



199TH COMMENCEMENT

THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA

1824 — 2023



Tuesday, May 23, 2023

2:30 p.m.



Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts




UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE CEREMONY

College of Pharmacy

College of Population Health

College of Rehabilitation Sciences





We Improve Lives.

We are a university with preeminence in transdisciplinary, experiential professional education, research and discovery, delivering exceptional value for 21st century students with excellence in architecture, business, design, engineering, fashion & textiles, health, science and social science – infused with liberal arts.

It is wonderful to celebrate this momentous day with you!

To graduates' family members and friends: Thank you for joining us in this celebration. And please know how grateful we are for the support you've long provided for your graduates. Few great achievements stand wholly on their own; and few of the accomplishments we applaud today could have come to fruition without the foundation of support—emotional, social, intellectual and financial—that you've provided.

To our graduates: My heartiest congratulations on what you have achieved. I admire the commitment and hard work that you invested to reach this day; and I'm proud of the knowledge, skills, and talents that you are ready to offer the world. I sincerely believe that the combination of who you are becoming as individuals and how this university has prepared you to be the professionals of the future uniquely enables you to lead in our ever-evolving world. I have no doubt that you will be the healers, builders and creators who guide society through times of change, challenge and opportunity.

As you continue the great journey of career and life, know that you will always be part of the Jefferson community.

Stay in touch, let us know where you're going—personally and professionally—and how best we can support you in lifelong learning.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Mark Tykocinski". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "M".

Mark L. Tykocinski, MD
President, Thomas Jefferson University
The Anthony F. and Gertrude M. DePalma Dean,
Sidney Kimmel Medical College

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² Formerly Emeritus Trustee, July 2016 – June 2020

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Humana Dean, College of Population Health

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Past Dean, School of Continuing
and Professional Studies*

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*Dean, School of Business, Kanbar College
of Design, Engineering and Commerce*

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*President, Thomas Jefferson University
The Anthony F. and Gertrude M. DePalma Dean,
Sidney Kimmel Medical College*

Steve R. Williams, MD
*Dean, College of Rehabilitation Sciences
Jesse B. Michie Professor and Chair,
Department of Rehabilitation Medicine,
Sidney Kimmel Medical College*

Our History

- 2022** Joseph G. Cacchione, MD, FAAC, is named CEO of the Jefferson enterprise
- 2022** Mark L. Tykocinski, MD, is named President of Thomas Jefferson University
- 2019** Jefferson Institute for Bioprocessing is established
- 2019** Thomas Jefferson University is reclassified as an R2 National Doctoral University by the Carnegie Commission
- 2018** College of Rehabilitation Sciences is established
- 2018** College of Biomedical Sciences is renamed College of Life Sciences, including the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences
- 2018** College of Humanities and Sciences is established
- 2017** Philadelphia University merges with Thomas Jefferson University to become a model professions-focused, national doctoral research university with a growing global footprint
- 2015** Thomas Jefferson University schools become colleges: College of Biomedical Sciences, College of Health Professions, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy and College of Population Health
- 2014** Jefferson Medical College is renamed Sidney Kimmel Medical College at Thomas Jefferson University after philanthropist Sidney Kimmel who gifted \$110 million, the largest donation in Jefferson's history
- 2012** Kanbar College of Design, Engineering and Commerce is named for Maurice Kanbar '52, H'03
- 2011** Philadelphia University is reorganized into three Colleges: the College of Design Engineering and Commerce, the College of Architecture and the Built Environment, and the College of Science, Health, and the Liberal Arts
- 2008** Nexus Learning™ – our award-winning signature approach to education which includes active, collaborative, real-world learning infused with the liberal arts – is established
- 2008** College of Population Health is established as the School of Health Policy and Population Health
- 2008** College of Pharmacy is established as the School of Pharmacy within the College of Health Professions
- 2004** Philadelphia University established the School of Architecture and the School of Design and Media
- 1999** Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science attains university status and becomes Philadelphia University
- 1991** The NCI-designated Sidney Kimmel Cancer Center is established
- 1976** Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science offers its first graduate degree, the Master of Business Administration
- 1969** Jefferson is granted university status and its name changes to Thomas Jefferson University. It includes three academic divisions – Jefferson Medical College, the College of Graduate Studies and the College of Allied Health Sciences – and Thomas Jefferson University Hospital
- 1969** College of Graduate Studies is established
- 1967** College of Health Professions is established as the School of Allied Health Sciences
- 1961** Philadelphia Textile Institute changed its name to Philadelphia College of Textiles and Science
- 1949** A graduate program in various basic medical sciences is organized
- 1949** Philadelphia Textile Institute moved to the East Falls section of Philadelphia at Henry Avenue and School House Lane
- 1942** The Philadelphia Textile School was granted the right to award baccalaureate degrees and changed its name to the Philadelphia Textile Institute
- 1891** Jefferson Medical College opens the Jefferson Hospital Training School for Nurses with a class of 13 students
- 1884** Philadelphia Textile School is founded by Theodore Search
- 1877** Jefferson Hospital, with 125 beds, is established; Jefferson Medical College becomes the second medical school in the country with a separate teaching hospital
- 1825** Jefferson is the first medical college in the country to open a clinic (precursor to Jefferson Hospital) for the poor, accepts free patients, making this the first college clinic in the U.S.
- 1824** Jefferson Medical College of Philadelphia is founded as the Medical Department of Jefferson College of Canonsburg

Thomas Jefferson University Points of Pride

Five years ago Thomas Jefferson University and Philadelphia University came together to create a model for professional education and prepare students for the future of work. Today, Thomas Jefferson University is thriving, powered by a culture of adaptability, a thirst for innovation and a commitment to collaboration across disciplines and professions. Here are a few highlights from the past year.

- Joseph G. Cacchione, MD, was named CEO of Jefferson
- Mark L. Tykocinski, MD, was appointed President of Thomas Jefferson University
- More than 96% of Class of 2022 undergraduates were employed or in graduate school within one year
- The first-year class that entered in 2022 was 11% larger than the previous entering class, and 57% larger than five years ago
- Jefferson was ranked in the Top 130 Universities by U.S. News & World Report
- Jefferson was ranked #20 for Best Colleges for Design in America by Niche.com
- Jefferson was ranked in the Top 10 Fashion Design Schools and Colleges and in the Top 10 Fashion Merchandising Schools and Colleges in the U.S. by Fashion Schools
- The College of Nursing landed in the Top 20 for Best Online Master's in Nursing Programs by U.S. News & World Report
- The University's Nexus Podcast won Gold in the Webcast/Podcasts category of the annual Collegiate Advertising Awards
- Several programs celebrate their first group of graduates this year: MS in Nutrition and Dietetic Practice, MS in Speech Language Pathology, Master of Urban Design, MS in Pharmaceutical Sciences, and AS in Health and Human Services: Radiologic Technology
- The University launched 20 new programs, including MS/MSc joint degree program in Global Textile Design with Heriot Watt University in Scotland, MS in Advanced BioTherapeutics: Manufacturing and Regulatory Affairs, MS in Neuroscience, and MSN, DNP and post-graduate certificate program in Psychiatric Mental Health
- Jefferson and National Jewish Health teamed up to offer BS in Respiratory Therapy programs, launching in fall 2023
- External funding for research grew to over \$200 million
- There has been a 55% increase in NIH research funding since 2016 and a 250% increase in team-science grants over the past five years
- There are 1,200 active research studies and an 82% success rate for submitted applied research proposals
- Billy Oglesby, PhD, was named the Humana Dean of the College of Population Health, made possible by a \$15 million gift from Humana
- Industrial design students collaborated with SharkNinja on the annual sprint project
- Jefferson hosted two students from the Fulbright Foreign Student Program
- The College of Nursing welcomed Maternal Addiction Treatment, Education and Research (MATER), a comprehensive substance use disorder treatment program at Jefferson Health
- A group of nursing students completed their capstone work at the Gemelli Hospital in Italy
- More than 96% of the Doctor of Pharmacy (PharmD) Class of 2022 graduates passed the North American Pharmacist Licensing Exam on their first attempt
- The College of Health Professions had its annual Art Therapy art show online for the third year
- The PhD in Architecture & Design Research program partnered with SMARTlab, promoting user-driven, transdisciplinary research
- Sidney Kimmel Medical College held an in-person Match Day with over 250 medical students finding out where they will complete their medical residency
- The Hallmarks Program earned a \$250,000 Teagle Grant to elevate humanities content
- Pharmacy student Jannell Jasmine Jeffers received the Walmart Equity Scholarship
- Fashion design students Lauren Schuler and Michaela Day created dresses and accessories for singer-songwriter Gina Zo to attend the 2023 Grammys
- Physical therapy students and architecture students collaborated with faculty to design a space outside the Hansjörg Wyss Wellness Center to improve accessibility
- Fashion merchandising and management students conceptualized, designed and sold their original clothing and accessories at the popular annual pop-up shop
- Two pre-medical studies students organized a TEDxJeffersonU event
- Research as Art Competition celebrated researchers who have an eye for the beauty in their work
- Jefferson earned its eighth straight NCAA Presidents' Award for Academic Excellence
- The Rams' women's basketball team advanced to the NCAA East Region Final for the first time in 37 years
- The Jefferson volleyball team claimed its second consecutive Central Atlantic Collegiate Conference Championship and qualified for the NCAA Division II Tournament
- First-year head coach Jimmy Reilly led the men's basketball team to the CACC Championship Game

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Graduate and Undergraduate Ceremony Program

May 23, 2:30 p.m.

Processional

Trumpet Voluntary

John Stanley

The Jefferson Processional

The Reverend R. Bruce Todd, Organist

Opening Proclamation

Patricia D. Wellenbach

*Chair, Thomas Jefferson University and
Jefferson Health Board of Trustees*

The National Anthem

Margaret Lafferty, MD

Sidney Kimmel Medical College 2012

Convocation and Remarks

Mark L. Tykocinski, MD

*President, Thomas Jefferson University
The Anthony F. and Gertrude M. DePalma
Dean, Sidney Kimmel Medical College*

Joseph G. Cacchione, MD, FACC
CEO, Jefferson

Matt Dane Baker, PA-C, DHSc
Interim Provost

Conferring of Presidential Award

Mark L. Tykocinski, MD

Presidential Award Recipient

Amanda Parezo, OTD, MS, OTR/L

Conferring of Degrees in Course

College of Pharmacy

Mark L. Tykocinski, MD

Rebecca S. Finley, PharmD, MS, Dean

College of Population Health

Billy Oglesby, PhD, MBA, FACHE,
Humana Dean

College of Rehabilitation Sciences

Steve R. Williams, MD, Dean

Closing Remarks

Mark L. Tykocinski, MD

Recessional

Pomp and Circumstance, Elgar

The Reverend R. Bruce Todd

Presidential Award Recipient

Amanda Parezo, OTD, MS, OTR/L



Amanda Parezo is an assistant professor and academic fieldwork coordinator for the Occupational Therapy department at Thomas Jefferson University. She graduated from TJU's OT program in 2010 with her master's in OT and received her doctorate in OT from Salus University in 2017. She has worked clinically for over 10 years, specifically with older adults with traumatic brain injury, and holds a specialty certificate in vision rehabilitation with the TBI population.

On May 19, 2021, she was the victim of a random act of gun violence while sitting in a Philadelphia playground. The shooting left her paralyzed from the waist down. Since then, she has advocated for anti-violence programs and improved accessibility within the city, as well as educating the public about spinal cord injury and normalizing what it means to have a disability.

College of Pharmacy

Doctor of Pharmacy

Anastasia Jordan Ahern	Mohnton, PA	Jessica Marie Lungen	Bear, DE
Jami Jameleh Jalal Alazruei	Deptford, NJ	Clarice Joy Manglicmot	Levittown, PA
Kayla Kathryn Albert	Pipersville, PA	Zachary Nova Masterson	Newark, DE
Zahra Alkazaz	Sicklerville, NJ	Marissa Marie Mauro	Easton, PA
Benedicta Ameyaw	Glenolden, PA	Michael Jack Mirande	Newtown, PA
Rishi Bambal	King of Prussia, PA	Shafullah Naveed	Woodland Park, NJ
Racelyn A. Baranoski	Delran, NJ	Ahmad Sami Nessar	Newark, NJ
Tracy Cao	Philadelphia, PA	Nha Thi Thanh Nguyen	Philadelphia, PA
Bridget Caitlin Carroll	Portsmouth, NH	Uyen T. Nguyen	Fairless Hills, PA
Jessie Cerankowski	Langhorne, PA	Jessica Nathalie Njopse	Mount Laurel, NJ
Gopal Krishen Chhibba	Bear, DE	Nicole Marie Ojeda Cruz	Philadelphia, PA
Hiba Dabbas	King of Prussia, PA	Jaymil Vasantkumar Patel	Millsboro, DE
Dieynaba S. Dia	Philadelphia, PA	Krusali Vasant Patel	Millsboro, DE
Francesca DiGuglielmo	Shamong, NJ	Nirnay Harshadkumar Patel	Philadelphia, PA
Dennis Thanh Dinh	Aldan, PA	Siddhi Patel	Harrington, DE
Jahnnny-Mire' Getz	Easton, PA	Yasmin Pirestani	Kennett Square, PA
Teja Ghanta	Philadelphia, PA	Kevin Quigley	Cranford, NJ
Dillon Michael Hagan	Marthaville, LA	Morgan Taylor Quinn	Clarkston, MI
Caitlin Elizabeth Henley	Glen Allen, VA	Sehar Saleem	Egg Harbor Township, NJ
Christopher Ryan Higgins	Newark, DE	Tyler Aaron Short	Easton, PA
Alexis Anna Ibarra	Philadelphia, PA	Rachel Elizabeth Shur	Mullica Hill, NJ
Jannat Ijaz	Lake Hopatcong, NJ	Menaka Sunthoshi Suri	Lansdale, PA
Shahana Islam	Oviedo, FL	Katherine Margaret Swan	Cape May Court House, NJ
Jaewon Jang	Lansdale, PA	Brian Christopher Teed	Newark, DE
Jannell Jasmine Jeffers	Lansdowne, PA	Tina Diem Tran	Philadelphia, PA
Parishay Khan	Hasbrouck Heights, NJ	Anthony Vu	Philadelphia, PA
Gabriella Ophelia Lau	Pennsauken, NJ	Olivia C. Zdradzinski	Reading, PA
Isabelle Cipollini Lawler	Collegeville, PA	Michelle Zhang	Philadelphia, PA

Master of Science in Pharmaceutical Sciences

Heta Mayank Brahmhatt	Nadiad, India	Ayobami Priscilla Oludare	Ikorodu, Nigeria
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College of Population Health

Doctor of Philosophy in Population Health Science

Olufemi Babalola Drexel Hill, PA
Irene Borgen Morganville, NJ
Denine R. Crittendon Clementon, NJ
Melissa Ann DiCarlo Philadelphia, PA
Brynt Shane Ellis Whitmore Lake, MI
Catherine Alise Freeland Philadelphia, PA
Hema Kannan Gandhi Newtown, PA
Carrie Ann Kanzinger Devon, PA

Master of Public Health

Nazaarah Amani Abdul-Aziz Levittown, PA
Eric Elvis Abreu Philadelphia, PA
Yulia Shimels Afework Glen Mills, PA
Nasser Mana N. Albishi Philadelphia, PA
Kimberly Alfonso Norristown, PA
Erin Ann Avanzato Lake Grove, NY
Joella Kukwikila Bangala Philadelphia, PA
Alexander Michael Beekman Teaneck, NJ
Lyena Jia Birkenstock Natick, MA
Saige Mia Boris Greensboro, NC
Elias Borne Philadelphia, PA
Ericka Cabanas West Babylon, NY
Toniere L. Caldwell North Wales, PA
Maclain Thomas Capron King of Prussia, PA
Carolina Castagna Rome, Italy
Bianca Lucia d'Antonio-Bertagnolli Mount Laurel, NJ
Nina Palmer Diamond Phoenixville, PA
Alexa Noel Dietrich Deptford, NJ
William George Duborg West Chester, OH
Cyrus Fatemi Lake Mary, FL
Nicholas James Fiala Scranton, PA
Nina Allie Finkle Ardmore, PA
Mary Rose Fisher Voorhees, NJ
Dorothy M.J. Foster Philadelphia, PA
Julianne Bea Freedman Lafayette Hill, PA
Karyn Caitlin Furcolo Chevy Chase, MD
Serena Mela Gelfer Walnut Creek, CA
Aric Richard Gonter Social Circle, GA
Gabrielle DiNardo Harb Philadelphia, PA
Heather Lynn Higgins Pittsford, NY
Alavi Hossain Dhaka, Bangladesh
Faith Marie Hughes Douglassville, PA
Nicholas Sebastian Imperato Thiells, NY
Brian Conor Jacobs New Brunswick, NJ
Lauren Broussard Johnston Philadelphia, PA
Shauntel Jones Philadelphia, PA
Melissa Rose Klein Succasunna, NJ
Jacqueline Ruggiero Klevan Philadelphia, PA
Kaizan Bolin Onus Kollin Union, NJ
Logan Lawson Bloomfield, CT
Taylor Nicole Lightner Cleona, PA
Tanya Manisha Machado Mangalore, India
Sarah Mariotti Aston, PA
Marissa Marie Mauro Easton, PA
Devon Jay Michael Pace Philadelphia, PA
Payal Patel Fremont, CA
Raya Patel Canton, MI
Syama Patel Philadelphia, PA
Vincent Michael Pepe Norristown, PA
Nichole Peta Chester Springs, PA
Daniel Petrosky Philadelphia, PA
Mihail Todorov Petrov Drexel Hill, PA
Michelle Lizzett Pimentel South San Francisco, CA
Heather Lynn Roach Conshohocken, PA
Shelby M. Roseman Philadelphia, PA
Leslie Marie Rowland Gales Ferry, CT
Anita Shah Sewickley, PA
Anna Theresa Sicilia Philadelphia, PA
Olivia N. Spina Voorhees, NJ
Adam Thomas Thompson Mount Holly, NJ
William John Kenneth Vervilles Philadelphia, PA
Sarah Fredrica Wagoner Philadelphia, PA
Marli Weisman Wynnewood, PA
Julia Christine Witkowski Asbury, NJ
Michele Quintrell Zawora North Wales, PA

Master of Science in Applied Health Economics and Outcomes Research

Kayonda Florence Bayo Dallas, TX Matthew Pooya Molaei Conshohocken, PA
Ife Abigail Bilicke Evans, GA Justin Thomas Nabozny Roanoke, VA
Anna Chen Flushing, NY Benjamin Odumah Sicklerville, NJ
Bianca M. Feld Chicago, IL Shivangi N. Patel North Bergen, NJ
Scott David Goldfarb Scottsdale, AZ Saif Shaman Warren, MI
Suzanne Elaine Jefferson Los Angeles, CA Chintan M. Vakharia Kansas City, MO
Taha Imtiaz Khan Nutley, NJ Cornelius Machiel Wagner Yardley, PA
Luke Francis Mattson Havertown, PA

Master of Science in Health Data Science

David Edward Aksim Landenberg, PA Thomas Nguyen Plymouth Meeting, PA
Guorong Li Newtown Square, PA Jennifer Lynn Schwartz Philadelphia, PA

Master of Science in Health Policy

Allison Fields Horsham, PA Esther D. Moberg Belmont, MA
Sally Hilger Philadelphia, PA Denise Ann Webb Philadelphia, PA

Master of Science in Healthcare Quality and Safety

James Francis Gutierrez Bay Village, OH Marya ODonovan Swarthmore, PA
Kristin Jean Lohr Wynnewood, PA Tiffany Prince-Kandrakota Wilmington, DE
Holly Anne Miller Wilson, WI Ehsan Ullah Syed Monkton, MD

Master of Science in Operational Excellence

Brittany Goodvin Banner, WY Sigrid Warrender Warwick, PA

Master of Science in Population Health

Jacqueline Renee Biesiadecki Sea Girt, NJ Lynette D. Kramer Albion, NE
Catherine Miranda Chua Elkins, WV Maria Lenis Oldsmar, FL
Jaden B. Daubert Northampton, PA Darshak Suryakant Thosani Philadelphia, PA
Kristy Lane Jessop Corvallis, OR Cindy Kay Weems Amarillo, TX
Linda Klinger Beaver Dam, WI

College of Rehabilitation Sciences

Doctor of Occupational Therapy

Jeremy P. Armstrong Philadelphia, PA
Grace Morrisette Arnold Dalton, PA
Abigail Marie Bailey Hanson, MA
Alison Joy Bailey North Wales, PA
Allison L. Barrett Syracuse, NY
Kayla N. Beovich Philadelphia, PA
Lauren Elizabeth Boccoardo Jamison, PA
Alia Katrina Boynton San Francisco, CA
Julia Marie Brklycica Greensburg, PA
Sarah Sweet Brook Dallas, TX
Maria Cerase North Massapequa, NY
Sarah Grace Chu Glen Allen, VA
Faith Michael Clary Philadelphia, PA
Elizabeth Morgan Clayton Rockaway, NJ
Eboney Vashun Cole Webster, NY
Jordan Frances Crisci Hopewell Junction, NY
Courtney Mia DeSol Abington, PA
Victoria Rose DiCampli Garnet Valley, PA
Ashley Ann Ender Center Valley, PA
Toni Elizabeth Feite Dillsburg, PA
Hannah Marie Galpin Morgantown, PA
Dominique Marie Gousset Lemont, IL
Tatiana Fiorella Guerrero Philadelphia, PA
Olivia West Hammond Waynesboro, PA
Andrid Houtras Trenton, NJ
Marissa Brooke Hendrixson Garnet Valley, PA
Sophia S. Huang Hillsborough, NJ
Erin Gravino Jeffords Columbia, SC
Analise Olivia Kaminski Elkton, MD
Lauren Lalaine Balan Kennedy Newark, DE
Ilyse Beth Kramer Philadelphia, PA
Marissa Elaine LaSalle Sewell, NJ
Kathleen Fisher Lawlor Glen Mills, PA
Amy G. Lorino Forestburgh, NY
Emily Elizabeth Lowry Hoboken, NJ
Nicolette Emily Macri Massapequa, NY
Kaitlyn May Wilmington, DE
Danielle Ricci O'Connell Andover, CT
Ciera Michelle Osborne Philadelphia, PA
Vikita Sanjay Patel Avenel, NJ
Jessica Perchaluk Lambertville, NJ
Caitlin Michele Pluta Sykesville, MD
Hilary Lutz Sauder Ketchikan, AK
Adeshina Adebowale Sawyer Temple, TX
Natalie Rose Schiano Berwyn, PA
Maria J. Serrano Clarksburg, NJ
Aseel Shehadeh Passaic, NJ
Claire Nadine Tarzia Ambler, PA
Dana Brady Tavares Downingtown, PA
Molly Marie Weaver Oak Hill, VA
Stacy Lynn Young Philadelphia, PA
Lisa Kayla Zolotnitsky Jamison, PA

Doctor of Physical Therapy

Ashley Marie Albrechta Hazle Township, PA
Samantha Rae Andrekanic White Oak, PA
Michalis Aristodemou Philadelphia, PA
Evan M. Bohan Robbinsville, NJ
Taylor Ariell Bracy Beverly, NJ
Alexandria Jacqueline Brittingham Collegeville, PA
Dylan Scott Carmody Santa Barbara, CA
Jessica Lynn Cestare Downingtown, PA
Maria Chertova Philadelphia, PA
Alyssa Marie Conanan Hazlet, NJ
Taylor Lynn Doran Cream Ridge, NJ
Helen Alesandra Drees Avondale, PA
Belen Fresno Caturla Horsham, PA
Madhuvanthi Ganesh Breinigsville, PA
Taylor Ann Geiger Neshanic Station, NJ
Caitlin Rose Golden Lumberton, NJ
Deanna Marie Graziani Philadelphia, PA
Allison Lee Guengerich Amarillo, TX
Amanda Anne Hoag Effort, PA
Emma Theresa Hoffman Linwood, NJ
Jesse Christine Holloway West Chester, PA
Giana Nicolette Horigan Medford, NJ
Josh Joel Jordan Allentown, PA
Sarah Dana Khoblall Carteret, NJ

Vita Mary Korotkin	Richboro, PA	Brandi Cherese Pulley	Charlotte, NC
Marielena Kotretsos	Philadelphia, PA	Madeline Reich	Elkins Park, PA
Victoria Laczko	Philadelphia, PA	Hannah Lynn Schied	Ellicott City, MD
Emily Jane Macauley	Exton, PA	Robert Edward Sissick	Hackettstown, NJ
Regina Naomi McCoy	Philadelphia, PA	Putira Peter Siv	Marlton, NJ
Zoe Scott Mendel	La Jolla, CA	Madeline Harding Staiger	Bend, OR
Nicole Marie Mickendrow	Jackson, NJ	Kimmy Marie Tafuro	Chester Springs, PA
Daniel Stephen Moeller	Voorhees, NJ	Michael Alexander Trakhtorchuk	Huntingdon Valley, PA
Maureen Theresa Nelson	Brick, NJ	Aurora Renee Treese	Montourville, PA
Daiduong Matthew Nguyen	Rockville, MD	Devon Lamont Williams	Middletown, DE
Cristy Marie Peterson	Waretown, NJ	Sarah Victoria Woolverton	Winchester, VA
Rebecca Ann Podskoch	Swoyersville, PA	Shahad Riyadh Yahya	Williamsburg, VA

Master of Science in Athletic Training

Kevin Tindoy Bernabe	Collegetown, PA	Kiarrah T. Johnson	Galloway, NJ
Adam L. Blankenbiller	Lancaster, PA	Lillian Oasis Mariah Kull	Phoenixville, PA
Isabella Maria Dewes	Mullica Hill, NJ	Robert Kramer Lewis, III	West Pittston, PA
Qayla H. Green	Philadelphia, PA	Benjamin Tyler McFetridge	Wallingford, PA
Becca Jennifer Gurst	Cherry Hill, NJ	Madeline Jane Meloche	Cherry Hill, NJ
Hope Fern Heffner	Catasauqua, PA	Harshivbhai Patel	Edison, NJ
CeCelia Thiyen Holeschak	Mays Landing, NJ	Rachael Marie Smalfus	Philadelphia, PA
Jacob Samuel Horner	Jamestown, RI	Alan Tran	Sewell, NJ
Jonas Donato Jean-Claude	Drexel Hill, PA	Erika D. Wible	Delanco, NJ

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy

Nike Cassandra Adedoyin	South Plainfield, NJ	Lauren Elizabeth Follis	Lansdale, PA
Arben Bajrami	Matawan, NJ	Kelsey Abigail Foran	Milton, MA
Kaila Elizabeth Blouch	Annapolis, PA	Ashley Elizabeth Gelenites	Manahawkin, NJ
Dylan Marie Bobek	Philadelphia, PA	Meredith Catherine Gray	Perkasie, PA
Ashley Lecole Boyd	West Conshohocken, PA	Alyssa Ann Hallsworth	Sicklerville, NJ
Kali Marie Cappuccio	Galloway, NJ	Sommer Hanafi	Stroudsburg, PA
Melissa Lynn Colwell	Smithtown, NY	Cassandra Nicole Hickman	Sewell, NJ
Matthew Charles Cook	New York, NY	Hannah Frances Hetzel	Langhorne, PA
Lindsay Corallo	Wall, NJ	Casey L. Hopkins	Robbinsville, NJ
Kaira Joy Crenshaw	Pontiac, MI	Kerriann Mei Howley	Old Bridge, NJ
Caitlin Ann Crespo	Womelsdorf, PA	Natalie Lane Hughes	Cherry Hill, NJ
Angela N. Deibler	Upper Chichester, PA	Lauren Patricia Hussey	Hillsdale, NJ
Joseph E. Delaney	Willow Grove, PA	Alice Johnston	Stockton, NJ
Shayna K. Dozier	Pequea, PA	Emily Patricia Knell	Vandergrift, PA
Emily Elizabeth Eltz	Bristol, PA	Adrianna Marie Langley	Millville, NJ
Tatum Karen Evarts	Middletown, NJ	Julia Ann Lemel	Owings Mills, MD
Chloe Madeline Fish	Deerfield, IL	Joseph R. Litz	Jenkintown, PA
Danielle Patricia Flanagan	Newark, DE	Callie Michele Luftig	East Brunswick, NJ

Maddison A. Manigly-Haney	Royersford, PA	Margaret Ann Shoemaker	Southborough, MA
Rosanne Linda Martin	Holmdel, NJ	Chloe Julianna Smith	Philadelphia, PA
Halie Rose McAndrew	Haddon Township, NJ	Holly Kathleen Springhorn	Cream Ridge, NJ
Jennie Lyn Meagher	Saugus, MA	Hannah Sydney Stanicki	Green Brook, NJ
Marshea Samerah Miller	Philadelphia, PA	Elizabeth Anne Tenbusch	Milford, DE
Rachel Elizabeth Minahan	San Clemente, CA	Katlyn Marie Thorp	Swarthmore, PA
Marissa Joan Morello	Staten Island, NY	Jesse Hope Torbic	State College, PA
Shawna Thao-Nhi Nguyen	Trabuco Canyon, CA	Paige Elyce Troublefield	Frankford, DE
Victoria Lynn Nuzzolo	Garden City, NY	Sarah Eliza Tunick	Baltimore, MD
Nicole Pagano	Stony Point, NY	Marisa Nicole Waite	West Chester, PA
Jillian Leigh Paternoster	Hopewell Junction, NY	Amy Lynn Waldrab	Downingtown, PA
Emily Christine Phillips	Springfield, PA	Jessica M. Westerfer	Philadelphia, PA
Kristen L. Powers	Mechanicsburg, PA	Kassandra Nichelle White-Prillman	Odenton, MD
Juliana Maria Rivera	Howell, NJ	Amanda Joy Wilgus	Camden Wyoming, DE
Taylor Dawn Marie Romano	Pylesville, MD	Rebecca Melissa Wolf	Philadelphia, PA
Kasey Ann Schlupp	Southampton, PA		

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy and Bachelor of Science in Occupation and Health

Sylwia Gutowska	Philadelphia, PA	Emily Sniechoski	Oxford, PA
Stephanie Madeleine Miller	Freehold, NJ	Julia Dominique Swayne	Sicklerville, NJ
Emily Nicole Panciera	Turnersville, NJ	Kaitlyn Ann Tweed	Williamstown, NJ
Sadie Marie Shaw	Philadelphia, PA		

Master of Science in Speech Language Pathology

Gabriella Rose Artillio	Lafayette Hill, PA	Megan Marie Lekulitch	Robbinsville, NJ
Michaela Barley	Millersville, PA	Stephanie Lynn Marcus	Philadelphia, PA
Sarah Emily Blum	Pennsauken, NJ	Emily Mitchell	Lancaster, PA
Natalie Maria Bozzelli	Doylestown, PA	Emily Jane Myers	Marlton, NJ
Cameron E. Carbrey	Telford, PA	Simone Nirenberg	Southampton, PA
Kaitlyn Bryn Carey	Sicklerville, NJ	Molly Anne ODonnell	Southampton, PA
Allison DiAngelis	Ocean View, NJ	Erika Marie Ravaioli	Hillsborough, NJ
Katelyn Dinkowitz	Little Egg Harbor, NJ	Zane Smith	Philadelphia, PA
Kailey Ryan Dittus	Ambler, PA	Abigail Anna Spencer	Cherry Hill, NJ
Elizabeth Egan	Havertown, PA	Jessica Sarah Walter	Glen Mills, PA
Madison Anne Foley	Williamstown, NJ	Bailey Elizabeth Warren	Audubon, NJ
Haley Marie Fusaro	Bala Cynwyd, PA	Hannah Margaret Wissner	Landenberg, PA
Maria A. Karamitas	Brooklyn, NY		

Associate of Science in Occupational Therapy Assistant

Breyan Lynn Akins ‡	Philadelphia, PA	John Michael Merlino	National Park, NJ
Jennie Leilan Armour ‡	Voorhees, NJ	Patrick Shane Morgan	Philadelphia, PA
Randa A. Askander	West Berlin, NJ	Eleanor Kenna Natoli	Schwenksville, PA
Christine Bowlby †	Somerset, NJ	Danielle Ann Nicol ‡	North Wales, PA
Quadeera Burchette ‡	Philadelphia, PA	Heather Michele Peterson	Feasterville, PA
Katherine Elizabeth Deppen ‡	Philadelphia, PA	Kendra Poulson	Philadelphia, PA
Mckayla Katherine Earley	Sewell, NJ	Emily Dyan Rauseo	Jenkintown, PA
Elaine Marie Almeda Esteron	Millville, NJ	Coral Reyes-Rojas ‡	Newtown, PA
Jessica Naomi George ‡	Levittown, PA	Caitlin Jennifer Schwartz ‡	Hamilton, NJ
Lindsey Maire Kelly	Philadelphia, PA	Tanesha D. Shelton ‡	Oaklyn, NJ
Jasmine Marlene Kinsey	Philadelphia, PA	Kiara Lian Velardo ‡	Philadelphia, PA
Yina Li ‡	Moorestown, NJ	Valentina Velasquez ‡	Egg Harbor Township, NJ
Jacqueline Lorenzon	Conshohocken, PA	Melissa White ‡	Mount Laurel, NJ
Maria L. Maggio	Cherry Hill, NJ	Crystal Nicole Willison ‡	Philadelphia, PA
Agnes M. Marsh ‡	Franklinville, NJ	Elizabeth Ann Winski ‡	Philadelphia, PA

† Cum Laude (Light Blue)

‡ Magna Cum Laude (Dark Blue)

‡‡ Summa Cum Laude (Dark & Light Blue)

Latin honors indicated in the Commencement Program are unofficial. Official Latin honors will appear on the student's official transcript and diploma.

As final action cannot be taken before the program goes to press, Thomas Jefferson University reserves the right to add or withdraw names from the list of candidates for degrees and certificates.

In curricula such as the degree program in Occupational Therapy, candidates complete formal course work prior to Commencement and fulfill additional clinical requirements during the summer. Students in these programs participate in Commencement Exercises but receive their diplomas only after all requirements have been satisfied.

Marshals

Grand Marshal

Sunday Shoyele, PhD

Faculty Marshals

Alok Bhushan, PhD

Irene Jackson, MA, CCC-SLP, CLC

Andrea Joseph, MS, RPH

Stephen Kern, PhD, OTR/L, FNAP, FAOTA

Laura Krisa, PhD

Cathy Piersol, PhD, OTR/L, FAOTA

Erin Pletcher, PhD, LAT, ATC, CSCS

Bryan Spinelli, PT, PhD

Stephen Thomas, PhD, ATC

Student Marshals

Lauren Isaacs

College of Pharmacy, 2026

Anya Ysabel Lee

College of Rehabilitation Sciences, 2024

Readers

Ricker Adkins, DAT,LAT,ATC

Lisa Hoglund, PT, PhD

Mary Muhlenhaupt, OTD

Cynthia Sanoski, PharmD

Michelle Swartz, MS-SLP

Honor Societies

Rho Chi Society

The Rho Chi Society originated in the merger of two movements, both commencing in 1917, to create a national honor society for pharmacy. One started on the campus of the University of Michigan where there was a local honor society, the “Aristolochite Society,” in the Pharmaceutical Department since 1908. This group began to plan for national expansion in 1917, and it finally established a second chapter at the School of Pharmacy of the former Oregon Agricultural College in 1919; a third chapter was started at the University of Oklahoma in 1922.

A second movement, independent of the Michigan movement, was initiated earlier in 1917 by Rufus A. Lyman in his presidential address to the American Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties. In response to his suggestion and the conscientious efforts of Professor Zada M. Cooper, it was decided to follow the progress at Michigan. In the meantime, the “Aristolochite Society” became the “Rho Chi Society” and was granted a charter by the State of Michigan on May 19, 1922. The Conference of Pharmaceutical Faculties, finding that the group met the standards that the Conference determined, extended its recognition to Rho Chi as “the Honor Society of Pharmacy.” Rho Chi determined that chapters could be established at colleges that were members of the Conference, now the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy.

A policy of conservative expansion followed. After five years of existence, Rho Chi consisted of eight chapters; after ten years, eighteen. Thereafter, growth continued more rapidly, and by 1980, there were seventy-one active chapters. Continued growth is expected to include Canadian colleges of pharmacy.

The high standards maintained for membership in Rho Chi have resulted in recognition of the Society not only by pharmacy but also by other academic circles. Rho Chi is afforded a place in Banta’s Greek Exchange, and a sketch of the Society appears in Baird’s Manual. Since 1947, the Society has been a member of the Association of College Honor Societies.

Thomas Jefferson University’s College of Pharmacy petitioned for membership in 2015 and was installed as the Epsilon Epsilon chapter in April 2016. Members of Rho Chi are identified in the top 20% of their class and inducted following completion of the first two years of the Doctor of Pharmacy curriculum.

Kayla Kathryn Albert

Jannat Ijaz

Morgan Taylor Quinn

Bridget Caitlin Carroll

Jannell Jasmine Jeffers

Menaka Sunthoshi Suri

Caitlin Elizabeth Henley

Isabelle Cipollini Lawler

Katherine Margaret Swan

Christopher Ryan Higgins

Uyen T. Nguyen

Delta Psi, Chapter of Delta Omega

Delta Omega is the honorary society in public health. It was founded in 1924 at Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health to promote the graduate study of public health, and to recognize outstanding achievement in the field. Membership in Delta Omega reflects the dedication of an individual to increasing the quality of the public health field, as well as to the protection and advancement of the health of all people. Induction into Delta Omega is a highly-selective process that assesses applicants' outstanding performance and devotion to public health. Currently, Delta Omega has more than 100 chapters at accredited schools and programs, and more than 20,000 members across the globe. Thomas Jefferson University Delta Psi chapter was established in 2019.

Ericka Cabanas

Serena Mela Gelfer

Marli Weisman

Nina Palmer Diamond

Tanya Manisha Machado

Michele Quintrell Zawora

William George Duborg

Sarah Fredrica Wagoner

Pi Theta Epsilon - Epsilon Phi Chapter

Pi Theta Epsilon is the national occupational therapy honor society for students and alumni. Its mission is to foster research, leadership, and scholarship among occupational therapy students across the United States. In doing so, Pi Theta Epsilon supports the practice and advancement of occupational therapy, and promotes quality healthcare services.

Allison L. Barrett

Emily Elizabeth Eltz

Jennie Lyn Meagher

Kayla N. Beovich

Ashley Ann Ender

Stephanie Madeleine Miller

Ashley Lecole Boyd

Dominique Marie Gousset

Nicole Pagano

Julia Marie Brklycica

Sophia S. Huang

Kristen L. Powers

Elizabeth Morgan Clayton

Kathleen Fisher Lawlor

Natalie Rose Schiano

Jordan Frances Crisci

Nicolette Emily Macri

Jessica M. Westerfer

The University Mace

Originally a medieval weapon, the mace evolved from a short staff weighted with metal (used for breaking armor) into a bejeweled and sculptural relic. It fell into disuse by the 16th century as firearms made protective armor and some hand-to-hand combat weapons obsolete. In one of the earliest ceremonial uses of the mace, it was carried by the royal bodyguard before the French king in the 1200s. Examples of the mace as a symbol of authority in modern government include its use in the British House of Commons where the ceremonial mace has a presence on the Treasury table and in the U.S. House of Representatives, where it is placed on a pedestal to the right of the Speaker's podium when the House is convened.

Universities also used the ceremonial mace, borne by the chief marshal, during academic processions. The Thomas Jefferson University Mace, carried for the first time in the 1986 commencement ceremonies by Grand Marshal Robert Mandle, PhD, was designed and cast by Howard Serlick, member of the Guild of Mastercraftsmen, Winterthur Scholar and Chief Conservator (Gilding) of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania. It was crafted by silversmith Eugene Zweigle and woodturner Michael Copeland.

The four-foot-long, 14-pound mace is made of ebony highlighted with lapis lazuli to reflect Jefferson's colors (black and blue). It features a miniature of Henry Mitchell's sculpture, the "Winged Ox of Saint Luke," symbol of Saint Luke the Physician, the original of which stands on campus beside the Scott Building on Walnut Street. The miniature was cast in silver by Zweigle.

Mitchell's original statue of the "Winged Ox," adopted by the University in 1976 as its symbol of clinical excellence, is mounted on a column containing the names of 50 medical scientists who have most advanced the art of healing. It also reflects the historical evolution of Thomas Jefferson University from its beginnings as Jefferson Medical College in 1824 to its current. The mace, a grand emblem of the University's heritage, is carried at the head of all formal academic processions.

The Presidential Medallion of Thomas Jefferson University

The President's Medallion was created in 2009 during the tenure of Robert L. Barchi, MD, PhD, the fourth President of Thomas Jefferson University. It replaced the previous, well-worn President's Medallion made in 1977, which had depicted four old corporate seals used in various eras of the institution's history.

The current medallion was designed and crafted by Tiffany & Company, New York. It consists of a sterling silver medallion suspended from a heavy, silver double-link chain. The medallion's obverse depicts the University seal; a bas-relief profile of Thomas Jefferson and the surround reads, "THOMAS JEFFERSON UNIVERSITY - 1824," the year the institution was founded. The reverse is engraved with the names of the four University Presidents.

Silver is a metal long-associated with medicine and is recognized to have anti-bacterial properties. Hippocrates (ca. 300 BCE) acknowledged the healing powers of silver and the ancients used silver bottles to keep water or wine from spoiling. The expression "born with a silver spoon in your mouth" comes from the Middle Ages; when the wealthy gave their children silver spoons to suck on to prevent disease. Like many academic traditions, the display of a heavy "chain of office" comes down to us from medieval regalia and represents the weight of responsibility for the wearer. The chain itself connotes strength in unity, as well as strong communication.

The Presidential Medallion is worn by the President at all convocations of the University.

The Jefferson Processional

The Jefferson Processional was commissioned by the Alumni Association of Jefferson Medical College, now named Sidney Kimmel Medical College and played for the first time on November 15, 1974, at the Sesquicentennial Celebration of the Sidney Kimmel Medical College of Thomas Jefferson University. This piece was presented to Thomas Jefferson University by the President of the Alumni Association, John J. Gartland, MD. It was composed by Burle Marx.

Academic Regalia

The attire worn at academic ceremonies evolved from the dress worn by clergy in the 12th and 13th centuries. Throughout the years, European universities have continued to show great diversity in their academic dress. American universities, when they decided to adopt academic dress in 1895, immediately established a code of regulations that today is followed by practically all American institutions.

The code provides for three types of gowns. Those worn by the bachelors are made of black worsted material and have long, pointed sleeves. Masters may wear either black silk or black woolen gowns, made with a long, closed sleeve with an arc of a circle appearing near the bottom, and a slit for the arm. The doctors' gowns are black material, typically silk, with a full, round, open sleeve. They are faced with velvet and have three bars of velvet or chevrons, on each sleeve. The color of the velvet trim may be black or the same color as the velvet, indicative of the discipline, which edges the hood.

The black Oxford or mortarboard-style cap is worn for all degrees, but only the doctor's cap may be made of velvet and only doctors or presidents of institutions may wear a gold tassel on the cap. The tassel fastened to the center of the cap is normally worn in the left-front quadrant of the cap and is made of black thread.

It is the hood, however, that is the most important and distinctive feature of the American Code. The system established by the Intercollegiate Commission enables anyone attending an academic function in this country to distinguish at a glance the bachelors, masters and doctors, and, at the same time, recognize the university that has given the degree.

The doctor's hood, of black cloth matching the gown, is four feet in length and made with a wide panel. The master's and bachelor's hoods are three-and-one-half feet and three feet in length, respectively. They are made of black cloth matching the gowns and follow the Oxford shape. The hoods for all the degrees are lined with silk in the official academic color or colors of the institution conferring the degree.

The binding or trim of all the hoods is of velvet or velveteen, two inches, three inches and five inches wide for the bachelor's, master's and doctor's degrees, respectively. The color of this velvet trim indicates the department or faculty to which the degree pertains, each department having been assigned a different color by the Intercollegiate Code.

DESCRIPTION OF ACADEMIC DRESS

The colors associated with many of the academic disciplines are

Violet	<i>Architecture</i>	Apricot	<i>Nursing</i>
White	<i>Arts and Letters</i>	Slate Blue	<i>Doctor of Occupational Therapy</i>
Tan or Drab	<i>Business</i>	Maize	<i>Bachelor of Science</i>
Light Blue	<i>Education</i>	Olive	<i>Pharmacy</i>
Orange	<i>Engineering</i>	Dark Blue	<i>Philosophy</i>
Teal	<i>Family Therapy</i>	Teal	<i>Physical Therapy</i>
Green	<i>Medicine</i>	Salmon	<i>Public Health</i>
Plum	<i>Midwifery</i>		

Adapted from *The Story of Caps and Gowns*, by Helen Walters, 1939, E.G. Moore: New York.



Jefferson

Thomas Jefferson University