



LeMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE
**ONE HUNDRED
AND FIFTY-THIRD**

Commencement

SATURDAY THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MAY
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

S P R I N G 2 0 2 3





LEMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE
**ONE HUNDRED
AND FIFTY-THIRD**

Commencement

SATURDAY THE THIRTEENTH DAY OF MAY
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

S P R I N G 2 0 2 3



Alma Mater

Far above the Mississippi shore
Where ships to sea sail by
Doth wave the Purple and the Gold
Beneath the Southern sky
LeMoyne-Owen, thy banner there must stay
Must never trail the dust
We pledge to thee fidelity
Our love, our sacred trust

LeMoyne-Owen, Our Alma Mater dear
To thy ideals we cling
Thy sons and daughters far and near
Thy virtues proudly sing
And with consecration, service, truth
We hold thy precepts high
We stand for thee unitedly
For thee we live, we die

Composed by
Gloster, Latting & Latting



B O A R D O F T R U S T E E S

OFFICERS

Ms. Patricia Covington, Chairwoman
Mr. Donald Comer, First Vice Chairman
Mr. Jason Berger, Second Vice Chairman
Mrs. Sharon Devine Harris, Secretary

MEMBERS

Dr. Lilia A. Abron
Mr. Byron Cole
Dr. Christopher Davis
Dr. Deborah Harmon Hines
Mrs. Vanecia Kimbrow
Mr. Mickell Lowery
Representative Larry J. Miller
Mr. Michael Scarbrough
Dr. Claudette Shephard
Dr. Haywood Strickland
Mr. Victor Walker
Mrs. Katherine Cannon "KC" Warren
Dr. Sonja B. Williams
Mr. Paul Young

EMERITI

Dr. James J. Bishop
Dr. Thomas E. Dipko
Mr. Jed Dreifus
Dr. Thomas Leonard Gibson
Mr. Herman A. Gilliam
Dr. W. W. Herenton
Mr. Wilton D. Hill
Mrs. Fredricka Allen Hodges
Mr. Robert L. Johnson
Ms. Velma Lois Jones
Mr. Robert Lipscomb
Dr. Bennie P. Reams
Mr. Ronald A. Walters



Academic Regalia

The various colors worn by persons in the academic procession have a significance deeply rooted in the traditions of academic life and lend to the commencement ceremony a colorful aspect. The hoods are edged with colors representing the field of knowledge in which the degree is conferred. The inner lining of the hood shows the colors of the institution granting the degree. The blue cord denotes high academic achievement in The Moving Forward STEM program. The colors of LeMoyne-Owen College are purple and gold.

Arts, Letters Humanities | White
Accounting, Business | Sapphire Blue
Economics | Copper Education | Light Blue Fine Arts | Brown
Journalism | Crimson
Law | Purple
Library Science | Lemon Medicine | Kelly Green Music | Pink
Nursing | Apricot
Oratory (Speech) | Silver Gray
Philosophy | Dark Blue
Physical Education | Sage Green
Science | Golden Yellow
Social Work | Citron
Theology | Scarlet
Veterinary Medicine | Gray

Flag Bearers and Marshals

Division of Fine Arts and Humanities
D' Angelqueat Warren Jr.
Division of Business and Economic Development
Kikelademi Ojo
Division of Social and Behavioral Sciences
Britney Johnson
Division of Natural and Mathematical Sciences
Meredith Dennings
Division of Education
Kishuna Harris
Division of Information Technology
Kamryn Knight

Alumni Flag Bearers

Michael Wooten
TsholoFelo Musarurwa
Nate Banda

Marshals

Destinie Mull
Teresa Norwood Jackson
Jessica Pender
Serenity Thomas
Kynneddy Cole



LEMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE
153RD COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023 | 10:00 A.M.

Processional

(The audience is requested to stand.)

Chief Marshal

Flag Bearers

Valedictorian

Faculty and Staff

Trustees of the College

Members of the Executive Leadership Team

Registrar

President of the LeMoyne-Owen College

National Alumni Association Members of the Clergy

Chairwoman, Board of Trustees

Speaker & Candidate for Honorary Degree

President

Candidates for Degrees

Reading of the Holy Scriptures

Reverend Melvin D. Watkins Jr.
Pastor, Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church

Prayer

Reverend Vincent E H Joplin
Assistant Pastor, Hope Church, Memphis

Music

“I Just Can’t Give Up Now” (Mary-Mary)
Tabatha Barlow,
Tameera Williams

Greetings

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Greetings

Michael Zhou
2023 Class Valedictorian

Greetings

Patricia Covington
Chairwoman, Board of Trustees

Introduction of Speaker

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Commencement Address

Nzinga Shaw
Chief DEI Officer, The Recording Academy | GRAMMYS



LEMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE
153RD COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2023 | 10:00 A.M.

2023 CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Presentation of Honorary Degree

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Doctorate of Humane Letters
Nzinga Shaw

Presentation of Candidates

Lisa Lang, Ph.D.
Provost & Vice-President of Academic Affairs

Conferral of Degrees

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Associate of Arts
Associate of Science
Bachelor of Business Administration
Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Science

Presentation of Alumni Classes
Diamond Anniversary, Class of 1963
Golden Anniversary, Class of 1973
Silver Anniversary, Class of 1998

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Induction Ceremony

Alandria London
2nd Vice President,
National Alumni Association

Acknowledgements

Vernell Bennett-Fairs, Ed.D.
President, LeMoyne-Owen College

Alma Mater
(Audience is requested to stand
and remain standing for the benediction.)

Gloster, Latting & Latting
Gavin Wigginson, M.M.

Benediction

Reverend Melvin D. Watkins Jr.
Pastor, Mt. Vernon Missionary Baptist Church

RECESSIONAL (The audience is requested to be seated)

PLEASE REFRAIN FROM TAKING PHOTOGRAPHS DURING THE CEREMONY.



NZINGA “ZING” SHAW

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
& HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

Nzinga “Zing” Shaw joined The Recording Academy | GRAMMYS in 2023, serving as a member of the executive leadership team in the capacity of Chief Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion (DEI) Officer. She leads the company’s DEI Center of Excellence which is focused to enable a more engaged global workforce, creating enhanced platforms to recognize the diverse array of musicians, songwriters, producers, recording engineers, and supports a more inclusive culture to best position the Academy to drive financial growth in underserved markets.

Prior to joining the Recording Academy|GRAMMYS, Shaw has been at the forefront of leading organizational change through diversity.

She served as the first Chief Inclusion and Diversity Officer at Starbucks, the world’s largest coffeehouse chain, the first Chief Diversity & Inclusion Officer in the National Basketball Association representing the Atlanta Hawks & State Farm Arena franchise, and she served as senior vice president of diversity & inclusion at Edelman, the world’s largest and most profitable public relations/integrated marketing agency. For the past 20 years, Shaw worked in a myriad of industries including publishing, sports entertainment, retail, and communications. She was a human resources practitioner at ESSENCE Magazine, the Yankees Entertainment and Sports Network, and the National Football League.

Shaw received her Master’s degree from the University of Pennsylvania and her Bachelor’s degree from Spelman College. She is currently an Adjunct Professor at Fisk University and teaches in the Honors Program in the John R. Lewis Social Justice Institute. In her free time, Shaw enjoys interior design, international travel, cooking and spending time with her husband Keith and three children, Lacy, Hudson and Trey.



Candidates FOR GRADUATION

The appearance of a name in the program is not proof that a candidate has satisfied the requirements for graduation. Only receipt of the diploma with the College seal, and the signatures of appropriate College officials, and/or receipt of an official stamped College transcript marked "degree conferred" are proof of graduation and the conferral of a degree.



CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION
S U M M E R 2 0 2 2

Bachelor of Business Administration

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Richard Byer-Russell

Eric Henderson

Bachelor of Science

BIOLOGY

Sha'neria Sanders

SOCIAL WORK

Alexander Wilks

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Auriona Browder

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Raveen Meriwether

Jaylnn Woodland*

* Cum Laude ** Magna Cum Laude *** Summa Cum Laude



CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION
F A L L 2 0 2 2

Associate of Arts

GENERAL STUDIES
Noorjahan Pabani**

Associate of Science

GENERAL STUDIES
Ada Gilland

Bachelor of Arts

ART
Corian Broner**

ENGLISH
Darrea Roby

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICE

Stephine Burton
Paula Chatman**
Tyke Edwards

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRE LAW

QuaDaesia Allen

POLITICAL SCIENCE

Tykeria Grissom

*Bachelor of
Business Administration*

MANAGEMENT
Kimberly Tate

ACCOUNTING
Tatyana Moton

Bachelor of Science

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Tamar Anderson**

Lakisha Bass

Kortni Calhoun

Akya Cusick

Kenya Gillenwaters

Kourtney Harris*

Ashley Harrison

Jasmine Phillips*

Tatyana Richards

Felicia Smith

Jalesa Wallace

Jiya Webster**

Tyana White**

Dominique Williams

SOCIAL WORK

Keitha Turner



CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION S P R I N G 2 0 2 3

Associate of Science

GENERAL STUDIES

Kendree Collier
Scarlette Pickens*

CRIMINAL JUSTICE PRE LAW

Janieka Ellington**

Bachelor of Arts

ART

Chandler Armstrong
Brandon Hunt*
Taleisha Shorty

CHEMISTRY

Marcus Frierson*

ENGLISH

Brianna Harper

MUSIC

Tabatha Barlow**
Cameron Hollingshead
Jon Turner**
Tameera Williams

CRIMINAL JUSTICE POLICE

Andrew Anderson
Charity Bays
Latina Briggs
Taron Clark
Kiana Edwards*
Mark Lesure
Harmony Lucas
Andrea Martin
Keith McWilliams*
Adriana Merriwether**
Reginald Robinson 60
Donzel Scott
April Sullivan
Marla Smith*
Cherim Gwinn-Williams***
Lavita Valentine*

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Kameka Washington
Gjerard Wilson*

SOCIOLOGY

Laquisha Hurt
Alexandria Lowe
Tametria Banks



CANDIDATES FOR GRADUATION S P R I N G 2 0 2 3

Bachelor of Business Administration

ACCOUNTING
Jacquelyn Johnson

MANAGEMENT
Ashley Christian
Lakia Eggleston
Jaikeisha Forrest
Kirby Lacy**
Derrick Marshall**

Erisha Mitchell
Antonio Moss
Israel Muhammad
Kimyata Perry
Namon Smith
Ronald Snell
Mallori Somerville-Brown**
Alonna Tate
Crystal Word*

Bachelor of Science

BIOLOGY
Mikia Chism
Tierney Crosby
Kaylyn Howard**
Iyanla McNeal
Jala Merriwether*
Nelson Mukuka**
Kionna Shaw

COMPUTER SCIENCE
Uren Mador***

COMPUTER SCIENCE CYBER DEFENSE
Tavius Anderson
Jamal Muhammad**
Dinisha Timmons*
Michael Zhou***

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Charles Maxwell

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES
Brianna Boyce**
Jermario Brown
Mohogany Guinn
Tyress Love
Shondell Mabone
Briuna Price
D'iAyana Scott
Asia Wakefield
Diamond West
Latifa White-Porter**

SOCIAL WORK
Crystal Boyce
Carla Henderson
Terena Hunter
Will Valsien
LaDestinee Williams



S I L V E R A N N I V E R S A R Y C L A S S O F 1 9 9 8

Dwight Aaron	Sonya Flowers-Fleming	Shonkilah Malone
Verna Alexander	Evelyn Ford-Smith	Cloteal Parker
Nataline Alston-Parker	Tronda Foster	DeMone Payne
William J. Anderson	Vernon Foster	Ernestine Phillips-Parker
Mikka D. Atkins	Loretta Morganfield Franklin	Cepada Ransfer
Cheryl Bailey	Larry Fullilove	Carlos Rogers
Katisha Bailey	Lutricia Gentry	Patricia Sales
Regina Baldwin	Tarrah Gordon-Manning	Don Scott
Wendy Birdsong	Claudia Griffin	Erica Shelton
Maceo Boyd	Jerry L. Hall	Rita Shelton
Jennifer Broadie	Byron Hardaway	Lutesha Simmons
Adrienne Broadnax	Debra Harris	Louis Simms
Shandra Brooks	Nicole Harris	Cantrece Smith
April Broom	Richard A. Haynes	Charlene Smith
JoNichole Brown	Lillian Hodges	Shanta Steele Karen Stokes
Kendrah Brown	Rodney Holland	Tanya Stokes
Kevin Brown	Shelitha Hopson	Anissa Swanigan
Joyce Burkley	Candice L. Ivy	Andrew Taylor
Annette Burks	Marlo Denise Jackson	Patricia Taylor
Fernando Clark	Mary Overton Jackson	Shequita Taylor
Rosalyn Crawford	Michael L. Jackson	Russell Teague
Samara Crenshaw-Hardy	Abdoulah Jaiteh	Eric Thomas
Kissten Cummings-Curry	Momodou Jatta	Spencer Tyrus
Candice Dailey	Jesse K. Jeff	Monica Washington
Tasha Dandridge-Fox	Shalene Weddle Johnson	Juanita Williams
Tracie C. Davis	Shirley Ann Johnson	Monica Williams
Delicia Degraffreed	Laquita Jones Gladney	Reginald Williams
Fagueye Diop	Marcus D. Jones	Carmela Williamson
Nakeshi Dyer	Maurice J. Jones	Victor Williamson
Anthony Edwards	Regina Jones	Queen Willis
Appolonia Emeagwai	Sharon Jones	Monica Wilson
Bertha Eulls	Tamara Jones	Randolph Wilson
Janice Ewing	Reynolde Jordan	Hayat Wohab-Rebbi
Velisa Fitzpatrick Crutchfield	June Knox	Lewanna Woodard
Indrea Flowers	Rhonda Lester	Ricky Wright
Margaret Flowers	Jimmy Macon	Yolunda Yarbrough

*Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of deceased listings.

If you should note a correction or are aware of a deceased Alumnus who is not indicated,
please contact the Alumni Affairs office at (901) 435-1507.



D I A M O N D A N N I V E R S A R Y C L A S S O F 1 9 6 3

Helen E. Armstrong	T. C. Heard	Betty M. Sanders
Elizabeth M. Baker	Willie W. Herenton	Anna Jean Wilson Smith
Geraldine Kimbrough Bannon	Thelma Stewart Hill	Gertrude Anderson Smith
Ronetta J. Bonds	Millicent Cade Hoskin	Nellie Q. Smith
Charlie P. Booker	Benjamin F. Ivy, Jr.	Ava Addison Sudduth
Marva Brown	Elmer Taylor Johnson	Geraldine G. Gray Sykes
Eleanor Mayhue Buckley	Robert C. Johnson, Sr.	DeWittess Robinson Taylor
John R. Buntyn, Jr.	Amy A. Jones	Adleigh Tolbert Terrell
Lucinda Campbell	Betty Jones-Davis	Willie R. Terry, Sr.
Ruth Jones Campbell	Elizabeth Ann Lacy**	Florida Haynes Thomas
Ernestine Hill Carpenter	Gloria Lamar	Edward L. Thornton
Telitha Caviness	Daisy Marshall	Willie B. Truehart
Georgette McKinney Charlton	Michael Ellen Mason-Whitaker	Larry Turner**
James Cleaves	Edward C. Mayhue, Jr.	Freddie M. Ushrea
Mildred Thomas Dixon	Mary Ann Chaney McNeil	Floyd L. Weakley
Lavata Edwards **	Roscoe R. McWilliams	Amanda Doggett Weddington
Lillie A. Flowers	Jessie Matthews Miller	Frances Calhoun Williams
Maxine Robinson Garcia	Iola Walton Mitchell	Mae Dee Williams
Willie Golden, Sr.	Margaret Swift Moore	Thirkell Stovall Williams
Countess Johnson Gregory	Annie L. Neal	Betty Wilson
Lizzie P. Patterson Haley	Shirley C. Neely	Martha E. Wilson
Juanita Harbor-Coleman	James L. Netters**	Dorothy J. Woods
Goldie M. Parks Harrell	Hannibal Parks	Joyce Lynom Young
Dorothy Bobo Hayes	Monetha R. Reaves	

*Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of deceased listings.

If you should note a correction or are aware of a deceased Alumnus who is not indicated,
please contact the Alumni Affairs office at (901) 435-1507.



G O L D E N A N N I V E R S A R Y C L A S S O F 1 9 7 3

Aubrey G. Adams	Jimmy Harris**	Frendalious Murry Pratcher
Barbara F. Adams	Virgie Harris	Irma Presley
Larry Alexander	Eddie Henderson	Lillian Reynolds
Merkia Alexander	Gaynell Hendricks	Lillie Roberts
C. W. Ayers, Jr.	Sterline Hewlett	Annette Exum Robinson
Rose S. Banger	Annie Hill	Duan Robinson
James A. Barfield	Morrinstein Holman	Marion Robinson
Kathryn D. Beasley	Lajuana Holst	Sylvia Shannon
Ambrose M. Bennett	Sandra Hosey	Claudia Canada Shumpert**
Randy C. Bobo	Sandra Jackson	Dorothy Siddell
Cora Bogard	Velma Jackson	Mary Simmons
Raymond Boykin	Vickie Jackson	Rosie Simpson
Dweice Brookins	Marva Johnson	Loretta Sims
Helen Greene Burbridge	Wash Johnson	Lillie Roberts
Rosa L. Burnett**	Clorraine Jones	Annette Exum Robinson
Charlotte Bush	Richard D. Jones	Duan L. Robinson
L. T. Carter	William Jones	Marion D. Robinson
Marilyn Carter	Jennifer Jones-Marshall	Mary Simmons
Cap Casey, Jr.	Patricia Larry	Rosie Simpson
Houston R. Chaffin	Leroy Leflore	Loretta Sims
Mae Robinson Cleaves	Edith Bailey Lester	Walter Somerville
Trentwood Cobb	Bennie Liggins	Thelma Stewart
Eugene B. Cockrell	Denise Malone	Gaynell Talley
Garry Coleman	Frank Marshall	Brenda Foster TaylorJohn Taylor
Jane Cooper	Elma Mayo	Waverly Taylor
Maria Cunningham	Gwyne McIntyre	Gloria Thomas
Cheryl Davis	Beverly Mitchell	Jacqueline Thomas
Judith Kerr Dotson	Beverly Morris	Joe Thornton
Averette Williams Dunn	Roberta OdomAbraham Parker	B. Cheri Wells
Charles Edge, Jr.**	Ronald Parker	Sarah Wells-Owens
Ronald Ester	Juanita Parrish	Beverly Williams
Myrtle Booker Evans	Glenda Partee	Jacquelyn Williams
Thelma Gilliam	Stanley Payne	Lorine Williams
Peggy GlassDorothy Bailey Glenn	Henry F. Pegues, Jr.	Marilyn Williams
Garnita Goodman	Elizabeth Perkins	Diantha Beasley Winton
O. Daniel Louis Gray	Ophelia Person	James Winton
Arlene Brown Gross	Sandra Phillips	
Ann Guinn	James O. Pope, Sr.	

*Every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of deceased listings.

If you should note a correction or are aware of a deceased Alumnus who is not indicated,
please contact the Alumni Affairs office at (901) 435-1507.



Members of the Faculty

Stanley Abell, Ph.D.	Johnny McDonald, D.B.A.
Ronald Alexander, M.E.M.	Reoungeneria McFarland, M.B.A.
Muhammad Anwar, Ph.D.	Charles Needham, D.B.A.
Olushola Aromona, Ph.D.	Douglas Newson, M.B.A.
Patrick Bamwine, Ph.D.	Zina Parker, Ed.D.
Nabil Bayakly, Ph.D.	Eddie Pate, M.A.
Tracey Bell-Jernigan, Ph.D.	Meenakshi Rajagopalan, Ph.D.
Charlotte Bush, J.D.	Mekel Richardson, Ph.D.
Ralph Calhoun, Ed.D.	Michael Robinson, M.S.W.
Mary Arlene Chongson, Ph.D.	Roosevelt Shelton, Ph.D.
Valerie Y. Chu, Ph.D.	Kusum Singh, Ph.D.
Ashley Davis, D.M.A.	Stacey J. Smith, M.A., M.S.
Phillip Dotson, M.F.A.	Cozbia, Smith, M.Ed.
Austin C. Emeagwai, Ph.D.	Courtney Spencer, M.F.A.
Denise Ferebee, Ph.D.	Moniruzzaman Syed, Ph.D.
Sonya Fleming, M.E.	Brenda Taylor, Ed.D.
Lora Gubanov, D.M.A.	Roderick Thompson, M.F.A.
Yahia Z. Hamada, Ph.D.	Ruth Washington, Ph.D.
Christie Harper, M.F.A.	Daphne R. Whitaker, M.S.
Delphia Harris, Ph.D.	Linda White, Ph.D.
Ashley Hudson, Ph.D.	James Wiggins, M.A.
LaToya Jefferson-James, Ph.D.	Gavin Wigginson, M.M.
Lisa Lang, Ph.D.	Darius Zarshenas, M.S.



ONE - HUNDRED AND FIFTY - THIRD COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

Tara Dunn-Ross, Ph.D.
Chair

Phillip Dotson, M.F.A.
Chief Marshal

Tabatha Barlow
Student Government Association

Shalunda Askew-Elliott, M.S.
Sheneka Balogun, Ed.D.
Carolyn B. Bishop, M.A., M.B.A.
Jesse Chatman, '71 B.A.
June Chinn-Jointer, '79 Ph.D.
Barbara Conard, M.B.A.
Charles G. Elliott, M.B.A.
Errick Gatewood, '2007 M.Ed.
Earnestine Gilson, A. A.
Derek Henson, Ph.D.
Lisa Lang, Ph.D.
Vida Mays, Ph.D.
Marcus L. McCurry, B.A.
Brene` Moore, M.S.
Jennifer Moore, B.A.
Jessica Richard, B. A.
Jean B. Saulsberry, M.B.A.
Stacey J. Smith, '85 M.A., M.L.S.
Gavin Turner, B. A.
Mona Washington, '13 B.B.A.
Gavin Wiggingson, M.M.
Robert Williams, Ed.D
Angela Wooten, M. S.



LeMOYNE-OWEN COLLEGE
807 WALKER AVENUE | MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE 38126
WWW.LOC.EDU