## 2022

# **Drexel University Commencement Ceremonies**

## Thomas R. Kline School of Law

MAY THE TWENTY-THIRD
THE KIMMEL CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
PHILADELPHIA, PENNSYLVANIA



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### Dear Graduates,

The rule of law is one of the cornerstones of our democracy. With that bedrock principle under fire in recent years, your graduation from the Thomas R. Kline School of Law matters more than ever.

Lawyers and legal scholars play indispensable roles in a free, civil society. We need highly skilled lawyers who will defend the Constitution, guard our liberty, ensure free and fair elections,

advocate for justice, prosecute wrongdoing, provide learned counsel and represent clients from marginalized communities. As graduates of the Kline School of Law, you are eminently prepared to assume these critical roles.

Navigating the demands and enduring the grueling pressures of law school is always challenging. The pandemic and the national reckoning over racial injustice exponentially increased the degree of difficulty. You not only remained focused through much uncertainty, stress and heartache, but also demonstrated an unwavering commitment to promoting equal justice for all.

I am honored to congratulate you on your graduation from the Kline School of Law, and to join your friends and loved ones in celebrating your achievement.

John F. Kennedy famously noted that "success has many fathers, but failure is an orphan." So, be sure to thank your family, friends and classmates whose support helped you achieve this success. And let us all recognize our outstanding faculty, led by Dean Filler, for their leadership, guidance and support.

In just 16 years, the Kline School of Law has grown into a distinguished institution that produces outstanding lawyers, legal scholars, judges, jurists and senior executives. With the Thomas R. Kline Institute of Trial Advocacy firmly established in Center City, we have secured the Law School's reputation as the top training facility for trial advocates in the country.

It also is no coincidence that our Law School is named after one of the best trial lawyers in the country. I would like to thank Tom Kline for his generous support and ongoing commitment to our Law School.

On behalf of the trustees, faculty and professional staff of Drexel University, I wish you all the best in achieving your career and personal goals and in creating a more just society.

Sincerely,

John Fry President

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## THOMAS R. KLINE SCHOOL OF LAW COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## Monday, May 23 • 10:00 a.m.

 ${\it Please \ rise for the \ processional \ at \ the \ opening \ of \ the \ ceremony \ and \ the \ recessional \ at \ the \ close.}$ 

Processional	Ceremonial Awards
Selection by Symphony in C	Carl "Tobey" Oxholm III Outstanding Contribution to the Law School Community Award
Faculty Marshal Gwen Roseman Stern Director of the Trial Advocacy Program Professor of Law	Dean Jennifer L. Rosato Excellence in the Classroom Award
	Dean Roger J. Dennis Distinction in Teaching Award
Mace Bearer	DiveIN Champion of Diversity Awards
Chapin Cimino Professor of Law	Mary K. McGovern Exceptional Contribution to the Student Experience Award
Student Marshal	•
Kevin P. Oates Senior Associate Dean of Students and Administration Professor of Law	Introduction of Speaker
	John Fry President, Drexel University
Dean's Welcome	
Daniel M. Filler	Commencement Address
Dean Professor of Law	Dana Remus Assistant to the President of the United States ♂ White House Counsel
National Anthem	
Johanna Simpson JD Recipient, 2022	Greeting from the Class of 2022
	Noelia M. Wiegand JD Recipient, 2022
President's Welcome	
John Fry President, Drexel University	Conferring of Degrees
	Hooders
Greeting from the Trustee Chair	Aimée Kahan Director of Strategic Initiatives Associate Professor of Law
Richard A. Greenawalt	v
Chair, Board of Trustees, Drexel University	David S. Cohen Professor of Law
Greeting from the Law School Advisory Board Chair	Reader
Thomas R. Kline	Clare Keefe Coleman
Chair, Law School Advisory Board	Director of International Student Programs Associate Professor of Law and Writing Specialist
Remarks from the Dean	Benediction
Daniel M. Filler	"Foregree Voung"
Dean Professor of Law	"Forever Young" Bridget Ann Fassano Class of 2021
Greeting from the Alumni Council	Recessional
Hannah J. Molitoris '16 Vice President, Thomas R. Kline School of Law Alumni Council	Selection by Symphony in C

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Roger Dennis Dean Emeritus

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Bret Asbury Professor of Law

 $\begin{array}{c} {\bf Adam\ Benforado} \\ {\it Professor\ of\ Law} \end{array}$ 

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 ${\it Hannah~Bloch-Wehba} \\ {\it Assistant~Professor~of~Law~\ddagger}$ 

Amelia Boss Director of the Business and Entrepreneurship Law Program, Trustee Professor of Law

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Associate Dean for
Undergraduate Education,
Director of the Center for
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Donna Gerson Associate Dean for Career Strategies

Ina Halili Associate Director of Admissions

Mallory Heller Assistant Manager of Student Services

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Mary K. McGovern Director of Continuing Legal Education Programs Jennifer D. Moore Manager – Employer Relations of Career Strategies

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Administrative Coordinator

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Director of Bar Support Bria Sowell

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Cerys St. John Richter *Chief of Staff* 

Sue Tang

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Jim Walsh

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Rashida T. West Director for Pro Bono and Public Interest Programs

Jennifer Whitehurst Associate Director of Career Strategies

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

Services Librarian

#### **Dana Remus**

Assistant to the President of the United States & White House Counsel Formerly Inaugural Faculty Member, Kline School of Law



Dana Remus is currently serving as assistant to the president and White House counsel. Previously, she served as general counsel on Joe Biden's presidential campaign. Prior to the campaign, Remus was general counsel of the Obama Foundation and President and Mrs. Obama's personal office. During the Obama-Biden administration, Remus was the deputy assistant to the president and deputy counsel for ethics.

Previously, she was a professor of law at the University of North Carolina School of Law, where she specialized in legal and judicial ethics and the regulation of the legal profession. Notably, Remus began her academic career in 2006 as an inaugural faculty member of the Kline School of Law (known at that time as Drexel College of Law.)

Remus clerked for U.S. Supreme Court Associate Justice Samuel A. Alito, Jr. and Judge Anthony J. Scirica of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit, and was an associate at the law firm Cravath, Swaine & Moore. She earned her BA from Harvard University and her JD from Yale.

#### Master of Legal Studies

Elizabeth Rapczynski Archer

Madiha Azaz

Susan G. Baranowski Chloe Loren Boisture

Christopher D. Bowers

Tina L. Boylen Cassandra J. Bries

Lashe S. Brockington †

Clara Brown †
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Megan M. Cammarota

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**Furis Doctor** 

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Nicole A. Backman +

Sarah R. Bakstran

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Gabrielle Marie Beers

Katherine E. Bell

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Amanda Rose Lewis ¬

Matthew Gerard Sacchetta

Maliheh Zare

<sup>♦</sup> Business and Entrepreneurship Law Concentration

#### Juris Doctor

## Summa Cum Laude

Ashley M. Gindle Julia Grace Lueddeke Jonathan James Madara Matthew Gerard Sacchetta Nicole C. Scott

#### Magna Cum Laude

Luke S. Alba Alison Paige Britton Ryan M. Hunsicker Alan Lee Logsdon Paul S. Macri Matthew Ryan Magid Kelcie M. Ouillette Aubrey Kathleen Powell Marcus R. Schlundt Bodien Theresa A. Topping

Jessica L. Tyrrell Patrick M. Weaver Kellie Marie Wiltsie Yusuf T. Yilmaz Maliheh Zare

#### Cum Laude

Alejandra B. Aponte Montalvo
Sarah R. Bakstran
Rachel H. Charamella
Allison Jean Delaney
Kylie Courtney DeMaria
Genevieve Clare Dixon
Marisa Shira Fein
Nicholas A. Fromhold

Kevin C. Gilligan
Corey Grable
Morgan Ashley Greenbaum
Grace C. Grimes
Emily R. Larrabee
Connor J. LeMay
Kevin Brady Maginnis
Michael Anthony Oliano

Sarah Marie Polacek Shae Lee Randolph Brittany Anne Schrader Johanna Simpson Francesca L. Spinelli Olivia S. Szumski Justin Matthew Tennenbaum

#### Master of Legal Studies Award for Outstanding Performance

Jessica S. Doheny Kimberly Kelley Javier Nicholas Patino Dean Frank Price Joseph John Slavin

Cyber Law and Data Privacy LLM Award for Outstanding Performance

**James Michael Barrett** 

Health Care and Pharmaceutical Compliance LLM Award for Outstanding Performance

**Holly Kristin Robinson** 

## Distinguished Pro Bono Service Award For the Graduating Student with the Most Pro Bono Hours Served Nicole C. Scott Pro Bono Service Honors (101-200 Pro Bono Service Hours) Shahmar M. Beasley **Alison Paige Britton Mary Elizabeth Clay** Alyzabeth L. Davis Jay M. Lis Gonzales Charnique K. Johnson Breanna C. Jones **Alexander David Lassoff**

**Brandon Peter Lee** 

Marlee A. McCadden

Mackenzie Leigh McGeehan

Erin Mary O'Brien

Johanna Simpson

Noelia M. Wiegand

Dean's Award for Outstanding Performance as a Law Student

To the graduating student with the best academic record in the class: Ashley M. Gindle

Dean's Award for Exceptional Achievement in Law School

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

Matthew Gerard Sacchetta

Faculty Award for Outstanding Leadership in the Law School Community

Katherine E. Bell Ashley M. Gindle

Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievements in Experiential Education

Mackenzie Leigh McGeehan

Faculty Award for Outstanding Pro Bono Student

Erin Mary O'Brien

American Law Institute — Continuing Legal Education Scholarship & Leadership Award

Alison Paige Britton

Philadelphia Bar Association Public Interest Section Law Student Award

Jay M. Lis Gonzales

National Association of Women Lawyers Outstanding Law Student Award

Nicole C. Scott

American Academy of Matrimonial Lawyers Eric D. Turner Award

Gabrielle Marie Beers Olivia S. Szumski

Marshall-Brennan Constitutional Literacy Project Outstanding Student Award

Kylie Courtney DeMaria Olivia S. Szumski Kline & Specter Award for Exceptional Advocacy

**Grace C. Grimes** 

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

Theresa A. Topping

Kline School of Law Trial Team Award for Excellence in Advocacy

Nihir Uday Nanavaty

Firstrust Bank Award in Business and Entrepreneurship

Michael Anthony Oliano

Firstrust Bank Award in Transactional Lawyering

Jessica L. Tyrrell

Outstanding Achievement in the Health Law Concentration

Kelcie M. Ouillette

Outstanding Achievement in the Intellectual Property Law Concentration

Paul S. Macri

Outstanding Achievement in the Criminal Law Concentration

**Corey Grable** 

Outstanding Achievement in the Civil Litigation ≅ Dispute Resolution Concentration

**Grace C. Grimes** 

Faculty Award for Outstanding Achievement in Legal Ethics

Connor J. LeMay Jonathan James Madara Matthew Gerard Sacchetta

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

Francesca L. Spinelli

Carolyn Agger Award for Excellence in Federal Taxation

Yusuf T. Yilmaz

Cozen O'Connor Award for Exemplary Moot Court Performance

Olivia S. Szumski

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

Paul S. Macri

The Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Clinic Team Award

Jonathan James Madara Marlee A. McCadden Erin Mary O'Brien Johanna Simpson

Award for Outstanding Achievement in a Clinical Setting

**Brielle Autumn Brown** 

The Clinical Legal Education Association Outstanding Externship Student Award

Noelia M. Wiegand

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

**Kevin Brady Maginnis** 

Faculty Award for Academic Success as a Law Student

Brianna Theresa Teicher

Emalee G. Welsh Award for Excellence in Legal Scholarship

Marisa Shira Fein Nicole C. Scott

Mindy Friedman Memorial Contract Drafting Award

**Annette Marie Long** 

DiveIN Student Champion of Diversity Award

Tamara Angelique Dinnall

Order of the Barristers

Katherine E. Bell Gitika Kapoor Danielle Kitzinger Paul S. Macri Erin Kathleen Russell Johanna Simpson Olivia S. Szumski Aleksandra Maria Tulacz

#### TRIAL TEAM

#### The All Star Bracket Challenge

Regional Winner, 2021 Christa Tomasulo

Student Trial Advocacy Competition hosted by the American Association for Justice

Regional Semifinalist, 2021 Regional Finalist, 2022 **Nihir Uday Nanavaty** 

The Summit Cup, hosted by the University of Denver Sturm College of Law

Finalists, 2020 Grace C. Grimes Nihir Uday Nanavaty

National Trial Competition hosted by the Texas Young Lawyers Association

#### **Grace C. Grimes**

(2022 Regional Champions; 2021 Regional Best Advocate Award; 2021 Regional Champions; 2021 National Quarterfinalist); Theresa A. Topping

(2022 Regional Best Advocate Award, 2022 Regional Champions); and Christa Tomasulo

(2022 Regional Finalist)

University of Florida National Trial Advocacy Tournament

Semi-Finalist, 2022 Anthony Michael Petro

The Verdict, hosted by the UCLA School of Law

2021 **Nihir Uday Nanavaty** (*Best Advocate*)

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Exemplary Moot Court Performance Overall

**Brenna Mary Jeffries** 

Best Written Advocate

**Mary Elizabeth Clay** 

Best Oral Advocate

Sara Lee Salvo

August A. Rendigs, Jr. National Products Liability Moot Court Competition

Quarterfinalist, 2021 Gary Capuano

Ellen A. Hennessy Employee Benefits Moot Court Competition

Winners, 2021 Katherine E. Bell (top oralist), Mary Elizabeth Clay (best brief), Kylie Courtney DeMaria, Natalia Marrone (best brief), and Sara Lee Salvo

#### Giles Sutherland Rich Memorial Moot Court Competition

Regional Rounds - Winners, 2022 Regional Rounds - Semifinalists, 2021 Paul S. Macri and Olivia S. Szumski

National Appellate Advocacy Competition

Octofinalists, 2022 Kylie Courtney DeMaria, Alexandra Elizabeth Lynch, and Maria A. Perez

National Immigration Law
Competition

Octofinalists, 2022 Johanna Simpson and Jessica Ann Downes

#### Philip C. Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition

Region 3 Regional Rounds, Ninth place memorial (brief) 2021 Gitika Kapoor (19th place speaker) and Aleksandra Maria Tulacz

Robert F. Wagner National Labor and Employment Law Moot Court Competition

Quarterfinalists, 2021 Brenna Mary Jeffries and Erin Kathleen Russell

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Theresa A. Topping

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