

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Morrow, Georgia



CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

SPRING 2023 COMMENCEMENT

Dr. Jill Lane
Interim Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs
PRESIDING



†PROCESSIONAL	“Pomp & Circumstance–March No. 1” — Edward Elgar
WELCOME	Dr. Jill Lane
†NATIONAL ANTHEM	“The Star-Spangled Banner” — Francis Scott Key, poem John Stafford Smith, music
GRADUATE ADDRESS	FRIDAY 3P.M.: Jessica Deshon Williams, Masters of Public Administration SATURDAY NOON: Kaila Thompson, Masters of Public Administration
UNDERGRADUATE ADDRESS	FRIDAY 3P.M.: Princess Carter, <i>Bachelor of Science</i> SATURDAY 9 A.M.: Yulianny Matias Medina, <i>Bachelor of Science</i> SATURDAY NOON: Yulianny Matias Medina, <i>Bachelor of Science</i>
COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS	FRIDAY 3 P.M.: Gayle Cabrera Senior Vice President for Truist SATURDAY 9 A.M.: Regina Lewis-Ward State Representative, District 115 (CSU Alumna 2017) SATURDAY NOON: Christopher Williams Area Manager, Georgia Power Company
PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES	Dr. Jill Lane
CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES	Dr. Georgj Lewis, President
PRESENTATION OF GRADUATE HOODS	Dr. Jacob Chacko, <i>Dean, College of Business</i> Dr. Dwayne Hooks, <i>College of Health</i> Dr. Ebrahim Khosravi, <i>Dean, College of Information and Mathematical Sciences</i> Dr. Nasser Momayezi, <i>Dean, College of Arts and Sciences</i>
PRESENTATION OF UNDERGRADUATE DEGREES	Dr. Georgj Lewis
PRESIDENTS ADDRESS	Dr. Georgj Lewis
INDUCTION OF GRADUATES INTO THE NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION	FRIDAY: Joseph Echols '06 '11, <i>Alumni Association President-Elect</i> SATURDAY: Dr. Lisa Conley '02, <i>Alumni Association President</i>
†RECESSIONAL	“Grand March From Aida” — Giuseppe Verdi

†All those who are able, please stand. Please remain standing until the procession has withdrawn.
Please set all mobile devices to silent mode.

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS

LIBERAL STUDIES

Lakeisha Lachelle Anderson
Eric Mark Laughlin
JoAnn Linda Medina

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Kendrick Jacob Andrews
Japaul Chazaray Barrett
Iman Casalena Brown
Kelly Cook
Kenneth Orlando Lively
Brian Lamont McNeil
Summer McPherson
Sophia Victoria Nelson
Adam Keith Salathe
Katelyn Aliesha Wucher

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Quinteiara Codesha Coachman
Melvin A. Cody
Toniyyetta Renald Davis
Deandre Cordero Moore
Antoinette Laverne Rucker
Yao A. Seidu
Kaila U. Thompson
Jessica D. Williams

MASTER OF SCIENCE

CLINICAL/COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY

Sumiyya Saleem

BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGEMENT

Yanelys Delilah Amaro
Jimmy Lee Davis
Michele Ellis
Kenneth Myron Jackson
Amber Manuel
Ruth K. Michael
Shamill L. Smith
Catraya Camesha Vogt

TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT

Shaynee M. Coles
James John Jackson
Esther Onohwosa
Brandon Berrel Price

BACHELOR OF ARTS

COMMUNICATION & MEDIA STUDIES

Kinifha Ni'Ree Barnett
Taylor Lynn Chapman
Isaiah Matthew Crawford
Kelli Ford
Jeda Christyne Giles
Demiyah Tremayne Grier
Lakendra O. Kennedy
Jordan A. Morris
DaShawn Eugene Nash
Cameron Avery Sims
Laura Toscan
Mimi Thi Tran
Harrison Jacob Weller

ENGLISH

Jayda Daniels
Hannah M. Harding
Angel T. Hunter
Kierra Johnson
Kathryn Elizabeth Patrick
Dominique Shaquora Smith
Abigail Kay Stanley

ENGLISH WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Sheila Jacqueline Corona
Syretha L. Long

FILM PRODUCTION

Michelle Carter
Erin Nichole Dallas
Byron Flashey
Tara Jane Gause
Lena Colette Grossi
Hannah Christiana Haigler
Terrell Howard
Joseph Mitchell Landry
Alicia M. Lyons
Maria Isabel Morales-Perez
Dallas Durante Norfleet
Jared Saucedo
Imani Seymore
Kenneth Maurice Thompson
Vicente Varela-Gomez
Keene Walker
Nickalous Pleaz Williams
Alexandra D. Young

HISTORY

Rafael Jose Duque-Davila
Czariah Grier
Steven Andrew Matias
Christian Blaine Poupard
Pamela Lynette Reed
Courtney Thomas

HISTORY WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Powell Brent Camp
Benjamin Alan Shatto
Matthew Elijah Weller

LIBERAL STUDIES

Ginger Colette Cantrell
Alecia M. Hill

MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION

Charles E. Bowles
Pezalea C. Craft
Erykah D. Jones
Heather Nicole Turpin

MUSIC

Chad William Lewis Gosier
Jamie Mariah Gray

SPANISH

Derek Paul Brendan Siegel

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

MUSIC EDUCATION

Joshua Ruben Milner
Mitchell Frederick Morgan
Mikayla Sarianna Murphy
Zakiyah Simms

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BIOLOGY

Sheonnie Adams
Nia A. Anderson
Damani Christion Andre
Fayth Michelle Boyer
Mariana Carrasco
Jessica Aide Gonzalez
Jazlyne Hanson
Sydne J. Holston
Bradley Isaac
Katiana Jeudy
Eman Ahmed Kashif
Sasha B. Knowles
Natalie Michelle Mendez
Ashiya Des'tani Patterson
Esther Onahe Shikong*
K'Nijha Alexis Walden
Jordan Wisdom

BIOLOGY WITH TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Isis Maat' Eagle Smith
Rayna Asia Watkins

CHEMISTRY

Leon Huynh
Jordan R. Jones

* DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Kelise A. Reddish

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Amlí Banks
Tiarra Carson
Donisha Yvonne Dixon
Deshunna N. Heath
Alexus Adrianna Holloway
Keith Edward King
Stefany Elizabeth Martinez
D'Ajah M. Owens
Nigel Roulhac
Elise Kathryn Sarver
Tamera Thorne
Lakeisha Antoinette Watts
Ralin Andrew Williams

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Heather Nicole Castanien
Jacqueline Taylor Donoghue
Veronica Morris
Marie Mower
Tionne Nicely
Christina L. Reid
D'kirrah Janae Robertson
Raven Alexis Stallworth
Reighan Alexandria Stallworth
Linda Ann Washington
Jeniyah Nicole Weston

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Gary Maurice Amos
Zantryna Brannon
Paisley I'dalis Brown
Taressa Nicole Brown
Melanie Anne Couzzo
Nyasia Quantavia Green
Torrence Harrell
Vanessa Hugley
Stephanie Rena Johnson
Tia Monet Jones
Anthony Cedric Kwame-B-Hassan Khalid Sr.
Derricka Lamonshae Lambert
Cindy Lamptey
Dennis Masi
Audrey A. Mcelhaney
Cendy Nguyen
Alex Caleb Phillips
Brichette Q. Sexton
Tierran N. Terrell
Akua F. Tolen
Ethan Scott Washburn

LEGAL STUDIES

Latresa Chambliss
Chestina Dawkins
Jeremiah Hernandos Johnson
Olivia La'nai Monroe
Elizabeth Lavane Rozier
Myoshia M. Shaw

Tiffany Brenea Sweeney Silvera
Alyssa J. Smith
Michael Jeremiah Smith

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Morgane Oceane Malanie Bobo Dianingany
Ashley Marion Boyd
Antoinette Fitzpatrick

PSYCHOLOGY & HUMAN SERVICES

Christiana A. Addae
Lachantel S. Allen-Sheppard
Chloé Ahriel Blanding
Sarah Jean Bray
Tiffany Brown
La'tyasia A. Burns
David Calizo-Truong
Shanika Amelyah Clendinen
Sonya Renne Comer
Deja Q. Dunn
Dylan Alexander Eckert
Darrell L. Freeman
Roshida Ju-marie Hall
Dalene Angelique Hammond
Taylor D. Iverson
Osamawen W. Iyehen
Kaniya Roshun Jackson
Ashya Deandrea Kelly
Viviana Gutierrez Lagunas
Lucky A. Laird
Richard Thomas Lawson
Raquel Majors
Gloria Martinez-Osornio
Kambre' J. McGown
Jaylen A. Morris
Taylor Pollock
Rushell Lavette Porter
Mykayla Amoya-Denie Rice
Latosha Sims
Terrylynn Ann Stevenson
Jasmine Thompson
Selina Thompson
Dontaija Tukes
Nicole Ryan Varner
Saray S. Vilayhane
Aniyah Kadacea Symone Weaver
Kristin Denise Whitmore

SOCIOLOGY

Lizet Avitia
Samone La'kendra Bell
Olivia J. Childs
Kynnedi L. Copenny
Shaiquetta J. Grant
Alberta Hernandez
Nicia Bushashi Ngoma
Morah Camille Palmer

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Izell N. Bridges
James Gathings
Maria F. Mayo

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS IN FILM PRODUCTION

Ashlei Patrice Ellis
Notorian Phillips-Watts

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

INTEGRATIVE STUDIES

Rachel Elise Askew
Jordan Zion Bando-Jeter
Therency Viegerlie Cadelus
Nancy N. Cox
Ava Makenzie Flanigan
Miguel Angel Garcia
Abrianicka Zahra McGrowder*
Cendy Nguyen
Kevin Pham
Selena Gabrielle Scott
Alazia B. Sims
Ryan Sistrunk
Jaquaya Smith
Amya Young

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE IN PARALEGAL STUDIES

Vickie L. Lofton
Wendoline Anahi Zamora-Castro

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Abdulrahman Alanazi
Fawzi Alruwaili
Harshani B. Athapattu
Shereen Lateif Baban
Melissa Barnett
Reginald Barthelemy
Nivea Maxwell Bonds
Natosha Briscoe
Aqueelah Brown
Petrina Caesar
Jelicia R. Clinton
Brian Lanard Coffey II
Yasmine Cook
Shena Giselle Crawford
Michael William Deering
Taiwo Peter Dina
Markeshia Princess Dumas
Abdulwahab Eshgi

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Richardson Francois
Kevine A. Gadedjro
Tiffany L. Griffin
Hailey Henderson
Darielle Joanna Hickman
Briana G. Hickson
Briana Morgan Hollins
Thomas Lambert
Daijah Monia Lane
Kai Lockette
Kayla Alexis Lumpkin
Eric Perez Mahoney II
Jose Onecimo Marin
Britney McCrary
April McDaniel
Keane Deroy Muirhead
Kiza Ndimubanzi
Vanessa D. Nelson
Glynnisha Oglesby
Levi A. Ohanenye
Karen Partlow
Jay Bharat Patel
Wesley S. Pullen
Javier A. Rivera
Glenn P. Robinson
Christina Marie Doyle Salet
Gail Renee Smith
Tiara L. Thomas
Maya Thompson
Victoria Tuffour-Poku

MASTER OF SCIENCE

SUPPLY CHAIN ANALYTICS

Anne Catherine Anderson
Antwan Alexander Cloud
Antoinise R. Paden
Jason H. Vo

MASTER OF STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Cereto Jones Bean
D'onna Bell
Heidi V. Benford
Laverne Yolander Crowder
Yasmine Edwards
DeMarcus Tyshun Green
Krystal M. Houston
Lasonya S. Keith
Devante' Jamal Mccray
Chelsee Ariel Nabritt
Chiquita Phillips
Stephen Anthony Renner
Jessica Ann Seagroves
Larry Vergis Taylor
Vivian Angelia Thomas
Barry Walker
Lakeisha Jenkins Wilson

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

ACCOUNTING

Aundre Joseph Abner
Adjo Tania Jocelyne Aby
Cydne Nicole Arrington
Carolyn Chillington
Ashley Marie Cohran
David Ector
Kimberly Nicole Fails
Collin Casanova Fears
Grace Herron Gillens
Shrinidhi MohanRaj Ranganayaki
Victoria Patricia Sisco
Kenysa Alexandria Williams

GENERAL BUSINESS

Will C. Alexis
Chelsey Lynn Bishop
Joseph E. Bouzy
Desarae D. Brown
Nicolas Andres Cabello Alvarado
Lucas Aaron Carter
Vanessa Ellis
Martens Ernest
Breana R. Jackson
Preston Lee Lonaker
Haley Kaitlyn Mosier
Kamila Mroziejewicz
Niall Aidan Swan
Ahjonti Y'lene Witchard
Adele Lashawn Young

MANAGEMENT

Angel Christine Ammons
Darlene Araujo Ocola
Kenisha Bass
Natasha Rose Burke
Jeffrey Bernard Bynes
Jimmy Lee Davis III
A'miracle M. Dennis
Luise Domnick
Alison Renee Durham
Sara Rose Featherling
Tiana Neshaye Forbes
Xaniyah Nicole Gadson
Michael A. Gray
Kenneth James Green
Emperess Guy
Tariyana Vontrice Jones
Tuakaborlobari Jumbo
Savannah Leigh Lawrence
Meschack Michel
Augusto Gabriel Oliva
Will Scott
Jasir A. Shaw
India R. Simmons
Jenny Vo
Rosalind Williams

MARKETING

Ayanna Bryant
Frances Adabelle Harley
Maya Sharonda King
Nina Janiek Koopman
Jada Alexis Francois Lubin
Candace McClain
Richard Nape
Jonnise H. Poole
Cameron J. Prevost
Antwan Tate

SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Christabel Asante
Jonathan Becerra
Kiara Dominique Bullard
Aso Fa'afetai Dominguez
Rojon Evans
Nhan Thanh Huynh
Yulianny Matias Medina
Augusto Gabriel Oliva
Latoya Perry
Jessica Luong Pheng
Royce Pinkston
Christian Christopher Ransome
Brittney Iyana Robinson
Danielle France Robinson
Nandi Shabazz
Aleisha Williams

COLLEGE OF HEALTH

MASTER OF HEALTH ADMINISTRATION

Ohood Okaab S Alharthi
Erika Crawford
James Lebron Ervin
Quanita Johnson
Christopher Lee Manning
Darlene Ntxhee Yees Moua
Ninti El Anuannaqi Neal
Priyaben Pandya
Calyn J. Turner
Henry Lovell Washington Jr
Morgan T. Williams

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Ann Brigid Harber
Jacqueline H. Jennings
Jenny Gomez Le
Irene Ngonga
Xuan Thi Nguyen
Tamara Kay Underwood

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

HEALTH & FITNESS MANAGEMENT

Keyeria D. Freeman
Jordyn Elise Hawkins
Angela Hazelton
Darryl Allen Jefferson
Jessica Mar'rose' Maye
Abijah Kamil Wilcox

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Sarah Eunice Acosta
Tyra Raquel Allen
Kezia Jenique Campbell
Sabrina Denise Glasgow McGee
Hayat Omar Haji-Farah
Dorian W. High
Ali M. Hill
Kelis Jannette Hill
Christopher Ryan Johnson
Purity Kariuki
Shantia Martin
Chisom Cynthia Orizu
Latasha Parrish
Jewel S. Shepherd
Kedesha Faith Sloan
Onasokhare Matthew Uhakheme
Carmen Marie White
Lovely Shi Anne Womack

HEALTH SCIENCES

Yasmin Ahmed Abdulkadir
Brianna M. Aguilar
Dajai Zhane Alexander
Lachantel S. Allen-Sheppard
Khimada Z. Bean
Brionna S. Best
Kiera N. Bowen
Kelv'Asia Shantrell Brown
Brittany Diah
Daria Dudley
Madison Ashanti Fielder
Nahjah Malia Freeman
Taylor Gill-Chase
Markayla Zhane' Grier
Ashley Hawk
Meysi Herrera
Tawana Muhammad Hobdy
Amaiya Ya' Shae Hunt
D'eris Markell Jackson
Quintashia M. Jackson
Deundra L. Jester*
Sandniya M. Johnson
Tiara Nicole Johnson
Dyiamond Jones
Temani J. Joseph
Schuroda Faye-Senami Lane
Kerisha Mishun Mapp
Keely Janai McGhee
Eriyana T. Mitchell
Shayna Y. Moore

Lerosa Lucinda Morris
Jacqueline Chinelo Nduka
Monesha Maraye Pack
Jeena N. Patel
Shania K. Riles
Karisma Smith
Jhae Springs
Shiquita S. Sturdivant
Georgia Belinda Thompson
Jazmen Janay Turner
Carteira Watts
Jah'asia Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN DENTAL HYGIENE

Amanda Acevedo
Rafal Alkhshali
Ajami Burke
Elisama Castaneda
Fedorah Chiu
Valerie E. Cozbey
Ashlynn Crawl
Brianna Nicole Currie
Henrietta Darden
Sara Dayani*
Camille M. Dunbar
Jose Guadalupe Garcia
Amelia M. Hennum*
Lisa T. Hoang
Chelsea Robyn Ivey
Anagely Jaimes Bernabe
Angela Marie Kimbrough
Zoe Moire Mitchell
Jennifer M. Newton
Oanh N. Nguyen
Chisom Cynthia Orizu*
Dev S. Shastri*
Taylor Rene Smith
Lidya Adhanom Tesfassellase
Uyen Kieu Vu
Ashley Ereisha Young

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Rumana Kedir Abasha
Evelyn Ashong
Danicia Michelle Boykin
Adriana N. Brewer
Taryn Christina Chin
Devon Leigh Couture
Mansi Dabas
Kathleen S. Daniels-Alexander
Godwin U. Enagbare
Stephanie Escobar
Leena Fafa Fosu*
Nneoma Frank
Megan Amanda Gaddy
Robert Nesta Grant
Cindy Hernandez-Mendez
Chidinma C. Iheanacho

Jenna Lynn Jones
James Sharod Kilgore
Edak Mary Kuranga
Elizabeth Lamonte
Hannah Grace Lamp
Bre'l Angela Brenda Mackey
Thi Tay Mai
Jasmine Lenyea McDowell
Kwan McLaurin
Charlotte Grace McVey
Shohazehara Momin
LaTanya Belinda Myers
Neasha Subhashani Naipaul-Persaud
Tanesha J. Neal
Vivian Amaka Onyiorah
Kruti N. Patel
De' Shaun Montekia Peoples
Princess T. Phan
Chantel Alexis Porch
Sydney Milan Richardson
Skylar Alyssa Rachael Rowe
Sanyah Sainvil
Chidinma Sanders
Mariama Sheriff
Jharte Brianna Shropshire
Brittany Nicole Swanson
Alexus Danyelle Toney
Jamiya M. Traylor
Sarah Elizabeth White
Bethany Shamsday Williams
Calvin Richard Williams
Neola Anntana Williams
Kporshee Yoder

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION & MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARCHIVAL STUDIES

Briana Dawn Christensen
Cassandra Michelle Day
Gina Palumbo
Emma Elleen Rountree
Kersten Elizabeth Toebben

BACHELOR OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Ashjah Abraham
Steve Yaw Afeku
Ugochukwu Daniel Agochi
Joseph Agyeman
William Joseph Carroll
Princess Carter
Samone E. Christian
Aliya Sharron Ellington

* DENOTES MEMBERS OF THE CLAYTON STATE HONORS PROGRAM

CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION

Aquila Ja'maria Gifford
Khalefa Zyon Henderson
Stanley Sysay Inthysone
Brenda Jimenez*
Jessica Ashley Johnson
Henry Jacob Kearse
Nathan Dangkhua Pham
Walter S. Poole
Dario Obed Rosales
Jimmy Ryals
Jordan K. Strozier
Khang Tan Tran
John Vo
Barbara Anne Williams
Kelsey Breonna Williams

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Dellius A. Alexander
Austin Alexander Daigle
Erica Lashae Davis
Eric H. Doan
Adetomiwa Daniel Gbogboade
Juwan Hasani Hollingsworth
Evette James
Makieron Tariq Lissade
Janki J. Patel
Preston I. Shealey
Austin Tran
Rocky Tran
Chaz Keyshon Walton
Jarvis West
Marronee Yarsee

MATHEMATICS

Daniel Lee Bizzell
Elijah Daniel Holloway
Kathryn Michaela Reese
Noah Blake Watts

ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Princess Carter
Joshua David Castellanos
Jiobany Garcia Don
Aliya Sharron Ellington
Trey James
Rashawn J. Medley
Derek B. Newsome
Ananda Monea Patterson
Devin Cisco Rosario
Tavian Rashaud Wilson

SPRING 2023 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

GAYLE CABRERA

DIRECTOR OF SMALL BUSINESS DIRECT & SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT - TRUIST

Gayle Cabrera is the Director of Small Business Direct and Senior Vice President for Truist. Prior to this role, she was the Market President for Truist in Cary, North Carolina. She began her career in 2007 with Truist in its Leadership Development Program and gained experience in Commercial Lending in different roles throughout her career including leading Business Banking for the State of Georgia.

Gayle is a graduate of the University of Georgia where she received her BBA in International Business with an emphasis on Risk Management and Insurance.

Gayle has been active in the Atlanta community serving as the Past Chair of Cole Women United for United Way of Greater Atlanta. Under her leadership, United Way of Greater Atlanta launched the Women's Initiative Fund which directs donations in the agency's General Impact Fund to specifically aid efforts that enrich the lives of women and children in our community. She is currently a Trustee for The Clayton State University Foundation chairing its Development Committee. She is also a board member for the Cary Rotary Foundation and is a member of the Cary Rotary Club. Gayle also serves on the Cary Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and is on the Executive Committee.

Gayle, her husband and two children are elated to be back in Georgia. She enjoys traveling and exploring with her family and being able to give her children different experiences. She also enjoys doing community service projects as a family to instill philanthropy in her children at a young age.

REGINA LEWIS-WARD

GEORGIA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

Representative Regina Lewis-Ward is a native of Brooklyn, New York. She grew up with her mother and father in New York City public housing and attended public schools. She earned a BBA in computer systems from Bernard M. Baruch College and an MA in political science from Clayton State University. She was the first African American elected to represent Georgia's 109th District.

In her early career, Lewis-Ward helped protect employee rights by serving as a shop steward with the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees Union (AFSME). After more than 20 years as a manager with NYC Transit, Representative Lewis-Ward retired and relocated to Georgia. In 2014, Representative Lewis-Ward joined the Stockbridge City Council, secured federal funds to upgrade two public parks with adaptable playground equipment and created the first Stockbridge Citizens Academy.

Elected to the Georgia General Assembly in 2020, Lewis-Ward partnered with the Gordon State College Foundation to establish an empowerment scholarship for women interested in American politics. The scholarship aims to help address the underrepresentation of African American women in public office. Lewis-Ward also helped secure nearly \$400,000 in the FY 2022 state budget for students in her district to participate in the American Association of Adapted Sports Program, and \$39,000 for the startup of a CASA program in Henry County, GA.

Representative Lewis-Ward is the Northwest Regional Task Force Director for GA - National Organization of Women which focuses on issues to protect the rights of women and girls.

An adjunct professor, children's book author, founder of the not-for-profit, A Place Matters, Inc., Lewis-Ward serves on the state Agriculture and Consumer Affairs, Banks and Banking, Interstate Cooperation, and Energy, Utilities, and Telecommunications committees.

Representative Lewis-Ward represents the 115th District, located exclusively in Henry County. She has two adult children and one grandchild.

=====

CHRISTOPHER WILLIAMS

AREA MANAGER - GEORGIA POWER

Christopher Williams Sr. works as an Area Manager in the Metro South Region of the Region External Affairs department with Georgia Power Company. In this role, Chris is responsible for all external engagement with key community leaders, elected officials, non-profit, and key decision makers in Clayton and Henry counties. He is also responsible for providing area leadership support for Power Delivery, Customer Services, Sales, and Community & Economic Development. Chris serves on the Board of Directors for the Henry and Clayton County Chamber of Commerce, where he is 2023 Chairman of the Board. He also serves on the Board of Directors for The Henry County Academy for Advanced Studies; Southern Crescent Technical School; and the Regional Business Coalition of Metropolitan Atlanta. In the community, Chris serves as Immediate Past Chair and Advisory Board Member for Communities In Schools of Henry County and is a proud member of the 100 Black Men of South Metro Atlanta, Inc and Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity Inc. Chris is past Board Member of Another Way Out, Inc and Park Pride. He has served as a Loaned Executive to the United Way of Greater Atlanta and is an Alum of Leadership Henry and Leadership Clayton.

Chris attended Tuskegee University on a full academic scholarship where he graduated Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science Degree in Electrical Engineering.

He is married to Ayanna Williams and has two children, Christopher II and Cayden.

=====

JESSICA DESHON WILLIAMS

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Jessica Deshon Williams is a native of Atlanta, GA. Ms. Williams is graduating with a Master's in Public Administration. A "Double Laker," Ms. Williams earned a bachelor's degree in political science from Clayton State in 2020. During her time at Clayton State, she was actively involved in student life by being a part of the Campus Event Council, NAACP, The Society for Collegiate Leadership & Achievement, National Society of Leadership & Success and joining the illustrious Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Incorporated. She is the proud daughter of Jenny and Donald Williams, her goal following graduation is to start a non-profit organization focused on helping children in foster care and remain involved in her community.

=====

KAILA THOMPSON

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

Kaila Thompson is a native of Irvington, New Jersey and moved to Georgia as a teenager. From an early age, Ms. Thompson's parents stressed the importance of receiving a higher education, and she started her educational journey at Clayton State in 2013, and upon graduation will be a "Double Laker". Ms. Thompson graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Communication and Media Studies in 2016. While serving as an AmeriCorp Vista, she developed a passion for helping others and returned to Clayton State in 2021 to pursue a Master's degree in Public Administration. Ms. Thompson plans to become a program analyst for local or state government.

=====

PRINCESS CARTER

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Princess Carter is graduating with a Bachelor of Information Technology in Networking and Security. During her time at Clayton State, Ms. Carter was a Cybersecurity Compliance Student Assistant where she monitored the network for compromised student accounts. Princess is a Zell Miller Scholarship recipient, was a Coca Cola Scholar from 2021-2023, achieved Dean's List recognition from Fall 2020 – Summer 2022, and the President's list during the 2022-2023 academic year. Her hobbies consist of reading, baking, and crocheting. Princess plans to use her degree to work with database systems in the field of information technology.

=====

YULIANNY MATIAS MEDINA

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Yulianny Matias Medina is graduating with a Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management and a minor in Marketing. During her time at Clayton State, Yulianny was president of the Supply Chain Management Roundtable and a member of the Latin American Student Organization and the Major Mentor Program. In March, Yulianny represented Clayton State in the SAM International Collegiate Business Skills Challenge where her team won Grand Champion and she won first place in the overall individual championship. Yulianny has achieved Dean's List and President's List recognition throughout her time at Clayton State by maintaining a 4.0 GPA. She plans to further her degree and will be attending Clayton State to pursue a Master of Business Administration in International Business beginning in Spring 2024.

ADDITIONAL COMMENCEMENT PARTICIPANTS

MARSHALS

Faculty Marshal

Dr. Catherine Deering

Deputy Faculty Marshal

Dr. George Nakos

Student Marshal

Jeff Jacobs

READERS

May 5th

Dr. Joe Johnson

May 6th

9:00 AM - Dr. Larry Menter

12:00 PM - Dr. Kurt-Alexander Zeller

ANNOUNCER

Dr. Royal Baxter

MUSICIANS

May 5th

Dr. Michiko Otaki, DMA, keyboard

Kevin Holly, vocalist

May 6th

Clayton State University Orchestra

Kayla Hart, vocalist

USHERS

Clayton State University

Department of Campus Life

provided volunteers

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The custom of wearing a distinctive dress for academic ceremonies dates to the Middle Ages when people dressed in keeping with their class. The literate class, the clergy, wore the early academic costume; a heavy, dark gown seems to have been worn at all times. Hoods and caps were necessary during European winters because buildings where scholars lived, studied, and taught, were cold. The faculties of American universities wear distinguishing costumes, a tradition which began with Harvard in 1636. Typically, associate degree candidates wear gray gowns nearly to the knee; and baccalaureate degree candidates wear black gowns. The master's gown has long closed sleeves with a slit for the arm. The doctor's gown is faced with a broad strip of velvet and has three horizontal velvet bars on each sleeve.

The hood shows the greatest degree of symbolism. The master's hood is three and one-half feet long and faced with a three-inch strip of velvet; the doctor's hood is four feet long and faced with a five-inch strip of velvet. The color of the velvet strip on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned or granted: Science, Yellow; Arts, White; Music, Pink; Business, Tan; Nursing, Apricot; and Philosophy, Blue. Each hood is lined in silk with the colors of the institution that granted the degree.

The appropriate cap for all degrees is the familiar “mortarboard.” A black tassel, or one of the colors signifying the field or specialization, hanging to the left of the face is appropriate for all degrees. Those holding a doctorate degree may wear a soft velvet cap or the mortarboard with a gold thread tassel.

Honors—the gold honor cord identifies graduates who have completed their degree requirements with a grade point average of at least a 3.5. Actual honor status is noted on the diploma and on the official permanent record. The Clayton State Office of the Registrar maintains the official list. Honor designations are contingent upon final grades.

Candidates for graduation will be awarded degrees subject to satisfactory completion of all academic requirements. Because the names must be provided to the printer several days prior to commencement, the status of some candidates listed may have changed since that time. Some candidates may not have completed all degree requirements. The listing of a name in this program does not commit Clayton State University to award a degree. An asterisk () denotes members of the Clayton State Honors Program.*

ABOUT CLAYTON STATE UNIVERSITY

- In 1965, the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia agreed to create three new junior colleges including one to serve south metropolitan Atlanta. The local community raised \$4.9 million to go along with \$3.3 million from the University System of Georgia and began construction of a campus on a farm with a few lakes and a healthy stand of trees.
- The university has changed substantially since 1969. The pace of change in the economy requires the university to continue to grow and adapt as it empowers students to seek success. Through outstanding programs, dynamic experiences, appropriate support, and an environment that reflects 21st century business and industry, Clayton State University provides students the opportunity and our region the workforce needed to complete and succeed globally. For example, in 2019, the School of Education was formed to meet the growing need for teachers in our public schools. In spring 2020, the College of Business launched a Master of Science in Supply Chain Analytics and a Master of Strategic Leadership Development program. In fall 2022, the College of Information and Mathematical Sciences launched a Master of Science in Cyber Technology, addressing the need for cyber security skills and talent development in the south metro Atlanta region.



PRESIDENTS

Dr. Harry S. Downs, Founding President 1969 – 1994

Dr. Richard A. Skinner 1994 – 1999

Michael F. Vollmer, Interim President 1999 – 2000

Dr. Thomas K. Harden 2000 – 2009

Dr. Thomas J. Hynes, Jr. 2009 – 2021

Dr. T. Ramon Stuart 2021 – 2022

Kerry L. Heyward, Interim President 2022 – 2023

Dr. Georj L. Lewis 2023 -