advanced degree in traditional fields, the SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship, and a 2023 merit-based scholarship.

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Bachelor of Science

Ayah Abdel-Al
Elham Ahmed Abdulmalk
Mohammad Bakhtiyar Abid
Malik Jaheem Abrahams
Nya L. Abrahams
Jeniffer Ramos Abreu
Edwuina Absolu
Nisha Nia Adams
Khem Adhikari
Nininahazwe Agnes ***
Said Ahmad
Noushin Ahmed
Ruby Akbar *
Sameer Akesson
Ferhana Akther
Farah Al-Karkhi
Fahim Alam
Ahmed Alawdi
Milan Albert
Sarah Albright
Abigail Louise Alder
Jaron Alexander
Narmeen G. Alfahal ***
Nuralaion Alhadeethi
Hussian Askar Ali
Christian Altamura
Wafaa Altorjman
Daisy Lynn Ambrusko ***
Natalie Marie Ambrusko
Natasha S. Amoah
Edward Mark Anders
Rakym Maxwell Andres
Nicole Marie Anderson ***
Elizabeth Ashley Anglin
Nicholas J. Anzalone
Melissa Frempomaa Appenteng
Yasin Arafath
Matthew Louis Arnow
Anwar Aswat **
Michael R. Avery
Soesoe Aye
Olumide Ayeni
Mohammed R. Azdar
Amadou T. Ba
Anita Baar
Lawrence Bailey *
James Todd Bailey
Xavier Baker
Mohmed Sadou Balde
Lanique T. Baldwin
Michael James Bardol
Anisea Roshowna-Lonnee-
Mary-Louis Barnes
Breanna Lee Barrett
Giselle Aguirre Barrientos
Kyle Joseph Bauer

Eva Becker
Raven Beckles
Mosammat Mitu Begum
Rumana Begum
Robert Glenn Behen
Javonte' Tyrese Bell
Alana Lee Bengert
Yossy R. Castillo Bermudez
Richard M. Bernstein
Dasia Sesan Bethel
Mahesh Bhandari *
Prayushi Kishorbhai Bhorania ***†
Nazemul H. Bhuiyan
Alexa Shakyra Billingslea
Daniella Tamia Birotte
Marissa Anne Birrer ***
Marcus Birthwright
Sabiya Blackman
Ahniyah Ailan Blamoville
Michael Boadu
Arka Boh
Elizabeth Rose Bokoski
Jason M. Bolea
Marquell Boutwell
Matthew Bruce Bowen *
Elisha Hillary Alicia Bowry
Marianna Frances Braun
Brynn Ann Brewington
Inez Brooks
Bailey Winifred Brouillard
Jalen L. Brown
Nicole Brown **
Nesiya Mahogany Sire Brunson
Justin Robert Cabrera **
Angelo S. Caizza
Isaiah Di'Shon Campbell
Alicia Campos *
Peter Michael Capone
Timothy Carver
Daniel B. Carveth
Davidson Cavagnaro
Abel A. Celestino
Matthew Amir Centeno
Nyla Raven Chappell
Ashton Lavarr Chatley
Adnan E. Chowdhury
Taliyah Fannah Cisse
Christina Roslyn Clarke
Matthew Ryan Clifford ***
Chellsie Irene Colas
Azeem Quane Cole
Kiersten Harryette Coley
Demetrios A. Collantes
Blake Russell Colonell
Cheryce Akela Danielle
Colquhoun
Kaithlyn Compere
Sarah Catherine Conley ***
Jakob Wayne Connors

Alyssa Cook
Rachael Mae Cooper **
Natalie Morgan Corda
Sadie Marie Cotrofeld
Ethan Christopher Craddock
Kaylee M. Crone *
Quamel-Allah Croskey
Kendrick D. Cuello
Shon Donnell Culbreath
Jacob A. Curr ***
Victoria Ann Dahdal
Kirk Daniel
Caelan David
Candace E. Davis
Owen Howard Davis
Brennan D. Deahn
Tyler Delaney
Jayda J. Delgado
Yanelly M. Dennis
Dominique Mamie Desrosiers
Diego Diaz
Edwin Alexander Diaz
Jadalynn Diaz
Stephanie F. Dickerson
Renefra Dodson
Christian P. Dorsett
Jodie Naika Ducheine *
Amanda Skyler Dutka
Jared Micael Dywan *
Alyssa Angel Elbaneh **
Shinikka Eldridge
Jason Anthony Ehlert
Daniel Erckert
David James Errington
Emily A. Ersing ***
Jacqueline Annette Evans
Olivia Earl Evans ***
Daniela Falca
Shannon M. Fath
Sean David Fazekas
Jason Robert Fearnall
Rebecca Fidler ***
James Richard Filosofos
Amaris Victoria Fisher
Conor P. Flannery
Vashawna Fleming
Javon Ford
Teja Amanda Forrest
Kayla Nicole Frankel **
Naquelle I. Franklin
Damani Travon Fraser
Joel Dee Frazee
Mya Frederick
Elizabeth Marie Friend
Ciara Simone Fritz
Ryan F. Frost
Vito Alberto Fulciniti
Payton Elizabeth Furner
Jacqueline Galindo-Carreon

Jordan Danielle Gant
Virginia Marie Garcia
Timothy Gardner
Eric John Gates
Binta Betty Gaye
Zachary Ian Gentzke
Haley George
Staceyqu L. Georges
Amy Le Gerber-Buchanan
Hassan Ghanbarzadeh *
Matthew B. Gibson
Everett Hill Gilbert
Ryan Thomas Glennon *
Larissa A. Gmeinder ***
Ariana C. Gomez
Brandon Lee Goodwin
Matthew Landry Gouger
Taylor Robert Grad
Andrew Martin Gradolph
Key'Shawn Sha'Kur Green
Jakilah Patricia Greene
Paige Monet Greene *
Adrienne T. Griffin
Nicole Groden
Rebecca Gubala
Angelo Joseph Guglielmo
Joseph Michael Guilmann
Joseph Guppenberger
Retesh Gurung
Carlos B. Guzman **
Giovanna Maury Guzman
Nicholas Hamme
Oscar Zachariah Handley *
Julianna Frances Hansen
Jackson Harding
Cassidy Rose Harenza
Dave Anthoney Harry
Benjamin John Hartman ***
Ajahni Harvey
Fereja Mahmud Hassen *
Harrison Hawthorne **
Kiara R. Haynes ***
Terrell Justin Heard
Blake M. Hendricks *
Taliya Jaylene Hendrix
Jaevon D. Hernandez
Kathy Michelle Hernandez
Galad Ahmed Hirsi
Adam Hoffmann
Yazmin Cassandra Holder
Ryan Holguin
Jana Christine Holland
Matthew S. Horn ***
Amran Hossain
Ian Blane Hoy
Mohammed Naimul Huda
John R. Huebschmann
Robert Aaron Huertas
Kyleigh Hughes

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS

Kristamar Ashley Hunter
 Mona Burgess Hunter *
 Kevin R. Huss *
 Rochelle Olivia Hylton ***
 Junior C. Iheke
 Argjend Imeri
 Samira A. Issa
 Ashley Helen Jablonski **
 Marvin Garvin Jackson
 Shauna M. Jackson
 Nia M. James
 Taylor Nicole James
 Kimori D. Jamison
 Samuel Edward Jaworski *
 Avelie M. C. Jean-Francois
 Josh-Lynne Danielle Jenifer
 Maysa Akther Jhumi
 Dejae Johnson
 Trevor Koron Johnson **
 Zakiya Aijane Johnson
 Mikayla E. Jones
 Sterling James Jones
 Julia Elisabeth Jugoon
 Michael Peter Kacalski
 Kirkland Grace Kaleta
 Joshua Karmazyn
 Alana Maria Kary ***
 Seiki Kawahara **
 Lainie Jane Kelahan *
 Benjamin S. Kempa *
 Aasia Khaton
 Phoo Pwint Khine
 Tianna K. Khourie
 Jamea King Best
 Brittany Kirkley
 Tyajiah Jacqueline Kittelberger
 Katelyn Marie Kostiw
 Nikita Kozorev
 Alexandra V. Kraft ***
 David Michael Kramp
 Jeremy Kroll
 Joseph Alexander Kulik
 Alexa Lee Kuppel *
 Joseph Thomas Kuschke ***
 Iryna Kuts
 Kyle Anthony Kwietniewski
 Yardeni A. Lamothe
 Amaris A. LaRose
 Dahre Lay
 Kayla Leon
 Leonardo Serafin Leonardo
 Phaybian Devine Livingston
 Carley Rose LoGripio
 John Edward Lockwood
 Amanda Ann Lombardi ***†
 Alyssa Lombardo
 David Lopez
 Jalisa Del Carmen Lopez
 Amali Lowe

Ywa Taw K. Lu Moo *
 David Lucher
 Brittney Michelle Luther *
 Reagan V. Mabika
 Mukhtar Sadik Mabruk
 Grace Maciejewski **
 Jason Macklin
 Zachary Madej
 Sagar Magar
 Marco Pasquale Maggiore **
 Tariq Devin Maloney
 Joseph Mancuso
 Akayla Manuel
 Raphael J. Manuel **
 Peter Gakuru Manzi
 Sara Ellen Marczynski
 Anthony Joseph Marinelli *
 Imani Marino
 Shanique Samantha Marsh
 Yoel Martinez
 Aaliyah S. Mathews
 Emmanuel Nsenga Mathias *
 Brianna Jessica-Lee Mattison
 Dawt H. Mawi
 Sonia Agatako Mbabazi
 Alena Kristine McKelvey *
 Janai Erin McKenzie
 Seth McNaughton
 Vare Elise McNeil
 Jazlynn Medina
 Gedion Yaekob Melesse
 Viera R. Mesler ***
 Raymond Daniel Mezydlo
 Md Anas Miah
 Lisa Michael
 Hunter Michael Milhollen
 Imani N. Miller
 Katelyn Marie Miller ***
 Megan Elizabeth Miller
 Samantha J. Miller
 Michael Brendan Mitchell
 Iaya Mohamed
 Aurora-Rose Molnar
 Andrea Jean Monk ***
 Daris S. Monroy Castillo
 Aaron Montas
 Andres F. Montes
 Charlene Sharne Montgomery
 Travis William Moriarty
 J'Ariam Hurlan Moore
 Nicholas R. Moore
 Mercedes Moore-Wells
 Bianca Vernell Morris
 Nicholas Morrison
 Anna M. Mucha
 Reema Muflahi
 Kendall Mulkins **
 Saharatu Munkaila Munkaila
 Michelle Anne Munyon ***

Sarah Elizabeth Mutton
 Jennifer Renee Myers
 William R. Myhalenko ***
 Wadea Naji
 Allison Brianne Napier **
 Nicholas Alexander Napierala
 McKiley Mae Nappo *
 Ayah Hannah Nedrick
 Georgia M. Needham *
 Sophia K. Neequaye
 Mikeya Eleanor-Ray Nesbitt *†
 Evelt Guerrier Nestor
 Gregory Matondo Kwa Nzambi
 Ngoma Di Nzau
 Jadaya Alyssa Nicholson-Souffrant
 Daniel Ryan Nobrega
 Zoe Noel-Trapani
 Amie Renea Noonan ***
 Emil Norrman ***
 Rubiya Nsiah
 Cin San Nuam
 Paula Nuchereo
 Matthew Nunez
 Peyton E. O'Brien
 Clancy Grace O'Connor ***
 John Olaosebikan Olatunji *
 Zoreika Zaria Ollivierre
 Charles Onogwu
 Genevieve Rose Orcutt **
 Alera Osborne
 Fabiha Osmani
 Joseph Thomas Oswald
 Shuying Ou
 Samson R. Owens
 Carmen J. Pappaceno
 Dominique C. Parke
 Htee M. Paw
 Nathalia Paola Paz
 David George Peiffer
 Seth Penn
 Gina M. Perno ***
 Dante Andres Peters
 Zoey Peterson
 Steven Phengsomphane
 Tommi-Lynne Piernik
 Wildy Christopher Pierre Jerome †
 Zachary John Pirog
 Dominique C. Pitts
 Phoebe Eyra Pitts
 Roger Charles Powers
 Megan Renee Price
 Joshua Ptak
 Tyler A. Pufpaff
 Matthew James Purcell ***
 Mikaela Ann Pyykkonen
 Hisham Rashad Qasas
 Sadia Rahman
 Samia Rahman
 Syeda R. Rahmani

Nelson Kike Ramos
 Ibrahim A. Raqib
 Kylie L. Reach
 Jonathon M. Redfern
 Alexandra Reeds *
 Dimitri Johnathan Regisford
 Megan Lynne Reid
 Alexis Remington
 Raymond Dean Reynolds
 Alexis M. Ricotta **
 Joseph Rigler
 Makaih Rivas
 Brandon Rivera
 Thomas John Rivera
 Justin Richard Roach
 Kaylie C. Robinson ***
 Ra'el Vone'a Robinson
 Michaela Marie Robles
 Matthew Raul Rodriguez
 Michael S. Rohe *
 Joshua T. Rollain
 Maria A. Roman
 Orfa Yailyn Cardona Roman *
 Anthony Roncone
 Alexander Lawrence Rose
 Amoi Rose
 Garrett D. Rosen
 Mark Anthony Rutherford
 Abigail Alston Ryan †
 Sajad Q. Sahi
 Laith Salah
 Aidan P. Salick
 Trinity Ann Sanchez
 Ruben Santana
 Angelina Allyssia Santiago *
 Paw Thet Kyue Say *
 Julian Michael Schaefer
 Perry Schmidt ***
 Taylor Anne Schneeberger ***
 Zachary Evan Schneider
 Annemarie Schreckenberger **
 Jennifer Rose Schultz
 Zachary Joseph Schultz *
 David Kevin Schunk
 Quinn M. Schwab
 Nacima Scott
 Hailey Alexandra Seibold **
 Emelia Rose Seiferth ***
 Janelle Sekyere
 Jacfar Shariff
 Sameer S. Sharma
 Anique Anneah Shaw
 Nyah Angeliah Shaw
 Htee M. Shee
 Janey Katharine Sheehan
 Zachary Shine
 Lexus Morgan Schrufer
 Conner James Shubert
 Corey Lee Sidney

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS

Daniel Siji Simeon
Dakota Michael Simon
Cameron James Sionko **
Yin Senai Son ***
Stephen Douglas South **
Sityvayte Nina Souvorachak
Marie Spektor **
Delaney Shae Sprecker
Nalijah Ameera Squires
Justin Michael Starkweather
Allison Margaret Steinberger
Ashanti Stewart
Rashaun J. Stewart McQueen *
Brendan Charles Stuart
Ava L. Stubbe
Sadia Sultana
Ashley M. Switzer ***
Noah J. Tadasz
Muhammed Abdulbari Taha
Reginald Leon Taylor
Caitlin Rylance Thill ***
Candeda M. Thomas
Darren Thompson
Leshawn M. Thompson
Mitchell Colin Thornton
Julia Enelda Tibold
Marissa Lynn Tiff
Freddy Tirado
Kyliah Tatyanna Toussaint
Majestyk Tramel
Zoe Noel-Trapani
Elizabeth Frances Urmson ***
Alyssa Marie Valle
Kiara Eliana Vallenilla ***†
Alia Monique Vand
Joshua D. Van Lew
Dean Van Son
Hanny Berenice Vasquez-Fabian
Daejah C. Vazquez
Jason M. Vincent ***
Adam David Vullo ***
Julia Patricia Wachna
Alexander Nicholas Wagner
Anthony Joseph Wahlgren
Soe Soe Wai
Wyatt M. Walker
Brett Robert Warren
Candice Leah Dianne Washington
Jamella Alma Washington
Christina Marie Waters **
Cheyenne Shania Watkins
Phillip John Weeks
Ah Wei *
Earl Vernon Wells
Daniel Wendel
Nicholas T. White
Paris White White
Grace P. Widman
Jovan A. Wiggins

Bianna Wik *
Joseph John Wikar ***
Benjamin David Wile **
Zachary Daniel Wilkesmore
Alexis Rose Williams *
Kelsey Sue Ann Wilson
Juliet Lee Win **
Byron Windsor
Jennifer M. Wiskemann
Semait Woldu
Katelyn J. Wolf
Dylan D. Woodling
Owen Woysner
Brandon Michael Wrobel **
Samantha Lynn Wroblewski **
Safiya Nikayla Yearwood
Jonathan Robert Young
Rosa Guadalupe Zarrabal ***
Nikola Zdjelar **
Kaitlyn Zindle *
Dominique A. Zirpola ***
Bernard D. Zolnoski
Yusuf Mohammed Zulqarnain

MASTER'S DEGREES AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Master of Science
Shelbymarie Amos
Keishawna Arlene Backus
Mirza Noor Ali Baig
Sarah Grace Bauch
Taylor Marie Benton
Darcy L. Biltkoff
Ernst Monsengo Mayizo Bonjaw
Ashley Marie Brigham
Marnisha Sierina Brooks
Mary Rebecca Brown
Shannon Burrows
Jeannine C. Carlisle
Claire Margaret Castiglia
David Anthony Clemons
Margarita M. DelValle
Tahira Endean
Hayden Patrick Ford
Kathleen Carol Frazier
Meaghan Gorman
Andrew Martin Gradolph
Ashlea Priscilla Green
La'Shea Ella-Rae Green-Thomas †
Marcus Hairston
Ryan Alexander Hill
Jhada D. Hutchinson
Briana Janay Jackson
Shelby T. Jeras
Naghma Samina Khan
Adeline Bell Kijisravej
Mary Clare Darby Kuhn
Kirsten Noelle Lindquist Campana

Carly Livingston
Andrew Steven Logar
Jeanette Janine Matser
Jovanni Cardinal Maynard
Gregory Allen McClure
Caroline McCabe
Coral Ann McConnon
Erin McKendry
Seth Michael Meyer
Shannon M. Miller
Kevin Molesworth †
Samantha Monaghan
Bernadine M. Murray
Shannon Marie Okonczak
Joycelyn Opoku
Tatiana Ortiz
Dena M. Puglisi
Jordan-Christopher Harry Purvis
Mohammad Zahir Rahimi
Zahid Mohammad Rahimi
Fardina S. Rahman
Michelle Riggio
Sara Maria Rinehart
Juliette Mary Ripley-Dunkelberger
Natalie Nicole Rivera
Nahdira Denae Rollins
Jasmine Aurea Samano
Renee M. Sgroi
Ke Shi
Saira Siddiqui †
Gurinder Singh
Lakshmi Sithambaram
Ryan James Snyder
Malika K. Thompson
Danielle A. Tomczak
Andres Manuel Vasquez
Oshina Kadeen Webb
Brian Wickham
Miggie Ka Ki Wong
Selma Yalazi-Dawani
Melique C. Young
Jennifer Pauline Youngblood

Master of Science in Education

Brooke Marie Abbott
Emma Grace Asklar
Rachel Carman
Maria DeFilippo
Abigail Frost
Kristen Frances Green
Jonathan H. Hendrix
Emma Horucy
Natalia Kim
Lindsay Erin Krupinski
Meghan Elizabeth LaTuso
Alyssa Marilyn Markowski
Bianca Mascia
Alexandra Michaels
Danielle Mulder

Catherine Munich
Alexandra G. Nelson
Allegra Anne Pilch
Kate Elizabeth Riniolo
Jordan Kelly Short
Erika Marie Stevens
Winnie Su
Rebecca Tovberg
Mary Jovita Wilson

Graduate Certificate

Anne Marie Brisson
Jeannine C. Carlisle
Laura M. Dawn
Akua Doris Ducard
Marika Escaravage
Jason Francey
Kathleen Carol Frazier
Coral Ann McConnon
Kevin Molesworth †
Samantha Monaghan
Bernadine M. Murray
Faherty L. Nielsen
Joseph Cullen O'Connor
Katie Frances Ravich
Jacob Lee Ravnborg
Eduvije Cristina Sanchez
Lakshmi Sithambaram
Meghan C. Shields
Heather Trumble
Selma Yalazi-Dawani

List compiled May 11, 2023.

*** summa cum laude 3.80–4.00

** magna cum laude 3.65–3.79

* cum laude 3.50–3.64

† dual degree

2023 SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

BUSINESS

Elham A. Abdulmalk

Outstanding Student in the Business
Department – International Business
Concentration

Natalie M. Ambrusko

Outstanding Student in the Business
Administration Program

Alana L. Bengert

Business Department Intern of the Year
Internship Company: Moog Inc.
Space & Defense Group

Emily A. Ersing

Outstanding Student in the Business
Department – Marketing Concentration

Annemarie Schreckenberger

Outstanding Student in the Business
Department – Management Concentration

COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Fahim Alam

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Farah Al-Karkhi

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Christian Altamura

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Prayushi K. Bhorania

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Daniel B. Carveth

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Matthew R. Clifford

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Jason R. Fearnall

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

USB Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award (2022)

James R. Filosofos

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Ntirenganya Gakuru

Robert A. Clark Scholarship (2022)

Matthew S. Horn

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Jeremy Kroll

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Joseph T. Kuschke

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Grace Maciejewski

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Anna M. Mucha

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

William R. Myhalenko

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

Nelson K. Ramos

Excellence in Computer Information
Systems Award

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Alyssa Cook

Donald J. Griffin Memorial Award

FASHION AND TEXTILE TECHNOLOGY

Amanda A. Lombardi

Elaine Polvinen Endowed Scholarship
(2020)

Marion Thomas Swenson, '39, FTT
Endowed Scholarship (2022)

Michael R. Rodriguez

Runway 2022 Second Place Senior
Collection (2022)

Emelia R. Seiferth

National Retail Federation Student
Challenge Competition Semifinalist

Marie Spektor

Elaine Polvinen Endowed Scholarship
(2022)

Jack N. Thomas

Runway 2022 Third Place Senior Collection
(2022)

HEALTH, NUTRITION, AND DIETETICS

Seiki Kawahara

Eta Sigma Gamma and the National
Commission for Health Education
Credentialing Inc. Outstanding Under-
graduate Health Education Major of the
Year Award

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM

Justin Cabrera

Statler Scholarship of Excellence
(2021–2022)

Ashton Chatley

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Carlos Guzman

Statler Scholarship of Excellence
(2022–2023)

Blake Hendricks

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Dahre Lay

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Lisa Michael

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Phoebe Pitts

Statler Scholarship (2022)

Nyah Shaw

Hospitality and Tourism Campus House
Members Award (2022–2023)

Jadaya Souffrant-Nicholson

Statler Scholarship (2021–2023)

Ashley Switzer

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Hanny Vasquez-Fabian

Statler Scholarship (2022–2023)

Phillip Weeks

Hospitality and Tourism Campus House
Members Award (2022–2023)

SOCIAL WORK

Nininahazwe Agnes

Excellence in Social Work

Daisy Lynn Ambrusko

Excellence in Social Work

National Association of Social Workers–
New York State Western Division

Social Work Intern of the Year

SUNY Buffalo State University
Outstanding Social Work Student
of the Year

Nicole Marie Anderson

Excellence in Social Work

Eva Becker

Excellence in Social Work

Marianna Frances Braun

Excellence in Social Work

Brynn Ann Brewington

Excellence in Social Work

Rebecca Fidler

Excellence in Social Work

Larissa A. Gmeinder

Excellence in Social Work

Alexandra V. Kraft

Excellence in Social Work

Zoe Noel-Trapani

Excellence in Social Work

Gina M. Perno

Excellence in Social Work

Megan Lynne Reid

Excellence in Social Work

Taylor Anne Schneeberger

Excellence in Social Work

Caitlin Rylance Thill

Excellence in Social Work

Christina Marie Waters

Excellence in Social Work

Amie Renea Whaley

Excellence in Social Work

Rosa Guadalupe Zarrabal

Excellence in Social Work

2023 SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Rachel Carmen

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Maria DeFilippo

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Award for Clinical Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Abigail Frost

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Award for Clinical Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Kristen Frances Green

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Emma Horucy

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Natalia Kim

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Lindsay Krupinski

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Alyssa Markowski

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Award for Clinical Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Alexandra Michaels

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Award for Clinical Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Deborah Moll-Richmond Foundation
Scholarship (2021)

Katelyn Miller

Gustave and Geraldine Werner
Undergraduate Award (2022–2023)

Danielle Mulder

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Catherine Munich

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Allegra Pilch

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Kate Riniolo

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Award for Clinical Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Jordan Short

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Erika Stevens

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Mary Wilson

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

2023 SCHOOL OF THE PROFESSIONS GRADUATE AWARDS

BUSINESS

Joycelyn Opoku

M.S. Business Management Outstanding
Graduate Award

CREATIVITY AND CHANGE LEADERSHIP

La'Shea Green-Thomas

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

Nahdira Rollins

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2021–2023)

Miggie Wong

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Margarita DelValle

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

Ashlea Priscilla Green

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

Marcus Hairston

Morgan Graduate Award

Michelle Riggio

Morgan Graduate Award

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION

Sarah G. Bauch

Robert A. Davis Endowed Scholarship
(2022)

Jordan H. Purvis

Thomas J. Quatroche Memorial Scholarship
(2022)

Melique C. Young

Thomas J. Quatroche Memorial
Scholarship (2022)

SPEECH-LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Ashlea Priscilla Green

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

Bianca Mascia

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

Cynthia Steiger Berry Speech-Language
Pathology Graduate Scholarship (2021)

Winnie Su

Award for Academic Excellence in
Speech-Language Pathology

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

*Awards listed were granted in 2023 unless
otherwise noted.*

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND INDIVIDUALIZED AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES CEREMONY 1:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

The Rockwell Brass

Ricky L. Fleming, *Director*
Professor, Music

PROCESSIONAL

The Rockwell Brass

Sandra D. Washington-Copeland, *Mace Bearer*
Program Director, Teacher Opportunity Corps

CONVENING

Robert M. Zak
Member, Buffalo State Council

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

Victoria J. Furby, *Director*
Associate Professor, Music

WELCOME

Katherine S. Conway-Turner
President, Buffalo State

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Mikala A. Highsmith, Class of 2023
Bachelor of Science, Career and Technical Education

Presenters

Eunice A. Lewin
Trustee, State University of New York

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT

Orlando J. Hill, Class of 2023
Master of Science in Education, Career and Technical Education

Presenter

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENT ADDRESS

Orlando J. Hill

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

John C. Starkey, '98
Principal, Lafayette International High School

Presenter

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Mildred Otero
Senior Vice President for National Impact,
Leadership for Educational Equity

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

James Mayrose
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Wendy A. Paterson, '75, '76
Dean, School of Education

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

RECESSIONAL

Please join the campus community in celebration at a reception
in the Campbell Student Union.

CAPTURING THE MOMENT Commencement is an important day and one that our graduates will long remember. As a courtesy, a professional photography company, Island Photography, will capture each graduate's special moment during the ceremony. You are also invited to use the Commencement Garden, in front of the Sports Arena, as a photo backdrop. A link to view individual portrait proofs taken by Island Photography is provided at <http://commencement.buffalostate.edu/capturing-moment>.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS



MILDRED OTERO

Mildred Otero is the senior vice president for national impact at Leadership for Educational Equity (LEE), a diverse network of equity-minded leaders at all stages of life and career. LEE is a free membership organization currently open to alumni of partner organizations including Teach for America, the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, New Leaders, Latinos for Education, Urban Teachers, and Public Allies.

Ms. Otero is responsible for LEE's national strategy, designing and developing life-changing civic leadership programs, experiences, and tools serving LEE members across the phases of four leadership pathways. She is also an adjunct instructor for the University of Miami, School of Education.

Before joining LEE, Ms. Otero served as chief education counsel for the U.S. Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions, where she managed the Senate majority's education agenda and its policy development and strategy for children from cradle to career. Such efforts

included legislation addressing early childhood education, elementary and secondary education, higher education, and adult education.

Before her tenure with the Senate, Ms. Otero served as senior policy officer at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, where she led the foundation's federal advocacy efforts for the U.S. programs in Washington, D.C. In this role, she focused on policy advocacy that advanced the foundation's college-ready and postsecondary success strategies.

Ms. Otero relocated to Washington, D.C., in 2003 as a Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute Public Policy Fellow, working for then-United States Senator Hillary Rodham Clinton. She went on to work at the Children's Defense Fund as deputy director for early childhood development and legislative assistant for United States Senator Jack Reed of Rhode Island, and later as senior policy adviser for Senator Clinton until 2009, when she transitioned with Secretary Clinton to the U.S. Department of State and the United States Agency for International Development, collaborating in areas of education, youth, and social protection policy affecting the Latin America and Caribbean region.

Ms. Otero earned a bachelor of arts from the State University of New York at Albany and a master of social work from the New York University Silver School of Social Work.

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



JOHN C. STARKEY, CLASS OF 1998

John Starkey, principal of Lafayette International High School, Buffalo Public School 207, is a 1998 graduate of Buffalo State University, where he majored in Spanish under the mentorship of the late Dr. Javier Ortiz-Calderon.

Mr. Starkey left Buffalo State and continued his studies at the State University of New

York at New Paltz and the College of St. Rose, where he received master's degrees in TESOL (teaching English to speakers of other languages) and school administration, respectively. He began his career as an ENL (English as a new language) teacher in the New York City Public Schools and went on to become principal of three high schools in New York City before returning to Western New York to open Lafayette International High School in 2016.

Lafayette International High School is part of the nationwide Internationals Network for Public Schools, an educational nonprofit that shares common criteria in a supportive school-based model for recently arrived English-language learners.

Since the opening of Lafayette International, the average graduation rate has climbed to 85 percent, and several new programs have been developed, including business, building trades, and community-based pathways.

Mr. Starkey has worked closely with Buffalo State since Lafayette International High School opened. Buffalo State President Katherine Conway-Turner has supported this collaboration in conjunction with the Buffalo Public Schools and has helped support the growth of Lafayette through dynamic Buffalo State programs such as the Professional Development Schools, Upward Bound, the Anne Frank Project, and the Liberty Partnerships Program. Many Buffalo State student teachers and observers are on the Lafayette campus each day, and a number of graduates and staff are former Buffalo State students.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENT ADDRESS PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING GRADUATE STUDENT



ORLANDO J. HILL

Orlando Hill has earned a master of science in education in career and technical education, attaining a 3.92 GPA while working as a tenured teacher in the Buffalo Public Schools' newly formed Buffalo School of Culinary Arts and Hospitality Management (School 355). He earned his undergraduate degree in hospitality administration from Buffalo State in 2015.

Mr. Hill has been a model student. His critical decision-making skills are thoughtful, insightful, and professionally reflective. His writing skills are excellent, and he completes all work in a professional manner. An active participant in class discussions, he often promotes other students' commentary, which results in meaningful class sessions.

As a teacher, Mr. Hill has the passion and ability to facilitate student success. He expertly combines a creative and enthusiastic attitude with a calm and patient demeanor. He is an excellent communicator who seeks out new challenges and alternative methods of teaching to bring out the best in his students. His hands-on lessons contribute to his students' sense of belonging and academic achievement.

He serves his school district as a culinary instructor and a basketball coach for the Emerson Lady Eagles junior varsity team.

Community-minded, he has volunteered with Buffalo State service-learning projects. In addition, he is the Sunday School secretary for his church, the Greater St. Matthew Missionary Baptist Church. He is a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success, a Wegmans Scholar, a Statler Foundation Scholar, and a Buffalo Public Schools' Teachers of Tomorrow Grant recipient. He also received the 2021 Changemakers 30 Under 30 award, for which he received recognition from New York State Senator Tim Kennedy and Buffalo Mayor Byron Brown.

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE



MIKALA A. HIGHSMITH

Mikala Highsmith has earned a bachelor of science in career and technical education, attaining a 4.0 GPA while operating her own bakery business and working full time.

Ms. Highsmith is a conscientious, hardworking, and dedicated student and a humble ambassador for the university. Always positive and upbeat, she seamlessly applied course content to her own teaching practice. Her

instructors noted that she did not study for the sake of a grade; instead, she studied because it would make her a more effective teacher.

An accomplished business owner and entrepreneur who started Kala's Kreations bakery at age 14, Ms. Highsmith has also worked as a pastry chef at DoubleTree by Hilton and Salvatore's Italian Gardens. While culinary activity is her passion, teaching is her calling. An aspiring culinary arts instructor, she has served as a substitute teacher of baking and pastry

at Erie 1 BOCES since 2021, working with high school students with special needs. In addition, she recently began a new role as an adjunct instructor at Niagara County Community College's Niagara Falls Culinary Institute. She also coaches high school students who compete in annual national competitions hosted by SkillsUSA, a career and technical student organization. She sees culinary education as a pathway to broader learning and plans to open a community center where kids and teens can cook, bake, and collaborate.

Dedicated to the greater Buffalo community, she has been a youth coach and community activist offering free culinary classes at special education centers and donating cupcakes to the Juneteenth Festival of Buffalo and Roswell Park Comprehensive Cancer Center.

Ms. Highsmith transferred to Buffalo State after receiving her associate's degree from SUNY Alfred State. A recipient of the Dr. G. Wesley Ketcham Scholarship, she is a member of Tau Sigma, the national honor society for transfer students, and Kappa Delta Pi, the national honor society for educators.

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND INDIVIDUALIZED AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Bachelor of Science

Taylor Renee Adamczak **
 Alia Khaled Alfadhli
 Trinity Diane Ball ***
 Paul L. Banko **
 Alexis Barcena **
 Alexandria Marie Benson ***
 Brittany Lynn Bisher
 Macy M. Blake
 Cayla Marie Bone
 Felicia Paige Boyle ***
 Maura Lizbeth Brady
 Olivia Marie Brewster ***
 Jarett E. Brzykcy *
 Tracy L. Burgio ***
 Emma M. Cain
 Angela Marie Calvello
 Sierra Grace Cawthard
 Elina Mari Cerasani ***
 Hailey Clark
 Rachel Maryanne Collins **
 Andrew J. Collura *
 Elyse Suzanne Crimi
 Amber Chelise Crittenden
 Gabriela Camilla-Rose Devero ***
 Joseph David DiNardo
 Erin Elizabeth Donovan *
 Kristen Marie Doohan
 Layla Emani Dubose
 Sara Dworzanski *
 Cheri Ann Enright
 Sofia Roswitha Fanizzi ***
 Emily J. Felong ***
 Krystal Diane Ferguson
 Olivia Marie Fisher ***
 Samantha Elaine Gaines **
 Joseph Paul Gibson ***
 Breanna Greenawalt ***
 Shanisha Griffiths
 Joyal Christana Guerra-Figaro
 Mikala Amaelcia Highsmith ***
 Isabella Noel Hill
 Emily Anne Hoerner ***
 Xiandra Lee Inwood
 Jalandra Dibri Jackson
 Lauren M. Jackson **
 Sarah Jessica Jackson ***
 Tamera Barbetta Jackson
 Tia Jaynes ***
 Dierra J. Jenkins
 Alexis Nicole Jones **
 Victoria Taylor Kalita
 Ashley Autumn Kerchenski ***
 Lynn Marie Kluge ***
 Cynthia Sany Kozman ***
 Johanna Kraus

Brittany Alexis Krzanak
 Taylor Y. LaClair **
 Kristin M. Larue
 Ellexia P. Lazore
 Grace Anne Leggio ***
 Monique C. Lewis
 Amanda Ann Lombardi ****†
 Kara Janette Londos **
 Lyndijean Lois Lowry
 Madison Olivia MacNeil **
 Wyatt William Maerten
 Nadiyah S. Marcano
 Jenna Elizabeth Matter
 Christina M. Maue ***
 Melanie Marie Mazur ***
 Alexandra Patricia Rose McGowan
 Elizabeth Grace Michienzi ***
 Sarafina Shatima Miles *
 Elise Marie Miller ***
 Nicholas Montgomery
 Jelyn Moyler
 Brent Ernest Muhlberger
 Amanda Nguyen **
 Brittnee Elizabeth Nicoloff ***
 Maryalice May Niver **
 Casie Marie Nugent ***
 Makdes Nore Omer
 Klihtoo Paw **
 Jazmin Gabrielle Perez
 Nathan Oliver Pericak
 Carmella Rose Pettys
 India LaRue Renee Quick *
 Amanda Maureen Radwan ***
 Carly Deann Redden **
 Sarah Redman
 Brianna Ashley Reilly ***
 Jacob Michael Rhodes
 Ariana E. Roseboro
 Matthew Ryan Rude
 Brooke Ashlyn Senay
 Ralia Sherif
 Lauren Isabell Skalski *
 Kacey E. Stack ***
 Hayley Marie Stein
 William Anthony Sturak
 Emily Morgan Sugg *
 Payton Kristina Torregrossa
 Emily Nicole Turton ***
 Ciara Mary Weedon ***
 Kaylee Marie-Skye Whalen
 Brianna R. Wright ***
 Tess Mary Wright **
 Cayla Ann Zaharkin *
 Delaney Ann Zander
 Samantha Marie Zier **
 Kylie Anne Zsebehazy *
 Adam M. Zubricky ***

Bachelor of Science in Education

Owen P. Adamec **
 Annaliese J. DiCarlo ***
 Chardenay Lashelle Hunter ***
 Alana Marie Kilminster **
 Syrena Vail Kohlman ***
 Amy Lesinski *
 Marita V. Miller *
 Abigail Lee Phillips
 Jennifer Purpura **
 Casey Lynne Rymarczyk **
 Stacey Nicole Spiller
 Christina Renee Stoessel
 Stacie Lynn Tchorznicki
 Alexis Maria Turan
 Erin Valente ***
 Miles Dean Woode
 April Marie Wright
 Kelsey Lynn Zabawa ***

INDIVIDUALIZED STUDIES

Bachelor of Science

Nana Afrifa
 Rawan Kadib Alban **
 Dyonte Armani Allen
 Kaitlin Marie Andrews
 Edmund Prince Attipoe
 Aissota Bah
 Martin J. Bailey
 Temitope R. Bakare
 Brittany Baker
 Magdalene Baunda
 Bremmer Armando Belisario
 Alexander Michael Bellet
 Brooke Joy Blakely
 Robin L. Blassingame
 Justin Henri Boucher †
 Darius L. Brown
 Devonte Denzel Brown
 Kevin G. Brown
 Camia Toni Sara Browne
 Flynn Paul Burton
 Chloe Ciranni *
 Shainna Antonia Clarke
 Samantha Mary Coleman **
 Madeline Elizabeth Crosby ***
 Kyshira A. Cummings
 Jason Michael Johnston Davis
 Anyelina Diaz
 Danielle Grace Distefano ***
 Molly Claire Eberhard **
 Zaria R. Edwards
 Misti Dawn Ellinger
 Sidney Rollins Feldman
 Kaitlin Grace Field ***
 Erin Patricia Figiel
 Isis Teschell Fraser-Durban
 Saw Freeman
 Antuana Fulgham

David P. Garcia
 Cameron Darnet Garrett
 Jessica Christine Gates
 Agnes Ge
 Joshua K. George
 Mamie W. Glay
 Marquita Louise Goree
 Michael John Grannis
 Jasmine Graves
 Jamar T. Gray
 Tanisha L. Hamilton
 Akoe Harper
 Samara Martine Henry
 Jordyn Ashleigh Hooks
 Michael Drew Houser
 Jordan Aaliyah Hubbard
 Demba Jallow
 Leah Jasmine
 Jalen A. Johnson
 Rogueilis Joseph
 Saran Kaba
 Robert Key
 Samantha M. Koerner
 Tatyana N. Lane
 Kirsten Marie Lemke
 Ashanti Ta-Cora Leverette
 Mama Kake Makanera
 Aimee Jo Maskell
 Amanda G. McMullen
 Rose Victoria Milord
 Mamadou Billo Misibahu
 Emily J. Moyer
 Mahmuda Saleya Nayan
 Darel Pajan
 Kaitlyn Elizabeth Protzman ***
 Shanna Belenisa Ramirez
 Anna Carolena Rand
 Marissa Antonina Rich ***
 Kim Weade Rogers
 Nzinga Nkima Rosa
 James Rubado
 Sierra A. Salters
 Hillary Sanchez
 Amanda C. Schack
 Megan Miranda Sheehan *
 La-Nya A. Simeon
 Elijah J. Smith
 Marlon George Smith
 Emily Staniszewski
 Jasmin Suarez
 Cheyenne J. VanDenBosch
 Alaysia Walker
 Grace Aday Weah
 Anastacia Leigh Wells
 Iyanna Symone Williams
 Keilani Qadira Winbrone
 Seham A. Younis
 Ronoq Zaman
 Carl Nicolas Zarcone *
 Viola Monae Zimmerman

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND INDIVIDUALIZED AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

MASTER'S DEGREES AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Master of Science

Taharra Monique Uliss Battle
Daverene Beckett
Jillian Laurel Caspary
Michelle Cullen †
Gerrod Bennett
Gabrielle Damin
Kelsey E. Emmerson
Nidhi Garapati †
Cathy D. Hoy-Patterson
Itoko Kobayashi
Christopher Donald Langswager
Laura Ann Lariviere
Miya Shaneuqa McDaniel
Kara Michelsen
Sarah Michelle Nasson
Jessica Phillips
Mikaela Kristine Sessler
Shamonique A. Thompson
Dionne Michele Vincent
Erin Young †
Joshua Young-Lawrence †

Master of Science in Education

Mikayla Charlene Achtyl
Kathleen Lynn Adimey
Jebrael Mohamed Ahmed
Rakia Akter †
Rumana Akter †
Liz Vanessa Alvarez †
Aubrey Minda Anderson
Tricia L. Andres
Lizbeth Aristega
Julia Aronica
Jada Arrington
Megan E. Ayers
Laura Bagley
Brooke Bainbridge
Emily Balisteri
Alexandra K. Ballow
Samantha Barry
Angelica Abigail Bartkowiak
Dina Bdour
Bridget Elise Bender
Claire Bennett
Jessica Lynn Bennett
Alexandria Marie Benson
Taya Blaszkowiak
Allison Elizabeth Block
Ashley Bohne
Gabriel Jordan Bollers
Shannon Borowiak
Rebekah Anne Bova
Jenna Bradley
Jacqueline Marie Brown

Maeve Kennedy Brownell
Ashleigh Elizabeth Burgio
Olivia P. Bursee
Kyla S. Campanella
Shawna Noel Caparaso
Alexa Dominique Caputo
Christina Cassata
Christina Marie Catalano
Zindy Y. Cavaliere
Lisa A. Cercone
Karly Jean Chase
Maria Faith Chvala †
Alexis Marie Ciehowski
Sarah Cilano
Vanessa Ann Clifton
Richard Noel Coburn
Adelyn Collins
Katherine P. Collins
Trevor Conschafter
Alysia Rose Cowe
Shira Elyse Crane
Elizabeth Crans
Marisah Croakman
Carly Cronin
Stephanie Sylvia Cross
Kristy Marie Crouse-Siedlecki
Emily Nicole Czarniak
Amanda Daniele
Beverly Y. Davis
Madisyn Davis
Felicia DeAngelo
Lindsay DeFilippis
Marissa DelPrince
Nicolette Desantis †
Claire Janet Diebold
Julia Ann Dinoto
Melissa Frances DiVirgilio
Austin Dodge
Rebecca Marie Dominesey
Sarah Doran
Courtney Drayton
Madison Taylor Duchnik
Ana Paola Duda †
Ana Patricia Duda †
Stacy Lynn Duink
Deborah J. Eaton
Callie Rose Everett
Eucharía L. Ezeoyili
Suzanne A. Farea †
Rebecca Farszmil
Andrew Ferguson
Samantha Ann Ferington
Jamie Fish
Jillian Christine Fisher
Daeyana Francis
Hayley R. Gabrielli
Alexis Lee Gabryszak
Kaitlyn Marie Gaik
Gloria I. Ocampo Galeano

Kelly Lynn Gandt
Brianna Garcia
Vernia S. Garvin
Erin Marie Gawlak
Faith Gian
Cara Giglia
Hannah Gleason
Eireann Good
Maya Gooding
Lavonnie Green
Jennifer Jean Greene
Breezy Greenert
Elyse H. Grieco
Gabiella Renee Gugliuzza
Judith M. Guyse
Carly Maria Hardick
Sarah A. Harter
Dylan Hennigan
Kira Herkey
Mikayla Hernandez
Orlando J. Hill
Caitlin Marie Hoch
Rianne Olivia Hoffman
Emily Rose Hornung
Timothy Howard
Lauren Eileen Huber
Amy E. Jakiel
Courtney A. Jansen
Lauren Jeanette
Kelsey E. Jeffs
Francesca E. Johnson
Lauren Alyssa Jolly
Dominique A. Jones
Brandi Kaczmarek
Deanna Julia Kanelli
Caitlin Laurel Kazmierczak
Katelyn J. Keane
Olivia Meixing Keller
Brigid M. Kennedy
Fiona N. Kier
Maria Elizabeth Kilmer
Kennedy Ann Kirby
Elena L. Kopty
Casey Lynn Kremblas
Jessica Kubik
Emma Lindsay Kuczkowski
Amanda Marie Kwandras
Michael Charles Lamar
Olivia E. Lamar
Renee Y. Lancewicz
Hannah R. Lapenta
Vadim Vladimirovich Lebedyuk
Calista M. LeGault
Joshua Lewis
Victoria Anne Lewis
Eric Rollie Lipps
Elizabeth M. Love
Mackenzie S. Mahony
Lauren Maida

Olivia Maldonado †
Tricia Ro Markel
Renae Christina Marten
Sarah M. Marvin
Jennifer Melissa Matuszak
Celene McDermott
Maria Christina McGrath
Leah Jordan McMullen
Sean P. McNutt
Kalie Ryan McPhail
Beh Meh †
Jennifer Brooke Merkel
Jeffrey Miller
Suanee Elexus Minott
Natalie Minotti
Gabrielle Lyn Miranda
Mitchell Mistriner
Shania Alexis Mitchell
Michelle Jessica Mitri †
Katrina D. Moltrup
Kate Morrissey
Gina Muroff
Sarah Ann Myers
Lauren Amanda Niedbalski
Casey Odrzywolski
Katherine Elise Oliveri
Olivia R. Oneill
George Patrick Ouimet
Grace Ann Pasquantino
Julia Marie Pickering
Jessica Nicole Plewniak
Lisa Ann Poirier
Corey Edward Poole
Julia Rochelle Posch
Morgan Gwyneth Propp
Gabriel Thomas Puccio
Samantha Michelle Pundt
Kaliegh Catherine Reding
Lara Marlene Reece
Christina M. Reich
Kaitlynn Reilly
Victoria Ann Reinhardt
Lauren C. Riley
Tahawna Faye Roberson
James Paul Roberto
Aracely M. Rodriguez -Perez †
Christine L. Rottger
Anyá Roy
Amanda Russo
Spring Sanders
Madison Paige Scheffler
Annalise C. Scherer
Colleen G. Schroeck
Emily Schulman
Jessica Elizabeth Schurr
Traci Lynn Schutt
Thomas A. Scozzafava
Carly Marie Shank
Emily Sheehan

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND INDIVIDUALIZED AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Briony Siler
Jacob Mathew Sillett
Emilee Ann Smardz
Corrine Marie Smith
Emma D. Sobieraski
Benjamin S. Steele
Amanda Steiger
Kaitlyn Marie Stickney
Zachary Alexander Stockman
Ashley Marie Sutton
Benjamin William Szablewski
Amber Lynn Terhart
Lauren Theriault
Jeffrey Thomas
Julia Anne Trabert
Chaniah J. Trueheart
Mary Valle
Angela Marie Van Kuren
Lilasue Verstreat
Liliana Villanueva
Rachel Katherine Vogt
Christie Walker
Rebecca Elle Walter
Jan Marie Wanderlich
Nicholas P. Warchock
Allison Wasnechak
Leon Daniel Waugh
Madeline R. Webb
Leah Weiss
Mary Kristin Wesolowski
Katherine Ann Wilkins
Justyna A. Wilkinson
Krystal-May Abigail Williams
Nynasia Cynthia Williams
Stacy May Williams
Lauren Elizabeth Wills
Kelsey Grace Wiperman
Elizabeth Woelfel
Michelle M. Woodward
Jamie Lynn Worrell
Jonathan Dalton Wozniak
Laura A. Wright
Marc Alexander Young

Certificate of Advanced Study

Rakia Akter †
Rumana Akter †
Ellen Aroune
Shannon Borowiak
Angela L. Carriero
Maria Faith Chvala †
Lori Ann Dabney
Nicolette Desantis †
Julie B. Doyle
Ana Paola Duda †
Ana Patricia Duda †
Suzanne A. Farea †
Alyssa Fini

Moiria E. Foley
Allison Lynn Gibson
Lindsey Marie Johnson
Daniel S. Lynch
Olivia Maldonado †
Daniel Mault
Beh Meh †
Michelle Jessica Mitri †
Jeanette Mullen-Franklin
Katrina M. Peracciny
David Samuel Phillips
Christine A. Ray
Stephen Wallace Sayoc

Graduate Certificate

Liz Vanessa Alvarez †
Gerrod Bennett
Michelle Cullen †
Nidhi Garapati †
Cathy D. Hoy-Patterson
Christopher Marchitelli
Joseph Leon Painter
Aracely M. Rodriguez-Perez †
Shawn Allen Stearns
Jeffrey Thomas
Erin Young †
Joshua Young-Lawrence †

MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Master of Science

Alaa Saoud Abu-Halimeh
Rania Abuzannad
Deborah Ngozi Ajayi
Hiba Bou Ajram
Nezih Akalp
Jessica Lee Ake
Hana Al Allaf
Mariam Al-Duwaisan
Wadha Saeed Alhajjaji
Bahij B. M Aljabari
Maryam Saleam Alkalbani
Fatma Ali Almarri
Noora Ali Al-marri
Hadeel Mohammed Alotaibi
Ohoud Saad AlOtaibi
Omar Ahmad Alshishani
Souad Mohamed Arbo
Victor Manuel II Arizabalo
Navarro
Ayse Hilal Avci
Haneen Ahmad Ayes
Rowenna Triona Badshah
Brittany Baran
Alphajor Umaru Barrie
Owen J. Bennett
Candice Tereasa Benny
Clara Marcela Betancur
Beverly Ann Brennan

Harrison Brown
Sahana Cain
Tatiana Pico Severo Carnicelli
Ezgi Cebi
Abo Neneth Chebib
Xiao Yan Chen
Basma Jamil Choughari
Danielle Clark
Nerike Combrink
Breanna Fae Cook
Margarita Coronado
Maira Da Silva Santos
Arthur Novak Motta Daudt
Cordelia de la Garza Ortiz
Olivia Noel Di Dio
Kaitlin I. Eckart
Farah El Mokadam
Alette Jonelle Enslin
Melani Erekli
Nura Esmail
Viviana Elizondo Marcos
Alejandra Irene Escamilla Saldaña
Sawsan Fares
Teresa E. Gerth
Carolina Bibiane Gioto
Shanaz Gordan
Amina Ali Habish
Faten Waheed Haidar
Faten Moufid Hamzeh
Nouran Ghassan Harfouche
Rita Fares Hbeich
Jessica Louise Houston
Sandra Victoria Ikokome
Roger Isaza
Azhar Abdalla Kanso Al Ghouri
Alaa Khalil
AyaTalla Mahmoud Khattab
Najum Uddin Khushik
Jonathan Kuttischreuter
Yue Li
Megan Elisabeth Lipovsky
Clare Elizabeth Low
Itzel Maria Madero Hernandez
Robert A. Magill
Sana Abdul Majeed
Tannia Manautou Perezgallardo
Liaonn Martin
Lina Beatriz Marulanda
Mark Christopher Mason
Jackilynne Romero Mateo
Celia Patricia Rodriguez Mendoza
Ana Sofia Meza Gonzalez
Ruusu Miettinen
Abdelmuniem Elkhair Mohamed
Farah Mohammad
Francisco Moreno
Ihab Najeh Mosa Basha
Wafaa Nassar
William Nassif

Amanda Dawn Oliver
Uyi Omogun
Esmarandi Oosthuizen
Anisa del Carmen Ordorica
Natalia Orozco Perez
Isarel Ortega
Rosa Elisa Ortega Esteve
Victoria Oluchi Osadebe
Amel Ouzrout
Lewis Niels Polden
Luisa Fernanda Quintanilla
Maria Alejandra Julian Quintanilla
William Edmund Rech
Belinda Rodriguez Villarreal
Ana Catarina Russo
Francis Viviane Sada Gutierrez
Claudia Maria Salvatierra
Reham Ahmad Samara
Nihan O. Sehsuvaroglu
Aylin Sevyo
Saira Siddiqui †
Eduardo Andres Silva Betancourt
Grizelda Smit
Sabine Elizabeth Soehring
Nikkola Jayne Stearne
Qingjiang Sun
Gerhard Swart
Fakiha Jebin Tanha
Paul Taylor
Hakan Turutoglu
Gokce Uzun
Yolanda Vallejo Morales
Mercedes Villarreal Hinojosa
Taizu Ann Wold
David Dean Young
Amanda Alaaldin Yousef
Viviana Zertuche Lopez
Chaolu Zhu

List compiled May 11, 2023.

*** summa cum laude

** magna cum laude

* cum laude

† dual degree

2023 SCHOOL OF EDUCATION BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

EDUCATIONAL PIPELINE INITIATIVES

Dierra J. Jenkins
Buffalo Urban Teacher Diversity Pipeline
Residency Undergraduate Program and
Scholarship (2019–2023)

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

Annaliese J. DiCarlo
Gustave and Geraldine Werner
Undergraduate Award (2021–2022,
2022–2023)

Stacie L. Tchorznicki
Horace Mann Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student in Exceptional
Education (2022)

Erin Valente

Dr. Bernard Yormak Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student in Exceptional
Education (2021)

Miles D. Woode

Dr. Bernard Yormak Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student in Exceptional
Education (2017)

April M. Wright

Horace Mann Award for Outstanding
Undergraduate Student in Exceptional
Education (2021)

2023 SCHOOL OF EDUCATION AND MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES GRADUATE AWARDS

ADULT EDUCATION

Itoko Kobayashi
SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2021–2023)

Leon Waugh
Adult Education Comprehensive
Examination Award (2022)

EDUCATIONAL PIPELINE INITIATIVES

Beverly Y. Leonard
Buffalo Urban Teacher Diversity Pipeline
Residency Graduate Program and
Scholarship (2019–2022)

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION, LITERACY, AND EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Emily Czarniak
Alpha Upsilon Alpha Honor Society

Daeyana Francis
SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

Colleen Schroeck
SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2021–2023)

EXCEPTIONAL EDUCATION

Kaitlyn M. Gaik
Horace Mann Award for Outstanding
Graduate Student in Exceptional Education
(2021)

Kelly L. Gandt
Dr. Judith Bondurant-Utz Early Childhood
Award (2021)

Emily R. Hornung
Joseph and Mary Daly Varga, '43, Graduate
Award (2022)

Lara M. Reece
Horace Mann Award for Outstanding
Graduate Student in Exceptional Education
(2022)

Dorothea and Mildred Seegler Endowed
Scholarship Award (2021–2022)

Aracely M. Rodriguez-Perez
Horace Mann Endowment for Exceptional
Education Scholarships (2021–2022,
2022–2023)

Dorothea and Mildred Seegler Endowed
Scholarship Award (2022–2023)

Paul Thoms Council for Exceptional
Children Membership Scholarship (2022)

Benjamin S. Steele

Dr. Bernard Yormak Award for Outstanding
Graduate Student in Exceptional Education
(2021)

Nynasia C. Williams

Horace Mann Scholarships for Exceptional
Education Students (2022–2023)

MULTIDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Fakiha Tanha
SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship
(2022–2023)

*Awards listed were granted in 2023 unless
otherwise noted.*

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES CEREMONY 5:00 P.M.

PRELUDE

The Rockwell Brass

Ricky L. Fleming, *Director*
Professor, Music

PROCESSIONAL

The Rockwell Brass

Thomas S. Weinberg, *Mace Bearer*
Professor, Sociology

CONVENING

Linda A. Dobmeier, '71
Chair, Buffalo State Council

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

Victoria J. Furby, *Director*
Associate Professor, Music

WELCOME

Katherine S. Conway-Turner
President, Buffalo State

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE

Maimouna A. Samba, Class of 2023
Bachelor of Arts, International Relations

Presenters

Eunice A. Lewin
Trustee, State University of New York

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT

Daniel P. May, Class of 2023
Bachelor of Arts, Public Relations and Advertising

Presenter

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES STUDENT ADDRESS

Daniel P. May

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

Mo Sumbundu, '13, '17
International Trade Manager, Empire State Development, Global New York Division

Presenter

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Raven Baxter, '14, '16
Educator and Molecular Biologist

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

James Mayrose
Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Brian C. Cronk
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Katherine S. Conway-Turner

BUFFALO STATE UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Members of the Buffalo State Chamber Choir

RECESSIONAL

Please join the campus community in celebration at a reception in the Campbell Student Union.

CAPTURING THE MOMENT Commencement is an important day and one that our graduates will long remember. As a courtesy, a professional photography company, Island Photography, will capture each graduate's special moment during the ceremony. You are also invited to use the Commencement Garden, in front of the Sports Arena, as a photo backdrop. A link to view individual portrait proofs taken by Island Photography is provided at <http://commencement.buffalostate.edu/capturing-moment>.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS



RAVEN BAXTER, CLASS OF 2014 AND 2016

Raven Baxter—widely known as “Dr. Raven the Science Maven”—is an internationally acclaimed, award-winning educator and molecular biologist who is renowned for her aptitude in merging scientific concepts and popular culture. Dr. Baxter was born in Buffalo, New York, and earned her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in biology at Buffalo State,

as well as her Ph.D. in science education from the University at Buffalo.

Dr. Baxter has a deep and broad range of expertise across both the technical and social aspects of science in molecular biology and protein sciences, science education, and communication. Her graduate research on protein chaperones focused on understanding their structural and functional evolution. As a professional scientist, she has worked in high-throughput drug discovery, using cutting-edge methods and tools to advance treatments for diseases, particularly neurodegenerative diseases.

Dr. Baxter has developed innovative methods to make science more accessible to people from all backgrounds and experience levels by incorporating creative outlets such as music, fashion, and comedy in her lessons. She is an advocate for science education reform who believes that everyone can learn science with the proper resources and support.

Dr. Baxter is a highly sought-after public speaker who has provided engaging lectures for such esteemed organizations as Princeton University, the National Science Teachers Association, the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science, the Parent

Teacher Association, and RTI International. In her talks, she inspires people to pursue their STEM dreams without feeling the need to conform to traditional expectations of what it means to be a scientist—a message further evidenced by her TEDx Talk “You Don’t Look Like a Scientist!”

Drawing on her knowledge base in STEM education and diversity issues in the STEM fields, Dr. Baxter sustains partnerships with companies such as Olay, Regeneron, and Brooks Running. Through these collaborations, she has informed work to close gender gaps within the STEM workforce, introduced high school students to laboratory techniques, and hosted international science fairs. These collaborations are part of her dedication to making science accessible through her platform of influence worldwide.

In addition to her work as a scientist and educator, Dr. Baxter has also founded the Smarty Party Shop, creating lively fashion apparel that celebrates scientific achievement and lets people, literally, wear their knowledge on their sleeves. In her free time, she serves as a mentor to countless students who are interested in the STEM fields, helping them develop their skills and reach their goals in life.

Dr. Baxter has been recognized in *Fortune’s* 40 Under 40 in Health list (2021), *Forbes’s* 30 Under 30 in Science list (2022), *Ebony’s* Power 100 list, and AfroTech’s Future 50 list (2022) for her immense contributions toward making science more inclusive and accessible. She has received the Woman of Distinction Award from the American Association of University Women (2022); the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Student Excellence (2021); and the Asteroid Award for Diversity and Inclusion in Science Communication (2020). Her work has also been featured in the *Washington Post*, *Scientific American*, and *Harper’s Bazaar*.

PRESIDENT'S DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD



MO SUMBUNDU, CLASS OF 2013 AND 2017

Mo Sumbundu is an international trade manager with Empire State Development's (ESD) Global New York division, where he oversees contacts between New York companies and ESD's foreign offices. In this position, he manages export marketing assistance service cases and interfaces with the regional U.S. Department of Commerce, the U.S. Small

Business Administration, and other industry groups that provide export assistance. Previously, he worked with New York companies that apply for ESD funding assistance programs to promote exports.

He also enjoys the challenge of collaboratively planning events with the New York State Governor's Office, ESD, the Regional Council, local officials, and other state and local agencies, authorities, and organizations.

Before his move to Global New York, Mr. Sumbundu was the assistant director of the Regional Economic Development Council (REDC) of Western New York, where he worked to encourage business investment and job creation and support diverse local economies through the efficient use of loans, grants, tax credits, real estate development, marketing, and other forms of assistance in Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, and Niagara counties.

As assistant director, he assisted with REDC oversight and provided staff support for ESD initiatives. He worked with community leaders and elected officials on ESD funding opportunities and served as a liaison between the WNY Regional Office and ESD's offices in Albany and New York City. He also maintained an extensive portfolio of economic development initiatives that included the Downtown Revitalization Initiative

(DRI), Regional Council/CFA, East Side Corridor Economic Development Fund, and Restore New York Communities projects. His responsibilities also include the Workforce Development Initiative Committee, the REDC Talent Attraction and Retention Work Group, and the WNY DRI selection committee.

Mr. Sumbundu also serves as a representative of Governor Kathy Hochul in the Western New York region by helping build and maintain productive relationships with elected officials, community leaders, and advocacy groups. He currently serves as the governor's liaison to the May 14th Memorial Commission in response to the mass shooting at the Tops Market on Jefferson Avenue.

During the coronavirus pandemic, Mr. Sumbundu worked with companies to identify sources for desperately needed PPE, helping businesses understand the state guidelines put in place to keep communities safe. He also served as a lead administrator at a vaccination site and disseminated information about reopening the economy after the global lockdown.

Mr. Sumbundu is a recipient of the 2014 Changemakers 30 Under 30 in Western New York award, the *Buffalo Business First* 2018 30 Under 30 award, and the 2019 SUNY Buffalo State Young Alumnus Achievement Award, and he was recognized on City & State's 2022 Upstate Power 100 list. He also received the New York State Senate Liberty Award for his efforts in saving the life of a Buffalo woman who went into sudden cardiac arrest.

Mr. Sumbundu has volunteered with the Food Bank of WNY, the Society of St. Vincent de Paul, and the New York City Department of Education's Students in Temporary Housing program. He serves on the boards of the Buffalo Museum of Science and the Tiff Nature Preserve and is a member of the Hilbert College 2025 Advisory Council. He proudly hosts exchange students from South Korea each summer.

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES STUDENT ADDRESS PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT



DANIEL P. MAY

Daniel May has earned a bachelor of arts in public relations and advertising, attaining a 3.94 GPA while participating in the Muriel A. Howard Honors Program.

Mr. May has built an exceptional record of academic excellence, citizenship, campus involvement, leadership, and career preparation and achievement during his years as an undergraduate student at Buffalo State.

With a unique ability to track down and conceptualize the obscure and the sublime, he conducted faculty-mentored academic research on the Buffalo Germans basketball team that will be included in a forthcoming book as well as in the files of the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

Driven by a passion for sports, Mr. May works as the sports editor for Buffalo State's student newspaper, the *Record*, and hosted a sports radio

talk show on the student radio station, WBNY-FM 91.3. He was one of two students from a field of 250 candidates to earn a national internship with the Pro Football Hall of Fame in Canton, Ohio, in summer 2022. He also works as a game day AV assistant with the Buffalo Bills broadcast department.

In addition, Mr. May serves as president of the Buffalo State chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America. He also advocates student concerns as the student representative on the Buffalo State Council and as a senator, justice, and administrative vice president of public relations for United Students Government.

Beyond the university, he has served as a core team member with the middle school youth ministry program at Our Lady of Pompeii parish, leading children through faith-enrichment exercises as an educator and mentor. He is socially responsible, dedicated to his community, and an excellent example of a student leader.

SUNY CHANCELLOR'S AWARD FOR STUDENT EXCELLENCE



MAIMOUNA A. SAMBA

Maimouna Samba has earned a bachelor of arts in international relations, attaining a 3.92 GPA while minoring in legal studies and participating in the university's Muriel A. Howard Honors Program.

Ms. Samba embodies the critically curious and caring character that defines Buffalo State's mission. She is a mature, critical thinker who is able to apply the knowledge

learned in the classroom to real-world issues. Her research and communication skills are superior, and she takes pleasure in leading and facilitating discussions among her peers about challenging issues in U.S. and international politics.

A research assistant in the Early Undergraduate Research Opportunity program, she has presented her findings on democratization and causes of

democratic backsliding at Buffalo State's Student Research and Creativity Conference. In addition, she conducted independent research on refugee integration and asylum seekers in Kenya and Uganda. While in Uganda, she volunteered as a reading teacher at a local school and helped start recreational and educational programs for women and girls.

Ms. Samba is an aspiring diplomat who has a passion for studying comparative political institutions with a regional focus on Africa and advocacy for the education of women in Sub-Saharan Africa. She is a member of Pi Sigma Alpha, the national honor society for political science.

A natural leader, she serves as president of the Student Political Society, sergeant at arms of the Pan-African Students Organization, and building manager of the Campbell Student Union. In addition, she has interned with the International Institute of Buffalo, where she helped local refugees improve their experiences living in Western New York, and the Erie County Executive's Office, where she worked on intergovernmental affairs and community outreach across Erie County.

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

Bachelor of Arts

Jiselle A. Abraham
Fidaus Adams
Jania Emonne Adams
Mackenzie Grace Agliata
Selim Ahmed
Olivia Shirley Ahrens *
Helen B. Akinade
Ummay Kolsum Akter
Terrell A. Alexander
Ayan Omar Ali *
Mohammad Ali
Amy Miranda Allen
Berivan Alothman **
Matthew Anderson
Bradley Chikeluba Anianwu
Krishna Joakeem Antoine †
Michael David Argentieri
Rico D. Argentieri
Thomas Arnone **
Jacob E. Baggett ***
Akilah C. Bailey
Emma E. Bailey
Zenetria Dasinay Baker
Sydney Baker-Hendryx **
Stephen J. Bakowski
Lila Marie Balali
Brandon Terrell Barksdale
Marcus Allen Barney *
Allison Grace Baumgart ***
Briana Lynn Bautista
Pike Elwyn-Grey Beaney
Olivia Bell ***
Matthew J. Benedict **
Ashley Bre'Asia Benjamin
Joshua A. Benjamin
Maggie E. Benjamin
Emily Benkleman
Sa Le Mar Bi
Carlee P. Biehl
Ahmad M. Bilal
Melaina Jolene Birjukow *
Leah Blatner
Tyshawn Bodden
Mark Bogumil
Alexandra Grace Bond
Christopher Anthony Bookhagen
Justin Henri Boucher †
Kashmir Bowser ***
Bailey Rose Boyer ***
Natalie Jane Bradley
Melissa Kathryn Brawdy
Amir S. Brazell
Cassandra Brown *
George W. Brown ***
Kayshawna Brown
Koralyn Rae Brown
Spencer Scott Bruno
Ayana Maria Bursie
Tiana Monique Butler
Janae S. Cabrera
Carleil Davidson Callender
Sanassa Camara

Erin Louise Cambria
Joseph Carlo
Janette Carrillo
Aliyah Meara Angel Carroll ***
Hussein Challob
Kelly Bryn Chase
Vincent Chiaravalle
Chinaza Okeemah Christopher
Elizabeth Christy ***
Emilee Louise Christy ***
Ryan Matthew Chwojdak ***
Olivia R. Cinquino **
Steven Lawrence Clare ***
Hope Lillian Clark ***
Samantha Colburn
Joseph Richard Colson
Aristotele Julian Concepcion
Balou Fatoumata Conde
Emma Grace Connaire
Alexandria Christina Coombe ***
Liam T. Cooper
Courtney Autumn Coseglia
Gabrielle Mae Costello **
Alexander James Couturier
Zoe Jean Crapsi ***
Daunte Crawley
Cristalys Cruz
Matthew Lucas Culp
Amber Leigh Culverwell
Madison Elizabeth Curr *
Sylvie Cuvelle
Jaylen Jamar Cyrus-Small
Hannah Rose Darlak
Mya Dates *
Zariah Ayoantae Dehaarte
Leasah Deleon
Bridget Elizabeth Demeis
Alma Azucena Diaz
Austin R. Diaz
Madison Diaz **
Brandon Dillon *
Andrew Joseph DiMartino **
Monica May DiScioscia
Hakeem Nassier Dobbins
Jenna Lee Dobson
Haley C. Domin *
Benjamin Richard Donaldson
Molly Doyle
Fatoumata Drammeh
Michael Ryan Drywa
Layla M. Dunkle
Elizabeth Dunning ***
Tyler William Durfee
Alexander Dutkiewicz **
Tanner N. Edmondson
Suraiya Islam Efa
Sage Katherine Enderton **
Jordan Epps
Nicole Ortensia Estrada
Elizabeth Ann Evans ***
Jessica Renee Evans ***
Kyle Evans *
Zahraa Faisal *
Taylor Marie Farewell-Panzica ***
Dante L. Feliciano ***†

Julie Ferguson
Jordan Marie Fetes
Anyia Fields
Jenna Fields
Rosa M. Fields
Jaden A. Flick
Tia Foots
Christian Fox
Alexander J. Francisco
Nathan Frattura
Devon Alexander Flynn *
Peter Harold Freeman *
Todi Kungwa Fundi
Danielle Marie Gabamonte
Raven Sa'Naa Geneva Gadsden
Robert Anthony Galeano
Benjamin Thomas Galkiewicz
Grace Pauline Gallagher *
Shawndra Renee Galley
Benjamin William Gallivan
Tanya Gamble
Nicholas Joseph Germele
Alessia Lucia Gervasi
Rebecca Gabrielle Giangreco *
Francesca Mia Giaquinto ***
Alec Michael Giezycki
Ramanpreet Kaur Gill
Megan Christine Gilman
Stephanie Anne Gilman
James Gilsdorf
Justin Michael Gmyrek **
Sharon Elizabeth Goergen
Jocelyn M. Gondek
David Gorgush
Dylan D. Gotay
Danielle L. Graham
Paige Grant
Natalie Gravino
Carlton Jacob Gear *
Samantha Rose Greco ***
Niesha A. Green
Hayley N. Greene-Rosa
Dana Marie Guenther **
Daniel Guercio
Jason Patrick Guth ***
Sibgha Haider
Hope E. Haley *
Jenna Alene Hall
Jenna Harper
Dominique Marie Jennifer Harrell
Allison M. Harrington
Casey J. Harrington ***
Brianna Harris
Jacob Kevin Haskell
Soumaya Hassan
Thomas John Hassen
Nadiira Ahmed Haybe
Marek Cole Heitzenrater
Zachary Ronald Hellwig
Sarah Ann Hencinski
Lizette Hernandez
Larue Ann Heutmaker
Tatiyana Hazel Highsmith
Alyssa Judith Hill
Carrington B. Hill

Brianna Camille Hinds-Greenidge
Brianna Annette Hirschman
DaRon Hughey
Christopher Garry Jackson ***
Serina Marie Jaeger-Delgado
Davon J. James
Otisha Onica James
Anthony Wayne Janda ***
Emily Jean
Derek Dewayne Johnson
Jiaan Jones
Khalil Omar Jones
Niya Kayla Jones
Marcus Zachary Kenline ***
Dayton Kenneally
Destiny Chardae Kenner
Keontae Cameron Key
Adiba Ayesha Khan
Esther Nyamutigerwa Kirenga
Joshua Wayne Knickerbocker *
William Patrick Korb ***
Samantha Marie Kowalski *
Gerald Kravenvenger
Abigail Rose Kroening
Colin Michael Krzystek ***†
Matthew Paul Kyler **
Bria N. Ladson
Rebecca E. LaMastra
Cory James Landel
Carly Lawson ***
Jacob Q. Lemke
Melissa Levandoski
Charlize B. Lewis
Sara Irene Liberty
Brianna Christine Lillis
Helen Lin
Marykate Kimberly Lloyd *
Holly Grace Lobrutto *
Allison E. Logan *
Joseph William Lombardi
Josephine Lumambo
Samuel John Lyman
Jeremy Domonick Lysen
Phillip E. Mack
Sean Mahaney
Maryann Maldonado
Yamitza Enid
Maldonado-Hernandez
Natalie Rose Maloy **
Amina K. Mambambu
Benedicte Kalambay Manionga
Matthew Donald Mansell
Angelina Mariamu
Alisa Marks *
Janae Vivian Martin
Brian Luis Marzan
Daniel P. May ***
Charlesworth Dean McBean
Quentin McCauley
Natasha Rhonda McDonald
Nicholas McDougall
Sean Patrick McFarland
Skylar McKelvie
Kavorn F. McKoy
Caitlin Carol McMahon

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Riley Anne McMahon
Ashley Elizabeth McNichol
Danielle Nicole McPhail
Kyle V. Melito **
Francisco Mendez
Phillip K. Merchant
Joshua Edward Mergler ***
Nina Nicole Miles *
Farjana Akter Mimi
Kathleen Mary Minkiewicz ***
Jordan Minor
Skyla Minor **
Sara Brianna Mintz †
Amnah I. Mohsin **
Shekinah E. Moman
Dominique Kiara Moore
McKenna K. Moran **
Ryan Anthony Moretta
Melyssa N. Morgan
Muse M. Muse
Josef Bradley Napier
Natalya Naila Narine
Simone Natasha Nelson
Mikeya Eleanor-Ray Nesbitt *†
Joshua Erick Nielsen
Victoria Frances Notto ***
Tammy Odierno
Elise Rose O'Donnell
Alethea Odudu
Ann Elizabeth Oshei
Gloria Osuji
John Ovak
Myshayla Elizabeth Page
Shanaia Riann Panchoo
Luke David Pappagallo
Kevin D. Parham
Kaitlyn Marie Paretto
Thomas Peter Passino
Talia L. Peeler **
Nia Ivy Peebles
Janina L. Pelaez
Colby G. Perrigo ***
Gabriel Dennis Petersen **
Sarah Marie Petkovsky ***
Kai San Phanthalath
Unique Zhane Phyll
Lauren Elizabeth Pierakos
Jane M. Potter **
Tai Y. Prescott-Salako ***
Jonathan Michael Promowicz
Lindsay G. Prout ***
Jeanatta Jacqueline Purdie
Alyssa M. Quarcini
Elijah A. Ramsay
Suzana Rehema
Natasha I. Renczkowski ***
Trinity Marie Ridout *
Gracelyn M. Rife
Jonathan Matthew Riggio
Laila Riley
Madeline Jane Ringle **
K'Juan Rivera
Antwan R. Rodriguez
Trinity A. Rodriguez
Connor Rohan ***

Heaven Mae Rollek
Lindsey Faith Roth ***
Joy Irene Rutherford
Abigail Alston Ryan †
Valerie Ryan **
Rachael Louise Ryba
Robert Peter Salefske
Maimouna Aziz Samba ***
Kayla M. Samuel
Dynelis Santana **
Cole Gregory Saraf
Tanner James Saunders
Christopher M. Scharlau
Isabella Rose Schell
Michael Patrick Schettig ***
Britt Kimberly Schinzel *
Jonathan T. Schoeneman
Kashindi Nadine Scholastique
Lucas Mackenzie Schultz
Victoria Lee Schultz
Cristian Victor Schuster **
Joseph Antonio Scordo *
Rashida A. Scott
Steven J. Shaneyfelt ***
Lanita Denise Shaw-Daniels
Justin Christopher Siejak *
Driphon A. Simms
Alanah H. Smith
Justin James Smith
Troy M. Smith
Ali Saidi Somo
Fatima M. Sow
Liam P. Sperrazza ***
Ashna St. Fery
Tatiana Genevieve Staniszewski
Alicia Lynn Stark ***
Michael D. Storm ***
Chloe Strong
Eleanora Jae Stuart
Samuel J. Stuber
Maria Catherine Suchyna
Kelis Tamar Swain **
Yamilla Marie Tate *†
Thomas Patrick Tedesco ***
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James Timothee
Dantonio Santos Torres *
Nicole Marie Torres
Talya Toussaint
Tommy Tran
Aboubacar Traore
Mark Andrew Trudell ***
Tianca Chanel Truitt
Emma L. Tryon
Eden Rose Urbanek
Patrick H. Ursitti
Ndubuisi Utti
Kiara Eliana Vallenilla ***†
Courtney Leigh Vandyne
Tyler Vanuden
Madison Ray Watson
Capri Webster
Kyle Michael Wekenmann *
Crystal Whaley
Angelina Wheeler

Nahja T. White
Wilford L. Whitney *
Spencer S. Wiktorowski
Samantha Claire Wild *
Jenna Marie Wlostowski **
Gabriella G. Woodward
Julianna Joy Woodward
Nathan Andrew Wright
Adrianus Vangulik Wutz ***
Aden M. Yakub
Philip John Yarnes
Luke David Zambon
Lee N. Zygora

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Deanna Marie Adamski *
Emma Shirley Albrecht
Megan Marjorie Angevine
Marirose E. Annibali
Bryce William Baker **
Jacob P. Bertram
Kay Lynn Budziszewski ***
Marissa Bure
Nathan R. Dash *
Kiyomi Davis
LeeAnne Dutkiewicz ***
Alice Joan Edgington ***
Janinna Theresa Farragher **
Dante L. Feliciano ***†
Rose Filkov
Omata C. Gamba
Julia M. Gerhard ***
Olivia M. Gianadda
Liam Glynn *
Kelly Anne Griffin ***
Julianne R. Guercio *
Catherine L. Hartman
Michael Robert Hull
Jonathon Mark Kabalan **
Marie F. Kemp ***
Susan Dorrit Koloski
Grace G. Krasteva *
Kamryn Faith Lewis
Litian Li
Kyle S. Linhardt **
Garion A. Lopez
Bianca Jacqueline MacPherson ***
Luis E. Maisonet **
Bailey Rose McCarthy **
Edgar Mock
Emily J. Miller
Xinyi Mo **
Kenneth Edward Montgomery
Mackenzie Margaret Muldowney *
Leslie A. Murphy
Carrie Murray *
Austin Michael Oleszak
Haylee Ann Oliver
Xitlali Perez
Duyen Thi My Phan ***
Branden Ray Pierr
Crystal R. Plourde ***
Jumana Rafique ***
Gaelyn Aaliyah Robinson

Fatou Aziz Samba
Alexii L. Schoenhals *
Jessica L. Smith
Orlandria Denae Solomon
Anna Marie Stang **
Emily Katherine Stutz
Natalie Pearl Tombak **
Rhiannon Elizabeth Urquhart **
Lindsay Elizabeth Wademan
Jayde Wilkin-Smith ***

Bachelor of Music

Grant W. Asklar ***
Kathleen P. Dunne ***
Skyler Mar-Lin Graham *
Alexander Keith Minney
Michael A. Parrizzi **
David Rundell *
Emma E. Schutt ***
Molly Elizabeth Secord
Zachary Crawford Shaffer ***
Rachel Elizabeth Ward **

Bachelor of Science

Akintoye Gabriel Akinfemiwa
Samuel B. Alem
Fairouz Anica
Krishna Joakeem Antoine †
Angelina Balatskaya
Reece W. Bates
Zane Berghold **
Prayushi Kishorbhai Bhorania ***†
Amoy Amanda Blake
Grace E. Brzykcy
Bailey Rose Buckley ***
Joseph Daniel Burns
Joseph Byrne ***
Conor Gerald Cahill
Leah Christina Casey **
Samuel Michael Cilano *
Andrew Cobb
Jack Richard Colby
Zachary Matthew Colling
Raymond Cook
Luke Anthony Cristina ***
Shawn Albert Daniels
Anna Roksoyana Dano ***
Quinn Alexander Darlak *
Emily R. Dauer
Noah W. Deer ***
Elissa Marie Dojka
Carolyn Elizabeth Freeman ***
Maria Garbo *
Alyssa C. Germano ***
Taylor Lynn Grabowski
Jonathan Anthony Grant *
Christina Harris-Divincenzo
Alexa Rose Hefner ***
Sumiya Islam *
Kayla Chandaalika Issurdatt
Anthony L. James
Michael Jankowski
Richard Curtis Klemenzenz ***
Philip Mathew Konys *

2023 CANDIDATES FOR SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Kerry Skyler Kruzel
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Kayley Rose McCadden
Shannon McGrath ***
Chelsie A. McKinnie
Taylor Anthony Mellott
Sara Brianne Mintz †
Jacob Wayne Morgan
Amatullah Mufahi
Catie Nemec ***
Alif Ann Noor **
Angela Sandra Nye
Kayla Marie Osman
Paul T. Osmon
Stephanie Lee Owens
Daniel Oche Peter
Wildy Christopher Pierre Jerome †
Tristan C. Pitcher
Stacey Lynn Playle
Kayla D. Pugh
Mark Clifford Rohloff
Nahomy Reyes Soto
Rifat Arefin Rico
Kyle Rodriguez **
River John Simard
Joshua R. Sinclair ***
Jaylan Alex Snaith ***
Beau Alan Stafford
Garrett A. Stevenson ***
Lance Jacob Swiatek
Joshua Taggart
Katherine S. Tait *
Tasnim Akther Tajin ***
Nicholas Adam Terranova
Sarah R. Tilley
Maggie A. Tripp
Elizabeth Ann Truesdale
Lyndsey J. Truilizio
Harley Owen Weber
Jarrett Robert Whipple ***
Avery Lisa Whitely *
Jessica Jane Wier ***
William Woicak

MASTER'S DEGREES AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATES

Master of Arts

Katherine Corliss Aguirre †
Matthew Paul Basista
Kaelynn E. Beckman
Jessica Noemi Benitez
Annika Blake-Howland †
Lorna J. Brundrett †
Lindsay Sara Cross †
Jenna Marie Daniel
Martens Pathric Dorcely
Liatte Dotan †
Camille M. Ferrer †

Meredith C. French †
Grace Johnson Garrity †
Shannon Nicole Gilmartin
Alexander Richard Glasier
Mallory Diane Glazer
Kyle Robert Glenn
Shannon Marie Graziano
Emma Elizabeth Guerard †
Julia M. Hamilton
Lara Hargrave
Paige Madison Kehoe
Kathryn Kenney †
Christopher Michael LaRussa
Yuyin Li †
Aisha Mackey
Christy Hope McCutchen †
Katherine McFarlin †
Javier A. Mejia
Emily J. Mercer †
Stacey Lyn Watson Mesley
Jennifer Mikes †
Daniel Egan Murphy
Sasha Clarissa Naples
Khanh Phuong Nguyen †
Kaela Louise Nurmi †
Nicholas J. O'Connor
Maeve E. O'Shea †
Abby Schleicher †
Marissa Anne Seib
Alison M. Spongr
Andrew Torres
James L. Wagner
Jacqueline R. Walters
Kylie Paige Wirebach
Katya Marie Chiara Zinsli †

Master of Music

Holly Carson
Kailey Anne Czyz
Christopher DeVries
Kurt Ebsary
Halle Edwards
Emily Holmberg
Kyla M. Leno
Laura Mueller
Kristina Packer
Nicholas Roche
Michael D. Russinik
Autumn Elizabeth Skillman

Master of Public Administration

Jingmei Dong
NeCole A. Ervin
Charles Edward Gardinier
Tessa Ann Janicke
David Richard Jankowiak
Antwanaisja Attale Johnson
Sara Kfoury
Toni Alexiss Martinucci
Renee Nicole Melton
Joshua Oballim
Christina Rose Schultz
Katherine Alexandra Stoll
Julia Beth Witherell

Master of Science

Theo R. Berenson
Katelyn M. Brickhouse
Alexis Brignoni
Lorna J. Brundrett †
Mohamed Camara
Lydia Charles †
Joshua Cohen
Esmeralda Cordero
Lindsay Sara Cross †
Gina Marie DelMonache
Robert DiBenedetto
Asith H. Fernando
Camille M. Ferrer †
Stephen Fiore
Meredith C. French †
Tiffany D. Fuzak
Grace Johnson Garrity †
Cassandra Genua
Angelica Gonzalez
Jillian Goodwyn
Michael Anthony Guerrero
Veronica Caitlin Hamilton
Chukwunonso Ilogu
Sonam Harish Kapadia
Jade Elizabeth LaRock
Jada Nia-Ruby Lee
Yuyin Li †
Nicholas Lozanovski
Carli Marie Marsh
Christy Hope McCutchen †
Matilda Elizabeth McDonough
Katherine McFarlin †
Malaiya McGee
Emily J. Mercer †
Myah L. Meyerhoefer
Laura Beth Miller
Caleb T. Moore
Khanh Phuong Nguyen †
Maeve E. O'Shea †
Tara Palmer
Skyler Larue Paternostro
George Joseph Pollinger
Mollie A. Radzinski
Sabrina Cristina Ragonese
Travis Rosario
Erika Jana Swiatowy
Daniel Weglarski
Michael Kevin Wenz
Meghan Wren
Karina J. Zayas

Master of Science in Education

Kirk Nolan Abernathy
Ahmed Akbar
Howard Ross Balaban
Dean Luca Bavisotto
Tyler Anthony Cruz
Colin Charles Dabkowski
Allyson Rachel Demski
Ashley Taylor Dusza
Gena Christina Elliott
Troy Furco
Natalie R. Granaas

Walter Steven Haines
Megan Himes
Nicholas Ilardi
Lillian Inglut
Erin Jorgensen
Nicolette Juron
Andrew Kerl
Joseph Michael Kieck
Laura Marie Kiel
Alexandra Elizabeth Lakeman
Jacqueline Shea Larocque
Natalie Jayne Maida
Ryan Douglas Marmion
Laurence Odell McClary
Spencer P. Miliotto
Chloe Anjani Mokadam
Allison M. Mora
Clarice Marie Proeschel
Antonio Roman
Rachele Virginia Sanzano
Andreas Karl Schneider
Kristin Elizabeth Smith
Christy Marie Steward
Donald Anthony Teresa
Thor Vandehei
Marissa Larin Vargas
Catherine Walsh
Matthew J. Walsh
Jacob Wasylenko
Megan Westbrook

Certificate of Advanced Study

Katherine Corliss Aguirre †
Annika Blake-Howland †
Liatte Dotan †
Emma Elizabeth Guerard †
Kathryn Kenney †
Jennifer Mikes †
Kaela Louise Nurmi †
Abby Schleicher †
Katya Marie Chiara Zinsli †

Graduate Certificate

Lydia Charles †
Allison Lee Feras
Sarah Nadine Kent †
Christina Marie Luke-Grace
Molly Pratt-Cassidy
Lisa Thagard

List compiled May 11, 2023.

*** summa cum laude 3.80–4.00

** magna cum laude 3.65–3.79

* cum laude 3.50–3.64

† dual degree

2023 SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

ANTHROPOLOGY

Kashmir Bowser

David Vernon Bullough Memorial Award
Collins/Tomashevich Award
Lewis Henry Morgan Award
School of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award

ART AND DESIGN

Emma S. Albrecht

Dean's Entrepreneurship Award (2021)
Mike Lang Wood/Furniture Studio Award
for Excellence (2019, 2022)

Megan M. Angevine

Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2022)

Bryce W. Baker

John J. Jauquet Student Award for Creative
Excellence

Sylvie Cuvelle

Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2021)
Sylvia L. Rosen Award for Excellence in
Ceramics (2022)

Allyson R. Demski

Outstanding Art Education Post-
Baccalaureate Student Award (2019)
Carolyn Heyman Weber Award in Art
Education (2020)

Leeanne Dutkiewicz

John J. Jauquet Student Award for Creative
Excellence (2022)

Alice J. Edgington

Barbara L. Czurlis-Nelson and Donald
J. Nelson Scholarship in Interior Design
(2022)

Janinna T. Farragher

Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2022)
Anthony and Mary Hubbard Caccamo Art
Education Award
Barbara L. Czurlis Nelson and Donald J.
Nelson Scholarship in Art Education
(2021)
Barbara Schillawski Mautz Art Education
Scholarship (2022)

Dante L. Feliciano

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
Dean's Entrepreneurship Award (2020)
Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2020–2022)
R. Steven Janke Award (2020)
Sylvia Garafolo Miller, '43, Art Student
Award (2020)
Robert C. and Marilyn Wilson Painting
Scholarship (2022)

Troy Furco

Outstanding Art Education Graduate
Student Award (2022)

Omata C. Gamba

Hyatt's Award for Excellence

Olivia M. Gianadda

Award for Photographic Arts
Dean's Entrepreneurship Award (2021)

Megan C. Gilman

Hyatt's Award for Excellence
Sylvia Garafolo Miller, '43, Art Student Award

Stephanie A. Gilman

Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio Award
Hyatt's Award for Excellence

Liam Glynn

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2021)
Dean's Award for Excellence
John J. Jauquet Student Award for Creative
Excellence (2022)
Mike Lang Wood/Furniture Studio Award
for Excellence (2020)

Kelly A. Griffin

Gertrude Angert Victor Art Education
Scholarship (2021)

Julianne R. Guercio

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award
Fine Arts Student Award (2022)

Zachary R. Hellwig

Award for Photography and Documentary
Studies
Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio Award
Walter Jacobson Memorial Award for
Excellence in Photography

Megan Himes

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2019)
Dean's Entrepreneurship Award (2019)
Barbara Schillawski Mautz Art Education
Scholarship (2019)

Jonathon M. Kabalan

Dean's Creative Associates Award (2021)
Earl Wolfgruber Award (2022)

Marie F. Kemp

Young Sculptors Award (2022)

Susan D. Koloski

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2021, 2023)
Barbara L. Czurlis-Nelson and Donald J.
Nelson Scholarship in Design (2021)
Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2020)
Mike Lang Wood/Furniture Studio Award
for Excellence (2020, 2021, 2022)

Litian Li

Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2022)

Bianca McPherson

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
Dr. Harry and Lorraine Ausprich Endowed
Scholarship (2021)
Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2022)
Fine Arts Student Award (2021)
Sylvia Garafolo Miller, '43, Art Student
Award (2022)

Kenneth Montgomery

Earl Wolfgruber Award (2021)

McKenna K. Moran

Hyatt's Award for Excellence

Alethea Odudu

Award for Photography and Documentary
Studies (2021)

Duyen T. Phan

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2021)
John J. Jauquet Student Award for Creative
Excellence (2022)

Crystal R. Plourde

Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2020)

Jane M. Potter

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
John J. Jauquet Student Award for Creative
Excellence (2022)
Victor Shanchuk Jr. Art Education Award
(2021)

Clarice M. Proeschel

Outstanding Art Education Master's Award
(2022)

Liam P. Sperazza

Fine Arts Student Award (2022)

Natalie Tombak

Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2022)

Mark A. Trudell

Across the Visual Arts: Dean's Creative
Associates Award (2022)
Dr. Margaret E. Bacon Best of Studio
Award (2022)
Hyatt's Award for Excellence (2021)
Young Sculptors Award

Jayde Wilken-Smith

Victor Shanchuk Jr. Art Education Award
(2022)

ARTS AND LETTERS

Steven Shaneyfelt

Dean's Award for Excellence

BIOLOGY

Aristotele J. Concepcion

Honors in Biology
William C. Scheffer Memorial Award for
Excellence in Computational Biology

Anna R. Dano

Honors in Biology (2022)
Outstanding Biotechnology Senior (2022)

Hope E. Haley

Honors in Biology (2022)

Alif A. Noor

Honors in Biology

Robert P. Salefske

Honors in Biology

2023 SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

Tasnim A. Tajin

David Vernon Bullough Memorial Award to an Outstanding Biology Senior

Harley O. Weber

Honors in Biology

Angelina Wheeler

Dean's Award for Excellence in Biology

William C. Scheffler Memorial Award to an Outstanding Biology Senior (2022)

CHEMISTRY

Jonathan A. Grant

A.C.S. Distinguished Student Award

American Institute of Chemists Award

Saul Barron Memorial Award

Chemical Rubber Company Award (2020)

Minority Student Chemistry/Forensic Major Award (2020)

Outstanding Performance in Organic Chemistry Award (2022)

Phi Lambda Upsilon Honor Society Award

Elizabeth A. Truesdale

Dr. Richard Chrzanowski Analytical Award (2022)

Margaret Dupree Memorial Award (2022)

Albert A. Himmel Memorial Award

COMMUNICATION

Aliyah Carroll

Outstanding Senior in Communication Studies

Steven Clare

Outstanding Senior in Media Production

Hope Clark

Outstanding Senior in Public Relations and Advertising

Jaylen Cyrus-Small

Outstanding Senior in Public Relations and Advertising

Alessia Gervasi

Outstanding Senior in Journalism

Casey Harrington

Outstanding Senior in Media Production

Natalie Maloy

Outstanding Senior in Communication Studies

Daniel May

Dean's Award for Student Excellence in Communication, President's Medal for Outstanding Undergraduate Student

Justin Siejak

Outstanding Senior in Journalism

EARTH SCIENCES

Grace E. Brzykcy

John Murtaugh Award for Excellence in Geosciences Field Work

Colin M. Krzystek

David Vernon Bullough Award for Overall Academic Excellence (2022)

School of Arts and Sciences Dean's Award

Sarah R. Tilley

Irving Tesmer Award for Excellence in Geology

William Woicak

Carl Seyfert Memorial Award for Geology

ECONOMICS AND FINANCE

Zane Berghold

Vernon Bullough Award

Luke Littler

Dean's Award

Outstanding Student Award

ENGLISH

Melissa Brawdy

Excellence in English, B.A.

Bailey Buckley

Dean's Award for Excellence in English, B.A. or B.S.

Samantha Kowalski

Excellence in English, B.A.

Nahomy Reyes Soto

Excellence in English Education, B.S.

Jacob Sommer

Excellence in Writing, B.A.

Dantonio Torres

Excellence in Writing, B.A.

GEOGRAPHY AND PLANNING

Krishna Joakeem Antoine

Chair's Discretionary Award

Zachary Matthew Colling

Dean's Award

Kathryne T. Whittemore Award for

Outstanding Graduate in Geography and Planning

Rebecca Gabrielle Giangreco

David Bullough Memorial Award for Academic Excellence

Jacob Wayne Morgan

National Center for Geographic Education Excellence of Scholarship Award (Geography)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

Leah Casey

G. Allen McFarren Award for Excellence in Student Teaching

Alexander Dutkiewicz

E.O. Smith Jr. Endowed Scholarship Award (2020)

Taylor Farewell-Panzica

Eric Brunger Award of Merit

Christina Harris-DiVincenzo

Kathleen Mallea Award for Excellence in Social Studies Education

Rachael Ryba

Anthony Sokolowski Scholarship Award

Victoria Schultz

Bernard and Nancy Belfer Endowed Scholarship Fund Award (2022)

Joshua Sinclair

Harold F. Peterson Scholarship Award (2020–2023)

Garrett Stevenson

Kevin J. Shea Memorial Scholarship Award (2022)

E.O. Smith Jr. Endowed Scholarship Award (2021)

Jaylyn Zimmer

Dean's Award for Excellence

MATHEMATICS

Joseph R. Colson

Ruth E. Heintz Award

Mathematics Achievement Award (2022, 2023)

Noah Deer

Mathematics Achievement Award (2021–2023)

Alexa Hefner

Mathematics Achievement Award (2020–2022)

Mabel D. Montgomery Award

Richard Klementz

Douglas W. King Award

Mathematics Achievement Award (2022)

Shannon McGrath

Mathematics Achievement Award

MODERN CLASSICAL LANGUAGES

Cynthia Kozman

Dean's Award for Excellence

Alicia L. Stark

Javier Ortiz-Calderon and Maribel Garrett Award (2022)

MUSIC

Grant Asklar

Dean's Award for Excellence

Mary A. Mancuso Award (2022)

Lindsey Roth

Lenore Rollett Wright Award

David Rundell

Mary A. Mancuso Award (2021)

Emma Schutt

Paul and Kathryn Homer Award

PHILOSOPHY

Elizabeth Evans

Outstanding Student in Philosophy

Olivia Evans

Dean's Award for Excellence

2023 SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

PHYSICS

Colin Krzystek
Dean's Award for Excellence

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Cassandra Brown
Dean's Award for Excellence
Raymond P. Stone Memorial Award

Alexandria Christina Erbes
Political Science Outstanding Senior Award

Melissa Levandoski
David Bullough Memorial Award

Talia L. Peeler
Political Science Stand-Out Award

Cristian Victor Schuster
David Bullough Memorial Award (2022)

PSYCHOLOGY

Olivia Bell
David Vernon Bullough Outstanding
Senior in Psychology Award

Francesca Giaquinto
Dean's Award for Excellence
Dr. Esther McGinnis Award for Exemplary
Academic Achievement in Psychology

Connor Rohan
Dr. Jack Morganti Award for Excellence
in Service

SOCIOLOGY

Melaina Birjukow
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society

Kayshawna Brown
Gary Welborn Community Engagement
Award (2022)

Vincent Chiaravalle
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor
Society

Courtney Coseglia
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society
Kenneth J. Downey Award (2022)
Neumann-Clement Scholarship in
Sociology Award

Daniel Guercio
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society
Gerhard Falk Sociology Writing Award

Jenna Hall
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society
Gerhard Falk Sociology Writing Award
(2022)
Neumann-Clement Scholarship in
Sociology Award

Brianna Lillis
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor Society

Marykate Lloyd
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor
Society

Madeline Ringle
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor
Society
Herbert Aurbach Social-Action Award

Kelis Swain
Alpha Kappa Delta Sociology Honor
Society
Herbert Aurbach Social-Action Award
(2022)

TELEVISION AND FILM ARTS

Allison Baumgart
Arts and Sciences Dean's Award for
Television and Film Arts

THEATER

Emma G. Connaire
Horace Mann Theater Arts Student
Scholarship (2021)
Donald J. Savage Theater Arts Award (2022)

Peter H. Freeman
Mina S. Goossen Award for Excellence in
Theater

Alejandro G. Gomez
Horace Mann Theater Arts Student
Scholarship

Carlton J. Grear
Dean's Award for Academic Excellence
Donald Savage Scholarship for College
Actors of Promise (2019, 2020)
Horace Mann Theater Arts Student
Scholarship (2022)

WOMEN AND GENDER STUDIES

Elizabeth A. Evans
Women and Gender Studies Outstanding
Student Award

Talia L. Peeler
Women and Gender Studies Graduating
Senior Award

2023 SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES GRADUATE AWARDS

ART CONSERVATION

Lorna Brundrett
Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)
Garman Family Foundation Fellowship
(2020, 2021)
Bruce and Gail Johnstone Art Conservation
Fellowship (2021)
Allan Kenzie Family Art Conservation
Fellowship (2020, 2021)
Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship
(2022)
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship
(2020, 2021)
National Endowment for the Humanities
Fellowship (2020, 2021)
Fannie Kestenbaum Paull Family Art
Conservation Fellowship (2021)
Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)

Lindsay Cross
Bandrowski Art Conservation Fellowship
(2020, 2021)
Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)
Garman Family Art Conservation
Fellowship (2020–2022)
Bruce and Gail Johnstone Art Conservation
Fellowship (2021)
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship
(2020, 2021)
National Endowment for the Humanities
Fellowship (2020–2022)
Fannie Kestenbaum Paull Family Art
Conservation Fellowship (2021)
Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)

Camille Ferrer
Bandrowski Art Conservation Fellowship
(2021)
Brost Family Foundation Fellowship (2020)
Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)
Garman Family Art Conservation
Fellowship (2020, 2021)
The Caroline K. & Sheldon Keck
Fellowship (2021)
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship
(2020–2022)
National Endowment for the Humanities
Fellowship (2020, 2021)
Linda Joan Levy Paull Family Art
Conservation Fellowship (2021)
Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)

Meredith French
Brost Family Foundation Fellowship
(2021)
Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)
Garman Family Foundation Fellowship
(2020, 2021)
The Caroline K. & Sheldon Keck
Fellowship (2021)
Ross B. Kenzie Family Art Conservation
Fellowship Fund (2021)
Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship
(2022)
Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship
(2020–2022)
National Endowment for the Humanities
Fellowship (2020, 2022)
Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship
(2020–2022)

2023 SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES GRADUATE AWARDS

Christy McCutchen Grantini

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Garman Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship (2022)

Hoskins-Smith Student Fellowships Endowment Fund (2021)

Marks Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2020–2022)

Arthur E. Smith Student Fellowships Endowment Fund (2020)

Stockman Family Foundation Fellowship (2021)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Yuyin “Charlotte” Li

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Garman Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020, 2022)

Gross Family Foundation Fellowship (2021)

Ross B. Kenzie Family Art Conservation Fellowship Fund (2021)

Ulysses Kontos Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Evelyn Lieberman Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2020–2022)

Saxe Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Katherine McFarlin

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Garman Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020–2022)

Gross Family Foundation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

Hoskins-Smith Student Fellowships Endowment Fund (2021)

Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship (2022)

The Gerald & Sandra Lippes Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2020–2022)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2020, 2021)

Stockman Family Foundation Fellowship (2021)

Christopher Tahk Fellowship (2022)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Emily Mercer

Balbach Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Garman Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020–2022)

Hoskins Family Foundation Fellowship (2020)

Hoskins-Smith Student Fellowships Endowment Fund (2021)

Marks Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2020, 2022)

Marianne Vallet-Sandre Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Khanh Nguyen

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2019–2022)

Garman Family Foundation Fellowship (2019, 2020, 2022)

Samuel H. Kress Foundation Fellowship (2022)

Evelyn Lieberman Art Conservation Fellowship (2020)

The Gerald & Sandra Lippes Art Conservation Fellowship (2019)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2019–2021)

National Endowment of the Humanities Fellowship (2019, 2020, 2022)

Fannie Kestenbaum Paull Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2019–2022)

Maeve O’Shea

Balbach Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2021)

Buffalo State College Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

Garman Family Art Conservation Fellowship (2020–2022)

Hoskins-Smith Student Fellowships Endowment Fund (2021)

Bruce and Gail Johnstone Art Conservation Fellowship (2020)

Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Fellowship (2020, 2021)

National Endowment for the Humanities Fellowship (2020–2022)

Stockman Family Foundation Fellowship (2020)

Linton Vincent Tuition Scholarship (2020–2022)

CHEMISTRY

Gina M. DelMonache

Best Graduate Teaching Assistant Award (2022)

Buffalo State Chemistry Alumni Award

Iota Sigma Pi Award

Phi Lambda Upsilon Honor Society Award

George J. Pollinger

Best Graduate Teaching Assistant Award

Phi Lambda Upsilon Honor Society Award

Daniel Weglarski

Buffalo State Chemistry Alumni Award (2022)

Phi Lambda Upsilon Honor Society Award

COMMUNICATION

Katelyn Brickhouse

Outstanding Master’s Student in Public Relations (2022)

Cassandra Genua

Outstanding Master’s Student in Public Relations

DATA SCIENCE AND ANALYTICS

Alexis Brignoni

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship

Chukwunonso Ilogu

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship (2022–2023)

Travis Rosario

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship (2021–2023)

ENGLISH

Dean Bavisotto

Excellence in English Education, M.S.Ed.

William McCourt

Excellence in English, M.A.

Yamilia Tate

Writing on Issues of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Social Justice

Andrew Torres

SUNY Graduate Diversity Fellowship (2021–2023)

HISTORY AND SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

Andreas Schneider

Donald D. and Barbara J. Leopard Memorial Scholarship Fund Award (2022)

POLITICAL SCIENCE AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Julia Beth Witherell

Dr. Keith M. Henderson Endowed Scholarship Fund (2022)

Awards listed were granted in 2023 unless otherwise noted.

2023 BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

CIVIC AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Robin L. Blassingame Sr.

Certificate of Recognition for Community Engagement: Active Citizen (2022)

Peter M. Capone

Certificate of Recognition for Community Engagement: Neighborhood Advocate (2021)

Emma G. Connaire

Fred Howe Outstanding Student Volunteer Award (2020)

Lisa R. Michael

150th Anniversary Service Award (2022)

Iaya Mohamed

Campus Compact Newman Civic Fellow (2022)

Kayla D. Pugh

Certificate of Recognition for Community Engagement: Active Citizen (2021)

DEAN'S HONORS PROGRAM

Brandon Dillon

Alexander Dutkiewicz

Julia E. Jugoon

Marita V. Miller

India L.R. Quick

Kiara E. Vallenilla

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM

Yossy R. Castillo Bermudez

Educational Opportunity Program Director's Award

Samantha L. Flannigan

Buffalo State Alumni Association Awards

Trevor K. Johnson

Buffalo State Alumni Association Awards

Dominique C. Parke

Annie Joe Memorial Award

Khlitoo Paw

Arthur O. Eve Distinguished Student Achievement Award

Rico A. Rifat

Martha Pierce Student Recognition Award

Iyanna S. Williams

Theresa A. Shepard Advocacy Award

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS

Matthew Clifford

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021, 2022)

Haley Domin

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Joel Frazee

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2022, 2023)

Daron Hughey

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2022, 2023)

Argjend Imeri

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Sarah Jackson

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Kerry Kruzel

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Phaybian Livingston

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Sean Mahaney

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Anthony Marinelli

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Kyle Melito

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Emil Norrman

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Roger Powers

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2022, 2023)

Valerie Ryan

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Kacey Stack

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Maggie Tripp

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

Tyler Vanuden

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2022, 2023)

Jenna Wlostowski

Buffalo State Scholar Student-Athlete (2021–2023)

MURIEL A. HOWARD HONORS PROGRAM

Taylor R. Adamczak

Nininahazwe Agnes

Noushin Ahmed

Abigail L. Alder

Ayan O. Ali

Grant W. Asklar

Soesoe Aye

Marcus A. Barney

Allison G. Baumgart

Zane Berghold

Prayushi K. Bhorania

Grace E. Brzykcy

Bailey R. Buckley

Kay L. Budziszewski

Joseph Byrne

Elina M. Cerasani

Zoe J. Crapsi

Elyse S. Crimi

Madeline E. Crosby

Jacob A. Curr

Madison E. Curr

Anna R. Dano

Nathan R. Dash

Noah W. Deer

Madison Diaz

Annaliese J. DiCarlo

Haley C. Domin

Kathleen P. Dunne

LeeAnne Dutkiewicz

Misti D. Ellinger

Sage K. Enderton

Emily A. Ersing

Elizabeth A. Evans

Jessica R. Evans

Daniela Falca

Sofia R. Fanizzi

Taylor M. Farewell-Panzica

Emily J. Felong

Kaitlin G. Field

Olivia M. Fisher

Carolyn E. Freeman

Grace P. Gallagher

Julia M. Gerhard

Taylor L. Grabowski

Skyler M. Graham

Julianne R. Guercio

Kiara R. Haynes

Alexa R. Hefner

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Ashley H. Jablonski

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Tia Jaynes

Josh-Lynne D. Jenifer

Jonathon M. Kaban

Michael P. Kacalski

Colin M. Krzystek

Finnegan K. Lasch

Kyle S. Linhardt

2023 BACCALAUREATE AWARDS

Amanda A. Lombardi	Angelina A. Santiago
Daniel P. May	Megan M. Sheehan
Viera R. Mesler	Cameron J. Sionko
Elise M. Miller	Liam P. Sperrazza
Alexander K. Minney	Anna M. Stang
Xinyi Mo	Alicia L. Stark
Andrea J. Monk	Ashley M. Switzer
Dominique K. Moore	Connor S. Tait
Ann E. Oshei	Thomas P. Tedesco
Michael A. Parrizzi	Natalie P. Tombak
Klihtoo Paw	Dantonio S. Torres
Talia L. Peeler	Mark A. Trudell
Colby G. Perrigo	Patrick H. Ursitti
Crystal R. Plourde	Jason M. Vincent
Roger C. Powers	Rachel E. Ward
Lindsay G. Prout	Crystal Whaley
Brianna A. Reilly	Jessica J. Wier
Natasha I. Renczkowski	Samantha C. Wild
Jacob M. Rhodes	Jayde Wilkin-Smith
Trinity M. Ridout	Alexis R. Williams
Gaelyn A. Robinson	Brianna R. Wright
Lindsey F. Roth	Mary T. Wright
Valerie Ryan	Rosa G. Zarrabal
Maimouna A. Samba	Dominique A. Zirpola

PRE-HEALTH PROGRAMS

Jonathan T. Schoeneman
Carol Wright Henry Award for
Excellence in Pre-Medical Studies

ROSS B. KENZIE FAMILY
PRESIDENTIAL
SCHOLARS

Marcus A. Barney Viera R.
Mesler
Valerie Ryan

STUDENT AFFAIRS

Layla E. DuBose
Minnie and Joe Engel Student
Humanitarian Award

Christopher G. Jackson
Mildred Campbell Leadership
Award

Saharatu Munkaila
Phillip Santa Maria Memorial
Award

Dominique C. Parke
Luis M. Antonetti Student
Humanitarian Award

2023 GRADUATE AWARDS

CIVIC AND COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT

Ke Shi
Certificate of Recognition for Community
Engagement: Neighborhood Advocate

STUDENT AFFAIRS

La'Shea E. Green-Thomas
Phillip Santa Maria Award for Student
Leadership in Equity and Campus Diversity

*Awards listed were granted in 2023 unless
otherwise noted.*

The President's Medal is the highest honor the university awards to its graduating students. It recognizes excellence and distinction in scholarship, service to the university and community, and overall achievement.

2023 PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING
UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT FINALISTS

Olivia R. Bell	Emil E. Norrman
Janinna T. Farragher	Connor C. Rohan
Christopher G. Jackson	Cristian V. Schuster
Alif A. Noor	

2023 PRESIDENT'S MEDAL FOR OUTSTANDING
GRADUATE STUDENT FINALISTS

Jennifer J. Greene	Melique C. Young
Joe L. Painter	

ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL AND RECESSIONAL

The academic processional begins with the entrance of the seating marshals, who lead the degree candidates to their seats. Faculty marchers follow, escorted to their places by the head marshal. The mace bearer then leads the platform party, which includes the dignitaries, honorees, and university administration, to the stage.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the recessional order is reversed: the last to have entered the arena are the first to recess, in accordance with the ceremony's ecclesiastical origins. The mace bearer leads the platform party, headed by the university president, at a quicker and more celebratory pace than in the processional. The platform party is followed by the faculty marchers and, finally, the graduates, while guests witness the pageantry to its close.

THE MACE AND MEDALLION

By tradition, seals of office and tools of authority have been incorporated in the ceremonies that invest individuals with the responsibilities and power of official leadership. Today purely symbolic, these objects once effected control themselves, the mace having been originally an iron club capable of breaking armor.

About the middle of the thirteenth century, the mace was adopted for civic purposes. Much earlier, seals, from which the university medallion was derived, constituted the official signatures of heads of church and state. Today, the academic seal, representing the office of the university president, and the mace, standing for order and authority, have become part of the pageantry of symbolism involved in formal academic ceremonies.

For Buffalo State, both mace and medallion are enhanced by their being the design and work of faculty members. The gold medallion was designed by the late Earl W. Wolfgruber, a member of the Design Department faculty for 20 years. A gift of the Class of 1968, it was first used that year for the inauguration of President E. K. Fretwell Jr. and has been worn on official university occasions since. A neck piece was added in 1987, designed and crafted by Stephen F. Saracino, professor of design.

The 1968 inauguration was also the first occasion for the use of the rosewood and silver mace, designed and built by Douglas E. Sigler, at that time an assistant professor of design. The flaring silver flanges that circle the crown of the mace carry the engraved names of each president of the university. Incorporated in the total design are abstract concepts of flame, dove, and hands, used by the university to signify learning and aspiration. All formal academic processions are led by a mace bearer with this staff of authority in hand.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Academic attire—cap, gown, and hood—is higher education's link with its long and illustrious past. Like judicial dress, it originated in the twelfth century with the medieval clergy, whose ecclesiastical dress probably derived, in turn, from civilian attire at an earlier age. Medieval scholars were almost all clergymen, and the earliest illustrations available show gowns that somewhat resemble cassocks. Universities of the period were primarily education guilds, the term "bachelor" denoting an apprentice, "master" a full member of the guild, and "doctor" one who had attained the highest degree of learning in a particular field.

In the United States, academic attire began to be used extensively at the end of the nineteenth century. It has given America a beautiful and impressive method of signifying academic honors.

The bachelor's gown is black and worn closed, distinguished by its long, pointed sleeves; the master's gown is designed to be worn open and has long sleeves with square base and arc cut; the doctor's gown, worn open or closed, has velvet panels down the front and three bars on the round, full sleeve. The color of the velvet may signify the field of study.

The hood is the most distinguishing feature of academic attire. Its colors indicate the degree of the wearer and the institution attended. The bachelor's and the master's hoods are similar in design, but the bachelor's is 3 feet long while the master's is 3½ feet long. The colors of the silk lining exposed in the center of the hood are those of the institution conferring the degree, for example, blue and gold for the State University of New York. The edging of the hood indicates the academic discipline.

Since the hood no longer serves as a head covering, the mortarboard, which originated in English universities, is worn. A long tassel of black or of a color appropriate to the degree is fastened in the middle of the top of the cap. The doctor's cap may have a gold tassel. Recently, soft velvet tams have become popular for holders of advanced degrees.

Academic attire serves two purposes: it gives a sense of dignity and tradition to the ceremony, and it links those who wear it—students, faculty, and professionals—to all the men and women who have sought learning over the past centuries.

Degree colors are as follows:

agriculture	maize
arts, letters, humanities	white
business	drab
dentistry	lilac
economics	copper
education	light blue
engineering	orange
fine arts	brown
forestry	russet
journalism	crimson
law	purple
library science	lemon
medicine	green
music	pink
nursing	apricot
pharmacy	olive green
philosophy	dark blue
physical education	sage green
public administration	peacock blue
public health	salmon pink
science	golden yellow
social science	cream
social work	citron
speech	silver gray
theology	scarlet
veterinary science	gray

ACADEMIC TRADITIONS

GRADUATE HOODING AND VESTING CEREMONY

Buffalo State master's degree recipients are individually recognized by the ceremonial placement of their degree-appropriate hoods, called hooding, during the Commencement ceremony. Certificate of advanced study (C.A.S.) recipients are vested with black-and-orange stoles, while graduate certificate recipients receive a white and orange cord.

STUDENT HONORS ACHIEVEMENT STUDENT ORGANIZATION AFFILIATIONS

The Gold Honors Cord

Graduates wearing gold cords at Commencement have achieved the distinction of graduating with academic honors. An honors citation is given to bachelor's students who have maintained a minimum 3.50 grade point average for all work completed at Buffalo State. Graduates who have completed a minimum of 60 credit hours at Buffalo State with an average of 3.80 to 4.00 are designated summa cum laude, 3.65 to 3.79 magna cum laude, and 3.50 to 3.64 cum laude.

The Gold Tassel

Graduates wearing gold tassels on their mortarboards have completed the Buffalo State Muriel A. Howard Honors Program or the Dean's Honors Program. Qualified students enter the programs as freshmen from high school, sophomores already attending Buffalo State, and when transferring from community colleges. Many honors program students receive academic scholarships, with funds provided by private donations and administered by the Buffalo State Foundation.

Military Honors Cord

The red, white, and blue cord is used nationally to recognize honorably discharged U.S. veteran students, current students serving in the U.S. military (active duty, National Guard, Reserves), and Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) students commissioned upon graduation. Military-affiliated faculty and staff processors may also wear this cord.

Honor Society Cords

Students who are inducted members of national honor societies affiliated with Buffalo State are eligible to wear the appropriate honors cords designating their disciplines and honor societies.

Student Organization Regalia

Student members of campus professional and cultural organizations are eligible to wear the stoles representing their groups.

International

Students with international affiliations may wear stoles in accordance with their cultural traditions.

PAST AWARDS

For a historical listing of State University of New York award recipients, Buffalo State award recipients, and Buffalo State Distinguished Alumnus Award recipients, please visit <http://commencement.buffalostate.edu/previous-award-recipients>.

ACCREDITATIONS

Buffalo State is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, 1007 North Orange Street, 4th Floor, MB #166, Wilmington, DE 19801. The Middle States Commission on Higher Education is an institutional accrediting agency recognized by the U.S. secretary of education and the Commission on Recognition of Postsecondary Accreditation. Buffalo State also is accredited by the Board of Regents, University of the State of New York. In addition, the following professional organizations have determined that Buffalo State programs meet their accreditation requirements:

- *Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND)*¹
- *Accreditation Association for Ambulatory Health Care (Weigel Health Center)*
- *Accreditation Commission for Programs in Hospitality Administration (ACPHA)*
- *Accrediting Council on Education in Journalism and Mass Communications (ACEJMC)*
- *American Alliance of Museums (Burchfield Penney Art Center)*
- *American Chemical Society (ACS)*
- *Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering (ATMAE)*
- *Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology (CAA)*²
- *Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)*³
- *Council for Interior Design Accreditation (CIDA)*
- *Council on Social Work Education (CSWE)*
- *Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission (ETAC)*⁴
- *Forensic Science Education Programs Accreditation Commission (FEPAC)*
- *International Association of Counseling Services (Counseling Center)*
- *National Association of Schools of Art and Design (NASAD)*
- *National Association of Schools of Music (NASM)*
- *National Association of Schools of Theatre (NAST)*

Accreditation papers may be reviewed in the Provost's Office, Cleveland Hall 519.

¹ SUNY Buffalo State's Nutrition and Dietetics program is accredited by Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Email: ACEND@eatright.org; Phone: (800) 877-1600, ext. 5400; Mail: 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>.

SUNY Buffalo State's Dietetics Program is accredited by Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition and Dietetics (ACEND). Email: ACEND@eatright.org; Phone: (800) 877-1600, ext. 5400; Mail: 120 South Riverside Plaza, Suite 2190, Chicago, IL 60606-6995; <https://www.eatrightpro.org/acend>.

² CAA, Council on Academic Accreditation in Audiology and Speech-Language Pathology, is the accrediting body of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA), <http://www.asha.org/academic/accreditation/>, of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association. 2200 Research Boulevard #310, Rockville, Maryland 20850; (800) 498-2071 or (301) 296-5700.

³ The initial and advanced level education programs at SUNY Buffalo State are accredited by The Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). 1140 19th St NW, Suite 400 Washington, D.C. 20036; (202) 223-0077.

⁴ The Electrical Engineering Technology, Electronics and Electrical Engineering, Smart Grid programs are accredited by the Engineering Technology Accreditation Commission of ABET, <http://www.abet.org>.

2023 COMMENCEMENT

MARSHALS

Head Marshal

Rita M. Zientek, '90
Associate Dean, School of the Professions

Second Faculty Marshals

Lee Ann Grace
Associate Professor Emerita, Modern and
Classical Languages Department

Carlos R. A. Jones
Associate Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Seating Marshals

Lisa Marie Anselmi
Chair and Associate Professor, Anthropology
Department

Shannon E. Budin
Professor, Exceptional Education Department

Anthony J. W. Chase
Assistant Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Julian C. Cole
Associate Professor, Philosophy Department;
Chair, Modern and Classical Languages Department

Kelly M. Frothingham, '94, '97
Associate Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Andrew I. Hashey
Associate Professor, Exceptional Education
Department

Carlos R. A. Jones
Associate Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Camilo Maldonado III
Associate Professor, Speech-Language Pathology
Department

Christopher M. Pennuto
Chair and Professor, Biology Department

Raquel J. Schmidt
Associate Dean, School of Education

ANNOUNCERS

Aaron Daniel Annas
Director, Television and Film Arts Program

Jevon D. Hunter
Associate Dean and Woods-Beals Endowed Chair in
Urban Education, School of Education

Drew J. Kahn
SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Theater
Department; Director, Anne Frank Project

Meg E. Knowles
Associate Professor, Communication Department

Lawrence J. Maheady
SUNY Distinguished Professor and Horace Mann
Endowed Chair, Exceptional Education Department

Amy M. McMillan
Director, Muriel A. Howard Honors Program

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Marcus D. Watson,
Committee Chair
Assistant Professor, Individualized Studies Program

Gliset Colón,
Committee Vice Chair
Assistant Professor, Exceptional Education Department

Kathleen M. O'Brien,
Immediate Past Committee Chair
Chair and Lecturer, Hospitality and Tourism
Department

Ann P. Delmont,
Committee Secretary
Administrative Assistant 2, Academic Affairs
VP Office

Aaron Daniel Annas
Director, Television and Film Arts Program

LeVar N. Burke
Chief of Staff, President's Office

Bernadette K. Gilliam
Interim Director, Events Management Office

Abdollah Hajikandi
Assistant Director of Academic Services, Educational
Opportunity Program

Andrew I. Hashey
Associate Professor, Exceptional Education
Department

Luke C. Haumesser
Associate Director, Student Leadership and
Engagement

Kimberly J. Jackson
Deputy Director of Commencement, Academic Affairs
VP Office

Brian C. Kantz
Creative Services Director, Marketing and
Communications Office

Ann Liao
Associate Professor, Communication Department

Amy M. McMillan
Director, Muriel A. Howard Honors Program

Kevin J. Miller
Director, Graduate Studies Office

Lisa T. Morrison-Fronckowiak
Interim Chief Diversity Officer, Equity and
Campus Diversity Office

Rita M. Zientek, '90
Associate Dean, School of the Professions

Lisa Michael
Undergraduate Student Representative

Tahynnis Newsome
Undergraduate Student Representative

Gabriella diSpirito
Graduate Student Representative

*Buffalo State is deeply grateful to the many
members of the university community who
volunteered their time as marchers, hooders,
and ushers during the Commencement
ceremonies honoring the Class of 2023.*

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