

5-14-2016

# 2016 Commencement Program

Columbia College Chicago

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President and CEO Kwang-Wu Kim, the Board of Trustees and the faculty of Columbia College Chicago are proud to announce the

# COMMENCEMENT OF THE CLASS OF 2016

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**Columbia**  
COLLEGE CHICAGO



# COMMENCEMENT 2016

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016, 10 A.M.

# Advertising & Public Relations, American Sign Language, Creative Writing, Humanities, History and Social Sciences: Cultural Studies, Education, English, Journalism, Radio

## COMMENCEMENT CONCERT

**The 2016 Commencement Concert features performances by  
Columbia College Chicago's student ensembles:**

R&B Ensemble: Showcase (Chuck Webb, Director)

Fusion Ensemble (William Boris, Director)

Momz - Recording and Performance Ensemble (Gary Yerkins, Director)

Columbia College Chicago Jazz Ensemble (Scott Hall, Director)

Columbia College Chicago Commencement Choir (Walter Owens, Director)

Joe Cerqua, Producer/Director

Steve Hadley, Associate Producer

Rosita Sands, PhD, Interim Chair, Music

## PROCESSIONAL

"March of the Columbians"

By Scott Hall

"Walk This Way"

By Joe Perry and Steven Tyler

Arranged by Scott Hall

"The Star-Spangled Banner"

Words by Francis Scott Key

Music by John Stafford Smith

Arranged by Joe Cerqua

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Words by James Weldon Johnson

Music by J. Rosamond Johnson

Arranged by Roland Carter

**American Sign Language Interpretation by:**

Ciara Morales ('16)

Phtundra Thompson ('16)

Peter Cook, Associate Professor, American Sign Language

## WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Erin McCarthy, PhD

Associate Professor, History

## MANIFEST MUSIC VIDEO 2016

Scenes from Manifest, the college's annual celebration of graduating student work, set to an original score composed and performed by Music Video Contest winner Rockeal Jones ('16).

## GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Chester T. Kamin

## CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

**Alesha Mae Pulscher ('16)**

Bachelor of Arts, Advertising & Public Relations

Introduced by Rachel Ready, Lecturer, Journalism

## POETRY READING: 2016 COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST WINNER

"Drift" by Christina Rodriguez ('16)

Read by the author

## VIDEO PRESENTATION: "OUR COLUMBIA JOURNEY" VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS

Donald Anderson ('16)

Ayrika Craig ('16)

Giovanni McEastland ('16)

Brannagan Mukaisu ('16)

Victoria Street ('16)

## PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Kwang-Wu Kim, DMA, President and CEO

## MUSICAL INTERLUDE

"Uptown Funk"

By Mark Ronson, Jeff Bhasker, Bruno Mars, Philip Lawrence, Nicholas Williams, Devon Gallaspy and the Gap Band

Arranged by Carey Deadman

Performed by Momz - The Recording and Performance Ensemble; the R&B Ensemble: Showcase; the Columbia College Chicago Commencement Choir; and the Columbia College Chicago Jazz Ensemble

## RECOGNITION OF EMERITUS FACULTY

**Herbert Allen**, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Advertising

**Joan Erdman**, PhD, Professor *Emerita*, Anthropology and Cultural Studies

**Barbara Iverson**, PhD, Associate Professor *Emerita*, Journalism

## CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE AND ADDRESS

**Tracy K. Smith, MFA**

Poet and Educator

Introduced by Matthew Shenoda, Associate Professor, Creative Writing

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Conferred by President Kim, assisted by:

Stanley T. Wearden, PhD, Senior Vice President and Provost

Steven Corey, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Constantin Rasinariu, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Media Arts

## RECESSIONAL

"See You in Your Dreams"

By Steve Hadley

Arranged by Stu Greenspan

Performed by the Columbia College Chicago Jazz Ensemble and the Columbia College Chicago Commencement Choir

"Don't Git Sassy"

By Thad Jones

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016, 1:30 P.M.

# Audio Arts & Acoustics, Creative Arts Therapies, Dance, Music Technology, Science and Mathematics: Art and Materials Conservation, Television, Theatre

## COMMENCEMENT CONCERT

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Words by James Weldon Johnson

Music by J. Rosamond Johnson

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**American Sign Language Interpretation by:**

Ciara Morales ('16)

Phtundra Thompson ('16)

Peter Cook, Associate Professor, American Sign Language

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Erin McCarthy, PhD

Associate Professor, History

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## GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Luis de la Parra

## CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

**Taylor Rose Chwae ('16)**

Bachelor of Fine Arts, Dance

Introduced by Peter Carpenter, PhD, Associate Professor, Dance

## POETRY READING: 2016 COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST WINNER

“Drift” by Christina Rodriguez ('16)

Read by the author

## VIDEO PRESENTATION: “OUR COLUMBIA JOURNEY” VIDEO CONTEST WINNERS

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## RECOGNITION OF EMERITUS FACULTY

**Ann Hanson**, Associate Professor *Emerita*, Mathematics

**Cecilie O'Reilly**, Associate Professor *Emerita*, Theatre

**Lucas Palermo**, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Television

## CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE AND ADDRESS

**Jane Lynch**

Actress, Singer, Comedian and Author

Introduced by Anne Libera, Assistant Professor, Theatre

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Conferred by President Kim, assisted by:

Stanley T. Wearden, PhD, Senior Vice President and Provost

Onye Ozuzu, MFA, Interim Dean, School of Fine and Performing Arts

Constantin Rasinariu, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Media Arts

## RECESSIONAL

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By Steve Hadley

Arranged by Stu Greenspan

Performed by the Columbia College Chicago Jazz Ensemble and the Columbia College Chicago Commencement Choir

"Don't Git Sassy"

By Thad Jones

SATURDAY, MAY 14, 2016, 5 P.M.

# Business & Entrepreneurship, Fashion Studies, Interactive Arts & Media

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Steve Hadley, Associate Producer

Rosita Sands, PhD, Interim Chair, Music

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Music by J. Rosamond Johnson

Arranged by Roland Carter

**American Sign Language Interpretation by:**

Ciara Morales ('16)

Phtundra Thompson ('16)

Peter Cook, Associate Professor, American Sign Language

## WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Shanita Baraka Akintonde, MBA

Associate Professor, Advertising

## MANIFEST MUSIC VIDEO 2016

Scenes from Manifest, the college's annual celebration of graduating student work, set to an original score composed and performed by Music Video Contest winner Rockeal Jones ('16).

## GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

William E. Wolf

## CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

**Taylor Nicole Franklin ('16)**

Bachelor of Arts, Fashion Business

Introduced by Dana Connell, Associate Professor, Fashion Studies

## POETRY READING: 2016 COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST WINNER

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Read by the author

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## RECOGNITION OF EMERITUS FACULTY

**J. Dennis Rich**, PhD, Professor *Emeritus*, Business & Entrepreneurship

## CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE AND ADDRESS

**Diane Warren**

Grammy Award-Winning Songwriter

Introduced by Marcos Enrique Palacios (BA '06), Music Producer

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Conferred by President Kim, assisted by:

Stanley T. Wearden, PhD, Senior Vice President and Provost

Onye Ozuzu, MFA, Interim Dean, School of Fine and Performing Arts

Constantin Rasinariu, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Media Arts

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"Don't Git Sassy"

By Thad Jones

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2016, 12 P.M.

## Cinema Art + Science, Photography

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Rosita Sands, PhD, Interim Chair, Music

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Phtundra Thompson ('16)

Peter Cook, Associate Professor, American Sign Language

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Associate Professor, Advertising

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### GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Asha L.I. Spencer

### CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

**Jennifer Elise Fagan ('16)**

Bachelor of Arts, Photography

Introduced by Myra Greene, Associate Professor, Photography

### POETRY READING: 2016 COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST WINNER

"Drift" by Christina Rodriguez ('16)

Read by Elisheva Kohn ('18)

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## RECOGNITION OF EMERITUS FACULTY

**Elizabeth Ernst**, Associate Professor *Emerita*, Photography

**Paul Hettel**, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Cinema Art + Science

**Thomas Shirley**, MFA, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Photography

**Christopher Swider**, MFA, Professor *Emeritus*, Cinema Art + Science

**Barry Young**, MFA, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Cinema Art + Science

## CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE AND ADDRESS

**Paul Garnes (BA '96)**

Television and Movie Producer

Introduced by Don Smith, Associate Professor, Cinema Art + Science

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Conferred by President Kim, assisted by:

Stanley T. Wearden, PhD, Senior Vice President and Provost

Onye Ozuzu, MFA, Interim Dean, School of Fine and Performing Arts

Constantin Rasinariu, PhD, Interim Dean, School of Media Arts

## REGRESSIONAL

"See You in Your Dreams"

By Steve Hadley

Arranged by Stu Greenspan

Performed by the Columbia College Chicago Jazz Ensemble and the Columbia College Chicago Commencement Choir

"Don't Git Sassy"

By Thad Jones

SUNDAY, MAY 15, 2016, 3:30 P.M.

## Art & Art History, Design, Interdisciplinary Arts, Music

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Steve Hadley, Associate Producer

Rosita Sands, PhD, Interim Chair, Music

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Associate Professor, History

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### GREETING FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Barry M. Sabloff

### CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIAN ADDRESS

**Justin Thomas Moran ('16)**

Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary (Fashion Studies and Journalism)

Introduced by Brandon Frein, Part-time Faculty, Fashion Studies

### POETRY READING: 2016 COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST WINNER

"Drift" by Christina Rodriguez ('16)

Read by Elisheva Kohn ('18)

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## RECOGNITION OF EMERITUS FACULTY

**J. Richard Dunscomb**, Professor *Emeritus*, Music

**Carol Haliday-McQueen**, MFA, Associate Professor *Emerita*, Art & Art History

**Corey Postiglione**, Associate Professor *Emeritus*, Art & Art History

## CONFERRAL OF HONORARY DEGREE AND ADDRESS

**Carlos Tortolero**

Founder and President, National Museum of Mexican Art

Introduced by Mark Kelly, Vice President for Student Success

## CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Conferred by President Kim, assisted by:

Stanley T. Wearden, PhD, Senior Vice President and Provost

Onye Ozuzu, MFA, Interim Dean, School of Fine and Performing Arts

## RECESSIONAL

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"Don't Git Sassy"

By Thad Jones

# THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

By Francis Scott Key

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?

On the shore, dimly seen through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:  
'Tis the star-spangled banner! O long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

And where is that band who so vauntingly swore  
That the havoc of war and the battle's confusion  
A home and a country should leave us no more?  
Their blood has washed out their foul footsteps' pollution.  
No refuge could save the hireling and slave  
From the terror of flight, or the gloom of the grave:  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph doth wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

O! thus be it ever, when freemen shall stand  
Between their loved homes and the war's desolation!  
Blest with victory and peace, may the heaven-rescued land  
Praise the Power that hath made and preserved us a nation.  
Then conquer we must, when our cause it is just,  
And this be our motto: "In God is our trust."  
And the star-spangled banner in triumph shall wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave!

# LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING

By James Weldon Johnson

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, led 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.

Winner of the 2016

## **COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO COMMENCEMENT POETRY CONTEST**

### **“DRIFT”**

Small memory,  
go take a walk on  
white knuckled  
islands.

You're an outlaw  
on a gypsy piano,  
mapping out  
blank tongues  
on the back  
of glaciers,

floating past  
ancient astronauts  
on your way  
to civilization.

Who told you  
the moon was  
your child, when  
you haven't  
seen the sun?

I was told  
standing in  
silence was not  
the way stories  
get written.

- Christina Rodriguez ('16)



## 2016 VALEDICTORIANS

**Saturday, May 14, 2016, 10 a.m.**

### **ALESHA MAE PULSCHER**

#### **Bachelor of Arts, Advertising & Public Relations**

Alesha Pulscher moved from Northwest Iowa to Chicago in the fall of 2012 to begin her Columbia College Chicago education as a Fashion Business student. Realizing her passion for marketing stretched beyond fashion, she soon changed her major to Advertising. Pulscher loves the way advertising impacts popular culture, and she uses her minor in Women and Gender Studies to influence positive social change in the field. After graduation, Alesha plans to begin her career as an account manager or planner at a Chicagoland advertising agency.

**Saturday, May 14, 2016, 1:30 p.m.**

### **TAYLOR ROSE CHWAE**

#### **Bachelor of Fine Arts, Dance**

Taylor Chwae is a Dance major with a minor in Arts Management. She grew up dancing in Madison, Wisconsin, where she performed with Madison Ballet and was a company member in the Madison Contemporary Vision Dance Company. While at Columbia, Chwae performed in many student works as well as works by faculty members Kyle Seguin, Pam McNeil and Peter Carpenter. Her senior capstone project will be her third choreographed work presented on the Dance Center stage. She currently teaches at Dance Infusion, and to fulfill her teaching practicum she is a teaching artist for Design Dance.

**Saturday, May 14, 2016, 5 p.m.**

### **TAYLOR NICOLE FRANKLIN**

#### **Bachelor of Arts, Fashion Business**

Taylor Franklin is originally from Ashland, Ohio. A member of the Honors Program at Columbia College Chicago, she is graduating with a degree in Fashion Business with a minor in Marketing. Franklin participated in a nationwide competition for the National Retail Federation. She and her team advanced to finals in New York City, where they earned second place. Franklin has worked as a sales representative at Bonnie Atlas Showroom since 2012.

**Sunday, May 15, 2016, 12 p.m.**

### **JENNIFER ELISE FAGAN**

#### **Bachelor of Arts, Photography**

Jennifer Fagan is a visual artist living and working in Chicago. Fagan is interested in the intersection of art and gender politics. Her interdisciplinary practice is an exploration of masculinity, loss and identity through photography, video and performance. Fagan is the gallery assistant at Catherine Edelman Gallery.

**Sunday, May 15, 2016, 3:30 p.m.**

### **JUSTIN THOMAS MORAN**

#### **Bachelor of Arts, Interdisciplinary (Fashion Studies and Journalism)**

With a strong interest in undiscovered fashion designers, rising artists and underground queer culture, Justin Moran's editorial work has already been featured in several venerated publications. At age 21, he's the lead fashion editor for *BULLETT*, managing editor for *BlackBook*, trend columnist for *Paper* and a regular contributor for *Nylon*, *Nylon Guys* and *Vs*. Moran grew up in Minneapolis, where he exercised his love of musical theatre for years. He currently resides in New York, where he will continue pursuing a career in media.

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Each year, Columbia College Chicago confers honorary degrees on individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the arts, journalism and the media, education, politics and the business world. Their professional accomplishments, creative vision, and social and political engagement truly embody the highest ideals of the college.

**To be honored Saturday, May 14, 10 a.m.**

### TRACY K. SMITH, MFA

Tracy K. Smith is the author of the critically acclaimed memoir *Ordinary Light*, a finalist for the 2015 National Book Award in Nonfiction and selected as a Notable Book by the *New York Times* and *Washington Post*. She is also the author of three books of poetry. Her most recent collection of poems, *Life on Mars*, won the 2012 Pulitzer Prize and was selected as a *New York Times* Notable Book. The collection draws on sources as disparate as Arthur C. Clarke and David Bowie, and is in part an elegiac tribute to her late father, an engineer who worked on the Hubble Telescope. *Duende* won the 2006 James Laughlin Award from the Academy of American Poets and an *Essence* Literary Award. *The Body's Question* was the winner of the 2002 Cave Canem Poetry Prize. Smith was the recipient of a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writers' Award in 2004 and a Whiting Award in 2005. In 2014 the Academy of American Poets awarded Smith with the Academy Fellowship. In 2016 she won the 16th annual Robert Creeley Award.

Smith's poems speak largely to the role of art and to the conception of what it means to be American, dealing with the "evolution and decline of the culture we belong to." After her undergraduate work at Harvard, Smith earned her MFA in Creative Writing at Columbia University, and was a Stegner Fellow in Poetry at Stanford University from 1997 to 1999. She is the director of Princeton University's Creative Writing Program.

**To be honored Saturday, May 14, 1:30 p.m.**

### JANE LYNCH

Actress Jane Lynch was raised on the South Side of Chicago and cut her theatrical teeth in many church basements and assorted dumps and dives all over the Chicagoland area. She is proud to have performed with The Second City and Steppenwolf Theatre. Lynch is the two-time Emmy-winning host of *Hollywood Game Night* and an Emmy and Golden Globe winner for her portrayal of Sue Sylvester on *Glee*. Additional television credits include *Party Down*, *Lovespring International*, *Two and a Half Men* and *The L Word*. Lynch's film credits include *The Three Stooges*, *The 40-Year-Old Virgin*, *Talladega Nights*, *Julie & Julia*, *A Mighty Wind* and *Best in Show*. Lynch co-stars in *Mascots*, Christopher Guest's next movie, which will premiere on Netflix this summer. She made her Broadway debut in the 2013 production of *Annie*, and soon thereafter embarked on her own live concert tour, *See Jane Sing*. Her memoir, *Happy Accidents*, topped several national best-seller lists, including the *New York Times* and *Los Angeles Times*. Lynch currently resides in a Los Angeles canyon with two dogs, a cat, and lots of trees and birds.

**To be honored Saturday, May 14, 5 p.m.**

### DIANE WARREN

Diane Warren is one of the most prolific and successful contemporary songwriters of our time. She was inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame in 2001, and she is the sole owner of her publishing company, Realsongs.

Warren has been nominated for 8 Academy Awards, 13 Grammy Awards, including a win for the song "Because You Loved Me," and 5 Golden Globes, including a win for the powerful ballad "You Haven't Seen the Last of Me," performed by Cher in the movie *Burlesque*. Warren's songs have been featured in more than 100 motion pictures, and she has written more than 100 top 10 Billboard songs. Her most recent Oscar nomination was for the original song "Til It Happens to You," with music and lyrics by Warren and Lady Gaga and performed by Lady Gaga.

Warren wrote the song "This Is for My Girls," which was released in March and features vocal performances from Kelly Clarkson, Chloe x Halle, Missy

Elliott, Jadagrace, Lea Michele, Janelle Monáe, Kelly Rowland and Zendaya. Sales from the single benefit charities supporting young women's education globally, including First Lady Michelle Obama's Let Girls Learn initiative. Warren also wrote the song "I Was Here" for Beyoncé's record 4. The music video was filmed at the U.N. to launch World Humanitarian Day, and the song has reached over 1 billion people. She wrote the original song "You Will" for Oprah Winfrey, which serves as the anthem for the Oprah Winfrey Network. Warren has worked with Whitney Houston, Lady Gaga, Beyoncé, Elton John, Cher, Faith Hill, Eric Clapton, Céline Dion, LeAnn Rimes, Mariah Carey, Barbra Streisand, Justin Bieber, Demi Lovato and Jennifer Hudson, just to name a few. Warren, a vegetarian, is a major advocate for animals and the elderly.

**To be honored Sunday, May 15, 12 p.m.**

### **PAUL GARNES (BA '96)**

Paul Garnes has served as producer, line producer and/or production manager on films and television series for Disney, DreamWorks, HBO, ABC, NBC, BET, Sony/Screen Gems, Magnolia Pictures and Paramount Pictures.

Garnes served as vice president of operations and production for Jamie Foxx's Foxx/King Productions and as head of production for Simmons-Lathan Media Group. In 2006, Garnes was recruited by Tyler Perry and Reuben Cannon to join the Tyler Perry Company, where he served as vice president and executive in charge of production until 2009, overseeing the creation of its multimillion-dollar studio and backlot. He also supervised over 250 television episodes while at the studio.

In 2011, he produced filmmaker Ava DuVernay's award-winning independent feature *Middle of Nowhere*, which won Best Director at the 2012 Sundance Film Festival and the John Cassavetes Award at the Independent Spirit Awards. In 2014, Garnes was executive producer of Paramount Pictures' biopic *Selma*, also directed by DuVernay. *Selma* was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture and won a Golden Globe and Academy Award for Best Original Song. Garnes worked as producer on BET's hit series *The Game* and the current season of Viacom/BET's *Being Mary Jane*. Garnes is currently working with DuVernay and Oprah Winfrey to produce the OWN/Warner Horizon series *Queen Sugar*, set to air in fall 2016.

**To be honored Sunday, May 15, 3:30 p.m.**

### **CARLOS TORTOLERO**

Carlos Tortolero is the founder and president of the National Museum of Mexican Art, which opened in Chicago in 1987. It is the first Latino museum accredited by the American Alliance of Museums and the only organization in the nation to win two Coming Up Taller awards (now the National Arts and Humanities Youth Program Awards) from the White House.

From 1975 to 1987, Tortolero worked as a teacher, counselor and administrator for Chicago Public Schools. He has served on numerous boards, including those for the University of Illinois, the American Alliance of Museums, Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs, Smithsonian Latino Center, Illinois Humanities Council and Choose Chicago. In 2015 he received the Ohtli Award, the highest honor from the Secretary of Foreign Relations of Mexico, reserved for individuals "who have distinguished themselves in the services of the Mexican community outside of Mexico."

Tortolero is the co-author of the photo history book *Mexican Chicago*, and he has taught classes at University of Illinois at Chicago, the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and Northwestern University. He earned his BA in Secondary Education and History from the University of Illinois at Chicago and his MA in Bilingual Education Supervision from Chicago State University.

## PAST HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

1964–2015

2015 **JOSEFINA LÓPEZ** Playwright, Screenwriter and Theatre Producer

2015 **ANNA D. SHAPIRO** Tony Award-winning Theatre Director and Artistic Director of Steppenwolf Theatre Company

2015 **NAN R. WARSHAW** Co-founder of Bloodshot Records

2015 **LEONARD C. AMATO** President, HBO Films

2015 **CHESTER M. GREGORY** Actor and Singer

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2014 **JEANNE GANG** Architect

2014 **JIM JACOBS** Composer, Lyricist and Playwright

2014 **TONY KARMAN** Promoter of Contemporary Art

2014 **DIANE RAVITCH** Professor and Historian of Education

2014 **GORDON QUINN** Documentary Filmmaker

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2013 **LORENZO RENNIE HARRIS** Dancer, Choreographer, Artistic Director and Professor

2013 **JOSEPH SHANAHAN** Founder and Owner of Metro and Smart Bar

2013 **MARTHA NUSSBAUM**, Philosopher, Author and Professor

2013 **ROBERT TEITEL AND GEORGE TILLMAN, JR.** Filmmakers

2013 **JESSICA STOCKHOLDER** Sculptor and Installation Artist

2013 **JANE HAMILTON** Author and Novelist

2013 **HERBIE HANCOCK** Musician

2013 **WARRICK L. CARTER** College President and Musician

2013 **ALLEN M. TURNER** Businessman, Arts Activist and Musician

---

2012 **PHIL RAMONE** Music Producer

2012 **LEE FLAHERTY** CEO, Flair Communications Agency

2012 **PHILIP-LORCA DICORCIA** Photographer

2012 **STEVE JAMES** Documentary Filmmaker

2012 **WARREN SPECTOR** Video Game Designer

2012 **MAVIS STAPLES** Vocalist

---

2011 **REGINA TAYLOR** Actress and Playwright

2011 **BRUCE MAU** Designer

2011 **RYAN SCHREIBER** Arts Entrepreneur

---

2010 **PETER MAGUBANE** Internationally Acclaimed Photographer

2010 **ALEX KOTLOWITZ** Nationally Renowned Author and Journalist

2010 **ROBERT KLEIN** Award-Winning Actor and Comedian

---

2009 **KUNIHICO UKIFUNE** Businessman and Educator

2009 **ALISON KNOWLES** Artist

2009 **CARLA DELFOS** Arts Education Leader and Executive

2009 **RAY BRADBURY** Author

2009 **THOMAS MISNER** Audio Engineer, Producer and Educator

2009 **LEE ELIOT BERK** Music Educator

2009 **TRISHA BROWN** Dancer and Choreographer

---

2008 **DAN RATHER** Journalist and Broadcaster

2008 **PHILIP BAILEY, RALPH JOHNSON, MAURICE WHITE, VERDINE WHITE** Renowned Musicians and Recording Artists

2008 **GRACIELA ITURBIDE** Celebrated Photographer

---

2007 **JOE ADAMS** Producer and Arts Manager

2007 **ARMYAN BERNSTEIN** Producer, Screenwriter and Director

2007 **DIONNE WARWICK** Renowned Recording Artist

- 2006 **BUDDY GUY** Blues Musician
- 2006 **BERNARD SAHLINS** The Second City Founder
- 2006 **LINDA JOHNSON RICE** Journalist
- 
- 2005 **BILL VIOLA** Video Artist
- 2005 **MARK HEISTER** Fashion Designer
- 2005 **ALAN KAY** Computer Innovator
- 
- 2004 **BILL T. JONES** Artistic Director and Choreographer
- 2004 **MARY ELLEN MARK** Photographer and Humanist
- 2004 **FRANK RICH** Author, Editor and Cultural Critic
- 
- 2003 **RUSSELL SIMMONS** Art and Music Advocate
- 2003 **LOIS WEISBERG** Arts Manager and Advocate
- 2003 **TONY KUSHNER** Celebrated Playwright
- 2003 **HENRY FOGEL** Arts Manager and Advocate
- 2003 **JOHN WIDEMAN** Celebrated Author
- 
- 2002 **GRACE PALEY** Author and Activist
- 2002 **ALAN ARKIN** Actor and Director
- 2002 **JAWOLE WILLA JO ZOLLAR** Director and Choreographer
- 2002 **LEWIS MANILOW** Art Advocate
- 
- 2001 **ALTON B. HARRIS** Outstanding Columbia College Chicago Trustee
- 2001 **JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.** Member of the United States House of Representatives
- 2001 **JOHN SZARKOWSKI** Curator, Photohistorian, Writer and Photographer
- 2001 **DANNY K. DAVIS** Congressman and Advocate for Education
- 2001 **LISEL MUELLER** Pulitzer Prize-winning Poet
- 2001 **RENEE FERGUSON** Investigative Reporter and Community Activist
- 2001 **HAROLD RAMIS** Director and Screenwriter
- 2001 **MIKHAIL BARYSHNIKOV** Outstanding Contributor in the Field of the Arts
- 
- 2000 **ORAL LEE BROWN** Entrepreneur and Savior of Children
- 2000 **SIDNEY L. PORT** Philanthropist, Businessman and Son of Chicago
- 2000 **ROBERT V. REMINI** Scholar and Teacher
- 2000 **ROBERT SHAYE** Pioneer of Independent Film
- 
- 1999 **ARTHUR C. NIELSEN, JR.** Market Researcher and Corporate Leader
- 1999 **SARA PARETSKY** Mystery Writer and Champion of Women
- 1999 **WILLIAM E. STRICKLAND, JR.** Empowering the Disadvantaged Through the Arts
- 1999 **SHERMAN JOSEPH ALEXIE, JR.** Storyteller, Poet and Voice of Truth
- 
- 1998 **MOMMA HAWK** Mentor of Hope for the Children
- 1998 **JOHN H. BRYAN** Exemplary Leadership in Business and the Arts
- 1998 **WILLIAM WARFIELD** Magnificent Voice of the Century
- 1998 **DAVID HENRY HWANG** Truth-teller for Our Times
- 
- 1997 **FRED EYCHANER** Media Innovator and Inspiring Activist
- 1997 **MARGARET CORBETT DALEY** Civic Activist and First Lady of the City of Chicago
- 1997 **JAMES W. COMPTON** Champion of Racial Equality
- 
- 1996 **IRV KUPCINET** Radio, Television and Newspaper Personality
- 1996 **JOHN W. ROGERS, JR.** Chicago's Pioneering Investment Leader
- 1996 **ISABEL ALLENDE** The Voice of Spirits, Magic and Dreams

1996 **RICHARD HUNT** Mozart of Metal Sculpture  
1996 **PAUL SIMON** United States Senator

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1995 **VICTOR SKREBNESKI** Photographer and Artist  
1995 **JOHN H. JOHNSON** A Voice of Reason for All People  
1995 **SANDRA P. GUTHMAN** A Driving Force Behind Social Progress in Chicago  
1995 **EUGENE C. D'ANGELO, JR.** A Positive Catalyst in the Communications Industry  
1995 **ANN LANDERS** Beloved Advice Columnist  
1995 **BEN VEREEN** Renowned Entertainer

---

1994 **HAGE G. GEINGOB** Prime Minister of The Republic of Namibia  
1994 **MYRLIE EVERS-WILLIAMS** A Champion of Justice  
1994 **REVEREND JOHN T. RICHARDSON** A Chicago Leader in Higher Education  
1994 **RITA SIMO** Musician, Teacher and Social Reformer  
1994 **JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN** A Scholar for Our Generation

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1993 **ETTA MOTEN BARNETT** Stage and Film Performer and Arts Educator  
1993 **CINDY PRITZKER** President, Board of Directors, Chicago Public Library  
1993 **RIGOBERTA MENCHU** Nobel Peace Prize Winner  
1993 **JANE ALEXANDROFF** A Prime Contributor to the Success of College  
1993 **CAROL MOSELEY-BRAUN** United States Senator  
1993 **COKIE ROBERTS** Senior News Analyst, National Public Radio

---

1992 **HEDRICK L. SMITH** Journalist  
1992 **MATHILDE KRIM** Medical Scientist and AIDS Crusader

1992 **HENRY AARON** Baseball Player and Executive

---

1991 **DOUGLAS TURNER WARD** Founding Artistic Director, The Negro Ensemble Company  
1991 **HELEN VALDEZ** President, Mexican Fine Arts Center Museum  
1991 **JOHNATHAN RODGERS** President, CBS Television Stations  
1991 **WILLARD L. BOYD** President, Field Museum of Chicago

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1990 **FAITH HUBLEY** Animator and Illustrator  
1990 **LEON DESPRES** Advocate of Social Justice  
1990 **YOUSUF KARSH** Photographer  
1990 **HASKELL WEXLER** Cinematographer  
1990 **CLARENCE PAGE** Editorial Columnist

---

1989 **BERNARD LOWN** Nobel Laureate for Peace, 1985  
1989 **STERLING STUCKEY** Historian  
1989 **BERNICE WEISSBOURD** President, Family Focus  
1989 **LEON LEDERMAN** Nobel Laureate in Physics, 1988

---

1988 **KENNETH G. RYDER** President, Northeastern University, Boston  
1988 **MIKE ROYKO** Newspaper Columnist  
1988 **JOHN BIRKS "DIZZY" GILLESPIE** Jazz Trumpeter  
1988 **WILLIAM JULIUS WILSON** Sociologist  
1988 **ARDIS KRAINIK** General Director, Lyric Opera of Chicago

---

1987 **LAWRENCE K. GROSSMAN** President, NBC News  
1987 **PASTORA SAN JUAN CAFFERTY** Professor, Social Service Administration  
1987 **JACK BRICKHOUSE** Sports Broadcaster  
1987 **MARGARET BURROUGHS** Founder, DuSable Museum

1987 **IRVING B. HARRIS** Distinguished Contributor to Human Welfare

1987 **JAMES HIGHTOWER** Texas Commissioner of Agriculture

---

1986 **FRED FRIENDLY** Broadcast Journalist and Educator

1986 **LINUS PAULING** Nobel Laureate for Chemistry, 1954,  
and Peace, 1962

1986 **RANDALL ROBINSON** Executive Director, TransAfrica

1986 **WILLIAM FORD** United States Congressman

1986 **RUTH ADAMS** Editor, *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*

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1985 **JAMES HOGE** Publisher, *New York Daily News*

1985 **EILEEN SOUTHERN** Music Historian

1985 **RAY NORDSTRAND** President, WFMT, Inc.

1985 **CONOR CRUISE O'BRIEN** Diplomat and Writer

---

1984 **WILLIAM APPLEMAN WILLIAMS** Historian

1984 **JOHN LEWIS** Composer, Musician and Founder of the Modern  
Jazz Quartet

1984 **VICTOR NAVASKY** Editor, *The Nation Magazine*

1984 **PAMELA HARRIMAN** National Civic Leader

---

1983 **HAROLD WASHINGTON** Mayor, City of Chicago

1983 **MARJORIE CRAIG BENTON** United States Representative to  
UNICEF

1983 **MARCEL OPHÚLS** Documentary Filmmaker

1983 **CHRISTOPHER JENCKS** Educator

---

1982 **HELEN CALDICOTT** Peace Advocate

1982 **SHERRY LANSING** President, 20th Century Fox

1982 **LUIS VALDEZ** Writer, Director and Producer

1982 **JAMES VAN DER ZEE** Photographer

1982 **GARRY WILLS** Columnist

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1981 **FRANKLIN A. LONG** Scientist

1981 **HARRY EDWARDS** Sociologist

1981 **MICHAEL CACOYANNIS** Film Director

1981 **MARILYN FRENCH** Writer

1981 **GEORGE MCGOVERN** Statesman

---

1980 **HERMON D. SMITH** Chairman, Field Foundation of Illinois

1980 **HARRY WEESE** Architect

1980 **LOIS WILLE** Journalist and Pulitzer Prize Winner

1980 **RONALD WILLIAMS** President, Northeastern Illinois University

---

1979 **JESSIE WOODS** Director, Urban Gateways

1979 **JOHN FISCHETTI** Political Cartoonist

1979 **MAYA ANGELOU** Poet

1979 **CARLOS FUENTES** Novelist

1979 **TOM WICKER** Journalist

---

1978 **ROBERT COLES** Social Philosopher

1978 **EDGAR Y. "YIP" HARBURG** Lyricist

1978 **ABBY MANN** Television and Film Writer

1978 **ADDIE WYATT** Labor Humanist

1978 **CARLOS CHÁVEZ** Composer-Conductor

---

1977 **ORIANA FALLACI** Journalist

1977 **ELIOT WIGGINTON** Educator

1977 **MARIA MARTINEZ** Potter

1977 **GORDON PARKS, SR.** Photographer, Filmmaker and Writer

1977 **DANIEL SCHORR** Broadcast Journalist

---

1976 **JOHN HAMMOND** Influential Record Producer

1976 **ROMAN VISHNIAC** Biologist and Pioneer of Photomicrography

1976 **KATHARINE KUH** Art Critic, Curator and Writer

1976 **JONATHAN KOZOL** Educator and Social Critic

1976 **ED BULLINS** Playwright

---

1975 **ARTHUR MITCHELL** Director, Dance Theatre of Harlem

1975 **BRICKTOP** Entertainer

1975 **ALEXANDER L.C. WILDER** Composer

1975 **GEORGE W. BONHAM** Editor-in-Chief, *Change*

1975 **SEYMOUR M. HERSH** Pulitzer Prize-winning Reporter

---

1974 **ALBERT E. JENNER, JR.** Distinguished Lawyer

1974 **IVAN ALBRIGHT** Artist

1974 **JAMES T. FARRELL** Writer

1974 **RUTH PAGE** Dancer

1974 **CHARLEMAE ROLLINS** Acclaimed Librarian

---

1973 **HARRISON E. SALISBURY** Associate Editor, *New York Times*

1973 **BOB FOSSE** Choreographer for Stage and Film

1973 **ROSA PARKS** Civil Rights Activist

1973 **MYLES F. HORTON** Director, Highlander Folk School

1973 **JAMES B. HOLDERMAN** Executive Director, Illinois Board of Higher Education

---

1972 **QUENTIN D. YOUNG** National Chairman, Medical Committee for Human Rights

1972 **PAULINE Kael** Motion Picture Critic

1972 **CHESTER "HOWLIN' WOLF" BURNETT** Musician

1972 **NEIL SHEEHAN** Reporter, *New York Times*

1972 **WILLIAM F. RUSSELL** Sports Commentator, Coach and Athlete

1972 **NEWTON N. MINOW** Public Servant and Attorney

---

1971 **WILLIAM PROXMIRE** United States Senator, Wisconsin

1971 **KAY BOYLE** Writer

1971 **JOSEPH PAPP** Director, New York Public Theatre and Shakespeare Festival

1971 **CHARLES G. HURST, JR.** President, Malcolm X College, Chicago

1971 **AARON SISKIND** Photographer and Teacher

---

1970 **R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER** Architect

1970 **FRANK REYNOLDS** Broadcast Journalist

1970 **FANNIE LOU HAMER** Chairman, Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party

1970 **WILLIAM M. BIRENBAUM** President, Staten Island College, New York

---

1969 **SISTER ANN IDA GANNON** President, Mundelein College, Chicago

1969 **CHARLES WILBERT WHITE** Artist

1969 **DAVID HALBERSTAM** Reporter and Pulitzer Prize Winner

---

1968 **EDWARD KENNEDY "DUKE" ELLINGTON** Composer

1968 **LOUIS J. "STUDS" TERKEL** Writer

1968 **RALPH NADER** Political Activist

---

1967 **DWIGHT W. FOLLETT** Publisher

1967 **KENNETH F. MONTGOMERY** Attorney



1967 **NORMAN CORWIN** Writer, Poet and Playwright

1967 **LANGSTON HUGHES** Poet

---

1966 **EUGENE RABINOWITCH** Editor of *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists*

1966 **FREDERICK DOUGLASS O'NEAL** President, Actors' Equity

1966 **JOHN BRADEMAS** United States Congressman

---

1965 **CURTIS D. MACDOUGALL** Distinguished Teacher

1965 **PAUL HAMILTON ENGLE** Poet and Teacher

---

1964 **GWENDOLYN BROOKS** Pulitzer Prize-winning Poet

Candidates for the degree of

## **MASTER OF ARTS**

**Thea Baldwin**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Cara Sidnitra Ball**

Journalism

**Saiyna Bashir**

Journalism

**Sid Yiddish Bernstein**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Jasmine Browley**

Journalism

**Donna Mildred Decotiis**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Katie Marie Dominguez**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Elizabeth Marie Dunlap**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Michael Matthew Esparza**

Journalism

**Isaac Peter Fosl-Van Wyke**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Kimberly Lauren Jauregui**

Journalism

**Stacie Nicole Johnson**

Journalism

**Kaitlyn Kavanaugh**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Megan Michelle Klug**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**John Royal Knowles**

Journalism

**Thomas Joseph Kremer**

Journalism

**Jessica Ann Lochte**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Jenna Laine Maltby**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Devon Gabrielle Marti**

Journalism

**Akanksha Mishra**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Sarah Moore**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Kandice Latoya Moss**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Aimee-Jane Nash**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Peter J. Navarro**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Marcos Oro Caldero**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Nathaniel Gabriel Pyzik**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Michelle Richardella**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Jennifer Ligaya Senecal**

Interdisciplinary Arts

**Ruchi Rupen Shah**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Stephanie Nicole Terrell**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Lindsey Rae Thompson**

Dance/Movement Therapy  
& Counseling

**Megan Wenzl**

Journalism

Candidates for the degree of

## **MASTER OF ARTS MANAGEMENT**

**Emily Backal**

**Lamar Marquis Brown**

**Santiago Covarrubias**

**Darrius Covington**

**Amanda Gatt**

**Virginia R. Head**

**James Robert Jeffries III**

**Emmanuel Joseph Neal**

**Juan Jose Pena Montoya**

**Anisa Ann Peraica**

**Deepa Prasad**

**Adriana Prieto Rodriguez**

**Betsy Ray**

**Christina Denise Rodriguez**

**Stephanie Toland**

**Britney Nicole Turner**

**Shifra F. Whiteman**

**Hongjun Ye**

**Yu Zhang**

**Sihe Zheng**

Candidates for the degree of

## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

**David S. Babbitt**

Elementary Education

**Bawel Emmanuel Daniel**

Art Education

**Michelle Cristine Garcia**

Elementary Education

**Leonor Gallardo Hevia**

Elementary Education

**Joy Kahrohn Jones**

Elementary Education

**Melissa Susan McBride**

Art Education

**Holly Mcnallen**

Elementary Education

**Erin Leann Mitchell**

Art Education

**Kenneth Jun Oishi**

Interdisciplinary Arts Education

**John Sharp**

Art Education

**Nichelle Amber Stigger**

Elementary Education

**Kamryn Frances Shupe**

**Stimpson**

Art Education

**Alexandra Zeller**

Art Education

Candidates for the degree of

## MASTER OF FINE ARTS

**Emily J. Alexander**

Creative Nonfiction

**BJ Allen**

Interdisciplinary Arts & Media

**Ryan Snyder Ananat**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Kristin Alicia Bazille**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Jay Harry Beck**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Kari Betton**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Alexandra Lee Borden**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Mary Clare Butler**

Interdisciplinary Book & Paper Arts

**Kai Michael Caemmerer**

Photography

**Kristopher Campa**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Dane Campbell**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Daniel John Camponovo**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**James Carroll**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Amanda Jane Clark**

Creative Nonfiction

**Jasmine R. Clark**

Photography

**Sarah Kristen Conley**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Connor Grey Cook**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Christopher Joseph Cozzi**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Matthew Paul DeMarco**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Jeanne Marie Donegan**

Photography

**Gillian Shay Douple**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Julia Rose Fine**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Kristen Lynn Fiore**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Justine Elizabeth Fitton**

Creative Nonfiction

**Elizabeth Holland Forsythe**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Elizabeth Gerard**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Amy Elizabeth Giacalone**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Zachary Joseph Gordon**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Jan-Henry Gray**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Elizabeth Jane Grear**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Damon Griffin**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Chelsea Marie Harris**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Alicia Hauge**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Caroline Haughton**

Creative Nonfiction

**Thomas Hawkins**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Sean T. Hills**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Robert Waites Hobson**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Christian Clevy Paul James**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Yunji Kim Johanning**

Interdisciplinary Arts & Media

**Mikaela Shea Jorgensen**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Stephanie Gabrielle Jurusz**

Creative Nonfiction

**Emer Kinsella**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Evan Coday Kleekamp**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Marie Louise Stauffer**

**LeBourgeois**  
Creative Nonfiction

**Keyu Liu**

Music Composition for the Screen

**John Lusic**

Photography

**John Aloysius Maloney**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Jonathan Wesley Mcdaniel**

Creative Nonfiction

**Laurel Rose Milburn**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Katherine Lynn Miller**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Jessica Rose Millman**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Keith A. Morris**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Themba Moyo**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Sophie Leigh Nagelberg**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Miguel Bezanilla Naranjo**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Lauren Nichols**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Felix Ofosu-Yeboah**

Film & Video

**Stefan Orozco**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Patti Jeane Pangborn**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Carlos A. Prias**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Christopher Charles Recorr**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Patience Rector**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Margaret-Ann Ritchie**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Cynthia Cook Robinson**

Creative Nonfiction

**Chelsea Elizabeth Rowan**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Gregory Rozen**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Elina Ruka**

Photography

**Prajakta Bharat Sapate**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Anne Morgan Sayers**

Interdisciplinary Arts & Media

**Kelly Lynn Schmidt**

Interdisciplinary Book & Paper Arts

**Landen Morris Seesahai**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Diego Sardi**

Cinema Art + Science - Creative  
Producing

**Elizabeth S. Sidell**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Howard Simmons**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Carl Sorenson**

Music Composition for the Screen

**Dan Jeremiah Sullivan**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Todd Summar**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Chengqin Tang**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Scott Vahan Tavitian**

Photography

**Daniel Alexander Terrill**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Jeffrey M. Toth**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Mirjana Ursulesku**

Interdisciplinary Book & Paper Arts

**Dominique Michelle Wagner**

Creative Writing - Poetry

**Eileen Rae Walsh**

Photography

**Jean A. Williams**

Cinema Art + Science - Cinema  
Directing

**Jasmine Renee Wilson**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Latoya Marie Wolfe**

Creative Writing - Fiction

**Brian Zimmerman**

Creative Writing - Fiction

## GRADUATION WITH ACADEMIC HONORS

Columbia College Chicago undergraduates who graduate with a cumulative GPA of at least 3.75 are recognized as having graduated with academic honors. Graduates with a 3.75–3.79 GPA graduate *cum laude* (“with honors”); students with a 3.80–3.89 GPA graduate *magna cum laude* (“with high honors”); and students with a 3.90–4.00 GPA graduate *summa cum laude* (“with highest honors”). These students wear a gold tassel on their mortarboards at Commencement, and their names are listed with an asterisk in the program.

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## HONORS PROGRAM GRADUATES

The following 2016 graduates of Columbia’s undergraduate Honors Program have successfully completed fifteen credits of Honors coursework in the Liberal Arts and Sciences Core Curriculum and have maintained a cumulative GPA of 3.50 or higher over the course of their college career. At Commencement, Honors Program graduates wear a gold Honors stole on which is embroidered the college seal.

Cecilia Dale Adams  
Izik Alequin  
Zachary Christian Alsen  
Samantha Evelyn Belden  
Lucas Blanc  
Samantha R. Boersma  
Jennifer Clare Bostrom  
William Karl Brady  
Anna Bruner  
Alexis Bernadette Castanos  
Alexandra Cedroni  
Taylor Rose Chwae  
LeeAnna Rose Ciastko  
Haley Morgan Cieslak  
Shanna Marlaine Clark  
Delaynna D. Corley  
Elizabeth Lillian D’Elia  
Sean Michael Duffy  
Alice Duhon  
Brian Fong  
Haley Marie Franker  
Taylor Nicole Franklin  
Melissa Ann Garcia

Aidan James Harr  
Alexandra P. Harrell  
Donnia Nicole Harrington  
Laurel Elizabeth Hauge  
Rachel Emily Hearn  
Jesse A. Hinchcliffe  
David Alan Hughes Jr.  
Jacob Dillon Hughes  
Wesley Robert Hunt  
Jaclyn Olivia Jermyn  
Leanne Marguerite Kelly  
Lindsey Frances Keslar  
Cassandra Lynne Kranz  
Kristine Marie Kulp  
Megan Elisabeth Leetz  
Wesley Eric Lethem  
Hannah Lois Linder  
Avry David Luy  
Eric Cameron Maurer  
Justin Thomas Moran  
Delaney Bianca Morris  
Jillian M. Nobis  
Alec Shane Novoselsky

Megan Aileen O’Toole  
Kyle Walter Partacz  
Caitlene Marie Pina  
Jonah Paul Pritchett  
Alesha Mae Pulscher  
Nathaniel Gabriel Pyzik  
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Javon Terrell Harris  
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Phtundra Charmella Thompson	Adreanna Tyson	Bria J'nae Walker	Justin Alexander Widerski
Siobhan Roca Thompson*	Latanya Marie Tyson	Casey Elizabeth Walker	Samuel Duke Wieland
Aaron Thorne	Sona Cheron Tyson	Raymond Maurice Walker Jr.	Raven Sierra-Danielle Wiggan
Arianna Thornton*	Edgar Eduardo Ulin Jr.*	Evan Wallace	Kaitlin Wijas*
Jessica Lee Threadgill	Colvin Lee Underwood	Galen Peter Wallace	Levi Creighton Wilcox
Letitia Threadgill	Kayla M. Unnerstall	Morgan Macy Wallace*	Whitney Michelle Wilder
Kayla Evelyn Thurman	Briana Utria	Sara Lyn Walsh	Stephen Alexander Wilkes
Jennifer Lauren Tickman	Jerry John Valakas	Alexandria Morgan Walters	Andrea Melody Wilkins
Elanor Andrea Tier	Karen Denise Valdes	Kristen Caprietta Mae Walters*	Courtney Frances Wilkins
Elizabeth Lauren Timpa	Sarah Rose Valentine	Emily Ann Ward*	Justin Alen Wilkins
Christopher George Titus	Daniel Thomas Valera	Lindsay Theresa Ward	Austin Joseph Williams
Clement Tng*	Alex Mitchel Vanderaa	Moriah Deshona Warfield	Blake Anthony Williams
Sarah Toarmina	Megan Nichole VanKanegan	Emily Rose Warpinski	Chamone Diane Williams
Christie Marie Tokarski*	Violeta Celic Vara	Sierra Janniese Ashley Warren	Ebonee Cherelle Williams
Ryan Hapgood Tongue	Federico Vargas	Brittany Bernice Washington	Evan Jerel Williams
Emily Toops	Sandra Vargas	Shane Micheal Waters	Franchester Ann Williams
Lauren Emialy Toosevich	Elizabeth Vargas Camacho	Tracy Marie Waters	Jonathan Pierre Williams
Arturo Thomas Torres Jr.	RaJah Nicholas Varnado	Alicia Darcel Watley	Mershonda Jeanette Williams
Daniela Raquel Torres	Michelle Elizabeth Vasquez	Brandon Watt	Sydney Rae Williams
Gamaliel Torres*	William Michael Vatkin	David Lee Watta	Derrick Max Williamson
Melanie Torres	Hector Vazquez	Cassia Marie Watts	Alexis Kina Willis
Sarah Toth	Ludith Vazquez	Maya Gabrielle Weathersby-	Rachel Willits
Angela Katherine Tournis	Zinnia Vazquez	Huggins	Elliott Vann Wills
Ilce Trajceski	Kristina Marie Vega	Troy Edward Weaver*	Jacqueline Priscilla Wills*
Terry Travasso	Jacob Patrick Velander	Tamarah L. Webb	Alantra Wilson
Natalie Ruth Traxler	Eugenia Frances Venetico	Nicole Shay Weinberg	Josephine Marie Wilson
Whitney Michelle Traylor	Nicolette Noel Venia*	Alexander Evan Weis	Rian Wayne Wilson
Matt Tribble	Caroline Marie Vetter	Joseph Edward Weisenritter*	Joshua Daniel Winchester
Kayla Marie Tricaso	Dalton John Viggers	Joshua Raymond Weitzel	Courtney Lyn Windisch
Tristan Triptow	Brenda Villanueva	Camille Welch	Michael Criston Winfield
Skyller Ayn Tritch	Kawani Dior Villanueva-Hardin	Emma Grace Welch	Cherizar Elizabeth Winke
Brandie Nichole Trotter	Stephanie Villarruel	Dominic Timothy Wendel*	Amy Wisniewski
Dominique Trotter	Christopher Villegas	Claire Townsend Wendlandt	Stephen Jacob Wissman*
Stephanie Anne Trovato	Son Vo	Kelly Wenzel	Alex Thomas Witt*

Jason Matthew Wojtowicz  
Jennifer J. Wolan  
Samuel Howard Wolf  
Sarah Madison Wolfe  
Benjamin Ernst Wolpoff  
Nailah Marie Wood  
Sarah Marie Wood  
Taylor Nicole Woosley\*  
Sarah Corrine Wortman  
Jamise Glorianna Wright  
Jenay C. Wright  
Alex Wroblewski  
Edmund Wu\*  
Emily Christine Wuerdeman  
Sean Michael Wybourn\*  
Joseph Michael Wylie  
Bangren Xu\*  
Hecheng Xu  
Sireena Yancour

Dan Yang\*  
Kelsey Nicole Yates\*  
Taylor Evelyn Yates  
Allison Amber Yazel  
Atzimba Yopez  
Brennan York\*  
Janae Alton Young  
Kathleen Elizabeth Young\*  
Rachel Taylor Young  
Rebecca Cole Young  
Filip Zadro\*  
Stephanie Grace Zahlmann  
Miguel Angel Zambrana  
Daniel Joseph Zar  
Mary Zayed  
Mike Zdanowicz  
Veronica Simone Zebot  
Dominic Benjamin Zeier  
Boran Zhang

Chongchi Zhang  
Xiaonan Zhou\*  
Xueni Zhou  
Anna Katherine Zielinski  
Gaia Zol  
Alyssa Davis Zopp  
Alyse Marie Zordani  
Edward A. Zorich\*  
Kathryn Theresa Zosky  
Zachary James Zubaty  
Jeremy Paul Zussman

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Candidates for the

## **SECOND BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE**

Katherine Leigh Jordan Baran  
Katie Lynn Barker  
Idrine Nabishusha Bishweka  
Shimon David Castle\*  
Deundeun Cho\*  
Epiphany Annie Davis  
Teresa Elizabeth Deziel\*  
Midori Kathleen Eng\*

Sam Casper Freeman\*  
Shannon Elizabeth Gibson\*  
Gretchen Grace Goetzman\*  
Maxine Cassandra Granja\*  
Brian Daniel Hodes\*  
Valeria Jimenez  
Jennifer L. Klingberg  
Mary Lazarikos\*

Matthew Gregg Lennertz  
Siebron A. Mallard\*  
Joann Mikhail  
Vasilika Victoria Mikosz  
Lisha Peng  
Brenna Robinson  
Kristin Anna Yasmin Schmitz\*  
Christina Schulte

Jessica Denise Scott  
Angela Renee Solomon  
Daniely Soriano\*  
Michael Thomas Storer\*  
Sihang Sun\*  
Christopher Harold Usndek\*  
Stacey Lynn Zarling\*  
Andrew Zelitsky

## COMMENCEMENT SYMBOLS AND TRADITIONS

The college mace, which is carried into the Commencement ceremony by the chief faculty marshal, represents the collective authority of the college's faculty. The ceremony does not officially begin until the mace is placed in its stand on the stage. Columbia's mace is a three-dimensional representation of the college seal; the design symbolically depicts light breaking out into the world.

The medallion worn by the president at Commencement, which incorporates the college seal, represents the authority vested in the president by the Board of Trustees. The medallion's custom-designed chain is imprinted with the thumbprints of individual students, faculty and staff; these serve as a symbolic expression of the richness and diversity of the college community.

The college mace and the presidential medallion were designed and created by sculptor and part-time faculty member Miklos P. Simon.

### On the Cover

"Our Dissimilarities" by Victoria Shapow ('16), Commencement Photography Contest Winner

### Artist Statement

Victoria Shapow works as an art director and commercial photographer on a variety of digital and print projects. She has gained exceptional typography skills and a deep understanding of color theory through this work, which ranges from web banner design to alcohol packaging to stop-motion videos. Shapow uses her bright, colorful and conceptual designs and photography as a way of storytelling. Art activism is very important to her, and she tries to incorporate it into her work whenever she can.

### About the Selection Process

Open to all graduating students, regardless of major, the Commencement Photography Contest drew submissions from a wide range of undergraduate and graduate students. A committee of faculty and staff narrowed the pool down to three finalists, and then the Columbia student body chose the winning photograph, "Our Dissimilarities," by popular vote.

Your Commencement photographs will be available online for viewing soon. See the photos at [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com).

The producers would like to acknowledge the following individuals for helping to make the 2016 Commencement exercises possible:

### American Sign Language Interpretation

Estoban Amaro (BA '05)

Josh Ayoub

Jenna Baugh (BA '00)

Tiffany Sersen (BA '08)

Christy Thomas (BA '05)

Duriyah Wilborn (BA '00)

### Student Production Assistants

Zoe Aikins

Eboni Bryant

Jacob Dagit

Monique Doron

Julio Lopez

Tran Nguyen

Ian Valiente

Malik Woolfork

### Manifest Music Video Producers

Green River Films, Inc.

Sam Sanders (MFA '01)

John Farbrother (MFA '03)

### Site Producer

Charles Gomez

### Stage Manager

Debra Liddell

## COMMENCEMENT CONCERT

### **Joe Cerqua**

Producer/Director

### **Steve Hadley**

Associate Producer

### **Rosita Sands, PhD**

Interim Chair, Music

#### "Good Days"

By Eric Rutherford, Tory P-Lopez  
and Chris Fisher

Performed by Momz -  
The Recording and  
Performance Ensemble

#### "Berimbau"

By Baden Powell

Arranged by Karolina Prus  
Performed by the Columbia  
College Chicago Jazz  
Ensemble

#### "Love Train"

By Kenny Gamble and Leon Huff  
Arranged by Thomas Gunther

Performed by the Columbia  
College Chicago Gospel Choir  
and the Columbia College  
Chicago Jazz Ensemble

#### "Off The Wall"

By Rod Temperton  
Performed by the R&B Ensemble:  
Showcase

#### "A Night in Tunisia"

By Dizzy Gillespie  
Performed by the Fusion  
Ensemble

#### "Best of My Love"

By Maurice White and Al McKay  
Performed by the R&B Ensemble:  
Showcase

#### "Seven Steps to Heaven"

By Victor Feldman and Miles  
Davis

Arranged by Manny Mendelson  
Performed by the Columbia  
College Chicago Jazz Ensemble

#### "When I Get There"

By Kirk Franklin  
Orchestrated by Scott Hall  
Performed by the Columbia  
College Chicago Gospel Choir  
and the Columbia College  
Chicago Jazz Ensemble

#### "Wait for Me"

By Josephine Omokheyeke, Matt  
Gonsiorek, Leah Jean Griffith  
and Alex Bartlett  
Performed by Momz -  
The Recording and  
Performance Ensemble

#### "Nothing Personal"

By Don Grolnick  
Performed by the Fusion  
Ensemble

#### "Hey Ya!"

By André 3000  
Performed by the R&B Ensemble:  
Showcase

#### "I Still Haven't Found What I'm Looking For"

By U2  
Arranged by Carey Deadman  
Performed by Momz - The  
Recording and Performance  
Ensemble; the R&B  
Ensemble: Showcase; the  
Columbia College Chicago  
Commencement Choir; and the  
Columbia College Chicago Jazz  
Ensemble

## **R&B ENSEMBLE: SHOWCASE**

Chuck Webb, Director

Anna Agosta: Vocals  
James Boyd: Drums  
Rebecca Brunner: Vocals  
Christopher Fisher: Guitar/  
Vocals  
Josephine Omokheyke: Vocals  
Tory P-Lopez: Bass  
Eric Rutherford: Keyboards  
David Smith: Vocals

## **FUSION ENSEMBLE**

William Boris, Director

Amber McMillan: Vocals\*  
Perry Cowdery: Guitar\*  
John Cunningham: Tenor Sax  
Mackenzic Brooks: Piano  
Jalen Baker: Vibes  
Josh Griffin: Bass  
Deonte Brantley: Drums

## **MOMZ – RECORDING AND PERFORMANCE ENSEMBLE**

Gary Yerkins, Director

Alex Bartlett: Vocals\*  
Leah Jean Griffith: Vocals  
Josephine Omokheyke: Vocals  
Johnny Seguin: Drums  
Nico Puzio: Guitar\*  
Matt Gonsiorek: Guitar\*  
Eric Rutherford: Keyboards/  
Vocals  
Chris Fisher: Keyboards  
Tory P-Lopez: Bass  
Justin Rosado: Keyboards

## **COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO JAZZ ENSEMBLE**

Scott Hall, Director

### **Saxophone Section**

Yasmine Mifdal  
Aisha Clark  
John Cunningham  
Karolina Prus\*  
John Kelsie

### **Trombone Section**

Ariel Danzy  
Joseph Drezmiecki  
Jeremy Catledge

### **Trumpet Section**

Jason Deran  
Michael Jones  
Miles Allen  
Wesley Moore

### **Rhythm Section**

Perry Cowdery\*  
Jalen Baker  
CheeHo Jeong  
Tony Piazza\*  
Adam Shead\*  
Andrew Gercak

## **COLUMBIA COLLEGE CHICAGO COMMENCEMENT CHOIR**

Walter Owens, Director

D'Zhari Bolden  
Tahlia Orr  
Simone Townsend  
Rockeal Jones  
Kayla Kelly  
Tone Ross  
Forrest Siller  
Kelsie Johnson  
Kiana Mayes  
Jazmyne Fountain\*  
Michael Rawls  
Noel Price  
Mariah Stuart  
Dina Muzzalupo  
Michael Hoskins  
Imani Williams  
Vu Tran  
Byron Parks  
Rashida Carter  
Michael Adkins

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

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### **VICE CHAIR**

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Luis de la Parra

Terry Diamond

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Jane Gately

John R. Gehron

Devin A. Gross

Joan Hammel, *ex officio*

John McClain Holmes

Kwang-Wu Kim, *ex officio*

Jay Leib

Averill Leviton

Frederick C. Lowinger

Arlen D. Rubin

Asha L.I. Spencer

Arthur Sussman

Andreas Waldburg-Wolfegg

Sona Wang

Allison Grant Williams

Robert A. Wislow

William E. Wolf

### **TRUSTEES EMERITI**

Lerone Bennett Jr.

Sydney Smith Gordon

Samuel E. Pfeffer

Victor Skrebneski

Helena Chapellin Wilson

### **HONORARY TRUSTEES**

Bill Kurtis

Allen M. Turner

## SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

**Kwang-Wu Kim, DMA**  
President and CEO

**Stanley T. Wearden, PhD**  
Senior Vice President and Provost

**Patricia Bergeson**  
Vice President of Legal Affairs and  
General Counsel

**Richard Dowsek**  
Interim Vice President of Business  
Affairs and CFO

**Mark Kelly**  
Vice President for Student Success

**Charles Kimball, PhD**  
Special Assistant for Strategic  
Initiatives

**Dayle Matchett**  
Chief of Staff

**Deborah Maue**  
Vice President of Strategic Marketing  
and Communications

**Jonathan Stern**  
Vice President of Development and  
Alumni Relations

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## DEANS

**Jan Chindlund**  
Dean of the Library

**Steven Corey, PhD**  
Interim Dean, School of Liberal Arts  
and Sciences

**Onye Ozuzu, MFA**  
Interim Dean, School of Fine and  
Performing Arts

**Constantin Rasinariu, PhD**  
Interim Dean, School of Media Arts

**Sharon Wilson-Taylor, PhD**  
Associate Vice President and  
Dean of Students

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## DEPARTMENT CHAIRS

### SCHOOL OF FINE AND PERFORMING ARTS

**Jeff Abell**  
Art & Art History (Interim)

**Peter Carpenter, PhD**  
Dance (Acting)

**Timothy Cozzens, MFA**  
Design

**Peter Fitzpatrick, MFA**  
Photography

**John Green, PhD**  
Theatre (Allen and Lynn Turner Chair)

**Susan Imus**  
Creative Arts Therapies

**Philippe Ravanis, MBA**  
Business & Entrepreneurship

**Rosita Sands, PhD**  
Music (Interim)

**Jeff Schiff, PhD**  
Fashion Studies (Interim)

### SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES

**Peter Cook**  
American Sign Language

**Kenneth Daley, PhD**  
English

**Azar Khosravani, PhD**  
Science and Mathematics (Acting)

**Erin McCarthy, PhD**  
Humanities, History and Social  
Sciences (Acting)

**Carol Lloyd Rozansky, PhD**  
Education

**Tony Trigilio, PhD**  
Creative Writing (Interim)

### SCHOOL OF MEDIA ARTS

**Barbara Calabrese**  
Radio

**Joseph Cancellaro, PhD**  
Interactive Arts & Media

**Suzanne McBride**  
Communication and Media Innovation  
(Interim)

**Sharon Ross, PhD**  
Television (Interim)

**Josef Steiff, MFA**  
Cinema Art + Science (Acting)

**Pantelis Vassilakis, PhD**  
Audio Arts & Acoustics



## **CLASS OF 2016**

Write your messages and memories!

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Write your messages and memories!

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Write your messages and memories!

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**“OUR DISSIMILARITIES”**

by VICTORIA SHAPOW ('16)

COMMENCEMENT PHOTO CONTEST WINNER

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**Columbia**  
COLLEGE CHICAGO