

Honorary Doctoral Degree Recipients University of Houston

An honorary degree is the highest honor a university can bestow.

The following individuals have been recipients of Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, honoris causa, for exemplary service to the University of Houston or society at large.

1938

Special Honorary Law Degree

Hugh Roy Cullen and Lillie Cranz Cullen

1939 - 1949

None awarded

1950

Special Honorary Degree

Edison E. Oberholtzer

1951 - 1979

None awarded

1980

Special Honorary Degree

The Honorable Aaron J. Farfel

1981 - 1983

None awarded

1984

George P. Mitchell

The Honorable Oveta Culp Hobby

1985

Gerald D. Griffin*

George A. Butler

1986

William Barron Hilton

Philip C. Johnson

1987

LeRoy and Lucile B. Melcher

Philip G. Hoffman, Ph.D.

1988

Wilhelmina Cullen Robertson

1989

The Honorable Robert A. Mosbacher
Aaron Cohen

1990

Donald Barthelme**
Norman J. Ramsey

1991

Faith P. Bybee
Christoph Eschenbach
Eric M. Hilton
The Honorable Catalina Vasquez Villalpando
His Excellency Rafael Angel Calderon Fournier*

1992

Jacques-Louis Lions
Gurji Ivanovich Marchuk
David Gockley

1993

Luis Garibay
Reverend William A. Lawson

1994

The Honorable George H. W. Bush
Daniel Howard Yergin
Ron Stone

1995

The Honorable John J. Moores
Veronica Nia Dorian Becnel**
His Excellency Carlos Saul Menem*

1996

Ernesto J. Cortes, Jr. Song Jian, Ph.D.*

1997

Edward Franklin Albee
Glenn Allan Goerke
The Honorable William P. Hobby, Jr.

1998

The Honorable Robert C. Lanier
The Honorable Kenneth L. Lay Ph.D.

The Honorable Wilhelmina R. Morian
John F. Oró, Ph.D.

1999

The Honorable Richard Riley
The Honorable James L. Ketelsen
Elizabeth D. Rockwell

2000

Roderick R. Paige, Ph.D.
Irvin M. Borish, O.D.

2001

Charles T. Bauer
James W. Nantz, III

2002

The Honorable Jack Joseph Valenti
John H. Lienhard, Ph.D.
The Honorable Charles E. McMahan
Jan de Hartog

2003

Neal R. Amundson, Ph.D.
Loretta Devine
Guy V. Lewis
The Honorable Eduardo Aguirre, Jr.

2004 - 2005

None awarded

2006

The Honorable Margaret LaMontagne Spellings*
Maconda Brown O'Connor, Ph.D.*

2007

Ray Elvin Miller
The Honorable Leonard Rauch

2008 - 2009

None awarded

2010

John Hofmeister
Lyle P. Lovett

2011

Walter Kase

Kenneth Parr
Herman D. Suit, M.D.

2012

Gerald D. Hines
Brien A. Holden, Ph.D.
Nicholas J. Massad, Jr.
Cristina Rivera Garza, Ph.D.
Ruth J. Simmons, Ph.D.

2013

Edith Irby Jones, M.D.
Belle Griggs Johnson
The Honorable Welcome W. Wilson, Sr.

2014

His Excellence Dinesh Singh

2015

James F. McIngvale
Melvyn L. Wolff

2016

Glenn T. Lilie
James Victor Samuels
Gilbert Russell Ybarra

2017

The Honorable Arnold A. Schwarzenegger
The Honorable Michael J. Cemo
Dr. Richard B. Davies

2018

Robert Stephen Stagner

2019

Cyvia Grossberg Wolff

2020

Marvin E. Odum III
Richard G. Rawson

2021

Maria Estrada-Campos
Andrew and Barbara Gessner
Bernard A. Harris Jr.
John Rogers

2022

Kathrine G. McGovern

* degree awarded at a special convocation

**degree awarded posthumously