

THE CLASS OF
2021



THE ONE HUNDRED FORTY-SIXTH COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

HOODING & CONFERRAL OF DIPLOMAS AT 9 A.M. | VIRTUAL CEREMONY AT NOON

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SATURDAY, MAY 15, 2021

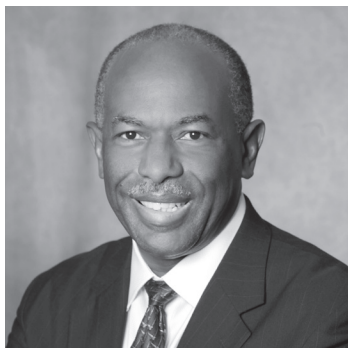
HOODING & CONFERRAL OF DIPLOMAS AT 9 A.M. | VIRTUAL CEREMONY AT NOON

Meharry Medical College has served the nation's health care needs for 145 years.
This year the College is convening its 146th graduation exercises because it held two Commencement ceremonies in one academic year during World War II.

1005 DR. D.B. TODD JR. BLVD. | NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37208 | WWW.MMC.EDU

FROM THE PRESIDENT

JAMES E.K. HILDRETH, PH.D., M.D., PRESIDENT & CEO



Graduates of the Class of 2021:

Congratulations upon your graduation from Meharry Medical College as health care professionals.

As we celebrate with you and your families upon this momentous occasion, we are proud of you and privileged to have been a part of your journey as your teachers, mentors and advisors. Becoming physicians, dentists, public health practitioners, biomedical scientists and health policy scholars is exciting with vast and, in some sense, unexplained feelings of aspirations, joy, hope and great expectations.

We are pleased that you chose to begin and complete your professional training at Meharry. Furthermore, we are honored that, in the COVID-19 pandemic, you heard the call to serve on the frontline to care for patients as health care providers. You, as students, answered that call with action to preserve and save lives while preserving humanity and expanding health equity for racial, ethnic and vulnerable populations in our communities in Tennessee. No other calling, could be deemed to be higher than what we have seen from you as students—and now graduates—of Meharry Medical College. Each of your deans, faculty, staff and our community partners can say with great pride: “We train ‘health caring’ professionals who epitomize ‘Worship of God through Service to Mankind.’”

As you launch your professional careers as Meharrians in new academic institutions, organizations and agencies, I am reminded of the ethos and impetus for courage and charity expressed in James Weldon Johnson’s poem: “Lift Every Voice and Sing (The Negro National Anthem).” Therefore, my closing remarks to you are from phrases in his poem, which we’ve heard in each academic ceremony here at Meharry: Rejoice with “a steady beat” and go where your “bright star is cast.” Have faith and hope “facing the rising sun, of our new day begun.”

As new health care professionals, you will meet the challenges and the complexity of the day with professionalism, strength, hope, faith and charity, “facing the rising sun, of our new day begun.”

THE 146TH COMMENCEMENT

JAMES E.K. HILDRETH SR., PH.D., M.D., PRESIDENT & CEO PRESIDING

Opening Music

Invocation **Reverend Robin H. Kimbrough-Hayes**
Chaplain and Senior Advisor to the President, United Methodist Church Affairs

The National Anthem, “The Star Spangled Banner” by Francis Scott Key **Cortney Towns**

The Black National Anthem “Lift Every Voice and Sing” by J.W. Johnson and J.R. Johnson **Ms. Towns**

Opening Remarks **James E.K. Hildreth Sr., Ph.D., M.D.**
President and Chief Executive Officer

Greetings **Nelson L. Adams III, M.D.**
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Daphne C. Ferguson-Young, D.D.S.
Interim Chair, Faculty Senate

Introduction of the Speaker **President Hildreth**

Commencement Address **James R. Downing, M.D.**
President and CEO, St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital
Director, Molecular Pathology Laboratory
Donald Pinkel Chair of Childhood Cancer Treatment

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees **Dr. Adams and President Hildreth**

Presentation of Candidates by Schools **Monique Bennerman, M.D., FACP**
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, School of Medicine

Conferral of Degrees and Professional Oaths

School of Graduate Studies Oaths and Pledge **Evangeline Motley-Johnson, Ph.D.**, Interim Dean

School of Dentistry Dental Oath and Pledge **Cherae M. Farmer-Dixon, D.D.S. ’90, MSPH ’94, FACD**, Dean

School of Medicine Hippocratic Oath and Pledge **Digna S. Forbes, M.D.**, Interim Dean

The Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association **Lewis Hargett, M.D.**
President, Meharry National Alumni Association

Recognition of Certificate in Health Policy Awardees **A. Dexter Samuels, Ph.D.**
Executive Director, Center for Health Policy

Presentation of Candidates for Certificates **Dr. Bennerman**

Recognition of Certificate in Public Health Awardees and Presentation of Candidates for Certificates **Dr. Bennerman**

Special Recognition **President Hildreth**

Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award from the Arnold P. Gold Foundation **Terrance William Embry**
Graduating Senior

Vernita A. Tucker, MD, FACOG
Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine

The Meharry Medical College Alma Mater **Ms. Towns**

Closing Remarks **President Hildreth**

The Benediction **Reverend Kimbrough-Hayes**

The Recessional “The Prince of Denmark March” by Jeremiah Clarke

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER JAMES R. DOWNING, M.D.



James R. Downing, M.D., is president and chief executive officer of St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. He is leading a \$11.5 billion commitment to accelerate progress in the research and treatment of pediatric cancer and other catastrophic diseases by expanding St. Jude clinical care and scientific programs in Memphis and around the globe.

A renowned leader in pediatric cancer research, Dr. Downing focuses his work on understanding the genetic basis of cancer and using that information to improve treatments. He was instrumental in launching

the Pediatric Cancer Genome Project, an ambitious sequencing effort to discover why childhood cancer arises, spreads and resists treatment.

Beyond research, Dr. Downing has been a driving force to take St. Jude to the world. He has championed an extraordinary new program to raise pediatric cancer survival rates internationally. This will be accomplished through a global alliance of health care providers who work to ensure that children everywhere have access to quality care.

Dr. Downing earned his undergraduate and medical degrees at the University of Michigan. He joined St. Jude in 1986 after training in anatomic pathology at Washington University in St. Louis and completing a fellowship in hematopathology at the University of Florida in Gainesville. For his work, Dr. Downing has received numerous honors, including election to the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Most recently, he received the Society of Memorial Sloan Kettering Prize, the E. Donnall Thomas Lecture and Prize from the American Society of Hematology and the Pediatric Oncology Award from the American Society of Clinical Oncology.

St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital is leading the way the world understands, treats and cures childhood cancer and other life-threatening diseases. It is the only National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center devoted solely to children. Treatments developed at St. Jude have helped push the overall childhood cancer survival rate from 20% to 80% since the hospital opened more than 50 years ago. St. Jude freely shares the breakthroughs it makes, and every child saved at St. Jude means doctors and scientists worldwide can use that knowledge to save thousands more children. Families never receive a bill from St. Jude for treatment, travel, housing and food — because all a family should worry about is helping their child live. To learn more, visit stjude.org or follow St. Jude on social media at [@stjuderesearch](https://twitter.com/stjuderesearch).

MEHARRY MEDICAL COLLEGE

Meharry Medical College, a United Methodist Church related institution, is the nation's largest private, independent, historically black academic health sciences center whose primary focus is educating health science professionals. Since 1876, Meharry Medical College has been a leading educator of African-American physicians, dentists, biomedical scientists and public health professionals.

Our mission is to improve the health and health care of minority and underserved communities by offering excellent education and training programs in the health sciences, placing special emphasis on providing opportunities to people of color and individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds, regardless of race or ethnicity; delivering high quality health services and conducting research that fosters the elimination of health disparities.

Meharry Medical College is particularly well known for our uniquely nurturing, highly effective educational programs. We have a growing emphasis on health disparities research and deliver culturally relevant, culturally competent evidence-based health services. Year after year, we make a significant contribution to the diversity of the nation's health professions workforce.

Access to health care for the underserved and underrepresented continues to be a top priority for the nation. An Institute of Medicine report, "Unequal Treatment," found that the sources of disparity in health care are complex. They are rooted in historic and contemporary inequities involving many participants at several levels, including health systems, utilization managers, insurers, health care professionals and patients. The key solution, according to the report, is substantially increasing the number of underrepresented racial and ethnic minorities among the nation's health care workforce.

We are proud that Meharry Medical College graduates are part of this solution. More than 80 percent of our medical and dental graduates practice in underserved communities.

The education of graduate students in the fields of biomedical research and public health continues to be a high priority at Meharry. There is a growing national shortage of African-American science faculty, especially biomedical scientists, at the college level. Meharry is proud of its Ph.D., MSPH and MHS programs that address this national need to educate the next generation of scientists and health care professionals.

The Center for Health Policy at Meharry Medical College is strategically housed here to provide leadership in health policy education, training and research to doctoral, medical, dental and graduate students.

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic regalia worn today originated in the universities of the Middle Ages, when a warm gown and hood were useful for scholars and clerics in unheated buildings. The distinctive gown served to set the student apart from his fellow citizens, hence the perennial controversy between “town and gown.”

Until after the Civil War, students at most American universities wore caps and gowns daily while in residence. They varied in design until the American Intercollegiate Commission standardized them in 1984. At that time, it was decided that all robes would be black: bachelor’s gowns were made of worsted stuff with pointed sleeves; master’s gowns were of silk with long closed sleeves and doctor’s gowns were of silk with longer sleeves, faced with black velvet from hem to neck and back. Scholars also wore three velvet bands around each sleeve above the elbow.

Hoods are made of the same materials as the gowns, the length varying on the degree. Only the lining of the hood indicates the university by its colors. The border of the hood indicates the academic discipline in which the degree is earned. Throughout the United States, there has been no change in the standard colors that represent the disciplines. The color facing the hood, whether it is black or colored, indicates the following: brown: architecture and the fine arts; citron yellow: social work; dark blue: philosophy; kelly green: medicine; lemon yellow: library service; light blue: education; light brown: business; lilac: dentistry; olive green: pharmacy; orange: engineering; peacock blue: international affairs; pink: music; purple: law; scarlet: theology; white: arts and letters; crimson: journalism and golden yellow: science.

THE SYMBOLS OF CEREMONY

THE SEAL

Seals have been part of university ceremony since the Middle Ages. A college or university seal is one of its more important symbols of office, the legal mark of the school's governing body. Used to authenticate official documents such as diplomas and legal records, the seal is different from the school logo, with strict rules associated with its application—only certain institutional ceremonies, documents and events allow the use of the seal.

With gold braid at its perimeter, the seal of Meharry Medical College contains three smaller escutcheons surrounding an inverted delta at center representing the institution's three schools of study: (clockwise from the top) the School of Medicine, the School of Dentistry and the School of Graduate Studies and Research. Emblazoned with the College's motto, "Worship of God Through Service to Mankind," the seal exhibits the institution's founding year, 1876.

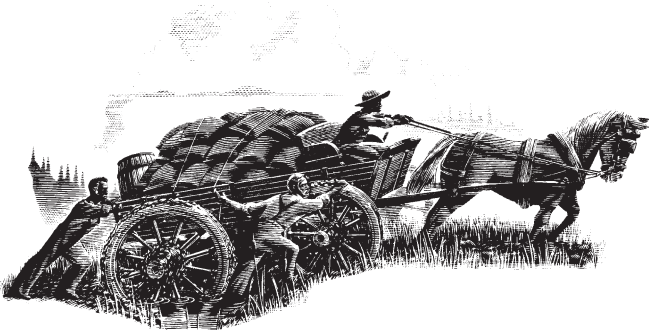
THE MACE

Academic maces—formidable staffs of wood, metal and gems—are descended from war clubs carried in medieval times by the bodyguards of civil officers. Eventually carried as symbols of royal authority, earliest maces were carried by sergeants-at-arms in England in the early 12th century. The academic mace is used only on formal occasions when participants are in full regalia and symbolizes the authority invested in the president by the school's governing body. The mace is an integral part of convocation and commencement processions and exercises as well as the inauguration of a new president.

THE MEDALLION

The presidential medallion is the official insignia of Meharry Medical College. It is worn by the president during academic ceremonies. The presidential medallion depicts the official seal of the college in bronze. Links of the chain are engraved with the names of Meharry's past presidents and their terms of office, symbolizing the continuity of responsibility in the office.

AN ACT OF KINDNESS



In the 1820s, 16-year-old Samuel Meharry was hauling a load of salt through the Kentucky wilderness when his wagon slid off the road into a muddy ditch. With rain and nightfall limiting his options, Samuel searched for help.

Peering through the darkness, he saw a modest cabin that was home to a black family recently freed from slavery. Ignoring risks involved in responding to a stranger's knock on the door, the family—still vulnerable to slave hunters paid to return freedmen to bondage—gave Samuel food and shelter for the night.

At morning's light, they helped the young visitor raise his wagon from the mud and Samuel continued on his way. The black family's act of kindness touched young Samuel so deeply that he vowed to repay it. "I have no money now," he said as he departed, "but when I am able, I shall do something for your race."

Tragically, history never recorded the name of the courageous black family, and perhaps their identity even receded in the mind of Samuel as he grew prosperous in the years that followed.

Even so, 40 years later, as the Civil War ended and black citizens began their long struggle for rights guaranteed by the Constitution, Samuel seized an opportunity to redeem his vow.

When leading Methodist clergymen and laymen organized the Freedmen's Aid Society in August 1866, to "elevate former slaves, intellectually and morally," Samuel acted. He and his four brothers—Alexander, David, Hugh and Jesse—pledged their support to Central Tennessee College's emerging medical education program.

With \$30,000 in cash and real property, the Meharry brothers repaid the black family's "Act of Kindness" with one of their own. In 1876, they funded the College's Medical Department which evolved over time into what we now know as Meharry Medical College.

Today, the contemporary Salt Wagon image symbolizes those several acts of kindness and philanthropy and countless others performed by the College's loyal supporters.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES



All names, degrees, theses and dissertation titles were submitted and approved by the dean for each school and were confirmed to be accurate for publication in the 2021 Commencement Program.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Kenneth J. Harris

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2013, Morehouse College

Dissertation Title: “17 β –
Estradiol Via ER β Modulates
Benzo(a) pyrene Metabolism
and Attenuates the Formation
of Colon Polyps in Female PIRC
Rats”

Program: Biochemistry and
Cancer Biology

Preceptor: Aramandla Ramesh,
Ph.D.

Bobby L. Jones

Birmingham, Alabama

B.S. 2010, University of Alabama
at Birmingham

M.A., 2014, Fisk University

Dissertation Title: “Activation
of Proline Biosynthesis is
Critical to Maintain Glutamate
Homeostasis During Acute
Methamphetamine Exposure”

Program: Microbiology and
Immunology

Preceptor: Jui Pandhare, Ph.D.

Ariana Nicole Renrick

Greenville, South Carolina

B.S., 2012, College of Charleston

Dissertation Title: “Bortezomib
Sustains T Cell Function
by Inducing MiR-155 and
Downregulating SOCS1 and
SHIP1”

Program: Microbiology and
Immunology

Preceptor: Anil Shanker, Ph.D.

Jeremy Sprouse

Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2012, Morehouse College

D.D.S., 2018, Meharry Medical
College

Dissertation Title: “Exploring
The Molecular Mechanisms
of Sex Hormones and Nrf2
Activation in Rodent Diabetic
Gastroparesis”

Program: Pharmacology

Preceptor: Pandu Gangula, Ph.D.

Treniqka Shuntrell Walters

Decatur, Georgia

B.S., 2002, Howard University

M.S., 2008, University of West
Georgia

Dissertation Title: “Small
Ubiquitin-Like Modifier(SUMO)
Modification of Human NRF2
at K110 and K533 Regulates
Its’ Nucleocytoplasmic
Localization, Stability, and
Transcriptional Activity ”

Program: Pharmacology

Program

Preceptor: Smita Misra, Ph.D.,
and Ifeanyi Arinze, PhD.
(Posthumous)

A BIOMEDICAL RESEARCHER'S PLEDGE



I accept this opportunity to follow the difficult and rewarding path of biomedical science. I will endeavor to honor all those who have contributed to this opportunity by always working to the utmost of my abilities and by increasing those abilities when possible.

I pledge to use my energy, intellect and education to enhance the lives of all humans, understanding that often the greatest strides are made through efforts to assist the dispossessed and underprivileged in our world.

I will carefully consider and remain mindful of the ethical implications of my work.

I will never use my gifts and skills to intentionally harm any individual, group or the planetary environment.

In planning and carrying out my work, I will treat this planet and all its life forms with honor and respect.

I will honor and respect the efforts of my teachers, taking great care to always give credit where credit is due and always humbly understanding that all I see, I see by standing on the shoulders of the many scientists who have gone before me.

I also will honor and respect my students and all who rely on that which I have learned, endeavoring to truthfully and openly disclose all my methods, findings and conclusions.

So long as I adhere to this pledge, may I have continued success in the field of biomedical science.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Nnamdi K. Anige

Whitfield Chapel Road, Maryland
B.S., 2019, Howard University

Shannon O. Ballard

Biloxi, Mississippi
B.S., 2019, Mississippi State
University

Briana N. Baptist

Memphis, Tennessee
B.A., 2018, University of
Memphis

Gregory Dishan Bouyer

Los Angeles, California
B.S., 1991, North Carolina A&T
State University
M.D., 2008, Meharry Medical
College

**Amita Venkateshwarrao
Dhatrika**

Lebanon, Pennsylvania
M.B.B.S., 2001, Nagpur
University

Kristen Charese Gregory

Jacksonville, Arkansas
B.A., 2019, University of
Arkansas at Little Rock
B.S., 2019, University of
Arkansas at Little Rock

Princess Amaka Ikemenogo

Dallas, Texas
B.S., 2013, Baylor University
M.S., 2016, Meharry Medical
College

Darrian B. Jackson

Jackson, Mississippi
B.S., 2019, Jackson State
University

George Wilson Johnson

Nashville, Tennessee
B.A., 2019, The University of
Tennessee, Knoxville

Peter E. Kalu

Bowie, Maryland
B.S., 2019, Howard University

Soheb Khan

Smyrna, Tennessee
B.S., 2006, University of
California, Irvine

Raven I'kia Lewis

East Saint Louis, Illinois
B.S., 2019, University of
Arkansas, Pine Bluff

Contessa D. Metcalfe

Kansas City, Missouri
B.S., 1998, Xavier University of
Louisiana
M.D., 2004, Saint Louis
University School of Medicine

Olatunde Oso

Mount Juliet, Tennessee
B.S., 2010, Morehouse College
M.D., 2015, Meharry Medical
College

Denise L. Torres

Providence, Rhode Island
B.S., 2002, University of Rhode
Island
M.S., 2006, Drexel University
M.D., 2013, Howard University
College of Medicine

Antoinette Williams

St. Louis, Missouri
B.S., 2009, University of Arkansas,
Pine Bluff
M.D., 2014, Morehouse School of
Medicine

Ariel Sierra Worley

Charlotte, North Carolina
B.S., 2019, Meredith College

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Abiola Ayomide Adekunle

High Point, North Carolina
B.A., 2017, University of North
Carolina at Greensboro

Odaro Adu

Dallas, Texas
B.S., 2017, Prairie View A&M
University

Khalid M. Al-Omary

Nashville, Tennessee
B.S., 2020, Tennessee
Technological University

Tiara Amerson

Cedar Hill, Texas
B.S., 2018, Howard University

Kierra S. Archer

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida
B.S., 2018, Spelman

Afolarin O. Arowora

Libertyville, Illinois
B.S., 2015, Southern Illinois
University

Marcello Baptiste

West Palm Beach, Florida
A.A., 2012, Palm Beach State
College
B.S., 2016, Florida A&M University

Brandi Barlow

Montgomery, Alabama
B.S., 2015, Alabama State
University
M.S., 2018, Alabama State
University

Ashleigh Jenai Mayo Bass

Conyers, Georgia
B.S., 2020, Spelman

Matthew M. Beard

Columbus, Ohio
B.S., 2020, The Ohio State
University

Dedric Dewayne Belio

Memphis, Tennessee
B.S., 2015, Tennessee State
University

Candace Bessant

Conway, South Carolina
B.S., 2019, College of Charleston

Sunteasja Shamil Billings

Memphis, Tennessee
B.A., 2017, Fisk University

Erin Blalock

Chattanooga, Tennessee
B.A., 2019, University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill

Christian Boone

Cleveland Heights, Ohio
B.A., 2018, Fisk University

Delany Bradford

Birmingham, Alabama
B.S., 2017, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Larekia Aundradai Brown

Clinton, Mississippi
B.S., 2013, Tougaloo College
M.S., 2014, University of Mississippi

Selena Brown

Springfield, Illinois
B.S., 2013, University of Alabama at
Birmingham

Phillip E. Brownlee

Chicago, Illinois
B.S., 2015, Hampton University

Alise Lanae Bundage

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
B.S., 2018, Howard University

Dominique Butler

Detroit, Michigan
B.S., 2008, Grand Valley State
University
M.S., 2019, Mississippi College

Reginald Kinard Cobbins

Pfafftown, North Carolina
B.A., 2018, The University of North
Carolina at Charlotte
M.A., 2020, Liberty University

Alexis Copeland

Collierville, Tennessee
B.S., 2017, University of Memphis

Janice Aubrea Cousin

Oak Park, Illinois
B.A., 2018, University of Iowa

Nia Crosby

Cincinnati, Ohio
B.S., 2019, The Ohio State University

Micheal J. Curry

Winston-Salem, North Carolina

B.A., 2016, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
B.S., 2018, Winston-Salem State University

Ariana V. Danzy

Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2019, Spelman College

Tiffany Danielle Davis

Pine Bluff, Arkansas

B.S., 2019, Jackson State University

Edward Jelani DeBrady

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

B.S., 2012, Morehouse College

Joshua P. Delaney

Killeen, Texas

B.B.A., 2019, Sam Houston State University

Miesha Jamie Edelen

Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2014, Texas Technological University

M.S., 2017, Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine

Gabrielle A. Edwards

West Bloomfield, Michigan

B.S., 2018, Bowling Green State University

Danielle L. Epps

Flint, Michigan

B.S., 2015, Michigan State University
M.S.P.H., 2020, Meharry Medical College

Julius W. Ervin

Quincy, Florida

B.A., 2014, University of Florida
M.P.H., 2019, Florida A&M University

Alanna Lael Farrar

Boston, Massachusetts

B.S., 2016, Bridgewater State University

Brea A K Fleming

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2016, Tennessee State University

Jupiter Ambroise Cham Fleurimon

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B.S.N., 2015, Florida Atlantic University

B.A., 2015, Florida Atlantic University

Marlon T. Foster, II

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2019, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Ivey Michele Frazier

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B.S., 2020, Spelman College

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Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2016, Spelman College
M.P.H., 2018, Emory University
Rollins Public

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B.S., 2020, Brenau University

Terry Gordon

Upper Marlboro, Maryland

B.S., 2017, Xavier University of Cincinnati

Jenee Graham

Atlanta, Georgia

B.S., 2017, Georgia State University

E'lexas M. Grant

Mansfield, Texas

B.S., 2019, Stephen F. Austin State University

Kelsey M. Green

Lakeland, Tennessee

B.S., 2019, Xavier University of Louisiana

Gabriel Zhane Haire

Goldsboro, North Carolina

B.S., 2017, Campbell University

Demetrius Jeremiah Hall

Hendersonville, Tennessee

B.S., 2016, Oakwood University

Destiny J. Harris

Memphis, Tennessee

B.S., 2017, Jackson State University

M.P.H., 2019, Jackson State University

Deon T. Heavens

Douglasville, Georgia

B.S., 2019, Oglethorpe University

Dimitri J. Henderson

Arlington, Texas

B.S., 2020, Union College

Jared W. Jackson

Collierville, Tennessee

B.A., 2017, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Jasmine C. Jackson

Chester, South Carolina

B.S., 2016, Virginia State University

M.S., 2018, North Carolina

Agricultural & Technical State
University

Ryan A. Johnson

San Juan Capistrano, California

B.S., 2020, Baylor University

Joy C. Jones

Las Vegas, Nevada

B.S., 2016, Grambling State

University

M.S.P.H., 2020, Meharry Medical
College

Kasheena T. Jones

Charleston, South Carolina

B.S., 2008, University of South

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Lauren Alyssa-Marie Jordan

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Keyiera Khambriel Joseph

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B.S., 2018, Florida State University

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B.S., 2016, Kennesaw State

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Jamiya Arie'I Kornegay

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Olatundun Yassah Ladele

Columbia, South Carolina

B.S., 2018, Johns Hopkins

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Rickia J. Langston

Nashville, Tennessee

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Christina Danielle Lavender

Jacksonville, Florida

B.S., 2017, Florida State University

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University

Cory Lewis

Brookshire, Texas

B.S., 2018, Prairie View University

Emontie Zaire Lewis

Jackson, Mississippi

A.S., 2018, East Central Community

College

B.S., 2020, Jackson State University

Chelsea Danielle Martin

Detroit, Michigan

B.S., 2018, Howard University

Amasyah Centrell Mayo

Annandale, Virginia

B.S., 2019, Hampton University

Nina E. Mbonu

Peachtree City, Georgia

B.S., 2019, University of Georgia

Cayla McKinsey

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B.S., 2019, Southern University and

A&M College

Rebecca Mirville

Monsey, New York

B.S., 2017, State University of New

York at Geneseo

Jordan Mackenzie Mitchell

Baltimore, Maryland

B.S., 2018, University of Maryland,

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Nkiruka A. Mokolo

Los Angeles, California

B.S., 2016, Xavier University of

Louisiana

M.S., 2018, Johns Hopkins

University

Jayla Alexandria Moore

Halls, Tennessee

B.S., 2017, Middle Tennessee State

University

M.S., 2020, Tennessee State

University

Alake Myers

Nashville, Tennessee

B.A., 2014, Purdue University

M.P.H., 2019, University of Louisville

Ryan C. Neal

Houston, Texas

B.S., 2016, Concordia University

Jade O. Norman

Snellville, Georgia

B.S., 2018, Georgia State University

Chika G. Nwanebu

Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

B.A., 2020, The University of

Oklahoma

B.S., 2020, The University of

Oklahoma

Uchechi Alexis Nwaneri

Lanham, Maryland
B.S., 2019, University of Maryland,
College Park

Collette I. Obanor

Boston, Massachusetts
B.S., 2018, St. John's University

Anthea Oluchi Ojadi

Corpus Christi, Texas
B.S., 2016, University of Houston
Msc, 2020, London Metropolitan
University

Vanessa N. Okechuku

Atlanta, Georgia
B.S., 2018, Clayton State University

Michael Okoro

Bowie, Maryland
B.S., 2020, Howard University

Nnedinma Isabel Okpala

Missouri City, Texas
B.S., 2019, University of Texas at
San Antonio
M.P.H., 2020, University of Texas
Health Science Center at
Houston

Joyce U. Onwuchekwa

Villa Rica, Georgia
B.S., 2018, University of West
Georgia

Oluwatobi Blessing Oshomoji

Nashville, Tennessee
B.A., 2020 Case Western Reserve
University

Maranda M. Paige

Goodlettsville, Tennessee
B.S., 2017, University of South
Florida

Moesha Lynette Parsons

Portsmouth, Virginia
B.S., 2020, College of William and
Mary

Zora Fatima Patterson

Charlotte, North Carolina
B.S., 2016, Virginia State University
M.S., 2018, North Carolina State
University

Alyse Aimee Pearson-Bryant

Atlanta, Georgia
B.S., 2014, Columbus State University
M.S., 2018, Philadelphia College of
Osteopathic Medicine, Georgia
Campus

Cherrelle Perkins

New Orleans, Louisiana
B.S., 2020, Xavier University of
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PUBLIC HEALTH PLEDGE



I pledge to do all within my power to safeguard human and environmental health through prevention, protection, promotion and educational efforts. I will accept the responsibility to use my talents, training and professional experience to instill public trust in all my public health endeavors. It is my personal commitment to serve my community with integrity and pride. As a member of the public health community, I recognize the unique responsibilities associated with this role. I commit myself to the high standards of professionalism and ethical conduct required to achieve community health and to ensuring that the basic resources and conditions necessary for health are accessible to all members of the community.

HEALTH SCIENCES PLEDGE

As I embark on my career, now an alumnus of the Master of Health Sciences, I pledge that I will represent my scientific profession honorably by conducting myself and my professional endeavors in a manner that is always above reproach.

I will incorporate the ethical and moral principles that constitute integrity in all that I do and faithfully ensure that the results of my professional activities ultimately benefit our world.

With this affirmation, I will acknowledge and honor the contributions of those who have preceded me, while seeking truth and the advancement of knowledge in all my actions.

I will strive to show compassion, embrace diversity and above all, uphold excellence that I should become a worthy role model deserving of respect by all.

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DENTAL OATH



I, realizing the privileges and opportunity that have been given to me, my study and the arts of dentistry, and appreciating the significance of the dental degree, which has been conferred upon me, do hereby willingly pledge:

That I will diligently uphold the dignity, honor and objective of the dental profession and, to the best of my ability, will contribute to its prestige, proficiency and progress;

That I solemnly accept my responsibility to the patient, to give him the best of my knowledge and skill and to maintain an impeccable relationship with him that will warrant his trust and confidence;

That I will faithfully observe the Principles of Ethics set forth by the profession; and

That I will lend my influences and support to dental education, to organized dentistry and to all segments of the profession, which contribute to the fulfillment of this purpose.

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Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2016, Morehouse College
M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Lori Angelle Jones

Port Allen, Louisiana

B.S., 2014, University of Louisiana,
Lafayette

Ghislain Noubibou Kamanyi

Yaounde, Cameroon

B.Sc., 2010, Nicholls State
University
M.H.S., 2016, Meharry Medical
College

Kevin Thomas Kemp II

Los Angeles, California

B.A., 2012, University of California,
Berkeley

Simone Monique Laing

Miami, Florida

B.A., 2017, University of Central
Florida

Nicole L. Leuthold

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2014, The University of
Tennessee, Knoxville

Desiree Leverette

Montgomery, Alabama

B.A., 2017, University of Alabama
at Birmingham

K'ara Aujane Locke

Denver, Colorado

B.A., 2015, Howard University
M.S., 2016, Colorado State
University

Sanyk A. McCuller

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2016, Mercer University

Mark A. McKay

Raleigh, North Carolina

B.A., 2016, Morehouse College

Zainab Precious Mohammodu

Arlington, Texas

B.S., 2016, Howard University
M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Dominique Inez Moore

Jacksonville, North Carolina

B.S., 2013, Claflin University
M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Clementine Namba*Rochester, New York*

A.S., 2011, Monroe Community
College

B.S., 2015, Binghamton University

M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Sanket Nayyar*Nashville, Tennessee*

B.A., 2005, Indiana University

M.P.H., 2015, Drexel University

Karen Menakaya Ndubuisi*Antioch, Tennessee*

B.S., 2014, Tennessee State
University

Vivien C. Nsonwu*Indianapolis, Indiana*

B.A., 2014, Indiana University

M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Emeka Kelechi Nwoke*Macon, Georgia*

B.S., 2013, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Ikechukwu N. Ollawa*Los Angeles, California*

B.A., 2012, University of California,
Merced

M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Toluwalashe Onamusi*Lima, Ohio*

B.A., 2015, Fisk University

Joy Patel*Spring Hill, Tennessee*

B.S., 2016, East Tennessee State
University

Dustin H. Phan*Nashville, Tennessee*

B.S., 2016, The University of
Tennessee, Knoxville

James Curtis Roberson III*Upper Marlboro, Maryland*

B.S., 2012, Morehouse College

M.H.S., 2016, Meharry Medical
College

Kirolos S. Sami*Huntington Beach, California*

B.S., 2016, University of California,
Irvine

Scherly N. Schrunder Gomez*Nashville, Tennessee*

B.S., 2016, Lipscomb University

Leslie LaVonne Selden*Hughesville, Maryland*

B.S., 2015, Spelman College

M.H.S., 2017, Mehar

Arianna Faye Sewell*New Orleans, Louisiana*

B.S., 2014, Dillard University

M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Carmen S. Simmons*Atlanta, Georgia*

B.A., 2015, University of North
Carolina at Chapel Hill

Marcus Amir Simmons*Brooklyn, New York*

B.S., 2013, Saint Francis College

Reonna NéCole Smith*Fredericksburg, Virginia*

A.A.S., 2013, Germanna

Community College

B.S., 2015, Virginia Commonwealth
University

Yvette Jane Ssempijja*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*

B.S., 2013, Loyola University,
Chicago

M.H.S., 2016, Meharry Medical
College

Michael C. Stephanides*Nashville, Tennessee*

B.A., 2016, The University of
Tennessee, Knoxville

Jodi-Anne T. Stewart*Kingston, Jamaica*

B.S., 2013, Pennsylvania State
University

M.H.S., 2016, Meharry Medical
College

Renley Summay*Louisville, Kentucky*

A.S., 2013, Ivy Tech Community
College

B.S., 2015, Indiana University

M.S., 2017, University of Memphis

Eneyew M. Tilahun*Austin, Minnesota*

B.S., 2015, University of
Wisconsin, Milwaukee

Kadar Julius Vannoy*Kennesaw, Georgia*

B.S., 2010, Morehouse College

M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Rukiayah Asha Warner*Smyrna, Delaware*

B.S., 2017, Fisk University

David Wasef*Clearwater, Florida*

B.S., 2017, University of South
Florida

Taylor M. Wells

Chicago, Illinois

B.S., 2016, University of Illinois,
Chicago

Hakeem Whittington-Brooks

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2017, Xavier University of
Louisiana

Kristen Amanda Williams

Baltimore, Maryland

B.A., 2010, University of Maryland,
College Park

AnnaLisa Victoria Wilson

San Jose, California

B.S., 2007, Santa Clara University
M.P.A., 2015, Notre Dame de
Namur

Elliott James Winford

Cleveland, Mississippi

B.S., 2016, Mississippi College
M.H.S., 2017, Meharry Medical
College

Maria Christine Witherspoon

Nashville, Tennessee

B.S., 2014, Tennessee State
University

Faisal Mudasiru Yayah

Silver Spring, Maryland

B.S., 2009, University of Maryland,
College Park
M.P.H., 2012 Drexel University
School of Public Health
M.S., 2015, Georgetown University
and George Mason University

HIPPOCRATIC OATH

MODERN VERSION



I swear to fulfill, to the best of my ability and judgment this covenant:

I will respect the hard-won scientific gains of those physicians in whose steps I walk and gladly share such knowledge as is mine with those who are to follow.

I will apply, for the benefit of the sick, all measures that are required, avoiding those twin traps of overtreatment and therapeutic nihilism.

I will remember that there is art to medicine as well as science and that warmth, sympathy and understanding may outweigh the surgeon's knife or the chemist's drug.

I will not be ashamed to say "I know not," nor will I fail to call on my colleagues when the skills of another are needed for a patient's recovery.

I will respect the privacy of my patients, for their problems are not disclosed to me that the world may know. Most especially, must I tread with care in matters of life and death. If it is given me to save a life, all thanks. But it may also be within my power to take a life; this awesome responsibility must be faced with great humbleness and awareness of my own frailty. Above all, I must not play at God.

I will remember that I do not treat a fever chart or a cancerous growth, but a sick human being, whose illness may affect the person's family and economic stability. My responsibility includes these related problems, if I am to care adequately for the sick.

I will prevent disease whenever I can, for prevention is preferable to cure.

I will remember that I remain a member of society, with special obligations to all my fellow human beings, those sound of mind and body, as well as the infirmed.

If I do not violate this oath, may I enjoy life and art, respected while I live and remembered with affection thereafter. May I always act so as to preserve the finest traditions of my calling and may I long experience the joy of healing those who seek my help.

ACADEMIC
ACHIEVEMENT
AWARDS



ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY PROGRAM

The following Ph.D. candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Kenneth James Harris

High Honors

Bobby Lee Jones

Arianna Nicole Renrick

Jeremy Clay Sprouse

The following Ph.D. candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Kenneth James Harris

Arianna Nicole Renrick

Bobby Lee Jones

Jeremy Clay Sprouse

The student listed below has the highest Grade Point Average of all the Graduating Ph.D. Candidates

Kenneth James Harris

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PUBLIC HEALTH PROGRAM

The following MSPH candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Briana Baptist	Antoinette N. Williams
Amita Dhatrika	Ariel S. Worley

High Honors

Shannon Ballard	Peter E. Kalu	Denise L. Torres
Kristen C. Gregory	Soheb Khan	

Honors

Gregory D. Bouyer	George W. Johnson
Princess Amaka Ikemenogo	Raven Lewis

The following MSPH candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Shannon O. Ballard	Princess A. Ikemenogo	Denise L. Torres
Briana N. Baptist	George W. Johnson	Antoinette N. Williams
Gregory D. Bouyer	Peter E. Kalu	Ariel S. Worley
Amita Dhatrika	Soheb Khan	
Kristen C. Gregory	Raven Lewis	

The students with the highest Grade Point Average in the MSPH Program

Antoinette N. Williams	Ariel S. Worley
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ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE MASTER OF HEALTH SCIENCES PROGRAM

The following MHS candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Khalid M. Al-Omary	Jared W. Jackson	Nnedinma Okpala	Ericka S. Westbrook
Marcello Baptiste	Olatundun Y. Ladele	Oluwatobi Oshomoji	London S. Wheeler
Sunteasja S. Billings	Christina D. Lavender	Alyse A. Pearson-Bryant	Giltrice Williams
Erin V. Blalock	Chelsea D. Martin	Jada R. Pierre	Jasmine S. Williams
Micheal J. Curry	Amasyah C. Mayo	Vashti V. Price	Sundae C. Williams
Ariana V. Danzy	Nina E. Mbonu	Jeffery J. Radcliff	Tierra M. Williams
Gabrielle A. Edwards	Rebecca Mirville	Samantha Seibert	Amandi Wilson
Alanna L. Farrar	Jordan M. Mitchell	Ebrima Sidibeh	Danielle A. Wright
Santaria A. Geter	Alake Myers	Andre D. Smith	Jiana S. Wyche
Jenee Graham	Jade O. Norman	Olivia Stephens	
Gabriel Z. Haire	Uchechi A. Nwaneri	Collin J. Stirpe	
Deon T. Heavens	Vanessa N. Okechuku	Samantha J. Ward	

High Honors

Abiola A. Adekunle	Janice A. Cousin	Dimitri J. Henderson	Cherrelle D. Perkins
Odaro Adu	Edward J. Debrady	Ryan A. Johnson	Kori A. Quillin
Tiara J. Amerson	Joshua Delaney	Cory D. Lewis	Jodine Seide
Afolarin O. Arowora	Miesha J. Edelen	Emontie Lewis	Fre'Keliah B. Stamper
Ashleigh J. Bass	Julius W. Ervin	Cayla L. Mckinsey	Anthony W. Strode
Matthew M. Beard	Jupiter A. Fleurimon	Nkiruka A. Mokolo	Zehavi Suggs
Candace T. Bessant	Sasha M. Gambrah	Jayla A. Moore	Taylor M. Swett
Christian D. Boone	Terry Gordon	Chika Nwanebu	Noah G. Thomas
Larekia Brown	E'Lexas M. Grant	Collette I. Obanor	Beilul Weldai
Alise L. Bundage	Kelsey M. Green	Michael Okoro	Faren R. White
Alexis N. Copeland	Destiny J. Harris	Zora F. Patterson	Sydney M. Woods

High Honors

Kierra S. Archer	Tiffany D. Davis	Simoine B. Kenya	Erika L. Taylor
Dedric D. Belio	Danielle L. Epps	Jamiya Kornegay	Gregory B. Taylor
Delany A. Bradford	Ivey M. Frazier	Anthea Ojadi	Tamera E. Thomas
Phillip E. Brownlee	Demetrius J. Hall	Joyce U. Onwuchekwa	Tina K. Tran
Dominique M. Butler	Jasmine C. Jackson	Moesha L. Parsons	
Reginald K. Cobbins	Lauren A. Jordan	Brooklyn L. Sims	
Nia T. Crosby	Keyiera K. Joseph	Taylor C. Spears	

The following MHS candidates qualify for graduation with membership on the Dean's List

Abiola A. Adekunle	Gabrielle A. Edwards	Amasyah C. Mayo	Brooklyn L. Sims
Odaro Adu	Danielle L. Epps	Nina E. Mbonu	Andre D. Smith
Khalid M. Al-Omary	Julius W. Ervin	Cayla L. Mckinsey	Taylor C. Spears
Tiara J. Amerson	Alanna L. Farrar	Rebecca Mirville	Fre'Keliah B. Stamper
Kierra S. Archer	Jupiter A. Fleurimon	Jordan M. Mitchell	Olivia Stephens
Afolarin O. Arowora	Ivey M. Frazier	Nkiruka A. Mokolo	Collin J. Stirpe
Marcello Baptiste	Sasha M. Gambrah,	Jayla A. Moore	Anthony W. Strode
Ashleigh J. Bass	Santaria A. Geter	Alake Myers	Zehavi Suggs
Matthew M. Beard	Terry Gordon	Jade O. Norman	Taylor M. Swett
Dedric D. Belio	Jenee Graham	Chika Nwanebu	Erika L. Taylor
Candace T. Bessant	E'Lexas M. Grant	Uchechi A. Nwaneri	Gregory B. Taylor
Sunteasja S. Billings	Kelsey M. Green	Collette I. Obonor	Noah G. Thomas
Erin V. Blalock	Gabriel Z Haire	Anthea Ojadi	Tamera E. Thomas
Christian D. Boone	Demetrius J. Hall	Vanessa N. Okechuku	Tina K. Tran
Delany A. Bradford	Destiny J. Harris	Michael Okoro	Samantha J. Ward
Larekia Brown	Deon T. Heavens	Nnedinma Okpala	Beilul Weldai
Phillip E. Brownlee	Dimitri J. Henderson	Joyce U. Onwuchekwa	Erica S. Westbrook
Alise L. Bundage	Jared W. Jackson	Oluwatobi Oshomaji	London S. Wheeler
Dominique M. Butler	Jasmine C. Jackson	Moesha L. Parsons	Faren R. White
Reginald K. Cobbins	Ryan A. Johnson	Zora F. Patterson	Giltrice Williams
Alexis N. Copeland	Lauren A. Jordan	Alyse A. Pearson-Bryant	Jasmine S. Williams
Janice A. Cousin	Keyiera K. Joseph	Cherrelle D. Perkins	Sundae C. Williams
Nia T. Crosby	Simoine B. Kenya	Jada R. Pierre	Tierra M. Williams
Micheal J. Curry	Jamiya Kornegay	Vashti V. Price	Amandi Wilson
Ariana V. Danzy	Olatundun Y. Ladele	Kori A. Quillin	Sydney M. Woods
Tiffany D. Davis	Christina D. Lavender	Jeffery J. Radcliff	Danielle A. Wright
Edward J. Debrady	Cory D. Lewis	Samantha Seibert	Jiana S. Wyche
Joshua Delaney	Emontie Lewis	Jodine Seide	
Miesha J. Edelen	Chelsea D. Martin	Ebrima Sidibeh	

The students with the highest Grade Point Average in the MHS Program

Sunteasja S. Billings	Jared W. Jackson	Jordan M. Mitchell	Erica S. Westbrook
Ariana V. Danzy	Olatundun Y. Ladele	Alake Myers	Giltrice Williams
Alanna L. Farrar	Christina D. Lavender	Uchechi A. Nwaneri	Tierra M. Williams
Jenee Graham	Chelsea D. Martin	Vanessa N. Okechuku	Jiana S. Wyche
Gabriel Z. Haire	Amasyah C. Mayo	Jada R. Pierre	
Deon T. Heavens	Nina E. Mbonu	Jeffery J. Radcliff	

The Beyond Boundaries Award

This honor is bestowed annually to leaders for their scholastic achievements and community service involvement.

Recipient: Olatundun Y. Ladele

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY PROGRAM

The National Dean's List recognizes the positive academic achievements of qualified students and serves as an additional incentive for all students. Students nominated must have achieved Dean's List honors or comparable academic accomplishment.

The following candidates qualify for graduation with recognition on the National Dean's List for 2021 who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Rana Abdelsalam	Kelli D. Gutter	Magi G. Sargious
Tovia Banks	Aierress Hanna	Binita Satpathy
Christin Bryant	Samuel Harris	Shane A. Simpson
Hanlan Chambers	Amy Hoang	Brandon K. Thompson
Karrisa D. Cook	Enrika J. Johnson	Rayna E. Turner
Gretchen de Vales	Sybil R. Jones	Chinnaya I. Ukpabi
Raven E. Douglas	Kameila S. Nedd	Riva T. Walker
Stephanie Ekemezie	Jennifer A. Osei-Fosu	Kirulus I. Wifky
Alexandria Ellzey	Anjaliben A. Patel	Courtney B. Wright
Zachary K. Gardner	Mukti G. Prema	

The Dean's List for 2021 recognizes the positive academic achievements of qualified students who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or above.

Rana Abdelsalam	Kelli D. Gutter	Magi G. Sargious
Tovia Banks	Aierress Hanna	Binita Satpathy
Christin Bryant	Samuel Harris	Shane A. Simpson
Hanlan Chambers	Amy Hoang	Brandon K. Thompson
Karrisa D. Cook	Enrika J. Johnson	Rayna E. Turner
Gretchen de Vales	Sybil R. Jones	Chinnaya I. Ukpabi
Raven E. Douglas	Kameila S. Nedd	Riva T. Walker
Stephanie Ekemezie	Jennifer A. Osei-Fosu	Kirulus I. Wifky
Alexandria Ellzey	Anjaliben A. Patel	Courtney B. Wright
Zachary K. Gardner	Mukti G. Prema	

The Academy of General Dentistry

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has maintained academic scholastic balance between his/her clinical and didactic basic courses of study and has demonstrated outstanding attributes conducive to exceptional doctor-patient relationships.

Recipient: Rayna Turner

American Academy of Gold Foil

This award is presented to a senior dental student that demonstrates the attribute of handling and manipulation of direct gold in the restoration of natural teeth.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

The Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

This award is presented to a student who exemplifies outstanding achievement in Operative Dentistry.

Recipient: Rana Abdelsalm

The American Academy of Implant Dentistry Award

This award recognizes a senior who has outstanding achievements, both academically and clinically, in Implant Dentistry.

Recipient: Hannah Hear

The Academy of Osseointegration (AO)

This award is presented to an outstanding senior dental student in Implant Dentistry. The Academy is committed to supporting and expanding students' interests, education, research and experiences in dental implants.

Recipient: Corinthia Wilkerson

The American Academy of Oral Medicine Certificate of Merit Award

This award is presented to the graduating senior who demonstrated the highest proficiency in the clinical management of medically complex patients, the diagnosis and non-surgical management of medically related conditions of the oral and maxillofacial regions, academic achievement and interest in the discipline of oral medicine.

Recipient: Raven Douglas

The American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Achievement Award

This award recognizes the graduating senior who demonstrated exemplary academic achievement and aptitude in oral pathology.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

The American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

This award is presented to a senior student who has demonstrated special interest and accomplishment in Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology

Recipient: Karissa Cook

The American Academy of Orthodontics

This award is presented to a senior dental student who demonstrates exceptional interest in the development of the Oro-Facial Complex.

Recipient: Raven Douglas

The American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry

This award is presented to a senior dental student who shows the most promise in pediatric dentistry.

Recipient: Chad Hannibal

The American Academy of Periodontology

This award is presented to a graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Periodontics.

Recipient: Raven Douglas

The American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has demonstrated the most clinical proficiency and greatest interest in esthetic dentistry.

Recipient: Raven Douglas

The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Achievement Award

This award recognizes a senior dental student with high academic standing for outstanding performance in undergraduate study and clinical training in the area of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery and Anesthesiology.

Recipient: Zachary Gardner

The American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery Dental Implant Award

The AAOMS provides an annual award to recognize a dental senior student with high academic standing and outstanding performance in undergraduate study and clinical training in the area of implant placement.

Recipient: Corinthia Wilkerson

The American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

This award recognizes a deserving senior dental student for high achievement in community dentistry and dental public health.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

The Brian D. Stone Award

This award is presented to an outstanding senior dental student at each participating accredited U.S. dental school. Recipients embody the mission of Dental Lifeline Network by demonstrating exceptional volunteer service or care for patients with special needs.

Recipient: Taylor Sims

The Dentsply Merit Award in Removable Prosthodontics

This award is presented by Dentsply International/Trubyte Division to an outstanding senior dental student who has demonstrated excellence in removable prosthodontics.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

Election to Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honor Society

The students selected from the top 12 percent of the class who ranked highest in scholarship for the entire period they were enrolled in dental school.

Gretchen de Vales

Alexandria Thompson Ellzey

Binita Satpathy

Raven Douglas

Anjaliben A. Patel

Shane A. Simpson

The American College of Prosthodontics Award

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has demonstrated proficiency in the field of Prosthodontics.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

The Brasseler USA Award of Excellence

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has shown outstanding performance in Restorative Dentistry.

Recipient: Brandon Thompson

The Meharry Dental General Scholarship Fund

Recipients:

Rana Abdelsalam	Chad Hannibal	Remington Richardson
Oluwasanmi Adegboyega	Samuel Harris	Magi Sargious
Claudia Appiah	Hannah Heir	Binita Satpathy
Tovia Banks	Amy Hoang	Shane Simpson
Germain Bempah	Jasmine Hodges	Taylor Sims
Christin Bryant	Austin Hunt	Marc Tadros
Hanlan Chambers	Brandon Jewell	Brandon Thompson
Jimmy Cheng	Enrika Johnson	Tyler Thompson
Karissa Cook	Sybil Jones	John Treherne
Demont Davis	Jazmyn Laing	Khalia Turmon-Branch
Gretchen De Vales	Lindsey Miller	Rayna Turner
Andrew Dermarkarian	Raven Moore	Chinnaya Ukpabi
Raven Douglas	Errol Morgan III	Riva Walker
Stephanie Ekemezie	David Motoban	Amber Were
Lewis Ekiye	Kameila Nedd	Kirulus Wifky
Alexandria Thompson Ellzey	Jennifer Osei-Fosu	Corinthia Wilkerson
Zachary Gardner	Anjaliben Patel	Courtney Wright
Kelli Gutter	Mukti Prema	Eman Yusuf
Aierress Hanna	Ragan Rafa	

The International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award

This award is presented to the dental student who has maintained a recognized scholarly pursuit of dentistry and has been an outstanding student who, in the eyes of the faculty, will contribute to the profession.

Recipient: Shane Simpson

The International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

This award is presented to the dental student who has maintained a recognized scholarly pursuit of dentistry. An altruistic attitude for the underserved and motivates others by serving as an active leader who is also an outstanding student and leader and who, in the eyes of the faculty, will contribute to the profession.

Recipient: Raven Douglas

The International Congress of Oral Implantologist

This award is presented to a senior dental student with the greatest interest in and commitment to oral implantology/implant dentistry.

Recipient: Aierress Hanna

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award for Research Achievement

This award recognizes the graduating student who demonstrated outstanding achievement in dental research.

Recipient: Riva Walker

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award in Restorative Dentistry

This award is presented to the graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Restorative Dentistry.

Recipient: Riva Walker

The Quintessence Publishing Company Award in Periodontics

This award is presented to the graduating dental student for outstanding achievement in Periodontics.

Recipient: Tyler Thompson

Southeastern Academy of Prosthodontics

This award is presented to the dental student that excels in restorative prosthodontics.

Recipient: Brandon Thompson

The Byron Robinson Educational Foundation Award

This award is presented to one or more students in the graduating class who have demonstrated an interest in the specialty of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery, participated in an externship or other concentrated sessions in the specialty and had ranking grades in the combined courses in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.

Recipients: Raven Douglas

The Horace Wells Senior Student Award Sponsored by the American Dental Society of Anesthesiology

This award is presented to the graduating senior who demonstrated outstanding achievement in Anesthesiology.

Recipient: Binita Satpathy

The Whip Mix Corporation 2020 Hanau “Best of the Best” Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics

This award is presented to a senior dental student who has excelled in the study and clinical application of Prosthodontics.

Recipient: Rayna Turner

The Ewell-Neil Graduate Research Award

This award is presented to the graduating senior who demonstrated outstanding achievement in creating fellowship amongst peers and promoting opportunities for research.

Recipients: Raven Douglas

National Dental Association

The National Dental Association is a professional association of minority dentists based in Washington, DC and operating in the United States, Canada and Latin America. Formed in 1913, it is the largest such association in the world.

Meharry School of Dentistry Class of 2021:

Rana Abdelsalam	Chad Hannibal	Remington Richardson
Oluwasanmi Adegboyega	Samuel Harris	Magi Sargious
Claudia Appiah	Hannah Heir	Binita Satpathy
Tovia Banks	Amy Hoang	Shane Simpson
Germain Bempah	Jasmine Hodges	Taylor Sims
Christin Bryant	Austin Hunt	Marc Tadros
Hanlan Chambers	Brandon Jewell	Brandon Thompson
Jimmy Cheng	Enrika Johnson	Tyler Thompson
Karissa Cook	Sybil Jones	John Treherne
Demont Davis	Jazmyn Laing	Khalia Turmon-Branch
Gretchen De Vales	Lindsey Miller	Rayna Turner
Andrew Dermarkarian	Raven Moore	Chinnaya Ukpabi
Raven Douglas	Errol Morgan III	Riva Walker
Stephanie Ekemezie	David Motoban	Amber Were
Lewis Ekiye	Kameila Nedd	Kirulus Wifky
Alexandria Thompson Ellzey	Jennifer Osei-Fosu	Corinthia Wilkerson
Zachary Gardner	Anjaliben Patel	Courtney Wright
Kelli Gutter	Mukti Prema	Eman Yusuf
Aierress Hanna	Ragan Rafa	

ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT IN THE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE PROGRAM

The following School of Medicine graduates were elected to membership as Alpha Omega Alpha Honor Medical Society Scholars

Muhammad Alhamda	Jessica Do	Breiona Hamilton	Reonna Smith
Suwwoo Bae	Adam Evans	Alexis Hood	Michael Stephanides
Dinah Batchelor	Ayotola Fatola	Mindy Huynh	Elliott Winford
Christopher Benoit	Tolulope Fatola	Kirolos Sami	
Mitchell Bowers	Jason Field	Leslie Selden	
Rachel Darko	Irene Fosu-Apraku	Marcus Simmons	

The following School of Medicine candidates qualify for graduation with

Highest Honors

Dinah Batchelor	Terrance Embry	Kirolos Sami
Mitchell Bowers	Mindy Huynh	Elliott Winford

High Honors

Muhammad Alhamda	Kemdi Egekeze	Breiona Hamilton	Leslie Selden
Suwwoo Bae	Adam Evans	Andrew Hermina	Marcus Simmons
Javaughn Baker	Ayotola Fatola	T Hess	Reonna Smith
Christopher Benoit	Tolulope Fatola	Alexis Hood	Yvette Ssempijja
Vanessa Dania	Jason Field	William Hoover	Michael Stephanides
Rachel Darko	Irene Fosu-Apraku	Simone Laing	Kristen Williams
Jennifer Davis	Stephen Frimpong	Desiree Leverette	
Jessica Do	Jeremy Guinn	Kara Locke	

Honors

Christopher Anderson	Chinyere Ezekwe	Gerald Jones	Dustin Phan
Imienreluefe Adodo	Tyler Flot	Kamanyi Ghislain	James Roberson
Sarah Asiaban	Lauren Gendrew	Nicole Leuthold	Scherly Schrunder Gomez
Lindsay Ber	Madeleine Haase	Sanyk McCuller	Arianna Sewell
Marcela Betancourt	Dominque Harris	Mark McKay	Jodi-Anne Stewart
Abdel-Karim Brown	Jade Harris	Zainab Mohammodu	Renley Summay
Akrin Chinnery	Gregory Heidel	Dominique Moore	Eneyew Tilahun
Johnathan Cooks	Edna Idan	Clementine Namba	Kadar Vannoy
Rushil Dave	Princess Ikemenogo	Sanket Nayyar	Rukiayah Warner
Charlie Dawson	Ifeanyi Ikwanusi	Ikechukwu Ollawa	David Wasef
Shanna Dorcin	Evan Jackson	Toluwalashe Onamusi	Taylor Wells
Ernst Etienne	Adesewa John	Joy Patel	Faisal Yayah

The Student with the Highest Grade Point Average in the M.D. Program

The recipient of this award is a senior medical student who has achieved the highest Grade Point Average in the School of Medicine.

Recipient: Mitchell Bowers

The Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians Award

The recipient of this award is a senior medical student chosen by the Tennessee Academy of Family Physicians, who has exemplified academic excellence and plans to pursue a career in Family Medicine.

Recipient: Carmen Simmons

The E. Perry Crump, M.D. Award in Pediatrics

This award is presented to the fourth-year graduating medical student who exemplified the highest qualities of scholarship, aptitude and proficiency in the pursuit of excellence in the study of pediatrics.

Recipient: Rachel Darko

The Lloyd C. Elam, M.D. Professionalism Award

This award was established by the faculty of the School of Medicine to recognize two senior medical students (one male and one female) who, throughout their matriculation, exemplified the characteristics of scholarship, integrity, professionalism, high moral standards and humanism in the delivery of health care.

Recipients: Alexis Hood
Gerald Jones

The G.P.A. Forde Award

This award, established by the Bolden family, is given to encourage proficiency and excellence in internal medicine and is presented to the senior medical student who, in the opinion of his/her mentors, exhibited the highest potential as a diagnostician.

Recipient: Frederick Grady

The Rafael Hernandez, M.D. Award in Psychiatry

This award was established by the Department of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences to pay tribute to a distinguished pioneer in the field and to promote student interest and proficiency in psychiatry. A monetary award and a certificate of merit are awarded to the senior student who demonstrated excellence in clinical psychiatry and/or research related to the field.

Recipient: Christopher Anderson

The Randle E. Pollard, M.D. Award for Excellence

This award was established by Randle E. Pollard, M.D., Class of 1951, and is presented to the most outstanding student in urology. The 2021 award is presented to a student pursuing a General Surgery residency program.

Recipient: William Hoover

The Nelson H. Stringer Jr., M.D. '73 Excellence in Obstetrics and Gynecology Award

This award is given to a graduating student who intends to pursue a career in obstetrics and gynecology and has demonstrated academic excellence as determined by the Office of Student and Academic Affairs. The award is named in honor of Dr. Nelson H. Stringer Jr., a 1973 graduate of Meharry Medical College and obstetrician/gynecologist who practiced in Chicago, Illinois.

Recipient: Jodi-Anne Stewart

The Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award presented by The Arnold P. Gold Foundation

This award is presented to the senior medical student who best demonstrates the Foundation's ideals of outstanding compassion in the delivery of care, respect for patients, their families, and health care colleagues, as well as demonstrated clinical excellence.

Recipient: Terrance Embry

The Charlotte R. Walker, M.D. Surgical Award

This award was established by the family of the late Charlotte Rose Walker, M.D. '64 and the Matthew Walker Surgical Society. The award is given to an outstanding graduating senior medical student who is planning a career in surgery or the surgical subspecialties. This student exemplifies the prevailing characteristics of Dr. Walker: compassion, integrity, humility and excellence.

Recipient: Mitchell Bowers

The Matthew Walker Surgical Society Award

This award, established by the Matthew Walker Surgical Society, recognizes students who demonstrated excellence in surgery and compassion for the underserved.

Recipient: Marcus Simmons

The Gladys M. Williams, M.D. Award

This award is presented to a senior medical student who demonstrated the best clinical judgment in the management of difficult clinical cases as determined by the teaching faculty.

Recipient: Tolulope Fatola

GENERAL COMMENCEMENT AWARDS

The Department of Family and Community Medicine Merit Award

The recipient of this award is a fourth year medical student, in good standing at Meharry Medical College, who matched in a Family Medicine Residency position. The student should exhibit great leadership ability and be committed to family and community health care.

Recipient: Maria Witherspoon

The National Medical Association of Obstetrics and Gynecology Section Scholarship Award

This award is given annually to a deserving minority medical student from Howard, Meharry, Drew, and Morehouse by the NMA, based on selection criteria developed by the local departmental faculty. This scholarship is presented each year at the clinical meeting of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG).

Recipient: Alexis Hood

The Hinds-Hawthorne Award

This award is given to graduating medical students who have expressed a strong interest in the study of cardiovascular diseases. The award is named in honor of Edmund S. and Ruby L. Hinds, who suffered the ravages of cardiovascular renal disease and Edward William Hawthorne, M.D., Ph.D., a leading medical scientist whose work was pivotal in the understanding of modern cardiovascular and kidney diseases in man. In honor of his parents and mentor, this award was established by the late Joseph E. Hinds, M.D., Ph.D., FACC, who was the Director of Clinical Research and former Chair in the Department of Internal Medicine at Meharry Medical College.

Recipient: Frederick Grady

The Merck, Sharpe and Dohme Research Award

The purpose of this award is to honor the graduating senior medical student who is inspired to save and improve lives through research.

Recipient: Adam Evans

The L.T. Miller Award

This award is presented to the senior medical student(s) who best exemplified the goals and mission of Meharry Medical College over the entire four years of study.

Recipients: Beza Gebremedhine
Evan Jackson
Kadar Vannoy

The Elva M. Risby Memorial Scholarship

This scholarship was established in memory of Elva M. Risby, who was employed at Meharry Medical College for 26 years, having spent 12 years of her employment as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs in the School of Medicine. The award is presented for the purpose of assisting the recipient in relocation as they prepare for residency training.

Recipient: Jodi-Anne Stewart

THE ALUMNI OATH



I, having been given the opportunity to enter the health sciences as a provider and/or researcher, do hereby pledge to give my support to Meharry Medical College and The Meharry National Alumni Association, Inc. I will encourage gifted, mission oriented students to consider Meharry as the institution for study in the health sciences. I will network with my fellow Meharrarians. I will give generously of my finances to the extent that I am able to do so. I will always conduct myself in a manner to make my alma mater, Meharry Medical College, proud.

ALUMNI RECOGNITION 50TH YEAR AWARDS

CLASS OF 1971

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Lizzie Hemphill, DH
Larry W. Herring, D.D.S.
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Wiley E. Hines, D.D.S.
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ALUMNI RECOGNITION 25TH YEAR AWARDS

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THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

WORDS AND MUSIC BY FRANCIS SCOTT KEY, 1814

O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming?
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?

And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.

O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

ALMA MATER

WORDS BY EMERY L. RANN, M.D. '48
MUSIC BY THEODORE STENT, M.D. '48

Steadfast and strong
Majestic in thy might
Shining in glory
From her lofty height.
Our Alma Mater
Wreathed in beauty stands,
Guiding our lives
Our rev'rence she commands.

Help us who strive
In serving mankind's needs;
To share thy love
In doing noble deeds.
With grateful praise and lasting faithfulness,
O, Meharry, guide us
In our quest.

LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

WORDS BY JAMES W. JOHNSON, 1899

MUSIC BY JOHN R. JOHNSON, 1899

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the
dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun, of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.

Stony the road we trod, bitter the chastening rod,
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died;
Yet with a steady beat, have not our weary feet
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?
We have come over a way that with
tears has been watered,
We have come, treading our path through
the blood of the slaughtered;
Out from the gloomy past, till now we stand at last
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears,
Thou Who hast brought us thus far on the way;
Thou Who hast by Thy might, let us into the light,
Keep us forever in the path, we pray.
Lest our feet stray from the places, our
God, where we met Thee.
Lest our hearts, drunk with the wine of
the world, we forget Thee.
Shadowed beneath Thy hand, may we forever stand,
True to our God, true to our native land.



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