



2024

UB University at Buffalo
The State University of New York

ONE HUNDRED THIRTY-FIFTH



SCHOOL OF LAW
COMMENCEMENT

Sunday
May 19, 2024
1:00 PM

Center for the Arts
North Campus

S. Todd Brown
Dean
Professor of Law

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
Professor of Law



Program

Processional*

Selection from Pomp and Circumstance
by *Edward Elgar*
Cathedral Brass

Marshal & Mace Bearer

Lucinda M. Finley
*Frank G. Raichle Professor of Trial
& Appellate Advocacy*

Opening Declaration

Professor Lucinda Finley

National Anthem**

Kira Whitehead
BFA, Music Theatre '24

Greetings

Satish K. Tripathi
University President

Dean's Remarks

S. Todd Brown
*Dean
Professor of Law*

Keynote Address

Hon. Trini E. Ross '92
*U.S. Attorney for the Western District
of New York*

Alumni Welcome

Michael J. Hecker '09
UB Law Alumni Association President

Student Address

Kelly Marie Tripi '24

Presentation of Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award

William M. Murray, Esq.
*Senior Counsel, Cheryl Stein
Law Firm, PLLC*

Christine Pedigo Bartholomew
*Vice Dean for Academic Affairs
Professor of Law*

Awards and Prizes

Vice Dean Christine Bartholomew

Herald

Lisa M. Patterson
*Program Director for Externships, Public
Interest Offerings & Access to Justice
Initiatives
Teaching Faculty*

Conferral of Degrees

President Satish Tripathi

Dean S. Todd Brown

Hooders

Vice Dean Christine Bartholomew

Luis E. Chiesa
*Vice Dean for Diversity, Equity & Belonging
Dr. Teresa A. Miller Professor in Law*

Rebecca R. French
Professor of Law

Angelyn McDuff '12 (JD), '18 (LLM)
*Director of the LAWR Program
Lecturer in Law, Legal Analysis, Writing
& Research*

University Alma Mater**

Kira Whitehead
BFA, Music Theatre '24

Closing Declaration

Professor Lucinda Finley

Recessional*

Triumphal March from Aida
by *Giuseppe Verdi*
Cathedral Brass

**Audience will remain seated during the
Processional and Recessional.*

*** Please stand if able.*

*The University at Buffalo School of Law
is strongly committed to a policy against
discrimination based on race, color, religious
creed, sex, disability, national origin, age,
marital status and sexual orientation, in
accord with the non-discrimination policies
of the State of New York, the SUNY Board
of Trustees, the University at Buffalo, the
Association of American Law Schools, the
American Bar Association, the New York
State Rules of Professional Conduct. We
support efforts to effectuate this policy with
respect to all protected individuals.*

*Unless otherwise noted, class years indicate
graduation dates from the University at
Buffalo School of Law.*

SUNY Trustee and UB Officials

Eunice Ashman Lewin

Member of the State University of New York Board of Trustees



President and co-founder of Impacto Consulting Associates, Eunice Ashman Lewin joined the SUNY Board of Trustees in February 2010. She helped reinstate the Student Life Committee, which she co-chairs. In

this role, she spearheaded the creation of the Food Insecurity and the Mental Health task forces. Lewin serves on the board's Executive Committee and the committees for academic affairs, communications and external affairs, community colleges, and academic medical centers and hospitals.

A former commissioner of the Niagara Frontier Transportation Authority, Lewin was a founding member of the Roswell Park Alliance and a board member of the Buffalo Urban League and Hispanics United of Buffalo. She is a member of the Hispanic Women's League and the Greater Buffalo Racial Equity Roundtable. In 2022, Lewin was named co-chair of the 5/14 Remembrance Committee to honor the mass shooting victims of the May 14 tragedy in East Buffalo.

A retired bilingual social worker for the Buffalo Board of Education, she is a champion for STEM education.

Born in Guantanamo, Cuba, Lewin immigrated to the U.S. with her family in 1967. She holds a bachelor's degree in sociology from Marymount Manhattan College and master's degrees in American and Puerto Rican studies, and in educational administration, from UB.

Jeremy M. Jacobs

Chairman of the University at Buffalo Council



Jeremy M. Jacobs was appointed to the UB Council in 1997; in 1998, then-Gov. George Pataki named him chairman. Jacobs is chairman of Delaware North, a global hospitality company with customers in the United

States, Australia, New Zealand and the United Kingdom. The company's operations include food and retail at airports and sports venues, sports facility ownership and management, operations of parks and major tourist attractions, hotel ownership and management, gaming operations and fine dining.

Jacobs owns the Boston Bruins and serves as chairman of the National Hockey League's Board of Governors. In 2018, he received the sport's highest honor when he was inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame.

An alumnus of UB's School of Management and Harvard Business School's Advanced Management Program, Jacobs holds honorary doctorates in humane letters from UB, Canisius College, Niagara University and Johnson & Wales University. In 2015, his family donated \$30 million to advance UB's medical school, which was renamed the Jacobs School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences.

Jacobs has served Western New York for more than four decades with his business expertise and philanthropic leadership, and Delaware North has received multiple awards for social responsibility, community service and environmental stewardship.

A longtime friend and supporter of UB, Jacobs has served as chairman, trustee and director of the UB Foundation, chairman of the President's Board of Visitors and adviser to the School of Management.

Satish K. Tripathi

University President



An internationally distinguished researcher and higher education leader, Satish K. Tripathi, PhD, is the University at Buffalo's 15th president.

Tripathi, who served as UB's provost from 2004-2011, was dean of the Bourns College of Engineering at the University of California, Riverside, from 1997-2004. Previously, he spent 19 years as professor of computer science at the University of Maryland, including seven years as department chair.

In 2024, Tripathi was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. A fellow of IEEE and AAAS, he has published more than 200 scholarly papers, supervised more than 30 doctoral and postdoctoral students and served on program committees of numerous international conferences.

Tripathi graduated at the top of his class from Banaras Hindu University (BHU). He holds a master's degree and a doctorate in computer science from the University of Toronto, as well as master's degrees in statistics from the University of Alberta and BHU. He has received honorary doctorates from the Indian Institute of Information Technology, Allahabad, and Brock University in Canada.

Tripathi is co-chair of the Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force on Expanding U.S.-India University Partnerships, and he serves on the College Football Playoff Board of Managers. Previously, he was chair of the Mid-American Conference Council of Presidents and Internet 2. He also served on the boards of the AAU, the NCAA Division I, the NCAA Board of Governors, the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation.

A. Scott Weber

*Provost and Executive Vice President
for Academic Affairs*



As provost and executive vice president for academic affairs, A. Scott Weber, PhD, serves as the university's chief academic officer, providing leadership across the academic enterprise including

research, scholarship and creative activities; undergraduate, graduate, professional and international education; faculty development; diversity and inclusion initiatives; and university libraries. Weber is leading the implementation of the university's vision to be recognized among the top 25 public research universities in the nation, focused on building on UB's strengths to achieve new levels of excellence in research, scholarship, education, clinical care and engagement.

A member of UB's faculty since 1983, Weber is an innovative scholar and teacher and former chair of UB's Department of Civil, Structural and Environmental Engineering. Weber has held progressively responsible administrative roles at UB, including senior vice provost and vice provost for academic affairs, where he was instrumental in the creation of the UB Curriculum and the nationally recognized Finish in 4 program; and vice president for student life, where he focused on enhancing the student experience on campus and promoting overall student wellness.

Weber serves on New York's Hazardous Waste Facility Siting Board for Chemical Waste Management. He is a former board member and current advisory committee member of the United Way of Buffalo and Erie County.

Weber earned bachelor's and master's of science degrees in civil engineering from Virginia Polytechnical Institute and a PhD in civil engineering from the University of California, Davis.

S. Todd Brown

Dean and Professor of Law



S. Todd Brown was recently appointed the 21st dean of the School of Law after serving as interim dean since July of 2023. A member of the law school faculty since 2009, he teaches bankruptcy, contracts,

corporations, torts, mass torts, and related courses. From 2016 to 2023, he served as vice dean for academic affairs, overseeing the law school's curriculum and leading the advancement of its academic programs.

A highly regarded expert on bankruptcy trusts, Chapter 11, complex litigation, and mass torts, Brown is frequently quoted by national and international media outlets. His scholarship has been cited in a variety of state and federal opinions, and he has testified before the U.S. House Judiciary Committee, state legislatures, the American Bar Association's Task Force on Asbestos and Bankruptcy Trusts, and the American Bankruptcy Institute's Commission to Reform Chapter 11.

Before entering academia, Brown was the managing partner of a small business and practiced with the law firms WilmerHale in Washington, D.C., and Jones Day in D.C. and Cleveland. He received a bachelor's degree in philosophy, summa cum laude, from Loyola University, a juris doctorate degree from Columbia Law School, where he served as articles editor of the *Columbia Business Law Review*, and a master of laws degree from the Beasley School of Law at Temple University.

Special Guest

Hon. Trini E. Ross '92

*U.S. Attorney for the
Western District of New York*



Hon. Trini E. Ross was one of the first five U.S. Attorneys appointed by President Joseph R. Biden, Jr. in 2021. She was confirmed, unanimously, by the Senate and is the first black woman to hold the position in the Western District of New York. As the top law enforcement official in the district, she is responsible for overseeing the prosecution of all federal criminal cases brought within the 17 counties of Western New York.

In March 2022, Ross was selected by Attorney General Merrick Garland to serve on his advisory committee, addressing matters of policy, procedure and management impacting the 94 U.S. Attorneys Offices and the Department of Justice. She was also selected as the chair of the subcommittee for Law Enforcement Coordinators, Victims and Community Outreach.

Prior to becoming U.S. Attorney, Ross served as an assistant United States attorney for the Western District of New York, where she was appointed senior litigation counsel, chief of the Anti-Fraud and Corruption Section, and deputy chief of the White Collar and General Crimes Section. She has also served as the director of investigations, Legal Division, with the National Science Foundation's Office of Inspector General, and as assistant counsel with the Department of Justice's Office of Professional Responsibility. In addition, she has held positions as a litigation associate in private practice, as an appellate court attorney for New York State Supreme Court, and as an adjunct professor at the law school.

Ross received a juris doctorate, cum laude, from the University of Buffalo School of Law, a master's degree from Rutgers University, and a bachelor's degree from SUNY Fredonia.

Ken Joyce Excellence in Teaching Award

Presented by Professor and Vice Dean for Academic Affairs Christine Pedigo Bartholomew to a member of the adjunct faculty for excellent teaching and longstanding service to the School of Law.

William M. Murray, Esq.

Senior Counsel, Cheryl Stein Law Firm, PLLC



William M. Murray is an attorney specializing in land use and zoning law, environmental law, community planning and development, and non-profit management. During his more than forty-year career, he has represented or consulted with dozens of municipalities, commercial real estate developers, community organizations, urban planning professionals, and non-profit organizations concerning a variety of legal and management issues.

For the past twenty years, Murray has been an adjunct professor at the University at Buffalo School of Law and the School of Architecture and Planning. His courses include Land Use Planning, Planning and Development Law, and Legal Issues in Planning and Development.

Previously, Murray served as deputy commissioner in the Erie County Department of Environment and Planning. He has also served as liaison to the Erie County Cultural Resources Advisory Board and contributed to the development of the Erie-Niagara Framework for Regional Growth, as well as several other community-based environmental initiatives. In his position with Erie County, he served as chair of the Niagara River Remedial Action Committee, as a member of the Niagara Erie Regional Coalition Economic Development Committee, and as a member of the Buffalo Urban Development Corporation's board of directors.

Murray was also general counsel to the Town of Amherst Industrial Development Agency and deputy town attorney for the Town of Amherst. He served as chair of the Amherst Zoning Board of Appeals and, for eight years, he was vice-president and general counsel to the Forest Lawn Group.

He holds a bachelor's degree from the University of Notre Dame and a juris doctorate degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law.

Ken Joyce Award Recipients

2012	Steven R. Sugarman '85
2013	Helen A. Drew-Meosky '88
2014	Hon. Thomas (Tim) P. Franczyk
2015	Garry M. Graber '78
2016	John R. Nuchereneno*
2017	Christen E. Civiletto
2018	Jennifer R. Scharf '05
2019	William F. Savino '75
2022	Daniel D. Kohane '79
2023	Hon. Glenn Murray

**Awarded posthumously*

Awards and Prizes

Max Koren Award is presented to the member of the graduating class, who, in the judgment of the faculty and the dean, has exemplified the highest standards of the profession by virtue of scholastic achievement, leadership and dedication to the ideals of the law. The selected student will receive a certificate and a prize. This award is supported by a gift from M. Robert Koren, Class of 1944, and son of Max Koren.

John N. Bennett Achievement Award is presented to the member of the graduating class judged by the faculty to demonstrate the highest scholastic achievement in the graduating class. The winner's name is inscribed on the Bennett Cup, which is displayed in the School of Law. The award is named in honor of John N. Bennett, Class of 1933.

Dale S. Margulis Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who has contributed the most to the School of Law and the community. Candidates for the award are nominated by members of the graduating class, and the recipient is selected by the deans. Dale S. Margulis, a member of the class of 1982, died suddenly in August 1982. His classmates, family and friends established this award to honor his memory.

Bachelor of Arts in Law Achievement Award is presented to the member of the Law BA graduating class judged by the undergraduate faculty to demonstrate the highest scholastic achievement in law major courses.

The Faculty Award recognizes an outstanding member of the School of Law faculty as voted on by the graduating class.

The Staff Award recognizes an outstanding member of the School of Law staff as voted on by the graduating class.

The following awards and prizes were announced at the Student Awards Convocation earlier today.

Carlos C. Alden Award is presented to the member of the graduating class making the greatest contribution to the *Buffalo Law Review*, as decided by the Law Review editors and the faculty adviser. Carlos C. Alden was dean of the School of Law from 1904-1936 and Professor of Law from 1904-1955.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Health Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the area of health law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Intellectual Property Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the area of intellectual property. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Award for Excellence in the Study of Labor and Employment Law is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance in the areas of labor and employment law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Outstanding Student Award is presented to a student who has excelled in assisting or representing individual or organizational clients; and who has provided thoughtful exploration of legal, ethical, strategic, professional, and other pertinent issues raised in a particular clinic.

Clinical Legal Education Association (CLEA) Outstanding Externship Student Award is presented to a student who has excelled in assisting or representing individual or organizational clients and who has provided thoughtful exploration of legal, ethical, strategic, professional, and other pertinent issues raised in a particular externship.

Robert J. Connelly Trial Technique Awards are presented to the students who have the best performance record in the course in trial technique, as selected by their instructors. The award is presented in honor of Robert J. Connelly, who was an exceptionally able trial lawyer prior to his tragic and untimely death at age 44.

Professor Louis DelCotto Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of taxation is outstanding, as recommended by the faculty. The award commemorates Louis A. DelCotto, Class of 1951, a beloved professor who taught tax law from 1961 to 1998, and developed the sequence of courses in taxation taught at the School of Law.

Justice M. Dolores Denman Award was established by the Western New York Chapter of the Women's Bar Association of the State of New York and commemorates the Honorable M. Dolores Denman, Class of 1965, who was the first woman to be named presiding justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Appellate Division, Fourth Department. The Denman Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who is a custodial parent to offset the costs of daycare and other child-rearing expenses during the bar study period.

Monique E. Emdin Memorial Award is given to one or more graduating students who are members of groups traditionally underrepresented in the legal profession and who demonstrate a commitment to community service, including significant service in faith-based communities, and/or have made significant contributions to the law school through involvement in student groups. This award memorializes Monique E. Emdin, a graduate of the class of 2007, a former associate at Hiscock & Barclay LLP, and a dedicated member of the Bethesda World Harvest International Church.

Maurice Frey Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of family law is most exceptional. It is named to honor the memory of Maurice Frey, a prominent attorney who cared deeply about legal education, created the Trial Technique Program, and taught at the School of Law for a number of years. He also worked tirelessly in the community to ensure that our legal system served and protected all members of our society.

William R. Greiner "Committed Humility" Award is presented to the student in the graduating class who, in the opinion of the Vice Dean for Student Affairs and the two most senior members of the faculty, best exemplifies the style of leadership that distinguished Bill Greiner. In his roles as Associate Dean of the School of Law, and as Associate Provost, Provost, and for 13-years President of the University, he exemplified an openness to the opinions of others, humane compassion for individuals, a sense of perspective and proportion, a love of humor and irony, and, most importantly, an acceptance of personal fallibility.

Justice Philip Halpern Award is given to the member of the graduating class for excellence in writing on the *Buffalo Law Review*. Prior to becoming a Justice of the New York State Supreme Court, Justice Halpern was dean of the School of Law and a member of the faculty for 27 years. The winner is determined by the editorial board and the faculty adviser.

Professor Thomas E. Headrick "Trees and Forest" Award is given to the student of corporate finance who most clearly recognizes that a corporate practitioner needs both to understand the transaction fully and to get the details precisely correct.

Judge Matthew J. Jasen Appellate Practice Award is presented to the member of the graduating class who in course work and Moot Court Competition has shown outstanding achievement in appellate advocacy. The award is given to honor the memory of Judge Jasen, Class of 1939, and is supported by his friends and former clerks.

Milton Kaplan Award in Law and Social Development is named to honor the memory of Milton Kaplan, Professor of Law from 1965 to 1986. As teacher and colleague, Professor Kaplan is admired for his selfless dedication to students and colleagues and for his penetrating yet admirably unassuming scholarship. Throughout his career, he was committed to the shaping of law to improve the conditions of public life in local communities around the world. The Milton Kaplan Award honors a member of the graduating class who best demonstrates exceptional commitment to the study of law and social development in an American, comparative, or international context.

James M. Kieffer Trial Excellence Award is presented to the member of the graduating class whose proficiency in trial advocacy has been most outstanding. Selection is based on performance in both coursework and trial competitions. The award is named in memory of James M. Kieffer, a nationally recognized trial attorney who practiced in Western New York.

David Kochery Award is provided by the family and friends of David Kochery who taught at the School of Law from 1953 to 1980. It is awarded to a member of the graduating class who best exemplifies the traits of community leadership through service outside the school and involvement in one or more student organizations.

Dan D. Kohane '79 Insurance Award is presented to the student who demonstrates exceptional academic performance and shows an abiding interest in the field of insurance law. The recipient is selected by the faculty.

Awards and Prizes

The Lavender Gavel Award recognizes a graduating student for their outstanding efforts and accomplishments in the pursuit of LGBTQ+ visibility, dignity, and civil rights.

Professor Virginia Leary Award is given to the member of the graduating class whose academic performance in the area of international law is outstanding, as recommended by the faculty. The award is given in memory of Virginia Leary, a beloved SUNY Distinguished Service Professor who taught international law from 1976 to 1995 and developed the sequence of courses in international law taught at the School of Law.

Minority Bar Foundation's Legal Commencement Award is presented to a member of the graduating class who, in the judgment of the Minority Bar Foundation and the School of Law, has exemplified the high standards of the profession by virtue of scholastic achievement and leadership, and who has demonstrated a significant commitment to effectuating changes within the legal system that address the needs of the minority community.

Moot Evidence Award is presented to the member of the graduating class for the best performance in the area of evidence as determined by the faculty. The award is given in honor of Welles and Caroline Moot and in remembrance of Adelbert Moot, who taught evidence in the founding years of the School of Law.

Albert R. Mugel Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated the greatest proficiency in future interests and estate planning law. The award is named to honor the memory of Albert R. Mugel, Class of 1941, a founder of the law firm of Jaeckle Fleischmann & Mugel. He taught future interests and estate planning at the School of Law as an adjunct professor for over fifty years. During his long career in practice, he served the community with great distinction.

Ryan J. Mullins Award is given to the member of the graduating class demonstrating the greatest commitment to and proficiency in criminal law and criminal trial practice skills. Ryan J. Mullins, a member of the class of 2005, died suddenly in September 2003. To honor his memory, his classmates, family, friends and members of the School of Law community established this award.

The Order of Barristers is a national oralists honors society. The members include students who have shown dedication and who have excelled in the art of oral advocacy and service to the law school's moot court program. Each year, eight to ten students are elected to membership in the organization as nominated by the Director of Moot Courts.

The Order of the Coif is an honorary scholastic society whose philosophical roots stretch back to medieval English jurisprudence. Coif membership is offered to graduating students who display excellence in legal education by demonstrating a spirit of careful study and academic success. New members who demonstrate such scholarly success join lawyers, judges, and teachers who have attained high distinction for their continued scholarly or professional accomplishments. UB School of Law has been a member since 2014. Students selected for this distinction are denoted in the list of JD candidates by †.

The Harry A. Rachlin Prize in Real Property Law and Real Estate Transactions was established by the family of Harry A. Rachlin, Class of 1926, who during his lengthy and renowned career was a leading authority regarding the New York State Lien Law. Mr. Rachlin served as a lecturer and maintained an ongoing interest in the welfare of University at Buffalo School of Law students. The prize is awarded to members of the graduating class who exhibit excellence in research, clinical and academic performance in the areas of real property law, housing, housing finance and real estate transactions as determined by the faculty and administration of the School of Law.

Judge William J. Regan Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated the greatest proficiency in estates and surrogate's law, and who is motivated by a strong concern for public service and public welfare. The award is named to honor the memory of Judge William J. Regan, Class of 1938, and Erie County Surrogate from 1963 to 1981. During his long career in practice and on the bench, he served the community with great distinction. This award is supported from a fund donated by friends of Judge Regan.

UB Law Alumni Association's GOLD Group Award is given to the member of the graduating class who has demonstrated outstanding leadership skills in advancing the mission of the School of Law and enhancing its reputation for excellence in legal education.

Cornelius W. Wickersham, Jr. Award is presented to the member of the graduating class who is the highest-ranking student in the field of Constitutional Law. This award is given by the Federal Bar Council. The Federal Bar Council was formed in 1932 after breaking away from the national bar association to protest its refusal to admit minority bar members. Mr. Wickersham was its president from 1955-1957.



Candidates for Degrees

Subject to completion of all degree requirements, degrees will be conferred as indicated upon those individuals listed herein who were identified by April 4, 2024 and upon such others as may meet the requirements of their respective degrees. Candidates are listed according to actual date of degree conferral: February 2024; June 2024 and August 2024.

Degree recipients will come forward to be congratulated during the commencement ceremony.

Recommending Candidates for Degrees

Dean S. Todd Brown

Master of Laws

June 15, 2024

Vitoria De Lima Neves
B.A., Universidade São Judas Tadeu

Dhwani Pandya
LL.B., Nirma University
B.A., Nirma University

Mari Tokhosashvili
LL.M., Ilia State University
LL.B., Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University

Amedeo Zmarandoiu
J.D., Università di Bologna

Juris Doctor

February 1, 2024

Lauren Michaela Baker
B.A., Canisius College

Amy Timm Crosier
M.A., University at Albany
B.A., University at Buffalo

Oliver Jean Collins
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Paul C. Landwehr
B.S., Buffalo State College

Jennifer Sauter
B.A., University of Pittsburgh

Kathleen Teryn Vacco
B.S., University at Buffalo

Christopher James Wideman
B.A., University of Rochester

June 15, 2024

Lensa Abdukadir
B.A., Georgetown University

Alexis Lee Ackerson
B.S., Medaille College

Davis Badger Anderson †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Ashley Asanjarani
B.A., University at Buffalo

Christopher M. Barrett
M.S., Rochester Institute of Technology
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Madeline Shanahan Becker
B.A., Loyola University Maryland

Aliza Hannah Berger
B.A., University of Pittsburgh

Mathew Biondolillo †
Ph.D., University of New Hampshire
M.A., University of New Hampshire
B.S., Syracuse University

Alex Antonio Blanco
B.S., SUNY Geneseo

Katharyn Rahe Bodie
B.A., University at Buffalo

Christopher M. Borgatti
M.A., St. John's University
B.A., St. John's University

Racquel Joan Bozzelli
B.S., University of Maine

Sydney Maras Brason
B.A., New York University

TJ Leonard Bullock
B.S., University of Texas at Austin

Zachary Earl Buncy
B.A., University at Buffalo

Stephanie Irene Burke
M.S.W., University at Buffalo
B.S., Rochester Institute of Technology

Steve Burke †
B.A., University of Notre Dame

Madison Anna Burns †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Teresa Marie Cappiello
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Haley Wynne Case
M.S., Buffalo State College
B.A., University at Buffalo

Marc Anthony Celotto
B.A., University of Maryland, College Park

Bill Patrick Christ
B.A., College of the Holy Cross

Juliana O. Cipolla
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nora Lorraine Colley
B.A., Leiden University

Chloe E. Combs
B.S., SUNY Canton

Nicholas Richard Crossland
B.A., University at Buffalo

Gabriella Ann Decker
B.A., Niagara University

Ariyana R. DeWitz
B.A., University at Buffalo

Brenden Kyle Diaz
B.A., University at Buffalo

Alexis Nicole DiCarlo
B.S., University at Buffalo

Ciara Mairead Donohue †
B.S., SUNY Geneseo

Madeline Jean Drechsel
B.A., Queens University at Kingston

Ashley Richelle Drzymala
B.S., University at Buffalo

Matthew Duke
B.A., Canisius College

Jordan Cassisy Eaton †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Tia Elysse Elliston
B.S., Xavier University

Elif Ersan
B.A., University at Buffalo

Katherine Lyn Fierle †
B.S., University at Buffalo

Ashley C. Freeman
B.A., SUNY Fredonia

Jacob Allan Frezza
B.A., Buffalo State College

Matthew Earl Gabalski
M.A., Brandeis University
B.S., Medaille College

Haley E. Germain †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Bryan Joel Gilbert-Overland
B.A., Houghton College

Alexander Gilzon-Lazarev
B.A., University at Buffalo

Jodaliza Gloder
B.S., Cornell University

Rachel Morgan Golden
B.A., University of Rochester

Deja Renee Graham
B.A., The College of New Rochelle

Maura Lynn Graham
B.A., University at Buffalo
M.S.W., University at Buffalo

Jack Emerson Grant
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Nicholas A. Guarino
B.S., University at Buffalo

Marc David Gull
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Ziran Guo
B.A., New York University

Emily R. Haley
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Clint Jacob Hassett
B.S., Hilbert College

Victoria Susan Heist
B.A., SUNY Oswego

Andrew Stephen Henry
B.A., Binghamton University

Alec Riley Herbert †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Eric John Herrmann
B.A., SUNY Cortland

Daniela Alexandra Hoegerle
B.A., Canisius College

Rachel Hoff
M.A., SUNY Fredonia
B.A., SUNY Fredonia

Claire Elizabeth Hofmeister †
B.S., SUNY Geneseo

Tyler James Hogan
B.S., SUNY Brockport

Ian Hunter Hoock
B.A., Canisius College

Lindsey G. Hornung
B.A., Daemen College

Lexi Renee Horton †
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Elizabeth Charlotte Hughes
B.S., University at Buffalo

Ryan Alexander Hughes
B.S., University at Buffalo

Ella Imani Humphrey
B.S., University at Buffalo

Blessing Ikwunze
LL.B., Joseph Ayo Babalola University

Matthew A. Jacobson
B.S., SUNY Plattsburgh

Isabella Sophia Jankowski
B.S., Canisius College

Michael Joseph Johnson
B.A., SUNY Fredonia

Ann Marie Jones
B.S., University at Buffalo

Daniel Kahl
B.A., SUNY Geneseo
M.S.W., University at Buffalo

Jacob Sumner Kantor
B.A., University of California, Los Angeles

Jane Anne Kent
B.A., University at Buffalo

Tyler Michael Kiblin
B.A., University at Buffalo

Seth Jordan Klemenich
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Jacob D. Kobler
B.S., University at Buffalo

Order of the Coif is denoted by: †

Candidates for Degrees

Kelly Lynn Kulakowski
B.A., SUNY Geneseo

Riley John Laese
B.S., Arizona State University

Sophia Camille Lambiotte
B.A., University at Buffalo

Meredith Jane Lance
B.A., Canisius College

Amy Catherine Lanighan
B.A., Canisius College
B.S., University at Buffalo

Ron LaPort
B.A., Canisius College

Anna Elizabeth Lawrence †
B.A., University at Buffalo

Nathaniel James Lent
B.A., University at Buffalo

Michael L. Lieberman
B.A., Binghamton University

Ashleigh Elizabeth Lymburner
B.A., University at Buffalo

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Latin Honors

Subject to completion of all degree requirements and satisfaction of the following minimum criteria, Latin honors may be conferred as indicated upon the individuals listed herein and upon such others as may meet the requirements. To qualify for Latin honors, students must present a minimum of 60 credit hours of UB undergraduate coursework, at least 54 of which must be graded credits (i.e., does not include S/U, or satisfactory/unsatisfactory, grades). The UB GPA must be a minimum of 3.2 (to 3.499) for cum laude, 3.5 (to 3.749) for magna cum laude and 3.75 (to 4.0) for summa cum laude.

To receive the Latin honors designation in the printed 2024 commencement programs, candidates for the June or August 2024 degree conferral date must qualify based upon their UB cumulative GPA through the Winter 2024 session and total number of UB credit hours projected through their final semester. Standings for Latin honors MAY change once final grades are posted or degrees conferred.

Legend

Cum laude is denoted by *.
Magna cum laude is denoted by **.
Summa cum laude is denoted by ***.

February 1, 2024

Alyssa Cline ***
Andrew Gentile **
Janiah Gonzalez
Liam Mahood **
Corbin Merla ***
Sean O'Connell *
Anatolii Vorsin ***

June 15, 2024

Linda Alzarif **
Jaden Balog **
Jocelyn Basnet
Daniel Bauman **
Jayli Bermudez

Colton Bialik *
Blake Breidenstein ***
Carmen Burgos
Darcy Butler
Shymaa Challob
Desmond Chan **
Beatrice Cooper
Jake Costello *
Matthew Crangle **
Ryan Davidson *
Sardor Elmurodov **
Maryiah Elwaseem
Rasheed Elwaseem
Andrea Euceda *
Jessica Fink ***
Chloe Freeland ***
Christopher Fusco
Jillian Harris
Emily Henninger ***
Taspeya Hossain **
Christopher Houghtaling
Victoria Huang
Dalton Jean-Pierre *
Gabriel Johnston *
Isabella LaFreniere **
Rohan Manohar
Evin Mejia
Matt Men
Anthony Miller ***
Edward Mui
Sean O'Brien *
Colin O'Reilly *
Samantha Polanco *
Tania Ramirez
Allyson Roy
Brianna Ruffin *
Jill Silverstein **
Nicholas Skarbek
Chaya Smart
Nilah Smith
Kately Suarez *
Matthew Suppa **
Zaire Thornhill
Jennifer Torres **
Nicole Tsangarakis **
Makenna Wanat ***
Michelle Woedy *

August 31, 2024

Ayden Burd ***
Sanaa Etienne
Nukia Funderburk
Jacob Kowalski
Jonathan Markowski
Julia Noshy ***

Academic Costume

The traditional costume worn at the Commencement Exercise is a record of academic achievement of the individuals taking part. Its use, which originated at English and European universities during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, came to the United States in 1754 with the founding of what is now Columbia University.

In 1895 the Intercollegiate Commission, a group of leading American educators, met at Columbia to draft a code which would serve to regulate the design of gowns and hoods for various degrees as well as to fix the colors that indicate the various faculties. This code has been adopted by most of the colleges and universities in America. It was revised in 1932 and again in 1959.

The level of degree held is indicated by the gown's cut. Doctoral gowns have full sleeves, which are round and open. Gowns worn by bachelors have long pointed sleeves, and those worn by masters have long, closed, somewhat fuller sleeves which reach nearly to the wearer's knees. The arm goes through a slit, giving the appearance of short sleeves.

The color as well as cut of the gown varies. Although most doctoral gowns are black, in some cases their color is that of the university conferring the degree. The doctoral gown is trimmed in velvet; it has three two-inch bars on the sleeves and a five-inch border extending from the back of the neck down the two sides in front. Although usually black, the velvet may be of a color that indicates the nature of the degree.

Master's and bachelor's gowns have no facing. The hood seems to have had a more practical origin. During the Middle Ages monks wore them to protect their shaved heads in the winter and as a container in which to collect alms. It is the most significant part of the academic dress. Its shape and size indicate the degree of the wearer, the color of the velvet border indicates the academic field, and that of the lining the color or colors of the institution granting the degree. The bachelor's hood is three feet long and has a two-inch velvet border, the master's is three and one-half feet long and has a three-inch border, and the doctor's is four feet with a five-inch border. The University at Buffalo hood is lined with blue and gold stripes.

The mortarboard cap has been conventionalized from the skull cap which was worn by monks of the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. The mortarboard is usually black. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter by degree holders; candidates wear the tassel over the right front quarter until the degree is conferred.

Academic Recognition Items

The Coif Disk

A felt disk is awarded to JD/LLM students who are graduating in the top 10% of the class. Students are denoted by †.

The Gold Cord

This cord is awarded to bachelor students who are graduating with Latin honors.

The Grey and Red Stole

This stole was received by students who are University Honors College graduates.

Non-Academic, University-Wide Recognition Items

The Kente Stole

This stole was received by students who will be participating in UB's ALANA Celebration of Achievement which historically has honored graduating African, Latino/a, Asian and Native American students.

The Rainbow Tassel and Lavender Stole

These items were received by students who participated in the Lavender Ceremony, celebrating achievements of graduating students who identify with the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer community at UB.

The Red, White and Blue Cord

This cord is worn by graduating UB students who are active duty servicemembers, reservists, members of the National Guard, newly commissioned officers or veterans of the United States armed forces.

Non-Academic, School of Law Recognition Items

The Burgundy Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in the *Buffalo Law Review*.

The Green Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in a specialty journal.

The Purple Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in moot courts and trial teams.

The Royal Blue Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in a law affinity student group.

The Blue and White Cord

This cord was received by students who participated in one or more student social groups.

The White Cord

This cord was received by students who exhibited a strong commitment to pro bono service while in law school, having delivered more than 400 pro bono hours, or engaged in other extraordinary pro bono service.

The Mace

Graduating JD and LLM students may also wear recognition items unique to their own identity or individual student organizations. As of the printing of this program, the following student organizations have registered their own recognition items for this ceremony:

Black Law Students Association (BLSA) - black Kente stole

Domestic Violence Task Force (DVTF) - purple stole with pink trim

Latin American Law Students Association (LALSA) - purple and latino serape stole

Law Students with Disabilities and Neurodivergencies (LSDN) - green and light blue cord

OUTLaw - lavender and rainbow stole

Phi Alpha Delta (PAD) - Alden Chapter – purple and gold stole

Student Bar Association (SBA) - blue and gold stole.

Designed to tell the story of the university and the Niagara Frontier, the UB mace was fashioned by silversmith Hudson Roysner of Arcadia, California. It was used for the first time in the 1962 general commencement.

The mace is silver with accents of lapis and howlite to represent the university's colors. It is topped by a miniature walled structure representing the City of Buffalo. Engraved atop the city are three arrows bound together, symbolizing the unity of UB and the city.

A band of alternating jewels of lapis and howlite encircles the head of the mace and bears the founding dates of the thirteen divisions that composed the university in 1962.

The UB arms appear on the front of the head. On the back are the arms of the United States.

The discovery of Lake Erie in 1669 by Louis Joliet and early explorations by Robert de LaSalle are symbolized on the left side of the head. A crest on the right side is symbolic of the university's role as a dynamic center of human growth and welfare.

The wild rose, the official flower of the state, is depicted in a floral motif at the top and bottom of the mace's head. Encircling the ends of the shaft are three wavy lines representing intellect and water, the latter a reference to the Niagara River and the Great Lakes.

The motto "University and City: Community" is lettered in Latin around the knob of the shaft.

Traditionally used in university ceremonies, the mace is a symbol of "enlightened authority."



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UB Alma Mater

*Music by Walter S. Goodale, MD, 1903.
Lyrics adapted by UB students in 2006 for
contemporary use.*



Verse 1:

The pride of our spirit and tradition,
Our alma mater's truth and name declare.
Celebrate our history and wisdom,
O let us all prepare to sing her glory.

Refrain:

To Buffalo all hail to thee,
Noble and strong it's our university!
To blue and white pledge loyalty,
Singing, I will always remember thee!

Verse 2:

We'll ever keep our standards high,
And sing UB's praises to the sky.
Receiving the finest education,
Our knowledge we impart unto the nations.
(Repeat refrain)

Verse 3:

Our friends we've made with ties that bind,
A union of our spirit, heart, and mind.
Together we'll continue life's journey,
O may dear Buffalo forever be.
(Repeat refrain)



ON THE COVER:

The modern seal for the University at Buffalo harks back to a design adopted in 1923 to reflect the evolution of the university from separate schools into a more close-knit organization. Though the seal has been revised several times over the decades, the foundational elements remain: a proud bison signifying the City of Buffalo atop a shield supported by the palm leaves of victory and emblazoned with the flames of wisdom.

