



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

2018 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

VON BRAUN CENTER
PROPST ARENA

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY

MISSION › VISION › VALUES

OAKWOOD MISSION

The mission of Oakwood University, a historically black, Seventh-day Adventist institution, is to transform students through biblically-based education for service to God and humanity.

OAKWOOD VISION

Oakwood University graduates leaders in service to God and humanity.

OAKWOOD VALUES

Respect: Oakwood esteems others as worthy of human dignity, regard, and service.

Compassion: Oakwood manifests sympathy, empathy, care and concern in our dealings with others.

Integrity: Oakwood demonstrates honesty, uprightness, moral virtue, and ethical rectitude in every relationship.

Excellence: Oakwood makes the personal and collective decision to perform at our highest capacity and to continually improve in our work and service.

Service: Oakwood chooses to provide assistance, aid, help, caring, outreach and ministry in response to human need.

Innovation: Oakwood will break with precedent in the advancement of institutional mission by embracing new methods and introducing major changes.

Collaboration: Oakwood commits to integrated planning, internal and external partnering, and collegial action designed to build community and advance our mission.



OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES SPRING 2018

EVENT	DAY/TIME	LOCATION	SPEAKER
Education Teacher Dedication Ceremony	Thursday, May 10 10:00 a.m.	Moseley Complex, C.T. Richards Chapel	Barbara Eleanor Davis
Tree Planting/Senior Class	Thursday, May 10 1:30 p.m.	Unity Pond	
Nursing Pinning Ceremony	Thursday, May 10 3:00 p.m.	Moseley Complex, C.T. Richards Chapel	Tolsin Ola
Nutrition and Dietetics Pinning Ceremony	Thursday, May 10 5:00 p.m.	BCBLC-Powell Auditorium	Donna Smith
LEAP Senior Ceremony	Thursday, May 10 6:00 p.m.	C-100 Auditorium	Chris Jordan
Religion Dedication Service	Thursday, May 10 7:00 p.m.	Moseley Complex, C.T. Richards Chapel	William Winston
Social Work Pinning Ceremony	Friday, May 11 11:00 a.m.	Moseley Complex, C.T. Richards Chapel	Melissa Henley
Senior Reception	Friday, May 11 12:30 p.m.	Garland J. Millet Activity Center	
Consecration	Friday, May 11 8:00 p.m.	Oakwood University Church	Kimberly Mann
Sabbath School	Saturday, May 12 9:15 a.m.	Von Braun Center Propst Arena	
Baccalaureate	Saturday, May 12 10:45 a.m.	Von Braun Center Propst Arena	Daniel Honoré
Aeolians Mini-Concert	Saturday, May 12 7:00 p.m.	Von Braun Center Propst Arena	
Vespers	Saturday, May 12 7:30 p.m.	Von Braun Center Propst Arena	Dedrick Blue
Commencement	Saturday, May 12 8:00 p.m.	Von Braun Center Propst Arena	Darryl M. Bell

COLWICK M. WILSON, PH.D.
GRAND MARSHAL

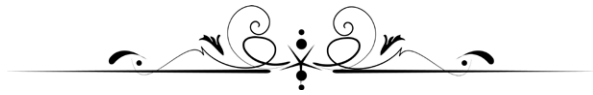
EURYDICE OSTERMAN, D.M.A.
ORGANIST

JASON MAX FERDINAND, D.M.A.
CHORAL DIRECTOR

WAYNE BUCKNOR, D.M.A.
ACCOMPANIST



GOD FIRST!



CLASS OF 2018

AIM

“In our hands we hold today, in our dreams we hold tomorrow,
in our faith we hold forever.”

MOTTO

“Cherishing the past, working in the present, and preparing for the future.”

SCRIPTURE

“And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not
leave you nor forsake you, do not fear nor be dismayed.”

~ Deuteronomy 31:8, NKJV ~

COLORS

Royal Blue and Silver

OFFICERS

President:	Giobensky Vildor
Vice President:	Brianna Hairston
Treasurer:	Toni-Kae Watson-Grant
Secretary:	Carlette McKenzie
Chaplain:	Najma Calhoun
Social Coordinator:	Bellinda Adras
Public Relations Coordinator:	Julian Palmer, III
Sergeant-at-Arms:	Jelani Holliday
Parliamentarian:	DaNia Henry

SPONSORS

Stanton Dulan, MD
Camille Kibler, M.Ed.





MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

LESLIE N. POLLARD, PH.D., D.MIN., M.B.A.

To the Graduates of 2018,

Congratulations on this latest accomplishment in your path of service. Tonight, from the Rocket City of Huntsville, you are lifting off into the next stage of your journey toward service. I can assure you that it will not always be easy, but God will pilot you through every challenge, just like He has done during your Oakwood years.

I recall one speech by Earl Bakken, a businessman speaking at the University of Hawaii 2004 Commencement Services, who shared the following observation about flying:

“By all reckoning, the bumblebee is aerodynamically unsound and shouldn’t be able to fly. Yet, the little bee gets those wings going like a turbo-jet and flies to every plant its chubby little body can land on to collect all the nectar it can hold. Bumblebees are the most persistent creatures. They don’t know they can’t fly, so they just keep buzzing around. Like the lowly bumblebee, honored graduates, never give in to pessimism. Don’t know that you can’t fly, and you will soar like an eagle.”

You have flown, by God’s grace, when you did not believe yourself capable of flight. When you wanted to give up, walk out, fold over, or run away--the King caused you to fly! You flew through unexpected financial blessings, perennially gracious professors, and supportive parents. You flew when your diagnosis said you must leave Oakwood, or when the unexpected death of a relative caused you to experience the turbulence of grief. But today, the successful completion of your journey to graduation validates the fact that your heavenly Pilot mapped out your flight plan. Tonight, is simply one more stop on your educational journey that began here and will take you into eternity.

I am very pleased to congratulate you on this the biggest day of your academic career. Your hard work has been rewarded and Oakwood University is proud of your persistence, tenacity, and focus. As we bid you adieu, know that the experience and education that you have earned at Oakwood will fit you for life’s great opportunities. With each passing year, your “Oakwood experience” will grow more and more meaningful. You entered to learn, and tonight, you depart to serve!

We leave you with the inspirational words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow:

“The heights by great men [and women] reached and kept were not attained by sudden flight, but they, while their companions slept, were toiling upward in the night.”

Congratulations, Oakwoodites of 2018. Each of you has made your God, your family, your friends, and your Alma Mater proud. Fly on!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Leslie N. Pollard".

Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.
President



MESSAGE FROM THE PROVOST AND SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT COLWICK M. WILSON, PH.D.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2018!

Your successful matriculation at Oakwood University is indicative of your commitment to excellence and hard work. As a graduate of Oakwood University, you will depart to serve with the assurance that the Lord who led you to this sacred place will continue to guide in your future endeavors. So, face each challenge with the assurance that your “God will never leave you nor forsake you” as you navigate life in the 21st century.

Education at Oakwood University is not merely defined by the completion of a set of requirements for a degree, but is exemplified by a lifelong commitment to distinction, service and continuous improvement of the special gifts that God has deposited in your life.

Your aim suggests that your current successes coupled with your dreams for tomorrow are resident in your faith in God. Strive often to reflect on the lessons learned during your years at Oakwood University as you pursue your goals and embrace life’s opportunities with confidence and humility. Remember, each recollection, every experience can be used by God to enrich your life as you continue your successful journey into the future. May the story of your life continue to inspire and motivate others to embrace challenges as opportunities and to turn difficulties into stepping stones.

Nelson Mandela reminds us that “It always seems impossible until it’s done.” Embrace life beyond the walls of Oakwood University knowing that with God ALL things are possible. As you continue your journey, may a sense of gratitude keep you committed to a life of service to God and humanity. Again, congratulations to you and your family for this significant accomplishment.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Colwick M. Wilson". The signature is written in a dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Colwick M. Wilson, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President



SCHOOL OF EDUCATION
TEACHER DEDICATION CEREMONY
BARBARA E. DAVIS, ED.D.

Dr. Barbara Eleanor Davis was born on the beautiful island of Jamaica and is the third of six children. She believes that all she has achieved in this life was only through her Mom's faithful prayers on her behalf, and extended favors from God.

Dr. Davis has been married to George Davis for 31 years as of August 2017. She is the mother of two sons Michael and Marlon, mother-in-law of Stacey, and a grandmother of two wonderful grandsons.

She earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Elementary Education with ESOL Endorsement, a Master of Science Degree in Pre-K Primary Education with Gifted Endorsement, and a Doctor of Education Degree with a specialization in Educational Leadership and Management.

Dr. Davis currently serves as the Superintendent of Education for the Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists and is happy to know that God has chosen her as a servant leader in "His Ministry."

Together with her husband, they have co-founded Hand of Hope Ministries International, Inc. She loves children and believes that they all have a place in this world, loves ministering to the poor and needy, and enjoys spending quality time with her family.

Her favorite Bible text is Lamentations 3:22-23, which reminds her daily that it is because of God's mercies that she is not consumed, because His compassion faileth not and His mercies are new every morning. She loves the Lord and wants to be called worthy by Him when He comes to receive us.

She encourages all of us to look forward to that day, because Jesus is coming soon!

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT TEACHER DEDICATION CEREMONY

MOSELEY COMPLEX, C.T. RICHARDS CHAPEL | THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 | 10:00 A.M.

Processional.....	<i>“Prelude”</i>	John Stanley
Invocation.....		Colwick Wilson, Ph.D. Provost and Senior Vice President
Welcome and Remarks.....		Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University
Occasion.....		James Mbyirukira, Ph.D. Dean, School of Education and Social Sciences
Selection.....		Jesse Laurent English Language Arts Education, Class of 2018
Awards.....		Deril Wood, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Education Donaldson Williams, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Education Dana Wilchcombe, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Education

Valedictorian and Salutatorian of the Class of 2018
Education Department Service Award
Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society

Introduction of Speaker.....		James Mbyirukira, Ph.D. Dean, School of Education and Social Sciences
Homily.....		Barbara Eleanor Davis, Ed.D. Education Superintendent, Southeastern Conference of Seventh-day Adventists
Presentation of the Class of 2018.....		Jeannette R. Dulan, Ph.D. Professor, Education
Presentation of Medallions.....		Olivia Beverly, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Education Marilyn Schenck, M.S.Ed. Assistant Professor, Education
Charge.....		Sharon Lewis, MAT Education Superintendent, South Central Conference (retired)
Class Response.....		Caryn LaiHing Rhodes Religious Education, Class of 2018
Passing the Torch.....		Ashley George President, Education Club, Senior Elementary Education Major
Closing Prayer.....		David Richardson, Ed.D. Vice President, Mission, Enrollment Services, and Retention
Recessional.....	<i>“Grand Processional”</i>	Dale Wood



NURSING PINNING CEREMONY SPEAKER TOSIN OLA, B.S.N., R.N.

Tosin Ola, BSN, RN, knows firsthand the challenges of living with sickle cell disease. She has worked as a registered nurse for over 16 years, squashing the myth that those with sickle cell cannot physically thrive in a professional setting. In addition to numerous awards for her advocacy work in the sickle cell community, Tosin has been a source for print and online publications, and was featured by the National Lung, Heart, Blood Institute in Today's Faces of Sickle Cell Disease.

With an Associate's Degree in Nursing from Oakwood University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Nursing from the University of Phoenix, Tosin is working on her Master's Degree in Nursing and Business Administration with an emphasis in Healthcare Management.

Tosin coined the description "sickle cell warrior" in a blog post that resonated with millions, rejecting the word "sickler" and its negative associations. The term spread into all echelons of the sickle cell community. Her words shifted the dynamics of the provider-patient relationship, restoring dignity and respect in situations where one is often most vulnerable.

In 2007, she created the Sickle Cell Warriors website to broaden the discussion and give the community a much-needed voice. The site is designed to raise awareness of this complex chronic medical condition, address the serious complications of the disease, provide expert advice and research news, promote local events and much more. The portal also features "Warriors in the Spotlight," people living with sickle cell disease who share their personal experiences and are a source of inspiration for others.

Tosin strives to create a community where people can feel comfortable asking, and getting answers to, their most pertinent and personal questions related to sickle cell disease. She is dedicated to presenting positive and uplifting messages about sickle cell to the society, as well as empowering sickle cell patients to take control of their disease and think differently about life with sickle cell. She believes that sickle cell does not define you, and that one can have a beautiful and fulfilling life regardless of sickle cell.

She is currently in high demand as an accomplished speaker, inspiring teacher, experienced advocate, and passionate community activist for sickle cell disease. Tosin serves as an authoritative speaker, and reliable source to both media and book authors. She lives in Encinitas, California, with her toddler twins and husband.

NURSING PINNING CEREMONY

MOSELEY COMPLEX, C.T. RICHARDS CHAPEL | THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 | 3:00 P.M.

Processional.....	<i>“Voluntary in C”</i>	Henry Purcell
Invocation.....	.....	Joanna Barker Class of 2018
Scripture.....	.....	Maryse Hilaire and Avery Seymour Class of 2018
Welcome.....	.....	Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University Arlene L. Johnson, Ph.D., MSN, RN Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions
Opening of Ceremony.....	.....	Karen Anderson, Ph.D., RN, C.N.E. Chair, Nursing
Music.....	<i>“How Great Is Our God”</i>	Graduating Class Class of 2018
Introduction of Speaker.....	.....	Priscilla Morris, MSN, RN Assistant Professor, Nursing
Pinning Address.....	.....	Tosin Ola, BSN, RN Founder and President, Sickle Cell Warriors, Inc.
Response.....	.....	Rosalie Sealey Class of 2018
Pinning Service.....	.....	Nursing Department Faculty The Gideons International
Nightingale Pledge.....	.....	Udell Darville, MSN, RN Nursing Advisory Council, President
Consecration Prayer.....	.....	Marlene King-Turner, M.Div., MS Associate Chaplain, Spiritual Life and Missions
Consecration Hymn.....	.....	Graduating Class
Claudia Mooney Award.....	.....	Deora Johnson, D.N.P., MSN, RN Associate Professor, Nursing
Nursing Awards.....	.....	Derrica Moore, M.B.A.-H.C.M., MSN, RN Assistant Professor, Nursing Jillian Wills, MSN, RN Associate Professor, Nursing
Nursing Charge.....	.....	Eunice Muriu, MSN, RN Assistant Professor, Nursing
Benediction.....	.....	Christine Haye Class of 2018
Recessional.....	<i>“The Battle Hymn”</i>	Traditional



NUTRITION AND DIETETICS
PINNING CEREMONY SPEAKER
DONNA A. SMITH, M.P.H., RDN

Donna A. Smith is president of Health Opera, LLC, a total wellness company. She gave sound advice on several national radio and television programs as well as addressed health issues for Channel 19 News located in Huntsville, Alabama, where she currently resides. In addition to sharing information via the media, Donna has authored several books and training manuals on topics ranging from health, healthy ways to lead others, seeking excellence, conflict resolution and effective communication.

With a Master's degree in Public Health from Loma Linda University, foodservice management training at Marriott Hotel Industry, and foodservice administration experience, she was ready to join Oakwood University to teach and direct the Dietetics Program. As recognition of her teaching gifts, Ms. Smith received the Excellence in Teaching Award.

Her many years directing the Dietetics Program at Oakwood and foodservice management experience has equipped her to possess skills to successfully motivate and empower others. Managing foodservice is hard work and to be good, you must know how to lead people, communicate well, be resilient and very organized. Donna has worked as a consultant for Alabama Peanut Convention, Corps of Engineers, The Cancer Project, Sodexo, University of Alabama and several other private and nonprofit industries. Commitment to service and helping employees achieve better health, effective communication, more resilience and successful ways to lead others to better performance, is Ms. Smith's mission.

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS DIDACTIC PROGRAM IN DIETETICS PINNING CEREMONY

BRADFORD-CLEVELAND-BROOKS LEADERSHIP CENTER - POWELL AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 | 5:00 P.M.

Invocation.....**Holly Forbes**
President, Student Nutrition Awareness Club (SNAC), Class of 2018

Welcome & Remarks.....**Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**
President, Oakwood University
Joycelyn Peterson, Dr.P.H.
Chair, Nutrition and Dietetics

Introduction to Slide Show.....**Stacey Samuel**
Class of 2018

Class of 2018 Reflection.....**Graduates**

Keynote Speaker**Donna Smith, M.P.H., RDN**
President, Health Opera, LLC

Pinning Ceremony

Family Appreciation and Remarks.....**Lisa Dalrymple, Ph.D.**
Assistant Professor, Nutrition and Dietetics

Pinning.....**Teymi Herring, M.P.H., RDN, CDE**
Director, Didactic Program in Dietetics

Charge.....**Holly Forbes**
President, SNAC, Class of 2018

Prayer of Consecration.....**Arlene Johnson, Ph.D., R.N.**
Dean, School of Nursing and Health Professions

Closing Prayer.....**Ashli Gordon**
Alumnus, Class of 2017



LEADERSHIP EDUCATION FOR ADULT PROFESSIONALS
(LEAP) SENIOR CEREMONY SPEAKER
CHRIS JORDAN

Chris Jordan grew up in the Watts area of Los Angeles, California, during the 1960s and '70s, when evidence of civil unrest was inescapable. It was the relentless topic of family dinner conversations and his daily walk to school which was lined with the burned-out lots that remain part of the scenery today.

Fifty years later, his life work remains in Watts. For the past 18 years, Chris Jordan has served as the Chief Operations Officer/Executive Director of the Grant Housing & Economic Development Corp of Los Angeles, California. He is responsible for day-to-day operational management, development, and implementation for Grant Housing, including fund management and capital generation, program and project management, grant and proposal writing, management of all staff including consultants and independent contractors, and the preparation and presentation of quarterly and annual reports.

Having initiated a coalition to address greening and infrastructure projects in the Watts community, in 2018, he secured a \$35M grant from the State of California which was the largest single allocation in its history. He continues to manage an expanding \$40M+ portfolio of real estate and social service programs and projects, including both commercial and affordable housing stock that includes a bank, restaurant, dance/exercise studio, and 50 multi-family units of affordable housing. Mr. Jordan is a member of numerous professional and community affiliations, including Chairman of Watts Economic Development Advisory Committee and Watts Renaissance Planning Committee, and President and Board Chairman of Community Empowerment Services, Inc.

In addition to his busy professional life, Mr. Jordan serves as an Elder, Minister of Music and Finance Chair of the Philadelphian Seventh-day Adventist Church in Long Beach, California. He is also the Director of Voices for Christ Choir, and the Donald K Scott Men's Choir. Chris Jordan and his wife, Corlisa, are the proud parents of two teenage sons, Chris, Jr., and Cameron. Chris Jordan is a LEAP graduate of Oakwood University.

LEADERSHIP EDUCATION FOR ADULT PROFESSIONALS (LEAP) SENIOR CEREMONY

MCKEE BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY COMPLEX, COMMITTEE OF 100 AUDITORIUM

THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 | 6:00 P.M.

Opening Prayer.....**Gloria Bell, Ph.D.**
Academic Advisor, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP

Welcome.....**Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**
President, Oakwood University
Colwick Wilson, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President
Ellengold Goodridge, M.A.Ed. AET
Director, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP

Special Music.....**Lyndon Carriger**
Christian Recording Artist

Presentation of Medals.....**Ellengold Goodridge, M.A.Ed. AET**
Director, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP

Church Leadership
Dedrick Blue, D.Min.
Dean and Chair, School of Religion

General Psychology
Martin Hodnett, Psy.D.
Chair, Psychological Sciences

Information Technology
Lisa James, Ph.D.
Chair, Math/Computer Science

Organizational Management/General Studies
Hyacinth Burton, Ph.D.
Dean and Chair, School of Business

Introduction of Speaker.....**Alicia Juzang**
Computer Statistical Analyst, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP

Charge.....**Chris Jordan**
Chief Operations Officer/Executive Director of Grant Housing and
Economic Development Corporation, Los Angeles, CA
Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP Alumnus

Alumni Presentation.....**Cheri Wilson, M.A.**
Executive Director, Advancement and Development
Richard Hodnett, M.B.A.
Alumni Relations Director

Special Presentations.....**Lakeisha Johnson Knotts, MURP**
Program Manager, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP

Closing Prayer.....**Deborah Claborn, M.A.**
Admissions Coordinator, Adult & Continuing Education/LEAP



SCHOOL OF RELIGION DEDICATION SERVICE SPEAKER **WILLIAM WINSTON, M.DIV.**

Elder William L. Winston is a native of Durham, North Carolina, and earned his bachelor's degree from Oakwood University (then College) with majors in Theology and Business Administration. He also earned a Master of Divinity degree from the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary at Andrews University, in Berrien Springs, Michigan.

Elder Winston joined the South Atlantic Conference on July 1, 1984 and has served as pastor to congregations in all three states within the territory: North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia.

In May of 2006, he was elected to serve as the Executive Secretary of the South Atlantic Conference. On September 11, 2011, the conference constituency voted for him to become South Atlantic's eighth President. He was re-elected as the President at its 25th Constituency Session on September 11, 2016.

Elder Winston is a pastor, an evangelist, and an administrator, sitting on all committees within the South Atlantic Conference. Additionally, he is on the boards of Adventist Health System, Breath of Life, Loma Linda University (Advisor), Oakwood University, Message Magazine, Pacific Press Publishing Association and Southern Adventist University.

Pastor Winston and his wife Eula, a health care professional, are blessed with two daughters, five grandchildren and one great-granddaughter. They celebrated 50 years of marriage on November 18, 2017.

SCHOOL OF RELIGION DEDICATION SERVICE

MOSELEY COMPLEX, C.T. RICHARDS CHAPEL | THURSDAY, MAY 10, 2018 | 7:00 P.M.

Processional.....	<i>“God of Our Fathers”</i>	George W. Warren
Invocation.....		Trevor Fraser, D. Min. Associate Professor, Religion
Welcome and Remarks.....		Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University
Occasion.....		Dedrick L. Blue, D. Min. Dean, School of Religion
Homily.....		Elder William L. Winston President, South Atlantic Conference
Music.....		Elijah Johnson Class of 2018
Class Response.....		Preston Willis Religion Forum President
Pinning of Graduates.....		Ifeoma Kwesi, D.Min. Associate Professor, Religion
Dedication Ceremony.....		School of Religion Faculty
Charge.....		Dedrick L. Blue, D. Min. Dean, School of Religion
Benediction.....		Agniel Samson, Th.D. Professor, Religion
Recessional.....	<i>“Onward Christian Soldiers”</i>	Arthur Sullivan



SOCIAL WORK PINNING CEREMONY SPEAKER
MELISSA HENLEY, MSW, LGSW

Melissa Henley is the Director of Field Education and an Assistant Professor in the Department of Social Work at Washington Adventist University. She has extensive experience working as a Foster Care Social Worker, a Therapist working with children and families, and as a Clinical Director of a program for grieving children.

She received the Social Work Educator of the year award by the D.C. Metro Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers and is a Council on Social Work Education Minority Fellow. Her research addresses the Impact of Fatherlessness on Black Women. She is a graduate of Oakwood College and the University of Alabama and is a current doctoral candidate of the Morgan State University School of Social Work.

Ms. Henley has served on various boards of directors whose emphasis was to enhance and empower the community. She co-founded the Henley-McFarlane Scholarship for Social Work students at Oakwood University. She chaired the International Awareness & Involvement Committee of the Federal City Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. She founded a non-profit organization for at-risk adolescent girls.

Perhaps one of her most proud accomplishments was being a Foster Parent for teenage mothers and their babies. She is committed to the emotional and physical empowerment of women and wishes she could paint her office pink.

SOCIAL WORK PINNING CEREMONY

MOSELEY COMPLEX, C.T. RICHARDS CHAPEL | FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 | 11:00 A.M.

Processional.....	<i>“Grand Chorus Dialogue”</i>	Eugene Gigout
Invocation.....	.....	Shalunda Sherrod, DSW, LICSW, PIP Assistant Professor, Social Work
Welcome.....	.....	Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University
Tribute to Parents.....	.....	Danica Antoine Class of 2018
Tribute to Field Instructors.....	.....	Jamie Parker Class of 2018
Scripture Reading.....	.....	Evonné Norman Student Representative, Social Work Advisory Board
Introduction of Speaker.....	.....	George Ashley, Ph.D. Professor, Social Work
Special Music.....	.....	Tiffany McCarthy Class of 2018
Speaker.....	.....	Melissa E. Henley, MSW, LGSW Director of Field Education, Social Work, Washington Adventist University
Pinning Ceremony.....	.....	Octavio Ramirez, Ph.D., LICSW, PIP Chair, Social Work
Social Work Charge.....	.....	Lorraine Frye, MSW Assistant Professor, Social Work
Acceptance of the Charge.....	.....	Meagan Catchings President, Eta Pi Chapter, Phi Alpha National Honor Society Class of 2018
Closing Remarks.....	.....	James Mbyrukira, Ph.D. Dean, School of Education and Social Sciences
Prayer of Dedication.....	.....	David Richardson, Jr., Ed.D. Vice President, Mission, Enrollment Services, and Retention
Recessional.....	<i>“Chorale”</i>	Johannes Braham



PRESIDENTIAL RECEPTION FOR THE 2018 OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY GRADUATES

GARLAND J. MILLET ACTIVITY CENTER | FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 | 12:30 P.M. – 2:30 P.M.

Master of Ceremony.....	David Richardson, Ed.D. Vice President, Mission, Enrollment Services, and Retention
Opening Prayer.....	Andrew Taylor President, United Student Movement (USM), Class of 2018
Welcome/The Occasion.....	Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University Prudence L. Pollard, Ph.D., M.P.H., SPHR Vice President, Research and Faculty Development
Special Music.....	Aeolians (Graduating Seniors)
My Oakwood Story.....	Video Presentation
Graduates Remembered.....	Giobensky Vildor Senior Class President
Blessing of the Meal.....	Colwick M. Wilson, Ph.D. Provost and Senior Vice President

DINNER IS SERVED TRIBUTES

Graduate's Pledge.....	David Knight, M.A. Vice President for Student Services
Graduate Gifts.....	Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University Prudence L. Pollard, Ph.D., M.P.H., SPHR Vice President, Research and Faculty Development
Circle of Commitment.....	Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University Prudence L. Pollard, Ph.D., M.P.H., SPHR Vice President, Research and Faculty Development
Closing Prayer.....	Andrew Pileggi, M.Div. Senior Chaplain, Spiritual Life and Missions



CONSECRATION SPEAKER

KIMBERLY MANN, M.A.

Chaplain Kimberly Mann was groomed for public speaking by her mother, preached her first sermon at age 9, and began being published at 10 years old. She received a Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education from Oakwood University in 2005.

Kimberly is a dynamic preacher and facilitator, training thousands in community advocacy and leadership. Her expertise includes children's ministries, women's events, youth conferences, and marriage/relationship seminars. Her authentic style of reaching others for Christ has carried her ministry to congregations across the U.S., Caribbean, Africa and Australia.

In 2006, Chaplain Mann began working as an intern with the world-renowned Children's Defense Fund (CDF), where she quickly excelled, and was hired as a specialized consultant for the organization. In 2014 she was honored by the CDF, alongside Hilary Clinton, as one of 40 exceptional young leaders from across the nation.

God providentially called her to full-time ministry in 2012, and she graduated with a Master's Degree in Youth & Young Adult Ministry from the Seventh-day Adventist Seminary at Andrews University. In addition to preaching, teaching and writing, she is a panelist and co-host on the Pure Choices television program on 3ABN's Dare 2 Dream Network.

Currently, Kimberly provides spiritual counseling and care to the campus body of Oakwood University, where she currently serves as Associate Chaplain. She has organized and led students on over 15 national service trips. Her portfolio of work includes providing churches and organizations with creative, innovative ways to meet needs, heal hearts, and spread the gospel. Kimberly is a published poet, author, and playwright, having written six Christian stage productions for events across the country.

In 2017, Kimberly was the youngest alumna to receive the Alumna of the Year award for Community Service by the Pine Forge Academy Alumni Association. Most recently, Chaplain Mann was Commissioned as a Minister in the summer of 2017. She also holds Chaplaincy Endorsement Credentials by the North American Division.

Kimberly and her supportive husband Robert Mann, Jr., are the proud parents of Robert De'von, 13, Carter Sa'mone, 2, and the newest addition Judah Maël. 1. Her greatest joy is embracing the unique calling of being a wife, mommy, and minister.

CONSECRATION

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY CHURCH | FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2018 | 8:00 P.M.

Processional.....	<i>“Festal March”</i>	Jeremiah Clarke
Invocation.....		Andrew Young, Ph.D. Assistant Professor, Health and Exercise Science
Welcome.....		Andrew Taylor USM President, Class of 2018
Hymn #545.....	<i>Great is Thy Faithfulness</i>	Iris Fordjour-Hankins, M.M. Assistant Professor, Music
“My Oakwood Story”.....		Video Presentation
Introduction of Speaker.....		Jelani Holliday Sergeant-at-Arms, Class of 2018
Music.....		Senior Class Choir
“My Oakwood Story”.....		Video Presentation
Address.....		Kimberly Mann, M.A. Associate Chaplain, Spiritual Life and Missions
Response.....		Brianna Hairston Vice President, Class of 2018
Prayer of Consecration.....		Andrew Pileggi, M.Div. Senior Chaplain, Spiritual Life and Missions
Benediction.....		Carlette McKenzie Secretary, Class of 2018
Recessional.....	<i>“Marche Pontificale”</i>	Fernand de la Tombelle

SABBATH SCHOOL

VON BRAUN CENTER PROPST ARENA | SABBATH, MAY 12, 2018 | 9:15 A.M.

Superintendents.....	Kay-On Stephenson and Stanton Dulan, M.D. Class of 2018 and Senior Class Sponsor
Hymn #249.....	<i>Praise Him! Praise Him!</i> Karsten Rogers Class of 2018
Opening Prayer.....	Ralph Featherstone MAPS, Class of 2018
Scripture.....	<i>Daniel 7:24-26, NIV</i> Cintera Stuart Class of 2018
Welcome.....	Karl Moise Adult and Continuing Education/LEAP, Class of 2018
Music.....	Musical Ensemble: T. James Jackson, Jesse Laurent, Gregory Darville, Kirlann Dancler Ebony Marks, Damaris Morris, Marriah Monette Class of 2018
Remarks.....	Giobensky Vildor and Andrew Pileggi, M.Div. President, Class 2018 and Senior Chaplain, Spiritual Life and Missions
Mission Emphasis.....	Kemi Helen Adesoba Class of 2018
Lesson Study.....	<i>“The Change of the Law”</i> Timothy Lee MAPS, Class 2018 Robert Mann Adult and Continuing Education/LEAP, Class of 2018
Offering.....	Gregory Hines MAPS, Class of 2018
Testimonial.....	U’Rainnah L. Broussard Adult and Continuing Education/LEAP, Class of 2018
Closing Remarks.....	Kay-On Stephenson and Stanton Dulan, M.D. Class of 2018 and Senior Class Sponsor
Hymn #462.....	<i>Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine!</i> Karsten Rogers Class of 2018
Closing Prayer.....	Merridia Henry Adult and Continuing Education/LEAP, Class 2018



BACCALAUREATE SPEAKER
DANIEL HONORÉ, J.D.

Daniel Honoré was born into a Seventh-day Adventist home in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic, to a Haitian father who was a pastor, and a Dominican mother who was an elementary school teacher. His parents' mission service included placements in the Dominican Republic, Quebec, Martinique, Boston, New York and Miami. This multi-cultural experience resulted in the children becoming fluent in English, French, Spanish and Haitian Creole.

Pastor Honoré obtained a Bachelor of Arts in Theology from Columbia Union College and a Bachelor of Arts in History from Southern Adventist University. He then earned a Juris Doctor degree from Ohio Northern University, Pettit College of Law. He is currently pursuing Ph.D. in Business Administration from Montemorelos University.

Pastor Honoré began ministry in the Boston area where he pastored the Brockton Temple and Ben-Emmanuel congregations. He is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and operated a law practice in Boston specializing in immigration law for over a decade. He accepted a call in 2004 to serve in the Stewardship and Trust Services Departments of the Northeastern Conference. In 2012 he was elected to serve as president of the Northeastern Conference, with a membership that now surpasses 58,000. As such, he proudly serves on the Oakwood University Board of Trustees.

This year Pastor Honoré celebrates 30 years of marriage to the former Fritze Lherisson, RN-MSN. They are the proud parents of three sons, Gamaliel, Gabriel and Nathanael, and one daughter Danielle, who will be following her brothers' footsteps by matriculating as a freshman in fall 2018 at Oakwood University.

BACCALAUREATE

VON BRAUN CENTER PROPST ARENA | SABBATH, MAY 12, 2018 | 10:45 A.M.

Processional.....	<i>“The War March of the Priests”</i>	Felix Mendelssohn
Invocation.....		Jesse Wilson, Ph.D. Associate Professor, Religion
Hymn #341.....	<i>To God Be The Glory</i>	Andrew Marshall, D.M.A. Associate Professor, Music
Welcome.....		Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A. President, Oakwood University Edmund Julius, M.Div. Associate Pastor, Oakwood University Church Bellinda Adras Social Coordinator, Class of 2018
Music.....		Aeolians
“My Oakwood Story”.....		Video Presentation
Offertory.....		Toni-Kae Watson-Grant Treasurer, Class of 2018
“My Oakwood Story”.....		Video Presentation
Scripture.....	<i>Deuteronomy 31:8, NKJV</i>	Joel I. Bullard, II Class of 2018 Wilfredo Montalvo (Spanish) Class of 2018 Celine Cozema (French) Class of 2018 Darlyze Calixte (Creole) Class of 2018 Kristen Johnny (Sign Language) Class of 2018
Music.....		Aeolians
Introduction of Speaker.....		Julian Palmer, III Public Relations Coordinator, Class of 2018
Music.....		Aeolians
Sermon		Daniel Honoré, J.D. President, Northeastern Conference
Benediction.....		Karen Anderson, Ph.D. Chair, Nursing
Recessional.....	<i>“Rigaudon”</i>	Andre Campra

~ “The Golden Class” of 1968 (50 year class) will serve as Honor Guards for the Baccalaureate Service ~



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

DARRYL M. BELL

An accomplished producer and actor with a powerful business background, Darryl M. Bell possesses a career-long reputation for bringing innovation and positivity to the forefront of the entertainment industry. After a chance encounter with prominent producer Spike Lee, Bell applied his innate savvy business strategy to negotiate with Lee in landing an audition – propelling him into the world of acting and producing.

Following his breakthrough role in the 1988 Spike Lee film *School Daze*, Bell gained further notoriety as Ron Johnson in the television show, *A Different World*. Over six seasons, Bell and his fellow stand-out castmates depicted life as college students at a fictitious Historically Black College, applying comedy as a means to educate audiences on society's controversial current events. From discrimination to AIDS, apartheid and war, *A Different World* made an award-winning impact on television that broke boundaries and pushed the envelope – setting a new standard for television as we know it. With this experience, Bell discovered a niche for breaking down barriers and telling impactful stories across all audiences – both behind and in front of the camera lens.

Following several more on-screen roles on programs that included *Living Single* and *Homeboys in Outer Space*, Bell set his sights to effecting change in the industry from behind the camera. With unparalleled persistence and an ability to transform adversity into opportunity, Bell quickly became sought out by multiple industry heavyweights, including Comedy Central, Netflix, and YouTube, for his extensive digital media knowledge, remarkable vision, and the ability to tell a story. Most recently, Bell partnered with Comedy Central in serving as Executive Producer on the highest-rating stand-up comedy show in 2013, *Bill Cosby: Far from Finished*.

Currently, Bell has found additional success implementing his true entrepreneurial spirit and business development background in running an independent production company and is regularly invited to speak at universities across the country. True to his passions, Bell remains focused on engaging in projects that tell awe-inspiring stories with complexity while remaining connected to what he believes in – making a positive impact in the entertainment industry. Bell's company is involved in multiple productions at this time, including feature films and documentaries.

Born in Chicago and raised in New Jersey by the founder of the first Black Member firm of the New York Stock Exchange, pillars of Bell's upbringing included strategy, negotiation, and strong financial knowledge. After graduating from high school as one of only four African American students in his class, Bell attended Syracuse University, where he was awarded the chancellor's citation for prominent Alumni in 1986 and was a proud member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, Inc. He now remains one of the fraternity's most distinguished Alphas.

When not behind the lens or with his family, Bell can be found on the golf course perfecting his swing. A member of the First Tee program in Pasadena, Bell also volunteers his time to teach young adults the art of the game.

COMMENCEMENT

VON BRAUN CENTER PROPST ARENA | SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018 | 8:00 P.M.

Processional.....“Pomp and Circumstance”.....**Edward Elgar**

School Song.....*Alma Mater*.....**Julie Moore Foster, D.M.A.**
Associate Professor, Music

Invocation.....**Najma Calhoun**
Chaplain, Class of 2018
Miss UNCF 2017-2018

“My Oakwood Story”.....**Video Presentation**

Awards and Recognitions.....**Administration**

Introduction of Speaker.....**Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**
President, Oakwood University

Music.....**Aeolians**

Address..... **Darryl Bell**
Producer and Actor

“My Oakwood Story”.....**Video Presentation**

Music.....**Aeolians**

Response**Giobensky Vildor**
President, Class of 2018

Presentation of Candidates.....**Colwick M. Wilson, Ph.D.**
Provost and Senior Vice President

Conferring of the Degrees.....**Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D. Min., M.B.A.**
President, Oakwood University

John Anderson, Ph.D.
Associate Provost for Graduate
Education and E-Learning

Karen Benn Marshall, Ed.D.
Assistant Provost for
Undergraduate Education

Tracy Moore, B.S.
Registrar

Desiree Gunn-Price, M.S.
Assistant Registrar

Dedrick L. Blue, D.Min.
Dean, School of Religion

Kenneth LaiHing, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Arts
and Sciences

James Mbyirukira, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Education and
Social Sciences

Hyacinth Burton, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Business

Arlene Johnson, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Nursing
and Health Professions

Induction of Alumni..... **Cheri Wilson, M.A.**
Executive Director of Advancement and Development
Richard Hodnett, M.B.A.
Alumni Relations Director

Charge.....**Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**
President , Oakwood University

Benediction.....**Isaac Ibarra, M.A.**
Special Assistant to the President for Diversity and Inclusion

**

Recessional.....“Trumpet Voluntary”.....**Henry Purcell**

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

Master of Arts

Ralph A. Featherstone
Gregory Hines
Timothy Travis Lee
Debelle Michel
Vidal Tarqui-Chura

Pastoral Studies: Church Development
Pastoral Studies: Church Development ☆ USA
Pastoral Studies: Church Development
Pastoral Studies: Church Development
Pastoral Studies: Church Development

Bachelor of Arts

Matthew Brian Adderley
Khaleel A. Clarke
Celine Cozema
Shannon Lamar Crawford
Terrell O.K. Holder
Ja'chin Holness
Elijah Rashad Johnson
Jacques E. Laguerre
Alexis L. Langston
Aaron J. Layne
Ron Joel Yvon Marshall
Dejon Anthony Masters-Seaman
Julius C. Mercer
Wilfredo A. Montalvo
Jermaine Luke Nelson
Karsten M. Rogers
David M. Shaw
Kay-On K. Stephenson

Ministerial Theology, Honorable Mention
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology, Cum Laude Φ ☆ USA
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology, Cum Laude ☆ USA
Pastoral Care & Pre-Chaplaincy
Ministerial Theology, Honorable Mention
Pastoral Care & Pre-Chaplaincy (Fall 2017)
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology
Ministerial Theology, Cum Laude
Ministerial Theology, Summa Cum Laude Φ
Pastoral Care & Pre-Chaplaincy, Honorable Mention
Ministerial Theology, Honorable Mention

Bachelor of Science

Chris Robert Jordan, Sr.
Karl Lemien Moise
Darrell Palmes
Natalie Danielle Roerts

Church Leadership, Cum Laude *
Church Leadership *
Church Leadership, Honorable Mention *
Church Leadership *

Certificate

Lucious Brown

Church Leadership

SCHOOL OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Associates of Science

BreSean Nicole Davidson
Nakeil Reid

Art: Photography
Art: Commercial Art, Honorable Mention

Bachelor of Arts

Caleb Josiah Smith Atkins

Richanté A. Basden

P'Janay Belle

Esther Firhony Benjamin

Nandi Brooks

Faithful Victoria Byrd

Maxwell A. Caines

Bresean Nicole Davidson

Marcus Christopher Desir

Isaac Dixon

Brittany N. Farrington-Beasley

Sandrene Jolie Foster

Jasmine Rachelle Guerrier

Kalae D. Harden

Davis Christian Haywood

Nkenge Jones

Briana Leandra Knight

Chayanne Jiliann Lawson

Rebecca Ritha Leonard

Melissa Angelica Mathews

Heaven Alleha Mitchell

Alexis Camille Moore

Damaris Keturah Morris

Arielle Rush

Jajuan Jamal Sanders

Geordi Thomas

Raven Kele Simone Threatt

Gabrielle E. Thurman

Rueben Valentine

Syndi Marcia Victor

Joshua Brandon Ways

Detron L. Whitfield

Spanish, Honorable Mention

Communication: Public Relations (Fall 2017)

Psychology

Music, Cum Laude Φ

Communication: Public Relations, Summa Cum Laude Φ (Fall 2017)

Spanish, Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism, Honorable Men

Mathematics

Communication Media: Print Journalism

Music, Cum Laude

Computer Networks, Cum Laude Φ

English

English

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism, Honorable Mention

Spanish

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism, Spanish

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism

Psychology, Magna Cum Laude Φ

English, Honorable Mention

Spanish

Music, Honorable Mention

Music, Honorable Mention

Psychology

Communication Media: Photo Journalism

English, Honorable Mention

Spanish, Cum Laude Φ

Mathematics

Communication Media: Broadcast Journalism, Honorable Mention Φ

English

Psychology (Fall 2017)

Bachelor of Music

Davita Antoinette Parris

Music: Vocal Performance & Pedagogy

Bachelor of Science

Dorita Adams

General Psychology *

Bellinda Hannah Adras

Biology

Benny Alexander

Biology, Cum Laude

Hilda Serwah Amfo

Biology

Samuel S. Bagley

Biology, Cum Laude †

Janelle Alicea Amy Boyce

Biology, Magna Cum Laude Φ

Ken D. Brandon II

Chemistry/ Chemical Engineering, Summa Cum Laude Φ

Ashleigh B. C. Brown

Biology, Honorable Mention

Jordan Nicole Brown	Biology
Decélia M. G. Browne	Biomedical Sciences, Magna Cum Laude Φ †
Joel I. Bullard II	Biology †
Alicia Elizabeth Campbell	Biology
Lorenza Harold Carey	Applied Mathematics, Cum Laude
Frida Caride	General Psychology, Cum Laude * (Fall 2017)
Leigha Marie Carryl	Biology, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Danielle A. Clarke	Biology, Cum Laude Φ †
Ghislain Cohen	Biochemistry, Cum Laude Φ
Kirlann Danclar	Psychology
Gregory Leroy Darville II	Biology, Summa Cum Laude Φ
JeLynn Marshan Douglas	Biology, Honorable Mention
Sharona Dee Drake	General Psychology *
Victoria Ellington-Perrier	Biology (Fall 2017)
Brian Alexander Euell	Biology, Cum Laude
Nolan Fleary	Biology
Felicia Antonette Garraway	Biology
Mersaydes Lachelle Goodson	Mathematics, Honorable Mention (Fall 2017)
Claudjia Diane Goulding	Applied Mathematics
Pamela Nicole Graham	Psychology
Esther Greeman	Biochemistry, Cum Laude
Ariane Greenidge	Biochemistry, Cum Laude (Fall 2017)
Joy Alysa Gullo	Biology, Summa Cum Laude
Brianna Nicole Hairston	Biology, Honorable Mention
Adrianna Elaine Sandra Hayden	Biochemistry, Cum Laude Φ
Keiwahna Maikaila Henry	Biology
Merridia Henry	General Psychology, Honorable Mention * (Fall 2017)
Jelani Atiba Kujichagulia Holliday	Biology, Honorable Mention Φ
Kheera Rochelle Joe	Psychology, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Kendrika Deshae Johnson	Biochemistry
Micah Janai Key	Biomedical Sciences, Honorable Mention
Aliya Lena Anthoni Langley	Biochemistry
Danielle Terese Little	Biochemistry, Honorable Mention Φ
LaRay Mills Lockhart	General Psychology *
Shantelle Aaliyah Lubin	Biomedical Sciences
Robert Lee Mann, Jr.	General Psychology * ☆ USMC
Javeia Elese McCoy	General Psychology, Cum Laude *
Kristen Donna Patrice McLean	Chemistry/ Chemical Engineering, Cum Laude
Christina Reneé Miles	Psychology, Cum Laude Φ
Quincy J. Monroe	Psychology, Cum Laude Φ
Steffany Tampiwa Mupfawa	Biology
Joshua Stanley Nwaoha	Biomedical Sciences, Cum Laude
Samuel Parkins	Biomedical Sciences, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Jourdan Michelé Randall	Psychology
Leroy Ritchie	General Psychology, Cum Laude *
Keith Leslie Rogers Jr.	Biology, Honorable Mention

Jessica Roman	General Psychology, Cum Laude * ☆ USN
Meleik L. Salmon	Applied Mathematics
James Arthur Sampson	Mathematics, Honorable Mention
Ashley Lynn Saunders	Biomedical Sciences, Summa Cum Laude Φ †
Sasha Alexis Savage	Biomedical Sciences, Honorable Mention
Jeffrey Simmons Jr.	Computer Science, Cum Laude Φ
Jocelyn Naomi Smith	Psychology, Honorable Mention
Jeharna Ria South	Psychology
Jacqueline Janette Starks	General Psychology *
Claire J. Stewart	Biochemistry, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Erwin Colwyn Dane Stuffle	Biomedical Sciences, Summa Cum Laude Φ
Hernandy Ulsaint	Biology †
Giobensky Vildor	Biochemistry
Anna White	Biomedical Sciences, Summa Cum Laude Φ †
Arianna Michelle Williams	Biology
Christal Lynette Williams	Biology
Terry G. Williams	Biology, Honorable Mention
Ashley Briana Wilson	Computer Science

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION & SOCIAL SCIENCES

Bachelor of Arts

Marvin Bernard	Political Science, Cum Laude Φ £
Maxanne J. Caines II	Political Science
Brionna Renée Crawford	Pre-Law: Political Science, Honorable Mention £
Claudine Reneé Delancy	Pre-Law Political Science
Anton Cordell Lavon Dormer	Pre-Law: Political Science, Magna Cum Laude £
Grant Gabriel	Political Science, Honorable Mention
DaNia Henry	Political Science, Summa Cum Laude Φ £
Dan-Obed Henry	Political Science, Honorable Mention Φ £
Taylor James Jackson	History
Nicholas William Kanion	International Studies, Honorable Mention
Clarissa A. Loial	Political Science, Honorable Mention
Kelson Mandela Newsome	Pre-Law: Political Science
Ashley Odumosu	Pre-Law: Political Science, Honorable Mention
Winston C. Patterson II	Pre-Law: Political Science (Summer 2017)
Jabari N. Smith	Political Science
Josiah Redmond Taylor	Political Science, Magna Cum Laude Φ £

Bachelor of Science

Ronnie Abrams	Health & Physical Education Teaching II (Fall 2017)
Sharon Elizabeth Dublin	Mathematics Education
Nyshima Kettura Felix	Elementary Education
Elvirah Zenobia Finley	Elementary Education II
Jada Janei Frazier	Elementary Education
Shaella Freeman	Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude II
Kristen Ashley Johny	Elementary Education, Cum Laude Φ II

Caryn Lai Hing
Deja Langston
Jesse Laurent
Brin`ja Ashante Milton
Deanja Myris Nelson
Matthew R. Ross
Cynthia Verna
Candice Archelle White

Religious Education, Summa Cum Laude (Fall 2017)
Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude II (Fall 2017)
English Language Arts Education, Honorable Mention II
Mathematics Education
Mathematics Education, Cum Laude
Biology Education, Honorable Mention II
Mathematics Education, Cum Laude Φ II
Elementary Education, Cum Laude Φ II

Bachelor of Social Work

Danica Adeline Antoine
Keilah Thelma Applewhite
Najma Tahira Calhoun
Meagan Nicole Unique Catchings
Alexis Dionne Cooper
Tiffany Rose McCarthy
Evonné Angélique Norman
Jamie Parker
Peetra Niché Scavella
Shayn St. Prix

Social Work
Social Work
Social Work, Honorable Mention A
Social Work, Cum Laude Φ A
Social Work, Magna Cum Laude Φ A
Social Work
Social Work, Magna Cu Laude Φ £ A
Social Work, Honorable Mention A
Social Work
Social Work (Fall 2017)

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Bachelor of Business Administration

Georges Mondel Ambroise
Chevance B. Bailey
Redmond Howard Bandy
Crystal Johanna Carr
Danea S. Crosse
Brina Nicole Davidson
Adrienne Michelle Dehaney
Rachel Charnele Marie Horton
Adam Johnson
Mustafa Johnson-Lynum
Ebony Giselle Marks
Rashad Mattison
Julian Samuel Palmer IV
Keith Nolan Roper
Kayla LeeAnn Snow
Earl William Watson

Business Admin: Health Care Administration, Cum Laude
Business Admin: Health Care Administration, Cum Laude Φ Δ
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Admin: Health Care Administration (Fall 2017)
Business Administration: Management
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Administration: Marketing, Honorable Mention
Business Admin: Health Care Administration
Business Administration: Management
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Administration: Marketing, Cum Laude Φ Δ
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Administration: Marketing, Honorable Mention
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Administration: Marketing
Business Administration: Management, Honorable Mention

Bachelor of Science

Jamilah Abdi
Oluwakemisola Helen Adesoba
Rilene Alsume
Apirl E. Arthur
Edison Banks, Jr.

Finance, Honorable Mention ☆ USA
Accounting, Summa Cum Laude Φ
General Studies
General Studies
General Studies *

Leslie V. Barnes	Finance, Honorable Mention
Paulina J. Benjamin	Organizational Management *
Micheal Russell Blount Jr.	General Studies
Eric Bogui	Accounting, Honorable Mention
Leroy M. Bosire	Management Information Systems
Keith D. Bowman Jr.	General Studies
Emmanuel M. Brand	General Studies
U'Rainnah Lynn Broussard	General Studies *
Roberto Burton	General Studies *
Sean Calliard	General Studies *
Samuel Peter Campbell II	General Studies *
Darchell Douglas Clark	General Studies *
Nantambu I. Clausell	Finance
Yolanda Maria Copeland	Organizational Management *
Keenan J. Dacosta-Grey	Management Information Systems
Giselle Drucilla Darius	General Studies
Denise R. Davis	General Studies
Michael Allen Denson	Organizational Management * ☆ USA (Fall 2017)
Charles Aaron Dill	General Studies
Sierra Deanyce Ford	Finance, Cum Laude Φ
Gréguy George Frais	Finance
Leona C. Freeman	Organizational Management, Magna Cum Laude *
Chadyne S. Gauntlett	General Studies, Honorable Mention
Victoria Ashley Getfield	General Studies
Toteyona M. Glaze	General Studies
Hazel Lofton Gregg	General Studies *
Elisha DeAnthony Gregory	Accounting, Cum Laude
Cole Malik Hill	Finance, Honorable Mention
Cory Jackson Jr.	General Studies
Tajah Nuri Jackson	General Studies
Daija M. Johnson	Accounting
Kareem D. Johnson	General Studies *
Karina Johnson	Organizational Management, Honorable Mention *
Dominique Nicolle Jones	General Studies (Fall 2017)
Hope K. Jones	General Studies (Fall 2017)
Aaron Javon Mace	General Studies * ☆ USA
Marcellus Major, III	Accounting, Cum Laude Φ
Ricardo Wynell McGinnis	Organizational Management *
Jonathan Alexander McKeever	General Studies (Fall 2017)
D'jevaunie Donovan McKen	General Studies
Carlette S. McKenzie	Accounting, Honorable Mention
David McNair	Organizational Management * (Fall 2017)
Jevanni Dimitri Milien	General Studies
Sharika Yvette Miller	Organizational Management * (Fall 2017)
Erin M. Mills	General Studies
Mashambo Geoffrey Mlemba	General Studies *

Alfred B. Moore	Organizational Management *
Anthony David Munford	General Studies, Honorable Mention * (Fall 2017)
Katia Danielle Casey Murphy	General Studies
Wondwossen B. Nicholson	Finance
Chidinma Miracle Nwadike	Accounting, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Oluwaseyi Ayoolu Oyefeso	General Studies
Desmond King Paramore	General Studies (Fall 2017)
Christian Maurice Parker	Management Information Systems
Leacadia Powell	Organizational Management *
Vanessa Michelle Powell	Organizational Management * (Fall 2017)
Jordan Pressley	General Studies
Clayton Alexander Rawlinson	General Studies
Michelle Robinson-Cain	Organizational Management *
Christina Rusan	General Studies
Carline Samuels	Organizational Management, Summa Cum Laude *
Daniel Antonio Scott	Management Information Systems, Summa Cum Laude Φ
Natasha Lyn Stevenson	Organizational Management *
Sian Sutherland-Nkosi	Organizational Management, Summa Cum Laude * Δ
Stephen Adam Sylvester	General Studies
Andrew Otis Taylor	Accounting, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Xzaviea Taylor	Management Information Systems
Aletha Germain Teague	General Studies, Honorable Mention *
Jeremy Ramon Thuesdee	Accounting (Fall 2017)
Cynthia L. Todd	General Studies (Summer 2017)
Obinna Ugboaja	General Studies
Corzetta Ann Underwood	Organizational Management *
Stephen Vernon	General Studies *
Natasha Walker-Jones	General Studies *
Tarsha Deshone Wallace-Brackin	General Studies, Cum Laude *
Toni-Kae Watson-Grant	Accounting, Honorable Mention
Shaneika Whyte	General Studies
Arthur Olaf Williams III	General Studies *
Jeynab Sybil Daphne Williams	General Studies
Ross A. Williams	Finance, Honorable Mention
Cortez Wilson	General Studies
Ronel Orlando Wilson	Finance, Summa Cum Laude Φ £
Brianna M. Wood	Management Information Systems

SCHOOL OF NURSING & HEALTH PROFESSIONS

Associates of Science

Nia Zhané Lester	Pre-Lang-Speech Pathology
Demaris Keturah Morris	Pre-Lang-Speech Pathology, Honorable Mention
Denae Diamond Russell	Pre-Lang-Speech Pathology, Honorable Mention
Whitney Elona White	Pre-Lang-Speech Pathology, Cum Laude

Bachelor of Science

Aaron Awai	Nursing, Honorable Mention ☆ USA
Joanna Ethel Jánay Barker	Nursing
Esther Rachael Marjorie Brooks	Pre-Physician Assistant, Honorable Mention
Vanitra Danelle Brown	Health Sciences
Adrielle Kayla Bryan	Health Sciences
David Byrne	Pre-Physical Therapy
Miriam Clement	Pre-Physical Therapy
Zhené M. Creque	Pre-Physical Therapy, Cum Laude
Jada Tamika Cuffy	Nursing, Honorable Mention
Brittney Davidson	Pre-Physical Therapy
Donnica Duncan	Health Sciences
Alexa Danielle Edwards	Nursing, Honorable Mention
Mercy Ugnoh Ejere	Health Sciences
Imani K. Finley	Health Sciences, Honorable Mention
Allyssa Jasmine Fleming	Nursing, Cum Laude
Holly Rejeanne Forbes	Dietetics, Summa Cum Laude Φ
Amelie Germain	Allied Health Science: Pre-Physician Assistant
Euline Germain	Health Sciences
Lindsay Goldthorpe	Dietetics, Summa Cum Laude
Rhondi E. Gordon	Clinical Laboratory Sciences, Honorable Mention
Paul-Marc Green	Health Sciences
Kalae Dalease Harden	Pre-Physical Therapy
Christine Celia Haye	Nursing
Maryse G. Hilaire	Nursing: RN Completion, Summa Cum Laude
Ehvann Dane Holland	Nursing
Jasmine C. Johnson	Health Sciences
Jonathan Joseph	Health Sciences
Marquia LaShawn Kelly	Health Sciences
Danielle Erica Kemp	Nursing
Darien LaBorde	Pre-Physical Therapy, Honorable Mention
Eudora Zorae Lawe	Nursing, Honorable Mention
Sherina Nicole Lee	Health Sciences
Nicole Marie Meikle	Health Sciences
Simeon Middleton	Fitness & Wellness
Jerome Anthony Miles	Fitness & Wellness
Marriah Gé Liz Monette	Human Development & Family Studies, Cum Laude Φ
Donnae Norford	Pre-Physical Therapy
Jodi N. Ositu	Allied Health Science: Pre-Physician Assistant, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Lexis Gabrielle Owens	Allied Health Science: Pre-Physician Assistant
Blake A. Phillpotts	Fitness & Wellness
Clairliz Pierre-Louis	Nursing, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Khadijah M. Pinder	Health Sciences
Leighann Rene Rice	Dietetics, Magna Cum Laude Φ
Alexander Rose	Health Sciences
Adia D'Andrae Russell	Clinical Laboratory Sciences

GRADUATE KEY

**** The Dietetic Internship Program** at Oakwood University is a post baccalaureate dietetic program offering 1200 hours of training in food service management, clinical and community nutrition. After completion of the program, students are eligible for active membership in the American Dietetic Association (ADA) and may take the examination to become a Registered Dietitian (R.D.).

Graduation with Distinction: Summa Cum Laude (4.00 – 3.90), Magna Cum Laude (3.89 – 3.75), Cum Laude (3.74 – 3.50), Honorable Mention (3.49 – 3.25). The cumulative grade point average (CGPA) is calculated on course work taken at Oakwood University through Fall Semester 2015 for honors listed in this program.

Φ Alpha Chi National Honor Society: Full-time student with a 3.50 cumulative grade point average (CGPA) for two consecutive semesters, who meet the criteria of Junior or Senior status and is in the top 10 percent of their class.

Δ Delta Mu Delta National Honor Society: Membership is the highest national recognition a business student can earn, must have a cumulative grade point average (CGPA) of 3.3 or better, is in the top 20 percent of their class, and in good academic standing.

† Beta Beta Beta (TriBeta) National Biological Honor Society: A society for students, particularly undergraduates, dedicated to improving the understanding and appreciation of biological study and extending boundaries of human knowledge through scientific research. Students shall have completed at least three term courses in biological science, of which at least one is not an introductory course, with a grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 or its equivalent in those biology courses.

£ Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, International: A professional law fraternity advancing integrity, compassion, and courage through service to the school, the student, the profession and the community. The fraternity was established in 1902.

Π Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education: A society for students in the top 20 percent who are entering the education field. This society was founded in 1911 to foster excellence in education and promote fellowship among those dedicated to teaching.

A Phi Alpha National Honor Society: Social Work majors who have achieved a 3.25 grade point average, 9 semester hours in required social work courses. Have an overall grade average of 3.0 or higher. Exemplify professional and ethical conduct and be active in service activities at least one semester prior to applying for membership.

*** Adult Continuing Education Degree Program/Leadership Education for the Adult Professional (ACE/LEAP).**

☆ Veteran

USA United States Army

USN United States Navy

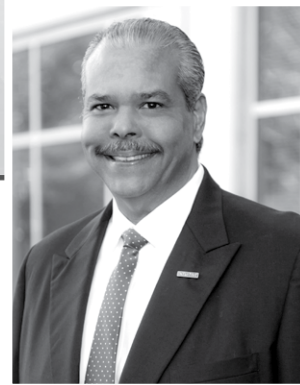
USMC United States Marine Corps

Summer 2017: All degree requirements were completed: September 1, 2017.

Fall 2017: All degree requirements were completed: December 31, 2017.

Note: Since the names of candidates must be furnished to the printer three weeks prior to Commencement, it is possible that a few persons listed in the program may not have completed degree requirements or that some candidates who completed degree requirements may not be listed. The inability to remove or include a candidate's name in the program does not constitute graduation from this institution, the granting of a degree, or denial of a degree.

ALMA FOGGO YORK COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



REY ALMODÓVAR, M.S.

Rey Almodóvar is co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of INTUITIVE® and a key element in the success and growth that the company has achieved since its inception in 1999. Through his guidance and expertise, INTUITIVE has become renowned as a leader in industrial and mechanical systems, electrical engineering, business management, systems analysis, and programmatic support.

Under his executive leadership, INTUITIVE has been recognized in the Inc. 500/5000 list of Fastest Growing Companies in the USA and it has ranked locally and nationally as a Best Place to Work, Best Place for Millennials, Best Place for Veterans and as the Small Business Administration (SBA) regional and national Prime Contractor of the Year. INTUITIVE's rapid growth rate, financial stability, and ability to retain top-notch professionals are a direct result of the principles instilled by his dedication to a performance-driven organization.

Mr. Almodóvar has received multiple awards including the Entrepreneur of the Year Award by the Hispanic Engineer National Awards Conference, the Russell Brown Executive of the Year Award by the Huntsville/Madison County Chamber of Commerce, and the Davidson Award for Leadership in Missile Defense and Space Technology.

Mr. Almodóvar supports charitable organizations, local schools and young professionals through incentive programs and volunteering. He is currently serving as Board Member of the Alabama Space Science Exhibit Commission, the Huntsville Hospital Foundation, the Regions Bank Board of Advisors (Huntsville) and the Huntsville Committee of 100. He also serves as an officer for the Business Council of Alabama, and as Chairman the School of Engineering Industry Advisory Board of his Alma Mater the University of Puerto Rico – School of Engineering.

Mr. Almodóvar is a licensed professional engineer and holds a B.S. in Industrial Engineering from the University of Puerto Rico, an M.S. in Engineering from the University of Arkansas and an M.S. in Business Administration from Texas A&M University. He is a graduate of Leadership Alabama Class XXVI.

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS AWARD



GEORGE LEWIS, M.B.A., CPA

George Lewis has been the President of Kettering Physician Network (KPN), a 500+ provider multi-specialty medical group, since February 2013. KPN is a subsidiary of Kettering Health Network, which serves the southwest Ohio region with eight hospitals and a multitude of other patient care facilities.

Prior to coming to Dayton, OH, George served as a Vice President at Scripps Health in San Diego, CA. He also held executive leadership positions at Adventist Health Systems' West and Loma Linda University Medical Center.

George has over 20 years of financial, operational, and strategic planning experience in the health care industry. George excels at physician compensation, strategic planning and medical group management.

During his career, George has developed and implemented a business plan for a full service, joint-ventured cardiac center in Southern California, and completed multiple medical group acquisitions and mergers including the development of physician compensation plans. He has developed, constructed and operated seven Veteran Administration (VA) outpatient clinics throughout Southern California for the VA hospital in San Bernardino, CA.

Additionally, George has developed and implemented a \$28M financial turnaround plan for Scripps Coastal Medical Group in San Diego; developed and negotiated a joint venture agreement for a physician-owned specialty/surgery hospital in Loma Linda; and provided guidance and counsel on the development of the Scripps Proton Therapy Center in San Diego.

George received his Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration from Oakwood University, the Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Redlands, California, and is a Certified Public Accountant. He is an active member of the Medical Group Management Association (MGMA), the American Medical Group Association (AMGA), and the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE).



PHILANTHROPY AWARD DRS. LESLIE AND PRUDENCE POLLARD

Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.Div., M.B.A., serves as the 11th President of Oakwood University. He is a productive and engaged scholar. He is editor and contributing author of *Embracing Diversity: How to Reach People of All Cultures*, which has become a global text for trans-cultural leadership education. He is also the author of *Loving Leadership: A Devotional Designed to Bring Out the Best in You*. His 2017 edited publication is entitled, *Values Matter: The Role of Values in Leadership and Service*. Under Dr. Pollard's leadership, Oakwood University has reached several historic milestones, including:

- the largest individual donation in Oakwood's history;
- the largest corporate donation in Oakwood's history;
- the launch of Oakwood Farms and purchase of Edible Arrangements as sources of non-tuition revenue;
- 25 million dollars of new construction and renovation of campus buildings;
- the creation and recognition of the nationally-recognized Healthy Campus 2020 Campus Wellness initiative;
- the creation of *LifeCore*—an in-depth empirical study of SDA millennial spiritual commitment;
- two USCAA basketball national championships;
- two Honda Campus All-Star Academic Championships;
- the Aeolians being named the 2017 Choir of the World at the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod, in Wales.

Dr. Pollard has been married to his college sweetheart for 39 years, Prudence LaBeach Pollard, Ph.D., MPH, RD, SPHR. She serves as Vice-President for Research and Faculty Development at Oakwood University. Her research interest is the study of leadership behaviors of managers and executives in global organizations.

Dr. Prudence Pollard's scholarly publication topics include the glass ceiling, empirical research studies on gender and compensation, and articles on leadership development and strategic planning. She has written *Raise a Leader...God's Way*, as well as a number of book chapters and devotional articles.

Dr. Pollard designed and launched Oakwood's Leadership Academy, for the training of managers and administrators. She is the Research Director for the *LifeCore* study to understand the spiritual commitments of Seventh-day Adventist millennials. She wrote the UNCF-Lilly Foundation-funded 5-year grant proposal for \$6,000,000 to design and implement GEM-Connect, building a 21st Century Curriculum with Guided Career Pathways and co-Curricular programs at Oakwood University, Talladega College, and Tougaloo College. Oakwood University serves as the lead university for the three-campus cluster, with Dr. Pollard as the Principal Investigator.

The Pollards have two daughters and two sons-in-law who are also Oakwood graduates, and two grandchildren, Genesis and Eden.

PHILANTHROPY AWARD



LAURA DAVIS, DDS

Dr. Laura Williams Davis is a native of upstate New York, a practicing orthodontist in Atlanta, Georgia, and a proud graduate of Oakwood University. She received her Doctorate of Dental Surgery from Georgetown University in 1990, and completed her orthodontic residency from Howard University in 1992. She currently has four orthodontic practices around the Atlanta metropolitan area, and is an active member in the American Association of Orthodontics, the Southern Association of Orthodontics, the American Dental Association, the National Dental Association, and the American Association for Women Dentists.

Dr. Laura (as she is affectionately called) is very passionate about giving back, particularly to her church, community, and the University that is so dear to her. In her desire to bring Bible prophecy to life for the children at Atlanta Berean SDA Church, as well as the children in the community, Dr. Laura rewrote the stories from Patriarchs and Prophets, Prophets and Kings, and the Desire of Ages in the form of plays; and is the executive producer of these amazing productions.

She and her husband annually host the Prairie View A&M's men and women's basketball and golf team, coaches and staff at their home in the fall. Dr. Davis also sponsors several middle and high school athletic teams around Metro Atlanta. She is proud to have spearheaded the fundraiser reception at her home for the retooling of the Biology and Chemistry Departments at Oakwood University, resulting in over \$100,000 in pledges.

Dr. Laura, in her desire to give the Oakwood students the extra push needed to finish strong on their final exams, pioneered the "Midnight Pancakes on the Lawn," where the students are able to take a break from their studying and be served an incredible midnight pancake breakfast with all of the fixings, served by the alumni, staff and faculty. Most recently, God gave her the vision for the Oakwood "Tree House Student Lounge and Café," a \$450,000 repurposing of the first level of Blake Center, scheduled to open in the Fall 2018. She currently serves on the Greater Atlanta Adventist Academy Board, the Breath of Life Ministry Board, and the Oakwood University Board.

Dr. Laura has been happily married for 25 years to Demont Davis. They have three children: Demont II, a 2017 Oakwood graduate who is currently in dental school; Lauren, a junior at Oakwood; and Ricky, an aspiring Oakwoodite.



HONORARY DOCTORATE GEORGE AND MARY HELEN SAMPSON

Pastor George H. Sampson, Sr., and Mrs. Mary Helen Sampson (referred to as Helen by her family and friends) are natives of Fayetteville, North Carolina and were born within weeks of each other in the summer of 1924. While they were teenagers, George and Mary met at a church youth program. George remembers saying to himself that he was going to marry that young lady one day. Indeed, they married and have remained together in Christ for the past 75 years. After the birth of their fourth child, they were baptized into the Seventh-day Adventist (SDA) Church.

Elder Sampson is the co-founder of the Trinity Temple SDA Church in Poughkeepsie, NY, and the Beacon Light Tabernacle in Beacon, NY. He joined the staff of the Northeastern Conference of SDA in 1982 as Director of the Community Services Center in Corona, NY. In 1985, Pastor Sampson was ordained as a full-time minister of the Northeastern Conference of SDA and has served as pastor of the Pilgrim Tabernacle SDA Church and the Macedonia SDA Church, both in Long Island, NY. Although he retired from full-time ministry in 1996, he continues to spread the Gospel through Bible study training classes and serves as the visiting speaker in several churches throughout the Northern California Conference. Currently, he serves as a local elder at the Lakeport SDA Church in Lakeport, California.

After teaching at the Abney's Chapel SDA Elementary School for several years before moving to New York with her husband, Helen became a Licensed Practical Nurse after she gave birth to her 11th child and began working the night shift at the Saint Francis Hospital and Vassar Home for Women to support her husband and children. Every summer, Mrs. Sampson worked as one of the camp nurses during the Northeastern Conference Camp Meetings and Junior Camp. She spent over 20 years working at the Northeastern Conference-owned nursing home at Victory Lake until she retired. After retirement, she continued to minister to the sick in their homes and assisted her husband in his pastoral role along with his service at the Northeastern Conference Community Service Center. Many of Pastor and Mrs. Sampson's accomplishments were completed while they raised 12 children.

Pastor and Mrs. Sampson believe in Christian education and all 12 of their children attended Adventist schools. All 12 children attended Pine Forge Academy with one transferring to Northeastern Academy. Eleven of the children attended Oakwood University and one matriculated at Washington Adventist University. They encouraged their children that through hard work and diligence, coupled with God's help and guidance, anything was possible. God rewarded their faith and efforts, blessing the family with six doctors, one journalist, one elementary school principal, three business professionals and one Human Resource Specialist. The Sampsons' 29 grandchildren and 25 great grandchildren are also encouraged to follow the family blueprint of Christian education.

Recently, Mrs. Sampson said, "It has been a full and interesting life thus far. God has blessed us to live to see all our children become adults. They have all achieved and are striving to be of service to God and their fellowman. My desire has been so beautifully realized. I have watched God carry my family and I expect that He will carry them right into the Kingdom!" Pastor Sampson adds, "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge Him and He shall direct thy paths." (Proverbs 3:5-6)



HONORARY DOCTORATE CHARLES BRADFORD

When Ellen G. White urged the Seventh-day Adventist Church to work in the South following the Civil War, her son, Edson White, and his friend Will Palmer responded. They sailed the *Morning Star* along the Mississippi Delta, addressing the physical and spiritual needs of local residents. Among the converts to the SDA Church as a result of their efforts was Etta Littlejohn.

Etta was among the first 16 students to enroll at Oakwood Industrial School in 1896. As a nursing student at Melrose Sanitarium near Boston, Massachusetts, she was assigned to care for Ellen G. White. Etta later married Robert Lee Bradford, an SDA minister. The last of their eight children, Charles Edward, was born in Washington, D.C., and grew up to become the first president of the North American Division of the Seventh-day Adventist Church.

After completing his education at Oakwood College, Bradford's pastorates included churches in Louisiana, Texas, Missouri and New York. From 1961 to 1970, he served as president of the Lake Region Conference. In 1970, he was called to the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists as associate secretary, with specific assignment to North America. He was elected president of the North American Division of the church in 1979. During the 11-year tenure as president, he served as chair of the Oakwood College Board of Trustees, the North American Division Board of Education K-12, the Board of Higher Education, and the Adventist Health Systems Board.

Included among the degrees, honors and awards Bradford has received are: Doctor of Divinity (Andrews University), Doctor of Letters (Walla Walla College), and Doctor of Humane Letters (Loma Linda University); American Religious Town Hall of the Air "American of the Year," induction into the Martin Luther King, Jr. Board of Preachers and Scholars of Morehouse College, Oakwood College Certificate of Merit, and the Charles E. Weniger Award for Excellence. Bradford inaugurated the HMS Richards Lectureship on Preaching at Columbia Union College, the lectureship on preaching at Potomac Conference, as well as lectureships on preaching at Atlantic Union College and Oakwood College. In 2007, at the opening of the Bradford-Cleveland-Brooks Leadership Center at Oakwood University, he was honored for his visionary leadership and the effective blending of the art and science of preaching. In 2017, the North American Division honored him with the naming of the Charles E. Bradford Conference Center in the new division headquarters in Columbia, Maryland.

Bradford has authored six books, including *Preaching to the Times*, *The God Between*, *Find Out About Prayer*, *The Pastoral Epistles*, *Sabbath Roots: The African Connection*, and *The King is in Residence*.

Bradford has been married for 70 years to the former Ethel L. McKenzie. They have three adult children, three grandchildren, and two great-grandsons.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Daniel R. Jackson, Chairman	<i>President, North American Division</i>
Leslie N. Pollard, Secretary	<i>President, Oakwood University</i>
G. Alexander Bryant, Vice Chair	<i>Secretary, North American Division</i>
Ralph Reid, Vice Chair	<i>Layperson, Businessman, Kansas City, MO</i>
Ronald C. Smith, Vice Chair	<i>President, Southern Union Conference</i>
William Winston, Vice Chair	<i>President, South Atlantic Conference</i>
Roger Bernard	<i>President, Central States Conference</i>
Larry Blackmer	<i>Vice President, Education, North American Division</i>
Meki Bracken	<i>Young Alumnus, Alexandria, VA</i>
Virgil Childs	<i>Director, Regional Affairs, Pacific Union Conference</i>
William Cox	<i>President, Allegheny West Conference</i>
Laura Davis	<i>Layperson, Orthodontist, Atlanta, GA</i>
G. Tom Evans	<i>Treasurer, North American Division</i>
Henry Fordham	<i>President, Allegheny East Conference</i>
Stephen Foster	<i>Layperson, Journalist, Business Consultant, Huntsville, AL</i>
Ricardo Graham	<i>President, Pacific Union Conference</i>
Stephen Gray	<i>Layperson, Physician, Birmingham, AL</i>
William Hicks	<i>Layperson, C-100 Representative, Huntsville, AL</i>
Daniel Honoré	<i>President, Northeastern Conference</i>
Benjamin Jones	<i>President, South Central Conference</i>
R. Clifford Jones	<i>President, Lake Region Conference</i>
Zavon Kanion	<i>Layperson, Dentist, Loch Lloyd, MO</i>
Alvin M. Kibble	<i>Vice President, North American Division</i>
G. Earl Knight	<i>President, Atlantic Union Conference</i>
Valerie Lee	<i>Layperson, Educator, Columbus, OH</i>
Gregory Mack	<i>President, Southeastern Conference</i>
Cynthia Powell-Hicks	<i>President, National Alumni Association</i>
Witford Reid	<i>Layperson, Anesthesiologist, Sebring, FL</i>
Sergio Romero	<i>Multicultural and Church Growth Dir., Allegheny West Conference</i>
Terry Shaw	<i>President/CEO, Adventist Health System</i>
Maurice Valentine	<i>President, Lake Union Conference</i>
Calvin Watkins	<i>President, Southwest Region Conference</i>
David Weigley	<i>President, Columbia Union Conference</i>
David R. Williams	<i>Educator/Sociology Researcher, Boston, MA</i>
Ed Zinke	<i>Retired, Theologian/Businessman, Silver Spring, MD</i>

ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS

Jim Davidson	<i>Secretary, Southern Union Conference</i>
Trevor Fraser	<i>Faculty, Oakwood University</i>
John Freedman	<i>President, North Pacific Union Conference</i>
Mark Johnson	<i>President, SDA Church in Canada</i>
Victoria Joiner	<i>Faculty, Oakwood University</i>
Lewis Jones	<i>Staff, Oakwood University</i>
Kenneth Manders	<i>President, Bermuda Conference</i>
Carmela Monk Crawford	<i>Editor, MESSAGE Magazine</i>
Larry Moore	<i>President, Southwestern Union Conference</i>
Randy Robinson	<i>Treasurer, Southern Union Conference</i>
Gary Thurber	<i>President, Mid-America Union Conference</i>
Lois Peters, Emeritus	<i>Healthcare Entrepreneur, Clarksville, MD</i>
Benjamin Reaves, Emeritus	<i>Retired President, Oakwood University, Orlando, FL</i>
Calvin B. Rock, Emeritus	<i>Retired Chair and President, Oakwood University, Las Vegas, NV</i>

UNIVERSITY OFFICERS

Leslie N. Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.	President
Colwick M. Wilson, Ph.D., MSW	Provost, Chief Academic Officer and Senior Vice-President
Sabrina R. Cotton, CPA, M.Acc.	V.P. for Financial Administration
David Knight, M.A.	V.P. for Student Services
Prudence L. Pollard, Ph.D., M.P.H., SPHR	V.P. for Research and Faculty Development
David Richardson, Ed.D.	V.P. for Mission, Enrollment Services and Retention

COMMENCEMENT HONOREES

2018 Alma Foggo York Community Service Award	Rey Almodóvar
2018 Distinguished Alumnus Award	George Lewis
2018 Philanthropy Award	Laura Davis
2018 Philanthropy Award	Leslie Pollard
2018 Philanthropy Award	Prudence Pollard
2018 Teacher of the Year	TBA
2018 Honorary Doctorate	Charles Bradford
2018 Honorary Doctorate	George Sampson
2018 Honorary Doctorate	Mary Helen Sampson



UNIVERSITY FACULTY

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Bailey-Penrod, Juliet, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Boutrin, Marie-Claire, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Dulan, Stanton, M.D.	Asst. Professor
Durant, Juliet, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Gullo, Safawo, Ph.D.	Professor
Otieno, Onesimus, Ph.D.	Professor
Richardson, Melissa, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Schmidt, Londa, Ph.D.**	Professor
Vanterpool, Elaine, Ph.D.	Professor

CHEMISTRY

Anderson, B. Kevin, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Lai Hing, Kenneth, Ph.D.**~	Professor
Lai Hing, Steven, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Ochieng, Patrick, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Ranatunga, Rufus, Ph.D.	Professor
Rhem, Marlon, Ph.D.**	Professor
Volkov, Alexander, Ph.D.	Professor

COMMUNICATION

Cheddar, Dwyane, M.A.	Asst. Professor
Elliott, R. Rennae, Ph.D.**	Assoc. Professor
Harrison, Bobby, M.S.	Assoc. Professor
Hinson, Kyna, M.A.	Asst. Professor
Joiner, Victoria, Ed.D.	Asst. Professor
Watson, Janice, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor

ENGLISH AND FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Bowe, Derek, Ph.D.**	Professor
Hyman, Ramona, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Mountain, Chandra Tyler, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Prigg, Benson, Ph.D.**	Assoc. Professor
Roper, Kem, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Tucker, Karen, M.Ed./M.S.	Asst. Professor
Wheeler, Eva, JD, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Williams, Joshua, M.A.	Asst. Professor

MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

James, Lisa, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Jeries, Joseph, M.S.	Asst. Professor

Joseph, Jea, M.S.	Asst. Professor
Osei, Albert J., Ph.D.	Professor
Patel, Darayas, Ph.D.	Professor
Smith, Shushannah, M.S./M.S.E.	Assoc. Professor
Young, Tara, M.Ed., Ed.S.	Asst. Professor

MUSIC

Bucknor, Wayne, D.M.A.	Assoc. Professor
Chambers, Audley, Ph.D.**	Assoc. Professor
Ferdinand, Jason, D.M.A.	Assoc. Professor
Fordjour-Hankins, Iris, M.A.	Asst. Professor
Foster, Julie Moore, D.M.A.	Assoc. Professor
Hampton, Makeda, M.M. +	Asst. Professor
Kim, Sung-Jun, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Marshall, Andrew, D.M.A.	Assoc. Professor
Murphy, Stephen, M.M.	Asst. Professor

PSYCHOLOGICAL SCIENCES

Bucknor, Carmen, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Cook, Pamelea, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Hodnett, Martin, Psy.D.	Asst. Professor
Sawyers, Pauline, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Weems, Howard, Ph.D.	Professor

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

BUSINESS AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Anderson, John E., Ph.D.**	Professor
Blanco-Topping, Richard, M.B.A.	Asst. Professor
Brown, Sr., Theodore, Ph.D.**	Professor
Burton, Hyacinth, Ph.D. ~	Asst. Professor
Campbell, Throy, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Charles, George, DBA	Assoc. Professor
Gohanna, Vern, M.B.A.	Asst. Professor
Kenea, Habtalem, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Kessio, Japheth, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Lai Hing, E. Jean, M.Sc.	Asst. Professor
Nkosi, George, M.S.	Asst. Professor
Pollard, Leslie N., Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**	Professor
Pollard, Prudence L., Ph.D., MPH, SPHR**	Professor
Roach, Shaunda, M.B.A.	Asst. Professor



UNIVERSITY FACULTY

2017-2018 ACADEMIC YEAR

EDUCATION

Beverly, Olivia, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Goodridge, Ellengold, M.A.	Asst. Professor
Mbyirukira, James, Ph.D.** ~	Professor
Wilchcombe, Dana, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Williams, Donaldson, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Wood, Deril, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor

HISTORY AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

Foster, Preston, M.P.A.	Asst. Professor
Greene, Jr., Alfonzo, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
London, Jr., Samuel, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Ringer, Amanda, J.D.	Asst. Professor

SOCIAL WORK

Allen-Sherrod, Shalunda, DSW	Asst. Professor
Ashley, George, Ph.D.**	Professor
Frye, Lorraine, MSW	Asst. Professor
Ramirez, Octavio, Ph.D. **	Professor

SCHOOL OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS

ALLIED HEALTH

Benn Marshall, Karen, Ed.D.	Professor
Hannah, R. Isariah., Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Henry, Earl, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor
Isaac, Elaine, M.S.	Asst. Professor
Williams, Michelle, M.S.	Asst. Professor

HEALTH AND EXERCISE SCIENCE

Champagne, Marie, M.S.	Asst. Professor
Hamilton, Terry, M.Ed.	Asst. Professor
Shaw, Howard, Ph.D.**	Professor
Williams, Vashon M.S.	Asst. Professor
Young, Andrew, Ph.D.	Asst. Professor

NURSING

Anderson, Karen, Ph.D.	Professor
Johnson, Arlene, Ph.D. ~	Professor
Johnson, Deora, D.N.P.	Assoc. Professor
Mbuguje, Mukesha, MSN	Asst. Professor

Moore, Derrica, MSN/MBA	Asst. Professor
Morris, Priscilla, MSN	Asst. Professor
Muriu, Eunice, M.S.	Asst. Professor
Wills, Jillian, MSN	Assoc. Professor

NUTRITION AND DIETETICS

Dalrymple, Lisa, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Herring, Temyi, M.P.H.	Asst. Professor
Peterson, Joycelyn, Dr.P.H.	Professor

SCHOOL OF RELIGION

RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

Allen, Gregory, Th.D.	Assoc. Professor
Benjamin, Finbar, D.Min.	Assoc. Professor
Blue, Dedrick L., D.Min.~	Assoc. Professor
Burton, Keith, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Fraser, Trevor, D. Min. **	Assoc. Professor
Kwesi, Ifeoma, D.Min.	Assoc. Professor
Li, Tarsee, Ph.D.**	Professor
Ojwang, Gilbert, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Pollard, Leslie N., Ph.D., D.Min., M.B.A.**	Professor
Rowe, Cory, D.Min.	Assoc. Professor
Samson, Agniel, Th.D.**	Professor
Seay, G. Russell, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor
Wilson, Jesse, Ph.D.	Assoc. Professor

LIBRARY SERVICES

Hinton, Jeshua, M.A., M.S.	Asst. Professor
McLean Johnson, Paulette, MLIS, EdS	Assoc. Professor

BOLD FACE - Department Chairs

~ Dean of School

+ Study Leave/Sabbatical

** Continuous Appointment

To God Be the Glory

Frances Jane (Fanny) Crosby, 1875

William Howard Doane

♩=115



1. To God be the glo - ry, great things He has done; So loved He the world that He
2. O per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood, To ev - ery be - liev - er the
3. Great things He has taught us, great things He has done, And great our re - joic - ing through



gave us His Son, Who yield - ed His life an a - tone - ment for sin, And o - pened the
prom - ise of God; The vi - lest of - fend - er who tru - ly be - lieves, That mo - ment from
Je - sus the Son; But pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will be Our won - der, our



Refrain



life gate that all may go in.
Je - sus a par - don re - ceives. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the earth hear His
trans - port, when Je - sus we see.



voice! Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, Let the peo - ple re - joice! O come to the Fa - ther, through



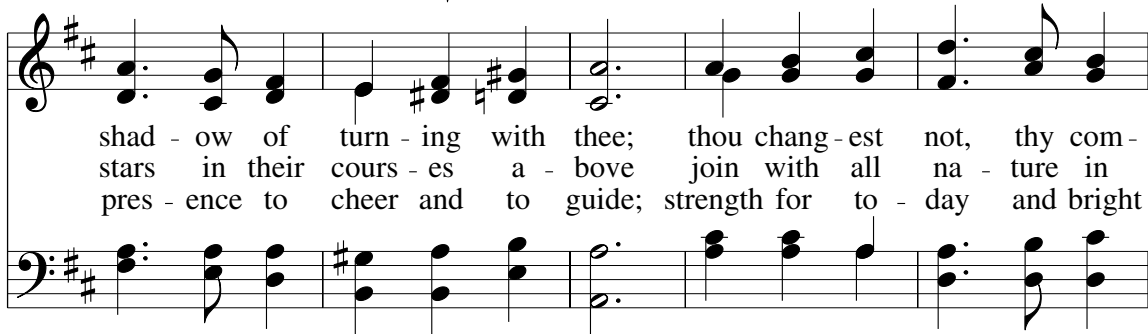
Je - sus the Son, And give Him the glo - ry, great things He has done.



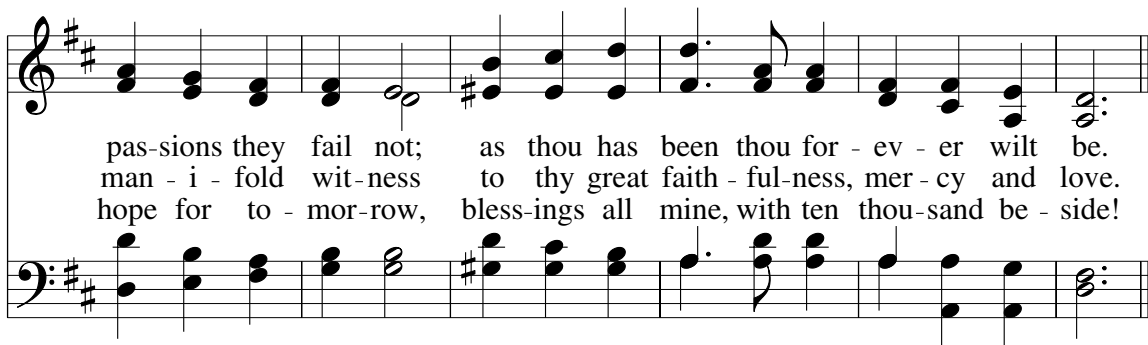
Great Is Thy Faithfulness



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther, there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thy own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou has been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm (1866-1960)
MUSIC: William M. Runyan (1870-1957)

FAITHFULNESS
11.10.11.10.Ref.

COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Jorge Bartholomew
Finbar Benjamin
Karen Benn Marshall, Chair
Dedrick Blue
Hyacinth Burton
David Clarke
Kenrunne Dixon
Stanton Dulan
Jason Ferdinand
Sarah Faria
Trevor Fraser
Ellengold Goodridge
Melvin Harris
Arlene Johnson
Camille Kibler
Raymond King
Kenneth LaiHing
Adrienne Matthews
Britney Matthews
Stephanie Matthews
Wanda Misorì
Tracy Moore
Leslie Pollard, Ex-Officio
Desiree Gunn-Price
Shushannah Smith
Shelley Vaughn
Giobensky Vildor
Karen White
Adana Wilson
Colwick Wilson

• • •

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

Life Memento™ 
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Jerry Ross, Designer
Briana Figeroux, Assistant

THE ACADEMIC COSTUME



The American Council on Education, through cooperation of its institutional members, has established the Academic Costume Code, which has been adopted almost completely by institutions of higher learning in this country. The following information is provided for the benefit of visitors to academic ceremonies at Oakwood University.

THE GOWN

Bachelor

Black, full cut with long pointed sleeves.

Master

Black, long or short sleeves with arc shaped panel extended for each sleeve.

Doctor

Black, with velvet panels on front of gown and three velvet bars on each sleeve. Color of the velvet may be black or distinctive of the field of study.

THE HOOD

Bachelor

Three feet in length with a two-inch wide velvet.

Master

Three and one-half feet in length with a three-inch wide velvet.

Doctor

Four feet in length with five-inch wide velvet and panel at the sides.

The lining of all hoods, which is folded out, bears the official colors of the institution from which the degree was received. The color of the velvet on all hoods indicates the field of study.

THE CAP AND TASSEL

Candidates for degree at Oakwood University wear the black mortar board with a tassel, the color of which is distinctive of the degree being received. The fields being traditionally indicated by the color of the tassel are as follows:

Agriculture.....	Maize
Arts, Letters, Humanities.....	White
Commerce, Accounting, Business	Drab
Dentistry.....	Lilac
Economics.....	Copper
Education.....	Light Blue
Engineering.....	Orange
Fine Arts, including Architecture	Brown
Forestry.....	Russet
Family Consumer Science.....	Maroon
General Studies.....	Silver
Journalism.....	Crimson
Law.....	Purple
Library Science.....	Lemon
Medicine.....	Green
Music.....	Pink
Nursing.....	Apricot
Optometry.....	Sea-foam Green
Oratory (Speech).....	Silvery Gray
Pharmacy.....	Olive Green
Philosophy.....	Dark Blue
Physical Education.....	Sage Green
Public Administration, including Foreign Service.....	Peacock Blue
Public Health.....	Salmon Pink
Science.....	Golden Yellow
Social Work.....	Citron
Theology.....	Scarlet
Veterinary Medicine.....	Gray

THE KENTE SHAWL

The use of the kente cloth, worn with academic regalia, adds more than dramatic color; this represents historic perceptions. These weavings are in authentic patterns from Africa.

Niara Sudarkasa, Ph.D., an African American anthropologist, lived for some time in West Africa. When she returned to the U.S., she determined to “affirm her association” with the great African continent. She did this by changing her first name and by replacing the traditional velvet bands on her doctoral gown and the band on her cap with the dramatic Kente.

Dr. Sudarkasa and other scholars have promoted the use of Kente in the academic arena. Often, professors of African-American studies distribute Kente shawls to their students as they approach graduation. Successful completion of courses that feature African, Black and Caribbean culture and contributions are commemorated by this “token of passage.”

During our ceremonies, authentic stair-step patterns are seen in the original red, gold, green and black, as well as in Oakwood’s colors of blue and gold. There are weavings of the Cross, or of the curved stools of Ghana, symbolizing the seat of wisdom. Though shawls are woven in many colors, some including gold, silver and copper threads, they all usually come to a fringe a both ends.

Whatever the style, the Kente shawls are worn with grace and pride at Oakwood University.



THE OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY SEAL

Turner Battle, class of 1950, designed the official seal for Oakwood College during the presidency of Frank L. Peterson, who asked: “What is the meaning of the scroll, pen, and torch?”

The seal contains elements that give legitimacy and authority to Oakwood because they present to the world the mission of the church, the college and its students. The three symbols serve as motifs to convey Oakwood University as an institution where young men and women secure a religious education.

Oakwood University, at the time Oakwood College, is at the top perimeter of the seal. The lower part has Huntsville, Alabama. The founding date, 1896, is divided on each side of the flambeau to symbolize the separation of Negroes and whites when the college was founded. The scroll in the background is covered by a quill pen made from the hollow spine of a feather. The flambeau is super imposed on the quill and Torah.

The Torah, the oldest symbol, represents original Hebrew Scripture that contains the first divine laws. This compilation of knowledge allows individuals to find guidance as they pursue fundamental questions concerning God, man, and salvation, and reminds students that God is present and is actively at work outlining His great plan for the redemption of man.

The quill represents Mrs. Ellen G. White and her ministry to the Seventh-day Adventist Church. The quill also suggests the foundation for educational principles that outlined the final course of salvation for God’s people and the world. Mrs. White’s pen provided the impetus for the establishment of Oakwood.

The glowing flambeau depicts wisdom, knowledge, and education that portray a beacon of light and guidance while it prepares the mind, character, and religious conviction for this life and finally eternity. The mission of students is to continue carrying it as devoted followers of the Savior who are on their mission of spreading the gospel to the “four corners of the earth.”