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Our 130th Commencement

UB Law Forum

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OUR 130th COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

Keynote Address



*Hon. Maite D. Oronoz-Rodríguez
Chief Justice, Supreme Court of Puerto Rico*

"Of course, the legal profession is not immune to corrosive influence, instability and polarization. And when you hear that lawyers have defaced their historical duties or become too greedy, or ruled arrogantly, accept that some have. But also remember: it was a lawyer who argued to expand civil rights and end segregation. It was a lawyer who argued for interracial and gay marriage. It was a lawyer who argued for gender equality. And it is often lawyers who guide people through the most difficult and the most triumphant times in their lives."



130TH COMMENCEMENT

View a complete list
of Commencement
awards



OUR TOP AWARDS

RECIPIENTS

Max Koren Award

Alex C. Betschen '19

John N. Bennett Achievement Award

Genevieve S. Rados '19

Dale S. Margulis Award

Joshua S. Wallace '19

Faculty of the Year Award

Christine P. Bartholomew, Associate Professor

Staff of the Year Award

Amy Hayes Atkinson, Director of Student Life



SUNY Honorary Degree Recipient

Hon. Julio M. Fuentes '75
Senior U.S. Circuit Court Judge
U.S. Court of Appeals,
Third Circuit

"If you contribute to just one more person feeling that their rights were protected and that our



profession cared about them, you have done a great service."

Student Speaker

Melissa J. Kathan '19

"We must remember that with influence comes obligation. In the spirit of this school, one of our key obligations is to serve the community and each other."



Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award Recipient

William F. Savino '75
Partner, Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP

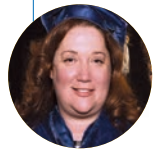
"Our law school has graduated so many accomplished and game-changing students. The Class of 2019 should look to those who have gone before and draw hope and inspiration."



Dean's Remarks

Aviva Abramovsky

"The pursuit of virtue in the practice of law remains the ideal. Though our system may be flawed, it remains one dedicated to the virtue of justice – justice that can only be achieved by the delivery of representation through compassion."



Dean's Medal Recipient

Hon. Kathy C. Hochul
New York State
Lieutenant Governor



"Don't just defend the words on a document that created our democracy, defend the people who live in that democracy."