



CELEBRATING **135** YEARS

SINCE 1891

134TH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

May 18, 2026

WE ARE NEWYORK'S LAW SCHOOL



JURIS PR  
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*The audience is requested to remain seated during the processional, to stand for the singing of the National Anthem, and to remain in place at the conclusion of the Commencement exercises until the recessional is concluded. Please refrain from using cell phones during the Commencement exercises. The event is being recorded, and the video will be made available via [www.youtube.com/nyls](http://www.youtube.com/nyls).*

# BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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*Dean and President,  
Professor of Law*

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Chief Financial Officer*

Jeff Becherer  
*Associate Dean and Vice President  
for Institutional Advancement, Chief  
Development Officer*

Erin Felker Bond '08  
*Associate Dean for Academic Planning and  
Career Development*

Heidi K. Brown  
*Associate Dean for Upper Level Writing  
and Professor of Legal Writing*

Kirk D. Burkhalter '04  
*Dean for Evening Division Engagement,  
Professor of Law*

Ella Mae Estrada  
*Associate Dean and Vice President for  
Enrollment Management, Student  
Financial Services, and Institutional  
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*

Matt Gewolb  
*Senior Associate Dean for Academic  
Affairs and Institutional Strategy, General  
Counsel, Professor of Law*

Kim Hawkins  
*Stephen J. Ellmann Dean of Clinical and  
Experiential Learning, Professor of Law*

Oral C. Hope  
*Associate Dean and Executive Registrar,  
Dean of Students*

William P. LaPiana  
*Dean of Faculty,  
Professor of Law*

Michael Pastor  
*Dean for Technology Law Programs,  
Professor of Law From Practice*

Michael Roffer '83  
*Interim Director of The Mendik Library,  
Professor of Legal Research*

Lynn Su  
*Dean for Advocacy and  
Co-Curricular Programs, Professor of Law*

Ilyse Wofse  
*Associate Dean for Student Academic and  
Bar Success*

## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



**Dear Members of the Class of 2026:**

On behalf of the New York Law School Board of Trustees and Faculty, congratulations on reaching this extraordinary moment in your lives.

I am honored to have served as your Dean. I've proudly watched you become active members of our community, challenge yourselves with hard work, and advocate for others. Now, you join the ranks of our distinguished alumni as our nation turns 250 years old and our law school celebrates our 135th anniversary. At this critical moment in our history, the role of lawyers has never been more paramount to defending the foundations of what makes us a free, democratic, and just society.

Indeed, the issues we face today are profoundly complex. You will be called on to use your legal training at every turn to advance justice and fairness in our society and world, to protect individual rights, and to build an economy where everyone has an opportunity to thrive. Always remember that you are part of a 135-year-old community of strivers, dreamers, and doers. You will succeed because of your NYLS and New York values that reflect diversity, creativity, doggedness, and an inclusive approach that fuels us to work hard and to be innovative and resilient in empowering every client and community we serve.

You will always be part of New York's law school. Arriving here today was an extraordinary journey, and I am so happy and honored to celebrate with all of you, your families, and your friends. There is so much responsibility resting on your shoulders, so please make sure to always take care of each other and yourselves. Our nation, and the entire world, needs your leadership. I know you will make us proud, and we will always be here to inspire, support, and celebrate you.

I wish you profound success and fulfillment in the incredible journey that lies ahead.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Anthony W. Crowell".

Anthony W. Crowell  
Dean and President  
Professor of Law

# FULL-TIME FACULTY AND INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

## 2025–26

Susan J. Abraham  
Penelope E. Andrews  
Alan I. Appel '76  
Pallvi Babbar  
Ann Schofield Baker '97  
Melynda H. Barnhart  
Tamara C. Belinfanti  
Lenni B. Benson  
Andrew Berman  
Erin Felker Bond '08  
Heidi K. Brown  
Kirk D. Burkhalter '04  
Claudine Caracciolo  
Anna G. Cominsky '05  
Anthony W. Crowell  
Gaynor Cunningham  
Catharine Du Bois  
Victoria L. Eastus  
Shahrokh Falati '08  
Kris Franklin  
Doni N. Gewirtzman  
Matt Gewolb  
Anne Goldstein  
Brandt J. Goldstein  
Michael Goodyear  
Lisa F. Grumet  
Kim Hawkins  
Thomas J. Honan  
Anna Belle Hoots  
Susan H. Joffe  
Andrea J. Johnson  
Larken S. Kade

Ramesh Kasarabada  
Gerald Korngold  
Erik W. Lane '15  
William P. LaPiana  
Molly Guptill Manning  
Richard D. Marsico  
Michael T. McCarthy  
Cherie N. McPherson  
Howard S. Meyers  
Justin S. Murray  
Keisha A. Parker  
Michael J. Pastor  
Samantha C. Pownall '11  
Michael H. Roffer '83  
Rebecca Roiphe  
Jae Hyung Ryu  
Ross Sandler  
Andrew Scherer  
David Simson  
Riti P. Singh  
Faith S. Stelman  
Lynn Boepple Su  
Ruti G. Teitel  
Ann F. Thomas  
Claire R. Thomas '11  
Marshall E. Tracht  
Elizabeth Valentin  
Amy L. Wallace  
Daniel A. Warshawsky  
Britney R. Wilson  
Ilyse A. Wofse  
Michelle Zierler

**Faculty Emeriti**  
Richard C.E. Beck  
Robert Blecker  
Lloyd Bonfield  
Frank A. Bress  
James Brook  
Camille Broussard  
Carol A. Buckler  
Eugene Cerruti  
David Chang  
Lung-chu Chen  
Richard Chused  
Ronald H. Filler  
Jeffrey J. Haas  
Mariana J. Hogan  
Sandra K. Janin '75  
Randolph N. Jonakait  
Kim M. Lang  
Arthur S. Leonard  
Jethro K. Lieberman  
Richard A. Matasar  
Carlin Meyer  
William R. Mills  
Frank W. Munger  
Stephen A. Newman  
Michael L. Perlin  
Edward A. Purcell Jr.  
Joyce D. Saltalamachia  
David Schoenbrod  
Richard K. Sherwin  
James F. Simon '92  
Michael B.W. Sinclair  
Nadine Strossen

# ADJUNCT FACULTY

2025–26

## Distinguished Adjuncts

Barry W. Appleton  
Marc S. Bekerman  
Adele Bernhard  
Hon. Anthony Cannataro '96  
Heather E. Cucolo '03  
David M. Epstein  
John E. Estes '95  
Joseph M. Forgione  
Hank B. Gutman  
Meryl Fiedler Lieberman '81  
Stephen E. Louis  
Steven E. Pegalis '65  
F. Peter Phillips '87  
Carmen N. Presinal '09  
Asim Rehman  
Hon. Joel H. Slomsky '70  
Errol B. Taylor '87  
Hon. Carolyn Walker-Diallo '03  
Hon. Marc J. Whiten '84  
Jeffrey M. Wice

## Adjuncts

Nada Abdelhadi  
Daniel S. Abraham '99  
Shara Abraham  
Melissa Accomando '14  
Jolie A. Apicella  
Anna Arkin-Gallagher  
David C. Ash  
Karen Artz Ash '80  
Christina Awad  
Heather Y. Axford  
Ernest E. Badway  
Matthew Barr  
Catherine P. Barreda '15  
Jamie Beitler '14  
Cassie Blum  
Erica Braudy  
Chelsea Breakstone  
M'Ral Broodie-Stewart  
Molly C. Burke '19  
Heather M. Butts  
James Caras  
Arastu K. Chaudhury  
Sonja Gidumal Chazin  
Theodore K. Cheng  
Katherine Chu  
Sumeet Chugani  
Steven M. Cohen  
J. Scott Colesanti  
Sandra Cordoba  
Julia Ann Cort  
John Curran  
Christina Das  
William Davis  
Kathleen Dennin  
Katherine A. DiVasto  
Joanne Doroshov  
Donna Dougherty  
Alexandra Villamia Drimal  
Tarrian L. Ellis '18  
Waldo Espinosa  
Hannah V. Faddis '10  
Lucas A. Ferrara  
Cary S. Fischer '99  
David M. Fish '96  
Christopher Fladgate  
Tara Foster  
Shareema Gadson-Shaw  
Adam J. Gana '05  
Hon. Paul G. Gardephe  
David Glicker  
Linda A. Goldman '84  
Doron S. Goldstein  
Scott W. Golenbock  
Nathalie Y. Gonzalez '14  
Hon. Leo M. Gordon  
Kristin A. Grant '13  
Stephanie Grassi '14  
Julie A. Grossman  
Janet M. Halecky '93  
Seth Harris  
Adam S. Herbst  
John Hirsch  
Daniel J. Horwitz  
Mona Houck '04  
Annmary Ittan Sunny  
Bryan C. Johnson-Xenitelis '08  
Chinnu Joseph '14  
Shilpa Kalra  
Jordan Kanfer

Asli Karaevli  
Katelyn E. Katsuki '20  
Peter A. Kempner  
Zachary A. Kerner  
Hon. Diane Kiesel  
Andrew Kim  
Monica E. Kipiniak  
Jonathan Knipe  
Lynnore S. Lawton-Thames '04  
Kimberly A. Lebron '01  
Amy L. Leipziger  
Dean W.M. Leslie  
Daniel E. Lust  
Jenice L. Malecki '91  
Hon. Joseph J. Maltese '73  
Nelson Mar  
Stephen Mazzalunga '04  
Natoya L. McGhie '11  
Michael C. McQueeny  
Jenny L. Mecum '13  
Robin S. Meister '86  
Jessica Mendoza Stadmeier  
Charles J. Messina '08  
Seth Mills '12  
Dawne A. Mitchell  
Lawrence C. Montle '13  
Avraham C. Moskowitz  
William A. Neri '11  
Robert J. Newman  
Addison O'Donnell  
Sarah Iliana Ongun  
Daniel J. Parisi  
Melissa Paul-Franklyn  
Lydia E. Payne-Johnson '96  
Michael A. Perez  
Brence D. Pernell  
Hayley M. Pine '15  
René Plattner  
Steven E. Plotnick  
Jadera Ramirez-Garcia  
Sherry L. Ramsey '98  
Alyssa Reid '20  
Michael Resko  
Alexandra Rizio  
Albert Rizzo  
Hon. Sandra M. Rodriguez-Diaz

Elizabeth Roper  
Victoria A. Rosner  
Amy L. Rowland  
Jillian A. Ruggiero '15  
Makedah K. Salmond  
Ivan A. Saperstein  
Sean P. Scheinfeld '21  
Nicholas J. Schmitt  
Lawrence P. Schnapf '84  
Nanette H. Schorr  
Andrew Schwartz  
John A. Scola, Jr. '11  
J. Kevin Shaffer  
Maneesha Sharma  
William L. Sheehan  
Hon. Edit Shkreli '11  
Michaela Shuchman  
Gianna Signorille  
Karen P. Simmons  
Wendy J. Singletary '08  
Michael A. Sisitzky  
Scott M. Sisun  
Kirby M. Smith  
Jeanne Somma  
Lawton W. Squires '83  
Filomena Stabile  
Alan Stone  
John R. Tatulli '04  
Scarlett Taylor  
Prescott D. Ulrey  
Lynne M. Fischman Uniman  
Anthony Vargas '02  
Karen E. Varriale '97  
Jerry Vattamala  
Ashley M. Viruet  
Elizabeth C. Vladeck  
Hartley B. Waltman '88  
Hannah Weberg  
Hon. Patricia A. Williams  
Thomas Scot Wolinetz  
Justin A. Xenitelis '06  
Dawn L. Yuster  
Jody Zucker

# ORDER OF EXERCISES

	Anthony W. Crowell, Presiding <i>Dean and President, Professor of Law</i>
PRELUDE	<i>Jubilate Deo</i> —Gregor Aichinger <i>Contrapunctus</i> —J.S. Bach <i>Quintet No. 1</i> —Victor Ewald
MARSHALS	Professor William P. LaPiana Professor Ann F. Thomas
INTRODUCTION AND GREETINGS	Dean Anthony W. Crowell
GREETINGS FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES	John E. Estes '95 <i>Chair, Board of Trustees</i>
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM	Phoebe Lopez
STUDENT REMARKS	Brittany Blum <i>Co-Chief Student Ambassador and Student Bar Association President</i>
INTRODUCTION OF ESTEEMED ALUMNI	Dean Anthony W. Crowell
CONFERRING OF HONORARY DEGREE	DOCTOR OF LAWS (LL.D.) <i>Introduction by Dean Anthony W. Crowell</i> <i>Presentation by Board Chair John E. Estes '95</i> Hon. Julie Menin Speaker of the New York City Council
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	Hon. Julie Menin

AWARDING OF PRIZES

OTTO L. WALTER DISTINGUISHED WRITING AWARDS  
*Presentation by Dean of Faculty William P. LaPiana*

**Faculty Awards**

Full-Time Faculty Book

Ruti Teitel for *Presidential Visions of Transitional Justice: An American Legacy of Responsibility and Reconciliation*

Full-Time Faculty Articles

Penelope Andrews for “Human Rights and Foreign Policy: South Africa’s Genocide Complaint Against Israel at the International Court of Justice”

Britney R. Wilson for “Predisposed: Race, Disability, and Death Investigations”

Adjunct Faculty Book

Diane Kiesel for *When Charlie Met Joan: The Tragedy of the Chaplin Trials and the Failings of American Law*

Adjunct Faculty Article

Steven E. Pegalis '65 for “Patient Safety” (co-written with Douglas McKeon, Richa Chandra '26, Sebastian Guccione '26, Samuel Olesinski '26, and Jessica Zakhary '26)

Emeritus Faculty Article

Richard Chused for “Un©ertainty and Dis©omfort”

**Student Awards**

Kristen Grennan for “‘What About Charter Schools?’: Can We Establish That Charter Schools Are Public Schools, Or Is That Just ‘Crazy Talk’ ?”

Allen Shumunov for “Discrimination by AI: How Tenant Screening Demands a New Fair Housing Framework”

STUDENT REMARKS

Dolma Sherpa

AWARDING OF PRIZES

THE FINALISTS FOR THE TRUSTEES’ PRIZE  
FOR THE HIGHEST AVERAGE\*

*Presentation by Dean of Faculty William P. LaPiana*

*Day Division*

*Evening Division*

Vanessa Haselkorn

Arielle Edelheit

Hailey Kraft

Kristen Grennan

Kate Sabiston

AWARDING OF PRIZES

THE ALFRED L. ROSE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

*Presentation by Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs Matt Gewolb*

Vanessa Haselkorn

Peter Nemeh, Co-Chief Student Ambassador

Ashley Oliver

\* For J.D. candidates: Based on fifth-semester grades for Day Division students and seventh-semester grades for Evening Division students. The final awards will be made after all grades are complete in June to the student with the highest average in each division.

## ORDER OF EXERCISES (continued)

STUDENT REMARKS	Ashley Oliver
AWARDING OF KATHLEEN GRIMM MEDAL	<i>Introduction and Presentation by Dean Anthony W. Crowell</i> Kristen Grennan Rhiannon Wright
AWARDING OF PRIZES	135 <sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AWARD FOR LEGAL COMMUNITY IMPACT <i>Presentation by Kristen Grennan</i> Professor Lenni Benson  FACULTY IMPACT AWARD <i>Presentation by Peter Nemeš, Co-Chief Student Ambassador</i> Professor Howard Meyers
AWARDING OF PRESIDENT'S MEDAL	<i>Introduction and Presentation by Dean Anthony W. Crowell</i> Charles J. Maikish '74 Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer (Ret.) for Citibank Realty Services
ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME	E. Drew Britcher '84 President, New York Law School Alumni Association
CONFERRING OF STUDENT DEGREES	<b>Introduction of Candidates</b> Professor Ann F. Thomas Professor Susan J. Abraham Professor Penelope Andrews Professor Claudine Caracciolo Professor Catharine Du Bois Adjunct Professor Asli Karaevli Assistant Dean Cherie McPherson Professor F. Peter Phillips '87 Professor Andrew Scherer Associate Dean Ilyse Wofse Professor Michelle Zierler <b>Presentation of Candidates</b> Dean Anthony W. Crowell <b>Conferring of Degrees</b> John E. Estes '95
CLOSING REMARKS	Dean Anthony W. Crowell
RECESSIONAL	<i>Two Voluntaries</i> —Henry Purcell



HONORS AND PRIZES

PRAECEPTA  
C, HONESTE  
ALTERUM  
DERE, SUUM  
TRIBUERE

# DEGREES WITH HONORS

February 1, 2026

## *Cum Laude*

Kellie Caminiti                      Shane Culgan                      Ronen Wesley

## PROVISIONAL HONORS\*

May 18, 2026

## *Summa Cum Laude*

Arielle Edelheit                      Hailey Kraft                      Mary Campbell Rouse                      Beau Van Der Meulen  
Vanessa Haselkorn                      Mary McCafferty                      Kate Sabiston

## *Magna Cum Laude*

Jessica Anastasia                      Kristen Grennan                      Kennedy Mull                      Bekka Wiedenmeyer  
Gabrielle Angelle                      Jadrian Guy                      Peter Nemeh                      Rhiannon Wright  
Emma Brammer                      Jennifer Hutz                      Adley Raboy                      Nicole Zlatokrasov  
AJ Cirelli                      Kelly Johnson                      Athena Ripka                      Jamie Zwirn  
Ryan Ferguson                      Lily Mallick                      Peter Rotondo  
Hailey Freilich                      Timothy McCormick                      John Anthony West

## *Cum Laude*

Chloe Adasa                      Jennifer Diaz                      Race Johnson                      Anne Marie Mulligan  
Zhala Akhundova                      Emily Dillman                      Nicholas Juvelier                      Matthew Nemeh  
Garrett Andreski                      Nicolette Figliozzi                      Jenna Kahn                      Ashley Oliver  
Julie Mae Angevine Fernandez                      Daniel Fuggi                      Hailey Kennedy                      Katie Ortencio  
Sara Aronfeld                      Jordan Goldberg                      Oliver Killeen                      Brian Paroff  
Brinly Black                      Katherine Grabowski                      Marsha Kubyshko                      Francesca Piscino  
Gavin Bock                      Zhanna Green                      Frank Landau                      Wyatt Reiter  
Jessie Carvelli                      Anna Greenberg                      Chloe Levine                      Danielle Sesini  
Angela Cefarello                      Joe Gregory                      Marcin Luczaj                      Allen Shumunov  
Sarah Chan                      Andre Guifarro                      John Marks                      Madeline Spoerner  
Yau Chan                      Sabine Haddad                      Isaac Maya                      Yuchen “Michael” Sun  
David Checchi                      Jorge Herrera De Leon                      Madeline McNear                      Brenna Wehner  
Nicholas Deal                      Bevan Huang                      Mariam Meskhi  
Isabel Desaloms                      Rheagan Jeter                      Eva Miller

\* Prior to the Commencement ceremony, provisional honors are calculated based on a student's cumulative grade point average at the conclusion of the preceding (fall) semester. Final honors are calculated at the end of the spring semester and include all grades. Students graduating this year who are awarded provisional honors based on grades and ranking through the Fall 2025 semester will graduate with no less than those honors: *cum laude*, *magna cum laude*, or *summa cum laude*. Alternatively, a student could receive a different honor upon graduation (e.g. *cum laude* as provisional honors and *magna cum laude* upon graduation).

# COMMENCEMENT PRIZES

## SPECIAL AWARDS

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### CHIEF JUSTICE ROSE E. BIRD AWARD FOR MOTIVATION IN PURSUING PUBLIC INTEREST LAW

Chloe Adassa  
Jorge Herrera De Leon  
Marsha Kubyshko  
Sanskriti Maheshwari  
Timothy McCormick

### ALVIN J. BRONSTEIN '51 CIVIL RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

Jennifer Diaz

### HELEN AND ANDREW DOKAS MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENT ACHIEVEMENT

Nicole Dos Santos  
Ariel Oeffinger  
Renato Pangan  
Sophie Schondorf

### PROFESSOR STEPHEN J. ELLMANN CLINICAL LEGAL EDUCATION PRIZE

Jadrian Guy

### DANIEL FINKELSTEIN WRITING AWARD

Charlotte Danquah for "Good Cause, Bad Guidance: Defining 'Unreasonable' Rent Increases Under New York's Good Cause Eviction Law"

### ALEXANDER D. FORGER AWARD FOR DISTINGUISHED SERVICE TO THE PROFESSION

Erin Martin  
Maxwell Velikodny  
Rhiannon Wright  
Jacqueline Zamora

### JOHN FRANCO '15 MEMORIAL AWARD

Amina Cecunjanin-Musić  
Sarah Czochanski  
Yau Chan

### JOSEPH SOLOMON AWARD FOR EXCELLENT CHARACTER AND FITNESS

Kristen Grennan  
Marcin Luczaj  
Mary Campbell Rouse  
Bekka Wiedenmeyer

### ERNST C. STIEFEL WRITING AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMPARATIVE-COMMON CIVIL LAW

Beau Van der Meulen for "*Emden v. Museum of Fine Arts, Houston*"

### STUDENT AMBASSADOR 135TH ANNIVERSARY AWARD

Brittany Blum, Co-Chief Student Ambassador  
Charlotte Danquah  
Martina DelPriore  
Zhanna Green  
Helima Greene  
Joseph Gregory  
Kristen Grennan  
Paul Hart  
Peter Nemeš, Co-Chief Student Ambassador  
Ariel Oeffinger

# COMMENCEMENT PRIZES (continued)

## LAW REVIEW AWARDS

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### FACULTY AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE *NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL LAW REVIEW*

Jessie Carvelli  
Katherine Grabowski  
Marcin Luczaj  
Bekka Wiedenmeyer

### ROGER J. MINER AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING EDITORIAL CONTRIBUTION TO THE *NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL LAW REVIEW*

Gabrielle Angelle  
Kelly Johnson

### *NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL LAW REVIEW* AWARD FOR BEST NOTE

Kristen Grennan

## MOOT COURT AWARDS

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### NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL NATIONAL MOOT COURT TEAM

Victoria Glenn  
Katherine Grabowski  
Marsha Kubyshko  
Cassidy Lang  
John Anthony West

### NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL MOOT COURT AWARD FOR SERVING WITH DISTINCTION

Marissa Andreone  
Angela Cefarello  
Brianna Cirillo  
Andre Guifarro

### NINA RICE '24 MOOT COURT BEST ADVOCATE AWARD

John Anthony West

### ORDER OF THE BARRISTERS

Angela Cefarello  
Nicolette Figliozzi  
Victoria Glenn  
Katherine Grabowski  
Anna Greenberg  
Marsha Kubyshko  
Cassidy Lang  
Logan Mark  
Ariel Oeffinger  
John Anthony West

### HONORARY ORDER OF THE BARRISTERS AWARD

Distinguished Adjunct Professor Heather E. Cucolo '03

## THE DEAN'S AWARD FOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP

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Chloe Adasa	Hailey Freilich	Cassidy Lang	Stephanie Pierre-Louis
Celine Agard	Victoria Glenn	Chloe Levine	Alexandra Ritzer
Hussein Ahmed	Jordan Goldberg	Isabella Llano	Grace Romeu
Brandon Amato	Katherine Grabowski	Marcin Luczaj	Mary Campbell Rouse
Marissa Andreone	Zhanna Green	Sanskriti Maheshwari	Ella Sabiduria
Gabrielle Angelle	Anna Greenberg	Lily Mallick	Kate Sabiston
Brittany Blum	Helima Greene	Erin Martin	Celine Samaha
Alexandra Branchinelli	Joe Gregory	Priya Maskey	Sophie Schondorf
Christina Bruno	Kristen Grennan	Mary McCafferty	Sydney Scott
Amina Cecunjanin-Musić	Andre Guifarro	Timothy McCormick	Danielle Sesini
Angela Cefarello	Jadrian Guy	Madeline McNear	Dolma Sherpa
Sarah Chan	Sabine Haddad	Mariam Meskhi	Madeline Spoerner
Yau Chan	Christina Harris	Dominique Moody	Hope Stratis
Richa Chandra	Paul Hart	Anne Marie Mulligan	Yuchen "Michael" Sun
David Checchi	Vanessa Haselkorn	Greg Murray	Emily Terrell
Brianna Cirillo	Daniella Herrera	Alexandra Myers	Nicole Valasiadis
Sarah Czochanski	Jorge Herrera De Leon	Erika Narod	Monique Vaz
Jesse Daniels	Bevan Huang	Matthew Nemeš	Maxwell Velikodny
Charlotte Danquah	Bukurie Huseinovic	Peter Nemeš	John Anthony West
Martina DelPriore	Kelly Johnson	Seth Nguyen	Bekka Wiedenmeyer
Jennifer Diaz	Susanna Khachatryan	Ariel Oeffinger	Rhiannon Wright
Amanda Di Benedetto	Anum Khan	Samuel Olesinski	Jacqueline Zamora
Emily Dillman	Hailey Kraft	Ashley Oliver	Anastasios Zias
Nicole Dos Santos	Lauren Kranzlin	Avi Orlow	Nicole Zlatokrasov
Arielle Edelheit	Marsha Kubyshko	Renato Pangan	Jamie Zwirn
Natalia Erazo	Jessica Kumar	Aashka Patel	
Nicolette Figliozzi	Mark Kvinta	Flavian Philip	
Anton Freeman	Frank Landau	Jayda Pickett	

## COMMENCEMENT PRIZES (to be announced)

These prizes will be awarded after computation of final grades and will be announced on the School's website and incorporated into a graduation awards program addendum for legacy and historical purposes.

PROFESSOR JOSEPH T. ARENSON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WILLS AND DECEDENTS' ESTATES



PROFESSOR LUNG-CHU CHEN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS



ELSBERG PRIZE FOR PROFICIENCY IN THE LAW OF CONTRACTS—EVENING DIVISION



THE RUBEN S. FOGEL COMMENCEMENT AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CONSTITUTIONAL HISTORY AND DEATH PENALTY (ESTABLISHED IN HONOR OF PROFESSOR ROBERT BLECKER)



SYLVIA D. GARLAND AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SUBJECTS RELATING TO CIVIL LITIGATION



ROSS GNESIN AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN WORKERS' COMPENSATION LAW



MILTON S. GOULD AWARD FOR PROFICIENCY IN THE LAW OF CONTRACTS—DAY DIVISION



PROFESSOR ALBERT KALTER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN TAX LAW



PROFESSOR JAMES P. KIBBEY MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN COMMERCIAL LAW

D. GEORGE LEVINE MEMORIAL AWARD FOR THE HIGHEST GRADE IN THE LAW OF REAL PROPERTY



ABRAHAM MARKHOFF WRITING AWARD (FOR WORKERS' COMPENSATION)



THE ABRAHAM "AVI" MUND PRIZE FOR EXCELLENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY AND THE LAW



PROFESSOR ROBERT R. ROSENTHAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN NEW YORK PRACTICE



MURRAY STOCKMAN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR THE HIGHEST AVERAGE IN THE LAW OF EVIDENCE



LOUIS SUSMAN MEMORIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN THE STUDY OF THE LAW OF EVIDENCE



WOODROW WILSON AWARD FOR PROFICIENCY IN CONSTITUTIONAL LAW



HENRY J. WOLFF AWARD FOR PROFICIENCY DURING A FULL COURSE OF STUDY—EVENING DIVISION



NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

*Professor Vincent Lolordo Award  
for Excellence in Administration  
of Criminal Justice*

*Dr. Max Reich Award for Excellence  
in Civil Trial Advocacy*

*Professor Ivan Soubbotitch Award for Excellence in Poverty  
Law and Civil Rights*



PRAECEPTA  
C, HONESTE  
ALTERUM  
DERE, SUUM  
TRIBUERE

RECOGNITION

# ACADEMIC CENTER AND INSTITUTE ASSOCIATES

New York Law School is pleased to recognize the members of the Class of 2026 who have completed the curricular programs and projects required to be an associate of one of the School's academic centers and institutes.

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## CENTER FOR BUSINESS AND FINANCIAL LAW

Brittany Blum	Michael Hanna	Chloe Levine	Aria Slovacek
Alexandra Branchinelli	Christina Harris	John Marks	Claire Sterin
Evan Choy	Joselyn Herrera-Torres	Brian Paroff	James Tyer
AJ Cirelli	Anthony Kassis	Jayda Pickett	Maxwell Velikodny
Michael Dancsecs	Mark Kvinta	Adley Raboy	Brenna Wehner
Danielle Di Meglio	Eliseo Labayen	Arianna Roberts	Aron Yakovich
Emily Dillman	Eric Lee	Peter Rotondo	

## CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL LAW

Hussein Ahmed	Race Johnson	Cassidy Lang	Valerie Reynoso
Charlotte Danquah	Anshu Khadka	Christine Park	
Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Ellie Kohn	Aashka Patel	

## CENTER FOR NEW YORK CITY AND STATE LAW

Hussein Ahmed *	Heather Creamer	Casey Gorevan *	Ryan Muencz
Michael Athy *	Shane Culgan	Zhanna Green	Anne Marie Mulligan
Daniel Bonaventura *	Camilo Durr	Jennifer Hutz *	Peter Nemeš
Richa Chandra	Kierin Geed	Phoebe Lopez	Beau Van Der Meulen

\* Members of the New York Elections, Census, and Redistricting Institute

## CENTER FOR REAL ESTATE STUDIES

Amina Cecunjanin-Musić	Anthony Kassis	Eliseo Labayen	Matthew Nemeš
Arielle Edelheit	Sara Khalid	Marcin Luczaj	Peter Nemeš

**INNOVATION CENTER FOR LAW AND TECHNOLOGY**

Celine Agard	Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Greg Murray	Eric Siletzky
Sarah Chan	Susanna Khachatryan	Juliana Recchia	Yuchen “Michael” Sun
Daria Denisenko	Caroline Madden	Molly Recker	Rachel Zakharov
Amanda Di Benedetto	Madeline McNear	Ella Sabiduria	Jamie Zwirn

**JAMES TRICARICO INSTITUTE FOR THE BUSINESS OF LAW AND IN-HOUSE COUNSEL**

Garrett Andreski	Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Greg Murray	Mary Campbell Rouse
Angela Cefarello	Bevan Huang	Alexandra Myers	Julia Rumberg
Yau Chan	Jerin Jabin	Erika Narod	Claire Sterin
Evan Choy	Alison Jagessar	Seth Nguyen	Maxwell Velikodny
Sarah Czochanski	Kirpa Kohli	Jayda Pickett	Jamie Zwirn
Charlotte Danquah	Isabella Llano	Angelina Pienczykowski	
Emily Dillman	Emilia Mancini-Ferdinand	Wyatt Reiter	
Joe Gregory	Bianca Marino	Arianna Roberts	

**WILF IMPACT CENTER FOR PUBLIC INTEREST LAW**

Chloe Adasa	Nicole Dos Santos	Ellie Kohn	Jennifer Peck
Eishat Ahmed	Arielle Edelheit	Marsha Kubyshko	Flavian Philip
Jessica Anastasia	Natalia Erazo	Cassidy Lang	Emily Terrell
Richa Chandra	Zhanna Green	Sanskriti Maheshwari	Bekka Wiedenmeyer
Claudia Chaneski	Sabine Haddad	Priya Maskey	Rhiannon Wright
Sarah Czochanski	Jaclyn Hadjandreas	Dominique Moody	
Jesse Daniels	Daniella Herrera	Olivia Moore	
Jennifer Diaz	Jenna Kahn	Ariel Oeffinger	

# NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL LAW REVIEW

The *New York Law School Law Review* is the School's journal for legal scholarship. Members are selected for the *Law Review* based on their GPAs. A few students are also selected through a writing competition. *Law Review* editors work with the faculty to plan academic symposia as well as with the faculty publisher to select papers for publication. The editors edit all articles and are responsible for all aspects of the publication process. We are pleased to recognize their achievements.

---

Jessica Anastasia	Katherine Grabowski	Mary McCafferty	Mary Campbell Rouse
Gabrielle Angelle	Kristen Grennan	Kennedy Mull	Kate Sabiston
Julie Mae Angevine Fernandez	Vanessa Haselkorn	Anne Marie Mulligan	Allen Shumunov
Emma Brammer	Kelly Johnson	Erika Narod	Yuchen "Michael" Sun
Jessie Carvelli	Nicholas Juvelier	Peter Nemeš	Beau Van Der Meulen
Sarah Chan	Anthony Kassis	Ashley Oliver	John Anthony West
AJ Cirelli	Hailey Kraft	Brian Paroff	Bekka Wiedenmeyer
Charlotte Danquah	Marcin Luczaj	Adley Raboy	Rhiannon Wright
Emily Dillman	John Marks	Wyatt Reiter	Nicole Zlatokrasov
Hailey Freilich	Isaac Maya	Peter Rotondo	Jamie Zwirn

## FAMILY LAW QUARTERLY

The *Family Law Quarterly* is a scholarly journal published by the Family Law Section of the American Bar Association (ABA) in collaboration with New York Law School. Articles are written by academics and practitioners and focus on important and timely legal issues in family law. In addition to editing articles, NYLS student editors prepare and update charts surveying family law statutes in the 50 states, Washington, D.C., and Puerto Rico, and research and write about new state laws. We are pleased to recognize the graduating *Family Law Quarterly* student editors.

---

Chloe Adasa	Richa Chandra	Erin Martin	Hope Stratis
Marissa Andreone	Martina DelPriore	Mariam Meskhi	Jessica Zakhary
Riley Bissell	Sarah Giresi	Jennifer Peck	Jacqueline Zamora
Christina Bruno	Rachel Goryachkovskiy	Ella Sabiduria	
Angela Cefarello	Diane Jagielski	Madeline Spoerner	

## JOURNAL OF LEGAL EDUCATION

The *Journal of Legal Education* is the scholarly journal of record for the Association of American Law Schools. New York Law School is responsible for its publication along with a partner law school, and relies on the work of a faculty and student editorial team. The journal focuses on issues confronting law school faculty and leadership as well as the most recent thinking, trends, and changes in the legal academy. We are pleased to recognize the graduating student editors for the *Journal of Legal Education*.

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Sarah Czochanski	Colton Greer	Hailey Kennedy	Ellie Kohn
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## DEAN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Initiated in 2013, the Dean's Leadership Council invites first-year students who perform in the top 25 percent of their class to be part of a series of dialogues on leadership with the Dean, faculty, alumni, and legal professionals during their course of study at New York Law School. These discussions tackle legal and policy issues that affect New York City, the nation, and the world to help students learn about leadership and influence by spending time with prominent New Yorkers and each other. Students on the Council also address strategic planning issues at the School and help inform how it can enhance its impact on New York's legal community.

---

Jessica Anastasia	Ryan Ferguson	Mariya Kubyshko	Brendan Patrick
Garrett Andreski	Nicolette Figliozzi	Jessica Kumar	Stephanie Pierre-Louis
Gabrielle Angelle	Hailey Freilich	Frank Landau	Francesca Piscino
Julie Mae Angevine Fernandez	Daniel Fuggi	Cassidy Lang	Adley Raboy
Joycelyn Berbec	Victoria Glenn	Chloe Levine	Wyatt Reiter
Brinly Black	Jordan Goldberg	Marcin Luczaj	Peter Rotondo
Gavin Bock	Katherine Grabowski	Lily Mallick	Mary Campbell Rouse
Emma Brammer	Anna Greenberg	Emilia Mancini-Ferdinand	Julia Rumberg
Kellie Caminiti	Joe Gregory	Logan Mark	Rebecca Ruvinov
Jessie Carvelli	Kristen Grennan	Isaac Maya	Kate Sabiston
Angela Cefarello	Andre Guifarro	Mary McCafferty	Allen Shumunov
Sarah Chan	Jadrian Guy	Timothy McCormick	Madeline Spoerner
Claudia Chaneski	Sabine Haddad	Madeline McNear	Claire Sterin
David Checchi	Vanessa Haselkorn	Mariam Meskhi	Yuchen "Michael" Sun
AJ Cirelli	Jorge Herrera De Leon	Eva Miller	Beau Van Der Meulen
Shane Culgan	Bevan Huang	Kennedy Mull	Gabby Vennitti
Nicholas Deal	Jennifer Hutz	Anne Marie Mulligan	Brenna Wehner
Martina DelPriore	Rheagan Jeter	Matthew Neme	Ronen Wesley
Daria Denisenko	Kelly Johnson	Peter Neme	John Anthony West
Isabel Desaloms	Nicholas Juvelier	Seth Nguyen	Bekka Wiedenmeyer
Emily Dillman	Jenna Kahn	Ashley Oliver	Trevor Wilson
Mikayla Dwyer	Anum Khan	Katie Ortencio	Rhiannon Wright
Arielle Edelheit	Oliver Killeen	Renato Pangan	Nicole Zlatokrasov
Jessica Farella	Hailey Kraft	Brian Paroff	Jamie Zwirn

## DISPUTE RESOLUTION TEAM

The New York Law School Dispute Resolution Team is a student-run, co-curricular organization that trains members in day-to-day lawyering skills in order to prepare them to represent the School in client counseling, negotiation, mediation, and arbitration competitions across the country. Membership is by invitation only and is based on outstanding performance either in the School's Intramural Negotiation Competition or through a rigorous admissions process. We are pleased to recognize these graduating members of the Dispute Resolution Team.

---

Jessica Farella	Colton Greer	Mark Kvinta	Monique Vaz
Anton Freeman	Jerin Jabin	Wyatt Reiter	Olivia Wynne
Savannah Gajda	Nicholas Juvelier	Grace Romeu	Jacqueline Zamora
Tony Gradante	Kirpa Kohli	Paula Tarnarider	
Zhanna Green	Jessica Kumar	Ross Vaygensberg	

## MOOT COURT ASSOCIATION

The New York Law School Moot Court Association is a student-run organization that focuses on oral advocacy and brief-writing skills at the appellate level. Students are accepted into the organization by competing in the Charles W. Froessel Moot Court Competition, a constitutional law intramural competition. The Froessel Competition is one of the most challenging intramural competitions in the country and one of the most demanding recruiting tools used by a moot court association in selecting its members. We are pleased to recognize the graduating members of the Moot Court Association.

---

Brandon Amato	Danielle Di Meglio	Anna Greenberg	Mary McCafferty
Marissa Andreone	Nicolette Figliozzi	Colton Greer	Owen Minott
Angela Cefarello	Hailey Freilich	Andre Guifarro	Seth Nguyen
Brianna Cirillo	Victoria Glenn	Marsha Kubyshko	Ariel Oeffinger
Jesse Daniels	Jordan Goldberg	Cassidy Lang	John Anthony West
Martina DelPriore	Katherine Grabowski	Logan Mark	Trevor Wilson

## TRIAL COMPETITION TEAM

The New York Law School Trial Competition Team is a student-run, co-curricular organization that focuses on the advocacy skills required in civil and criminal trials. Students on the team represent the School in regional and national trial competitions. Membership is by invitation only and is based on notable performance in the School's intramural trial or closing argument competition or by recommendation of a Trial Advocacy professor based on outstanding performance in the Trial Advocacy or Intensive Trial and Advocacy Skills course. We are pleased to recognize the graduating members of the Trial Competition Team.

---

Sara Aronfield	Anton Freeman	Anshu Khadka	Eva Miller
Richa Chandra	Kierin Geed	Anum Khan	Oscar Moncada
Nicole Dos Santos	Ashley Goldstein	Vasiliki Lazaridis	Matthew Nemeš
Nerlyne Dossous	Zhanna Green	Sanskriti Maheshwari	Ariel Oeffinger
John Fanizzi	Bevan Huang	Miriam Mahmoud	Avi Orlow

## PHILIP C. JESSUP INTERNATIONAL LAW MOOT COURT COMPETITION

The Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition is the world's largest moot court competition. Students represent fictional nations before a simulated panel of the International Court of Justice—the main judicial body of the United Nations—in a hypothetical dispute concerning issues of public international law. We are pleased to recognize the graduating members of the Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Team.

---

Charlotte Danquah	Ellie Kohn	Lily Mallick	Jennifer Peck
Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Hailey Kraft	Anne Marie Mulligan	Danielle Sesini

## WILLEM C. VIS INTERNATIONAL COMMERCIAL ARBITRATION MOOT

The Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot is the world's largest moot competition where students represent private parties trying to resolve a hypothetical business dispute through international arbitration. Highly qualified applicants are selected by the faculty coaches. We are pleased to recognize the graduating members of the Willem C. Vis International Commercial Arbitration Moot Team.

---

Tony Gradante	Race Johnson	Christine Park
Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Anne Marie Mulligan	

## ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION SKILLS PROGRAM CERTIFICATES

The Alternative Dispute Resolution Skills Program conveys not only doctrinal education, but also practical and empirical skills in the fields of conflict avoidance, management, and resolution. Students who complete the Program and earn a Certificate in Alternative Dispute Resolution may be relied upon to possess not merely an intellectual understanding of the principles of negotiation, mediation, and arbitration, but actual experience in those fields. We are pleased to recognize the graduating students who have earned this distinction.

---

Charlotte Danquah

Sisi Hammoudi-Patout

Race Johnson

Ross Vaygensberg

## HARRIS KEENAN & GOLDFARB ADVOCACY CERTIFICATES

The Harris Keenan & Goldfarb Advocacy Program prepares students to graduate with the skills and experience that will help them excel as litigators. The Program has three tracks: civil, criminal, and appellate advocacy. The required course of study for each track includes a suggested combination of skills, writing, and procedure courses that culminate in a clinical, externship, or co-curricular experience in which students use litigation skills. We are pleased to recognize the graduating students who have completed the courses required to earn an Harris Keenan & Goldfarb Advocacy Certificate.

---

Chloe Adasa

Nicolette Figliozzi

Vasiliki Lazaridis

Sarah Spivak

Jessica Anastasia

Richard Fodera

Sanskriti Maheshwari

Madeline Spoerner

Marissa Andreone

Hailey Freilich

Jessica Maitlin

Thomas Surovets

Sara Aronfeld

Kierin Geed

Logan Mark

Bianca Vertus

Nicolai Bell

Victoria Glenn

Mary McCafferty

Ronen Wesley

Mollie Bonner

Ashley Goldstein

Ariel Oeffinger

John Anthony West

Richa Chandra

Zhanna Green

Ashley Oliver

Trevor Wilson

Martina DelPriore

Anna Greenberg

Avi Orlow

Ariel Zadok

Isabel Desaloms

Jorge Herrera De Leon

Brian Paroff

Jessica Zakhary

Nerlyne Dossous

Mahrukh Jaura

Jennifer Peck

Anastasios Zias

John Fanizzi

Marsha Kubyshko

Angelina Pienczykowski

Ryan Ferguson

Johan Larsen

Marygrace Smith

## PRO BONO SCHOLARS

Students in the Pro Bono Scholars Program begin their final semester by studying for, and taking, the bar exam in February. Then they spend the remainder of the semester in a 12-week, full-time pro bono placement with a preapproved legal services provider or law firm, representing people from poor and underserved communities. Pro Bono Scholars also participate in a seminar in which they reflect on their placement experiences, study lawyering skills and ethical issues, and explore the access-to-justice crisis and the nature and value of proposed responses to this crisis. Students who pass the bar exam, complete their pro bono placement and class satisfactorily, and meet the other bar admission requirements are then eligible for early admission to the bar, soon after their graduation.

---

Elizabeth Burns

Ashley Goldstein

Sanskriti Maheshwari

Vincenzo Spanola

Mikayla Dwyer

Rheagan Jeter

Dominique Moody

Anton Freeman

Anshu Khadka

Dolma Sherpa

## WILF IMPACT PUBLIC INTEREST SCHOLARS

The Wilf Impact Public Interest Scholars Program educates and trains a new generation of social justice leaders through substantial renewable, full-tuition scholarships; summer internship funding; and postgraduate fellowships. Students work closely with faculty leaders on the front lines of our nation's most important civil rights challenges, including immigration rights, racial justice, educational equity, housing rights, and access to justice for children and families. They also collaborate with external social justice organizations which operate in partnership with New York Law School. We are pleased to recognize the graduating Wilf Scholars.

---

Claudia Chaneski

Nicole Dos Santos

Priya Maskey

Jesse Daniels

Natalia Erazo

Flavian Philip

Jennifer Diaz

Marsha Kubyshko

Bekka Wiedenmeyer



PRAECEPTA  
C, HONESTE  
ALTERUM  
DERE, SUUM  
TRIBUERE

THE GRADUATING CLASS

# LL.M. IN TAXATION

## September 1, 2026 Candidate

Emily Hurni

# J.D. GRADUATES

## February 1, 2026

Kellie Caminiti

Anthony Galbo

Maxwell Velikodny

Sharmin Yousuf

Shane Culgan

Eric Sikoryak

Ronen Wesley

# J.D. CANDIDATES

## June 1, 2026 and September 1, 2026

Nisha Aamir

Hasina Behnawa

Morgan Cash

Nicholas Deal

Chloe Adasa

Nicolai Bell

Elle Catalano

Martina DelPriore

Celine Agard

Savanna Benzur

Amina Cecunjanin-Musić

Daria Denisenko

Eishat Ahmed

Joycelyn Berbec

Angela Cefarello

Isabel Desaloms

Hussein Ahmed

Bobbi Berns

Sarah Chan

Amanda Di Benedetto

Zhala Akhundova

Riley Bissell

Yau Chan

Danielle Di Meglio

Alison Allen

Brinly Black

Richa Chandra

Jennifer Diaz

Brandon Amato

Brittany Blum

Claudia Chaneski

Madeline Dill

Jessica Anastasia

Gavin Bock

Moshe Charloff

Emily Dillman

Marissa Andreone

Elizabeth Bomstein

David Checchi\*

Nicole Dos Santos

Garrett Andreski

Daniel Bonaventura

Evan Choy

Nerlyne Dossous

Gabrielle Angelle

Mollie Bonner

AJ Cirelli

Kyle Dressel

Julie Mae Angevine Fernandez

Alexa Bowers

Brianna Cirillo

Camilo Durr

Edwin Aponte

Emma Brammer

Madeline Clavin

Mikayla Dwyer

Jack Arakanchi

Alexandra Branchinelli

Heather Creamer

Arielle Edelheit

Eli Arnstein

Gabrielle Branco

Sarah Czochanski

Natalia Erazo

Sara Aronfeld

Christina Bruno

Michael Dancsecs

Garrett Erickson

Michael Athy

Elizabeth Burns

Jesse Daniels

Ryan Fakhoury

McHale Baker

Jessie Carvelli

Charlotte Danquah

John Fanizzi

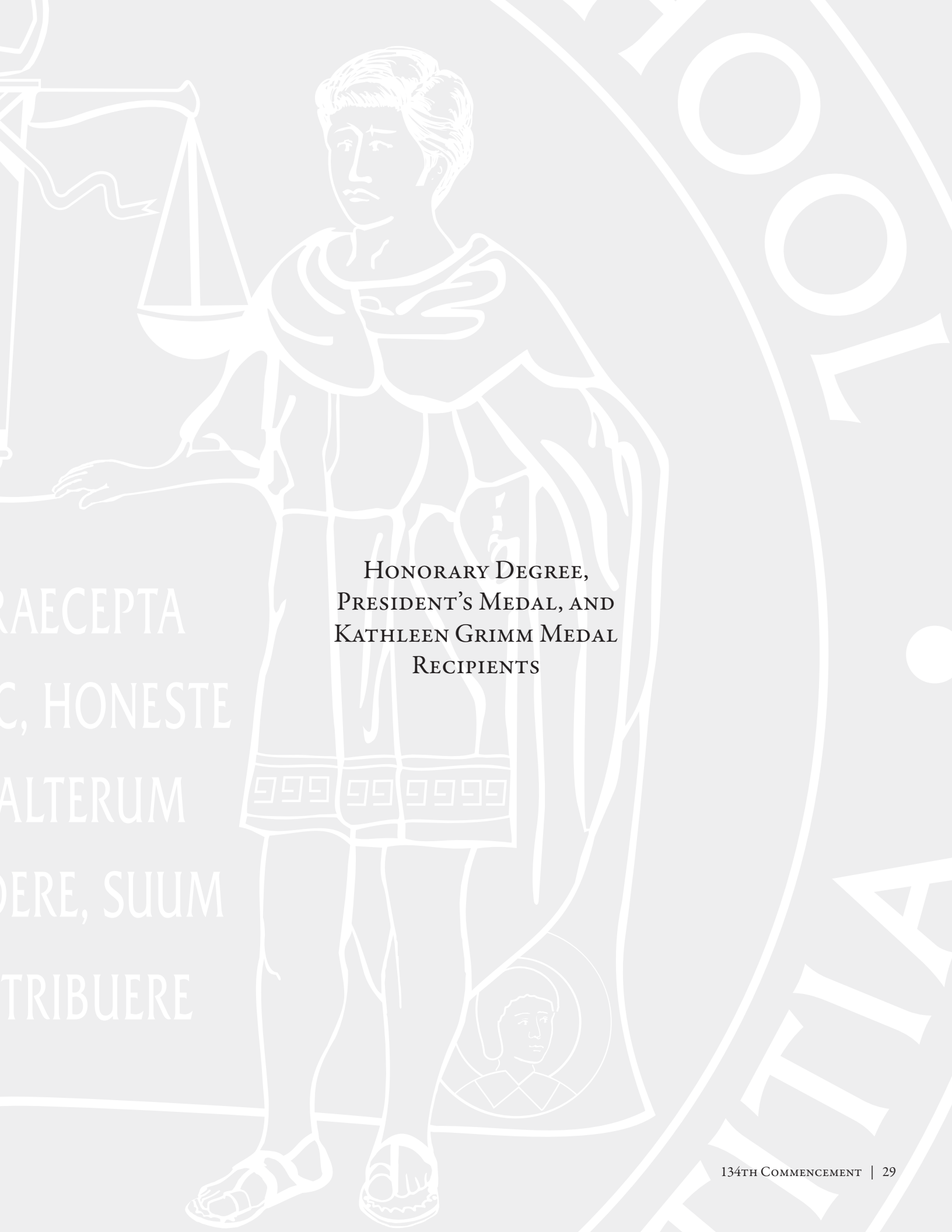
Jessica Farella	Sisi Hammoudi-Patout	Ellie Kohn	Erin Martin
Luca Fava	Esther Han*	Hailey Kraft	Priya Maskey
Jay Felty*	Michael Hanna	Lauren Kranzlin	Joudy Masri
Ryan Ferguson	Christina Harris	Marsha Kubyshko	Isaac Maya
Nicolette Figliozzi	Paul Hart	Jessica Kumar	Mary McCafferty
Richard Fodera	Vanessa Haselkorn	Elizabeth Kushner	Timothy McCormick
Sawyer Fox	Daniella Herrera	Mark Kvinta	Raleigh McMenam Kmet
Anton Freeman	Jorge Herrera De Leon	Yuki Kyu	Madeline McNear
Hailey Freilich	Joselyn Herrera-Torres	Eliseo Labayen	Kevin McNiff
Daniel Fuggi	Noah Hoffman	Lauren Lana	Samantha Melendez
Brooke Fulmer	Chloe Hood	Frank Landau	Mariam Meskhi
Savannah Gajda	Bevan Huang	Nicholas Landecho	Eva Miller
Kierin Geed	Bukurie Huseinovic	Cassidy Lang	Jacob Miltenberg
Gwyneth Geressy	Jennifer Hutz	Johan Larsen	Owen Minott
Kimberly Giangrasso	Jenna Ippolito	Vasiliki Lazaridis	Oscar Moncada
Sarah Giresi	Jerin Jabin	Eric Lee	Dominique Moody*
Victoria Glenn	Alison Jagessar	Luke Lehon	Olivia Moore
Jordan Goldberg	Diane Jagielski	Chloe Levine	Anna Mor
Ashley Goldstein	Mahrukh Jaura	Ryan Levitt	Elizabeth Morrill
Casey Gorevan	Rheagan Jeter	Allen Livitz	Ryan Muencz
Rachel Goryachkovskiy	Kelly Johnson	Isabella Llano	Kennedy Mull
Katherine Grabowski	Race Johnson	Phoebe Lopez	Anne Marie Mulligan
Tony Gradante	Nicholas Juvelier	Briana Louro	Greg Murray
Robert Gral	Jenna Kahn	Marlo Lozea	Alexandra Myers
Zhanna Green	Alex Kalantarov	Marcin Luczaj	Erika Narod
Anna Greenberg	Zachary Kashman	Brian Mackenzie	Matthew Nemeh
Helima Greene	Anthony Kassis	Caroline Madden	Peter Nemeh
Colton Greer	Hailey Kennedy	Sanskriti Maheshwari	Seth Nguyen
Joe Gregory	Susanna Khachatryan	Miriam Mahmoud	Mikaela Nwulia
Kristen Grennan	Anshu Khadka	Jessica Maitlin	Ariel Oeffinger
Sebastian Guccione	Sara Khalid	Lily Mallick	Samuel Olesinski*
Andre Guifarro	Anum Khan	Emilia Mancini-Ferdinand	Ashley Oliver
Jadrian Guy	Oliver Killeen	Bianca Marino	Avi Orlow
Sabine Haddad	Connor Klang	Logan Mark	Katie Ortencio
Jaclyn Hadjandreas	Kirpa Kohli	John Marks	Renato Pangan

## J.D. CANDIDATES (continued)

June 1, 2026 and September 1, 2026

Christine Park	Stevye Rose	Malkie Smetana	Grace Wallstroem
Brian Paroff	Chloe Rosenkrantz	Marygrace Smith	Brenna Wehner
Aashka Patel	Peter Rotondo	Sarah Snowden	John Anthony West
Brendan Patrick	Mary Campbell Rouse	Vincenzo Spanola	Bekka Wiedenmeyer
Jennifer Peck	Julia Rumberg	Sarah Spivak	Faigy Wilmowsky
Flavian Philip	Rebecca Ruvinov	Madeline Spoerner	Trevor Wilson
Jayda Pickett	Alec Sabel	Amal Srour	Grayson Wolf
Angelina Pienczykowski	Ella Sabiduria	Claire Sterin	Alex Wright
Stephanie Pierre-Louis	Kate Sabiston	Hope Stratis	Rhiannon Wright
Christiane Piezas	Celine Samaha	Yuchen "Michael" Sun	Olivia Wynne
Francesca Piscino	Rebecca Schecter	Thomas Surovets	Aron Yakovich
Kate Poland	Sophie Schondorf	Dylan Swincicki	Angelika Yeretskaya
Sara Ponce Tovar	Jillian Schultz	Paula Tarnarider	Ariel Zadok
Kelsie Quinn	Sydney Scott	Emily Terrell	Rachel Zakharov
Adley Raboy	Sasha Sealey	Kayla Tristaino	Jessica Zakhary
Juliana Recchia	Selim Selim	James Tyer	Jacqueline Zamora
Molly Recker	Danielle Sesini	Nicole Valasiadis	Anastasios Zias
Wyatt Reiter	Lorelei Setzer	Beau Van Der Meulen	Lauren Zilberman
Valerie Reynoso	Sofia Shchukina	Ross Vaygensberg	Nicole Zlatokrasov
Michael Ribeiro	Dolma Sherpa	Monique Vaz	Benjamin Zuckerman
Athena Ripka	Nathaniel Shmushkin	Gabby Vennitti	Jamie Zwirn
Alexandra Ritzer	Allen Shumunov	Bianca Vertus	
Arianna Roberts	Eric Siletzky	Elizabeth Vetne	
Grace Romeu	Aria Slovacek	Kaitlyn Wade	

\*Veterans who have honorably served our nation.



HONORARY DEGREE,  
PRESIDENT'S MEDAL, AND  
KATHLEEN GRIMM MEDAL  
RECIPIENTS

P AECPTA  
C, HONESTE  
ALTERUM  
DERE, SUUM  
TRIBUERE

HONORARY DEGREE, DOCTOR OF LAWS

## HON. JULIE MENIN



Hon. Julie Menin was elected Speaker of the New York City Council on January 7, 2026. An attorney and civic leader, Speaker Menin has more than two decades of experience in the public and private sectors. Speaker Menin has proudly represented District 5, which includes parts of the Upper East Side and all of Roosevelt Island, in the Council since January 2022.

During her first two terms, the Council passed her legislation to advance universal child care, create an Office of Healthcare Accountability to rein in excessive prices, ease burdens on small businesses by creating a one-stop-shop web portal for city licenses, codify the right to reproductive health care services, and more. At the same time, Speaker Menin has effectively addressed a full range of constituent issues, including sanitation and rat-mitigation concerns, street safety, unlicensed smoke shops, robust capital funding for district parks and schools, and access to low-cost internet for NYCHA residents.

Prior to her election to the City Council, Speaker Menin served as the City's 2020 Census Director, achieving a historic result where New York City finished first of all major cities. As Commissioner of the Department of Consumer Affairs, she helped implement the Paid Sick Leave Law and launched a new Earned Income Tax Credit initiative that resulted in over \$260 million being returned to low-income New Yorkers. In that role, she also spearheaded the creation of NYC Kids RISE, which has now grown college savings accounts totaling more than \$44 million for 280,000 public school kindergarteners. Speaker Menin is also a former Commissioner of Media and Entertainment and former adjunct professor at Columbia University who taught on city government.

Speaker Menin earned a Bachelor of Arts degree *magna cum laude* from Columbia and received her Juris Doctor from Northwestern University School of Law. She resides in Yorkville with her husband and children.

## CHARLES J. MAIKISH '74



Before retiring in 2017, Charles J. Maikish was Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer (COO) for Citibank Realty Services. As COO, he was responsible for all real estate operations globally, including strategic space planning, design and construction, financial and business planning, and the site selection and design for the new global headquarters in New York City. Prior to Citibank, he was Managing Director and Global Head of Real Estate for BlackRock. While at Citibank and BlackRock, he was entrusted with the task of supervising and managing a global team, ensuring the highest quality working spaces and facilities. At BlackRock, he oversaw the integration of two large firms, BlackRock and Barclays Global Inc.

From 2005–2008, Mr. Maikish was Executive Director of the Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center. Appointed by Governor George Pataki and Mayor Michael Bloomberg, he was accountable directly to the Governor and Mayor for coordinating all public and private construction in Lower Manhattan after the 9/11 attack. He oversaw planning, construction, and development of numerous projects in Lower Manhattan valued at over \$30 billion, including the Fulton Street Transit Center, the World Trade Center site and Memorial, the West Street Boulevard, and the new PATH Transit Center.

Between 1998 and 2005, Mr. Maikish was Executive Vice President of Global Real Estate Business Services (REBS) at JPMorgan Chase. While there, he had responsibility for managing the firm's worldwide real estate and client services, physical facilities, strategic space planning, and security services. He was also responsible for the technology and physical consolidations due to multiple mergers. Prior to JPMorgan Chase, he was in charge of facilities management at Columbia University and had responsibility for property acquisition, leasing, planning, capital construction security, and operations. His specific focus was implementing a \$650 million five-year capital program for new construction and infrastructure improvements.

Before Columbia University, Mr. Maikish spent 28 years in various capacities as a lawyer, engineer, and real estate executive with the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, including as Director of the World Trade Department with overall responsibility for operations, marketing, leasing, capital investment, and redevelopment of the World Trade Center complex. He was the senior executive in charge of the recovery, reconstruction, and repositioning of the World Trade Center after the February 1993 bombing.

Mr. Maikish holds a J.D. degree from New York Law School and a B.S. from St. Joseph's College and Seminary; he studied engineering at Manhattan College and completed the AMP program at Harvard Graduate Business School. He has served on numerous boards in the real estate, academic, and civic community, including the Regional Planning Association, The National Academy of Construction, St. Thomas Aquinas College, Nyack Montefiore Hospital, and The Liberty Science Center, as well as several business improvement district boards and cultural councils. He is the recipient of numerous awards from various civic groups and institutions.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS

1955 to the Present

- 1955 The Honorable Charles William Froessel, 1913  
The Honorable John Marshall Harlan, 1924  
Archibald Robinson Watson
- 1956 Denis O'Leary Cohalan  
Albert Cohn, 1908  
Albert Conway
- 1957 Nathaniel L. Goldstein, 1918  
Charles H. Griffiths, 1910  
David W. Peck
- 1958 The Honorable Joseph A. Cox  
Hunter Labatut Delatour, 1906  
James Thomas Hallinan II  
Gerald Nolan  
Ferdinand Pecora
- 1959 Bernard Botein  
Theodore Granik  
Philip M. Kleinfeld, 1916  
Edward J. Neary, 1915
- 1960 Charles Stewart Desmond
- 1961 Robert Moses
- 1962 Stanley Howells Fuld  
Sylvester Comstock Smith Jr., 1918  
Murray Stockman, 1915
- 1963 Sydney E. Foster
- 1964 George J. Beldock  
Hunter Labatut Delatour, 1906  
Alfred Gross
- 1965 Marvin R. Dye  
Edwin L. Weisel  
The Honorable David T. Wilentz, 1917
- 1966 Daniel Gutman  
John Van Voorhis
- 1967 Alfred J. Bohlinger, 1924  
Leo M. Cherne '34  
The Honorable W. Averell Harriman
- 1968 The Honorable Ramsey Clark  
Tom C. Clark  
David Finkelstein  
Orison S. Marden  
Robert Morris Morgenthau  
Edward Joseph Mortola
- 1969 Jerry Finkelstein '38  
John-Seward Johnson  
John Vincent Thornton
- 1970 Adrian P. Burke  
Joseph I. Lubin '30  
Joseph Edward Lumbard Jr.  
Samuel Miller, 1926
- 1971 Willard Heckel  
John E. Scileppi
- 1972 Maurice R. Greenberg '50  
Samuel Rabin  
The Honorable Whitney North Seymour Jr.
- 1973 The Honorable Paul J. Curran  
Charles H. Dyson  
Harry B. Helmsley  
E. Donald Shapiro  
The Honorable Joseph Weintraub
- 1974 The Honorable Brendan T. Byrne  
Walter M. Jeffords Jr.  
Samuel J. LeFrak  
The Honorable Owen McGivern
- 1975 The Honorable Charles D. Breitel  
William J. Curran  
Gen. John Einar Murray  
The Honorable Peter W. Rodino Jr.  
Stefan Treschel  
The Honorable Robert F. Wagner, 1900  
William Weary
- 1976 The Honorable Warren E. Burger  
Milton Helpen  
Mary Gardiner Jones  
Gen. Rowland F. Kirks  
Harry Ostrov, 1925  
The Honorable Edward D. Re  
Joseph Solomon, 1927

- 1977 The Honorable Dennis DeConcini  
Elizabeth Hughes Gossett  
The Honorable Howard T. Markey  
The Honorable Daniel Patrick Moynihan  
Albert M. Sacks
- 1978 The Honorable Griffen B. Bell  
The Honorable Gerald R. Ford  
The Honorable Erwin N. Griswold  
The Honorable Damon J. Keith  
Rabbi Emmanuel Rackman
- 1979 The Honorable Benjamin R. Civiletti  
The Honorable Lawrence H. Cooke  
Barbara Knowles Debs  
Abraham S. Goldstein  
The Honorable Jacob K. Javits  
The Honorable Wade H. McCree Jr.  
The Honorable Francis T. Murphy '52  
The Honorable Potter Stewart
- 1980 The Honorable Richard Reeve Baxter  
The Most Reverend Terence Cardinal Cooke  
The Honorable Richard N. Gardner  
A. Leo Levin  
The Honorable Lewis F. Powell Jr.  
Edward Allen Tamm
- 1981 Mario M. Biaggi '63  
The Honorable William Frank Buckley Jr.  
The Honorable William Joseph Casey  
The Honorable Matthew Joseph Jasen  
The Honorable James Skelly Wright
- 1982 The Honorable Mary S. Coleman  
The Honorable Alfonse M. D'Amato  
Archbishop Jakovos  
Rex E. Lee  
The Honorable Shigeru Oda  
Thomas Grey Wicker
- 1983 The Honorable Harry A. Blackmun  
The Honorable Sherman G. Finesilver  
The Honorable Constance Baker Motley  
Albert Parker, 1921  
The Honorable Lowell P. Weicker Jr.
- 1984 The Honorable Geraldine A. Ferraro  
The Honorable A. Leon Higginbotham Jr.  
Eugene V. Rostow  
Robert B. Stevens  
Otto L. Walter '54
- 1985 The Honorable Mario M. Cuomo  
Robert B. McKay  
Bill Moyers  
The Honorable Ellen Ash Peters  
Donna E. Shalala
- 1986 Barbara Aronstein Black  
The Honorable William Joseph Brennan Jr.  
The Honorable Edward I. Koch  
Myres Smith McDougal  
The Honorable Spottswood W. Robinson III
- 1987 Fred W. Friendly  
Ellen V. Futter  
The Honorable Thomas Howard Kean  
Frederick A.O. Schwarz Jr.
- 1988 Archibald R. Murray  
Ernst C. Stiefel  
The Honorable Patricia McGowan Wald
- 1989 J. William Campo  
The Honorable Roger J. Miner '56
- 1990 Alvin J. Bronstein '51  
Linda A. Fairstein  
The Honorable Milton L. Williams '63
- 1991 The Honorable David N. Dinkins  
The Honorable John H. Sununu
- 1992 The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor  
James F. Simon
- 1993 Shepard Broad, 1927  
Drew S. Days III  
The Honorable Judith S. Kaye
- 1994 Bernard H. Mendik '58
- 1995 The Honorable José A. Cabranes  
Alexander D. Forger

## HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENTS (continued)

1955 to the Present

- |      |   |      |   |
|------|---|------|---|
| 1996 | The Honorable Sidney H. Asch<br>Boris Leavitt, 1926<br>The Honorable Jon O. Newman      | 2009 | Gregory H. Williams                               |
| 1997 | The Honorable Harry T. Edwards<br>Dr. Raymond D. Horton<br>Lewis M. Steel '63           | 2010 | The Honorable Jonathan Lippman                    |
| 1998 | Joseph T. Arenson<br>Lawrence S. Huntington '64<br>Vernon E. Jordan Jr.                 | 2011 | The Honorable Cory A. Booker                      |
| 1999 | The Honorable Guido Calabresi   | 2012 | Kenneth R. Feinberg                               |
| 2000 | Sybil Shainwald '76<br>Harry H. Wellington<br>The Honorable Ralph K. Winter             | 2013 | The Honorable Michael R. Bloomberg                |
| 2001 | Taylor R. Briggs (posthumously)<br>Ira Glasser<br>The Honorable Judith B. Sheindlin '65 | 2014 | Steven Banks                                      |
| 2002 | The Honorable Pierre N. Leval<br>The Honorable Charles E. Schumer                       | 2015 | Joe Plumeri<br>Cyrus R. Vance Jr.                 |
| 2003 | The Honorable Jack B. Weinstein   | 2016 | The Honorable Robert A. Katzmann                  |
| 2004 | The Honorable Alexis M. Herman<br>Anthony Lewis   | 2017 | Preet Bharara<br>Laura Ricciardi '96              |
| 2005 | The Honorable Bob Kerrey  | 2018 | The Honorable Stephen G. Breyer<br>Alex Dimitrief |
| 2006 | The Honorable Joel I. Klein   | 2019 | Nicholas Haysom                                   |
| 2007 | David Boies   | 2021 | Joan Fishman<br>The Honorable Letitia James       |
| 2008 | Dennis W. Archer  | 2022 | The Honorable Judith Sheindlin '65                |
|      |   | 2023 | The Honorable Kathy Hochul                        |
|      |   | 2024 | The Honorable Sylvia O. Hinds-Radix               |
|      |   | 2026 | The Honorable Julie Menin                         |

# PRESIDENT'S MEDAL RECIPIENTS

## 2002 to the Present

Awarded to New York Law School's most outstanding and accomplished community members and its most generous benefactors, the President's Medal acknowledges those who have made profound contributions to the history of the Law School by their exemplary professional lives and their generosity.

**2002**

*Awarded posthumously to*

**BERNARD H. MENDIK '58**

Chair of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

President, Bernard H. Mendik Company LLC

Benefactor, The Mendik Law Library

**2003**

*Awarded posthumously to*

**SHEPARD BROAD, 1927**

Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

Founder, Broad and Cassel

Benefactor, Shepard Broad Scholarship Fund

Benefactor, The Shepard and Ruth K. Broad Student Center

**2004**

**J. BRUCE LLEWELLYN '60**

Former Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

Chairman and CEO of Philadelphia Coca-Cola Bottling Company, Inc.

Founder of "100 Black Men"

**2005**

**LAWRENCE S. HUNTINGTON '64**

Former Chair of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

Chairman Emeritus of the Board, Fiduciary Trust Company International

Generous Benefactor

**2006**

*Awarded posthumously to*

**PHILIP M. DAMASHEK**

Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

Managing Partner, Schneider, Kleinick, Weitz, Damashek & Shoot

President, New York State Trial Lawyers Association (1990–91)

**2007**

**SYBIL SHAINWALD '76**

Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

President, Law Offices of Sybil Shainwald

**2008**

**THE HONORABLE ERNST H. ROSENBERGER '58**

Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

Adjunct Professor of Law, New York Law School

Of Counsel, Stroock & Stroock & Lavan LLP

**2009**

**ZYGMUNT "ZYGI" WILF '74**

Member of the Advisory Board, Center for Real Estate Studies, New York Law School

Attorney, Wilf Law Firm

President, Garden Homes Real Estate Developers

Principal Owner, Minnesota Vikings Football Club, LLC

**2011**

**HARRY H. WELLINGTON**

Professor of Law and Dean Emeritus, New York Law School

**2012**

*Awarded posthumously to*

**THE HONORABLE ROGER J. MINER '56**

Senior U.S. Circuit Judge

Trustee Emeritus and Former Adjunct Professor of Law, New York Law School

**JAMES F. SIMON**

Martin Professor of Law Emeritus and Dean Emeritus, New York Law School

## PRESIDENT'S MEDAL RECIPIENTS (continued)

2002 to the Present

**2013**

**ARTHUR N. ABBEY '59**

Senior Partner, Abbey Spanier, LLP  
Chair of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

**2014**

**KATHLEEN GRIMM '80**

Deputy Chancellor of Operations, New York City Department  
of Education  
Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

**2015**

**DR. VINCENT A. CARBONELL '00**

Founder and President, United Reprographic Services Inc.  
Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

**2016**

**CHARLES E. PHILLIPS JR. '93**

Chief Executive Officer, Infor  
Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

**2017**

**SUSAN MENDIK**

Bernard H. Mendik Company LLC  
Member of the Board of Trustees, New York Law School

**2018**

**STEPHEN J. ELLMANN**

Martin Professor of Law and Director  
of Clinical and Experiential Learning, New York Law School

**CHRISTINA M. STORM '77**

Founder and Executive Director, Lawyers Without Borders

**2019**

**VIRGINIA SHER RAMADAN '84**

Diplomat, Law Professor, and Immigration Policy Advisor

**2021**

**JOAN FISHMAN**

Associate Dean, New York Law School

**GEORGE H. HAYES**

Vice President of Institutional Project Management,  
New York Law School

**SUSAN REDLER**

Vice President of Finance, New York Law School

**2022**

**BETH BLAUER '01**

Associate Vice Provost for Public Innovation;  
Executive Director, Centers for Civic Impact,  
Johns Hopkins University

**2023**

**BENJAMIN R. DECOSTA '75**

Principal, DeCosta Consulting, LLC

**SALLY HARDING**

Dean of Students, Emerita, New York Law School

**2025**

**CHRISTOPHER H. STEPHENS '84**

Senior Vice President and Group General Counsel, World Bank  
Group

**2026**

**CHARLES J. MAIKISH '74**

Managing Director and Chief Operating Officer (Ret.) for  
Citibank Realty Services

# KATHLEEN GRIMM MEDAL RECIPIENTS

2015 to the Present

The Trustees of New York Law School established the Kathleen Grimm Medal for Distinguished Public Service on February 11, 2015 to honor Kathleen Grimm '80 for her inspiring leadership, her distinguished and dedicated service to the School, and her outstanding accomplishments in the fields of law and education. Ms. Grimm, who passed away on February 17, 2015, had a long public service record, including as Deputy Chancellor of Operations at the New York City Department of Education. She was one of New York City's most dedicated servants, having served five city mayors, one state comptroller, seven city commissioners, and four city schools chancellors. She also served as a member of New York Law School's Board of Trustees and on its Alumni Association Board of Directors for over two decades, including as Past President.

**2015**

**THE HONORABLE FAVIOLA A. SOTO '78**

Judge, New York State Court of Claims

**2016**

**CHRISTINE MAGGIORE '16**

**2017**

**THE HONORABLE DAKOTA RAMSEUR '97**

Judge, Civil Court of the City of New York,  
New York County

**2018**

**MONIQUE BAPTIST '18**

**NELDRA M. ZEIGLER '79**

Former Deputy Commissioner of Equal Employment  
Opportunity, New York City Police Department

**DOUGLAS ZEIGLER '81**

Executive Agency Counsel  
New York City Department of Correction

**2019**

**EDWARD CHUKWUEMEKE OKEKE '97**

Senior Counsel, World Bank

**2020**

**KATHLYN H. SALAZAR '20**

**2021**

**MARAYA ABOLY-BROWN '21**

**2022**

**FATIN ASSAF '22**

**JOSEPH H. ROCHMAN '22**

**FARIMA RUSTEMI '22**

**2023**

**DILARA GUVERCIN '23**

**2024**

**ALEXANDRA OGUNSANYA '24**

**2025**

**CARLA B. FREEDMAN '88**

United States Attorney for the Northern District of New York  
(2021–2025)

**2026**

**KRISTEN GRENNAN '26**

**RHIANNON WRIGHT '26**

# ABOUT NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL

## We are New York's Law School

### FOUNDING

New York Law School was established in 1891 by Columbia College School of Law faculty, students, and alumni who were protesting their trustees' attempts to dictate the teaching methods used by professors. The central figure in the revolt against Columbia and the subsequent creation of New York Law School was Columbia Law School's founder, Theodore Dwight, a major figure in the history of American legal scholarship and education.

### THE EARLY YEARS

Almost immediately, New York Law School attained a formidable reputation due to the excellence of its students and faculty.

Dedicated to providing diverse routes to achievement through innovation in scholarship, service, and professional training, in 1894, the School's founders created one of the nation's first evening divisions to provide a flexible alternative to full-time legal education for those in the workforce or with family obligations. The Evening Division also allowed students to build upon previously established successful careers or to begin a second career.

Among the School's early lecturers were Woodrow Wilson and Charles Evans Hughes. The first class included James W. Gerard, who went on to serve as Ambassador to Germany during World War I, and Bainbridge Colby, who became Secretary of State under President Wilson. Other early graduates included Robert F. Wagner, a future U.S. senator from New York and a leader in developing national labor policy, and two Pulitzer Prize winners: Wallace Stevens (poetry) and Elmer Rice (drama). Another prominent alumnus from the pre-World War I era was the Honorable James S. Watson, a distinguished judge and an important member of New York's African American community. The judge's daughter, Barbara Watson, also attended New York Law School and was the first woman to attain the rank of Assistant Secretary of State of the United States.

Many of those attending around the turn of the 20th century became founders or name partners of leading law firms, including Alfred Rose of Proskauer, Rose, Goetz & Mendelsohn; Randolph E. Paul of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison; Henry Hurlbut Abbott and William C. Breed of Breed, Abbott & Morgan; Edwin Sunderland of Davis, Polk, Wardwell, Sunderland & Kiendel; William Parke of Chadbourne & Parke LLP; Alfred Mudge of Mudge, Rose, Guthrie & Alexander; Jacob Scholer of Kaye Scholer LLP; and Albert Milbank and Walter Hope of Milbank, Tweed, Hope & Hadley.

Classes of the 1920s, and 1930s produced graduates who would play leading roles in the profession. Among the most notable was U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Marshall Harlan II. Other prominent graduates included Albert Parker, a founding partner of Parker, Chapin, Flattau & Klimpl; Cameron F. MacRae, a former Chair of LeBoeuf, Lamb, Greene & MacRae; Conover English, a founding partner of McCarter & English; David Wilentz, a founding partner of Wilentz, Goldman & Spitzer; Chester Carlson, who invented the xerography process leading to the founding of Xerox Corporation; and the Honorable Emilio Nuñez, the first Latino to be named to the bench in New York State.

New York Law School closed for one year during World War I, interrupting a steady expansion that lasted until the mid-1920s. While the situation improved by the late 1930s, the draft in 1940 dealt the institution another blow, and the School was forced to close in 1941 for the duration of World War II.

### POST-WAR REBUILDING

In 1947, New York Law School reopened and began to rebuild. A major impetus came from graduates who formed a committee spearheaded by New York State Supreme Court Justice Albert Cohn. The new program was small, but the School made significant strides and gained provisional accreditation from the American Bar Association in 1954, and final accreditation 10 years later.

Steady growth marked the next few decades. With the appointment of E. Donald Shapiro as Dean in the early 1970s, the School joined the Association of American Law Schools, and the trustees authorized an increase in the size of the full-time faculty. Admissions requirements were raised, and enrollment grew. As facilities expanded, an endowment fund was established. In 1975, the School received its first endowed professorship, the Joseph Solomon Distinguished Professorship of Law.

Many graduates who were students during these years achieved prominence in the bar, the judiciary, government, and business. They include the late Honorable Roger J. Miner, Senior Judge, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit; the late Bernard Mendik, former Chair of the Real Estate Board of New York and former CEO of Mendik Properties; and the late Kathleen Grimm, Deputy Chancellor of Operations, New York City Department of Education. Other prominent alumni from that period include Maurice Greenberg, former Chair and CEO of American International Group (AIG) and current Chair and CEO of C.V. Starr and Co. Inc.; Arthur N. Abbey, Senior Partner at Abbey Spanier, LLP and current Chair of the School's Board of Trustees;

Lawrence S. Huntington, former Chair and CEO of Fiduciary Trust International and former Chair of the School's Board of Trustees; the Honorable Judith Sheindlin, known as "Judge Judy," New York family court judge, author, and TV personality; and Zygmunt "Zygi" Wilf, principal owner of the Minnesota Vikings of the NFL and member of the School's Board of Trustees.

## RECENT LEADERSHIP AND GROWTH

Dramatic growth and revitalization continued under the leadership of James F. Simon, Dean from 1983 until 1992. A series of major facility renovations was begun, highlighted by the opening of the Mendik Library in 1990 and the construction of the Ernst Stiefel Reading Room. During Dean Simon's tenure, the Rita and Joseph Solomon Professorship of Wills, Trusts, and Estates was added, and the School introduced the innovative Lawyering Skills Program into the curriculum.

In 1992, Harry H. Wellington, Sterling Professor of Law Emeritus and former Dean of Yale Law School, became the 14th Dean and President of New York Law School. Under Dean Wellington's leadership, a strategic plan was implemented to position New York Law School as a vital urban law center with an academic program that integrates the strategic and ethical perspectives of the practicing attorney. During Dean Wellington's tenure, the Ernst C. Stiefel Professorship of Comparative Law was created and the School's Centers for International Law and New York City Law were established.

Richard A. Matasar was named the 15th Dean and President of New York Law School in 2000, serving until December 2011. Under Dean Matasar's leadership, the School expanded its Academic Centers and increased its graduate offerings. During his tenure, the School completed an expansion and renovation program that transformed its Tribeca campus into a cohesive architectural complex. The centerpiece of the expansion is a glass-enclosed, 235,000-square-foot, nine-level building—five stories above ground and four below—which opened in 2009.

## "NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL" AND THE FUTURE

In spring 2012, New York Law School, continuing its tradition of bold and innovative leadership, named Anthony W. Crowell, former Counselor to New York City Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, the School's 16th Dean and President. He joined the School in May 2012, after having been a member of the adjunct faculty for nearly a decade. Under Dean Crowell, the School has maximized its

strengths, developed new ones, and continued to gain recognition as a leader in legal education. In his early months, he aggressively restructured leadership in key areas of the School and launched a strategic planning process that addressed areas of strategic priority, including fostering academic excellence and innovation; supporting the career success of students and alumni; creating a vibrant intellectual community that supports research and scholarship; strengthening engagement among students, alumni, faculty, and other constituents; and driving operational efficiencies and institution-building.

To strengthen the School's connection to New York City, Dean Crowell introduced the "We are New York's law school" campaign, which has now become the School's motto. In keeping with that motto, Dean Crowell established a Public Service Scholarship Program for uniformed services personnel and other dedicated public servants working in New York City at the local, state, and federal levels. The scholarship celebrates the School's rich history of enrolling students coming from these professional areas to advance their careers and be the most effective leaders in the city and beyond.

In fall 2012, New York Law School was the first law school to announce an initiative to identify and create new experiential learning opportunities for students that would help provide the community with access to justice and help students satisfy the 50-hour pro bono requirement for admission to the bar. Dean Crowell worked with the School's faculty to expand its experiential and clinical learning programs, thereby encouraging all students to connect their classroom learning to practical legal training. The following spring, the School announced a historic expansion of clinical and experiential learning programs, doubling the number of clinics.

In July 2013, the School issued a provocative and groundbreaking Strategic Plan, which garnered national attention. As outlined in the Plan, the School is focused on the high-growth fields of tomorrow: business and financial services; intellectual property, media, and technology; and government and public interest law. During the Plan's five-year implementation period, New York Law School reported annually on progress made towards its goals.

During the 2013–14 academic year, the School added the Alternative Dispute Resolution Skills Program. During the 2014–15 academic year, the School announced the formation of the Impact Center for Public Interest Law, which brought all of its important public interest work under one umbrella. The Center expanded its public interest work and established the Wilf Impact Scholars Program through a five-million dollar gift from Zygmunt "Zygi" Wilf and the Wilf Family Foundations to become the Wilf Impact Center for Public Interest Law in 2021.

## ABOUT NEW YORK LAW SCHOOL (continued)

In August 2015, the School kicked off its 125th Anniversary celebration, highlighting its rich legacy of alumni who have contributed to the New York City legal community and beyond across a wide range of subject areas. The same month, the School launched the Innovation Center for Law and Technology, which focuses on the innovation economy and the growth of media, science, and technology in the digital age. In November 2015, the School received a five-million dollar gift from Joe and Susan Plumeri through The Joe Plumeri Foundation, establishing The Plumeri Center to strengthen the School's legal clinics and provide space for extensive simulation training in both the first-year Legal Practice program and upper-level courses. To further students' opportunities to gain critical hands-on training while providing substantial and meaningful legal and business assistance to New York's small business and innovator/entrepreneur community, The Center became The Plumeri Center for Small Business Empowerment in 2024.

During the 2016–17 academic year, *The National Law Journal* recognized the School among the top 50 law schools nationally for most alumni promoted to law firm partnerships, and *Law Street Media* ranked the School second nationally for “Top Schools for Real Estate Law.”

The School issued its bold new five-year Strategic Plan in 2020. Titled *Ever Upward*, the Plan builds on the successes of the 2013 Plan and sets forth bold initiatives in the areas of academic excellence and innovation; diversity, equity, and inclusion; career success; intellectual life; community engagement; and strength in operations. Shortly after the new Plan was published, New York City was affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. New York Law School swiftly transitioned to a virtual educational program for the first time in its history, guided by the priorities and values outlined in the Plan. In the wake of the pandemic and the national reckoning on racial injustice, the School further reframed the Plan to support the recovery of the city, state, and nation.

In spring 2021, recognizing the growing demand for in-house counsel and financial services roles, especially in helping with businesses' pandemic recovery, the School launched the James Tricarico Jr. Institute for the Business of Law and In-House Counsel—made possible by a generous lead gift from alumnus James A. Tricarico Jr and the Ronald H. Filler Institute for Financial Services—named in honor of Professor Emeritus Ronald H. Filler—to provide students with opportunities to gain the critical lawyering skills needed to navigate the complexities of a post-pandemic financial landscape.

During the 2021–22 academic year, Judge Judy Sheindlin announced a five-million dollar gift to the School that created substantial, new opportunities for women to attend New York Law School and become leaders in the legal profession through the Judge Judy Sheindlin Honors Scholars Program. It also formalized an enduring partnership with Her Honor Mentoring, one of the region's most prominent mentoring programs for young women founded and developed by Judge Sheindlin and her daughter Nicole Sheindlin in 2006. The same year, New York Law School introduced NYLS Pro, a modern take on its 128-year-old Evening Division aimed at meeting the evolving needs of 21st century working professionals committed to transforming their careers. NYLS Pro leverages remote platforms and modern scheduling for in-person classes to make the program more accessible, flexible, and affordable.

New York Law School announced a historic ten-million dollar gift from Arthur Abbey '59 and Diane Abbey in 2023. As lifelong champions of the Law School, NYLS's main academic building has been named “Abbey Hall” in their honor. This generous endowed gift, one of the largest donations in the Law School's history, deepens the Abbeys' exceptional legacy of support by funding a multitude of initiatives and school activities, including scholarships, academic and bar success, and diversity, equity, and inclusion, as well as expanding programs that seek to increase access to justice and support the most vulnerable in our communities.

In fall 2024, building on a 30-year legacy of success and in-depth New York City coverage, the School's Center for New York City Law, founded by Samuel Seabury Professor Ross Sandler, was re-launched as the Center for New York City and State Law with an expanded set of programs led by Dean Crowell as the Center's new Faculty Director and a team of experts on city and state government issues.

In 2025, the New York Law School Board of Trustees elected John Estes '95, a Partner at Sullivan & Cromwell LLP, as its next Board Chair, succeeding the historic tenure of Arthur N. Abbey '59, who served as Board Chair for the past 25 years.

As the School celebrates its 135th anniversary in 2026, NYLS continues to embrace innovative solutions to offer students a rigorous, world-class legal education and provide unmatched opportunities to gain valuable practical experience in order to build the foundation for meaningful and successful careers that help them make a difference in their communities, the nation, and the world.

WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL

PAECEPTA  
C, HONESTE  
ALTERUM  
DERE, SUUM  
TRIBUERE





Digital Commencement Program



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New York, NY 10013-2921

[www.nyls.edu](http://www.nyls.edu)