### The George Washington University’s Commencement Speakers and Honorary Degree Recipients*
#### 2000 to 2014

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Recipients</th>
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| 2014 | • José Andrés, humanitarian, philanthropist and world-renowned chef  
• Maudine R. Cooper, retired Greater Washington Urban League executive  
• Russell Ramsey, B.B.A. ’81, chairman emeritus of the GW Board of Trustees and founder, chairman and CEO of Ramsey Asset Management. |
| 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 |
<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Featured Speakers</th>
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| 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 |
| 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).*