



Commencement

MAY 2021



Missouri School of Journalism
University of Missouri

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

David Kurpius, dean, Missouri School of Journalism

PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND ALMA MATER

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

8:00 a.m.

Lynn Kreul, senior, Strategic Communication

11:15 a.m.

Zoie Henry, senior, Radio-Television Journalism

THOUGHTS OF THE CLASS OF 2021

8:00 a.m.

Melina Psihountas, senior, Strategic Communication

11:15 a.m.

Samantha Verdisco, senior, Strategic Communication

HONORARY DEGREE

11:15 a.m.

John D. Graham, BJ '59, chairman, FleishmanHillard

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

REMARKS

David Kurpius, dean, Missouri School of Journalism

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Mun Choi, president, University of Missouri

RECESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance

When today's program draws to a close, you can meet your graduate outside the facility.

MASTER OF CEREMONIES



LYNN KREUL

8:00 A.M.

Master of ceremonies, Lynn Kreul, is graduating with a dual degree: Bachelor of Journalism with an emphasis in strategic communication and Bachelor of Science in business administration with an emphasis in marketing. During her time at Mizzou, Lynn found her home through service, copious amounts of coffee and amazing people she is lucky to call friends. Originally from Republic, Missouri, Lynn will be leaving the Midwest to pursue a career with EPIC in Madison, Wisconsin as a project manager with an emphasis in accessibility.



ZOIE HENRY

11:15 A.M.

Master of ceremonies, Zoie Henry, is graduating with a degree in Journalism with an emphasis in television anchoring and reporting, and minors in black and multicultural studies. She hales from the south side of city proper Chicago, Illinois. There she grew up performing through dance and choir. Although she wasn't able to formally continue that routine in college, she picked up a new form of performance through television news that she's grown to know and love just as fondly. After graduation Zoie has no concrete plans set just yet but says she will be coming to a television near you!

THOUGHTS OF THE CLASS OF 2021



MELINA
PSIHOUNTAS

8:00 A.M.

Student speaker, Melina Psihountas, is a George C. Brooks Scholar graduating with a Journalism degree with an emphasis in strategic communication, a minor in Spanish and a Multicultural Certificate. Melina is from St. Louis, Missouri. In addition to serving as a Content Manager for MOJO Ad, Melina is a member of Relevant Youth, the American Advertising Federation, Trulaske School of Business Diverse Student Association, and works part-time for CollegeThoughts and Pavé The Way Jewelry. Melina does freelance social media work for an audience of more than 200,000 followers and has created Snapchat lenses that received more than 60 million views. In her free time, Melina enjoys traveling, writing, photography, fashion and being creative.



SAMANTHA
VERDISCO

11:15 A.M.

Student speaker, Samantha Verdisco, is from Tampa, Florida. She is graduating with a Journalism degree with an emphasis in strategic communication. During her time at MU, she has been involved with Mizzou Alternative Breaks, Mizzou International Experience, MOJO Ad, Pi Beta Phi and Tour Team. This year, Samantha was named a semifinalist for the Fulbright U.S. Student Program, and inducted into Kappa Tau Alpha and Omicron Delta Kappa. After graduation she going to work as a junior copywriter for Moosylvania, an integrated marketing company in St. Louis, Missouri.

MAY 2021 DEGREE CANDIDATES

¹ Kappa Tau Alpha Initiate

² Summa Cum Laude

³ Magna Cum Laude

⁴ Cum Laude

⁵ Walter Williams Scholar

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

Iuliia Alieva ¹

Sisi Hu

Joseph Paul Jones ¹

James Ndone ¹

Erika Jen Schneider ¹

Weilu Zhang

MASTER OF ARTS

Victoria Elizabeth Alaniz

Helle Andreassen

Hope Rebecca Beitchman

Maria Florence Benevento

Mikayla Easley

Gina Marie Gerstenecker

Curtis Matthew Henderson

Lindsey Marie Howard

Grace Kathryn Huguelet

Leslie Ann Klein¹

Zuofei Li

Christopher William Martucci

Gabriela Morera-Di Núbila

Samuel Scot Mosher

Katherine Hannah Okker-Edging¹

Xin Frida Qi

Xuan Qi

Daniel Shular

Hillary Tan

Emma Nicole Veidt

Rebecca Bruce Zani

Zixuan Zhao

BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM

CONVERGENCE JOURNALISM

John Pearson Anstine ³

Reid John Thomas Bayliss

Julia Jane Bower ³

Tran Minh Micheal Connors

Victoria Alexandra Cox

Avery Dalal ⁴

Erin Mackenzie Davis

Sara Marie Dingmann ³

Blythe Elizabeth Dorrian ⁴

Katharine Rose Finnerty ³

Cassidy Nicole Fox ³

Hannah M France

Mingyue Gao ^{1,2}

Brendan Patrick Hall

Alaina Elizabeth Hand ³

Annie Thanh Hien Le ⁴

Jacqueline Marie Lemp ³

Huizhu Liang ³

Olivia Jewell Love

Regan Allyse Mertz ³

Tatyana M Monnay

Casey Rae Murray ³

Isabella Cordova Paxton

Matthew Kennedy Unthank ^{1,2}

Anna Grace Vance ⁴

Renae Maria Whissel ^{3,5}

Jingying Xu ³

MAGAZINE JOURNALISM

Elizabeth Dodge Benson

Hannah Lee Britton

Allison Nicole Brown ⁴

Adam Philipp Cole

Grace Olivia Glander ⁴

Sophia Michelle Gonzalez

Francesca Michelle Hecker

Vivian Abigail Klein Herzog ^{1,2,5}

Andrew James Hofbauer ^{1,2}

Jacob Oliver Horton ^{2,5}

Ashley Marie Jones

Hannah M Kirchwehm

David W Kitchin

Christina Grace Long ^{1,2,5}

Tyler Jerome Messner

Lauren Ann Polanski ⁴

Matthew Jacob Rios

Alyssa Marie Shikles ^{1,2,5}

Sarah Rae Straughn ³

Lauren R Tronstad

Colleen Mary Wouters

PHOTOJOURNALISM

Elizabeth Virginia Goodwin ³

Jacob Aaron Moscovitch ³

Marco Postigo Storel

Tristen Joseph Rouse ^{1,2}

Kathleen Louise Seaman

Alexandria Wells

Katherine Leona Wiberg

Madelyn Virginia Winfield ^{4,5}

PRINT AND DIGITAL NEWS

Kayley Jean Allen

Galen Nathaniel Bacharier ³

Keely Ann Doll

Julia Lynn Garlich ³

Reid Alexander Glenn

Tyler Duane Hollins

Annie Joyce Jennemann

Anderson Wheeler-Arnold Kimball

Lianna Kowalke Reinwald ^{3,5}

Owen Clark Krucoff ⁴

Mariana Labbate

Jiaqi Lai ³

Liad Joshua Lerner ^{3,5}

Judith Ilise Lucas

Ian Mason McManus

Emma Hayes Moloney ^{3,5}

Briar D Napier ⁴

Xander M Negozio

Abby Nicole Orf

Emily A Roiger ³

Caitlyn Leigh Rosen ⁴

Paul Raymond Schloesser ⁴

Abigail Elizabeth Shaw

William Kane Skipworth ^{3,5}

Morgan Haley Smith ^{1,2}

Jackson D Stone ³

Feiyu Su ^{1,2}

Lillie Margaret Vincent ²

Alexander Yang Wang

Emily Eden Wolf ³

RADIO-TELEVISION JOURNALISM

Alexandra Nicole Angle ^{1,2}

Madi Baughman

Marian E Bouchot ³

Kevin James Broshek

Mackenzie Faith Christian

Kelley Shirlene Collins

Samantha Isabel Coloma

Grace Rebecca Conley ⁴

Drew Vincent Cusumano

Tyler Jay Driesenga^{3,5}
 Reinier Joseph Encina
 Alberta Rose Engelman³
 Janelle Christina Finch⁴
 Edward Lawrence Frumkin⁴
 Liam Michael Garrity
 Justin Carl Goetz⁴
 Victoria Marie Heinsohn
 Zoie Ann Henry
 Alyssa Denise Jackson
 John Harrison Jenco^{3,5}
 Kyle McArthur Jones
 Nathalie C Jones
 Olivia Tomae Kloeckner
 Korbett Thomas Koselak
 Jack David Kosowski³
 Armaja LaRue-Hill
 Jack Zong Lee
 Jane R Mather-Glass
 Grant Lewis Miller^{1,2}
 Joseph Samuel Miller⁴
 Luke Michael Moehle
 Levi T Moltz-Hohmann
 Sydney Laura Moran⁴
 William Mitchell Morris⁵
 Olivia Marie Moses
 Sylvia Jane Mueller³
 Jada Latrice Page
 Hunter Thomas Pendleton⁴
 Parker A Rehm
 Marisa Alicia Rios
 Savannah Dawn Ritzen⁴
 Isaac D Robinson⁴
 Danielle Pamela Romero
 Caroline Katherine Rueve
 Lee Jeffery Russell
 Josiah H Schueneman
 Lindley Faye Schwartz
 Lauren Devyn Schwentker
 Zoe Caroline Shedd⁵
 Marina Olivia Silva
 Benedict Chiong Singson^{4,5}
 Caitlyn Michelle Specketer
 Grace Anne Taylor⁴
 Annabel Louise Thorpe^{1,2,5}
 Alexander Antonios Trimis³
 Evann Twitchell
 Halle Marie Upshaw
 Grace Elaine Witham^{1,2}
 Ashley Nicole Wright
 Victoria Grace Zeyen³

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Kathryn Ahern⁴
 Mikaela Nicole Ashley
 Emma L Baker
 Claire E Barger
 Lauren Christine Barish
 Sofia Valeria Barreto
 Olivia Anne Bearden
 Paige Marie Behnken³
 Angela R Bell
 Rose Bell⁴
 Katherine Frances Bernacchi-Sass⁴
 Allison Houghton Bertrand⁴
 Tristan Gabriel Bevan
 Fatima Bhairwala
 Supreet Kaur Bhangu⁴
 Maria Angelique Blanchard
 Theodore Carson Bloom
 Elise Caitlin Bobowski
 Carlie Raeanne Bollinger⁴
 Joshua Taylor Borgschulte⁴
 Claire E Bradley
 Mary Catherine Brennan⁴
 Caitlin M Brenner⁴
 Emma Jane Brouster
 India Amari Brown
 Kyle L Brown
 Nathan W Busch^{3,5}
 Jalyn Carol Byrd
 Sydney Catherine Calhoun
 Anna M Callis
 Emina Catic
 Spencer Reed Chaiken^{1,2}
 Zhuo Chen²
 Lauren Elizabeth Clerc⁴
 Anne Katherine Clinkenbeard
 Lillian Grace Coit³
 Nolan David Connelly
 Claudia Mary Conness
 Isabella Rhae Corona⁴
 Payton Barbara Cousins^{1,2}
 Cole Coutre
 Samantha Jo Cox⁴
 Niamh Grace Cremin
 Katie Lynn Cross^{1,2}
 Alexandra Katherine Crowder³
 Sophia Elizabeth Davies
 Brynne Elizabeth Davis²
 Sadie Elizabeth Davis^{3,5}
 William Thomas Davis
 Siena E DeBolt⁴
 Molly Kathleen DeLano⁴
 Ava Lenz Delsemme³
 Madison Jean Dick
 Lauren Nicole Dismond³
 Emily E Ditto⁴

Morgan Rae Donnohue
 Riley M Doyle³
 Britten Ellen Duet³
 Ethan Cole Dwyer⁴
 Jack Trost Eagan
 Brandon Jay Eigenman
 Grace Caitlin Elliott
 Cathryn Belle Enrooth
 Kristina Marie Esdale⁴
 Athena Elaine Estonactoc
 Delaney Jolynna Fenton
 Gabrielle Marie Ferguson³
 Isabella Kay Filippone
 William Charles Finke⁴
 Clare Ann Foley
 Gabrielle Elizabeth Frerking
 Molly Claire Freudenberg
 Ally Jensen Friend⁴
 Bradley Tyler Gale
 Diego Vicente Galicia
 Emma France Gassman
 Hannah Marie Gedwill³
 Alexander Joseph Gelabert⁴
 Christina Rose Gerecke³
 Gabrielle Iman Gilmore
 Alexis Nicole Godsey
 Audrey Lorraine Gray⁴
 Natalie M Gregus⁴
 Emma Elizabeth Grossman⁴
 Corey Austin Hadfield
 Sydney Marie Hahn^{1,2}
 Nicholas Kheejang Han
 Kaylee Michelle Hanebuth⁴
 Katie Harff⁴
 Alexandria Nicole Harlow³
 Kyle Anthony Hay
 William Blake Heckel
 Elizabeth L Heger^{1,2}
 Charles Raymond Henderson
 Shelby Leigh Henderson^{3,5}
 Cecelia Claiborne Hensley⁴
 Sydney Alyson Hirsch³
 Melanie Margaret Holzer⁴
 Molly May Horton
 Emily Housey
 Mary Kathryn Ingram³
 Adam Mandela Jackson
 Maya Muldoon Jackson
 Kristin Teresa Jacobsen
 Ashley L Jaspers³
 Rebecca Ann Johnson
 Paige Danielle Kasten^{1,2}
 Kayla M Keesling
 Mary Christine Keller
 Lynn Marie Kreul⁴
 Beomjun Kwon

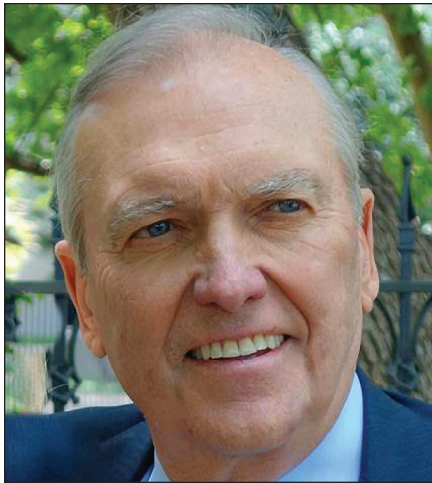
Dawson Tate Lemmons
 Abbey M Levinson³
 Rachael Therese Lindquist
 Mekenzie R Looney
 Bennett William Lopez
 Kayla K Lovelace
 Benjamin Miller Luty⁵
 Camille G Lyons
 Marguerite Callaghan MacDonald³
 Marqui Rayne MacLachlan
 Taylor R Marberry
 Joseph Matthew Marley
 Sara E Marquardt
 Tessa Louise McGartland⁴
 Lindsay O McKenna⁴
 Emily Ann McInanahan-Hluzek
 Emma Louise McNail³
 Alexis Daniella Metcalfe⁴
 Morgan Leigh Meyer⁴
 Katelyn Adele Meyerpeter⁴
 Tucker David Murphy³
 Reagan Thomas Myers^{3,5}
 Mia Joy Napolitano
 Jill Ni
 Alexandra Nicole Noback⁴
 Teagan Breanne Noblit
 Samantha Lynne Norman³
 Emma Nicole Novak³
 Meghan N Oates⁴
 Linden Ellinor O'Brien-Williams^{1,2}
 Chisom K Okafor⁴
 Mary Michael O'Leary⁴
 Noah David Otterstein
 Parker Dale Owens
 Benjamin Anthony Owings
 Danielle Elizabeth Padak⁴
 Elisabeth Kathleen Padgett
 Joy Chaewon Park^{3,5}
 Min Su Park^{3,5}
 Reilly N Parkhill³
 Kelly M Pawlak³
 Eli Jackson Pearce⁴
 Taylor Nicole Peterson
 Lucy Rae Phillips⁴
 Alaina M Pogue³
 Hannah LeAnne Pope
 Paige Catherine Powell⁴
 Melina Asimina Psihountas
 Yiwen Qian³
 Jocelyn Jean Racelis³
 Lauren Elizabeth Ramsey³
 Allison Elizabeth Randazzo³
 Natalie A Rath^{1,2}
 Allison C Reinhardt⁴
 Olivia Ellen Rhoads
 Nicole Alexis Rivera
 Peyton S Rives^{2,5}

Lauren Amelia Roberts
 Isabelle N Robles³
 Zoe Elizabeth Romyn³
 Celia J Rose^{1,2}
 Aaron Gerald Ross
 Joseph Tyler Rothwell
 Gannon Harris Rushall
 Sydney Eileen Ryan⁴
 Isabel Naomi Safrin^{1,2}
 Katherine Danielle Sanchez
 Macee Raeanne Scott
 Tessa Renee Seibel^{4,5}
 Hayley Shipley
 Pharis Nicole Sippel⁴
 Samuel Pike Skaggs
 Sydney Nicole Smalling²
 Elizabeth Louise Smith
 Sarah Kathryn Stein⁴
 Riley Lyn Steinbrecher^{1,2,5}
 Katherine Lacey Sticklen⁴
 Carly Jane Stilwell³
 Abigail Elaine Struttman^{1,2}
 William Musick Styron³
 Yi Sun²
 Zachariah Cole Taylor³
 Anna Elizabeth Telling
 Frederick K Trask
 Virginia Diane Trickey
 Ethan William Triebsch⁴
 Claire Tuck⁴
 Elizabeth A Ustinov³
 Alaina Renee Vacante³
 Grace Michelle Valadka³
 Samantha Helena Verdisco^{1,2}
 Abigail Rose Walden^{3,5}
 Benjamin A Walker
 Kaili Varie Ward³
 John O'Neill Waters
 Emma Nicole Weatherford^{1,2}
 Tylar Weddington⁴
 Kate L Westberg
 Meredith Rusk Westrich⁴
 Gavin Martin White
 Lindsey Marie Whitmore
 Eleanor Grace Widowski⁴
 Blake Mitchell Wigen
 Lauren Rae Wilcox³
 Khadijah Johnae Williams
 Paige Olivia Williams³
 Sydney Anne Winburn⁴
 August Edward Windau⁴
 Katherine Bailey Workman
 Madison Michelle Wright^{1,2,5}
 Siyi Yang³
 Alice Ann Yu^{1,2,5}
 Siqi Yue²
 Xuan Zhong³

Please note:

The list of graduates and their accomplishments in the Journalism Commencement Program was compiled on April 29, 2021. This list may differ from the official University of Missouri's Commencement Program. The list of graduates published in Mizzou's campus-wide program includes only those who submitted graduation applications before February 27, 2021 at 5 p.m.

HONORARY GRADUATE



JOHN D. GRAHAM
BJ '59

John D. Graham is being recognized this year with an honorary Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa, from the University of Missouri. The honorary doctorate degree is the highest form of recognition offered by MU to persons of exceptional distinction.

John D. Graham, chairman of FleishmanHillard, has truly exemplified the Missouri Method and made his mark on strategic communications.

The St. Louis native graduated from the Missouri School of Journalism in 1959 on both athletic and curators scholarships. Graham first joined FleishmanHillard in 1966, when it was just a small public relations firm with a single office. He quickly rose in the ranks, becoming CEO in 1974 and serving in that position for more than 30 years. Under his leadership, the agency grew to become a major global media and communications firm widely regarded as one of the top crisis communications organizations in the industry, with more than 80 offices spanning six continents.

During his years at the agency's helm, Graham helped build FleishmanHillard's strong reputation by using strategic communications to deliver what clients value most: meaningful, positive and measurable impact on the performance of their organizations. Over the years, Graham has worked in nearly all aspects of public relations, including public affairs, financial strategy, corporate strategy, investor relations and crisis situations. Graham's leadership is grounded in having a vision and then backing it up with a deep personal commitment and great people. After more than three decades as CEO, Graham handed off the top post in 2006 and now serves as chairman.

Graham co-founded the Council of Public Relations Firms and serves as a member of various other public relations organizations, including the International Public Relations Association and the Public Relations Society of America.

Graham is a global leader in the public relations field and is highly regarded for his contributions. As chairman of FleishmanHillard, Graham remains active in planning and implementing communications programs for a number of the agency's largest clients and takes pride in the many accomplishments of current management.

Graham's success doesn't stop at FleishmanHillard. He has received numerous awards, including being named PR Professional of the Year by PRWeek and becoming only the third public relations agency executive to be inducted into the Arthur W. Page Society Hall of Fame. In 2002, the Missouri School of Journalism awarded him the Missouri Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism.

THE JOURNALIST'S CREED

I believe in the profession of journalism.

I believe that the public journal is a public trust; that all connected with it are, to the full measure of their responsibility, trustees for the public; that acceptance of a lesser service than the public service is betrayal of this trust.

I believe that clear thinking and clear statement, accuracy and fairness are fundamental to good journalism.

I believe that a journalist should write only what he holds in his heart to be true.

I believe that suppression of the news, for any consideration other than the welfare of society, is indefensible.

I believe that no one should write as a journalist what he would not say as a gentleman; that bribery by one's own pocketbook is as much to be avoided as bribery by the pocketbook of another; that individual responsibility may not be escaped by pleading another's instructions or another's dividends.

I believe that advertising, news and editorial columns should alike serve the best interests of readers; that a single standard of helpful truth and cleanness should prevail for all; that the supreme test of good journalism is the measure of its public service.

I believe that the journalism which succeeds best—and best deserves success—fears God and honors Man; is stoutly independent, unmoved by pride of opinion or greed of power, constructive, tolerant but never careless, self-controlled, patient, always respectful of its readers but always unafraid, is quickly indignant at injustice; is unswayed by the appeal of privilege or the clamor of the mob; seeks to give every man a chance and, as far as law and honest wage and recognition of human brotherhood can make it so, an equal chance; is profoundly patriotic while sincerely promoting international good will and cementing world-comradeship; is a journalism of humanity, of and for today's world.

The Journalist's Creed was written by the first dean of the Missouri School of Journalism, Walter Williams. More than a century later, his declaration remains one of the clearest statements of the principles, values and standards of journalists throughout the world. Plaques bearing the creed are on display at the School, the National Press Club in Washington, D.C. (since 1958), and many other locations around the world.

