

Commencement

IN THE NATION'S CAPITAL

NINETEENTH OF MAY, TWO THOUSAND NINETEEN

2019

THE GEORGE
WASHINGTON
UNIVERSITY
WASHINGTON, DC

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ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRELUDE.....	Wind Ensemble <i>Robert Birch, conductor</i> <i>Visiting Professor of Music</i>
ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE COMMENCEMENT.....	Forrest Maltzman <i>Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
ACADEMIC PROCESSION	Wind Ensemble
NATIONAL ANTHEM*	Millicent Scarlett <i>Adjunct Professor of Music</i>
INVOCATION*	Rabbi Daniel Novick <i>Assistant Director, GW Hillel</i>
WELCOME.....	Thomas J. LeBlanc <i>President of the University</i>
REETING	Nelson A. Carbonell Jr., B.S. '85 <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i>
REMARKS AND PRESENTATION OF THE GW AWARDS	Provost Maltzman Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. '81 <i>Vice President for Health Affairs, Walter A. Bloedorn Professor of Administrative Medicine and Dean, School of Medicine and Health Sciences</i> John I. Carruthers <i>Program Director, Sustainable Urban Planning Program</i> Christopher Luis Stevenson, B.A. '12, M.P.A. '19
REFLECTIONS.....	Richard A. Jones, J.D. '84 <i>President, GW Alumni Association</i>
STUDENT SPEAKER	Tyriana C. Evans, B.A. '19
CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES	President LeBlanc Christine Mann Darden, D. Sc. '83, Doctor of Science, <i>honoris causa</i> <i>Presentation of the Candidate</i> Peak Sen Chua, B.S. '19 Cindy Hensley McCain, Doctor of Public Service, <i>honoris causa</i> <i>Presentation of the Candidate</i> Samantha E. Lemieux, B.A. '19 Savannah Clark Guthrie, Doctor of Public Service, <i>honoris causa</i> <i>Presentation of the Candidate</i>Matthew S. Lish, B.S. '19

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS..... Ms. Guthrie

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES President LeBlanc

CONFERRING OF DEGREES IN COURSE..... President LeBlanc

Columbian College of Arts and Sciences
Presentation of the Candidates Interim Dean Paul Wahlbeck

School of Medicine and Health Sciences
Presentation of the Candidates Dean Jeffrey S. Akman, M.D. '81

Law School
Presentation of the Candidates Dean Blake D. Morant

School of Engineering and Applied Science
Presentation of the Candidates Interim Dean Rumana Riffat

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

School of Business
Presentation of the Candidates Dean Anuj Mehrotra

Elliott School of International Affairs
Presentation of the Candidates Dean Reuben E. Brigety II

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

College of Professional Studies
Presentation of the Candidates Interim Dean Christopher J. Deering

School of Nursing
Presentation of the Candidates Dean Pamela R. Jeffries

ALMA MATER* Ms. Scarlett

RECESSIONAL* Wind Ensemble

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

*Sylvia Marotta-Walters
Chair, Faculty Senate Executive Committee
Professor of Counseling*

**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.*

MESSAGE TO THE GRADUATES



A Message to the Graduates from President Thomas J. LeBlanc

Nearly 200 years ago, the George Washington University was established in response to the vision of our country's first president, who imagined a university that would educate the best and brightest future leaders right here in Washington, D.C.

Today, that leader is you.

Alongside 6,000 of your peers, you sit today surrounded by the Capitol, White House and historic monuments—a fitting finale to a GW career shaped by your experiences in our nation's capital. You are the only graduates in the world who have this extraordinary privilege.

You came to GW motivated and passionate, ready to contribute to this diverse and vibrant community of learning that serves the public good.

During your time here, you pursued scholarship with focus, learned with wonder and debated with respect. You created knowledge, thinking critically, reasoning for yourself and collaborating with others to solve problems. You used that knowledge to build bridges and cross borders. You sought excellence, in and out of the classroom.

Above all, in your many successes and through the setbacks you have overcome along the way, you have taken risks. You have chosen to lead.

Today, you are ready to lead a new adventure.

Having built on the legacy of those who came before you, you will now be an inspiration for those who come after. I know that you will bring distinction not only to yourselves but also to your families, to your communities around the world and, beginning today, to your alma mater.

As you join our lifelong and worldwide community of more than 290,000 alumni, I wish you many fulfilling years of continued learning—but wherever it may take you, I hope you choose to lead.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Thomas J. LeBlanc". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized 'T' and 'L'.

Thomas J. LeBlanc
President

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Savannah Clark Guthrie

Doctor of Public Service, honoris causa

Savannah Clark Guthrie, the co-anchor of NBC News' TODAY, has been a leading voice in the media for more than a decade.

She has covered a myriad of high-profile stories and has conducted a wide range of exclusive interviews with newsmakers, including then-Republican presidential nominee Donald Trump, former President Barack Obama, former U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and many others.

Ms. Guthrie was a primary anchor for NBC's primetime 2018 midterm election coverage and the 2016 presidential election and has anchored major breaking news events, including the 2018 Pittsburgh synagogue shooting, the 2016 Brussels attacks and the 2015 Paris attacks.

An attorney, Ms. Guthrie also serves as NBC News chief legal correspondent. Previously, she was the network's White House correspondent.

In 2018, Ms. Guthrie was appointed ambassador of the Elizabeth Dole Foundation's Hidden Heroes campaign and has served as a Best Buddies Global Ambassador since 2016. New York Women in Communications recognized her in 2017 with a Matrix Award for excellence in broadcast journalism. Ms. Guthrie also received an Emmy Award for outstanding morning show in 2012.

Ms. Guthrie is a New York Times bestselling author for her children's book "Princesses Wear Pants" and the sequel "Princesses Save the World."

Prior to her career in journalism, Ms. Guthrie was an associate for the law firm Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld. She earned a B.A. in journalism from the University of Arizona and a J.D. from Georgetown University, where she graduated magna cum laude.

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS



Christine Mann Darden

Doctor of Science, honoris causa

Christine Mann Darden, D.Sc. '83, joined NASA in 1967 as a "human computer," performing calculations to further research in space flight. In 1973, she transferred to engineering, where she became one of a handful of female aerospace engineers at NASA.

Her career at Langley Research Center would last 40 years, much of it spent researching high-speed aerodynamics and sonic boom minimization. She became internationally recognized for her work.

NASA awarded Dr. Darden a certificate for outstanding performance 10 times and showcased her as one of seven inventors who contributed significantly to the space program. Dr. Darden authored more than 57 technical papers and articles, primarily in the areas of sonic boom prediction, sonic boom minimization and supersonic wing design. She is an associate fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

Dr. Darden is included in the bestselling book "Hidden Figures: The American Dream and the Untold Story of the Black Women Mathematicians Who Helped Win the Space Race," which inspired the award-winning movie.

Dr. Darden earned a B.S. in mathematics from Hampton Institute, now Hampton University, M.S. in applied mathematics from Virginia State College, now Virginia State University, and D.Sc. in mechanical engineering from GW. She was inducted into GW's Engineering Hall of Fame in 2017.

Prior to her NASA career, Dr. Darden taught high school mathematics. She and her husband of more than 55 years, Walter, have three daughters, five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.



Cindy Hensley McCain

Doctor of Public Service, honoris causa

Cindy Hensley McCain is a businesswoman, philanthropist and humanitarian.

The widow of Republican presidential nominee and U.S. Sen. John McCain, Ms. McCain has served in leadership roles advocating for a range of humanitarian causes, including ending human trafficking and helping its victims, providing health care to children around the world and raising awareness of issues facing girls and women in Africa.

She is chair of the board of the McCain Institute for International Leadership at Arizona State University, where she oversees the organization's focus on advancing character-driven global leadership based on security, economic opportunity, freedom and human dignity.

Ms. McCain also is chair of the McCain Institute's Human Trafficking Advisory Council and co-chair of the Arizona Human Trafficking Council. She serves on the board of directors of Project C.U.R.E. and the advisory boards of Too Small to Fail and Warriors and Quiet Waters.

In addition to this work, Ms. McCain is chair of her family's business, Hensley Beverage Company, one of the largest Anheuser-Busch distributors in the nation.

Ms. McCain earned a bachelor's degree in education and master's degree in special education from the University of Southern California, where she is a member of its Rossier School of Education Board of Councilors. She has four children.

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UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS Jeffrey S. Akman <i>Vice President for Health Affairs</i> Donna Arbide <i>Vice President for Development and Alumni Relations</i> Aristide J. Collins, Jr. <i>Vice President and Secretary of the University</i>			

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

University Commencement is held rain or shine on the National Mall. During the ceremony itself, if an emergency situation should develop, the U.S. Park Police will declare an emergency. U.S. Park Police will either evacuate the site or direct the audience to shelter in place. Please follow the direction of the U.S. Park Police. The university has a comprehensive plan in place should extreme circumstances dictate changes and will reconvene the ceremony at our alternate site on the Foggy Bottom campus. For alternate site plan information please reference commencement.gwu.edu.

IF THE ALTERNATE SITE PLAN IS IMPLEMENTED

All graduates, faculty and platform party should report to the Charles E. Smith Center, 600 22nd Street, NW.
Families and guests are encouraged to view the full ceremony online at commencement.gwu.edu.

ALMA MATER



SHARE YOUR DAY #GWCommencement