



# UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

COMMENCEMENT

———— 2024 ————





# WELCOME

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UNIVERSITY OF DETROIT MERCY  
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

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COMMENCEMENT 2024

Friday, May 10  
9:30 a.m.

Calihan Hall  
University of Detroit Mercy  
4001 West McNichols Road  
Detroit, Michigan

# ACADEMIC PROCESSION

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BAGPIPER

MACE BEARER

GRAND MARSHAL

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CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
DENTAL HYGIENE

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL  
SURGERY

CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED EDUCATION IN  
GENERAL DENTISTRY

CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ENDODONTICS

CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ORTHODONTICS

CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN PERIODONTICS

CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

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FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

DEANS OF THE UNIVERSITY

VICE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT OF THE MICHIGAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

PRESIDENT OF THE MICHIGAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS'  
ASSOCIATION

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

PROVOST AND VICE PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS OF THE  
UNIVERSITY

PRESIDENT OF THE UNIVERSITY

*Photographers are requested to use side aisles and the rear of the auditorium during the ceremony so as not to obstruct the view of graduates and guests. Lost items can be claimed at the guard booth or by calling (313) 993-1234.*

# COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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## PROCESSIONAL

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### WELCOME

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Jon Ryder, D.D.S., M.S.

Grand Marshal, Associate Dean for Academic Administration

### INVOCATION

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Patrick Dorsey, S.J.

Director of Development and Special Projects

### O CANADA

---

Chaseton Cain

Dental Class of 2027

*O Canada! Our home and native land!  
True patriot love in all of us command.  
With glowing hearts we see thee rise,  
The True North strong and free!  
From far and wide,  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
God keep our land glorious and free!  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.  
O Canada, we stand on guard for thee.*

### THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

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Chaseton Cain

Dental Class of 2027

*Oh, 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?*

# COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

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## DEAN'S REMARKS

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Mert N. Aksu, D.D.S., J.D., M.H.S.A., Cert. D.P.H.  
Dean and Professor

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

---

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.  
President of the University

## COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

---

William Chase, D.D.S.  
Past President, Michigan Dental Association

## DENTAL HYGIENE CLASS ADDRESS

---

Merna Tawfik, B.S.  
President, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024

## DENTAL CLASS ADDRESS

---

Barakat H. Alhashemi, M.S., B.S.  
President, Dental Class of 2024

## PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

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Mert N. Aksu, D.D.S., J.D., M.H.S.A.

## CONFERRING OF CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES

---

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.

## PRESENTATION OF VIVERE EX MISSIONE AWARD

---

Donald B. Taylor, Ph.D.

## DENTAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Linda L. Dobis, D.D.S.  
President

## RECESSIONAL

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Please remain seated until the graduates and academic procession leave Calihan Hall.

## RECEPTION

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Fountain Lounge  
University of Detroit Mercy

## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

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***William Chase, D.D.S., '72***

*Past President, Michigan Dental Association*



Dr. William Chase is a remarkable individual whose life story is woven with threads of philanthropy, leadership, and compassion. Born and raised amidst the orchards of Adrian, Michigan, he inherited a spirit of resilience from his upbringing. Growing up in a family of entrepreneurs and artists with an identical twin brother, Chase learned early on the value of blending business with creativity.

The path to his dental career was with its challenges. Amidst the trials of family illness, Chase's determination to pursue his dreams remained unyielding. After a detour to assist his family, he found himself enrolled in Adrian College, eventually earning a seat in the Dental Class of 1972 at the University of Detroit.

Throughout his career, Chase has exemplified the true essence of service. From his early days volunteering with the Detroit Dental Clinic Club to his transformative experiences treating refugees in Palawan, he has tirelessly dedicated himself to humanitarian causes. Over a span of 25 years, and 13 missions, Chase selflessly provided dental care to thousands, often funding these endeavors himself.

Although many of Chase's volunteer and humanitarian efforts took him overseas where he treated over 10k patients, he has spent a considerable amount of time serving in the States. He has held several leadership positions within organized dentistry, including having been President of the Michigan Dental Association. The organization that seems closest to Chase's heart is Rotary International, of which he has been a proud member and recognized leader for the past 50 years. He remains involved in the club and spends much of his time teaching leadership skills to other Rotarians.

Chase is also a champion for diversity, equity, and inclusion. He encourages others to understand and appreciate different cultures and explains that the more we understand about our differences, values and orientations, the more we grow to accept them and make decisions based in facts, not emotions.

Chase's wisdom is as profound as his actions. Encouraging others to seize opportunities and embrace change, he embodies a philosophy of fearless living.

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE

---

Jwan Sarmad Adib  
Shafaa Alshaghdari, B.S.  
Endhely Aquino  
Fatima Beydoun  
Lajja Desai, B.D.S.  
Kyley Marie Fleck  
Megan Anne Gabrail  
Maya Monzer Maatouk, B.S.  
Rania Monzer Maatouk, B.S.  
Ambra Muhaj  
Sabireen Abdul Numan, B.S.  
Elizabeth Ann Ostrowski, B.S.  
Hailee Brianna Smith  
Ghalia Sobeh  
Merna Tawfik, B.S.

*Candidates for degrees to be granted upon completion of formal requirements.*



# CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

---

Nour Abduljalil, B.S.  
 Muhammad Abdus-Samad, B.S.  
 Julian Luis Acosta, B.S.  
 Norhan Tariq Al Getany, B.S.  
 Tamarah Ammar Al jorani, B.S.  
 Rula Raad Satar Al-Anbakey, B.S.  
 Jala Alatassi, B.S.  
 Barakat H. Alhashemi, M.S., B.S.  
 Masa Alhawasli, B.S.  
 Humza Ijlal Ali, B.S.  
 Jodie Heidi Al-jarrah, B.A., B.S.  
 + Mikaela Alexis Almeida, B.S.  
 Abdrhman Almouseli, B.S.  
 Ahmad Moatasem Alnajjar, B.S.  
 Ekow Damoah Amakye, B.S.  
 Gloria Nana Ansah, M.S., B.S.  
 \*\* Alejandro Arango, D.D.S.  
 Hunter Mark Atchoo, B.S.  
 Shaza Ali Awad, B.S.  
 Lynne Donna Ayoubi, B.A.  
 \*\* Jennifer Baez-Polan, D.D.S., M.S.  
 Ghali Ballani, A.G.S.  
 \*\* Krupa Bambal, D.D.S.  
 Harleen Kaur Bamrah, B.S.  
 Chemani A'niqye Baxter, B.S.  
 Alajiah Abrianna Marque Bell, B.S.  
 Nicholas Peter Bielkie, B.S.  
 Cody Ray Bollendorf, B.S.  
 Kyle Noel Borton, B.A.  
 Leigha A. Brown, B.S.  
 Sarah Chamseddine, B.S.  
 Li Chen, B.S.  
 Tavee N. Chin, B.S.  
 Bethany Chung, B.S.  
 Taylor Nicole Cogshell, B.S.  
 Michael Giancarlo Cordara, B.S.  
 Joseph McKean Corsten, B.S.  
 Aleena Dababneh-Bageris, B.S.  
 Khalil Fouad Dabaja, B.S.  
 Sierra Latrese Dowlen, B.A.  
 Bryce Charles Dunstan, B.S.  
 Tuyet Bach Thi Duong, B.A.  
 Katherine El Reda, B.S.  
 Deanna Youssef El-Diraoui, B.S.  
 Yahya Ibrahim Elmallah, B.S.  
 Adam Ibrahim El-mallah, B.S.  
 \*\* Rahma ElNaghy, B.D.S., Ph.D., M.S.,  
 M.Orth., R.C.S.Ed., F.D.S.R.C.S., F.R.C.D.C.  
 Brendan Gregory Enszer, B.S.E.  
 Farah Etiba, B.S.  
 Alexander J. Fazekas, B.S.  
 Donald Reno Ferraro, B.S.  
 Jonathan Daniel Figueroa, B.S.  
 Adam Christopher Finn, B.S.  
 Celeste Amor Fuentes-Mattson, B.S.  
 Royce Anthony Garmo, M.S., B.S.  
 Ahmad Afif Ghiba, B.S.  
 Edie Gilda Gibson, M.S., B.S.  
 Gurvinder Gill, B.S.  
 Emanuel Mina Girgis, B.S.  
 Claudia I. Gonzalez Figueroa, B.S.  
 Jade Faith Gottschalk, B.S.  
 Syma Haider, B.S.  
 Ann Haitta, B.S.  
 Daleen Siheim Hammoud, B.S.  
 Malack Fadi Hammoud, B.S.  
 Mohamad Hariri, M.B.A, M.P.H., M.S., B.S.  
 Benjamin Timothy Harris, B.S.  
 Yasmin Ibrahim Hassan, B.S.  
 Weaam Ali Hazime, B.S.  
 Simardeep Kaur Hehar, B.S.  
 Noah Patrick Horvat, B.A.  
 \*\* Marcos Massao Ioshida, D.D.S., M.S.  
 Janith Perera Jayatilake, B.S.  
 Ja'Nay Philyce Jones, M.S., B.S.  
 Taylor Elnora Jones, B.A.  
 Makayla Rose Jorgensen, B.S.  
 Melinda Kamil, B.S.  
 Jacob James Kawwas, B.S.  
 Rachel Nantumbwe Kayongo, B.S.  
 Ali Khanafer, B.S.  
 Khansa Khusro, B.A.

## CANDIDATES FOR THE DEGREE OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

---

Monica L. Kostro, M.S., B.S.	Hussein Mohamad Rizk, B.A.
Austin J. Lamond, B.S.	Suk Hyeon Ro, B.S.
Maria Cecilia Latorre Sanchez, B.S.	Ryan William Roelant, B.S.
Alexis Lee, M.S., B.S.	Alex Rosu, B.S.
Ha Eun Lee, B.S.	Zeinab Saad Saad, B.S.
Jenny Lee, B.S., B.A.	Abanob Saied, B.S.
Katherine Kaj-Nrig Ly, B.S.	Hanaa Ali Saleh, B.S.
Tala Mahjoub, B.S.	Renso R. Sanchez, B.A.
Malvika Malik, B.S.	Lazaro Esteban Santana-Bubaire, B.B.A.
Yasmeen Massiri, B.S.	Sera Sayegh, M.S., B.S.
Rody Jamal Matti, B.S.	Donovan Semma, M.S., B.S.
Seth Aaron Mendell, B.S.	Joseph Avi-Chai Shaesteh, B.A.
Lauren Nicole Minnear, B.S.	Kamran Shahabi, M.S., B.S.
Abdul Ateeq Mohammad, M.S., B.S.	Basel Shbib, B.S.
Ahmed Muwafaq Mohammed Ali, B.S.	Mohamed Shbib, M.B.A, B.S.
Saeed Mohebi, B.S.	Evan Hocheul Shin, B.S.
Grace Marie Monette, B.S.	Anishma Shrestha, B.S.
Mario T. Morcos, B.S.	Zoe S. Singer, B.Kin.
Fadi Faris Mousa-Aqrawi, B.S.	Tony Sun, B.S.
Martin Murad, B.S.	Muhammad Tayeh, B.S.
Tarek Nader, B.A.	Shaine R. Thomas, B.S.
Ali Bassem Naim	Nuri Ray Turkoglu, B.S.
Chau Kieu Nguyen	Jordin Rae Valenti, B.S.
Eve Eliya Nissan, M.S., B.S.	Thaija Jade Margaret Vincent, B.S.
** Olajide Temitope Obe, B.D.S., M.P.H., M.S., D.D.S.	Nardeen Wahib, B.S.
Yun Jun Park, B.S.	Ellie Sierra Wallace, B.A.
Anupam Patil, B.S.	William J. Ward, B.S.
Yashodhara Vivek Patil, B.S.	Mehwish Waseem, B.S., M.H.A.
David Spencer Perry, B.S.	Jordan William Willbanks, B.S.
Sebastian Alberto Porras, M.S., B.S.	Tony Bishara Yamin, B.S.
Suman K. Raghavan, B.S.	Oussama Yazbek, B.A.
Kelsey R. Redwantz, B.S.	Angela Hana Yoo, B.S.
+ Davin Vincenzo Renda, B.S.	** Emad Y. Abdulla Younis, B.D.S, M.D.S.
Ruba Ghassan Reyald, B.M.Sc.	Mina Bassem Zakhary, B.S.
	Parinaz Zaree Bavani, B.S.

+Candidates receiving a Certificate in Business Fundamentals

\*\*Candidates receiving a Doctor of Dental Surgery in the Accelerated Dental Program

*Candidates for degrees to be granted up on completion of formal requirements.*

## CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ADVANCED EDUCATION IN GENERAL DENTISTRY

---

Jessica Bolus Aligay, D.D.S., B.S.  
Kathryn B. Hornick, D.D.S.  
Pedram Kajeh, D.M.D., M.S.  
Thoams Paul Meyering, D.D.S.  
Tiara LaTreece Thompson, D.M.D.  
Marshall Allen Williams, D.D.S.

Program Director – Christina VanDam, D.D.S.

## CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ENDODONTICS AND THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

---

Matthew Connor Fenigstein, D.D.S.  
Hsuan Hsia, D.D.S.  
Sarmed Toma, D.D.S., B.A.

Program Director – Susan Paurazas, D.D.S., M.H.S.A., M.S.

## CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN ORTHODONTICS AND THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

---

Jordan Rae Browning, D.D.S., B.S.  
\*Sydney F. Honnlee, D.M.D. M.A.  
Julia Celene Mastracci, D.D.S., B.S.  
Jordan McConnell Noble, D.M.D., B.S.  
Alison Yoon, D.D.S., B.S.

Program Director – Riyadh Al-Qawasmi, B.D.S., M.S.D., Ph.D.

## CANDIDATES FOR CERTIFICATE IN PERIODONTICS AND THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF SCIENCE

---

Mohammed Omar Jamal AL Sammarraie, D.M.D., M.S.  
Omar M. Daweri, D.D.S, M.S.  
Naiomy Perez Villanueva, D.M.D., M.S.  
David Van Winkle, D.D.S., M.S.

Program Director – Anthony Neely, D.D.S., M.Dent.Sc., Ph.D.

\*Candidates receiving a Certificate in Orthodontics only  
*Candidates for degrees to be granted up on completion of formal requirements.*

# CLASS OF 2024 AWARDS

## DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

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**Tamarah Ammar Al jorani, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Rula Raad Satar Al-Anbakey, B.S.**

F.B. Vedder Society Nominee

**Barakat H. Alhashemi, M.S., B.S.**

President, Dental Class of 2024

**Masa Alhawasli, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Humza Ijlal Ali, B.S.**

Academy of Osseointegration Outstanding Dental Student in Implant Dentistry Award

Detroit Mercy Outstanding Senior Oral Surgery Award

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Mikaela Alexis Almeida, B.S.**

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Ahmad Moatasem Alnajjar, B.S.**

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Award

**Ghali Ballani, A.G.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Chemani A'niq Baxter, B.S.**

Delta Dental Foundation Community Commitment Award

**Alajiah Abrianna Marque Bell, B.S.**

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Senior Dental Student Recognition Award

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Leigha A. Brown, B.S.**

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Implant Student Award

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Sarah Chamseddine, B.S.**

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Bethany Chung, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Taylor Nicole Cogshell, B.S.**

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Joseph McKean Corsten, B.S.**

Russell W. Bunting Periodontal Society Award

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

# CLASS OF 2024 AWARDS

## DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

---

**Sierra Latrese Dowlen, B.A.**

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award  
Student Ambassador  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Bryce Charles Dunstan, B.S.**

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award  
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Dental Student Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Farah Etiba, B.S.**

Brian D. Stone Memorial Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Royce Anthony Garmo, M.S., B.S.**

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Edie Gilda Gibson, M.S., B.S.**

Student Government Association Vice President  
Student Ambassador

**Emanuel Mina Girgis, B.S.**

Class Representative, Dental Class of 2024

**Jade Faith Gottschalk, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence

**Ann Haitta, B.S.**

Secretary, Dental Class of 2024  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Daleen Siheim Hammoud, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Dental Outstanding Academic Achievement Award  
American Academy of Orofacial Pain Outstanding Senior Award  
American Academy of Oral Medicine Award  
School of Dentistry Biomedical Sciences Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Janith Perera Jayatilake, B.S.**

International Congress of Oral Implantology Pre-Doctoral Achievement Award  
Vice President, Dental Class of 2024

**Ja'Nay Philyce Jones, M.S., B.S.**

Detroit Mercy Dental Community Service Award  
International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award  
Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership Award  
Student Government Association President  
Student Ambassador

**Melinda Kamil, B.S.**

F.B. Vedder Society Awardee

# CLASS OF 2024 AWARDS

## DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

---

**Rachel Nantumbwe Kayongo, B.S.**

Student Ambassador  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Ali Khanafer, B.S.**

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Achievement Award

**Khansa Khusro, B.A.**

Detroit Mercy Dental Excellence in Research Award  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Austin J. Lamond, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Maria Cecilia Latorre Sanchez, B.S.**

Falcon Family Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Jenny Lee, B.S., B.A.**

Student Ambassador  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Tala Mahjoub, B.S.**

F.B. Vedder Society Nominee  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Ahmed Muwafaq Mohammed Ali, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Grace Marie Monette, B.S.**

American Association of Orthodontists Award

**Martin Murad, B.S.**

Academy of Dentistry International Student Servant Leadership Award  
Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Student Award  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Chau Kieu Nguyen**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Yun Jun Park B.S.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Yashodhara Vivek Patil, B.S.**

Quintessence Award for Research Achievement  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Alex Rosu, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Zeinab Saad Saad, B.S.**

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Abanob Saied, B.S.**

American College of Prosthodontics Graduate Achievement Award  
Student Ambassador

# CLASS OF 2024 AWARDS

## DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

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**Hanaa Ali Saleh, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Excellence in Academic Leadership Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Dentistry Clinical Excellence Award  
Class Representative, Dental Class of 2024  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Lazaro Esteban Santana-Bubaire, B.B.A.**

F.B. Vedder Society Nominee

**Mohamed Shbib, M.B.A., B.S.**

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Dental Student Award  
Whip Mix Hanau Best of Best Prosthodontic Award  
School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Shaine R. Thomas, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Nuri Ray Turkoglu, B.S.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Jordin Rae Valenti, B.S.**

American Academy of Periodontology Dental Student Award

**Thaija Jade Margaret Vincent, B.S.**

American Association of Endodontics Award  
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society  
School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Ellie Sierra Wallace, B.A.**

School of Dentistry Pediatric Award of Excellence Recognition

**Mehwish Waseem, B.S., M.H.A.**

School of Dentistry Student Research Recognition

**Jordan William Willbanks, B.S.**

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Dental Honor Society

**Tony Bishara Yamin, B.S.**

Academy of General Dentistry Award  
F.B. Vedder Society Nominee

**Parinaz Zaree Bavani, B.S.**

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry Predoctoral Student Award

# CLASS OF 2024 AWARDS

## DENTAL HYGIENE

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**Shafaa Alshaghdari, B.S.**

Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Endhely Aquino**

Treasurer, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024

**Lajja Desai, B.D.S.**

Colgate Student Total Achievement Recognition Award  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Kyley Marie Fleck**

School of Dentistry Dental Hygiene Periodontology Achievement Award  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Megan Anne Gabrail**

Loa Petri Clinical Dental Hygiene Award  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Maya Monzer Maatouk, B.S.**

Student Government Association Dental Hygiene Representative

**Rania Monzer Maatouk, B.S.**

Hu-Friedy "Golden Scaler" Award  
Vice President, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024

**Ambra Muhaj**

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Community Service Award  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Hailee Brianna Smith**

School of Dentistry Dental Hygiene Alumni Award  
Secretary Dental Hygiene Class of 2024  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition

**Merna Tawfik, B.S.**

East Shore District Dental Hygienists' Society Award  
School of Dentistry Dental Hygiene Outstanding Academic Achievement Award  
School of Dentistry Dental Hygiene Biomedical Sciences Award  
Sigma Phi Alpha Dental Hygiene Honor Society  
Clinical Enrichment Recognition  
President, Dental Hygiene Class of 2024



## ACADEMIC REGALIA

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Architecture	Blue Velvet	Law	Purple
Arts and Letters	White	Library Science	Lemon
Business Administration	Drab	Medicine	Green
Dentistry	Lilac	Music	Pink
Economics	Copper	Nursing	Apricot
Education	Light Blue	Pharmacy	Copper
Engineering	Orange	Philosophy	Blue
Fine Arts	Brown	Physical Education	Sage Green
Journalism	Crimson	Public Administration	Brown

The custom of wearing academic gowns, caps and hoods dates back to the 12<sup>th</sup> century and likely had its inception in France, where the wearing of the cap and gown marked the formal admission of the “Licentiate” to the body of masters. The cold buildings of medieval times, in which the masters were obliged to teach, required caps and hoods which naturally were patterned after the prevailing dress of the times. Since a large number of scholars were clerics, the robes resembled the monks’ dress. The hoods were fashioned after the monks’ cowl and were attached to the gown so that they might be drawn over the head. Later, when the hood was displaced by the skull cap as a head covering, it was made separately from the gown. The skull cap evolved into a pointed cap which is evidenced today in the mortar board cap with its tassel.

Considering the development described above, it is natural that there would be a great variety of styles and usage. In order to maintain uniformity, an *Intercollegiate Code for Academic Costumes* has been adopted by most leading institutions of learning. As a result, the gowns and hoods of this country are a badge of learning, symbolic of the degree attained.

This code calls for three types of gowns: the Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctor’s. The Bachelor’s gown is made with an open or closed front with long pointed sleeves. The Master’s gown is an open front garment with extremely long closed sleeves - the arms protrude through a slit at the elbow. The ends of the sleeves are square and are further characterized by an arc of a circle appearing near the bottom. The Doctor’s gown is also an open front garment, with round bell-shaped sleeves along the length of the arm. There are wide, black velvet panels facing down the front with three velvet bars on each sleeve, which may portray the color that represents the degree earned or may remain black.

It is in the design of the hood that is distinctly American. Simple, yet beautiful, each degree, Bachelor’s, Master’s and Doctor’s, is represented by a distinct shape or form. The Bachelor’s hood is the smallest of the three - the velvet edging is narrower and less exposed. The Master’s hood is the same length as the Doctor’s - the velvet edging is somewhat wider than the Bachelor’s and more of the lining can be seen. The Doctor’s hood is easily recognized by the width of the velvet edging, its wide panels and the full exposure of the lining. The lining of the hood indicates the colors of the institute conferring the degree and the color of the velvet trimmings represents the degree.

The black gowns, trimmed with multi-colored velvet and worn by some members of the Dental Faculty, indicate membership in the American College of Dentists or the International College of Dentists.

## ACADEMIC PROCESSION & MACE

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The order of the Academic Procession (see page 2) is governed by academic protocol. College and School order of march is determined by their founding. Leading the Procession is the Grand Marshal. The Grand Marshal is the Master/Mistress of Ceremonies and Mace-bearer.

The mace is ceremonial and dates back to sixteenth century England where it was used as a formidable weapon to protect high ranking civil, educational and religious officials, and royalty. Today the mace has become a symbol of authority and is carried by a distinguished member of the academic community.

Attached to the silver crown of the mace is a double-sided University crest. Circumscribed around the consolidated institutions' crests is the wording, "University of Detroit Mercy." The left side of the inner circle portrays two wolves at a pot, symbolizing the generosity of the Loyola family (Ignatius Loyola was the founder of the Society of Jesus). After all the family and the workers were fed, even the wild animals had the pot to lick.

The motto of the Jesuits, "Ad Majorem Dei Gloriam" (For the Greater Glory of God), is located above the wolves and the pot. The date 1877 refers to the founding of University of Detroit by the Jesuits.

On the inner circle, right side, is a silver cross which is the symbol of the Religious Sisters of Mercy, who founded Mercy College of Detroit in 1941. The three canettes are taken from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Detroit, symbolizing the Archdiocese and the City. The open book is the traditional symbol for a college. Upon the open pages is inscribed Mercy College's motto, "Maria, Sedes Sapientiae" (Mary, Seat of Wisdom).

The shaft of the mace is made of silver and ebony.

## THANK YOU

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We acknowledge the following people for their contribution to the 2024 commencement ceremony.

### **Bagpiper**

Mr. Bruce Burt

### **Volunteer Ushers**

Administrative Assistants  
Staff



