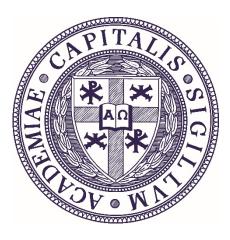
Capital University Law School

Commencement



THE CLASS OF TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-FOUR

Sunday, May 19, 2024 2:00 P.M.

CAPITAL UNIVERSITY CAPITAL CENTER BEXLEY, OHIO

PROCESSION RigaudonAndre Campra (1660-1744)
Please remain seated during the procession.
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM The Star Spangled BannerTraditional
Please stand for the National Anthem.
INVOCATION Pastor Daniel W. Hille
DEAN'S MESSAGE Reynaldo Anaya Valencia, Dean and Professor of Law
PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE David L. Kaufman, University President
VALEDICTORIAN'S REMARKS Mackenzie Mulrane Leadston

RECOGNITION OF SPECIAL AWARDS

Reynaldo Anaya Valencia, Dean and Professor of Law

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Yvette McGee Brown

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREES OF JURIS DOCTOR

Reynaldo Anaya Valencia, Dean and Professor of Law Jody S. Fournier, Vice President, Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES AND HOODING

David L. Kaufman, University President

BENEDICTION

Pastor Daniel W. Hille

ADJOURNMENT

Joseph K. Grant, Associate Dean for Administration and Finance and John E. Sullivan Professor of Law

RECESSION

Please remain seated until the recession has ended.

THE FACULTY MARSHAL

The procession is led by the Faculty Marshal, a senior member of the full-time faculty.

THE DEAN'S GROUP

The Dean's group includes the Dean, the President or President's delegate, the Provost, the Associate Deans, a member of the clergy, the Student Bar Association President, the class valedictorian, the Faculty Marshal, and the commencement speaker.

THE FACULTY & ADMINISTRATION

The ascending faculty ranks include Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and Professor of Law. Additional faculty ranks include Professor of Academic Success, Professor of Bar Studies, Professor of Clinical Studies, and Professor of Legal Writing. The arrangement of faculty and administrators in the procession, however, does not reflect rank or title.

THE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

The students in the procession are candidates for the degree of Juris Doctor.

REGALIA

Since the 14th century, scholars have displayed academic achievement by wearing caps, gowns, and hoods. Gowns for the Juris Doctor display broad velvet panels down the front and three velvet bars on the full, round, open sleeves. The hood, worn over the doctoral gown, gives additional color and meaning to the academic costume. A black shell lined with the colors of the institution conferring the degree, in this case purple and white, the hood is bordered in velvet in the color of the field of study. The velvet trim in purple on both the gown and hood signifies the Juris Doctor degree.

All graduates are hooded during the commencement ceremony, most by members of the faculty. It is tradition at Capital to extend an invitation to any graduate to be hooded by a family member or mentor who also possesses a Juris Doctor degree.

Some graduates wear stoles or cords with their regalia to represent the organizations in which they were involved with while in law school. This year, stoles will be worn by the Black Law Student Association in kente cloth, the Law Review executive board in gold, the Mock Trial and Moot Court in platinum, the OutLaws executive board in lavender & rainbow, Student Bar Association executive board in purple, and the Women's Law Association executive board in white. Wearing cords will be the Admissions Ambassadors in intertwined purple and gold, American Civil Liberties Union in intertwined white and royal blue, the Christian Legal Society in white, the Corporate and Business Law Association in intertwined black and royal blue, the First Generation Law Student Society in double black and silver, the Law Review in gold, the OutLaws in rainbow, the Capital Law Republicans in red, the Sports and Entertainment Law Association in intertwined black and kelly green, the Student Bar Association in purple, the Torts and Injury Law Society in orange, and the Women's Law Association in intertwined lavender and white.

MACE

The University Mace is carried by the Faculty Marshal in the processional and recessional. It was originally derived from a medieval weapon representing the need to protect and nurture the fragile search for knowledge. Over the centuries, it has become a symbol of order and authority. Today, the Mace has a place in many universities' ceremonies, signifying the beginning and end of the event.

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF JURIS DOCTOR

Haley Nicole Adams ~cum laude B.A., Kent State University

Trevor Levi Adams B.A., Ohio University

Alexa Raye Anders B.A., Ohio University

Rachel Lambert Andersen ~*cum* laude B.A., Point Loma Nazarene University

Bryanna Nicole Austin B.A., Ashland University

Emily S. Avondolio ~cum laude B.S., University of New York at Buffalo

Elizabeth Adams Bahe † B.A, DePauw University

Ashley N. Baker B.A., Otterbein College

Matthew Liam Balzer ~cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Ellie Elaine Baumgartner ~cum laude B.S., Miami University

Jamie Angelina Belisle B.A., M.A., The Ohio State University

Abagale B. Bentley B.S., Ohio University

Colin Kenneth Berger ~cum laude B.A., Kent State University

Sydney Rose Best ~summa cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Victoria L. Bettendorf B.A., The Ohio State University

Dylan Bhaerman B.A., The Ohio State University

Sarris Charlotte Birch ~*cum laude* B.A., Xavier University

Bridget Kathryn Bodnar ~*cum laude* B.S., The Ohio State University Blake Browning B.S., Western Washington University

Joshua P. Bumgardner ~cum laude B.A., Kent State University

Alexandra Piper Harris Butchello B.A., Miami University

Anna Ruth Caplan ~cum laude B.A., University of Cincinnati

Erik Randall Castle B.A., The Ohio State University

Odili Cerecedo Moctezuma B.A., University of California San Diego

Roberson Charles B.A., Florida International University

Stephen Scott Comer B.B.A., Shawnee State University

Annabelle Kate Comunale ~magna cum laude B.A., John Carroll University

Joshua Arthur Corbin B.A., Walsh University

Kara Cranford † B.A., Hofstra University

Zachary Ryan Dailey B.A., University of Charleston

Emma Abigail Dann B.A., The Ohio State University

Caitlin M. Dawson B.S., Barry University

Patrick Deering † B.A., Wittenberg University

Alayna Brooke Degenhardt B.A., West Virginia University, Morgantown

Samantha J. DeMint ~cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Jeffrey D. Devereaux B.A., Bowling Green State University Andrew R. DeWeese ~summa cum laude B.M., Capital University

Lucca Gabriele DiMichele B.A., Kent State University

Alexandra Nicole Dixon B.A., Valparaiso University

Hannah Ryan Dolan B.S., Johnson & Wales University

Anthony Joseph Donofrio B.A., Indiana University

Mycala René Duhart B.A., Capital University

Tyler James Bernard Ehret ~magna cum laude B.A., Mount Vernon Nazarene University

Marshall Keith Evans ~summa cum laude B.A., Capital University

Jacob Robert Fabina † B.S., Indiana University

Amy Suzanne Farr B.A., Walsh University

Brian Christopher Fike ~summa cum laude B.A., Miami University M.A., DeVry University

Heath Findley B.A., Michigan State University

Elizabeth M. Fisher ~*cum laude* B.S., The Ohio State University

Olivia M. Gemarro ~summa cum laude B.A., Ohio University

Payton Jeanette Genis B.A., Creighton University

Adam Grady Geyer ~cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Abigail Marie Gilkey B.A., University of Cincinnati

Madison M. Glover B.A., Kent State University

Sheldon Alan Goodrum, Jr. B.A., The Ohio State University Raquel Greco ~magna cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Richard Griffin ~summa cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Jackson Atticus Griffith B.S., Mount Vernon Nazarene University

Scott Gutstein B.A., Capital University

Tia Anastasia Hachwa B.A., University of Dayton

Steve John F. Haddadin B.A., California State University Fullerton

Zoe Rae Anna Hahn B.A., M.A., Ohio University

David Nathan Hanning II B.A., Marietta College

Trevor Edward Harrison-Rawn B.S., Heidelberg University

Chase Steven Hart ~summa cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

William L. Hartford B.A., The Ohio State University M.A., University of New York at Buffalo

Truman M. Haycock ~cum laude B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University

Alexis Kyelea Henson ~magna cum laude B.A., Ohio Wesleyan University

Alex R. Hickey ~cum laude B.A., Ohio University

Anthony Jerome Hines II B.A., The Ohio State University

Laken Hale Hinton ~magna cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Veronica T. Hodges B.A., Notre Dame College

Sarah Simoné Howard B.S., Clayton State University

Lauren Elizabeth Hunsinger † B.S., M.S., Arizona State University Brooke Anne Hunter B.A., Kent State University

Mara Elizabeth Hunter B.A., The Ohio State University

Andrew David Hussar ~summa cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Cameron Paige Jenkins ~summa cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Megan Dee Jerome B.S., Florida State University M.L.S., Washington University

Nathaniel Collin Jerry B.S., Ohio University

Isabella Kneidel ~*cum laude* B.A., The Ohio State University

Elijah Joseph Kroos B.A., Drexel University

Jaycie JoLynn Kuhn B.S., Ohio University

Alexander C. Laprocina ~summa cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Eric Leach B.A., University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Mackenzie Mulrane Leadston ~summa cum laude B.A., M.D., The Ohio State University

Kristen BaChan Lippert ~cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Haley Loheit B.S., California State University, Sacramento

Tessa Alessandra Lokie ~magna cum laude B.A., Ohio University

Anthony J. Lombardi B.A., The Ohio State University

Astrid Long-Kellough ~summa cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Hallee M. Loy ~magna cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Montana MacDonald ~magna cum laude B.S., University of Alabama Tuscaloosa Mason Patrick Mackovjak ~cum laude B.A., Miami University

Travis Alexander Malinowski B.B.A., Temple University

Shawnpreet Singh Matharu B.A., University California San Diego

Julianna Kristine Mathiellis ~summa cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Morgan L. McDermott B.A., Wittenberg University

Mitchell M. McFarland ~cum laude B.A., University of Akron

Myles Alexander McNeal B.A., Miami University

Jacey Miller ~cum laude B.A., Miami University

Sophia Miller B.A., Fairmont State University

Nathaniel Richard Miner ~magna cum laude B.A., Indiana Wesleyan University

Shaynalea Juanita Mirabal Braun † B.S., Brigham Young University

Brandon Patrick Mraz B.A., Cleveland State University

Brandon James Muller B.A., The Ohio State University

Patricia Nesdore B.A., Georgia Southern University

Gabrielle Nicole Nixon B.A., University of South Florida

Karalyne Joelle Noble B.A., Miami University

Taylor LeeAnn Nolan ~magna cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Joshua C. North ~summa cum laude B.A., Miami University

Kaitlyn Anne O'Hara B.A., The Ohio State University Cameron Passek B.A., Ohio University

Alexandra Victoria Perez B.A., Miami University

Sienna Eloise Pineault B.A., Bluffton University

Emily Ann Preston ~cum laude B.A., George Washington University

Jacob Anthony Re ~magna cum laude B.A., Ohio University

Jack Cameron Reed B.A., Bluffton University

Lindsay A. Reese ~cum laude B.A., University of Akron

G Preston Reeve B.A., Eckerd College

Keri Marie Reeves B.A., McNeese State University

Miranda Lee Rife ~summa cum laude B.A., University of Findlay M.A., The Ohio State University

Samantha Rodgers B.A., The Ohio State University M.S., University of Phoenix

MacLaren Elizabeth Roemer ~summa cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University

Amanda Ruthann Rogers B.A., The Ohio State University

Alivia Cate Rose B.A., The Ohio State University

Rachael Michelle Ross B.S., M.S., Radford University

Sabrina Joy Saadey B.S., The Ohio State University

Moufid Ghassan Sayej B.A., Youngstown State University

Shiyue Shan ~summa cum laude B.S., Seoul Foreign School Hailey Elyse Showers ~cum laude B.S., Northern Arizona University

Mercedes R. Sieg ~summa cum laude B.S., West Virginia University Morgantown

Reva Emma Silsdorf B.S., Case Western Reserve University

Cecelia Bowers Smith ~magna cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Katherine Marie Snider B.A., The Ohio State University

Katelyn Snyder † B.S., LaRoche University

Eliza Joy Soukenik B.A., The Ohio State University

Kaylie Morgan Stearns † B.A., The Ohio State University

Milas Alexander Stevens B.A., University of Cincinnati

Reagan Nicole Stone ~cum laude B.A., Capital University

Jenna Rose Strong B.A., The Ohio State University

Beth Ann Thornton B.S., West Virginia University Institute of Technology

Charles W. Tillett V ~cum laude B.A., Wittenberg University

Cassidy Elaine Triplett ~cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Gabriela Marina Vega ~magna cum laude B.A., The Ohio State University

Xheni Veliu B.A., The Ohio State University

Kyle A. Wallace ~cum laude B.A., Wittenberg University

Daniel James Walsh ~summa cum laude B.S., The Ohio State University Caitlin Dawn Watkins B.S., Ohio University

Madison Waugh B.A., Miami University

Mia Lin Hussaini-Zerkle † B.A., The Ohio State University

Thomas Zuehlke ~cum laude B.S., M.S., Florida State University

 Honors:

 summa cum laude
 3.6-4.0

 magna cum laude
 3.4-3.59

 cum laude
 3.2-3.39

† Students expected to graduate in September 2024, after they have completed their final course.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

A series of firsts defines the life and career of former Ohio Supreme Court Justice Yvette McGee Brown. A firstgeneration college graduate, McGee Brown was raised by a single mother on the East side of Columbus. She was the first African-American woman elected to the Franklin County Common Pleas Court in 1992. She resigned from the common pleas court in 2002, to create a nationally recognized organization that redefines how hospitals, law enforcement, and social welfare groups respond to children and families caught in the cycle of abuse. In January 2011, she became the first African-American woman to serve as a justice on the Supreme Court of Ohio. Today, McGee Brown is the Global Partner-in-Charge of Diversity, Inclusion, and Advancement at Jones Day and a partner in the business and tort litigation practice.

McGee Brown is an active community and corporate leader. She has served on the boards of the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, Ohio University, the OSU Wexner Medical Center, the National Council of the OSU Moritz College of Law, M/I Homes Inc., and Fifth Third Bank of Central Ohio. McGee Brown currently serves on the Board of Directors for Encova Mutual Insurance Group, The Jeffrey Company, and KIPP Columbus.

Among her many honors are the Ohio University Medal of Merit, The Ohio State University Distinguished Service Medal, the American Red Cross Humanitarian of the Year, Best Lawyers in America, Savoy Magazine's Most Influential Women in Corporate America, and 2024 Lawdragon Hall of Fame – 500 Leading Litigators in America.

McGee Brown has a bachelor's degree in Journalism/Public Relations from Ohio University and a Juris Doctorate from The Ohio State University Moritz College of Law. She has honorary doctorate degrees from Ohio Dominican University, Urbana University, and Wilberforce University.

McGee Brown is married to Tony Brown, a retired educator. They have three children and two grandchildren.

THE FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE LAW SCHOOL

Scott A. Anderson, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Professor of Legal Writing B.A., The Ohio State University J.D., Case Western Reserve University Ph.D., The Ohio State University

Kristopher Armstrong, Professor of Legal Writing B.A., Kenyon College J.D., The Ohio State University

Daniel Baker-Jones, Law Reference Librarian B.A., The Ohio State University J.D., University of Cincinnati M.L.I.S., Wayne State University

Danny W. Bank, Professor of Clinical Studies and Director of Legal Clinic B.A., State University of New York

J.D., Capital University

Robert Barnhart, Assistant Professor of Law B.A., Ohio University J.D., University of Notre Dame

Shawn M. Beem, Assistant Dean for Professional Development

DEF, Université des Sciences Humaines de Strasbourg, France B.A., University of Dayton J.D., Capital University

Mark R. Brown, Newton D. Baker/Baker and Hostetler Professor and Chair of Law B.S., University of Dayton J.D., University of Louisville LL.M., University of Illinois

Keleigh Chumney, Director of Admissions B.A., Muskingum University M.S., Walden University

Shawn Cleveland, Director of Regional Development B.S.B.A., The Ohio State University

Charles E. Cohen, Associate Professor of Law B.A., Harvard University J.D., University of California, Hastings Margaret M. Cordray, Professor of Law B.A., University of the Pacific J.D., University of California, Berkeley B.C.L., Oxford University

Brittany Deitch, Assistant Professor of Law B.A., Ursinus College J.D., University of Tulsa

Lisa M. Diem, Assistant Dean for Administration and Strategic Initiatives B.S., Anderson University J.D., Ohio Northern University

Travis Eastham, Law Reference Librarian B.S., The Ohio State University M.Ed., DePaul University J.D., DePaul University M.L.I.S., University of Illinois Urbana-Chicago

Lauren C. Emptage, Professor and Director of Academic Success B.S., Central Michigan University J.D., University of Toledo

Jeffrey T. Ferriell, Professor Emeritus B.S., The Ohio State University J.D., University of Santa Clara LL.M., University of Illinois

Amanda Flinn, Collections and E-Services Librarian B.S., Ohio University M.L.I.S., Wayne State University

Alicia Gilbert, Assistant Dean of Student Affairs B.S., Bowling Green State University M.A., Ball State University

Susan M. Gilles, Professor of Law LL.B., University of Glasgow, Scotland LL.M., Harvard University

Jennifer Goldson, Professor of Legal Writing B.A., The Ohio State University J.D., The Ohio State University Joseph Karl Grant, Associate Dean for Administration and Finance and John E. Sullivan Professor of Law

A.B., Brown University

- J.D., Duke University
- Shaneese Green, Diversity Initiatives Coordinator A.A., Columbus State Community College B.A., Ohio Dominican University
- Kevin R. Griffith, Professor of Legal Writing B.A., Grand Valley State University M.A., The Ohio State University Ph.D., The Ohio State University
- Gregory Jay Hall, Assistant Professor of Law J.D., University of Pennsylvania Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania

Rachel M. Janutis, Geraldine Howell Professor of Law

B.S.J., Northwestern University J.D., University of Illinois

Daniel T. Kobil, Professor of Law B.A., University of Toledo J.D., University of Toledo

Paige Kohn, Professor of Legal Writing B.A., The Ohio State University J.D., Capital University

Alyxzandra Lande, Law Library Coordinator B.S.E., Otterbein University M.L.I.S., Kent State University

Lorie L. McCaughan, Professor of Clinical Studies and Associate Director of Legal Clinic R.N., Mt. Carmel School of Nursing B.S.N., Otterbein College J.D., Capital University

Ashley Messick, Pro Bono Coordinator B.A., Denison University J.D., Capital University

Melinda S. Molina, Associate Professor of Law B.A., John Jay College of Criminal Justice J.D., Rutgers University Amanda Ramey, Associate Registrar L.M.T., American Institute of Alternative Medicine A.A., Columbus State Community College

Emma K.F. Schulze, Assistant Dean of Admissions B.A., Miami University J.D., University of Louisville

Bradley A. Smith, Josiah H. Blackmore II/Shirley M. Nault Professor of Law B.A., Kalamazoo College J.D., Harvard University

Mark P. Strasser, Trustees Professor of Law B.A., Harvard College M.A., University of Chicago Ph.D., University of Chicago J.D., Stanford University

Bren Sutter, Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion B.A., University of California, San Diego

M.A., New York University Ph.D., Rutgers University, New Brunswick

Yvonne Lundwall Twiss, Professor and Director of Bar Studies

B.A., Miami University J.D., Capital University

Reynaldo Anaya Valencia, Dean and Professor of Law A.B., Stanford University A.M., Stanford University J.D., Harvard University

Roxana Vatanparast, Assistant Professor of Law B.A., University of California, San Diego J.D., University of California, San Francisco LL.M., University of Turin, Italy Ph.D., University of Turin, Italy

Jennifer L. Wondracek, Director of Law Library and Professor of Legal Writing B.S., College of Charleston M.L.I.S., University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee J.D., University of North Carolina

Richard J. Wood, Professor Emeritus B.A., University of Kentucky J.D., The Ohio State University

UNIVERSITY OFFICERS AND OFFICERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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American Law Institute-Continuing Legal Education Scholarship and Leadership Award

Recognizes the graduate who best represents a combination of scholarship and leadership, the qualities embodied by the American Law Institute.

Montana MacDonald

Dean's Award

Given to one or more graduating students to honor outstanding scholarship, leadership, and contributions to Capital University Law School.

Rachel Lambert Andersen Marshall Keith Evans

Public Interest Award

Given to one or more graduating students to honor outstanding public service to Capital University Law School and the surrounding community.

Sarah Simoné Howard Cecelia Bowers Smith

Order of the Barristers

An honorary society that recognizes student excellence in moot court, mock trial, and brief writing.

Jeffrey D. Devereaux Montana MacDonald Jacob Robert Fabina Haley Loheit Taylor LeeAnn Nolan Keri Marie Reeves Milas Alexander Stevens

Ron I. Friedman Memorial Service Award

Recognizes a graduating student who has actively contributed to the life of the Law School through extracurricular activities.

Rachael Michelle Ross

Roberta Mitchell Award

Recognizes a graduating student who has excelled in the Legal Clinic.

Sarah Simoné Howard

Ambassador Award

Recognizes one or more graduating students who promote Capital's mission, values, and spirit.

Ellie Elaine Baumgartner

National Association of Women Lawyers Award

Recognizes an outstanding law student who exhibited motivation, tenacity, and enthusiasm; contributed to the advancement of women in society; promoted issues and concerns of women in the legal profession; and earned the respect of the Dean and law faculty.

Alexandra Victoria Perez

Inclusive Excellence Award

Recognizes a graduate who has exhibited outstanding dedication and leadership in fostering an inclusive environment within both Capital University Law School and the surrounding community.

Anthony Jerome Hines II

Pro Bono Spirit Award

Recognizes a graduating student whose service embodies the true spirit of legal pro bono by devoting the majority of their volunteer hours to programs that provide direct legal assistance to indigent clients.

Lauren Elizabeth Hunsinger

Excellence in Pro Bono Service Award

This award honors a student in the part-time program who, despite numerous personal, academic, and professional commitments, demonstrated extraordinary dedication to providing pro bono service.

Jamie Angelina Belisle

Pro Bono Legal Honors

Encourages and recognizes public service by graduates who have completed at least 50 hours of approved pro bono legal service. The graduates' names are listed with the number of pro bono hours they have completed.

Lauren Elizabeth Hunsinger	430
Emma Abigail Dann	193
Mycala René Duhart	107
Sarris Charlotte Birch	99
Taylor LeeAnn Nolan	95
Jamie Angelina Belisle	86
Gabrielle Nicole Nixon	85
Karalyne Joelle Noble	72
Odili Cerecedo Moctezuma	67
Katherine Marie Snider	65
Haley Loheit	64
Mackenzie Mulrane Leadston	60
Sarah Simoné Howard	60
Shawnpreet Singh Matharu	60
Gabriela Marina Vega	59
Keri Marie Reeves	56
Megan Dee Jerome	56
Rachael Michelle Ross	52
Veronica T. Hodges	52
Moufid Ghassan Sayej	52
Olivia M. Gemarro	51
MacLaren Elizabeth Roemer	51
Reagan Nicole Stone	51
Matthew Liam Balzer	51
Cecelia Bowers Smith	50
Shaynalea Juanita Mirabal Braun	50
Montana MacDonald	50