



Commencement

DECEMBER 2022



Missouri School of Journalism
University of Missouri

PROGRAM

OPENING REMARKS

Lynda Kraxberger, associate dean for Undergraduate Studies

PLAYING OF THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AND ALMA MATER

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Ana Guterrez, senior, Journalism

PRESIDENTIAL ADDRESS

Mun Choi, president, University of Missouri

THOUGHTS OF THE CLASS OF 2022

Abigail Ruhman, senior, Journalism

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Art Holliday, BJ '76

KAPPA TAU ALPHA INITIATES

Yong Volz, associate professor

GLOBAL PROGRAMS RECOGNITION

Fritz Cropp, associate dean

HONORARY DEGREE

Debbye Turner Bell, DVM '91

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Amy Simons, professor

■ **GRADUATE STUDIES**

Earnest Perry, associate dean

■ **JOURNALISM PROFESSIONS**

Mark Horvit, professor and chair

■ **STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION**

Jon Stemmle, professor and chair

REMARKS

David Kurpius, dean, Missouri School of Journalism

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Robin Wenneker, BS BA '91 , Board of Curators, University of Missouri

When today's program draws to a close, we ask that you remain in your seats until the platform party exits.



ANA MARIA GUTIERREZ

MASTER OF CEREMONIES

Ana Maria Gutierrez is a first-generation immigrant from Bogotá, Colombia. She studied journalism with an emphasis in democracy and minored in Middle Eastern studies and political science. She worked at KCOU 88.1 during her time as a student, producing and co-hosting her weekly live show “Welcome to Therapy.” Gutierrez also served as blog director and live events coordinator at the radio station. She was a communications intern in summer 2022 at the Iberoamerican University Foundation in Barcelona, Spain. She is graduating with magna cum laude honors. After graduation, Gutierrez is pursuing a role in arts and culture reporting at a music magazine.



ABIGAIL RUHMAN

STUDENT SPEAKER

Abigail Ruhman is graduating with a Bachelor of Journalism, a Bachelor of Arts in sociology and women’s and gender studies, and with minors in history, peace studies, and leadership and public service. She will also receive a writing intensive certificate and multicultural studies certificate.

As a student journalist, she worked at the School’s NPR-member station KBIA, and had work featured on the School’s NBC affiliate KOMU and in Vox Magazine. Ruhman was the recipient of the Missouri College Media Association’s Newspaper Division 1 Column Writing award, the LGBTQ resource center’s Catalyst Award, the Award for Academic Distinction, and an AHCJ Academic Fellowship. She was an NLGJA CONNECT project scholar and a research assistant for the Department of Women’s and Gender Studies. Ruhman was a writer and editor for the Center for Academic Success & Excellence and an Associate Producer for KBIA’s “High Turnout Wide Margins.” She interned at The Center Project and True North. After graduation, she hopes to find a podcasting job.



ART HOLLIDAY
BJ '76

ALUMNA SPEAKER

Art Holliday's broadcasting career spans four decades in news and sports, including more than 43 years at KSDK. In December 2020 he was named interim news director, and in March 2021 he became the permanent news director.

Art came to 5 On Your Side in 1979 and worked as a sportscaster until 1989 when he began a 22-year stint co-anchoring Today in St. Louis with Jennifer Blome. Besides anchoring, Art served as managing editor and twice was executive producer of the morning newscast. He most recently co-anchored the 4 p.m. newscast alongside Kay Quinn and Scott Connell and co-hosted a radio show on KTRS with Blome. Before joining 5 On Your Side, Art worked in the sports department of KOCO-TV in Oklahoma City for a little over two years.

Art's current responsibilities as news director include recruiting and employee mentoring and training. "The most enjoyable part has been the monthly conversations with our reporters, talking about the craft of reporting and storytelling, talking about their career dreams, and sharing my experiences when it's germane to whatever conversation we're having," said Art. "We have a great staff on multiple levels, and now I get to play a major role in hiring new employees. The goal is for all of us to make each other better."

Art's broadcasting work has been recognized with numerous awards, including induction into the Missouri Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in 2022, three sportscasting Emmys in 1985, 1988, and 1989. In 2001, Art was inducted into the Hall of Fame of the Greater St. Louis Association of Black Journalists. In 2002, the National Alliance on Mental Health presented Art its annual Media Award, and the following year the University of Missouri-Columbia selected him for its prestigious Faculty-Alumni Award. In 2009, Art was inducted into the St. Louis Media Foundation Television Hall of Fame.

He is a native of St. Charles, Missouri and earned a Bachelor of Journalism degree from the University of Missouri-Columbia in 1976. His interests include tennis, photography, and documentary filmmaking. His first documentary, "Before They Fall Off The Cliff" was accepted to multiple film festivals, and is being used by the Crisis Intervention Team of St. Louis County to train police officers on how to de-escalate encounters with citizens who have a mental illness. He's currently working on "Johnnie Be Good," a music documentary about Rock and Roll Hall of Fame pianist Johnnie Johnson.

DECEMBER 2022 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

Diamond Denise Stacker

MASTER OF ARTS

Nathan Adam Anderson

Jeffrey Scott Beeson

Samantha Jo Cox

Richard Charles Cunningham

Zakary Clay Dahlheimer

Sean Everett Frost

Ellie Sarah Gretter

Shelby Leigh Henderson ¹

Donald Lee Hughes II

Daphney Jean-Baptiste

Annie Jennemann

Samantha Genovie Laine

Irina Matchavariani

Timothy Louis Maylander

Calum Macdonald McAndrew

Eleanor McCrary

Regan Allyse Mertz

Katelyn Adele Meyerpeter

Emma Hayes Moloney

Steven Frederick Perrin

Kaili Varie Ward ¹

BACHELOR OF JOURNALISM

Shabeli Acevedo

Ashley L Arneson

DuVonte' Anthony Beard

Joseph A Beaudet ⁴

Lauryn Carlton

Ashlyn Launrae Green

Ana Maria Gutierrez ³

Adam Finnegan Healy ⁴

Michael Francis Neill

Vasi Sophia Prokos ³

Sophie Christine Stephens ²

Rheanna Leigh Wachter ⁴

Natalie Nicole Wiens ³

Amiya K Williams

Eileen Jean Wisniowicz ³

CONVERGENCE JOURNALISM

Emma Katherine Dalke ³

Destiny Rae-Ann Garcia

Connor Sullivan Lyford

Abigail Keziah Ruhman ³

Leor Shomroni

MAGAZINE JOURNALISM

Grace Elizabeth Leyden

Anna N Ortega

PHOTOJOURNALISM

Hudson M Heidger

PRINT AND DIGITAL NEWS

Riddhi Shridhar Andurkar

Cameron William Barnard

Jessica Elaine Blake ^{2,5}

RADIO-TELEVISION JOURNALISM

Ben Luke Beythoun

Kate Rose Bowermaster

Julia Anne DeFrank

Tillman Allen McClunie

STRATEGIC COMMUNICATION

Nathan Ryan Andrzejewski

Emmy Raines Barrett ⁴

Lilly M Beckwith ^{1,2,5}

Joseph Brandt

Taylor Marie Bunch ^{1,2}

Tyler Lucas Conley

Emilie M Connors

Ryan Thomas Crothers

Sydney Marie Davis ³

Darnell Josiah Dowd

Ahmad M Elsholi ^{1,2}

Macy Elizabeth Embry

Lexi Jolie Eskijian ^{1,2}

Kristina Lucille Essig ^{1,2,5}

Natalie Moyne Evans ⁴

Amari Simonne Foster ⁴

Leah McKenzie Glasser ³

Sophia Rose Grande ⁴

Claire E Hamlin ^{1,2}

Eve Doize Irvin ³

Moriana M Jaco ⁴

Jacob Wayne Jones

Ellen Michelle Killeen ⁴

Kallie Jo Lehenbauer ⁴

Erin L Manis ⁴

Emily Alexandria Mann

Carter Lynn Rega

Amanda C Rosser ⁴

David A Schmidt

Colin Joseph Schumer ⁴

Jane Simpson ⁴

Savannah Rose Singletary

Mitchell Braden Smith

Reagan Kathleen Van Eaton

Elle AnnMarie Wilkinson

Tommy John Wolfe

Renee Jung-Woo Yoon



DEBBYE TURNER BELL
DVM '91

HONORARY GRADUATE

Born in Honolulu, Hawaii, Debbye Turner Bell is a veterinarian, journalist, minister, advocate for animal health, Miss America Pageant winner, motivational speaker and a corporate trainer. Her knowledge, experience and compassion have touched the lives of many. Turner Bell might be best known as the first Miss Missouri to be crowned Miss America, in 1990. Since then, she has not only established herself as a public figure who is an inspiration to women, girls, students and people around the world, she also demonstrates the value of higher education. She earned a Doctor of Veterinary Medicine degree in 1991 from MU, using her Miss America scholarship funding to help finance her education. Before attending MU, she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in agriculture from Arkansas State University.

Turner Bell's commitment to excellence is reflected in her own life lessons – it took seven years and 11 tries in two states before she was crowned Miss America. Her enduring passion is motivational speaking, and over the years, Turner Bell has spoken to hundreds of thousands of students at countless schools, youth organizations and college campuses and has addressed audiences in the corporate, academic and community service arenas. Her topics include personal excellence, determination, goal setting and the importance of a solid education.

For three years, she served as the lead U.S. news anchor for Arise News, a global cable news network. She hosted a daily evening news broadcast called "Arise America," and from 1995 to 2001, Turner Bell co-hosted a television magazine program called "Show Me St. Louis." She was an expert contributor to the show "DOGS 101" on Animal Planet and for 11 years Turner Bell worked as a staff correspondent for CBS News starting in 2001. While at CBS, she was named "The Early Show's" resident veterinarian sharing a wealth of advice about quality pet care.

Turner Bell has served as an exceptional ambassador for the University of Missouri throughout her career and has returned home to the MU campus as a commencement speaker and, more recently, for her induction into the 2018 Homecoming Hall of Fame. Today, Turner Bell lives in the New York City area with her husband and daughter. Her drive for excellence is unmatched and will continue to inspire future generations.

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.





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