



**WashU** Brown School

# Brown School Recognition Ceremony

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**MAY 10, 2025**

*Field House, Athletic Complex*

*Washington University Danforth Campus*

100  
BROWN  
SCHOOL  
CENTENNIAL



# Events

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## **Brown School Recognition Ceremony**

Field House, Athletic Complex

Saturday, May 10 | 3:30 p.m.

## **Washington University Commencement**

Francis Olympic Field

Monday, May 12 | 9:00 a.m.

## **All-School Commencement Festival**

*Mudd Field, Tisch Park*

*Monday, May 12*

*Immediately following the University Commencement*

## **Brown School Commencement Reception**

Clark-Fox Forum, Hillman Hall

Monday, May 12

*After you grab food, drinks, and snacks from the All-School Commencement Festival, please join faculty, staff, and students to mingle and cool off from the heat.*

# Order of Ceremony

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## **Announcements**

Cynthia Williams

## **Welcome**

Tyler De Shon

## **Student Speaker Address**

Nwaliweaku Anidi

## **Address Speaker**

Jenifer Lewis

## **Announcement and Recognition of PhD Candidates**

Shenyang Guo | Patrick J. Fowler

## **Announcement of Masters Candidates**

Tammy Orahood

## **Recognition of MSW Candidates**

Janelle Gibson

## **Recognition of MPH Candidates**

Angela Hobson

## **Recognition of MSW/MPH Dual Candidates**

Janelle Gibson | Angela Hobson

### **Recognition of MSW/MSP Dual Candidates**

Janelle Gibson | Anna Shabsin

### **Recognition of MPH/MSP Dual Candidates**

Angela Hobson | Anna Shabsin

### **Recognition of MSP Candidates**

Anna Shabsin

### **Recognition of Dual Degrees Candidates**

Janelle Gibson | Angela Hobson

### **Recognition of Student Marshal & Student Speaker**

Janelle Gibson | Angela Hobson

### **Dean's Remarks**

Dorian Traube

### **Recession**

Cynthia Williams

### **Recessional**

Pomp & Circumstance

# PhD Graduates

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## **Akilah Collins-Anderson**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

The Hill We Climb: A Mixed Methods Exploration of Stress and Depression in a Community Sample

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Darrell Hudson, PhD*

## **Merriah Aree Croston**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

Old Narratives on New Media: Health Misinformation in Black Digital Communities

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Jenine K. Harris, PhD*

## **Amanda Seligson Gilbert**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

Supporting Health Equity in Obesity Prevention for Women of Reproductive Age

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Rachel G. Tabak, PhD*

## **Najjuwah Stephina Walden**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

The Blacker the Berry: Food Environments and Intake associated with Perinatal Depression and Secondary Breastfeeding

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Lora Iannotti, PhD and Rachel Tabak, PhD*

## **Kyria Brown**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

Innovation and Advocacy in Perinatal Harm Reduction by Birth Workers and Perinatal Workforce Providers: A Qualitative Study Utilizing Narrative Inquiry

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Patricia Kohl, PhD*

## **Tzu Hsin Huang**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

Understanding the Behavioral Health of Children in Child Protective Services: Prevalence, Community Context, and System Involvement Using Administrative Data

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Brett Drake, PhD*

## **Xuan Huang**

### DISSERTATION TITLE

When Threat and Safety Cues are Present: A Quantitative Study Exploring the Relationships Between Childhood Adversity, Social Support Figures, Subjective Safety, and Child Well-Being Outcomes

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Melissa Jonson-Reid, PhD*

## **JaNiene Peoples**

### **DISSERTATION TITLE**

Ecological Momentary Assessment of Mechanisms Linking Racial Discrimination and Substance Use in Black College Students

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Sheretta Butler-Barnes, PhD*

## **Nancy Jacquelyn Pérez-Flores**

### **DISSERTATION TITLE**

Examining Mass Media, Depression Literacy, and Public Mental Health Stigma Among the Latinx Population Residing in Nontraditional Receiving Communities

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Leopoldo J. Cabassa, PhD*

## **Daniela Tuda**

### **DISSERTATION TITLE**

“Connectedness is Subject to Change”: Exploring Social Connectedness Through The Perspectives Of Latina Adolescents At Risk For Suicide, Their Families, And Providers In The Life Is Precious Program

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Leopoldo J. Cabassa, PhD*

## **Yuanyuan Yang**

### **DISSERTATION TITLE**

Relationships Between Household Economic Distress and Child Mental Health: Determinants, Mechanisms, and Interventions

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Michael Sherraden, PhD*

## **Haotian Zheng**

### **DISSERTATION TITLE**

Measuring the Concept of Financial Capability and Its Association with Financial Well-Being

*Recognized by Dissertation Chair Michael Sherraden, PhD*

# MSW Candidates

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Esraa Almalki	Bethany Hutchings
Skye Andre	Zoe Isbell
Kristin Arteaga	Mohammed Issifu
Robert Avinger	Sydney Jackson
Nina Bacon	Brittany Jones
Carly Bambrick	Ashley Kennedy
Octavia Bartmess	Eddie Kirumira
Margaret Baylis	Carolyn Kobe
Lila Bensky	Kathryn Leeker
Julia Blanchard	Elizabeth Lewis*
Yujun Cai	Sizhe Li
Shuaiyin Chen	Maya Litton
Xinyue Chen	Jin Lyu
Yixing Chen	Caroline McDonald
Taylor Clark	Peyton McGovern
Hannah Clemens	Zoe Mendenall
Haley Coleman	Victoria Meza
Stanford Cooper	Sruti Mohan
Cierra Couch	Noah Mondschein
Lixing Dai	Kayleigh Moulton
Valentin Davis	Mary Najjemba
Caroline Dellheim	Fatumah Nakabuye
Ontorio Drayton*	Scovia Nassaazi
Michaela Dunn Hannah	Alice Nelms
Frazee* Rebecca	Jenny Nguyen
Gadiel Cidney Grimes	Monica Noce
Katherine Haberberger	JaCideah Nunnery
Ariana Hambright Soo	Ebunoluwa Opata
In Han	Kassidy Pemberton
Elias Hayward* Grace	Shaina Peterson*
Hogan	George Putney
Shonda Howard Xiaoyu	Hannah Rajamani
Huang	Amaya Reynolds
	Anastasia Rhule



*MSW Candidates Continued*

Alex Roach  
Shantalle Ruiz  
Allison Ryan  
Rose Sanders  
Keyi Shi  
Michael Smith\*  
Olivia Smith  
Olivia Sourivong  
Katelyn Stanley  
Hope Sterkel  
Benjamin Sylar  
Zoe Talkin

Mandy Thompson  
Christina Walker  
Yuwei Wang  
Sophia Wetteroff  
Bethany Williams  
Tonna Wilson\*  
Yifan Yang  
Rou Yin  
Addy Zeigen  
Richard Zelle  
Kehan Zhou

## MSW/JD Candidates

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Isabela Gallegos  
Asia Hayes

Rosalyn Langrohling-Amanor

## MSW/MAEd Candidates

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Torey Adams

Wen Ling Hsien

## MSW/MBA Candidates

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Elijah Beal

Emily Palm

*\*First part-time MSW graduating cohort.*

# MSW/MSP Candidate

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Sara Mendiola

# MSW/MPH Candidates

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Clair Antoine

Miryam Baied

Maggie Chen

Erin Danzig

Sarolyn Fox

Clarissa Gaona Romero

Madeline Johanson

Alex Junidi

Gabriela Musickant

Alison Setili

Zihui Zhou

# MPH Candidates

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Gifty Aboagye-Mensah

Busayo Akinloye

Shravya Allena

Nwaliweaku Anidi

Raymond Atwebembere

Mariam Balogun

Cassandra Berko

Kathia Cardenas

Kewei Chen

Fariha Chowdhury

Lamayah Clayton

Bria Couliboly

Edward Delali Darku

Eileen Eghan

Oghosa Evbuomwan

Delaney Foster

Phenyo Gaotlhobogwe

Leslie Gómez

Samia Hadji

Madeline Hayes

Yu-Ku Huang

Muhammad Rifhan Ideris

Priscilla Kabutey

Georgewilliam Kalibbala

Lillie Kang

Analiese Knight-Ward

Brynn Mackenzie Lau

Ziyun Meng

Nandu Meshram

Jayda Moss

Sulaiti Mutebi

Nana Afia Nuamah

Haley Oetterer

Oreluwa Oginni

Abidemi Oyeniya

Shivani Anilbhai Patel

*MPH Candidates Continued*

**Dajana Pierre**

**Yusra Qureshi**

**Carlos Ramirez**

**Raghad Kamal Eldin Salman**

**Benny Septer**

**Supriya Sherpa**

**Yuehua Shi**

**Nahom Sisay**

**Francis Ssemujju**

**Nichole Stonich**

**Jiamu Sun**

**McKenzie Swan**

**Vishnuvardhan Thotakura**

**Despina Tsiamtsiouris**

**Jenna Yang**

**Danyang Zhang**

**Yiou Zhang**

**Ziyu Zhang**

## **MPH/MD Candidates**

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**Shannon Chiu**

**Sarah Fracasso Francis**

## **MPH/MSP Candidates**

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**Victoria Anders**

**Chen-Jui Hung**

## **MSP Candidates**

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**Yuyao Qi**

**Xiaolin Wu**

# Phi Alpha Honor Society for Social Work Inductees

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Esraa Almalki

Carly Bambrick

Meg Baylis

Julia Blanchard

Isabela Gallegos

Zoe Isbell

Rosalyn Langrohling-Amanor

Caroline McDonald

Gabriela Musickant

Rose Sanders

Mandy Thompson

Bethany Williams

# Delta Omega Honor Society in Public Health Inductees

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## MSW/MPH

Madeline Johanson

## MPH

Busayo Akinloye

Dajana Pierre

Gifty Aboagye-Mensah

Kathia Cardenas

Leslie Gomez

Nana Afia Nuamah

Nwali Anidi

Priscilla Kabutey

Raghad Salman

Supriya Sthapit Sherpa

Yu-Ku Huang

## MPH/MD

Sarah Fracasso Francis

## PhD, Public Health Sciences

Najjuwah Walden

## Faculty

**Jewel Stafford, MSW**

*Assistant Dean of Field Education, Brown School*

**Kate Barbier, MPH, MSW**

*Lecturer, Office of Field Education,  
Brown School, Director, Office of Applied  
Practice, School of Public Health (future)*

## Alumni

**Erin Curran**

*Staff Vice President,  
Quality Improvement, Centene*

**Marissa Zwald, PhD**

*CDC*

**Liz Budd, PhD**

*Evergreen Associate Professor,  
University of Oregon*

**Lara Counts, MPH**

*Clinical Research Associate, St. Jude's*

## Honorary

**Cindy Mense**

*CEO, Trailnet, Adjunct Faculty*

Brown School



# Featured Speakers

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## Nwaliweaku Anidi, MPH '25

Nwaliweaku Anidi is a 2nd year Master of Public Health (MPH) student at the Brown School at Washington University in St. Louis, specializing in Health Policy. Her journey to the Brown School began with a role, providing technical support to the Director General at the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control and Prevention, where she gained exposure to the powerful role policy plays in shaping public health outcomes.



This experience, combined with her background in physiotherapy, sparked her passion for global health, built environment policies, and physical activity promotion—ultimately leading her to pursue an MPH in Health Policy.

One of Nwali's favorite things about the Brown School is the wealth of learning opportunities beyond the classroom. Opportunities like practicum, D.C. policy course, research poster presentations, research assistantships, and the Graduate Policy Scholars program equipped her with invaluable transferable skills and implementation research experience as well as connected her with field experts, some of whom are now her mentors.

Due to the immense community support and encouragement that has pushed her through, Nwali is deeply committed to creating an inclusive and supportive community at WashU, and does so through student engagement, mentoring and programming.

When she's not working or studying, you'll likely find Nwali catching up with loved ones on the phone, curled up with a novel just moments from dozing off, or doing a mini karaoke session in her room.

## Jenifer Lewis

Dubbed a National Treasure and a force to be reckoned with, award-winning actress/activist, and author, Jenifer Lewis, star of the 8 seasoned hit TV show *Black-ish*, has appeared in over 400 episodic television shows, 68 movies, 143 animations, and 4 Broadway shows.

Most recently she starred as 'Patricia' in the Showtime series "I Love That For You."

Jenifer has performed in more than 200 concerts worldwide including, sold out audiences at Lincoln Center and an electrifying standing ovation at Carnegie Hall.

Her accomplishments as an entertainer and community activist have been recognized with an honorary doctorate from her Alma Mater, Webster University and the Career Achievement Award from The American Black Film Festival. On Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Birthday, The King Center for Non-Violent Social Change awarded Jenifer with the Yolanda D. King Higher Ground Award.

In November 2022, Jenifer published her second critically acclaimed book "Walking in my Joy: In These Streets" and was honored by the Congressional Black Caucus. Jenifer received a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame July 15, 2022. She was born and raised in Kinloch, Missouri.



# Photos

Proofs may be viewed and purchased online within 72 hours of the ceremony from: [sartiphoto.com](http://sartiphoto.com)

Click on “View Proofs” and follow the directions.

For more information, please contact:  
Sarti Photo Services, 314.721.7733

## Commitment to Open & Respectful Events

Washington University fully embraces a commitment to presenting a wide diversity of ideas and opinions, as well as encouraging free discussion of those ideas and opinions.

With this commitment in mind, the university agrees that event proceedings and guest speakers should expect to be heard without interference from or harassment by those who oppose their views or positions, and that posters, banners, noisemakers and other distractions should not be brought into the presentation area during a program or talk, so that an environment free of interference, distraction and intimidation shall be maintained.

The Washington University policy is: No placards, banners, noisemakers and other distractions are permitted in outdoor or indoor presentation areas on campus – either in support of or in opposition to speakers or event proceedings. Groups and individuals are free to gather outside of these venues and presentation areas to leaflet, to display posters and banners, to distribute literature and to express their concerns – as long as they do not obstruct entry, disrupt event proceedings, interfere with speakers’ ability to be heard, or otherwise deny the audience an interruption-free event.







**#BrownGrad25 #WashU25**