



THE STATE UNIVERSITY  
OF NEW YORK  
DOWNSTATE HEALTH  
SCIENCES UNIVERSITY

# Class of 2023

THURSDAY, MAY 11, 2023

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THE AMPHITHEATER AT  
CONEY ISLAND  
BROOKLYN, NY



THE  
CLASS OF 2023  
COMMENCEMENT

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

College of Nursing  
School of Health Professions

THREE O'CLOCK

College of Medicine  
School of Graduate Studies  
School of Public Health



# The Commencement Program

## for Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 11:00 a.m.

### **PROCESSIONAL**

(Audience, please rise for the Processional)

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Diane-Nicole Torsell, Class of 2023

*College of Nursing*

### **OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Wayne J. Riley, M.D., MPH, MBA, MACP

*President*

*The State University of New York*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

### **GREETINGS FROM THE DEANS**

Lori A. Escallier, Ph.D., R.N., CPNP-PC, FANN

*Professor and Dean, College of Nursing*

Allen N. Lewis, Jr., Ph.D., CRC

*Professor and Dean, School of Health Professions*

### **GREETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE GRADUATES**

Amayra Choudhury, Class of 2023

*College of Nursing*

Chika Amasiani, Class of 2023

*School of Health Professions*

## **COLLEGE OF NURSING**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

Dr. Lori A. Escallier

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Dr. Lori A. Escallier

### **HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE DEGREE**

Nataliya Shaforost, DNP, FNP-C, CDCES

*Assistant Professor and Director, DNP Program*

## **SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

Dr. Allen N. Lewis, Jr.

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Dr. Allen N. Lewis, Jr.

### **HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY DEGREE**

Joanne Katz, Ph.D., DPT, PT

*Associate Professor and Chair of Physical Therapy*

### **CLOSING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE OATH OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **RECESSIONAL**

(Audience: Please rise and remain standing until the graduates have left the venue)

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### **MUSIC CREDIT:**

#### **Marches:**

Aida, Act II, Scene 2, "Triumphal March"

Giuseppe Verdi

Performed by the Budapest Scoring Symphonic Orchestra

Conducted by Peter Pejtsik

# The Commencement Program

## for Thursday, May 11<sup>th</sup> 3:00 p.m.

### **PROCESSIONAL**

(Audience, please rise for the Processional)

### **NATIONAL ANTHEM**

Jonathan Amaro-Barron, Class of 2023

*College of Medicine*

### **OPENING REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT**

Wayne J. Riley, M.D., MPH, MBA, MACP

*President*

*The State University of New York*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

### **GREETINGS FROM THE DEANS**

F. Charles Brunnicardi, M.D., FACS

*Professor and Dean, College of Medicine*

### **GREETINGS ON BEHALF OF THE GRADUATES**

Ian B. Winthrop, Class of 2023

*College of Medicine*

### **PRESENTATION AND CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Pascal James Imperato, M.D., MPH&TM, MACP

*Senior Vice President and Chief Academic Officer*

### **HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS**

#### ***Doctor of Science***

Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D

#### ***Doctor of Humane Letters***

Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D.

### **PRESENTATION OF THE PRESIDENT'S AWARD**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **PRESIDENT'S AWARD RECIPIENTS**

Eva B. Cramer, Ph.D.

*Distinguished Service Professor of Cell Biology and Vice President  
for Biotechnology and Scientific Affairs*

*The State University of New York*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

Mantosh J. Dewan, M.D.

*President and Distinguished Service Professor of Psychiatry*

*The State University of New York*

*Upstate Medical University*

### **INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

Mantosh J. Dewan, M.D.

### **AMERICA THE BEAUTIFUL**

Rushon S. John, Class of 2023

*School of Public Health*

## **SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

David Christini, Ph.D.

*Senior Vice President for Research, and  
Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies*

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Dr. David Christini

### **HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY DEGREE**

Thesis Research Sponsors &

Laura A. Martello-Rooney, Ph.D.

*Director of GI Research*

## **SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

Kitaw Demissie, M.D., Ph.D.

*Professor and Dean, School of Public Health*

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Dr. Kitaw Demissie

### **HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEGREE**

Tracey E. Wilson, Ph.D.

*Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs & Research and Distinguished  
Service Professor*

## **COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES**

Dr. F. Charles Brunnicardi

### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **AWARDING OF DIPLOMAS**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

Dr. F. Charles Brunnicardi

### **HOODING OF CANDIDATES FOR THE DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE**

Isabel McFarlane, M.D., FACP

*Clinical Assistant Professor and  
Director, Third-Year Medicine Clerkship*

Yaakov Anziska, M.D.

*Associate Professor, Department of Neurology*

### **CLOSING REMARKS AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH**

Dr. Wayne J. Riley

### **RECESSIONAL**

(Audience: Please rise and remain standing until the graduates  
have left the venue)

---

### **MUSIC CREDIT:**

#### **Marches:**

Aida, Act II, Scene 2, "*Triumphal March*"

Giuseppe Verdi

Performed by the Budapest Scoring Symphonic Orchestra

Conducted by Peter Pejtsik

Listed on the following pages are all degree candidates from The State University of New York – Downstate Health Sciences University, who, according to the Office of the Registrar, at the time of publication of this program, were eligible for the awarding of appropriate degrees and honors upon completion of prescribed work. This does not constitute the official list of those who will graduate or receive honors. Official determinations regarding graduation and honors will be made at the time of degree conferral upon submission of all final grades.

## COLLEGE OF NURSING

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### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

#### **RN TO BS**

Aayat M. Albaali  
Bertille Ameyo Dick  
Lola Lynn Francis  
Kareem Hussein  
Abraham A. Malkokian  
Mirela Milanovic  
Jessica T. Ortega  
Samantha Brooke Seldin  
Shoshana Siegel  
Ismeric C. St Hilaire  
Patricia J. Swiderski  
Lanasia Verneau  
Alyssa Wheeler  
Djemilatou Yankine

#### **ACCELERATED BS**

Mouaze Adam  
Tasnia J. Ahmed  
Afrdita Alibasic  
Jaime Arbisfeld  
Michelle L. Arriesgado  
Chaya Mushka Backman  
Zainab A. Bakare  
Saniye Bavbekova  
Kayla Shannon Bedeau  
Diana Benitez  
Jennifer A. Bernert  
Samantha Blady  
Tina Brodnikova  
Sarah Brody  
Kendrea M. Cameron  
Sharon Carabali  
Veronica Viviana Carnero  
Samantha Chee  
Winnie Chen  
Amayra Choudhury  
Tara Leigh Clark  
Charmin Conner  
Maeve D. Connolly

Alyssa Cooper  
Maya Angela David  
Nina DeMeo  
Bailey Deng  
Ginikachukwu Chinasa Egonu  
Janelle Amaebi Eradiri  
Meira Feiner  
James David Freire  
Meira S. Gewirtz  
Desirée P. Gillespie  
Stephany Giovinazzo  
Cindy Samantha Gorn  
Viktor Grytskiv  
Amanda Hariprasad  
Hinar Hassan  
Kristi Evelyn Helberg  
Devin M. Hussey  
Dayeong Hwang  
Mateenah Ige  
Tashmia B. Kashem  
Jacklynn B. Katz  
Laurel Katz-Bohen  
Tatiana L. Keeby  
Suraksha Khadka  
Alina Khafizova  
Charmaine P. Koskinen  
Candis A. Lawrence  
Elizabeth Lee  
Wendy Lee Han  
Tammy Lo  
Cassandra Lopez  
Chaya J. Manssouri  
Christian Martinez  
Dieneba Massaly  
Michael J. McDade  
Connor R. Mcgee  
Kishauna A. McLean  
John Culver McShane  
Adalain Eleanor Meier

Fatmanur Mise  
Seham Mubarez  
Zachary T. Murphy  
Arlene Navarrete  
Kalina Nhieu  
Freda Nokaly  
Jennasia T. Otway  
Michelle Padilla  
Lindsay K. Plante  
Patricia Pouso  
Danielle Powell  
Grace Powell  
Victor M. Ramirez  
Kelly Romero  
Rebecca C. Rosado  
Andrew J. Sapini  
David Victor Schiffer  
Bay R. Schook  
Jennifer Zoe Shafran  
Tasfia Islam Shawlin  
Hannah B. Shinn  
Kiruthyagini Sivanthesathan  
Cierra Smalls  
Lucrecia Souza  
Thalia G. Stogianos  
Dana Stratton  
Marco J. Striuli  
Diane N. Torsell  
Sophia L. Tsang  
Joselinne Y. Vallejo  
Romasa I. Virk  
Mackenzie J. Webb  
Joseph Weinstein  
Bracha Wieder  
Chaim Wolff  
Vinelle E. Woodley  
Yuemei Wu  
Winnie Yu  
Chaya D. Zeitlin

**MASTER OF SCIENCE****FAMILY NURSE  
PRACTITIONER**

Rachely Abrams  
 Esther Ahn  
 Brigitte Alcivar Chalen  
 Indrianna Sonette Appleby  
 Elaina Marisa Avit  
 Gerri Marisa Bazemore  
 Brandi Beere  
 Ana R. Bichashvili  
 Josephine Esi Boateng  
 Jacklyn Bromberg  
 Amber Leigh Dowd  
 Deborah N. Chapusette  
 Athena Chen  
 Zhou Chengcheng  
 Bianca Cornely  
 Joyita Das  
 Brittany Lauren Denniston  
 Blessing Ogechi Eze  
 Patricia P. Fidman  
 Stephanie A. Fiduk  
 Vivian Fu  
 Lucy E. Geyer  
 Michelle Glatt  
 Alexis A. Grant-Stuart  
 Faustyna Grzybowska  
 Adamu Tijani Hamza  
 Felicia N. Henderson  
 Phyllana K. Joseph  
 Russell W. Kadro  
 Abigail R. Kellner  
 Ivana Klanac-Stern  
 Elonna Kravets  
 Sari F. Krumholz  
 Chun Fai Lam  
 Robert J. Lau  
 Temima Leiser  
 Katherine Leung  
 Lisa X. Li  
 Rita X. Li  
 Sadie Li  
 Shen Li  
 Amy Lin  
 Xi Lin  
 William Lin Gao

Bridgette J. Maynfeld  
 Omobola Debrah Osunleti  
 Brandon Pater  
 Dukins Petit-Homme  
 Nicholas Priola  
 Gabrielle Rabinovits  
 Mahfuja Rahman  
 Raquel Amelia Ramsuchit  
 Irina Raskin  
 Katerina Rich  
 Melissa Robbins  
 Yenon Saiag  
 Yelena Savitskaya  
 Kathryn C. Scarfo  
 Fruma I. Simpson  
 Joann Smith  
 Amy Dawn Spurlin  
 Leighana M. Tam  
 Natalia Ten  
 Valerie V. Valerie  
 Alisha Mariyam Varkey  
 Chimere M. Wallace  
 Melanie F. Wallace  
 Michelle Weber  
 Karolina Wiercinska  
 Nicole Ann Yohrling

**NURSE  
MIDWIFERY\***

Alexandra Aparicio  
 Susan Karina Campos  
 Jaclynn Shaolynn Chen  
 Sasha A. Deshong  
 Alicia Anne Gagnon  
 Tracy Okee Kwon  
 Tyla S. Leach  
 Akilah S. Pascall  
 Arielle C. Sooknanan  
 Siobhan A. Whalen

*\*Students graduating from Nurse  
 Midwifery receive both the Master of  
 Science in Nurse Midwifery from the  
 College of Nursing and the Advanced  
 Certificate in Midwifery from the School of  
 Health Professions.*

**WOMEN'S  
HEALTH NURSE  
PRACTITIONER**

Milci Abreu  
 Catalina F. Agosto  
 Jennifer Bandykova  
 Akhtara Banu  
 Meredith Barba  
 Jennifer R. Barocas  
 Theodora Berry  
 Gabrielle N. Boudreau  
 Alexa Cabrera  
 Janel E. Charles  
 Claude Vanessa Chedjou Lekane  
 Shirley Cheung  
 Keisha Cobena  
 Eileen Laura Corrado  
 Karina Cruz  
 Johanne Donney  
 Sabine Edjenguele  
 Brittany Fullerton  
 Baila Schlusberg  
 Evelin E. Gonzalez  
 Amanda M. Grace  
 Iodelle Empenzi Greaves  
 Kathleen Herr  
 Nicodia T. Hutchinson-Wintje  
 Natalia Ionova  
 Jahnique Sackiya Johnson  
 Nicole A. Kaiden  
 Darabeth Kraniak  
 Katarzyna A. Lanziero  
 Fedlene Lauriston-Janvier  
 Alyson M. Lee  
 Tenesha Lynise Lewis  
 Latisha Michelle Lowery  
 Orle Malebranche  
 Gillian Marshall-Calder  
 Paulina Materna  
 Grecia J. Morán  
 Meredith Anne Murphy  
 Sherifat Olushola Musa  
 Jill Myerson  
 Jennifer O. Ofosu  
 Kimberly A. Okanome  
 Alexandra C. Parisi

COLLEGE OF NURSING

**WOMEN'S  
HEALTH NURSE  
PRACTITIONER  
CONT.**

Latisha D. Philp  
Tema N. Regist  
Nathalie D. Registre  
Brianna Annika Charmaine Richards  
Dioris M. Romero  
Nataly Romero  
Marissa Anne Scialpi

Jasmille N. Serrano  
Christina M. Somma  
Sharon E. Thacheril  
Delicia Thomas  
Gabriella W. Thompson  
Elzbieta J. Trybala  
Bushra Wardak  
Emily Yashuvayeva

**NURSE EDUCATION**

Hopey Estriana Ashman  
Tasha Yvette Dean  
Anna Gleba  
Corinne Marie Goode  
Sasha-Gaye S. Persaud  
Deanna Nicole Silon  
Eddie Wu  
Wendy Yi Yun Zhao

**DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE**

Nyrva Aime  
Tatiana Alexis  
Kathleen Alfonso  
Samantha S. Bailey  
Tina Maria Cole  
Keva K. Collins  
Meda Joy Corado  
Susanna K. DeLeon  
Yvette Andrea Dolly  
Jean C. Donovan  
Islima N. Duvivier  
Edmarie A. Edwards  
Dawn Fallon  
Fenya Frenkel  
Sheyla Fundora  
Jeong-Hoon Ham

Amani Ashley Hambric  
Marina Hennedy  
Lauren A. Igbayo  
Keshia Natasha James  
Junhyung Nicolas Kim  
Esther Kutsman  
Marjorie E. Lamarque  
Marieclaude Lareche Jeanty  
Wendy E. Leiva  
Kimberly A. Lindsay  
Miriam Marciano  
Jasmine Sofia Matos  
Shelly Shamara Mc Lean  
Donna Mendonca  
Judith H. Nicholls  
Maria Maury Olivier

Olayinka N. Olutosin  
Lizette Otero  
Losikey Paulino Moquete  
Ashley Nicole Phillip  
Madhavi Ramnath  
Randall Garth Ryan  
Areeba Saboor  
Carline Sainvil  
Aska Sherpa  
Jamelia Small  
Ardita Sopi  
Oluwadamilola M. Taiwo-Oniga  
Lauren Lucy Viggiano  
Vanessa Wejuli

**ADVANCED CERTIFICATE**

**FAMILY NURSE PRACTITIONER**

Joanna Ramnarine

**NURSE EDUCATION**

Michelle A. Uzhiyekachi



# SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

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## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

### DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL IMAGING

Hiba Aslam  
Roberto A. Berton  
YiChing Chen  
Eden T. Chin  
Susanne M. Cortez  
Tiffany De Cunha  
Tasha Tiffany Fearing

Tzina R. Gimpel  
Vanessa Charmaine Halfhide  
Christina Jean-Baptiste  
Erin I. Kemelman  
Olena S. Khabarova  
Chana Kirschenbaum  
Irina Kupershteyn  
Nataliya Kuznetsov

Yushan Lin  
Sierra Agustina Margies  
Naomi M. Morris  
Meihua Naeem  
Danielle Samantha Narain  
Aline Nicole Peralta  
Kumchai PraPONPOJ  
XiaoBing Zhang

## ADVANCED CERTIFICATE OF MIDWIFERY

Alexandra Aparicio \*  
Susan Karina Campos \*  
Jaclynn Shaolynn Chen \*  
Sasha A. Deshong \*  
Alicia Anne Gagnon \*  
Tracy Okee Kwon \*

Tyla S. Leach \*  
Akilah S. Pascall \*  
Arielle C. Sooknanan \*  
Monique Shanell Varciana  
Siobhan A. Whalen \*

*\*Students graduating from Nurse Midwifery receive both the Master of Science in Nurse Midwifery from the College of Nursing and the Advanced Certificate in Midwifery from the School of Health Professions.*

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

### MEDICAL INFORMATICS

Beatrice Almonor  
Chika Amasiani  
Vasudeo Kevin Anrud  
Vanessa DaRosa  
Deboprio Dey  
Maaz A. Farooqi  
Sabreena Hussain  
Alhassan Jallow  
Vanessa A. Laguerre  
Michelle Leung  
David Liu  
Tishana A. Meggie  
Mumuni B. Musah  
Tasfin Noisik  
Oladayo Bukola Olatubosun  
Patricia Sieh  
Evelyn Suatoni  
Hermella Wondemneh  
Kapik J. Wong

### MIDWIFERY

Su Yun Hong  
Vanessa Lafortune-Remedor  
Jennifer Marie Lansiquot  
Jonique La-Sean Nurse  
Alondra J. Severino  
Ellen Kathryn Sidles  
Nichole Lynn Virag  
Jeffrey Winsauer

### OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Michelle R. Abdurakhmanova  
Victoria G. Cagle  
Tsun Yan Chow  
Hannah E. Costanzo  
Abigail Culliton  
Sarah Davis  
Julia A. Delzingaro  
Katelyn Rose Devita  
Hannah Feder  
Esther Friedman  
Hae Lim Go

Kristen Hoyt  
Christina Nneka Igbokidi  
Morgan Blake Kallenos  
Victoria Kite  
Ling Lee Kong  
Elaine Kuang  
Shulamis Y. Mammon  
James Thomas Marasco  
Natalie Monessa  
Debra M. Mulcahy  
Joanna I. Palm  
Shuyi Pan  
Amanda Lilly Puccio  
Sabiha Begum Rahman  
Leah Rischall  
Shira G. Safia  
Jane E. Sato  
Nobuko Suma  
Colleen Syms  
Cecilia E. Tillson  
Rachel Tawil  
Dorian C. Valentine

## SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

### PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT

Shelly Alkadaa  
Nadia Alomari  
Yael S. Berkowitz  
Victoria A. Bourdeau  
Chris A. Desrosin  
Sara L. Deutsch  
Sari Esses  
Eliyahu Fakheri  
Alexandra N. Greaves

Adina Hadi  
Seham Helmi  
Marissa J. Hill  
Barry M. Hinds Jr.  
Cindy Huang  
Julie Jun  
Eud-Tony P. Laborde  
Monika A. Long  
Morgan G. Manganello  
Matti Miller  
Louise C. Mozie

Hafiz Muhammad Aamir Rafiq  
Cassandre Raphael  
Jose Marcelino Rojas Jr.  
Charisse Rosario  
Jane Lisa Rupp  
Nicholas A. Russo  
Rachel D. Setareh  
Saba H. Shahbain  
Masood T. Usman  
Lilit Vardina  
Tsz Man Yeung

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH SCIENCES AND DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Shaliza A. Ally  
Emilyn Brodsky  
Azriel Moises Cocchini-Beck  
Daniel Diner  
Dhana Jasmin El Jammal  
David C. Gardiner

Emily Wei-Qi Hu  
Chih Heng Huang  
Batya Komarovsky  
Nicholas Emanuel Lazzaro  
Jenny Kam-Yin Leung  
Annamaria Lombardi

Johnnathan Martinez  
Kevin D. Morel  
Monica Popa  
Leonard Michael Schragar  
William E. Sun  
Shupin Wang

# SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

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## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

**Natasha L. Bobrowski- Khoury**

*Neural & Behavioral Science*

Modeling exposure to folate receptor alpha antibody during neural development to understand its clinical significance.

*Landreth Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Neurology at Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School*

**Luna N. Buitrago-Soto**

*Neural & Behavioral Science*

Determinants for Alzheimer's disease: An exploration of metabolic and clinical risk factors.

**Zhou Fang Chang**

*Molecular & Cellular Biology*

Complement C3 regulated cell death in myocardial ischemia/reperfusion injury.

**David Fredrick Havlicek**

*Neural & Behavioral Science*

Moderate-to-severe closed head injury induces a chronic oligodendrocytic tauopathy.

*Neurosurgery Residency, The Ohio State University*

**Sangmi Sarah Park**

*Molecular & Cellular Biology*

Type 1 diabetes and lung diseases:

Investigating the effects of hyperglycemia in the lung.

**Shwetha S. Phatarpekar**

*Neural & Behavioral Science*

The Role of ribosomal RNA in Autism spectrum disorder (ASD).

*Post-doctoral Fellow, Downstate Health Sciences University Institute for Genomic Health*

**Milena Rodriguez Alvarez**

*Neural & Behavioral Science*

Physiological and clinical insights on autonomic modulation of the inflammatory reflex.

*Clinical Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, Rheumatology Division SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University*

**Marzia Spagnardi**

*Molecular & Cellular Biology*

IL-1 $\beta$  pathway and Colon Cancer: relationship and therapeutic implications in novel colon cancer cell lines derived from African American patients.

*Postdoctoral Fellow, New York University, Langone Medical Center*

Listed on the following pages are all degree candidates from The State University of New York – Downstate Health Sciences University, who, according to the Office of the Registrar, at the time of publication of this program were eligible for the awarding of appropriate degrees and honors upon completion of prescribed work. This does not constitute the official list of those who will graduate or receive honors. Official determinations regarding graduation and honors will be made at the time of degree conferral upon submission of all final grades.

## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

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### ADVANCED CERTIFICATE IN PUBLIC HEALTH

Maisa Alam	Josef A. Duncan	Cynthia V. Saldana
Christopher A. Alvarez	Ruth Kostik Grossman	Anthony M. Thompson
Gary Asuni Bobb	Saeed Abdelhamid Hashem Hashem	Cheyenne J. Van Dyke
Jason Cephas	Hagar Kandel	Michelle R. Williams
Fiola Ilka Charles	Samuel M. Liff	Shayna Rachel Wrublik
Roudjessie Charles	Chano Mal	
Antonio Commisso	Gemma M. Medard	

### MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Malika S. Abrams	Melissa Diaz	Farjana N. Meah
Thess Acheampong	Amanda Sanna Eloma	Joshuah A. Mensah
Louisa Adowaa Adaboh	Ting Fang	Sarah Muntaz
Mubarak A. Akadri	Oyewunmi Fayomi	Christopher S. G. Murray
Lizetta E Alexander	Humira Ferdush	Arifa Naznin
Taylor Elyse Allen	Meagan Freeze	Egbebalakhamen Osa
David G. Ammirato	Mikayla Rose Fuchs	Alexmi A. Otanez Landron
Patricia E. Ansah	Sonia Gandhi	Stephanie Ottey
Blessing Chinecherem	Lorena Geilen	Wilbert E. Pacheco
Chimdinma Aroh	Nicole Mona Golbari	Jassiel Del Milagros Mena Paulino
Navid Kian Ashrafi	Anaya Gonzales	Ashley Navil Padilla
Hassan Moussa M. Attar	Hector Luis Gonzalez	Vishwanauth Persaud
Risa E. Bochner	Marvin A. Gordon	Mosammat M. Perveen
Rebeccah Bortz	Mardieurrick Gustave	Anne K. Piard
Daphne L. Brown	Diala M. Hamouche	Emmanuela Pierre
Sandra Anne Bruening	Josselyn D. Hancock	Nicole Pierrette
Brianna Helen Caldwell-Williams	Abdonnie R. Holder	Alexandra Nicolet Quintero
Juan Sebastian Carrero Munoz	Farjana Hussen	Natalie Anise Rader
Christina Charles	Rushon S. John	Ashiq Rahman
Yi-Ju Chen	Talia Fay Jubas	Nicole Jean Rashford
Natalya Chernichenko	Kundun Janaki Kamalakar	Victor S.G. Reid II
Christopher G. Chino-Marin	Salman Khan	Stephanie Roberts
Kenneth Francis Chiu	Michelle M. King	Aaliyah A. Robinson
Carl J. Chrispin	Olalekan Kunle Lanipekun	Dienta Rochani
John Andrew Cristantiello	Ishnand R. Madray	Jenna Santiago
Prutha Rajen Desai	Francesca Marie Maglione	Ashley Lude Simon
Jemima Desmangles	Vanessa Isabella Manzollillo	Kim S. Son-Nelson
Tanveen Dhallu	Julius G. Mark	Elizabeth Soto
David A. Diaz	Erica T. McLeod	Kimberly M. Steger

Demetrius Tadros  
Dylan Taylor  
Nadine Whitney Taylor  
Crystal Mary Thomas  
Donalee Thomas

Gulzhan Tologonova  
Okechukwu Ukekwe  
Joanna Elaine Walch  
Kadeen N.O. Waldron  
Brendan Patrick Walsh

Hannah N. Walsh  
Raniah A. Williams  
Edward Yi  
Josselyn Zavala

## DOCTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

**Alecia Claudia James**

Descriptive epidemiology and health-related correlates of adverse childhood experiences in New York City children: Findings from the 2019 NYC KIDS Survey.

**Maryglad Komo**

Association of dietary sodium intake and cardiovascular disease risk among US women: The SWAN study.

**Bianca D. Rivera**

An examination of the digital determinants of stroke prevention and rehabilitation in the U.S.

# COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

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## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSIOLOGY

Nadia M. Drabo

Emmaly Diana Gutierrez

Gian Pierre Izquierdo

Essence Monet Nipper

Ijeoma Chidera Okoronkwo

Raquel T. Pinto

Rubia Shahbaz

Joseph M. Tovar

Rahat Uddin

Bryan David Viveros

## DOCTOR OF MEDICINE

Christina Ines Williams Agudelo

*Interventional Radiology*

Basim Ahmad

*Family Medicine*

Maisha Ahmed

*Neurology*

Saad Ahmed

*Internal Medicine*

Kyrillos M. Akhnoukh

Anumta Akram

*Radiology-Diagnostic*

Juhayer Sakif Alam

*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Sadia Alam

*Internal Medicine*

Tabrez Alam

*General Surgery*

George P. Albert

*Neurology*

Jeremy Landers Althouse

*Emergency Medicine*

Jonathan Ryan Amaro-Barron

*Neurology*

Brandon Amirian

*Phys Medicine & Rehab*

Katie Juhyung An

*General Surgery*

Kevin Ethan Anderson

*Emergency Medicine*

Noor F. Anvery \*~

*Dermatology*

Jannat Ara

*Anesthesiology*

Vivienne Hiuwai Au \*

*Otolaryngology*

Ron Baazov

*Neurology*

Moshe Baitelman

*Surgery-Preliminary*

Suriya Baskar

*Internal Medicine*

Mitchell Bayne

*Psychiatry*

Matthew Yusuf Becker

*Anesthesiology*

Colleen Antoinette Beckford ~

*Peds-Primary/Social*

Alexandra Belzie ~

*Psychiatry*

Nicole Bogdan ~

*Internal Medicine*

Weston Lee Buehring

Joshua Rory Buksbaum

*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Stephanie Cardona

*Medicine-Preliminary*

Giovanna Marcella Castillo

*Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Lon Yin Laureen Chan

*Transitional Year*

Kevin William Chao

*Emergency Medicine*

Sonya Gilda Rache Chemouni Bach

Esther Xiao Chen

*Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Kenny Chen \*

*Anesthesiology*

Shannon Xinting Chen

Isabella Sofia Chirico

*Psychiatry*

Claire Sunha Choi

*Neurology*

Maryam Hafeez Choudhary

*Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Sydul Hasan Choudhury

*Medicine-Emergency Med*

Nafisa Chowdhury

*Medicine-Preliminary*

Gianna Cirrone\*

*Anesthesiology*

Nicholas Cirrone

*Anesthesiology*

Emily Ann Cowen\*

*Dermatology*

Kingsley Christopher Cruickshank ~

*General Surgery*

Madeline Grace D'Agostino \*

*Internal Medicine*

Matthew Robert Dawley

*Oral Surgery*

Vincent E. DeVito

*Medicine-Preliminary*

Tanveen Dhallu

*Neurology*

Marco E. Diaz-Cordova ~

*General Surgery*

Michael Ryan Dieringer \*

*Ophthalmology*

Giaynel Paulette Donatelli <i>Psychiatry</i>	Fradah Ethel Gold * <i>Ophthalmology</i>	Shivani Hewitt * <i>Anesthesiology</i>
Benjamin Frederick Drukman <i>Phys Medicine &amp; Rehab</i>	Michael Alexander Goldberg <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Matias G. Icaza Beiza ~ <i>Anesthesiology</i>
Richie Gangacharan Dubey	Antia Itzel Gomez ~ <i>Psychiatry</i>	Roseline O. Idoko <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Owen Washington Edwards ~	Fred Gong <i>Urology</i>	Alexander Svetaslav Imas <i>Internal Med/Prim Care</i>
Joanna Eichler * <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Diana Maria Gonzalez-Golden <i>Pediatrics</i>	Karen Izquierdo <i>Anesthesiology</i>
Alana Marie Engelbrecht *~ <i>Pediatrics</i>	Jigar Govind *~ <i>Otolaryngology</i>	Marlo Jacobson Carter <i>Pediatrics</i>
Jose Rafael Erazo Paz <i>Pediatrics</i>	Alexandra Rachel Greenberg *~ <i>Family Medicine</i>	Karl-Ray Olivier Jeune * <i>Urology</i>
Gabrielle M. Estevez-Inoa ~ <i>Pediatrics</i>	Erica Yun Griffith	Talia Fay Jubas <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Hannah Esther Every <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Sierrah Marie Grigsby * <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Gabriel Kabarriti <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Dominick Farina <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Lauren Brooke Gruffi *~ <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Nikhil Venkat Kasarla <i>Anesthesiology</i>
Sohaib A. Fasih-Ahmad	Sharon Alison Guzmán <i>Medicine-Preliminary</i>	Wajiha Kazmi ~ <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Rafael A. Fernandez * <i>General Surgery</i>	Bana Hadid * <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Lindsay Anna Kenney
Anna Pavlovna Fomitchova <i>General Surgery</i>	Lindsay Elaine Haefner <i>General Surgery</i>	Perry Andrew Kerner ~ <i>Vascular Surgery</i>
Shannon Kathryn Kelly Frank	Stefan Nicholas Hamaway <i>Phys Medicine &amp; Rehab</i>	Nabil Zaman Khan <i>Orthopaedic Surgery</i>
Jacob M. Gaines <i>Urology</i>	Hajaru Tijani Hamza <i>Family Medicine</i>	Michelle Ki * <i>General Surgery</i>
Fernando Alejandro Garcia <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Ryan M. Harrington <i>Psychiatry</i>	Ethan Sebastian Kidde <i>Neurology</i>
Lucas Garcia Reinoso <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Nozomi Paula Harris-Koizumi <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Angela Hyun Ju Kim <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Kyra L. Gassmann * <i>Urology</i>	David Fredrick Havlicek <i>Neurological Surgery</i>	Tony Jaewon Kim <i>Oral Surgery</i>
Lorena Geilen <i>Psychiatry</i>	Nissim Hazkour * <i>Plastic Surgery</i>	Andriy Kobryn <i>Orthopaedic Surgery</i>
Christopher D. George* <i>Dermatology</i>	Cassandra V. Heaney * <i>Urology</i>	Arif Koxha <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Blake Spencer Gershon <i>Interventional Radiology</i>	Hindy H. Herbst <i>Family Medicine</i>	Masha Kolesnikova <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Sabrina Adriane Ghalili <i>Dermatology</i>	Allyson Maria Hernandez * <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Ryan M. Kong <i>Otolaryngology</i>
Kimanthi Gicovi <i>Thoracic Surgery</i>	Rodrigo Jose Hernandez <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Christopher Kotsis <i>Family Medicine</i>
Isabella Giunta * <i>Internal Medicine</i>		

## COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Oscar Robert Krol	Marc Alfred Moscatelli	Ahmad Raafat Saleh * <i>Surgery-Preliminary</i>
Aaron Kuang <i>Neurology</i>	Saskia Iris Naegele * <i>Otolaryngology</i>	Monica Saw-Aung <i>Pediatrics</i>
Nina Shiv Kumar *~ <i>Pediatrics</i>	Electra Nassis <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Molly Adelman Schneider ~ <i>Pediatrics</i>
Hyuck-Jin Daniel Kwon <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Ahsan Nawaz	Lisa Marie Scott ~
Rory Langan ~ <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Toan M. Nguyen ~ <i>Psychiatry</i>	Aniqa Salma Shah <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Shuhan Li *~ <i>Medicine-Emergency Med</i>	Kevin T. Nicholas <i>General Surgery</i>	Gavriel Shimonov <i>Family Medicine</i>
Shuojohn Li * <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Raymond John Noonan * <i>Neurology</i>	Menachem Shimonov <i>Radiology-Diagnostic</i>
Tai Lai Li <i>Family Medicine</i>	Meghan Patricia O'Keefe <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Jaewoo Shin <i>Psychiatry</i>
Erica Licari <i>Pediatrics</i>	Zachary Tyler Olmsted * <i>Neurological Surgery</i>	Omar Mohammad Siddique <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Anna Lin <i>Radiology-Diagnostic</i>	Ariana Sha'uri Otto ~ <i>Neurology</i>	Kathleen G. Simons ~ <i>Anesthesiology</i>
Isaac Ethan Lipsky <i>Neurology</i>	Linda Pak <i>Internal Medicine</i>	José Ifê Kossi Sinon <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Kahmun Lo <i>Pediatrics</i>	Noah Jordan Panitch <i>Urology</i>	Heidi Sosa ~ <i>Emergency Medicine</i>
Deepti Deepak Mahajan <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Sahil Sandip Parikh <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Hadassah Stein ~ <i>Radiology-Diagnostic</i>
Ryan Scott Marder *	Neil P. Patel <i>Orthopaedic Surgery</i>	Lora D. Stoianova <i>Medicine-Primary</i>
Andrea Nadine Martinez <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Radhika Patel <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Daniel Edward Suarez <i>Otolaryngology</i>
Marzuk Mohammad Masub <i>Pediatrics</i>	Justine Irene Pollack <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Nicholas V. Sullivan <i>Phys Medicine &amp; Rehab</i>
Joel P. Mathew <i>Ob-Gyn/Preliminary</i>	Andrew Blaise Porrazzo <i>Neurology</i>	Nicholas Edward Tan ~ <i>Ophthalmology</i>
Joseph Mayer * <i>Anesthesiology</i>	Alexandros Prokopiou <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Bertilia Venecia Tavárez *~ <i>Internal Medicine</i>
O'Brian Obinnaya Mbakwe <i>Internal Medicine</i>	Franco Arturo Revello	Gardenia Taza <i>Internal Medicine</i>
Matthew Vincent Merola <i>Pediatrics</i>	Jacob Brentnell Robinson <i>General Surgery</i>	Adira Teitelbaum <i>Pediatrics</i>
Takisha Joanne Morancy ~ <i>Emergency Medicine</i>	Alexander Rompala <i>Orthopaedic Surgery</i>	Azriel Teitelbaum <i>Psychiatry</i>
Ariana J. Moreno * <i>Dermatology</i>	Charlotte W. Ruby *~ <i>Pediatrics</i>	



## COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

Teguru Tembo \*  
*Radiology-Diagnostic*

Jason Truong ~  
*Emergency Medicine*

Galina Udod  
*Emergency Medicine*

Dov Vachss  
*Internal Medicine*

Athena M. Vallejo  
*Family Medicine*

Alejandro Vega  
*Surgery-Preliminary*

Gayatri Venkataraman  
*Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Nicole Rachel Vingan  
*Plastic Surgery*

Radhika Viswanathan \*~  
*Obstetrics-Gynecology*

Thy Minh Ha Vo  
*Anesthesiology*

Spencer Waldman \*  
*Radiology-Diagnostic*

Annette S. Wang

Kelita Waterton

Ian Benjamin Winthrop  
*Orthopaedic Surgery*

Wen Ting Yang  
*Internal Medicine*

Tatyana Yatsenko  
*Urology*

Johnny Ye  
*Psychiatry*

Zachary Hongliang Ye  
*Internal Medicine*

Esther Heeran Yoo  
*Anesthesiology*

Katarzyna Zaniewska  
*Pediatrics*

*Denotes:*

\* *Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society*

~ *Gold Humanism Honor Society*

## DISTINCTION IN RESEARCH

Christina Ines Williams Agudelo

Jonathan Ryan Amaro-Barron

Mitchell Bayne

Joshua Rory Buksbaum

Stephanie Cardona

Gabrielle M. Estevez-Inoa

Christopher D. George

Fradah Ethel Gold

Fred Gong

Stefan Nicholas Hamaway

Nissim Hazkour

Wajiha Kazmi

Nabil Zaman Khan

Masha Kolesnikova

Ryan M. Kong

Anna Lin

Takisha Joanne Morancy

Saskia Iris Naegele

Ahmad Raafat Saleh

Alejandro Vega

Nicole Rachel Vingan

## COMMENDATION IN INVESTIGATIVE SCHOLARSHIP

Joseph Mayer

# Honorary Degree Recipients

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## **Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D.**

*Honorary Doctor of Science*

Emery Neal Brown, M.D., Ph.D., is an acclaimed American statistician, neuroscientist, and anesthesiologist, and one of the world's foremost experts on developing signal processing methods for neuroscience data analysis. His work in the field of anesthesiology is considered transformative.

Dr. Brown is the Warren M. Zapol Professor of Anaesthesia at Harvard Medical School and Massachusetts General Hospital (MGH). At the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), he is the Edward Hood Taplin Professor of Medical Engineering, Professor of Computational Neuroscience, and Professor of Health Sciences and Technology in the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory and in the Institute for Medical Engineering and Science. He served for 10 years as the Director of the Harvard-MIT Program in Health Sciences and Technology.

Dr. Brown is one of only 25 individuals who have been elected to the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine. He is an elected member of the National Academy of Inventors and is the first and only anesthesiologist to be elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. Dr. Brown is also an elected fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the IEEE, the American Statistical Association and the Institute for Mathematical Statistics.

## **Neural Signal Processing Algorithms and the Nature of General Anesthesia**

Dr. Brown is a pioneer in developing signal processing and statistical methods for analyzing neuroscience data. He and his team have used these frameworks in numerous applications, ranging from measuring the period of the human biological clock and establishing the relationship between learning and hippocampal function to assessing the effectiveness of deep brain stimulation on behavioral performance and how the brain represents movement information.

Another area of Dr. Brown's research lies within the field of anesthesiology. In collaboration with neuroscientists, engineers, mathematicians and clinicians from MIT, Massachusetts General Hospital, and Boston University, Dr. Brown has used his systems neuroscience approach to study anesthesia's effects on the brain. His research draws from mathematical modeling and studies of neurophysiological recordings (EEG, local field potentials and neural spike trains) in humans, non-human primates and rodents.

He has been able to define with precision anesthesia-induced loss of consciousness, as well as its

subsequent recovery, and he has shown that the level of unconsciousness produced by different classes of anesthesia medications can be characterized by analyzing oscillatory patterns observed in EEGs. These patterns change systematically with anesthetic class (the receptors and neural circuits the agents target), anesthetic dose, patient age and patient state of health. Indeed, there are significant oscillatory differences between very young children and the elderly.

The result of Brown's research has been a new paradigm for brain monitoring during general anesthesia for surgery, one that allows an anesthesiologist to dose a patient based on EEG readouts (neural oscillations) of the patient's anesthetic state rather than purely based on vital sign responses. The long-term goal of this research is to establish safer, site-specific anesthetic drugs, and to develop better neurophysiologically based methods for measuring and controlling the states of general anesthesia.

Dr. Brown holds bachelor's, master's, M.D., and Ph.D. degrees from Harvard. He completed his internship in internal medicine and a research fellowship in endocrinology at the Brigham and Women's Hospital, and his residency in anesthesiology at MGH.

Dr. Brown served on President Barack Obama's BRAIN Initiative Working Group, the NIH Council of Councils, the National Science Foundation Mathematics and Physical Sciences Advisory Committee, the Board of Directors of the Burroughs-Wellcome Fund, the Board of Trustees of the International Anesthesia Research Society, and the Scientific Advisory Committee of CURE Epilepsy. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Guggenheim Foundation and the Board of Trustees of the Simon's Foundation.

Dr. Brown is the recipient of a National Institute of Mental Health Independent Scientist Award, an NIH Director's Pioneer Award (the first anesthesiologist and the first statistician to receive this award), an NIH Director's Transformative Research Award, the 2011 Jerome Sacks Award from the National Institute of Statistical Science, a Guggenheim Fellowship in Applied Mathematics in 2015 and the 2015 Excellence in Research Award from the American Society of Anesthesiologists. Recent awards include the Dickson Prize in Science from Carnegie Mellon University in 2019, the Swartz Prize for Theoretical and Computational Neuroscience from the Society for Neuroscience in 2020, and the 2022 Pierre M. Galletti Award from the American Institute of Medical and Biological Engineering. He is a co-winner of the 2022 Gruber Neuroscience Prize.

Dr. Brown holds several patents. He has published widely on topics in computational neuroscience and

anesthesiology and is co-author of a definitive textbook on neuroscience data analysis. Dr. Brown's anesthesiology research has been featured on National Public Radio, in *Scientific American*, the *MIT Technology Review*, and the *New York Times*, among other venues.

## **Nancy-Ann DeParle, J.D.**

*Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters*

Nancy-Ann DeParle is a healthcare policy expert nationally known for her significant contributions to addressing health disparities and healthcare access barriers among disadvantaged populations. She served in several positions in the Obama Administration, including as Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy. Currently, she is a managing partner in the private equity firm Consonance Capital Partners.

### **Serving the Public Good Through Public Health Policy**

When Barack Obama was inaugurated as the 44th President of the United States in January 2009, 51 million Americans were without health insurance. Millions more lacked access to quality care. Healthcare reform became one of President Obama's top priorities. To lead his efforts to enact the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and manage its initial implementation, President Obama reached out to Nancy-Ann DeParle.

Serving as Counselor to the President and Director of the Office of Health Reform, a position she held from 2009 to 2011, Ms. DeParle managed White House and interagency processes, helped bridge House-Senate differences, and served as the President's "point guard," as he called her. Her administrative and political skills proved vital in negotiations on the complex and massive overhaul of the U.S. health system. Ms. DeParle managed dozens of senior and junior White House Staff in weekly and sometimes daily meetings as she worked through the ACA's design, supported Congressional staff in analyzing its impact, considered hundreds of amendments during committee markups, and oversaw public engagement.

Even in the face of legal challenges, the law Ms. DeParle stewarded continues to positively impact the nation. Access to health care has expanded, health outcomes have improved, and healthcare spending is better controlled. Over 40 million Americans now have health coverage through the Affordable Care Act.

Following the bill's passage, President Obama promoted Ms. DeParle to Assistant to the President and Deputy Chief of Staff for Policy, a post she held from 2011 to 2013. In this role, she oversaw all policy and regulatory matters for the White House.

Ms. DeParle had previously worked in the Clinton Administration. Between 1993 and 1997, she served as Associate Director for Health and Personnel in the Office of Management & Budget. From 1997 to 2000, Ms. DeParle was the administrator of the Health Care Financing Administration (renamed the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services in 2001). She oversaw \$600B in annual Medicare, Medicaid, and CHIP spending during her tenure there. In addition, she addressed the enormous administrative challenges introduced into the Medicare payment system by the 1997 Balanced Budget Act, which included the most significant reductions to Medicare spending in the program's history and extended the life of the Medicare Trust Fund by more than a decade. Ms. DeParle also implemented the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP), which now covers more than 10 million uninsured low-income children.

After leaving the White House in 2013, Ms. DeParle was a Lecturer in Law at Harvard Law School and a Visiting Scholar in Economic Studies at the Brookings Institute. From 2006-2009, she was a managing director of CCMP Capital Advisors. Ms. DeParle was also a Senior Fellow of Health Systems at the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and a trustee of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. In addition, from 2002-2008, she was a commissioner of the Medicare Payment Commission (MedPAC), which advises Congress on Medicare policy matters.

Today, Ms. DeParle is a managing partner and co-founder of Consonance Capital Partners (CCP). This private equity firm focuses on investing in the U.S. healthcare industry, helping build businesses with innovative concepts aimed at efficiency, cost containment, and high-quality patient care. CCP has raised over \$1.3B in equity capital across two funds to date. In addition, Ms. DeParle serves as a director of CVS Health and HCA Healthcare, and as a trustee of Duke University.

A native of Rockwood, Tennessee, Ms. DeParle received a B.A. with highest honors from the University of Tennessee and a J.D. from Harvard Law School. She also received a B.A. and M.A. in Politics and Economics from Balliol College of Oxford University, where she was a Rhodes Scholar. In 2021 she was elected to the National Academy of Medicine.

# The President's Award Recipients and Commencement Speaker

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## **Eva B. Cramer, Ph.D.**

*The President's Award Recipient*

Eva Brown Cramer, Ph.D., Distinguished Service Professor of Cell Biology and Vice President for Biotechnology and Scientific Affairs, has profoundly impacted SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University and its surrounding community. Downstate has established itself and Brooklyn as a leader in New York City's growing biotechnology sector through her efforts.

Dr. Cramer designed and implemented a comprehensive strategic plan that addressed the industry's critical needs. Her plan, launched in 2014, included constructing the Biotech Incubator adjacent to Downstate's main campus and establishing the BioBAT site at the Brooklyn Army Terminal for biotech expansion and manufacturing. Dr. Cramer also developed symbiotic relationships between biotech companies and Downstate, and implemented workforce development programs.

She received her Ph.D. from Thomas Jefferson University, School of Medicine, in 1969 and did her postdoctoral training at the College of Physicians and Surgeons of Columbia University. Dr. Cramer came to Downstate in 1973 after spending two years as an Instructor in the Anatomy Department at Harvard Medical School. She was an Adjunct Associate Professor in the Cellular Physiology and Immunology Laboratory at The Rockefeller University from 1982 to 1986. Dr. Cramer became a full Professor of Anatomy and Cell Biology at Downstate in 1988. She was named to The State University's highest faculty rank, the Distinguished Service Professor, in 2006.

Dr. Cramer has published numerous research articles and book chapters and has been the recipient of grants from various organizations, including the National Institutes of Health and the American Heart Association. In addition, she holds a patent on a device for growing and testing biological materials.

## **Mantosh J. Dewan, M.D.**

*The President's Award Recipient and Commencement Speaker*

Mantosh Dewan, M.D., is President and SUNY Distinguished Service Professor, Upstate Medical University in Syracuse, New York, where he has also served as Director of Undergraduate Education, Director of Residency Training, and Chair of the Department of Psychiatry. He was interim Dean of the College of Medicine from 2016-17. His 80 papers, 35 books and book chapters, and hundreds of presentations are on topics that range from brain imaging and economics of mental health care to psychotherapy and medical education.

His work has been funded by grants from the National Institute of Mental Health [NIMH] and Health Resources and Services Administration [HRSA]. He is co-Editor of two books: *The Difficult to Treat Psychiatric Patient* [2001], which has been translated into Italian and Spanish and *The Art and Science of Brief Psychotherapies* [2004], a best seller now in its 3rd edition [2018], which has been translated into Italian, Japanese, Taiwanese, Turkish and Chinese and chosen for the Core Competencies in Psychotherapy Series by the American Psychiatric Associations' press.

He had an active clinical practice and is listed in *The Best Doctors in America*. He is a Distinguished Life Fellow of the American Psychiatric Association and has received numerous prestigious awards: the Scientific Achievement Award from the Indo-American Psychiatrists Association, the Exemplary Psychiatrist Award from National Alliance for the Mentally Ill, the 2010 George Tarjan Award from the American Psychiatric Association, the 2018 Gentile Advocacy Award from NAMI Syracuse, designated an "Exemplary Chair" by SUNY in 2011, Syracuse University's Chancellor's Medal in 2021, an Honorary Degree from Onondaga Community College in 2021 and the Council of the Upstate Medical University Award for Exemplary Service in 2022.

He has served on the Editorial Board of *Annals of Clinical Psychiatry and Surgical Neurology* and on the International Advisory Board of the *Irish Journal of Psychological Medicine*. He is also an Affiliated Professor in Quality improvement and Leadership at Jonkoping Academy for Improvement of Health and Welfare, the School of Health Sciences, Jonkoping University in Sweden since 2013.

# Messages to the Alumni

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## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION OF THE COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

718.270.2075 | [www.downstate.edu/alumni](http://www.downstate.edu/alumni)

To the Class of 2023,

It is a great point of privilege for me to congratulate you, the Class of 2023, on this momentous achievement.

As we continue to emerge from the pandemic, rest assured the College of Medicine spirit of perseverance and progress were evident throughout the 2022-2023 academic year, and we continue to find hope as you graduate today and move into this next season of your careers.

Today is not the end of your relationship with the College of Medicine—it's only the beginning. You may not realize it, but on the day, you accepted your offer of admission from College of Medicine at SUNY Downstate, you joined a lifelong community. In fact, you joined more than a community—you joined a family. And just like your own family, you remain a member of the College of Medicine family for life. You share a common bond with thousands of other College of Medicine alumni out there in the world. Every time you see someone wearing a College of Medicine sweatshirt, or whenever you read about the accomplishments of a fellow alumnus, it is my hope that you'll feel a sense of pride and nostalgia.

As you depart College of Medicine, I challenge you, each in your own way, to allow your academic experiences at College of Medicine to serve as the foundation upon which you build productive careers. Allow your social interactions with faculty, staff, administrators, and your fellow students to guide you as you interact with individuals in the workplace and in society and allow the College's commitment to you to be a model for your commitment back to yourself, your family, your community, and your alma mater.

It is my desire for you to live richly, satisfying personal lives filled with love and laughter, to find ways to make your community a better place for yourselves and your neighbors, to grow, and to continue learning for the rest of your lives. Remember that you are conquerors, and you have the courage and the strength to overcome every obstacle set before you.

Graduates, each of you has successfully completed multiple years of rigorous training and skill development to earn your degree. You have proven your readiness for success. Now you have a different job to do, for the greatest things have not been done. I have been consistently impressed and invigorated with stories shared about the research and work you've conducted over your academic journey. With its rigor and required work ethic, you will be able to face nearly anything in life. Here is to you, the next generation of doctors and the newest members of the College of Medicine SUNY Downstate Alumni Family!

My charge to you is to see the horizon not as a limit, but as an invitation. The torch has been passed to you with the expectation that you will hold it higher and carry it farther than those who walked before you.

Congratulations once again on this amazing milestone, graduating from the College of Medicine is an achievement you can be proud of for the rest of your life.

With all good wishes,

**Anne Marie Beddoe, M.D., MPH '78**

*President*

*Alumni Association of the College of Medicine*

*The State University of New York*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

## SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

[www.downstate.edu/alumni](http://www.downstate.edu/alumni)

Dear SOHP 2023 Graduate,

Congratulations Class of 2023! We are proud to welcome each one of you as a Downstate Health Sciences University, School of Health Professions (SOHP) alumna/alumnus, where many alumni before you are outstanding examples in the field of healthcare.

The SOHP has a long history of educating students preparing them for a variety of healthcare careers, namely physician assistants, occupational therapists, physical therapists, diagnostic medical sonographers, midwives, and medical informaticists. We are committed to continuing to serve you, our newest alumni, through evidence-based professional development and continuing education, networking activities, and fun events. We need your help to be successful in these endeavors.

Joining the SOHP Alumni Association helps to ensure that our students have an opportunity to interact with homegrown healthcare professionals as mentors. Your

time and talents as alumni can benefit students who are matriculating as well as help attract new students.

We hope that you consider staying active with the SOHP family as a way to give back to the institution that helped put you on track to become an exceptional healthcare professional. There are many ways you can be involved.

Please continue to visit us on the website, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook for information on future Alumni activities. You may also contact Assistant Dean Phillip Bones (SOHP Alumni Association Contact Person: [phillip.bones@downstate.edu](mailto:phillip.bones@downstate.edu)).

No matter where you are, we want to reach out and engage with you.

Sincerely,

**Allen Lewis, Ph.D., CRC**

*Dean and Professor*

*School of Health Professions*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

## COLLEGE OF NURSING

[www.downstate.edu/alumni](http://www.downstate.edu/alumni)

Congratulations, New Alumni of the College of Nursing!

On behalf of the College of Nursing, I would like to congratulate and welcome the class of 2023 to our alumni family. For our new alumni, and as well as our existing alumni, please consider our invitation to get involved.

There are many opportunities for you to participate in our vibrant college, such as serving on my advisory board, as guest speakers and on student panels, support for current students through a mentoring relationship, or supporting our college through monetary gifts. We seek your continued support, and we need you!

There are currently two ways to make a gift. I established the *Nursing Cares Fund* in 2019 to assist Downstate College of Nursing students in meeting immediate financial expenses due to unforeseen, temporary hardships. Awards not exceeding \$500 are made to eligible nursing students in an effort to maintain academic progression and well-being in the student's program of study. Covered expenses for students experiencing hardship include textbooks, travel costs due to death or illness of an immediate family member, medications, eyeglasses, food, technological support, clothing, shelter, or disaster relief.

The other opportunity for gift-giving is through our *College of Nursing Giving Tree*. The Giving Tree provides scholarships for students who excel academically, clinically, or who demonstrate outstanding leadership.

Your donation to the Growing the Future of Nursing Giving Tree will help us continue to achieve our mission and to enhance the educational experience of our students. The hand-crafted tree is located at the entrance of the College of Nursing and welcomes our students, faculty, staff, and guests. As your donations accrue, the tree will continue to grow. Please consider commemorating a loved one or acknowledging a special achievement.

For more information about how to support the future of the College of Nursing, visit our web site:

<https://www.downstate.edu/education-training/college-of-nursing/giving-tree/index.html>

I would love to hear from you if you are interested in becoming involved as a College of Nursing alumnus. I am pleased to work alongside each of you as we move forward together to provide outstanding nursing education and change the world as Downstate nurses!

Please stay in touch and update your address with Ms. Karen Thomas at [Karen.Thomas-Lovell@downstate.edu](mailto:Karen.Thomas-Lovell@downstate.edu) and, as always, feel free to contact me at [lori.escallier@downstate.edu](mailto:lori.escallier@downstate.edu)

My very best wishes,

**Lori Escallier, Ph.D., RN, CPNP-PC, FAAN**

*Dean, College of Nursing*

*Downstate Health Sciences University*

## SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

[www.downstate.edu/alumni](http://www.downstate.edu/alumni)

To the New Alumni of the School of Public Health,

Congratulations on your success! Your degree represents your commitment and hard work, and I hope you take a moment to reflect on your accomplishments. As you venture forward, please don't hesitate to engage with the Downstate community. I would encourage you to keep in contact with your peers and professors, not only to stay abreast of potential opportunities for career enhancement and community engagement, but to help support the next generation of leaders in public health as well. The diversity of the Downstate Community and its unifying dedication to service are what make it unique, and your newfound voice as an alumni and public health professional is an invaluable resource. I look forward to building a stronger Downstate community alongside you while promoting health and wellness for all into the future!

Best wishes in your endeavors!

### **Jake Littman**

*SPH alumnus '20*

*Chair, SPH Alumni Advisory Board*

*[jakelouislittman@gmail.com](mailto:jakelouislittman@gmail.com)*

## SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

[www.downstate.edu/alumni](http://www.downstate.edu/alumni)

Dear New Alumni of the School of Graduate Studies,

Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone in your career!

First, if we can help with anything, please do not hesitate to reach out to us – we will do everything we can to help you navigate your careers.

Second, we would love to engage you in the future, e.g., as a seminar speaker and/or career role model.

Thank you for your contributions to SGS and don't forget to reach back and lend a hand, or your experience, where you can. Let's stay in touch!

Best wishes in your every endeavor,

### **David Christini, Ph.D.**

*Senior Vice President for Research and*

*Interim Dean, School of Graduate Studies*



# Faculty and Staff Serving as Marshals

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## **Saren Ahearn, PT, DPT, Dip ACLM**

Assistant Professor, Physical Therapy,  
School of Health Professions

## **Yaacov Anziska, M.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of  
Neurology, College of Medicine

## **Riccardo Bianchi, Ph.D.**

Associate Dean for Foundations of  
Medicine, College of Medicine

## **Marlene Camacho-Rivera, Sc.D., MS, MPH**

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, School  
of Public Health

## **Camille Clare, M.D., MPH, CPE**

Chair, Department of Obstetrics and  
Gynecology, College of Medicine

## **Eva Cramer, Ph.D.**

Distinguished Service Professor,  
Department of Cell Biology, College of  
Medicine

Vice President for Biotechnology and  
Scientific Affairs

## **Anika Daniels-Osaze, Ed.D., MPH**

Associate Dean for Education, School of  
Public Health

## **Daniel Ehlke, Ph.D., MA**

Associate Professor, Department of Health  
Policy and Management, School of Public  
Health

## **Mohammad Faysel, Ph.D.**

Chair and Associate Professor, Medical  
Informatics, School of Health Professions

## **Sharon A. Glick, M.D., FAAD, FAAP**

Interim Chair and Program Director,  
Department of Dermatology, College of  
Medicine

## **Rivka Hellmann, MS, RDMS, RDCS, RVT**

Clinical Associate Professor and Clinical  
Coordinator, Diagnostic Medical Imaging  
Program, School of Health Professions

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Assistant Professor, Director, RN-BS  
Nursing Program, College of Nursing

## **Richard Kollmar, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Cell  
Biology, College of Medicine

## **Crystal Marquez, M.D.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Family  
and Community Medicine, College of  
Medicine

## **Samuel Márquez, Ph.D.**

Professor & Co-Director of Gross  
Anatomy, College of Medicine, Director of  
Anatomical Donor Program

## **Laura Martello-Rooney, Ph.D.**

Director of GI Research, Division of  
Gastroenterology and Hepatology, School  
of Graduate Studies

## **Isabel M. McFarlane, M.D., FACP**

Clinical Assistant Professor and Director,  
Third-Year Medicine Clerkship, College of  
Medicine

## **Jeanne McHugh, Ph.D., R.N., APRN, ACNS-BC, FNYAM**

Associate Professor, Director, Accelerated  
BS in Nursing Program, College of Nursing

## **Jeanine O'Hagan Murphy, DNP, FNP-BC**

Assistant Professor, Director FNP Program,  
College of Nursing

## **Katherine L. Perkins, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Physiology and  
Pharmacology, College of Medicine

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Vice President for Academic &  
Student Affairs

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Associate Dean, Academic Affairs,  
Associate Professor, College of Nursing

## **Marie Claire Roberts, Ph.D., MS, M.P.A., R.N.**

Associate Dean for Research and  
Evaluation, Associate Professor, College of  
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## **Christopher A. J. Román, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor and Vice Chair of Cell  
Biology, College of Medicine

## **Edison Ruiz, MPH, PA-C**

Assistant Professor/Clinical Coordinator,  
Physician Assistant Program, School of  
Health Professions

## **Nataliya Shaforst, DNP, FNP-C, CDCES**

Assistant Professor, Director, DNP  
Program, College of Nursing

## **Beth Steinfeld, DNP, WHNP-B**

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Programs, College of Nursing

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Assistant Program, School of Health  
Professions

## **Fredric C. Volkert, Ph.D.**

Associate Professor, Department of Cell  
Biology, Associate Dean for Educational  
Development, College of Medicine

## **Tracey E. Wilson, Ph.D.**

Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs and  
Research, Distinguished Service Professor,  
School of Public Health

# SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University

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SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University is one of four academic health science centers within the 64-unit State University of New York. SUNY Downstate includes the College of Medicine, School of Graduate Studies, College of Nursing, School of Health Professions, School of Public Health, a major research center, several biotechnology sites, and University Hospital at Downstate.

The year 2023 marks the 164<sup>th</sup> anniversary of SUNY Downstate's emergence as a leader in American medical education. In 1860, the Collegiate Division of the Long Island College Hospital (as it was then known) first opened its doors to students. The school revolutionized medicine in the United States: for the first time in this country, the teaching of medicine was brought to the hospital bedside and the idea that physicians should be trained exclusively in university classrooms and lecture halls was rejected.

In 1931, the school was rechartered as the Long Island College of Medicine. The "Downstate" era began on April 5, 1950, when a merger contract was signed between the Long Island College of Medicine and the newly constituted State University of New York. Several years later, Downstate's current flagship campus was built in East Flatbush, Brooklyn. In April 1953, ground was broken for the Basic Sciences Building, and President Dwight D. Eisenhower laid the cornerstone in 1954. The complex was expanded in 1966 with the opening of University Hospital at Downstate, the School of Health Professions, and the College of Nursing. The School of Public Health was established in 2009. In 2019, Downstate's name was

officially changed to SUNY Downstate Health Sciences University, to more accurately capture the total breadth of the institution's contributions to higher education, scholarship, workforce development, and healthcare.

Today, SUNY Downstate is the focal point of a health education network that encompasses numerous healthcare sites. It offers students broad professional education opportunities, especially for those committed to combating the spread of disease and eliminating health disparities in urban and underserved communities. It plays an important role, nationally and regionally, in the physician and healthcare-professional supply chain. The College of Medicine ranks fourth among the nation's 157 accredited medical schools in the number of graduates who hold an active license to practice medicine and is the top producer of physicians in New York State and New York City.

Downstate faculty members were the first to produce full-body human images using magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and the first to successfully perform open-heart surgery in New York State. We were the first to establish a federally funded dialysis clinic in the United States, prove that alcoholism has a genetic link, conduct a federal study of perinatal transmission of HIV disease, and identify the important role that nitric oxide plays in cardiovascular health.

This last discovery led to the award of the 1998 Nobel Prize for Medicine or Physiology to the late Downstate faculty member Dr. Robert F. Furchgott.

## Land Acknowledgment

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We recognize that the venue in which we are celebrating sits on the traditional homelands of the people of the Lenape. The land is both seized and occupied territory of the Lenape People. We honor the Indigenous caretakers of these lands and waters, the elders who lived here before, the Indigenous today, and the generations

to come. We recognize, support, and advocate for Indigenous individuals and communities. By offering this Land Acknowledgement, we support Indigenous autonomy and will work to hold ourselves more accountable to the needs of Indigenous peoples.

# The Academic Procession

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The procession is led by the presiding marshal. Other members of the procession include faculty marshals (chosen by the graduates), faculty members, deans, honorary degree recipients, and the president of SUNY Downstate.

The academic gown worn by procession members is said to be symbolic of the “democracy of scholarship,” for it covers any dress of rank or social standing underneath.

Academic gowns originated in the Middle Ages, the period when universities were beginning to take form. At that time, most scholars were also clerics and therefore dressed as clerics, in long gowns. Over time, the gown became the accepted dress code for scholars: in England, in the second half of the 14th century, for example, several colleges forbade “excess in apparel” and decreed the wearing of long gowns.

The assignment of colors to signify different academic disciplines developed much later, and was standardized in the United States in the late 19th century. In 1895, an intercollegiate commission composed of representatives from leading colleges established a code of academic dress that prescribed cut, style, and materials of the gowns, as well as colors to represent different fields of learning. Today, academic dress code is regulated

by a formal Committee on Academic Costumes and Ceremonies created by the American Council on Education in 1952.

The gown is usually black for all degrees, with variations in the sleeves, the front cut, and trim. The bachelor’s degree gown is black with long pointed sleeves. The master’s degree gown is black without trim and has oblong sleeves so the upper part of the arm comes through the slit in the sleeve. Doctoral (Ph.D.) gowns are black with bell-shaped sleeves. Mortarboards (caps) with tassels have their own significance. Master’s and bachelor’s tassels are black, while the Ph.D. tassel may be black or gold; medicine is green.

Hood colors indicate the field of learning: dark blue-philosophy; green-medicine; light blue-education; apricot-nursing; golden yellow-science; white-history; purple-law; dark blue-psychology; salmon-public health; and teal-physical therapy.

Details of academic attire may vary depending on where faculty members completed their degrees. Some foreign degree holders, for example, wear special hats, distinctive to their degree and institution. Whatever the differences, however, the governing tradition is continuity of the academic symbols from the Middle Ages.

# The SUNY Board of Trustees

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## OATH OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

As a member of the graduating classes of the School of Health Professions and the College of Nursing,

I solemnly pledge my commitment to the faithful practice of my profession and the provision of high-quality healthcare services, scientific inquiry, and the collective actions necessary to protect and advance the health of all people, with honesty, integrity, and dedication.

I recognize and value human diversity and will provide individualized services for all who seek my care or assistance and respect the rights, values, beliefs, and cultures of those individuals and communities with whom I work.

I will hold as my primary responsibility the health, safety, welfare, and dignity of all human beings.

I will hold in confidence the information shared in the course of my professional service.

I will rely on evidence to support my decisions and actions, and translate that evidence into policies and programs that improve health for all.

I will accept responsibility for my actions and uphold the standards of my profession.

I will actively seek to expand my knowledge and skills as I engage in lifelong learning.

I will add to the body of research and knowledge and share my discoveries.

I will use my experiences to contribute to an improved community and will seek new information and be open to ideas that can better protect and promote the health of individuals in my care and the health of populations.

I will advance health literacy for all and seek equity and justice for vulnerable populations.

My functions and goals are based upon my commitment to the expansion of medical knowledge and the improvement of public health and healthcare for all those in need of the skills of my profession.

I make these commitments freely and with honor.

## THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH

I do solemnly swear by that  
which I hold most sacred:

That I will be loyal to the profession of medicine  
and just and generous to its members;

That I will lead my life and practice my art  
in uprightness and honor;

That whatever house I shall enter, it shall be for the  
good of the sick to the utmost of my power;

That I will hold myself aloof from wrong;

That I will exercise my art solely for the cure of my  
patients, and will give no drug and perform no  
operation for a wrongful purpose;

That whatsoever I shall see or hear of the lives of  
men and women that should not be spoken,  
I will keep secret;

These I do promise, and, in proportion as I am  
faithful to this my oath, may happiness and good  
repute be ever mine.



**DOWNSTATE**  
HEALTH SCIENCES UNIVERSITY