University of Houston
Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

Commencement Ceremony
Friday, May 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

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Message from the President

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations on receiving your college degree. Today, your longtime dream becomes a reality, and I join your family and friends in celebrating this milestone with you. I am a big believer in the power of dreams and resiliency. To graduate from college, despite the challenges of the past few years, is a testament to your unwavering commitment and ability to dream big.

Whether you’re the first in your family to graduate from college or hail from collegiate scholars, your hard work and determination have brought you to this milestone. You are a generation who faced a global pandemic yet stayed focused on your studies and goals. You excelled against the odds, and this adversity has prepared you to face the professional world with more grit than any generation before. I applaud you for all that you have achieved.

Please take time to thank your professors, advisors, family and friends who supported you on this journey. It takes community to accomplish your goals, and I ask that you stay humble and give back to those in need as you go on to even greater heights.

You have received a Tier One education from the University of Houston. This is the home of industry leaders, nationally top-ranked academic programs, world-renowned faculty, the nation’s top-ranked basketball program, cutting-edge research and so much more. I know in my heart that you are now ready to compete and become leaders in your chosen careers. Now, work hard, dream big and shine on.

Go Coogs!

Warmest regards,

Renu Khator

President, University of Houston
Message from the Provost

Dear Spring Graduates,

You’ve traveled a long road to reach this moment, but here you are! Congratulations on earning a degree from the University of Houston.

Whether you’re the first in your family to graduate from college or perhaps a second-generation Cougar, today’s ceremony marks a significant moment in your lives. It’s also special for the University of Houston as your success has been our priority since you first stepped foot on campus.

Now, you embark on new journeys. Some of you may be entering the workforce. Others may be headed to graduate school. No matter your destination, please remember those who helped you get to this point.

Stay in touch with peers, professors and staff members and remind them that their guidance supported your academic journeys. Also, thank your spouses, siblings, parents, grandparents and others in attendance today for their daily inspiration.

Of course, be sure to truly recognize the one person responsible for today’s celebration—you! You balanced classes, work, family and other obligations. It wasn’t easy, but you did it. Now, you are poised to reap the rewards of a degree from UH.

Although you are leaving this wonderful campus, you will remain a member of our University family. You now carry the proud tradition of past UH graduates and will represent our institution in your professional endeavors. Be proud of your time here, and let others know that you are now and forever a Cougar.

Once again, congratulations!

Sincerely,

Diane Z. Chase
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost, University of Houston
University of Houston System

Board of Regents
Tilman J. Fertitta, Chairman
Alonzo Cantu, Vice Chairman
John A. McCall Jr., Secretary
Durga D. Agrawal
Gregory C. King
Beth Madison
Jack B. Moore
Tammy D. Murphy
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University of Houston

President
Renu Khator

President’s Cabinet

Diane Z. Chase  
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

Raymond S. Bartlett  
Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance

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Chief Population Health Officer

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Vice President for University Advancement and Alumni

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Vice President for Medical Affairs and Founding Dean, Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine
University of Houston Deans

Heidi Appel
Dean
The Honors College
Leonard M. Baynes
Dean
Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen
Distinguished Chair, and Professor of Law
UH Law Center
Andrew Davis
Founding Dean
Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean’s Chair
Katharine G. McGovern College of the Arts
Christina H. Gola
Interim Dean
University of Houston Libraries
Jim Granato
Dean
Hobby School of Public Affairs
Catherine Horn
Dean
Elizabeth D. Rockwell Chair
College of Education
Sarah C. Larsen
Dean
Graduate School
Interim Dean
Graduate College of Social Work
Teri Elkins Longacre
Dean
Undergraduate Student Success – Integrated Studies
Daniel P. O’Connor
Dean
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Patricia Belton Oliver
Dean
ACSA Distinguished Professor
Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design
Paul A. Pavlou
Dean
Cullen Distinguished Chair
C. T. Bauer College of Business
F. Lamar Pritchard
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Pharmacy
College of Pharmacy
Dennis Reynolds
Dean
Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair
Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership
Pradeep Sharma
Interim Dean
Hugh Roy and Lillie Cranz Cullen
Distinguished University Professor
Cullen College of Engineering
Stephen J. Spann
Founding Dean
Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine
Kathryn M. Tart
Founding Dean
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Nursing
Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing
Michael Twa
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Optometry
College of Optometry
Dan E. Wells
Dean
Distinguished Professor of Science
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 14 academic colleges, one school, and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 270 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 46,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University’s academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University’s commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to start a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation’s most esteemed colleges and universities.
Commencement Traditions

Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor's (apprentices of the arts), master's (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master's degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

**Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Violet
- Master's Degree: Hood: Violet; Tassel: Black

**Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Brown
- Master's Degree: Hood: Brown; Hood (Music): Pink; Tassel: Black
- Doctoral Degree: Hood: Pink; Tassel: Red

**C. T. Bauer College of Business**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Dark Blue
- Master's Degree: Hood: Drab; Tassel: Black
- Doctoral Degree: Hood: Dark Blue; Tassel: Red

**College of Education**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Light Blue
- Master's Degree: Hood: Light Blue; Tassel: Black
- Doctoral Degree: Hood (Ed.D.): Light Blue; Hood (Ph.D.): Dark Blue; Tassel: Red

**Cullen College of Engineering**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Orange
- Master's Degree: Hood: Orange; Tassel: Black
- Doctoral Degree: Hood: Dark Blue; Tassel: Red

**Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership**
- Bachelor's Degree: Tassel: Navy
- Master's Degree: Hood: Navy, Red and White; Tassel: Black
- Doctoral Degree: Hood: Dark Blue; Tassel: Red
University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

UH Law Center

Master's Degree
Hood: Purple
Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree
Hood: Purple
Tassel: Black

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Bachelor's Degree
Tassel: Citron

Master's Degree
Hood: Citron
Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree
Hood: Dark Blue
Tassel: Red

Tilman J. Fertitta Family College of Medicine

Doctor of Medicine Degree
Hood: Kelly Green
Tassel: Red

College of Optometry

Master's Degree
Hood: Gold
Tassel: Black

Doctor of Philosophy Degree
Hood: Royal Blue
Tassel: Red

Doctor of Optometry Degree
Hood: Seafoam Green
Tassel: Red

College of Pharmacy

Bachelor's Degree
Tassel: Olive

Master's Degree
Hood: Olive
Tassel: Red

Doctor of Philosophy Degree
Hood: Royal Blue
Tassel: Red

Doctor of Pharmacy Degree
Hood: Olive
Tassel: Red

Graduate College of Social Work

Master's Degree
Hood: Citron
Tassel: Black

Doctoral Degree
Hood: Citron
Tassel: Red

Hobby School of Public Affairs

Bachelor's Degree
Tassel: Peacock Blue

Master's Degree
Hood: Peacock Blue
Tassel: Black

Undergraduate Student Success – Integrated Studies

Bachelor's Degree
Tassel: White
Ceremonial Symbols

**THE SEAL**
Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto “In Tempore,” meaning “In Time.” The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.

**UNIVERSITY MACE**
The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University’s authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14th century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president’s symbol of authority.

**THE ALMA MATER**

All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We’ll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we’ll ever be.

*Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942*
Academic Honors

Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost’s Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduates who have graduated with the stated academic honors have achieved the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

- **3.90 TO 4.0**  Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
- **3.70 TO 3.89**  Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
- **3.50 TO 3.69**  Cum Laude (with Honors)

This roster does not include the names of degree holders who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

**Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates**

The following graduates are recognized for achieving Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while also completing their degree within four years of starting their first semester in college at the University of Houston.

### Spring 2024

- **Nabira Adnan**  
  *Bachelor of Science in Psychology*  
  *College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*

- **Christopher Andrade**  
  *Bachelor of Science in Mathematics*  
  *College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics*

- **Abdullah Ansari**  
  *Bachelor of Business Administration in Management of Information Systems*  
  *C.T. Bauer College of Business*

- **Tiffany Bui**  
  *Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance*  
  *C.T. Bauer College of Business*

- **Zofia Bulhak**  
  *Bachelor of Arts in English*  
  *Bachelor of Arts in Economics*  
  *College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*

- **Jia Chen**  
  *Bachelor of Science in Computer Science*  
  *College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics*

- **Ryan Crites**  
  *Bachelor of Business Administration in Management*  
  *C.T. Bauer College of Business*

- **Sarah Elizabeth Gawlik**  
  *Bachelor of Arts in Psychology*  
  *College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*

- **Alejandro Hadad Roura**  
  *Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science*  
  *College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences*

- **Julieta Jara**  
  *Bachelor of Business Administration in Management of Information Systems*  
  *C.T. Bauer College of Business*
SPRING 2024 (continued)

Nicole Laz  
Bachelor of Science in Computer Information Systems  
Cullen College of Engineering

Jacob Mai  
Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting  
C.T. Bauer College of Business

Kiara Moncada Martin  
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Christina Nguyen  
Bachelor of Science in Health  
College of Education

Tran Nguyen  
Bachelor of Science in Biology  
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Veronica Nwanna  
Bachelor of Arts in Journalism  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Isha Patel  
Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting  
C.T. Bauer College of Business

Amy Penaloza  
Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Learning  
College of Education

Michelle Pride  
Bachelor of Science in Digital Media  
Cullen College of Engineering

Kimberly Richardson  
Bachelor of Science in Liberal Studies  
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Justin Rizzo  
Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing  
C.T. Bauer College of Business

Melika Salehi  
Bachelor of Science in Biology  
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Karenina Urquieta  
Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance  
C.T. Bauer College of Business
Honorary Degree

DOMINIC NG

Chairman and CEO, East West Bank

A distinguished alumnus and longtime supporter of the University of Houston, Dominic Ng is Chairman and CEO of East West Bank, the largest publicly listed independent bank headquartered in Southern California. Since joining East West in 1991, Ng has transformed the bank from a small savings and loan association with $600 million in assets into a global full-service commercial bank with over $70 billion in assets. Under his leadership, the financial powerhouse was ranked as the No. 1 performing bank in 2023 by S&P Global Market Intelligence and Bank Director.

An influential voice in finance, Ng advises heads of state and government on economic growth as chair of the 2023 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Business Advisory Council. He is also a member of the Council on Foreign Relations and serves on the governing boards of Mattel, Inc., the University of Southern California and the Academy Museum of Motion Pictures.

A thought leader, Ng has been published in Forbes, the Los Angeles Times, Nikkei Asia, and the South China Morning Post, among others. He’s earned numerous honors for his business and philanthropic contributions, including the Alexis de Tocqueville Award — United Way Worldwide’s highest distinction — Banker of the Year by American Banker, Businessperson of the Year by the Los Angeles Business Journal and Forbes’ 25 Most Notable Chinese Americans.

Ng graduated magna cum laude from the University of Houston in 1980 with a bachelor’s degree in accounting. He and his wife, fellow UH alumna Ellen Wong, have been financially supportive of UH since 1990. Generous with their time and resources, the two hosted multiple events in the Los Angeles area in support of the University’s historic “Here, We Go” campaign.

Ng supported himself through UH by tutoring student-athletes, including football players during the glory days of Coach Bill Yeoman. Holding fast to his love for UH and connection to student-athletes, Ng and Wong made a major gift to establish the Dominic and Ellen Ng Academic Center for Excellence inside the UH Athletics/Alumni Center. The 9,000 square-foot academic-support space, which opened in 2018, fosters collegiate excellence with dedicated areas for tutoring and group study, redesigned classrooms, and technology-driven amenities. The Center’s presence has left an indelible mark on UH’s student-athletes, helping propel their academic and future success.

The Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, honoris causa, given for exemplary service to the University of Houston or society at large, is the highest honor UH can bestow.
TDECU is the largest credit union in Houston and the fourth largest in Texas, providing a full range of financial services to its more than 370,000 members. Established in 1955 to provide financial help to the hourly worker, today, its original $35 loan has turned into over $4.7 billion in assets. Moreover, TDECU provides philanthropic support to help its local communities thrive through a focus on educational, health and economic development.

Since 2008, TDECU has generously supported the University of Houston, contributing more than $30 million to empower its students, employees and alumni through a broad range of impactful initiatives.

In 2014, when TDECU purchased naming rights to UH’s football stadium for $15 million, it made history with the largest-ever naming rights deal for a college football stadium at that time — elevating the football program and University. Concurrently, TDECU became a sponsor of the University of Houston’s Alumni Association’s (UHAA) annual Cougar 100 event, which recognizes and celebrates the 100 most successful Cougar-owned or led companies. In that same year, it also opened a branch in the UH Student Center, making its financial services easily accessible to UH students, employees and the local community.

Committed to student enrichment, for years, the credit union has worked closely with the C. T. Bauer College of Business on student-led strategic research and recruited student interns from its A.R. “Tony” and Maria J. Sanchez Program for Excellence in Selling, many of whom became permanent employees.

In 2023, the credit union renewed its football stadium naming rights agreement with a $20 million partnership, which included an expansion of its support across the University. Its renewal helped to bolster UH’s prominence in the Big 12 Conference and its vision to become a top 50 university. TDECU sponsored a new loyalty program to increase fan engagement. It also expanded its support of UHAA, partnering on numerous events and programs, as well as the UH Young Alumni Association. It became a presenting sponsor of the University’s Cougar Cupboard food pantry, expanding access to nutritious food, free of charge for students in need. Additionally, it began providing financial literacy workshops for student-athletes covering saving, budgeting, debt management and taxes, among other key topics. TDECU also proudly sponsored UH Athletics’ Champions Circle, which connects student-athletes with leading companies that help hone and further develop their professional skills.

The President’s Medallion is awarded at the sole discretion of the President to individuals and organizations that have distinguished themselves by their support of the University of Houston and the community.
Message from the Dean

Dear Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts Graduates,

Congratulations!

You are here today because of all you have achieved at the University of Houston. You have worked tirelessly to master your craft, cultivating skills that position you at the forefront of the performing and visual arts. You have collectively spent thousands of hours rehearsing, researching, performing, and designing on the University of Houston campus and beyond. You have added to our city’s rich and vibrant culture through community-centric projects and programs that promote Houston’s diverse arts community.

Now, as the next generation of creators, performers, artists, and collaborators, the world is at your fingertips—waiting for you to make your mark. My most important advice to you is to remain curious, investigate your environment, and reimagine the possibilities of creative practices in our complex, 21st-century world.

As you leave the McGovern College of the Arts to embark on your career and the next stage of your life, I know your future is bright. I look forward to seeing the impact you will make on our community, our city, and our world.

Please stay in touch! You may contact me anytime at adavis@uh.edu.

Sincerely,

Andrew Davis
Dean and Professor of Music
Cullen Foundation Endowed Chair
University of Houston
Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

Commencement Ceremony
Friday, May 10, 2024, 7:00 p.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

PROCESSIONAL    Moores School of Music
CALL TO ORDER    Andrew Davis
                   Founding Dean and Professor of Music
                   Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean’s Chair
PRESENTATION OF COLORS    Houston Battalion ROTC Color Guard
NATIONAL ANTHEM    Mariachi Pumas
INTRODUCTORY REMARKS    Dean Davis
RECOGNITION OF PLATFORM PARTY    Dean Davis
GREETINGS FROM THE UH SYSTEM    The Honorable Ricky Raven
                   Member
BOARD OF REGENTS
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS    Khori Dastoor
                   General Director and CEO
                   Margaret Alkek Williams Chair
                   Houston Grand Opera
RECOGNITION OF ACADEMIC HONORS    Dean Davis
PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES    Beckham Dossett
                   Director, School of Art
Amanda Cachia
                   Assistant Director, Arts Leadership Program
Brian Kai Chin
                   Director, Moores School of Music
                   Margaret M. Alkek and Margaret Alkek Williams
                   Endowed Chair
Jim Johnson
                   Interim Director, School of Theatre and Dance
CONFERRAL OF DEGREES    Dean Davis
CLOSING REMARKS    Dean Davis
ALMA MATER    Angie Tovar
                   Moores School of Music Graduate
RECESSONAL    Moores School of Music
Commencement Speaker

KHORI DASTOOR

KHORI DASTOOR has served as the General Director and CEO of Houston Grand Opera since 2021. The fourth General Director in company history, Dastoor is a passionate believer in great art and culture, its power to transform society, and the importance of making it accessible to every member of Houston’s diverse international community. Under Dastoor’s leadership, HGO is defining current trends in the international opera industry and enjoying unprecedented fiscal stability, audience growth, and programmatic expansion.

HGO’s 2023-24 season has seen an influx of new audiences to HGO. The season opened with the world premiere of Jake Heggie, Gene Scheer, and Jawole Willa Jo Zollar’s internationally acclaimed world-premiere opera Intelligence, one of HGO’s top-selling single-ticket productions in years. Speaking to the New York Times about Intelligence, Dastoor said, “We can be an important opera company, but also maintain our nimbleness and spirit of innovation. We aren’t having debates about whether change is good. We’re always thinking about what’s next.”

Under Dastoor’s leadership, bringing great art and culture to all Houstonians in spaces throughout the community has become a central focus for HGO. She told the Houston Press earlier this year that “HGO is evolving our relationship with space. Because the theater itself isn’t linked to the mission. Our mission is to create experiences for Houstonians interacting with classically trained human voices. That doesn’t necessarily happen only in one place anymore. It happens online. It happens in stadiums. It happens in community centers.”

A noted thought leader in the classical music industry, Dastoor was named one of Houston’s Most Admired CEOs by Houston Business Journal in 2023 and one of Houston’s 50 Most Influential Women by Houston Woman Magazine in 2022. She serves on the Board of Directors for OPERA America and the Advisory Board of the Asian Opera Alliance. She is an active member of the Greater Houston Executive Women’s Partnership and is a frequent guest lecturer at Yale University, the National Opera Association, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Aspen Music Festival and School, the New England Conservatory, the Juilliard School, the Music Academy of the West, New York’s LaGuardia Performing Arts High School, and Houston’s Kinder High School for the Performing and Visual Arts.

She holds a bachelor’s degree with academic honors from the New England Conservatory and completed graduate studies at UCLA under the tutelage of Philip Glass and Vladimir Chernov. She and her husband are the proud parents of two young daughters.
University of Houston
Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts
Commencement Ceremony

Spring 2024 – Candidates for Graduation

DOCTORAL DEGREES

Moores School of Music

DOCTOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Olena Blahulyak
Nikolai Medtner’s Forgotten Melodies op. 39: Exploring the Narrative Mosaic of the Cycle
Research Chair: Dr. Paul Bertagnolli

Bernini Chan
The International Violin Competition of Indianapolis and the Commissioned Works of Joan Tower and Ellen Taaffe Zwilich
Research Chair: Dr. John Snyder

Kaitlin Elizabeth DeSpain
The Choral Music of Mary Howe
Research Chair: Dr. John Snyder

Nicholas Paul Engle
Mahler, Death Narratives, and the Trumpet
Research Chair: Dr. Timothy Koozin

Eduard Alexandru Gavril
Franz Liszt in Romania and the Rhapsody in G-minor, S. 242 no. 20, “Romanian Rhapsody”
Research Chair: Dr. Paul Bertagnolli

Matthew Robert Harms
Motive and Narrative in Britten’s Oboe Chamber Works
Research Chair: Dr. Jonathan Guez

Cameron Kade Kubos
Cootie Williams with and without Duke Ellington
Research Chair: Dr. Howard Pollack

Wen-Hsiu Angela Lai
The Wing of Dream: Exploring Aesthetic Influences in Kaija Saariaho’s Aile du songe for Flute and Orchestra
Research Chair: Dr. Timothy Koozin

Eric Gregory Laine
Reframing the Puerto Rican Art Song as a Latin American and US Genre: Five Representative Works by Roberto Sierra
Research Chair: Dr. Timothy Jones

Dima Savitski
From Venice to Dresden: Tracing the Influence of Vivaldi’s Bassoon Concerti among his Northern Followers
Research Chair: Dr. Matthew Dirst

Carlin Truong
Engaging in a Collaborative Social Justice-Themed Choral Performance: From Conception to Reflection
Research Co-Chairs: Dr. Julie Derges and Dr. John Snyder

MASTER DEGREES

Arts Leadership

MASTER OF ARTS

Elijah Philip Caldwell
Ji Won Chun
Deepanshi Negi
Carolina Rodriguez

School of Art

MASTER OF ARTS

Karisma A. Danas
Sydney Ann Marriner
Lucas Embry Wagner

School of Fine Arts

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Laura De Leon
Madelyn Mairie Foutz
Mark Francis
Garrett Griffin
Julia A. Kidd
Blya Ange Ernestine Krouba
Marc Newsome
Phillip A. Pyle II
Adrienne Meredith Simmons

Zulma C. Vega

Moores School of Music

MASTER OF MUSIC

Isabella Victoria Bengochea
Christopher Ashton Carter
Jhoan Garcia
Martin Roberto Garcia Leon
McKenzie Leigh Garey
Seulji Kim
Marcio Antonio Martinez Alberi
Lauren Elizabeth Mullan
Jannina Eliana Gonzaga Pena
Arianna Marie Perroots
Hoang Vu Pham
Thanh Nam Pham
Rufina Mae Robbins
Carolina Rodriguez
Amy L. Sanders
Jordan Christopher-Michael Simmons
Boheng Wang
Ashley A. Wang
Xinruo Wei

School of Theatre and Dance

MASTER OF ARTS

Miranda Marie Keating

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

Eva Olivia Catanzariti
Austin Essa Hanna
Robert Patrick Matlock
Samantha Burns Potrykus
Emili Ramos
Allison Grace Taylor

1 Summa Cum Laude • 2 Magna Cum Laude • 3 Cum Laude • 4 Banner Bearer (highest GPA)
BACHELOR DEGREES

School of Art

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Art
Ashley Nicole Antequera
Maria Paula Bracho
Heekyung Cho
Rylie Evan Cohen
Abigail Cruz
Claudia I. Egido Vinogradova
Jackeline M. Gallardo
Deja Monique Giles-Lane
Bria Holloway
Onassis Stewart Johnson
Madeline Princess Millar Mariano
Lesley A. Martinez
Kimberly Meeks
Amina S. Mohajir
Kierra D. Pipkin
Ana Isabel Romero Saldana
Allison M. Sanchez
Grace Elizabeth Scott
Diana Leslie Simon
Stella Tewolde Gebremedhin
Katelyn Eileen Woolcock

Art History
Emily A. Pearson
Genesis G. Santillan

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Graphic Design
Dylan R. Burkett
Catherine Cantu
Diana Thanh Cao
Alex Lars Crow
Ashley Christina Guzman
Samah Hassan
Julissa E. Herrera
Tanner C. Hodgkinson

Painting
Thomas A. Jordan
Natalia Marmolejo
Emma J. Matocha
Rochelle Nataley Matus
Hannah Joy McCready
Cindy Montenegro Muñoz
Caio Penedo Silva
Jose Luis Romero
Gerald Sastra
Zoe Anne Schomburg
Adam Smith
Yebin Song
Ana Isabel Tejeda Perez
Nina Torres

Photography
Yazan Adham
Via Aphrodite A. Cabanuz
Claudia Ebon Chicas
Emery C. Dolan
Julia Emily Fisher
Caleb E. Hernandez
Kelvin Lee
Kayla S. Middleton
Peter Nguyen
Isabel Sanchez

Sculpture
Abigail Garcia
Trang T. Le
Elizabeth Perez
Hallie Evon Sessum

Moores School of Music

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Music
Sebastian Roberto Freire
Camille My Mccloskey

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Music
Stephanie Aguilar
Alex M. Easley
Henry James Hamre
Samuel Mario Alberto Leal
Noel Conner Manning
Adam Edward Maynard
Jaime Morales
Liliana Moreno
Brant A. Pemberton
Larry Michael Penna
Benjamin Alexander Petree
Victoria Celeste Ramirez
Zabdiel Rodriguez Velazquez
Reid Thomas Ronsonette
Olive Renee Sanchez
Jose Manuel Sandoval
Taylor Marie Silva
Elizabeth Gabriele Spencer

Performance
Julia Rose Arduino
Bailey L. Bower
Jason A. Chaviers
Dustin G. Cunningham
Alec J. Eads
Jordan M. Efird
Katherine Leann Garcia
Darius Clement Gerard
Emily Elizabeth Gladstone
Elian Hernandez
Rebecca Leigh Johnson
Quinton S. Parmenter
Angie Tovar

1 Summa Cum Laude - 2 Magna Cum Laude - 3 Cum Laude - 4 Banner Bearer (highest GPA)
University of Houston
Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

Commencement Ceremony

School of Theatre and Dance

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Dance
Shirlye Banuelos
Morgan Paige Clark
Brittany Anne Kirschner
Klyn B. Lopez
Taylor V. Terry
Sarah Gabrielle Zaragoza

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Dance
Kaytee Joyce Compton
Margo Marie Smolik
Jayden E. Thomas

Theater
Ario Xavier Boentaran
Ashley Rebecca Borrell
Rachel Catharine Marie Bramlett
Nico Alexander Castillo
Graham L. Childers
Sara Denton
Justin D. Estes
Kelsi Elizabeth Gallagher
Hunter Christian J. Garcia
Samuel I. Gonzalez
Eitel Hugh Hahn
Brisa A. Martinez
Caitlin Molly Meaux
Stephanie Perez
Bre'Anna Auqiesa Polite
Daniel O. Quintero
Amanda M. Romero
Sarah E. Specksgoor
Yuen Ching To
Olivia Marie Velazquez
Kai Womack

1 Summa Cum Laude - 2 Magna Cum Laude - 3 Cum Laude - 4 Banner Bearer (highest GPA)
Dear Graduates,

Congratulations on your graduation from the Honors College at the University of Houston! Your talents and motivation have culminated in the impressive achievements we recognize today. For 45 years, the Human Situation course has served as a gateway of endless possibilities for many students before you. Think back to your first Human Situation lecture and how far you have come. Honors courses have challenged you to think deeply about the nature of being human, as individuals and in societies. You’ve been encouraged to take what you learn beyond the classroom into research and community engagement.

The faculty, staff, and fellow students of the Honors College have been members of your team. They are now cheering you on as you begin your career or continue your studies in graduate or professional programs. We take pride in your achievements, and take comfort knowing that, though you are leaving on this new journey, the Honors College will always be a part of your life.

Stay connected with the College and use your success to inspire future generations and support the many programs and scholarships that you enjoyed during your time here.

We know that you are well-prepared to lead in your chosen field and to contribute solutions to the grand challenges we face in this ever-changing world. As you find your place in a new community, remember to be bold in action and to stand strong in the face of adversity. We believe in you.

Go Coogs!

Heidi Appel
Dean
Professor of Biology & Biochemistry
The Honors College Honors

The Honors College at the University of Houston offers students special opportunities to develop their academic abilities. Below are the Honors College designations.

**University Honors and University Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who complete the Honors College curriculum (36 hours) graduate with University Honors. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with University Honors with Honors in Major.

**Collegiate Honors and Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major**
Students who fulfill the requirements for the honors program in the college of their major, including 21 hours of honors courses; who complete an Honors College minor, or who complete 21 hours of approved honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis, they graduate with Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major.

**Membership in The Honors College and Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major**
Students who affiliate with the Honors College during their undergraduate years and complete fewer than 21 hours of honors courses. If students also complete a senior honors thesis and fulfill the requirements of their major with distinction, they graduate with Membership in The Honors College with Honors in Major.

**Honors in Major**
Students who complete a senior honors thesis but are not members of the Honors College.
University Honors with Honors in Major

**Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design**
Vincent Taylor

**Cullen College of Engineering**
Harry L. Goldberg
James Michael Valentine

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**
Sarah Seyouam Belew
Jayda Branch
Zofia Helena Bulhak
Riley Blue Caylor
Megan Ruth Dagnall
Sarah Elizabeth Gawlik
Nicole Gonzalez
Alivia Diane Mayfield

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
Genesis Karmaria McGriggs
Elisabeth Stevens

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**
Nabeeha Hasan
Danielle Antoinette Henry
Mazen Daniel Malak
Theresa Nguyen

Collegiate Honors with Honors in Major

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**
Veronica Nwanna

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
Paola Guevara Montoya

Honors in Major

**Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design**
Hind Al Khaffaf
Andrew Chase
Michala Daniels
Christopher Torres
Mark Villa

**Katherine G. McGovern College of the Arts**
Emily Goff
Génesis Santillán

**Cullen College of Engineering**
Delath De Zoysa

**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**
Melanie Adhikary
Michelle Garcia
Layla Hanusic
Cole Harrison
Lynn Moussa Pasha
Sarah Rizvi

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
Randy Pham
Charlie Smith
University of Houston
The Honors College

University Honors

GeralD D. Hines College of Architecture and Design
Amaris Sofia Bobbio-Tarco
Sarah Rupani
Holly Ann Skipton
Melody C. Wolfarth

Katherine G. McGovern College of the Arts
Elizabeth Gabriele Spencer

C. T. Bauer College of Business
Alvin Thomas Abraham
Ronak Agarwal
Samih Ahmed
Eimaan Ahsan
Abhi Arumilli
Jacob Bradley
Guido Brevi
Tiffany Tran Bui
Nathan Andrew Chen
Josealonso Cortez
Haaris Asif Dakri
Jennifer Enennoh
Aamna Fazil
Shane Foreman
Christian Gonzales
Stephanie Danielle Haddad
Carson Dayne Havard
Mia Ibarra
Hamza Imran
Fayha Iqbal
Kohl Viktor Jardas
Kavi Kohli
Ai-Ling Kuon
Debbie Tue Lam
Jeanette Mei Lam
Lance Christopher Lanting
Diana Gabriela Maldonado
William Massaras

Aaron Oscar Maurer
Daniella Victoria Menendez
Adryana Mina Minooe
Gayathri Moduguru
Jillian Murphy
Claire Marie Nadira
Charvi Chetan Negandhi
Annie Nguyen
Nick Nguyen
Kyvna Michelle Nguyen Velasque
Aarya Patel
Ayush Harish Patel
Vanessa Perez
Duha Humayun Pervez
Isabelle Pharamond Pham
Ethan Poedjono
Emily Poff
Philip Qin
Faizah Rahman
Charissa Ramjattan
Gavin Reyes
Jasmine Nicole Saenz
Donna Rose Samani
Mildred Hazel Sampson
Kirah Ariel Smith
Kayla Jamie Stagg
Thai Tran
Anthony Thomas Vadakekara
Johanna S. Vergheese
Veena Vinod
Matthew Vuong
Diego Alejandro Yepes
Samih Tasnim Zaman
Parker Bryan Zancho

Dylan T. Tran
Eric Tran
Tammy Tran
Leah Yonas

Cullen College of Engineering
Edip Agirbaser
Kathryn Lane Aing
Fadel A. Al Alawi
Isaiah Burdwell
Mckenna E. Campsey
Alicia Caravantes
Douglas Owen Caringer
Samuel Ethan Collins
Osulumenosen Ekhuemelo
Nusayba T. El-Ali
Dakila S. Garcia
Brandon M. Gonzales
Salvador Alejandro Gonzalez
Joseph Daniel Goolsby
Erik A. Gordillo
Hedda Anii Louise Grelz
Laila Ramsey Hammad
Abby Jackson
Joan John
Amber J. Jozwiak
Michael Alexander Klushin
Beyza Kural
Christina J. Kuruvilla
Farida Lakhani
Gabrielle Alexis Braza Lea
Eric Luna
Colton D. Marino
Hailey Ann Mcandrew
Rushil Rajesh Mehta
Anna Katherine Meyer
Nathan B. Mitchell
Bernadette Bognot Montefalcon
Harrison H. Ngo
Jonathan Do Nguyen
Paul Inue Gonzague Novoa-Gueneau
Shan Mohammed Pappa

College of Education
Abby Bonzon
Ameera M. Faizal
Tamara Gonzalez
Huriyah Hasnain
Abigail Krupa Jeyaraj
Charvi Chetan Negandhi
Payton Lane Neubauer
Kim N. Nguyen

University of Houston
Carlos D. Patterson
Alejandro Rivera
Dominic M. Rocha
Usosa Awele Too-Chiobi
Sydney Pauline Tough
Tony Tran
Kyle J. Tupas
Sai Srinivas Unnam
Angel Gabriel Vanegas

CONRAD N. HILTON
COLLEGE OF GLOBAL
HOSPITALITY LEADERSHIP

Raelee A. Maddux
Ana K. Mezta

COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS
AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

Charlotte Kathleen Acton
Natalie Isabella Atkinson
Maame Serwaaw Awuah
Briana Yasmine Azad
Zeba Bhanji
Carolina Leah Cabral
Daniela Castillo Sabido
Ada C. Cinar
Adria M. Clark
Trinity Curry
Ola Dafaalla
Lauren Ruth Defrance
Tasneem A. Dhon
Meagan Marie Donald
Ileana Dragoi
Anna Economon
Dealla Yousef Eldiraouqi
Kennedy Foxwell
Dima Mona Ghazala
Alyssa Mackenzie Green
Emily Morgan Harris
Ricky R. Hill
Helen B. Huneycutt
Deborah Alice Jacob
Stephanie Johanna Kasperick
Hafsah Khan

William David Killinger
Lilyanne Isobella Loyd
Mayerli G. Madrigal
Riley Charles Moquin
Alice Tuonglinh Nguyen
Annelaure Nguyen
Shalyn Nguyen
Malini C. Prasad
Hira A. Qazi
Hannah Duo Reeves
Kimberly Nicole Richardson
Landon Cole Richie
Jazmin Rosas
Gracie G. Sadler
Rohan Kurup Sankar
Thalia E. Sevajanes
Rida Batul Zafar Shaikh
Suheera Shaikh
Alexandrya Mai Skiddle
Genesis N. Stiggers
Matthew Joy Tao
Sabrina P. Thomas
Laura J. Thompson
Dylan T. Tran
Kim Tran
Elizabeth Weaver
Kaitlyn Elise Wells

COLLEGE OF NATURAL
SCIENCES AND
MATHEMATICS

Farzamuddin Ahmed
Mawada Sami Al Faisal
Noah P. Alexander
Maria Aliana Alfaro
Amal Altatar
Sophie Katherine Anderson
Fizah Arif
Bryan William Armbruster
Sophia Aisha Asif
Megan Chantal Benavides
Adrianna Blubin
Daniel Cao
David William Caycedo

Nathan Kevin Chen
Randi Culpepper
Kevin T. Dang
Mariam Dumitrescu
Nithya Erabelli
Dylan Hilton
Ghid Khaleel
Saheer Ahmed Khan
Gabrielle Kostecki
Pavan Kureti
Celine C. Luu
Daniel T. Maguadog
Ethan Marfil
Or-El Meir
Jessica R. Morcilla
Hussaina Motiwala
Rheanna Shaila Mustapha
Qudsia Najwa
Carolyn Hao Ngo
Audrey Hoai Ngoc Tran Nguyen
Lily Ngoc Nguyen
Paula Nichols
Matthew Nolen
Lorreld O’neill
Leonardo Osorio
Diya Patel
Vivienne Y.-Vi Pham
Aida Pourmousa
Kathleen Nicole Protz
Eshwar Ranganath
Rebecca Manalansan Santos
Maaham Sarfraz
Radhika Sonde
Daniel Enrique Sotillo
Arwa Tapia
Sabrina P. Thomas
Andre S. Tijerina
Anthony Tran
Elizabeth Tran
Samuel H.. Tran
Tu Tran
Levi Van Ryder
University of Houston
The Honors College

Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing
Brianna Nicole Johnson

Collegiate Honors

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design
Leslie P. Alamirra
Cecily Simone Coleman

Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership
Anthony Ziad Haddad

Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts
Benjamin Alexander Petree

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Meryem Mualla Atik
Michaela Butler
Miguel Camejo
Chadi Youssef Ellaham
Joseph Garzon
Syeda Hooria Hasan
Frank Landry
Jalal Chaudhry Mohsin
Larose Mutombo
Abigail Napitupulu
Leslie Amada Santos
Abishek Shaju

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Andrea Isabel Alvarez
Mmesoma Anietom
Jaana Maria Dayrit Bajar
Luisa Marie Bandmann
Thomas Daniel Broughton
Courtney Calhoun
Lilly Chipman
Maria Grazia Di Fabio
Marina Coronado Fernandez
Amir Deneé Jackson
Alicia C. Lartigue
Karla Llanos
Kiara Moncada Martin
Kennedi Nicole Pierce
Bint E. Pirani
Isabella Porras
Bailey Meredith Radack
Dhara Rodgerson
Talbot Campbell Susan

Cullen College of Engineering
Kaitlin Marie Arnold
Austin A. Ellis
Claudia Lizeth Garcia-Martinez
Owais Hyder Ghulam
Jorge Daniel Gonzalez
Alexandra Q. Gorman
Itzel Janaly Miranda

Hobby School of Public Affairs
Cruz Estefania Almonaci Vargas

Rosaleen Sweiti
Gabriela Ramirez Vasquez
Emilia Valentina Waters
Cai B. Wilson

College of Education
Anna Thuy Nguyen
My-My Ngoc Pham
Morgan Haley Ward

Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership
Anthony Ziad Haddad

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Andrea Isabel Alvarez
Mmesoma Anietom
Jaana Maria Dayrit Bajar
Luisa Marie Bandmann
Thomas Daniel Broughton
Courtney Calhoun
Lilly Chipman
Maria Grazia Di Fabio
Marina Coronado Fernandez
Amir Deneé Jackson
Alicia C. Lartigue
Karla Llanos
Kiara Moncada Martin
Kennedi Nicole Pierce
Bint E. Pirani
Isabella Porras
Bailey Meredith Radack
Dhara Rodgerson
Talbot Campbell Susan

Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing
Mariana Silveyra

Hobby School of Public Affairs
Rachel Lauren McGregor
Membership in The Honors College

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design
Diego Contreras

Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts
Justin D. Estes

College of Education
Sana Al Taima

Cullen College of Engineering
Rebeca Angeles-Lopez
Eleazar Israel Mora

College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
Cady Gibbs
Claire M. Gregory
Katia L. Hijazi
Michelle Le
Hannah Rebekah Mathew
Jonathan Thanh D. Nguyen
Arianna Michelle Silvas
Catherine Elaine Weaver

College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics
Roberto Jackson Baeza
James Donovan
Cady Gibbs
Klyde Mallorca

Andy and Barbara Gessner College of Nursing
Eric A. Crooker
Kenneth A. Nguyen
Message from the UH Alumni Foundation Board President

Let me be the first to welcome you to the UH Alumni Association. You are joining a global network of over 305,000 Cougars. With your participation, we can only grow stronger. As you embark on this next chapter, know that your Alumni Association is here to help you stay connected with your beloved alma mater. From volunteering at an event, joining an Association or Network, signing on to UH Link, to becoming a Life Member, the opportunities to engage are endless.

Please click the QR code below to enjoy all the activities that soon await you. In the meantime, savor this moment and continue to soar.

True we’ll ever be and Go Coogs!

Michael Sachs (’97)
UH Alumni Association Foundation Board President

Have You Completed Your Alumni Checklist?

https://houstonalumni.com/recent-grads/