The George Washington University’s Commencement Speakers and Honorary Degree Recipients*
2000 to 2013

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
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| 2013 | • Kerry Washington, B.A. ’98, actress and activist  
      • Thad Allen, M.P.A. ’86, 23rd Commandant of the Coast Guard Admiral  
      • Harriet Mayor Fulbright, M.F.A. ’75, international education advocate |
| 2012 | • Brian Williams, *NBC Nightly News* anchor  
      • Carlos Slim, business leader and humanitarian  
      • Clarice Smith, artist |
| 2011 | • Michael Bloomberg, New York City Mayor  
      • William Thaddeus Coleman, Jr., attorney  
      • Peggy Cooper Cafritz, arts advocate |
| 2010 | • Michelle Obama, First Lady of the United States of America  
      • Dave Brubeck, pianist and composer  
      • A. James Clark, chairman of the board and CEO of Clark Enterprises, Inc. |
| 2009 | • Rahm Emanuel, chief of staff to President Barack Obama  
      • Jeanne Narum, director of Project Kaleidoscope and the Independent Colleges Office  
      • John Safer, B.A. ’47, artist |
| 2008 | • Julian Bond, chairman of the NAACP  
      • Daniel Inouye, J.D. ’52, U.S. Senator  
      • Charles T. Manatt, J.D. ’62, former chairman of the GW Board of Trustees  
      • Mike McConnell, M.P.A. ’86, director of National Intelligence  
      • Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, GW president emeritus and University Professor of Public Service |
| 2007 | • Wolf Blitzer, veteran broadcast journalist and CNN anchor  
      • Ralph J. Cicerone, president of the National Academy of Sciences  
      • Linda W. Cropp, former chairwoman of the Council of the District of Columbia  
      • Harvey V. Fineberg, president of the Institute of Medicine  
      • Lowell P. Weicker, Jr., president of the Trust for America’s Health and former United States Senator and Connecticut Governor |
| 2006 | • George H.W. and Barbara Bush, former president of the United States |
and former first lady of the United States
- **Sumner Redstone**, chairman of Viacom, CBS Corporation, and National Amusements, Inc.
- **Frank Robinson**, baseball Hall of Fame player

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Featured Speakers</th>
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| 2005 | **Andy Rooney**, CBS News commentator  
**Mildred Dresselhaus**, Institute Professor and professor of physics and electrical engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology  
**Alberto Ibargüen**, publisher of *Miami Herald* and *El Nuevo Herald*  
**Retired Major General Philip K. Russell, M.D.** |
| 2004 | **Luther W. Brady**, B.A. '46, M.D. '48, professor of clinical oncology  
**Leon Lederman**, physicist and Nobel Laureate  
**Gail Kern Paster**, director of the Folger Shakespeare Library  
**General John Shalikashvili**, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff |
| 2003 | **Mark Warner**, B.A. '77, Governor of Virginia  
**Sen. Jean Carnahan** (D-Mo.)  
**Sheldon S. Cohen**, former IRS Commissioner  
**Madeleine Jacobs**, editor-in-chief of *Chemical & Engineering News*  
**Billy Taylor**, jazz musician |
| 2002 | **Darrell Green**, Washington Redskins defensive full back  
**Jim Hall**, former chairman of National Transportation Safety Board  
**Lois Green Schwoerer**, award-winning author  
**Ruth Simmons**, president of Brown University  
**John D. Zeglis**, chairman and CEO of AT&T Wireless Services |
| 2001 | **Tony Bennett**, entertainer  
**Rita Colwell**, director of the National Science Foundation  
**Charlene Drew Jarvis**, president of Southeastern University  
**H.R. Shepherd**, inventor of the metered dose inhaler  
**Leonard Slatkin**, music director of National Symphony Orchestra  
**John R. Tydings**, president of Greater Washington Board of Trade  
**Herman Wouk**, Pulitzer Prize winner |
| 2000 | **Madeline Albright**, Secretary of State  
**Sir Martin Gilbert**, noted historian and biographer  
**Rep. John Lewis** (D-GA)  
**James Wolfensohn**, World Bank group president |

* Featured speakers are listed first. For a list of selected GW Commencement speakers since 1952, visit [http://encyclopedia.gwu.edu/gwencyclopedia/index.php?title=Commencement_Speakers](http://encyclopedia.gwu.edu/gwencyclopedia/index.php?title=Commencement_Speakers). For information about GW’s Commencement on the National Mall, visit [commencement.gwu.edu](http://commencement.gwu.edu).

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