

Agnes Scott College

The One Hundred and Thirty-Second Commencement



May 15, 2021

Commencement Exercises

PRELUDE

“Prelude and Fugue in G Minor” by Clara Schumann

“Prelude and Fugue in B \flat ” by Clara Schumann

“Prelude and Fugue in D Minor” by Clara Schumann

“Festal March” by Florence Price

“Processional in D” by Martha Sobaje

Performed by Calvert Johnson, *Charles A. Dana Professor Emeritus of Music and College Organist Emeritus*

PROCESSIONAL

“Overture in Samson” by George Frideric Handel, performed by Calvert Johnson

INVOCATION

The Rev. Whitney Booth Lockard, *Julia Thompson Smith Chaplain and Director of Religious and Spiritual Life*

WELCOME AND MESSAGE TO GRADUATES

Leocadia I. Zak, *President*

CLASS SPEAKER

Sydni Perry '21

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Layli Miller-Muro '93, *Founder of the Tahirih Justice Center and Senior Advisor to the Chief Executive Officer*

PRESENTATION OF THE CLASS OF 2021

Christine S. Cozzens, *Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College*

CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND HOODING

Dean Cozzens, assisted by:

Douglas A. Fantz, *Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the College*

Tracey E.W. Laird, *Harry L., Corinne Bryant, and Cottie Beverly Slade Professor of Music*

President Zak

Elizabeth D. Holder '82, *Chair of the Board of Trustees*

Karen C. Goff, *Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students*

GREETING FROM THE ALUMNAE

Whitney Miller Ott '03, *President of the Agnes Scott Alumnae Association*

RECESSIONAL

“Präludium in G Major” by Fanny Hensel, performed by Calvert Johnson

Layli Miller-Muro '93

Founder of the Tahirih Justice Center and Senior Advisor to the CEO

Layli Miller-Muro is the founder of the Tahirih Justice Center and Senior Advisor to the CEO. She established Tahirih in 1997 following her involvement in a high-profile case that set national precedent and revolutionized asylum law in the United States. Fauziya Kassindja, a 17-year-old girl who had fled Togo in fear of a forced polygamous marriage and female genital mutilation/cutting, was granted asylum in 1996 by the U.S. Board of Immigration Appeals. This decision opened the door to gender-based persecution as grounds for asylum. Using her portion of the proceeds from the book Miller-Muro and Kassindja co-authored about the case, "Do They Hear You When You Cry?," Miller-Muro created the Tahirih Justice Center in 1997 to serve immigrant survivors of gender-based violence seeking safety and justice.

Since 2001, Miller-Muro has led Tahirih in its service to more than 30,000 women and children, growing the non-profit from a staff of six to over 100, and expanding its offices from Greater DC to Houston, Baltimore, Atlanta, and the San Francisco Bay Area. In recognition of its sound management and innovative programs, under Miller-Muro's leadership, Tahirih won the Washington Post Award for Management Excellence and gained recognition for its innovative use of pro bono services in the Stanford Social Innovation Review. In the past year she has stepped down as CEO, assuming the role of Senior Advisor to the CEO.

Prior to joining Tahirih as Chief Executive Officer, Miller-Muro was an attorney at the law firm of Arnold & Porter, where she practiced international litigation and maintained a substantial pro bono practice. Prior to joining Arnold & Porter, she was an attorney-advisor at the U.S. Department of Justice, Board of Immigration Appeals.

Miller-Muro is a frequent lecturer and has appeared in numerous news outlets including CNN, Fox News, The New York Times, NPR, The Wall Street Journal, and The Washington Post. She lives in the Washington, DC area with her husband and three children.

Sydni Perry '21

Class Speaker

Sydni Perry is an English-creative writing major and music and theatre minor from Evans, Georgia. At Agnes Scott, she was active in many creative capacities and leadership roles including soccer and singing in Jazz Ensemble (the coolest ensemble), Collegiate Chorale and Joyful Noise. During her time at Agnes Scott, Sydni explored many interests, joined various clubs and organizations, performed at on- and off-campus events, and was an enthusiastic supporter of her fellow Scotties. She connected with students, faculty and staff in various departments, and loved her time at Agnes Scott, for it was these people who made it such a great experience. A December graduate, Sydni is currently serving as a fellow and podcast producer in the Office of the President. She is actively living out her dreams and working to be an award-winning actress, writer and director.

Class of 2021 Award Recipients

Abigail Ackerson

Lillian Dale Thomas Award
Myrna Goode Young Latin Award

Adena Marie Adams

Outstanding Courage Award in
Art and Art History

Isabella Barbuto

Sara Wilson Glendinning
Journalism Award

Eve Crea Barrett

Bonnie Henderson Schell '66
Writing Award

Carla Bosch

Al and Virginia Pearson Hays Award

Morgan Brown

Janef Newman Preston Prize

Peyton Capehart

Suzanne Goodman Elson '59 Prize

Markia D. Carr

Susan Booker Guthrie Fu '43 Award

Lydia Cash

Paul Leslie and Carolyn White
Garber Senior Award for
Excellence in Religious Studies

Olivia Chapman

Susan Booker Guthrie Fu '43 Award

Annel Chávez

Janef Newman Preston Prize

Esha Clements

Classics Department Achievement
Award

Elizabeth Anne Dudley

Lillian Dale Thomas Award
Sigma Alpha Iota Music Award

Diana Ghebrezadik

McGowan Award for Academic
Excellence in Public Health

Olive Gongombe-Ouyema

Julia LaRue Orwig '73 Senior Award

Natasha Griffin

Jessica Marie Berry Award
Marjo Dobbs Arseneau Memorial
Librarianship Award

Amelia Handly

Bonnie Henderson Schell '66
Writing Award

Sophia Ho

Bonnie Henderson Schell '66
Writing Award

Maya Hogan

Cronan Award for Excellence in
the Study of Politics

Katie Hutchison

Suzanne Goodman Elson '59 Prize

Felicia Jacques

Africana Studies Department
Achievement Award

Sequoia Myya Johnson

Outstanding Courage Award in
Art and Art History

Jane Krause

Dance Department Award for
Creative Excellence

Dulcibella Larbi

Elizabeth Jefferson Boyt Student
Development Award

Sarah Letteer

Academy of American Poets Prize

Alexis Mack

Margaret Shirley Spirit Award

Melina Mancio

John Randall Hudson Award
for Careers with Special Needs
Populations

Angelica Martini

Economics Department Award
for Academic Excellence

Class of 2021 Award Recipients

Hannah McGee

Classics Department Achievement Award

Myrna Goode Young Latin Award

Kaitlyn M. Mills

Michael J. Brown Prize

Shuronda H. Gardner Smith

Dean's Choice Award

Claire Moore

McGowan Award for Academic

Excellence in Public Health

Merle Walker Philosophy Prize

Zoie Moore

Al and Virginia Pearson Hays Award

Catherine Morkel

Suzanne Goodman Elson '59 Prize

Taylor Parks

McGowan Award for Excellence

in Research in Public Health

Maranda Perez

Claire West Jones '90 History Award

Jacy Gentry Pippin

Outstanding Courage Award in

Art and Art History

Mihika Rao

NASA Research and Outreach

Fellowships

Sabrina Sabir

McGowan Award for Excellence

in Service to Public Health

Deyana Aziz Siddiqui

Miriam Drucker Award for

Excellence in Psychology

Melody Simmons

Louise McKinney Literary Award

Lourrain Simon

Janef Newman Preston Prize

Leo Skaer

NASA Research and Outreach

Fellowships

Camryn Smith

Betty W. Stoffel '44 Award for Poetry

Rachel Smith

Outstanding Courage Award in

Art and Art History

Valeria Soto Tredunlo

Outstanding Courage Award in

Art and Art History

Zozan Amin Tahir

McGowan Award for Excellence

in Service to Public Health

Nyla Taylor

Outstanding Courage Award in

Art and Art History

Kennedy Isis Thedford

Paul Leslie and Carolyn White

Garber Senior Award for

Excellence in Religious Studies

Leah Ethlyn Trotman

Colonnade Award

Candace Turner

Outstanding Courage Award in

Art and Art History

Destini Valle

Hettie Hoyle Pasour Award

Loren Walter

Suzanne Goodman Elson '59 Prize

Brianna Marie Walton

Business Management Department

Award for Academic Excellence

Tasida Webster

Colonnade Award

Hannah Williams

Hettie Hoyle Pasour Award

Arin Yost

Women's, Gender and Sexuality

Studies Department Achievement

Award

Mingqing Yuan

Sue Walker Goddard Music Award

Phi Beta Kappa

Cindy Aguilera-Navarro

Furyal Ahmed

Sofia Aldas

Kira Barrett

Markia Carr

Esha Clements

Elizabeth Dudley

Sabrina Farley

Sophia Ho

Gwen Kirschke

Alex Lombardo

Natalia Mackiewicz

Paige Marcelline

Angelica Martini

Kaitlyn Mills

Claire Moore

Joie Otting

Mihika Rao

Gwen Rush

Deyana Siddiqui

Leo Skaer

Leah Trotman

Charlotte Ward

Hannah Williams

Arin Yost

Mingqing Yuan

Anny Zhou

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Alaa A. Abdelrahman

Public Health

Clarkston, Georgia

Abigail Leigh Ackerson

Classical Civilizations

Hoover, Alabama

Adena M. Adams

Studio Art

Marietta, Georgia

Leila Asa Agbogu

Psychology

Sandy Springs, Georgia

Sofia Aldas

Political Science/Economics

Quito, Ecuador

Gabrielle Rena Anthony

Public Health

Huntington Beach, California

April M. Araiza

English Literature

Atlanta, Georgia

Isabella Barbuto

English Literature-

Creative Writing

Red Hook, New York

Samantha Barrera

English Literature-

Creative Writing

Cicero, Illinois

Eve C. Barrett

English Literature-

Creative Writing

Thompsons Station, Tennessee

Kira Barrett

Philosophy

River Forest, Illinois

Antonella Del Pilar Basso

Mathematics/Philosophy

Lima, Peru

Mackenzie Ann Bellamy **

Psychology

Oxford, Georgia

Dory Ruth Berry

Women's, Gender and

Sexuality Studies

Covington, Georgia

Shelby Todd Biles

History

McDonough, Georgia

Lucie Elizabeth Blaise

Psychology

Decatur, Georgia

Kalia Blake

International Relations

Fayetteville, Georgia

Carla Bosch

International Relations

Johns Creek, Georgia

Hannah Krystina Heidi

Brendell

International Relations

Windhoek, Namibia

Morgan E. Brown

English Literature-

Creative Writing

Milton, Georgia

Jennifer M. Byrd

Women's, Gender and

Sexuality Studies/

Sociology and Anthropology

Atlanta, Georgia

Fiona E. Campbell

History

Seattle, Washington

Peyton Capehart

Psychology/Spanish

Kansas City, Kansas

Markia Dionne Carr

Psychology

Decatur, Georgia

Oné Adande Carrington

Women's, Gender and

Sexuality Studies

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands

Ché Octavia Carter

French

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Lydia Juliet Cash

Religious Studies/

International Relations

Little Rock, Arkansas

Olivia Nicole Chapman

Psychology

Roswell, Georgia

Annel Chávez

English Literature-

Creative Writing

Chicago, Illinois

* Degree conferred August 2020.

** Degree conferred December 2020.

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Esha Alia Clements

International Relations
Norcross, Georgia

Madison Ann Marie Cotton

Political Science
Fairburn, Georgia

Abigail Elizabeth Cox **

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Rabun Gap, Georgia

Elinor Olivia Davis

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Asheville, North Carolina

Loanni Del Monte

Africana Studies
Bronx, New York

Elizabeth Anne Dudley

*International Relations/
Classical Civilizations*
Montgomery, Alabama

Siuloong Englander

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
New York, New York

Teresa D. Enriquez Taxis

History/Spanish
Sugar Hill, Georgia

Molly Estes

German Studies/Political Science
Suwanee, Georgia

Zubaidah Farhan **

International Relations
Atlanta, Georgia

**Sabrina Patricia Urschel
Farley ****

International Relations
Lilburn, Georgia

**Delaney Louise Fisher-
Cassioli ****

History
Franklin, Tennessee

Musumaulai Heide Galoia

Political Science
Augusta, Georgia

Aneesha Selin Gezgin

Business Management
Atlanta, Georgia

**Olive M. Gongombe-
Ouyema**

*Africana Studies/Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies*
Boys, Maryland

Natasha Griffin

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Atlanta, Georgia

Sharon Gurung

*Political Science/
Dual Degree Engineering*
Lalitpur, Nepal

Amelia Anne Handly

*English Literature/Women's,
Gender and Sexuality Studies*
Falls Church, Virginia

Sydney Ellen Hands

English Literature
Canton, Georgia

Hajar Harda

Psychology
Casablanca, Morocco

Erin Sydney Harris

Psychology
Decatur, Georgia

**Spencer Danielle Bailey
Hatcher**

English Literature
Augusta, Georgia

TiaSamone Haygood

Public Health
Atlanta, Georgia

**Desiree Celeste
Hernandez**

Spanish
Chicago, Illinois

**DeMiAlma Mariposa
Herrera**

*Afro-Latinx Social Justice
Studies*
Los Angeles, California

Claudia R. Hines

Public Health
Brentwood, Tennessee

Sophia Elise Ho

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Austin, Texas

**Maya Brooke Andrea
Hogan**

*Business Management/
Political Science*
Atlanta, Georgia

Marlee Hoggard

Sociology and Anthropology
Little Rock, Arkansas

**Kyle Angela Barraquias
Huerta**

Mathematics-Physics
Canton, Georgia

McKenna R. Hupp

*Psychology/Business
Management*
Atlanta, Georgia

Felicia Emeline Jacques

*Business Management/
Africana Studies*
McDonough, Georgia

Nikaela Jade Johnson

Public Health
Atlanta, Georgia

Sequoia Myya Johnson

Art History
Union City, Georgia

Brittany Allyssa Judson **

Mathematics-Economics
Tampa, Florida

**Princesse Mutesi
Karemera**

Mathematics-Economics
Decatur, Georgia

Janan Y. Khan **

Public Health
Marietta, Georgia

Yasmin Sarah Khan

*International Relations/
German Studies*
Mableton, Georgia

Jane Hallett Krause

Dance
Westfield, New Jersey

**Dulcibella Nana Ama
Owusuwah Larbi**

Business Management
Chicago, Illinois

Elizabeth Blu Laseter

History
Monroe, Georgia

Sarah L. Letteer

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Warrenton, Georgia

Esther Allison Lovelace

Dual Degree Nursing
Seattle, Washington

**Natalia Izabella
Mackiewicz ****

Psychology
Chicago, Illinois

Breanna Megan Madison

Political Science
Oakland, California

Rachel E. Magana

International Relations
Morrison, Illinois

Melina Mancio

Psychology
Macon, Georgia

Zion Nicole Martin

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Boston, Massachusetts

Angelica Lilianna Martini

*Economics/International
Relations*
Memphis, Tennessee

Sara A. Masters

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Marietta, Georgia

**Hannah Mohona Louise
McGee**

Classical Civilizations
El Campo, Texas

Dorothy Grace Miller

International Relations
Covington, Georgia

Kaitlyn Moriah Mills

History
Augusta, Georgia

Sarah Leann Mills

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Dalton, Georgia

Claire Marie Moore

Public Health/Philosophy
Greenwood, South Carolina

Zoie Lark Moore

Africana Studies
Little Rock, Arkansas

Tisha M. Naipaul

Mathematics
Roswell, Georgia

Rida Naseeb

Public Health
Lilburn, Georgia

* Degree conferred August 2020.

** Degree conferred December 2020.

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Emma C. O’Grady

Religion and Social Justice
Peachtree Corners, Georgia

Joie Otting

Philosophy
West Des Moines, Iowa

Cydney Michelle Owens **

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Dallas, Georgia

Taylor Alexandria Parks

Public Health
Atlanta, Georgia

Jasmine Myotte Paul

Business Management
College Park, Georgia

Meadow LeAnne Pendley

*Women’s, Gender and
Sexuality Studies*
Cumming, Georgia

Maranda M. Perez **

History
Knoxville, Tennessee

Kyarra Perry

Psychology
Albany, Georgia

Sydni Michelle Perry **

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Evans, Georgia

Melody R. Phillips **

*Political Science/
Business Management*
Loganville, Georgia

McCarley Lane Pigford

Dance
Suwanee, Georgia

Jacy G. Pippin

Studio Art
Atlanta, Georgia

Avery L. Porter

English Literature
Winfield, Kansas

Jingxuan Qiu

Dual Degree Engineering
Dalian, China

Annette A. Quansah

Public Health
Hiram, Georgia

Amelia Blythe Rafferty

*International Relations/
Economics*
Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Jaania Raj

Psychology
Wood-Ridge, New Jersey

Susana Ramirez Londoño

Sociology and Anthropology
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Jabreshia Q. Rogers

Public Health
Buford, Georgia

**Katherine Elizabeth
Rogers**

Psychology
Hampton, Georgia

Lisset Rojo Ramirez

Business Management
Roswell, Georgia

Claire McKinley Romine

*English Literature/
Political Science*
West Palm Beach, Florida

Gwyneth Rees Rush

International Relations
Columbus, Georgia

Cymone Gabrielle Ryals **

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Atlanta, Georgia

Sabrina Henna Sabir

Public Health
Montgomery, Alabama

Deborah A. Saunders

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Snellville, Georgia

Lucy R. Schoenrock

English Literature
Atlanta, Georgia

Rachel Watson Scott

History
Augusta, Georgia

Deyana Aziz Siddiqui

Psychology
Marietta, Georgia

Melody Rose Simmons

English Literature
Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Lourrain Iman Simon

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Lithonia, Georgia

Lauryn H. Singletary

Public Health
Mansfield, Texas

Rachel Kathryn Smith

Studio Art
Atlanta, Georgia

Srijana Smith

*Women’s, Gender and
Sexuality Studies*
Decatur, Georgia

Valeria Soto Tredunlo

Studio Art
Memphis, Tennessee

Kaitlyn A. Staten

Psychology
Hahira, Georgia

Ngunkip Lily Steven Chin

History/Business Management
Tucker, Georgia

Zozan Amin Tahir

Public Health
Clarkston, Georgia

Katherine Isabel Takats

Dual Degree Nursing
Augusta, Georgia

Nyla Iman Taylor

Studio Art
Atlanta, Georgia

Kennedy Isis Thedford

*Religion and Social Justice/
Spanish*
Ellenwood, Georgia

Leah Ethlyn Trotman

International Relations
St. Thomas, U.S. Virgin Islands

Candace Lacey Turner

Studio Art
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Destini Valle

Sociology and Anthropology
Chicago, Illinois

Bethany Melinda Velarde

International Relations
Palm Coast, Florida

Jesseca S. Venters

Sociology and Anthropology
Houston, Texas

Anna Vuu

International Relations
The Bronx, New York

Ariyanna LaShae Walker

Business Management
Douglasville, Georgia

**Samiya Nyree Evelyn
Walker**

Psychology
Smyrna, Georgia

Loren Walter

Political Science
Chicago, Illinois

Brianna M. Walton

*International Relations/
Business Management*
Yonkers, New York

Maya Sinclair Webster **

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Atlanta, Georgia

Tasida Alliya Webster

Mathematics
Powder Springs, Georgia

Kamara N.D. West

International Relations
Atlanta, Georgia

Tiara Shyanne White

*English Literature-
Creative Writing*
Sinton, Texas

Olivia C. Wilborn

English Literature
Stone Mountain, Georgia

Juliana M. Wilder

English Literature
Columbus, Ohio

Hannah Elise Williams

*International Relations/Sociology
and Anthropology*
Lexington, Kentucky

Kaya M. Wright

Dual Degree Nursing
Atlanta, Georgia

Arin Yost

*International Relations/Women’s,
Gender and Sexuality Studies*
Hockley, Texas

Mingqing Yuan

Music
Qingdao, Shandong, China

Samantha Zheng

Psychology
Alpharetta, Georgia

* Degree conferred August 2020.

** Degree conferred December 2020.

Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Science

Cindy Leticia Aguilera-Navarro

Neuroscience
Hoffman Estates, Illinois

Furyal Ahmed **

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Lawrenceville, Georgia

Jada Nicole Anderson

Neuroscience
Atlanta, Georgia

Ramona Jo Bailey

Astrophysics
Prairie Village, Kansas

Josephine Demi-Marie Brodie

Biology
Decatur, Georgia

Sydney Yvonne Kailee Brown

Neuroscience
Nashville, Tennessee

Nicemode W. Charles

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/Economics
Morogoro, Tanzania

Amirah E. Clarke

Neuroscience
Loganville, Georgia

KaLee Lynn Elliott **

Biology
Alpharetta, Georgia

Rebecca Flores Hernandez

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Chicago, Illinois

Diana Ghebregziabher Ghebrezadik

Neuroscience/Public Health
Clarkston, Georgia

Abigail R. Harden

Astrophysics/Mathematics
Roswell, Georgia

Katherine Ryley Hutchison

Biology
Dallas, Texas

Nin Haliyma El Jacobs

Biology
Lithonia, Georgia

Anne Nicole Jonaitis

Biology
Sandy, Utah

Gwen E. Kirschke **

Biology
Johnson City, Tennessee

Alexandra Maria Lombardo

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
El Paso, Texas

Paige Renae Marcelline

Biology
Germantown, Maryland

Fredria C. Matthews

Neuroscience
New Orleans, Louisiana

Christina Priscilla Matu

Chemistry
Stone Mountain, Georgia

Jessica Anne McFarland

Chemistry/Business Management
Snellville, Georgia

Catherine Mary Morkel

Chemistry
Franklin, Tennessee

Rachel Grace Peterson

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Welch, Minnesota

Savannah Imani Pittman

Neuroscience
Lithonia, Georgia

Mihika R. Rao

Astrophysics/Economics
Mumbai, India

Jordan N. Reed **

Biology
McDonough, Georgia

Azia Kai Robinson

Astrophysics
Atlanta, Georgia

Amira LeChele Rogers

Biology
Perry, Georgia

Leo Anthony Skaer

Astrophysics
Roswell, Georgia

Camryn J. Smith

Neuroscience/English Literature-Creative Writing
Stone Mountain, Georgia

Sandra Galil Tawfik

Biology
McDonough, Georgia

Kai N'deya Thomas

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Fairburn, Georgia

Laura Threlkel

Neuroscience
Roswell, Georgia

Charlotte Renee Ward

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology
Westminster, Massachusetts

Inaara S. Wastani

Biology
Lilburn, Georgia

Caitlin S. Weaver

Biochemistry and Molecular Biology/Mathematics
Jacksonville, Florida

Cameron Victoria Wheeler **

Biology
Chapel Hill, North Carolina

Ting Xue **

Physics
Sichuan, China

Weiyi Zhou

Biology
Beijing, China

* Degree conferred August 2020.

** Degree conferred December 2020.

Candidates for the Degree of Master of Arts

Samelia Pamela Bankole

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Chelsey Jaye Cole *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Yasmine Edge *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Alexia Renee Edwards

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Karen D. Gelhaar **

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

**Monica L. Morris
Gresham ***

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Unica Alexcia Hodge

Social Innovation

Maura E. Kiefer

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Erin L. Lannen *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Hunter Corbett Leibler *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Alexis Cheyenne Mack

Social Innovation

Lateresa Renae Madison

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Paige H. Manieri

Social Innovation

Alaska Matthews

Social Innovation

Mary Peyton Palmour

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Racquel Arianne Parker *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Alexis Integra Prothro **

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Katja Quintero

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Nia Roberts

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Heather Leigh Seelbach **

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Virginia Underwood

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Angela M. Washington *

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Malik J. Watson

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

**Danielle Veronica Everson
Williams ***

*Writing and Digital
Communication*

Student Commencement Address

A new tradition began in 2019 at Agnes Scott College — a student address as part of the Commencement ceremony. In response to a request from the senior class and long-standing interest from students and the college community, the college held its first Commencement Student Speaker Contest for graduating seniors, coordinated by the Center for Writing and Speaking. Interested seniors were invited to deliver their proposed speech before a panel of students, faculty and staff, who then invited one student to speak at Commencement.

Senior Gift Campaign

The Senior Gift Campaign is a time-honored tradition that gives the senior class the opportunity to express their gratitude to the college by making a gift to The Fund for Agnes Scott, the college's annual fund. Tuition covers only half of what it costs to educate each student, and The Fund for Agnes Scott is a vital resource that funds scholarships, study abroad, faculty support, and basic expenses such as library resources and lab equipment. To view the complete list of Senior Gift Campaign donors, visit agnesScott.edu/giving/senior-gift-campaign.html.

Green Pledge

Students wearing green awareness ribbons on their robes have chosen to join a global community of responsible graduates dedicated to improving society and the environment. These students have signed a pledge that states:

"I pledge to continue my role as a global citizen by carrying on the Agnes Scott College mission of thinking deeply, living honorably and engaging the intellectual and social challenges of my time. In doing this, I will explore and take into account the social and environmental consequences of my actions and will try to improve these aspects in organizations for which I work and communities within which I live."

Candidate for the Degree of Master of Science

Jasmine C. Moore **

*Technology Leadership and
Management*

* Degree conferred August 2020.

** Degree conferred December 2020.

The Banners

The banners represent student organizations and activities, important components of the Agnes Scott experience. Members of the respective organizations designed the banners.

The Presidential Medallion

The Presidential Medallion, which Leocadia I. Zak wears today, was a gift from an anonymous donor prior to the centennial of the college. It was first presented to President Ruth Schmidt at the Founder's Day Convocation on Feb. 24, 1988. This symbol of the Office of the President, reflecting a tradition rooted in the Renaissance, is worn on ceremonial occasions.

The medallion and chain were designed and executed by Georgia State University Professor Richard Mafong. The silver and gold medallion is a round, open link with a crossbar bearing the word "President." An orb-like piece bears the name and founding year, "Agnes Scott College 1889," and from the seal of the college, the Latin "In Fide Vestra Virtutem in Virtute Autem Scientiam," from II Peter 1:5, which translates to, "Add to your faith virtue, and to virtue knowledge." The medallion is linked to the chain with a five-pointed star disk, a symbol also borrowed from the college seal. The chain consists of 22 oval disks to accommodate the names of Agnes Scott's past, present and future presidents; 22 open oval connecting links; and 46 purple and milky iridescent stones.

Academic Regalia

The ancient lineage of academic apparel began when universities were first founded in Europe in the Middle Ages. Students and teachers, considered clerics, wore robes and cowls, or hoods, similar to those of the monastic orders to which many of them belonged. Over time, for distinction in their regalia, universities adopted bright colors and different designs for gowns and hoods. In America, academic costume has been in continuous use since the founding of the first Colonial colleges. As in Europe, innovation was spontaneous and uncontrolled until 1893, when an intercollegiate commission recommended the uniform code that still governs academic regalia today.

The design of the gown indicates the wearer's highest degree. The bachelor's gown, simple and usually black, is distinguished by long, pointed sleeves. The similar master's gown has oblong sleeves squared in back and arched in front. The more elaborate doctoral gown has velvet front panels and three chevrons on each sleeve. Velvet in a color other than black indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned. Some universities have adopted a distinctive gown color, such as Stanford's red and Emory's blue.

Many symbols appear on a hood: The width of the velvet trim designates the level of the degree, the color of the trim indicates the major field of study and the lining denotes the institution that granted the degree. The distinguishing feature of the cap is the gold tassel worn with the doctoral robe.

Some colors and institutions that may be represented in the academic procession of the faculty today are:

Arts, Letters, Humanities: white	Duke: Duke blue and white
Divinity/Theology: scarlet	Emory: blue and gold
Laws: purple	Harvard: crimson
Music: pink	Oxford: red and blue
Philosophy: dark blue	Stanford: red
Science: golden yellow	Yale: Yale blue

During commencement, students wear—in addition to the formal hoods that signify their degrees—a variety of cords, stoles, and pins representing the honors, affiliations, and achievements of their academic career. These symbols cover both academic and extra-curricular activities, and students wear them with pride.

Commencement Etiquette

Commencement exercises are a formal academic ceremony. Guests are asked to respect the dignity of the ceremony, graduates and other guests by adhering to the following guidelines:

- For the health and safety of all in attendance, you must wear a face covering over your mouth and nose at all times, except while drinking.
- We request that while on campus you maintain a safe distance from those around you unless they are family members.
- No videotaping of the speeches is permitted.
- Cellular phones should be silenced to help ensure that all guests can hear and enjoy the graduation activities.
- During the reading of the names of the graduates, guests should be considerate in their applause so that all names can be heard clearly and the ceremony is not disrupted.
- Please remain at your seat for the duration of the ceremony including the conferring of degrees and until after the recessional. Please do not block the aisles or passageways by attempting to greet or take photos with graduates.
- For safety purposes, all walkways must remain clear; therefore, strollers and large bags are not permitted in the guest seating area.

FACULTY MARSHALS

Philip Ojo, *Professor of French*

Jennifer Larimore, *Associate Professor of Biology*

Patricia Schneider, *Associate Professor of Economics*

STUDENT MARSHAL

Amaris M. Sawyer '22, *Student Government Association President for 2021-2022*

COMMENCEMENT DIRECTORS

Bridget Roosa, *Professor of Dance*

Demetrice M. Williams, CSEP, *Senior Director of Special Events and Community Relations*



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