2024

Drexel University Commencement Ceremonies

Thomas R. Kline School of Law

MAY THE SEVENTEENTH
THE KIMMEL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



Message from the President
Commencement Ceremony
Drexel University Trustees
Law School Advisory Board
Academic Officers and Faculty
In Memoriam
Commencement Speaker
Degree Recipients
Academic Honors
Pro Bono Service Honors
Awards for the Class of 2024
Competition Winners
Student Organizations

As a courtesy to our graduates and guests, please silence all phones and electronic devices during the Commencement Ceremony.

Friday, May 17 • 9:00 a.m.

Please rise for the processional at the opening of the ceremony and the recessional at the close.



Dear Graduates,

n this joyous occasion, I join my Drexel colleagues in honoring you for your hard work and tremendous accomplishments at the Thomas R. Kline School of Law. You are now ready to join the ranks of our nation's lawyers and legal experts.

You are embarking on your journey at a pivotal moment in our history. The world is looking to legal professionals like you to uphold the pillars of our democracy and its laws. Based on your outstanding

performances in the classroom, in co-ops, capstones and clinics, and in our pro bono service program, I am confident that you will meet the challenge of technological change and social inequality and serve your clients, our society and the law with integrity and distinction.

We also encourage you to serve as ambassadors and inspiring role models for the Kline School of Law, and to remain closely connected to your worldwide Drexel alumni family. As you advance in your careers, please do not hesitate to call on Dean Filler, the faculty and professional staff to serve as experts and to mentor to future Kline graduates.

Speaking of great role models to emulate, look no further than Tom Kline, who has built his storied legal career around advocacy, remedy, accountability and reform. I want to thank Tom for his continued generous support and commitment to our Law School. With the Thomas R. Kline Institute of Trial Advocacy well established in Center City, we have cemented the Kline Law School's reputation as a superior training facility for trial advocates across the country.

On behalf of the trustees, faculty and professional staff of Drexel University, I wish you all the best in reaching your career and personal goals.

Sincerely,

President

Processional

Selection by Symphony in C

Faculty Marshal

Amy L. Landers

Associate Dean for Faculty Research, Director of the Intellectual Property Law Program, Professor of Law

Mace Bearer

Richard H. Frankel

Associate Dean for Experiential Learning, Director of the Civil Litigation and Dispute Resolution Program, Professor of Law

Student Marshal

Kevin P. Oates

Senior Associate Dean of Students and Administration Professor of Law

Dean's Welcome

Daniel M. Filler

Professor of Law

National Anthem

Janine Guerra

Class of 2024

President's Welcome

John Fry

President, Drexel University

Greeting from the Trustee Chair

Richard A. Greenawalt

Chair, Board of Trustees, Drexel University

Greeting from the Law School Advisory Board Chair

Thomas R. Kline

Chair, Law School Advisory Board

Remarks from the Dean

Daniel M. Filler

Professor of Law

Alumni Greeting

Kristin Behrens

Class of 2009

Ceremonial Awards

Carl "Tobey" Oxholm III Outstanding Contribution to the Law School Community Award

Dean Jennifer L. Rosato Excellence in the Classroom Award

Dean Roger J. Dennis Distinction in Teaching Award

DiveIN Champion of Diversity Awards

Mary K. McGovern Exceptional Contribution to the Student Experience Award

Introduction of Speaker

Daniel M. Filler

DeanProfessor of Law

Commencement Address

Partner, WilmerHale

Greeting from the Class of 2024

Nicholas Joseph Gronczewski JD Recipient, 2024

Conferring of Degrees

Hooders

David S. Cohen Professor of Law

Donald F. Tibbs Professor of Law

Reader

Clare Keefe Coleman

Director of International Student Programs Writing Specialist, Professor of Law

Benediction

"Forever Young" Marc Lobitz Class of 2024

Recessional

Selection by Symphony in C

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Professor of Law

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Associate Professor of Law

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Action, Professor of Law Assaf Harpaz Visiting Assistant Professor

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Anil Kalhan Professor of Law; Professor, Center for Science, Technology, and Society (by courtesy)

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IN MEMORIAM

The Thomas R. Kline School of Law community suffered the loss of three treasured faculty members in 2024. We are humbled to have had the privilege of learning, working and teaching with these talented individuals, and we are forever grateful for all they contributed to our students, our community and the lives that they profoundly touched.

Donald N. Bersoff

1939-2024

Donald Bersoff, professor emeritus and founding director of our JD/PhD Program in Law and Clinical Psychology, held a long and distinguished career as a psychologist, lawyer and academic. He was a dedicated champion for underserved populations as the inaugural general counsel of the American Psychological Association (APA) and through the 50+ amicus curiae briefs he submitted to the United States Supreme Court and other appellate courts. His commitment to professional service fittingly led to his election as APA president in 2013. Perhaps he is most well-known for the training and mentorship that he provided to hundreds of students in law and psychology, many of whom have become passionate contributors to the psychology-law field.

Alex C. Geisinger

1964-2024

Alex Geisinger, who was an inaugural hire of the law school, joined the faculty as professor of law in 2007. He served as associate dean for faculty development and research from 2018 to 2022. Professor Geisinger was passionate about environmental advocacy. He taught environmental, commercial and tort law, and focused his research on law and social norms, torts and environmental justice. His wide-ranging scholarship is reflected in myriad law review articles on topics ranging from large developments to profiling bias to the role of nature in the development of international law. Widely popular among students and beloved for his dedication to the empowerment of others, Professor Geisinger received the Rosato Teaching Award in 2014 and 2018.

Earthen E. Johnson

1983-2024

Earthen Johnson, JD '11, was an alumna, adjunct faculty member and director of the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project at the law school. In her early career, she was a third-grade teacher, a program director for Teach for America in Camden, New Jersey, and a site manager for the New Teacher Project. Subsequently, she attended Kline School of Law and, following her graduation in 2011 was named to The Legal Intelligencer's "Lawyers on the Fast Track" list in 2013. She practiced law at Drinker, Biddle, and Reath and later served as associate general counsel and vice president at Macquarie Investment Management. Before and throughout her years of practice, she remained dedicated to improving the lives of young people and making the world a better place.

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Chava Spivak-Birndorf, JD/MSLIS Research and Instructional Services Librarian

Lindsay H. Steussy, JD/MLS/MA Research and Instructional Services Librarian

Preet BhararaConsequential Prosecutor and Champion of Justice



reet Bharara, former United States attorney for T the Southern District of New York (SDNY), is a renowned and highly regarded lawyer who is currently a partner at the law firm WilmerHale, focusing on strategic counseling, crisis management and investigations. Dubbed "one of the most consequential prosecutors in American history" by *The New Yorker*, Mr. Bharara led some of the most significant criminal and civil litigations brought in the SDNY on behalf of the United States, leaving an indelible impact on the office. He is widely recognized as one of the most effective and transformative U.S. attorneys to ever lead the SDNY and one of the most credible voices in law enforcement. In May 2009, President Barack Obama nominated Mr. Bharara to become the U.S. attorney for the SDNY, with Mr. Bharara's nomination unanimously

confirmed by the U.S. Senate in August 2009. While serving as U.S. attorney from 2009 to 2017 — one of the longest-serving appointments in the history of the SDNY — he oversaw more than 200 assistant U.S. attorneys, who handled cases involving civil rights violations, cybercrime, domestic and international terrorism, financial fraud, gang violence, narcotics and arms trafficking, organized crime, and public corruption. With Mr. Bharara at the helm, the SDNY saw one of the most productive periods in its history.

Before serving as U.S. attorney, Mr. Bharara was chief counsel to Sen. Charles Schumer, the current U.S. Senate majority leader. Mr. Bharara is an author, a frequent public speaker and a much-valued voice in the national dialogue. He is a distinguished scholar-in-residence at the New York University School of Law, and regularly speaks to corporations, legal associations and trade groups on ethics and compliance, culture and diversity issues. He wrote a *New York Times* best seller titled "Doing Justice: A Prosecutor's Thoughts on Crime, Punishment and the Rule of Law." Mr. Bharara also shares his perspectives as host of the "Stay Tuned with Preet" and "CAFE Insider" podcasts on the Vox Media Podcast Network. In 2012, Mr. Bharara was featured on the cover of *TIME* magazine and appeared on its list of the "100 Most Influential People in the World."

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∞ Health Law Concentration

□ Intellectual Property Law

\delta Business and Entrepreneurship Law Concentration

¬ Civil Litigation & Dispute Resolution Concentration

⊢ Criminal Law Concentration

∞ Health Law Concentration

Property Law Concentration ♦ Business and Entrepreneurship Law Concentration

¬ Civil Litigation & Dispute Resolution Concentration

Concentration

Concentration

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Magna Cum Laude

Corey Michael Fedorowich
Peter William Gaynor
Derek M. Shavell
Nicholas Joseph Gronczewski
Laura Taylor Hannigan
Geneva Alexandria Litz
Deeksha Walia

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Master of Legal Studies Award for Outstanding Performance

Mariah Kathleen Adkisson	Elizabeth Ann Hazleton	Elizabeth Ritter
Deirdre Mattocks Bertotti	Anna Marie Moronski	Nora Catherine Rossini

MASTER OF LAWS

Cyber Law and Data Privacy LLM Award for Outstanding Performance

Katherine E. Bell Sarah Lynn Gitchell Anand Ramaswamy
Sherry Lynn Gelenius Fatima Naeem Joel Weiss

Health Care and Pharmaceutical Compliance LLM Award for Outstanding Performance

Amy Buechler Deenah Zahara Sirota

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN LAW

Summa Cum Laude

Lois Sungah Cho An-nika Sarah Ismael

PRO BONO SERVICE HONORS

Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award

For the Graduating Student with the Most Pro Bono Hours Served

Amirah Joi Brew-Syders

Outstanding Pro Bono Service Honors

200+ Pro Bono Service Hours

Amirah Joi Brew-Syders

Pro Bono Service Honors

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 ${\it 101-200~Pro~Bono~Service~Hours}$

Tatyanah Monae Brehouse Micaela Grace Kitchen
Chelsea Lauren Caplinger Madison S. Meiser
Corey Michael Fedorowich Olivia Rae O'Reilly
Shadai Dominique Joyner Jordan A. Ramdial

Dean's Award	for Oi	ıtstana	ling
Performance d	is a La	w Stuo	lent

To the graduating student with the best academic record in the class: Natalie Mickey Nye (December 2023 Graduate)

Dean's Award for Exceptional Achievement in Law School

To the graduating student with the second most distinguished academic record in the class:

Jessica Gail Stoltz

Faculty Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Law School Community

Deeksha Walia

Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievements in Experiential Education

Olivia Rae O'Reilly

Faculty Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Student

Micaela Grace Kitchen

American Law Institute Continuing Legal Education Scholarship & Leadership Award

Peter William Gaynor

The Public Interest Section of the Philadelphia Bar Association Outstanding Law Student Award

Chelsea Lauren Caplinger

National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student Award

Alexandria L. Richards

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Eric D. Turner Award

Hannah Christine Guth

Earthen Johnson Memorial Award for Outstanding Achievement in the Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project

Clarke David Doig Briana J. Edmonds

Kline & Specter Award for Exceptional Advocacy

Clarke David Doig

Philadelphia Trial Lawyers Association James J. Manderino Award for Trial Advocacy

Deeksha Walia

Kline School of Law Trial Team Award for Excellence in Advocacy

Boarder T. Tsai

Firstrust Bank Award in Business and Entrepreneurship

Qingqing Zhang

Firstrust Bank Award in Transactional Lawyering

Zachary R. Jacobs

Outstanding Achievement in the Health Law Concentration

Jessica Gail Stoltz

Outstanding Achievement in the Intellectual Property Law Concentration

Michael Anselm Jannuzzi

Outstanding Achievement in the Criminal Law Concentration

Veronica Wheelock

Outstanding Achievement in the Civil Litigation ♂ Dispute Resolution Concentration

William Patrick Bodycot

Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievement in Legal Ethics

Corey Michael Fedorowich Maegan S. McUmber

Heckscher, Teillon, Terrill & Sager, P.C. Award in Trusts and Estates

Christina M. Marinos Grace Elizabeth Meili

Carolyn Agger Award for Excellence in Federal Taxation

Allen J. Dejewski II Qingqing Zhang

The Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Clinic Student Award

David Andrew Zisser

The Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Externship Student Award

Michael Pierre Harvey-Broughton II

Faculty Award for Contributions to the Intellectual Life of the Law School

Nicholas Joseph Gronczewski

Faculty Award for Academic Success as a Law Student

Jordan A. Ramdial

Emalee G. Welsh Award for Excellence in Legal Scholarship

Nell Cormack Corrie Raye Mitchell

Mindy Friedman Memorial Contract Drafting Award

Medina Talebi

DiveIN Champion of Diversity Award

Gabriella Lissette Villafan

Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievement in the LL.M. Program

Nazanin Niazi

Pennsylvania Bar Association Professor Louis Del Luca Memorial Award in Business Law

Avery Leigh Marz

Award for Outstanding Achievement in Worker's Compensation Law

David Andrew Zisser

Order of the Barristers

Dylan C. Beltrami
Dayna M. Camardi
Samantha J. Componovo
Jailene Lizbeth Cruz
Corey Michael Fedorowich
Hunter Todd Gajewski
Kaleigh Tayler Gillen
Daniel B. Levy
Madison K. Mull
Dominic Rocco Mussoline
Kevin M. Ricard
Talia Chung Scicchitano
Matthew Joseph Soliman

ALTERNATIVE DISPUTE RESOLUTION COMPETITION TEAM

2024 ABA Mediation Competition

National Finalist Elise Noel DiGuiseppe Samuel A. Robinson

2023 ABA Negotiation Competition

Regional Finalist Veronica Wheelock

2024 ABA Client Counseling Competition

Regional Finalist Grace Elizabeth Meili

MOOT COURT BOARD

Exemplary Moot Court Performance and Citizenship Overall

Talia Chung Scicchitano

Best Written Advocate

Corey Michael Fedorowich

Best Oral Advocate

Matthew Joseph Soliman

Cozen O'Connor Award for Exemplary Moot Court Performance

Kaleigh Tayler Gillen

Kline School of Law Award for Excellence in External Moot Court Competition

Matthew Joseph Soliman

NYC Bar National Moot Court Competition

2nd Best Brief 2023-24 Jailene Lizbeth Cruz Corey Michael Fedorowich Kaleigh Tayler Gillen

Hennessy Employee Benefits Moot Court Competition

Second Place Team
Dominic Rocco Mussoline
Matthew Joseph Soliman

Semifinalist Daniel B. Levy

Final Round Top Oralist
Matthew Joseph Soliman

Prince Memorial Evidence Moot Court Competition

Octofinals 2023
Dayna M. Camardi
Corey Michael Fedorowich

Giles Rich Memorial Intellectual Property Moot Court Competition

3rd-Best Regional Brief 2023 Samantha J. Componovo Kevin M. Ricard

Regional Semi-Finals 2023 Samantha J. Componovo Kevin M. Ricard

TRIAL TEAM

Student Trial Advocacy Competition

Regional Champion, 2024 Boarder T. Tsai Deeksha Walia

Regional Finalist, 2024 Habiba Rasool Cheema

Clarke David Doig

Regional Champion, 2023 Habiba Rasool Cheema Deeksha Walia

National Trial Competition

Regional Finalist, 2024 Peter William Gaynor Deniz Tunceli

Regional Finalist, 2023 Clarke David Doig Peter William Gaynor Boarder T. Tsai Deniz Tunceli

Queens District Attorney's Office Mock Trial Competition

Quarterfinalist, 2024 Cheyanne Nichole Cope (Best Cross Examination)

Finalist, 2023 Clarke David Doig (Best Overall Advocate) Peter William Gaynor

(Best Advocate in the Final Round)

Boarder T. Tsai Deniz Tunceli

${\it 2024 \, National \, Ethics \, Competition}$

Peter William Gaynor (Best Overall Advocate)

The All-Star Bracket Challenge

Honorable Mention, 2022 Emily Rose Green Grubb Coffing

National Civil Trial Competition

2023

Peter William Gaynor

(Best Cross Examination)
Deniz Tunceli

(Best Opening Statement)

2022

Samuel G. Luebbers
(Best Opening Statement)

Tournament of Champions

Honorable Mention, 2023 Clarke David Doig Emily Rose Green Grubb Coffing

Honorable Mention, 2022 Clarke David Doig Deniz Tunceli

The Amicus Cup

Boarder T. Tsai

Semi-Finalist, 2024 Clarke David Doig (Best Plaintiff's Advocate)

Champion, 2023
Clarke David Doig
(Best Closing Argument)

The Verdict National Jury Trial Competition

Champion, 2023 **Peter William Gaynor**(Best Overall Advocate)

Deniz Tunceli (Outstanding Advocate)

National Medical-Legal Trial Competitionl

Semi-Finalist, 2023 Boarder T. Tsai Deeksha Walia

National Trial League

2023

Emily Rose Green Grubb Coffing (Week 1 Outstanding Advocate)

Top Gun National Mock Trial Tournament

Finalist, 2023 Clarke David Doig

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STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Student Bar Association

Deeksha Walia President

Peter William Gaynor Vice President

Sandra Amgad Benjamin Vice President of Finance

Trial Team

William Patrick Bodycot Chelsea Lauren Caplinger Habiba Rasool Cheema Cheyanne Nichole Cope Clarke David Doig Peter William Gaynor Emily Rose Green Grubb Coffing

Samuel G. Luebbers Boarder T. Tsai Deniz Tunceli Deeksha Walia

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Dayna M. Camardi
Samantha J. Componovo
Jailene Lizbeth Cruz
Corey Michael Fedorowich
Hunter Todd Gajewski
Kaleigh Tayler Gillen

Daniel B. Levy Gianna Carina Penezic Kevin M. Ricard Medina Talebi Jefferson Toro

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Dibya Patnaik *President* Daniel B. Levy

Vice President

Elise Noel DiGuiseppe

Secretary

Janki Sanjay Patel Recruitment Chair

Shannon R. Beam William Patrick Bodycot

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Cara Michelle LeVasseur

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Brandon Kwame Odame-Labi

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