

# MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

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SEVENTY-FIFTH  
COMMENCEMENT  
EXERCISES

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2022  
COMMENCEMENT



May 19 and 20, 2022

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Germantown, Rockville, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campuses  
Workforce Development and Continuing Education

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## A MESSAGE TO THE CLASS OF 2022

DR. JERMAINE F. WILLIAMS  
*President of Montgomery College*

Congratulations, graduates! You have persevered and reached this special day. Along the road, many of you studied in virtual classrooms, or wore masks in face-to-face classes. It has been a unique journey, and you have proven yourself resilient and committed to success. Many of you also worked while you studied, or juggled family responsibilities. Some of you learned a new language to pursue your credential.



These circumstances have only enhanced your preparation for your next chapter.

With a graduating class of more than 3,200 hailing from all parts of Montgomery County and every corner of the world, there are many compelling success stories. Most of you will be pursuing your education at the baccalaureate level, taking a job with a promising company, receiving an apprenticeship, or completing a long-awaited degree or certificate. No matter where your path leads you, it's sure to be rewarding. Our society needs your talents now more than ever.

I hope you take pride in your achievements and savor your special day, while remembering those who helped you along the way. For each of you, there are faculty and staff members who made a difference. There are parents who demanded your best effort—and supported you during the most challenging moments. There are grandparents, perhaps other relatives, and special friends who encouraged you. Please take a moment today to thank them and acknowledge that this is their celebration, too.

You are at the heart of our mission, and the College's faculty and staff take pride in seeing you empowered to take on your next challenge.

Best wishes always,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jermaine F. Williams". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jermaine F. Williams, Ed.D.

# Montgomery College

## 2022 Commencement

Thursday and Friday  
the nineteenth and twentieth of May  
Two thousand and twenty-two  
Ten o'clock in the morning  
Rockville Campus

### PROCESSIONAL†

*Pomp and Circumstance*  
Sir Edward Elgar

### ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Ms. Kimberly F. Jones  
*Chief Marshal*

Professor Michael P. Carretta

Dr. Meg A. Birney

Dr. Michael E. LeBlanc

Dr. Anestine Theophile-LaFond

Dr. Antonio F. del Castillo-Olivares

*Montgomery College Faculty Marshals*

Dr. Stephen D. Cain

Dr. Arlene W. Blaylock

*Montgomery College Central Services Marshals*

Mr. Daniel G. Jenkins

*Bearer of the Mace (Thursday)*

Ms. Kelly M. Livernoche

*Bearer of the Mace (Friday)*

Ms. Tilandra N. Rhyne

### PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Rockville City Police Honor Guard

### NATIONAL ANTHEM

Mr. Justin M. Washington, Soloist

*Student, Montgomery College Department of Performing Arts*

Ms. Crystal D. Ellis, Interpreter

Ms. Nikkia L. Morton, Interpreter

*Students, American Sign Language Program*

†The audience will please stand during processional and recessional marches.

# Montgomery College

## 2022 Commencement

*Continued*

### WELCOME AND REMARKS

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams  
*President, Montgomery College*

### PRESENTATION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOLAR AWARDS

The Honorable Michael J. Knapp  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*

#### GERMANTOWN CAMPUS TRUSTEE SCHOLAR

Ms. Yanxin Christina Yang  
*Presented by*  
*The Honorable Maricé I. Morales, Trustee (Thursday)*  
*Ms. Gloria Aparicio Blackwell, Trustee (Friday)*

#### ROCKVILLE CAMPUS TRUSTEE SCHOLAR

Mr. Gerardo Paul Rendon  
*Presented by*  
*Mr. Robert F. Levey, Trustee (Thursday)*  
*Dr. Kenneth J. Hoffman, Trustee (Friday)*

#### TAKOMA PARK/SILVER SPRING CAMPUS TRUSTEE SCHOLAR

Ms. Kenisha J. Salvary  
*Presented by*  
*Dr. Frieda K. Lacey, Trustee, Second Vice Chair (Thursday)*  
*Dr. Michael A. Brintnall, Trustee, First Vice Chair (Friday)*

### PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES

Dr. Sanjay K. Rai  
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

### CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

### AWARDING OF DEGREES\*

The Honorable Michael J. Knapp

\*Please withhold applause until all diplomas are awarded.

# Montgomery College

## 2022 Commencement

*Continued*

### RECEIVING OF DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

Dr. Kimberly B. Kelley

*Vice President and Provost for Rockville Campus*

Ms. Margaret W. Latimer

*Vice President and Provost for Germantown Campus*

Mr. George M. Payne

*Vice President and Provost for Workforce Development and Continuing Education*

Dr. Brad J. Stewart

*Vice President and Provost for Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus*

Dr. Jamin K. Bartolomeo

*Collegewide Dean of Student Access and Germantown Student Affairs*

Dr. Tonya R. Mason

*Collegewide Dean of Student Success and Rockville Student Affairs*

Ms. Janeé K. McFadden

*Collegewide Dean of Student Engagement and  
Takoma Park/Silver Spring Student Affairs*

Dr. Donna A. Kinerney

*Instructional Dean of Adult English Language and GED Programs*

### TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

Board of Trustees Scholars

### INDUCTION OF GRADUATES INTO ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Ms. Carole S. Carson '94

*President, Montgomery College Alumni Association*

### CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

### RECESSIONAL†

*Pomp and Circumstance*

Sir Edward Elgar

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*Please note that your attendance at commencement constitutes consent  
for Montgomery College taking photographs and video, and using those  
photographs and video for promotional and other purposes.*

†The audience will please stand during processional and recessional marches.

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## 2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOLARS

### GERMANTOWN CAMPUS SCHOLAR MS. YANXIN CHRISTINA YANG

MS. YANXIN CHRISTINA YANG, a business (finance) major and member of Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma, is graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. Born and raised in China, she immigrated to the United States, enrolling at the Germantown Campus in 2020. As a Macklin Business Institute scholar, she was co-president of the Enactus team. The team earned fourth place in the national Enactus competition. She was a co-leader in Raptor Tank, a student-run business pitch competition. She also served as a volunteer member of the Freeman Foundation's Freeman Assists Communities with Extra Support advisory board and Meals on Wheels. She received MC's Excellence in Business Award, Excellence in Business Student Leadership Award, MBI Scholar Award, and Honors Scholar Award. Outside school, she is a manager at a bubble tea shop. She wants to pursue a bachelor's degree in finance and open up a financial advisory firm.



### ROCKVILLE CAMPUS SCHOLAR MR. GERARDO PAUL RENDON

MR. GERARDO PAUL RENDON, a hospitality management major and member of Phi Theta Kappa and Alpha Beta Gamma, is graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. A native of Georgia, he moved to Maryland in 2019. During college, he worked full time at luxury hotels in the District of Columbia. He earned the Excellence in Hospitality Management Award. He is a recipient of the Carin-Soros Hospitality Scholarship and the Marriott Center Scholarship. In his spare time, he volunteers for the Red Cross on the Disaster Action Team, providing 24-hour immediate support and assistance to individuals and families who have been impacted by a home fire or other local disasters. After graduation, he intends to continue his education and pursue a bachelor's degree in family science at the University of Maryland.

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2022 BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOLARS

TAKOMA PARK/SILVER SPRING  
CAMPUS SCHOLAR  
MS. KENISHA J. SALVARY

MS. KENISHA J. SALVARY, a general studies (integrated studies) major, is graduating with a 4.0 grade point average. She was born in Arlington, Virginia, and was raised in Trinidad and Tobago. She began her postsecondary education at Northern Virginia Community College, where she received the Social Achievement Award for dedication to community organizations and a Positive Community Impact Award for contributions to the local community. When she transferred to Montgomery College, she earned the Renaissance Scholar Award. She completed 3,700 hours of community service with AmeriCorps, connecting communities with resources, teaching English at MacFarland Middle School in D.C., coaching soccer with DC Scores, and leading many fundraising efforts. She often mentored young girls, offering inspiration through her own story of enduring hardship and discovering self-empowerment. She loves to play soccer, write short stories, and spend time with her son, Andre. She will attend the University of Maryland, where she will study public policy writing with a focus on education and prison reform.



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## HONORS AND AWARDS

### *Board of Trustees Scholar Award*

The 2022 Board of Trustees Scholar Award is bestowed upon Ms. Yanxin Christina Yang, Germantown Campus; Mr. Gerardo Paul Rendon, Rockville Campus; and Ms. Kenisha J. Salvary, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, by the Honorable Michael J. Knapp, chair, Montgomery College Board of Trustees.

To be considered for nomination as a Board of Trustees Scholar, students must be eligible for spring commencement by having earned an associate's degree or by having in progress final requirements for an associate's degree; must have taken at least 25 of the required credit hours at Montgomery College; and must have maintained a cumulative grade point average of 4.0 on all courses at the College. Board of Trustees Scholars receive a cash award to be applied to future tuition or educational purposes of their choice.

The Board of Trustees also recognizes three outstanding runner-ups for the 2022 Board of Trustees Scholar Award: Mr. Michael S. Koretsky, Germantown Campus; Ms. Fatihah Ullah, Rockville Campus; and Ms. Melany Y. Angel Beltran, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. Each runner-up will receive a cash award to be applied to future tuition or educational purposes.

### *Presidential Academic Excellence Award*

The 2022 Presidential Academic Excellence Award is bestowed upon Ms. Mertinu F. Geleta, Germantown Campus; Ms. Nida N. Khan, Rockville Campus; and Ms. Layann A. Bashir, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

Students nominated for the Presidential Academic Excellence Award must exhibit evidence of outstanding scholarship in the form of a 3.5 grade point average or above at the time of nomination. The nominee must also show evidence of outstanding leadership in the College and/or in the community, evidence of outstanding service to the College and/or in the community, and matriculation in a curriculum and completion of at least 28 semester hours of credit earned at Montgomery College. The scholars will receive cash awards to be applied to future tuition or educational purposes of their choice.

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## HONORS AND AWARDS

### *Honors Program*

The honors program distinction is given to students who graduate in one of the Montgomery College honors programs—Macklin Scholars, Montgomery Scholars, Renaissance Scholars, or the Collegewide Honors Program—with at least 15 honors credits in at least three different disciplines and a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.4.

### *Graduating with Honors*

Students earn the honors distinction by graduating with at least a 3.4 grade point average in any Montgomery College curriculum.

### *Phi Theta Kappa*

Phi Theta Kappa is the national honor society for students at two-year colleges. To be considered for election to Phi Theta Kappa, a student must have a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.5 for at least 15 credit hours of course work at Montgomery College and be enrolled in a degree program or transfer curriculum. A cumulative grade point average of 3.4 must be maintained to retain membership. Election to Phi Theta Kappa represents one of the highest honors that can be bestowed upon a student at Montgomery College.

### *Gamma Theta Upsilon*

Gamma Theta Upsilon (GTU), the international honor society in geography, was founded in 1928 and became a national organization in 1931. The purpose of this organization is to encourage professional interest in geography; to strengthen student and professional training through academic experiences; to stimulate research; to award scholarships for students pursuing geography as a major at the undergraduate and graduate levels; and to advance the status of geography as a cultural, physical, and applied discipline. Members have met academic requirements and share a common interest in the geographic field of study. The majority of these members are applied geography, cartography, geographic information systems, and geographic education majors.

In 1993, the applied geography program at Montgomery College's Rockville Campus became the first two-year program to be awarded a chapter of GTU, Theta Eta. The members of Theta Eta volunteer throughout the academic year for various activities. Some of the activities include performing community service; participating at national and international conferences; engaging in city, county, state, and federal government projects, as well as private industry; conducting fundraisers; and hosting special events and activities. GTU is proud to be celebrating 29 years of scholarly achievements at Montgomery College.

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## ACADEMIC TRADITIONS AND SYMBOLS

### *Academic Regalia*

The academic procession in modern university life embodies a relic of medievalism. The somber gowns and colorful hoods are not unlike those worn by scholars and churchmen perhaps as early as the 12th century. The garb in those times had an element of utility. The robes were warm; the hoods could be drawn up to protect against drafts in unheated buildings.

Traditionally, the hood's silken lining has been in the color of the wearer's university. The color of the bordering velvet indicates the special area of study. White velvet represents arts, letters, and humanities; dark blue, philosophy; light blue, education; purple, law; dark green, medicine; apricot, nursing; lilac, dentistry; olive, pharmacy; pink, music; orange, engineering; citron, social work. Tassels on the "mortarboards," or caps, of the candidates for degrees correspond in color to the velvet borders of the hoods.

Gowns representing the master's and doctor's degrees vary in style. The master's gown has long, narrow closed sleeves, which extend below the knees. The doctor's gown has full bell-shaped sleeves with three bars of velvet and a front opening faced with wide velvet bands in either black or the color indicating the area of study.

There is no general rule for the position of the tassel on a mortarboard. However, it has become customary for candidates for degrees to wear the tassels on the right side before the degrees are conferred and to shift them to the left at the moment the degrees are awarded to them.

### *Montgomery College Mace*

The mace is the official symbol of the College's power and authority. The Montgomery College Full-Time Faculty of the Year Award winner earns the honor of bearer of the mace. Mr. Daniel G. Jenkins, associate professor of philosophy, will carry the mace in the May 19 commencement ceremony. As Mr. Jenkins is unavailable, Part-Time Faculty of the Year Ms. Kelly M. Livernoche, adjunct professor of biology, will carry the mace in the May 20 ceremony.

The fluted mahogany staff is adorned with antique silver-colored rings with engravings honoring past Montgomery College presidents. The base of the 42½-inch mace is fitted with antique silver to match the rings. The mace is capped by two black marble disks encasing antique silver panels that form an octagon. The panels are engraved with the names of the Montgomery College campuses. The finial is composed of a 3½-inch antique silver-plated medallion embossed with the College's seal, which is mounted on a diagonal mahogany surround.

The previous mace was designed by George Hatzenbuhler, an art student on the Rockville Campus in 1976. The original Montgomery College mace was designed and executed by professors emerita M. Gloria Monteiro and the late Dr. LaVerne W. Miller in commemoration of the 25th anniversary of the College.

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## ALUMNI ASSOCIATION INDUCTION

### *The Induction Pledge*

I am a graduate of Montgomery College.

I have achieved my goal of graduation through my own hard work and dedication, and with the support of my family, friends, and faculty.

As a graduate, I am now a member of the Montgomery College Alumni Association. In this capacity, I have earned the privilege of a mutually beneficial and lasting relationship with the College and its community.

Today, I move forward to embrace new opportunities and to meet the challenges that lie ahead. But as I do, I also recognize that my Montgomery College experience will remain forever an important part of my life.

The opportunity of a Montgomery College education confers upon me a responsibility to help ensure the continued strength of this great institution. I will not forget this responsibility. I am a graduate of Montgomery College.



**Montgomery College Board of Trustees**

*(as of May 19, 2022)*

The Honorable Michael J. Knapp, *Chair*  
Dr. Michael A. Brintnall, *First Vice Chair*  
Dr. Frieda K. Lacey, *Second Vice Chair*  
Ms. Gloria Aparicio Blackwell  
Dr. Kenneth J. Hoffman  
Mr. Omar A. Lazo  
Mr. Robert F. Levey  
The Honorable Maricé I. Morales  
Ms. Marsha Suggs Smith  
Mr. Evan J. Wellek, *Student Trustee*  
Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, *Secretary-Treasurer*  
*and Montgomery College President*

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**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE**

**1946 ■ 2021**

*Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, Maryland*

Montgomery College is an academic institution committed to promoting equal opportunity and fostering diversity among its students, faculty, and staff.

Produced by the Office of Advancement and Community Engagement