

THE GEORGE WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY

# Commencement

ON THE NATIONAL MALL FOR THE CLASSES OF

2020

— & —  
2021

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2021

THE GEORGE  
WASHINGTON  
UNIVERSITY  
WASHINGTON, DC

1821 200 GW 2021  
BICENTENNIAL

# ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRELUDE.....	Corcoran Brass Octet Michael Schmitz, <i>Conductor</i> Adjunct Professor of Music
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMMENCEMENT.....	Christopher Alan Bracey <i>Interim Provost and Executive Vice President, Academic Affairs</i>
ACADEMIC PROCESSION.....	Corcoran Brass Octet
NATIONAL ANTHEM*.....	Millicent Scarlett Adjunct Professor of Music
INVOCATION*.....	Mohammad H. Faghfoory <i>Professor and Director, Graduate Program in Islamic Studies</i>
WELCOME.....	Grace E. Speights, J.D. '82 <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i>
GREETING AND PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S MEDALS.....	Thomas J. LeBlanc <i>President of the University</i>
Anthony S. Fauci, HON '15 <i>Presentation of the Recipient</i> .....	Niku Nourmohammadi, M.S. '21
Cindy Liu <i>Presentation of the Recipient</i> .....	Vivika Fernes, B.S. '21
Andrew Maurano <i>Presentation of the Recipient</i> .....	Anjalie Subramanian, M.S.H.S., M.P.H. '21
REFLECTIONS.....	Christine Brown-Quinn, M.B.A. '92 <i>President, GW Alumni Association</i>
CLASS OF 2020 SPEAKER.....	SJ Matthews, B.A. '20
CLASS OF 2021 SPEAKER.....	Naseem Haamid, B.A. '21
CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES .....	President LeBlanc
Nelson A. Carbonell, Jr., B.S. '85, Doctor of Public Service, <i>honoris causa</i> <i>Presentation of the Candidate</i> .....	Janis Nicholas, B.P.S. '21
Elizabeth Warren, Doctor of Public Service, <i>honoris causa</i> <i>Presentation of the Candidate</i> .....	Damilola G. Arowolaju, J.D. '20

**COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**..... Senator Warren

**CELEBRATION OF DEGREES IN COURSE**..... President LeBlanc

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Paul J. Wahlbeck

School of Medicine and Health Sciences  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Barbara L. Bass, RESD '86

GW Law  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Dayna Bowen Matthew

School of Engineering and Applied Science  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean John Lach

Graduate School of Education and Human Development  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Michael J. Feuer

School of Business  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Anuj Mehrotra

Elliott School of International Affairs  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Dean Alyssa Ayres

Milken Institute School of Public Health  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Michael and Lori Milken Dean of Public Health Lynn R. Goldman

College of Professional Studies  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Interim Dean Melissa Feuer

School of Nursing  
*Presentation of the Graduates*..... Interim Dean Pamela Slaven-Lee

**ALMA MATER\***..... Ms. Scarlett

**RECESSIONAL\***..... Corcoran Brass Octet

#### **UNIVERSITY MARSHAL**

*Arthur Wilson*  
*Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee*  
*Associate Professor of Finance*

*\*Those who are able are asked to stand for these portions of the program. At the conclusion of the program, the audience is asked to please remain standing until the platform party has left the stage.*

# A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



**Thomas J. LeBlanc**

*President*

## *A Message to the Graduates from President Thomas J. LeBlanc*

This year, as the George Washington University marks its bicentennial, we are celebrating 200 years of learning, living and legacy in the heart of our nation's capital. But today, above all else, we are celebrating the reason our university continues to make a difference in the world: Our graduates.

You are here today surrounded by the Capitol, White House and historic monuments—a fitting finale to a GW career shaped by your experiences in the District. You are the only graduates who have the extraordinary privilege of attending Commencement on the National Mall, and I am delighted we are now able to gather and celebrate your achievements with this one-of-a-kind university tradition.

You came to GW motivated and passionate, ready to contribute to our vibrant community that serves the public good. You pursued scholarship with focus, learned with wonder and debated with respect. You formed lifelong bonds strengthened through both joy and adversity.

You overcame incredible challenges navigating a global health pandemic. In a crisis defined by tremendous loss—of lives and livelihoods, of time together and time on our campuses—you have defined yourselves by your commitment to your academics, your perseverance, and your support for others. And you have defined yourselves by your commitment to lead.

Now, having built on the 200-year legacy of this great university and those who came before you, you are an inspiration for those who come after. As you continue to have a positive impact on your communities across the country and around the world, I wish you many more fulfilling years of learning and leading.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. LeBlanc". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Thomas J. LeBlanc

*President*



# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



## *Elizabeth Warren*

Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

Elizabeth Warren, A.T.T. '66-68, is a U.S. senator, attorney and former law professor. During her time in public service, Sen. Warren has earned a reputation as a fierce advocate for her constituents in the state of Massachusetts and all Americans.

Before becoming the first woman ever elected to the U.S. Senate from the Bay State, she served as chair of the Congressional Oversight Panel for the Troubled Asset Relief Program. She is credited with the creation of the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau, an agency of the U.S. government responsible for consumer protection in the financial sector. She is currently serving her second term in the Senate.

For more than 30 years, Sen. Warren taught courses on commercial law, contracts and bankruptcy before her career in politics. She has written more than 100 articles and 12 books to date.

Among her many honors: being cited as Bostonian of the Year by The Boston Globe; receiving the Lelia J. Robinson Award from the Women's Bar Association of Massachusetts; being recognized multiple times as one of the 50 Most Influential Women Attorneys in America by The National Law Journal; and being included four times on Time magazine's list of the 100 Most Influential People in the World.

Sen. Warren is one of GW's Monumental Alumni, an honor awarded to living alumni who have made an impact on the world through their work and service and who embody the ideals of the university. She attended GW as an undergraduate student before ultimately completing her B.S. in speech pathology and audiology at the University of Houston in 1970. She received a J.D. from Rutgers University in 1976.

Sen. Warren and her husband, Bruce Mann, have been married for 41 years and live in Cambridge, Massachusetts, with their golden retriever, Bailey. They have three grandchildren.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT



*Nelson A. Carbonell, Jr., B.S. '85*  
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

Nelson A. Carbonell, Jr., B.S. '85, is an engineering, entrepreneur and business executive. He served on the university's Board of Trustees for a transformational 17 years, six of those as chair, showing exceptional leadership and dedication to the university's mission.

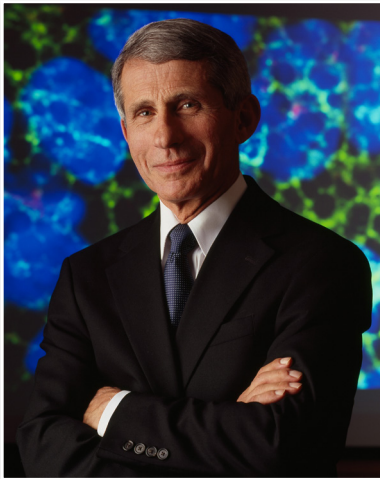
Mr. Carbonell co-founded the software company Cysive in 1993 in the basement of his home, eventually growing the tech company to 500 employees and exceeding revenues of \$50 million before taking the company public in 1999. He regularly shares his business strategy expertise on a variety of topics at universities, seminars and conferences, as well as with the press, industry and financial analysts. He is the president and CEO of the consulting firm Nelson Carbonell & Associates.

During his time on the Board of Trustees, he spearheaded the building of Science and Engineering Hall, worked on searches for two GW presidents and helped to jumpstart the Making History campaign, GW's most successful fundraising effort that ended ahead of schedule and exceeded its \$1 billion goal. He was an advocate for the pursuit of a comprehensive education and saw GW as an institution where students could explore a broad variety of academic disciplines and interact with peers and faculty outside their interests.

Mr. Carbonell and his wife, Michele, have generously supported the university through the Carbonell Family Professorship in Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders, donations to athletics that led to the creation of the Nelson and Michele Carbonell Academic Center at the Charles E. Smith Center and scholarships such as the Nelson and Michele Carbonell Engineering Endowed Scholarship.

Mr. Carbonell serves on a variety of boards and is chair emeritus of GW's Board of Trustees.

# PRESIDENT'S MEDAL RECIPIENTS



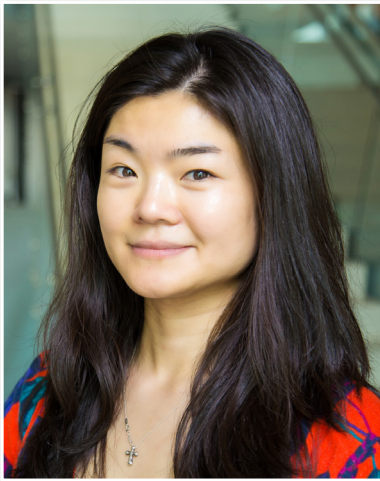
*Anthony S. Fauci, HON'15*  
*President's Medal Recipient*

Anthony S. Fauci is director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) at the U.S. National Institutes of Health, where he oversees an extensive research portfolio devoted to preventing, diagnosing, and treating infectious and immune-mediated diseases. Dr. Fauci has been a key adviser to seven presidents and their administrations on global HIV/AIDS issues, and on initiatives to bolster medical and public health preparedness against emerging infectious disease threats such as pandemic influenza and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19). As an HIV/AIDS researcher he has been involved in the scientific effort since AIDS was recognized in 1981, conducting pivotal studies that underpin the current understanding of the disease and efforts to develop therapies and tools of prevention. Dr. Fauci was one of the principal architects of the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), which has helped save millions of lives throughout the developing world.

Dr. Fauci is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the U.S. National Academy of Medicine and many other professional societies. He is the recipient of numerous awards for his scientific and global health accomplishments, including the Presidential Medal of Freedom (the highest honor given to a civilian by the President of the United States), the National Medal of Science, and the Mary Woodard Lasker Award for Public Service. He has been awarded 45 honorary doctoral degrees, including from GW in 2015, and is the author, coauthor, or editor of more than 1,300 scientific publications, including several major textbooks.

Dr. Fauci earned a B.A. from the College of the Holy Cross and an M.D. from Cornell University Medical College.

# PRESIDENT'S MEDAL RECIPIENTS



*Cindy Liu*  
*President's Medal Recipient*

Cindy Liu is an associate professor in the Department of Environmental and Occupational Health at the Milken Institute School of Public Health, and chief medical officer of the Antibiotic Resistance Action Center. She spearheaded the creation of GW's on-campus COVID-19 testing laboratory last year, which performs thousands of COVID-19 tests each week. This lab's ability to analyze a large number of samples in-house within the same day has played a key role in GW's ability to safely bring students, faculty and staff back to campus.

Dr. Liu's career mission is to shift clinical and public health practices through rapid diagnostics and through new therapeutics based on our understanding of the human microbiome.

She leads multiple multidisciplinary research projects that are funded through the National Institutes of Health and other governmental agencies and foundations, where among other things she develops novel strategies to prevent and treat infectious diseases, as well as advances antibiotic stewardship in consumer healthcare sectors.

Dr. Liu earned a B.A. from Johns Hopkins University, where she studied international studies with an international health concentration. She was awarded an M.P.H. from Johns Hopkins University in 2006, an M.D. from New York University School of Medicine in 2007 and a Ph.D. in biology from Northern Arizona University in 2013.



*Andrew Maurano*  
*President's Medal Recipient*

Andrew Maurano is an associate clinical professor of emergency medicine and associate clinical professor of physician assistant studies at the GW School of Medicine and Health Sciences. In his 16 years at the university, Professor Maurano has been a valued teacher for GW residents and students from many disciplines. He provided care in the Emergency Department of GW Hospital while also serving as director of event medicine for the GW Medical Faculty Associates (MFA), where he has treated thousands of patients over the years.

He is a leader in disaster and operational medicine, having served as a leader for the Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) National Medical Response Team and currently as a Medical Officer for one of HHS's Disaster Medical Assistance Teams (DMAT) where he has deployed to several national disasters. In Washington, D.C., he was appointed as the Clinical Advisor for Emergency Preparedness for the Washington, D.C.'s Health and Medicine Coalition and served on the D.C. Health COVID task force.

He has provided invaluable leadership for the MFA and GW COVID-19 response teams, which have provided testing and emergency medical care for the duration of the pandemic, in particular testing for special populations including persons in nursing homes, correctional systems and those experiencing homelessness. He was integral in forming a vaccination partnership with the D.C. government and setting up the largest vaccination site, leading to the vaccination of over 45,000 individuals.

Professor Maurano developed the university's Department of Emergency Medicine's operational and event medicine program, which has provided on-site medical care to hundreds of persons attending special large-scale events in the region, including the provision of care at three Presidential Inaugurations. In 2007, he worked with the D.C. Department of Health to establish a Medical Reserve Corps, providing an opportunity for health professionals to volunteer and be trained to provide medical care in D.C. during periods of need.

Professor Maurano's first exposure to emergency medicine came while working as a medic in college. He graduated with a B.S. in 2001 and later with a degree in physician assistant studies in 2005 from James Madison University.



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#GWCommencement

## ALMA MATER



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