



# MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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## *Fortieth Commencement Exercises*

SATURDAY, THE EIGHTEENTH OF MAY,  
TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR  
NINE O' CLOCK IN THE MORNING

Morehouse College  
Martin Luther King, Jr. International Chapel

# PROGRAM FOR COMMENCEMENT

SPRING 2024

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# PROGRAM FOR COMMENCEMENT

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*The Fortieth*  
*Commencement Exercises of*  
MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

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TWO THOUSAND AND TWENTY-FOUR  
NINE O' CLOCK IN THE MORNING

MOREHOUSE COLLEGE  
MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. INTERNATIONAL CHAPEL

*Educating the Next Generation of*  
*Leaders in Public Health,*  
*Biomedical Sciences, and Health Care*

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# PROGRAM FOR COMMENCEMENT

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Saturday, May 18, 2024

**Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG**

President and CEO, Morehouse School of Medicine

*Presiding*

PRELUDE . . . . . “Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow”

*Fred Bock*

CALL TO ORDER . . . . . John Patrickson, PhD

*Grand Marshal*

*Professor and Vice Chair*

*Department of Neurobiology*

\*PROCESSIONAL . . . . . “War March of the Priests”

*Felix Mendelssohn Bartholdy*

INVOCATION . . . . . Marvin L. Crawford, MD, MDiv, FACP

*Chaplain*

*Associate Professor, Internal Medicine*

*Senior Pastor, First Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church*

NATIONAL ANTHEM . . . . . “The Star Spangled Banner”

*Performed by Morehouse College Glee Club*

*Words by Francis Scott Key*

+HYMN . . . . . “Lift Every Voice and Sing”

*Performed by Morehouse College Glee Club*

*Words by James Weldon Johnson*

*Music by John Rosamond Johnson*

THE OCCASION . . . . . Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG

*President and CEO*

*Morehouse School of Medicine*

# PROGRAM FOR COMMENCEMENT

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**GREETINGS** ..... **Arthur R. Collins**  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*  
*Morehouse School of Medicine*

**CLASS REMARKS** ..... **Sonya Randolph**  
*SGA President, MD Class of 2024*

**INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER** ..... **Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH**  
*Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean*

**COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS** ..... **Anthony “Tony” Welters**  
*CINQCARE Inc. Founder, Chairman, and CEO,*  
*Executive Chairman of BlackIvy Group and*  
*Trustee Emeritus of Morehouse School of Medicine*

\* *The audience is requested to remain seated at this time. We request that you remain seated during the processional and recessional so we may all see the graduates. The audience is requested not to come forward to take pictures during the Commencement Ceremony. The school’s photographer will take individual photos of the graduates during the awarding of degrees.*

+ *You may enter the amphitheater at this time.*

# CONFERRING OF DEGREES

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<b>MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
<b>INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION OF HEALTH RIGHTS</b> .....	<b>STEPHANIE MILES-RICHARDSON, DVM, PhD</b> <i>Associate Dean, Graduate Education in Public Health Director, Master of Public Health Program Professor, Department of Public Health Education</i>
<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
<b>PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OATH</b>	<b>Pangela Dawson, PhD, MSPAS, PA-C</b> <i>Assistant Dean, Department Chair, Founding Program Director Physician Assistant Studies</i>
<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL RESEARCH</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL RESEARCH</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH INFORMATICS</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
<b>MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MEDICAL SCIENCES</b> .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>

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MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NEUROSCIENCE .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
A SCIENTIST’S PLEDGE .....	<b>Danita Eatman-Daniels, PhD</b> <i>Associate Dean, Graduate Education in Biomedical Sciences Associate Professor, Department of Medical Education Department of Pharmacology/Toxicology</i>
DOCTOR OF MEDICINE DEGREE .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO</i> <b>Joseph A. Tyndall, MD, MPH</b> <i>Executive Vice President for Health Affairs and Dean</i>
OATH OF HIPPOCRATES .....	<b>Martha L. Elks, MD, PhD, FACP, FACE</b> <i>Senior Associate Dean, Educational Affairs Professor of Medical Education Professor of Medicine</i>
ALUMNI INDUCTION .....	<b>Frank Jones, MD, ’91</b> <i>President, Morehouse School of Medicine National Alumni Association</i>
CHARGE TO THE CLASS .....	<b>Valerie Montgomery Rice, MD, FACOG</b> <i>President and CEO Morehouse School of Medicine</i>
THE MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE HYMN .....	“SOAR” <i>Morehouse College Glee Club Words and Music by Jerry E. Peters</i>
BENEDICTION .....	<b>Marvin L. Crawford, MD, MDiv, FACP</b>
*RECESSIONAL .....	“Pomp and Circumstance, No. 1” <i>Composed by Sir Edward Elgar</i>
POSTLUDE .....	“Jesus Shall Reign” <i>Words and Music by Keith Gentry Performed by David E. Oliver D.M.A</i>

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## MARSHALS

Jasmine Agnew, DHPE, MTS, MHIIM, RHIA, CAHIMS

Elaine Archie-Booker, EdD, MS, RN, ICPS

Christye Brown, PhD, MPH, MBA

Eboni Dotson, PhD

Rita Finley, PhD

Jaleesa Garth, PhD

Sarah Greene, PhD

Janice Herbert-Carter, MD, MGA, FACP

Khadeja J. Johnson, MD, FACP

Amy Lovejoy Mork, PhD

Joel Okoli, MD, MPH, FACS

Kimberly Redding, MD, MPH

Kareen Russell-Randall, PhD

Shereitte C. Stokes IV, PhD, MPH, MIAD

Sheila Young-Mercado, MD

## ORGANIST

David E. Oliver, DMA

*Morehouse College*

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## OVERVIEW

Morehouse School of Medicine (MSM) located in Atlanta, Georgia, was founded in 1975 as the Medical Education Program at Morehouse College. In 1981, MSM became an independently chartered institution. MSM is among the nation's leading educators of primary-care physicians and was recently recognized as the top institution among U.S. medical schools for its social mission. MSM faculty and alumni are noted in their fields for excellence in teaching, research, and public policy. MSM is accredited by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education, Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, Council on Education for Public Health, Liaison Committee on Medical Education, and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges.

## MISSION

**We exist to:**

- Improve the health and well-being of individuals and communities;
- Increase the diversity of the health professional and scientific workforce;
- Address primary health care through programs in education, research, and service;

*With emphasis on people of color and the underserved urban and rural populations in Georgia, the nation, and the world.*

## VISION

*Leading the creation and advancement of health equity to achieve health justice.*

## SPEAKER

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### ANTHONY “TONY” WELTERS

CINQCARE INC. FOUNDER, CHAIRMAN, AND CEO,  
EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF BLACKIVY GROUP, LLC, CHAIRMAN, SOMATUS INC., AND  
TRUSTEE EMERITUS OF MOREHOUSE SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



**Anthony Welters is the Founder, Chairman and CEO of CINQ Care Inc., a physician-led, community-based ambulatory care delivery system that delivers whole person care in the home, whenever possible, to Black and Brown communities.**

Mr. Welters currently serves as Executive Chairman of the BlackIvy Group, LLC. BlackIvy builds and grows commercial enterprises in Sub-Saharan Africa, including logistics and infrastructure solutions and businesses that serve the growing consumer class. He is also Co-Founder and Chairman of Somatus, Inc., a leading provider of value-based kidney solutions to payors, health systems, and other organizations seeking alternatives to traditional fee for service dialysis.

An industry veteran for over four decades, Mr. Welters founded AmeriChoice in 1989. When the successful health care company was acquired by UnitedHealth Group in 2002, Mr. Welters joined UHG serving as Senior Adviser to the Office of the CEO, Executive Vice President and Member of the Office of the CEO, retiring in 2016. He also led UHG's Public and Senior Markets Group.

Mr. Welters currently serves on the public boards of The Carlyle Group, Loews Corporation, and Gilead Sciences, Inc. Mr. Welters previously served as a director West Pharmaceutical Services, Inc. from 1997 to 2016 and C.R. Bard, Inc. from 1999 to 2017. He is Trustee Emeritus of the Morehouse School of Medicine Board of Trustees, Chairman Emeritus of the Board of the New York University School of Law, as well as Vice Chairman of the Board of New York University, a Trustee of NYU Langone Medical Center, Vice Chair of the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and a founding member of the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Mr. Welters is a graduate of Manhattanville College and received his law degree from New York University School of Law.

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## GRADUATE EDUCATION IN PUBLIC HEALTH

### *Master Of Public Health*

#### **Fauzia Ahmed**

*Research Title: Implicit Bias Effects on Black Maternal Mortality in Kansas*

#### **Kelechukwu Anyanwu\*\*\***

*Research Title: Using a Reproductive Life Plan tool to Promote Preconception Health among Underserved Populations by Healthcare Professionals in Georgia Public Health Clinics*

#### **Askari Bumphus**

*Research Title: Combating the Determinants of Major Depressive Disorder in Adolescents*

#### **Nadiyah Bunzy**

*Research Title: Sociodemographic Disparities in Self-Reported History of Physical Abuse among US Adults Aged 18 and older*

#### **Zakirah Abdul-Hameed\*\*\***

*Research Title: Identifying and Reducing Barriers to Breastfeeding among Black Women in the United States with the Ultimate Goal of Reducing Their Risk of Reproductive Cancers*

#### **Davianna Griffin**

*Research Title: Lack of Social Support and Postpartum Depression Among African American Women in the United States*

#### **Chasitee Hatcher**

*Research Title: Accessibility to Maternal Healthcare in Rural Georgia: Helping Our Mothers Advocacy Plan*

#### **Eric Mimms**

*Research Title: Faith in Motion: Managing Hypertension with Purpose*

#### **Elijah Richardson\*\*\***

*Research Title: Walkability Factors Associated with Self-Reported Cancer Diagnosis among Adults aged 18 years and older in the United States*

#### **Catherine Ledezma Rondon**

*Research Title: A Microaggression Simulation to Decrease Negative Birth Outcomes Among Black Women In the United States*

#### **Ty'Shonna Sims**

*Research Title: Is a Big Sister Little Sister Mentorship Program Effective in Reducing Incarceration Rates Among Low-income African American Women in North Carolina?.*

#### **Monique Terrell**

*Research Title: Community based intervention to improve mental health among adults diagnosed with sickle cell disease in Fulton County*

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\* Residency to begin in July 2025

\*\*\* Delta Omega Honor Society in Public Health

+ MPH Honor Graduate

++ Cum Laude Honors

+++ Magna Cum Laude Honors

++++ Summa Cum Laude Honors

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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**Savannah Turner**

*Research Title: Policy advocacy plan to strengthen behavioral health services and support for African American Mothers in Atlanta, GA*

**Christina Wilkerson**

*Research Title: The Association between the Frequency of Self-Reported Alcohol Consumption and Rheumatoid Arthritis in Adults Aged 18 years and Older in the United States*

**Meshack Williams**

*Research Title: Collective Trauma and Mental Health among HBCU Students*

**Fre'Asia Young**

*Research Title: The Prevalence of Autism and Spectrum-Like Disorders in Marginalized Communities with Two or More Environmental Hazards*

*Master of Science in  
Physician Assistant Studies*

**Olinese Augustin**

**Alexis Gamble**

**Jessica Lyster**

**Rachel M. Thomas**

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## GRADUATE EDUCATION IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

### *Master of Science in Biomedical Research*

**BreAnna Hudson**

*Thesis Title: Nuclear Factor Kappa Transactivates  
FOSL1 Transcriptional Factor to Promote Glioma Cells  
Proliferation and Invasion*

**Research Advisor: Mingli Liu, MD, PhD, MSCR**  
*Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology,  
Biochemistry and Immunology*

**Tameyah Mathis-Perry**

*Thesis Title: The Impact of Cortisol on Placental  
Function and Immunity*

**Research Advisor: Erica L. Johnson, PhD**  
*Associate Professor, Department of Microbiology,  
Biochemistry, and Immunology, Department of  
Obstetrics and Gynecology*

**Awa Sore**

*Thesis Title: Determining The Role of Sleep on  
Chlamydial Pathogenesis*

**Research Advisor: Yusuf Omosun, PhD**  
*Assistant Professor, Department of Microbiology,  
Biochemistry, and Immunology*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## *Master of Science in Clinical Research*

**Jade Avery**

*Dissertation Title: Interplay Between Serum and Glucocorticoid-Inducible Kinase-1 and Mitochondrial Calcium Uniporter in Obesity-related Cardiometabolic Dysfunction*

**Research Advisor: Sharon Francis, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Dept. of Physiology, and the Cardiovascular Research Institute*

**Alajjah Bashi**

*Dissertation Title: Role of miR-451a and let-7i-5p - loaded extracellular vesicles in inflammation, Plasmodium growth and malaria pathogenesis*

**Research Advisor: Adel Driss, PhD**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology*

**Melvin Echols, MD**

*Project Title: Development of a Nove Risk Assessment Incorporating Clinical, Social, and Transition Factors to Inform the Management of Hypertensive Heart Failure in African Americans*

**Research Advisor: Elizabeth Ofili, MD**

*Assistant Professor, Department of Physiology*

## *Master of Science in Health Informatics*

**Lauren Eggleston**

**Christopher Fearon**

**Donna Howell**

**Ivory Jones**

**Sonya Muller**

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## *Master of Science in Medical Sciences*

<b>Naja Bostwick</b>	<b>Chelsey Nwadike</b>
<b>Kiera Chevalier</b>	<b>Darlene Okpokpo</b>
<b>Taili Cid</b>	<b>Ijeoma Okorie</b>
<b>Kiara Cross</b>	<b>Karl Opara</b>
<b>Clinton Emeh</b>	<b>Craig Robey</b>
<b>Talayha Farrow</b>	<b>Jenae Sanders</b>
<b>Tyler Fullwood</b>	<b>Champagnae Smith</b>
<b>Destiny Gordon</b>	<b>Lauren Stenson</b>
<b>Jillian Harris</b>	<b>Lauryn Terry</b>
<b>Maya Hill</b>	<b>Madison Terry</b>
<b>Kourtney King</b>	<b>Gabrielle Washington</b>
<b>Haley Maxwell</b>	

## *Master of Science in Neuroscience*

### **Praise Idowu**

*Thesis Title: Isolating Specific Gene Expression in Retinal Cells  
in using Single-Cell RNA Sequencing*

**Research Advisor: Robert Meller, D.Phil BSc**

*Professor, Department of Neurobiology, Pharmacology and  
Toxicology Neuroscience Institute*

### **Karly Mondaizie**

*Thesis Title: Investigating the Effect of Increased Temperature  
on Mitochondrial Function and Neurotoxicity Markers in Co-  
Exposure to Fluoride and Lead*

**Research Advisor: Kennie Shepherd, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Department of Pharmacology and  
Toxicology, Neuroscience Institute*

### **Joseph Walker**

*Thesis Title: The Effects of Cigarette Smoke and HIV-1 Factors  
on the Integrity and Permeability of Blood-Brain Barrier  
Endothelial Cells*

**Research Advisor: Walter Royal III, MD**

*Professor and Chair, Department of Neurobiology,  
Neuroscience Institute*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## *Doctor of Philosophy in Biomedical Sciences*

### **Jade Avery**

*Dissertation Title: Interplay Between Serum and  
Glucocorticoid-Inducible Kinase-1 and Mitochondrial Calcium  
Uniporter in Obesity-related Cardiometabolic Dysfunction*

**Research Advisor: Sharon Francis, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Department of Physiology, and the  
Cardiovascular Research Institute*

### **Alaijah Bashi**

*Dissertation Title: Role of miR-451a and let-7i-5p- loaded  
extracellular vesicles in inflammation, Plasmodium growth  
and malaria pathogenesis*

**Research Advisor: Adel Driss, PhD**

*Associate Professor, Department of Physiology*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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## *Doctor of Medicine Residency Programs and Hospitals*

**Terryn Adams**

*Surgery-Preliminary  
Rutgers University - Robert Wood  
Johnson Medical School  
New Brunswick, NJ*

**Chiagoziem Agu ++**

*Internal Medicine  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Najoua Alioualla**

*Psychiatry  
Carle Foundation Hospital  
Urbana, IL*

**Andreya Antoine +++++**

*General Surgery  
Baylor College Medical Houston  
Houston, TX*

**Tanousha Augustin**

*Family Medicine  
University Miami/Jackson Health System  
Miami, FL*

**Valerie Barr**

*Family Medicine  
Hinsdale Hospital  
Hinsdale, IL*

**Alahni Becks +++++**

*Obstetrics-Gynecology  
Emory University School  
of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**George Beshara ++**

*Broward Health Ctr-FL  
Phys Medicine & Rehab  
Deerfield Beach, FL*

**Dania Brewster**

*Pediatrics  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Kevon Bryan**

*Internal Medicine  
Womack Army Medical Center  
Fort Liberty, NC*

**Emily Bullington +++++**

*Pediatrics  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Austin Casillas**

*Loyola Univ Med Ctr-IL  
Dermatology  
Maywood, IL*

**Crystine Cherenfant**

*Transitional  
Piedmont Athens Regional  
Athens, GA*

**Brandon Chiedo**

*Family Medicine  
The University of Alabama College of  
Community Health Sciences  
Tuscaloosa, AL*

**Diamond Clarke**

*Family Medicine  
Atrium Health Navicent Medical Center  
Macon, GA*

**Matthew Clopton +++**

*Internal Medicine  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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**Erron Collins** +++

*Stanford Health Care-CA  
Radiation Oncology  
Stanford, CA*

**Artesse Conley**

*To Be Announced*

**Shawn Crowley** ++

*Internal Medicine  
SW Healthcare Medical Ed Consortium  
Temecula, CA*

**Fred Curry**

*Anesthesiology  
Rutgers University - Robert Wood Johnson  
Medical School  
New Brunswick, NJ*

**Symphony Davis**

*Obstetrics-Gynecology  
Barnes-Jewish Hosp-MO  
St Louis, MO*

**Mackenzie Ellsberry**

*Pediatrics  
Childrens Hospital of Michigan  
Detroit, MI*

**Temitope Elutilo-Ayoola**

*Pediatrics  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Ambre Flowers** ++

*Internal Medicine  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Diana Guijarro Gaete**

*Emergency Medicine  
Harbor-UCLA Medical Center  
Torrance, CA*

**Tony Hansberry**

*Psychiatry  
Tripler Army Medical Center  
Honolulu, HI*

**Akire' Harris**

*Internal Medicine  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Jacob Hicks**

*Internal Medicine  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Nikolas Holloway**

*Anesthesiology  
Medical College of Georgia  
Augusta, GA*

**Robert Hurt IV**

*Psychiatry  
Gateway Behavioral Health  
Community Service  
Savannah, GA*

**Samira Issa Boube** ++++

*Anesthesiology  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Jason Iyobhebhe**

*Psychiatry  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Nabeel Janjua** +++

*Emergency Medicine  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Lauren Johnson**

*General Surgery  
Louisiana State University  
School of Medicine  
New Orleans, LA*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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**Bridgit Kioko**  
*Pediatrics/ACMC*  
*Advocate Health Care*  
*Oak Lawn, IL*

**Anastasia Kolousek** +++  
*Internal Medicine*  
*Emory University School of Medicine*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**Rashid Logan** +++  
*General Surgery*  
*Icahn School of Medicine at*  
*Mount Sinai Hospital*  
*New York, NY*

**Jamie Maignan**  
*Internal Medicine*  
*University Connecticut School of Medicine*  
*Farmington, CT*

**Justin Maldonado**  
*To Be Announced*

**Nicholas Martin**  
*General Surgery*  
*University South Florida Morsani*  
*College of Medicine*  
*Tampa, FL*

**Minnie Mitchell** ++  
*Neurology*  
*Morehouse School of Medical*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**Ireoluwa Mobolaji**  
*Medicine-Preliminary*  
*Meharry/Metro General Hospital*  
*Nashville, TN*

**Adam Munoz**  
*Psychiatry*  
*St Francis-Emory Healthcare*  
*Columbus, GA*

**Banafsheh Nazari**  
*Internal Medicine*  
*UPMC Mercy Hospital*  
*Pittsburgh, PA*

**Jimmy Nguyen** +++  
*Internal Medicine*  
*Morehouse School of Medicine*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**Conrad Njamfa**  
*Emergency Medicine*  
*St Agnes Medical Center*  
*Fresno, CA*

**Uchechi Ohanu**  
*Pediatrics*  
*University Texas Medical School*  
*Houston, TX*

**Chidi Ojukwu** +++  
*Anesthesiology*  
*Emory University School of Medicine*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**Collins Okoroego**  
*Internal Medicine*  
*University Maryland Medical Center*  
*Baltimore, MD*

**Hui Jean Ooi** +++  
*Internal Medicine*  
*Emory University School of Medicine*  
*Atlanta, GA*

**Oyebola Oyewole**  
*Pediatrics*  
*Kaiser Permanente Northern California*  
*Oakland, CA*

**Christine Petit-Frere**  
*To Be Announced*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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**Britney Pitter**

*Medicine-Preliminary  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Nia Placide ++**

*Internal Medicine  
Morehouse School of Medicine ++  
Atlanta, GA*

**Margaux Powell +++**

*General Surgery/NYU Man  
NYU Grossman School Of Medicine +++  
New York, NY*

**Sonya Randolph**

*Pediatrics  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Jessica Robinson ++**

*Pediatrics  
University Alabama Medical Center  
Birmingham, AL*

**Mariah Rolle ++**

*Family Medicine  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**George Sankar +++**

*Otolaryngology  
University Minnesota Medicine School  
Minneapolis, MN*

**Minita Singh**

*Obstetrics-Gynecology  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Grace Smith +++**

*Anesthesiology/Clin Base Yr  
University Washington Affiliated Hospital  
Seattle, WA*

**Yacine Sow**

*UC San Francisco – CA  
Dermatology  
San Francisco, CA*

**Valivia Strong-Belin**

*Internal Medicine/Kennestone  
WellStar Health System  
Marietta, GA*

**LaRiah Thornton**

*Obstetrics-Gynecology  
Mount Sinai Medical Center  
Miami Beach, FL*

**Hoang Tran +++**

*Internal Medicine/UIH  
University Illinois College of Medicine  
Chicago, IL*

**Ndidi Ude**

*To Be Announced*

**Luis Valdes ++**

*Emory Univ SOM-GA  
Radiology-Diagnostic ++  
Atlanta, GA*

**Vanessa Waiters**

*Neurological Surgery  
Emory University School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Tempestt Walker**

*Internal Medicine  
Morehouse School of Medicine  
Atlanta, GA*

**Valdemar Wany**

*Emergency Medicine  
Medical College of Georgia  
Augusta, GA*

# MEMBERS OF THE CLASS OF 2024

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**Donald White**

*Psychiatry*

*Morehouse School of Medicine*

*Atlanta, GA*

**Darius Whitmore-Carter**

*Psychiatry*

*University Washington Affiliated Hospital*

*Seattle, WA*

**Alexandria Williams**

*Family Medicine*

*University of Virginia*

*Charlottesville, VA*

**Evan Woodard**

*To Be Announced*

- 
- \* Residency to begin in 2025
  - \*\*\* Delta Omega Honor Society in Public Health
  - + MPH Honor Graduate
  - ++ Cum Laude Honors
  - +++ Magna Cum Laude Honors
  - ++++ Summa Cum Laude Honors

# MASTER OF PUBLIC HEALTH

## INTERNATIONAL DECLARATION OF HEALTH RIGHTS

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### HEALTH REQUIRES PEACEFUL AND EQUITABLE DEVELOPMENT AND COLLABORATION OF ALL PEOPLES

**The enjoyment of the highest attainable standard of health** is one of the fundamental rights of every human being. It is not a privilege for those with power, money, or social standing.

**Health is more than the absence of disease**, but includes prevention of illness, development of individual potential, a positive sense of physical, mental, and social well-being.

**Health care should be based on dialogue and collaboration** between citizens, professions, communities, and policy makers. Health service should be affordable, accessible, effective, efficient, and convenient.

**Health begins** with healthy development of the child and a positive family environment.

**Health must be sustained** by the active role of men and women in health and development. The role of women and their welfare must be recognized and addressed.

**Health care for the elderly** should preserve dignity, respect, and concern for a sustainable environment with balanced human populations growth and preservation of cultural diversity.

**Health depends on availability** to people of basic elements: Food, safe water, housing, education, productive employment, protection from pollution, and prevention of social alienation.

**Health depends on protection** from exploitation without distinction of race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition.

**OATH:** WE as people concerned about health improvement in the world do hereby commit ourselves to advocacy and action to promote the health rights of all human beings.

# PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT PROFESSIONAL OATH

---

**I PLEDGE TO PERFORM THE FOLLOWING DUTIES WITH HONESTY AND DEDICATION:**

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

**I will uphold** the tenets of patient autonomy, beneficence, nonmaleficence and justice.

**I will recognize and promote** the value of diversity.

**I will treat** equally all persons who seek my care.

**I will hold** in confidence the information shared in the course of practicing medicine.

**I will assess** my personal capabilities and limitations, striving always to improve my medical practice.

**I will actively seek** to expand my knowledge and skills, keeping abreast of advances in medicine.

**I will work** with other members of the health care team to provide compassionate and effective care of patients.

**I will use** my knowledge and experience to contribute to an improved community.

**I will respect** my professional relationship with the physician.

**I will share** and expand knowledge within the profession.

*These duties are pledged with sincerity and upon my honor.*

# A SCIENTIST'S PLEDGE

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**I accept** this opportunity to follow the difficult and rewarding path of biomedical science and clinical research.

**I will endeavor to** honor all those who have contributed to this opportunity by always working to the utmost of my abilities and by increasing those abilities when possible.

**I will strive to** advance fundamental knowledge about all living things.

**I pledge** to use my energy, intellect and education to enhance the lives of all mankind, understanding that often the greatest strides are made through efforts to assist the dispossessed and underprivileged in our world.

**I will carefully** consider and remain mindful of the ethical implications of my work.

**I will never** use my gifts and skills to intentionally harm any individual, or group.

**In planning and carrying out** my work, I will treat this planet and all its life forms with honor and respect.

**I will honor and respect** the efforts of my teachers, taking great care always to give credit where credit is due and always humbly understanding that all that I see, I see by standing on the shoulders of the many scientists who have gone before me.

**I will also honor and respect** my students and all who rely on that which have learned, striving to truthfully and openly disclose all my methods, findings, and conclusions.

**So long as I adhere** to this pledge, may I have continued success in the field of biomedical science and clinical research.

# THE HIPPOCRATIC OATH

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THE OATH OF HIPPOCRATES WAS DEMANDED OF THE YOUNG PHYSICIAN OF ANCIENT GREECE AS HE WAS ABOUT TO ENTER HIS PROFESSION. THE FOLLOWING IS A MODERN VERSION OF THE ORIGINAL.

**I solemnly swear** that as a graduate of Morehouse School of Medicine, according to my ability and judgment, I will keep the following oath:

**I will consider dear to me** those who have taught me this art and will teach the art to all those who qualify as students;

**I will follow that method of treatment** which, according to my ability and judgment, I consider for the benefit of my patients, and will abstain from whatever is deleterious and mischievous;

**I will preserve the purity** of my life and my art. In every house where I come, I will enter only for the good of my patients, keeping myself from all intentional ill doing and seduction;

**All that may come to my knowledge** in the exercise of my profession, which ought not to be spread abroad, I will keep secret and will never reveal;

**If I keep this oath faithfully**, may I enjoy my life and practice my art, respected by all people and in all times; but if I trespass and violate this oath, may the reverse be my lot.

# ACADEMIC SYMBOLS

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The banner and flag show the Morehouse School of Medicine logo. The original logo was designed in 1976 by artists David and Delores Cato of D'Cato of Atlanta, Georgia. The mace is carried by the Mace Bearer in the procession, and is the medieval symbol of the office and the authority of the president. The head is made from sterling silver and gold, and the shaft carved from Australian Rosewood. Morehouse School of Medicine's original logo forms the head. The names of the presidents of the institution will be carved in the silver sleeves of the shaft, depicting the continuity of institutional leadership over the years. The mace was designed and crafted by Mr. Richard Mafong of Georgia State University and presented as a gift to the school by Dr. and Mrs. Theodore P. Ritota of South Orange, New Jersey.

The academic dress worn by those in the procession includes the cap, gown, and hood. The cap, made of black serge or broadcloth, is worn by holders of all degrees, but the cap of the doctor may be of velvet. Gowns are usually black, but the color is determined by the university from which the highest degree was obtained. The doctor's gown is round, has bell sleeves, and is faced down in front and barred on the sleeves with black velvet. Doctors' hoods are in the full shape with a rounded base. Their hoods are four-feet long and have a five-inch silk, satin, or velvet border on the outside. The border represents the faculty from which the wearer has received his/her degree. The color of the border representing medicine is green. Throughout the United States, there has not been a change in the standard colors which represent the disciplines. The color facing the hood, whether it is black or colored, indicates the following:

Kelly Green:	Medicine
Science Gold:	Science
Dark Blue:	Philosophy
Lilac:	Dentistry
Scarlet:	Theology
Purple:	Law
Olive:	Pharmacy
Lemon:	Library Science
Light Blue:	Education
Drab:	Business
Citron:	Social Work Public
Salmon Pink:	Health
Sage Green:	Physician Assistant

Each hood is lined with silk in colors representative of the institution granting the degree. The colors for Morehouse School of Medicine are blue and ivory.

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# “THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER”

---

FRANCIS SCOTT KEY

O say can you see by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?  
On the shore dimly seen through the mists of the deep,  
Where the foe's haughty host in dread silence reposes,  
What is that which the breeze, o'er the towering steep,  
As it fitfully blows, half conceals, half discloses?  
Now it catches the gleam of the morning's first beam,  
In full glory reflected now shines in the stream:  
'Tis the star-spangled banner, O! long may it wave  
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

# “LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”

---

JAMES WELDON JOHNSON

Lift Every voice and sing  
‘Til the earth and Heaven ring,  
Ring with the harmonies of liberty,  
Let our rejoicing rise  
High as the listening skies,  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.  
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;  
Facing the rising sun  
Of our new day begun,  
Let us march on ‘til victory is won.

Morehouse School of Medicine  
made every effort to provide a complete  
and accurate listing of graduates and  
academic honors as of May 10, 2024.  
Please accept our sincere apologies if we  
have committed an error or omission.

# “SOAR”

(TO THE HIGHEST PLACE OF DREAMS)

JERRY PETERS

Voice

Sol - emn - ly, we are poised to pur - sue our jour - ney to that

6 pri - vi - leged place. Hum - bly, we will ans - wer to our

12 call as we walk through these hall - owed halls of hope. For with our

17 hearts willed to serve by com - mit - ment and with our minds built to

22 solve mys - ter - ies, though we seem bound for one end - less des - ti - na -

28 tion, yet we will bold - ly spread our wings as we soar

34 to the high - est place of dreams.

48 Proud - ly, we will stand for - e - ver tall, as we face the giants of

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 **3**

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CONGRATULATIONS  
GRADUATES



KNOWLEDGE, WISDOM, EXCELLENCE, SERVICE

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SPRING 2024





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