



Order of the Exercises for the
Doctor of Dental Surgery

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
COMMENCEMENT

Monday, May 22, 2023

University of Colorado
Anschutz Medical Campus



School of Dental Medicine
UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

SCHOOL OF DENTAL MEDICINE
COMMENCEMENT

MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



On this special Commencement day, we celebrate the accomplishments of the Dental Class of 2023. To the graduates, their families and friends, let me offer my congratulations on this momentous occasion, and acknowledge the academic accomplishments and personal sacrifices it has taken to reach this goal.

I want to thank this outstanding graduating class for their resilience and dedication through, and after, the COVID19 pandemic. Together they worked to serve the needs of their patients while supporting their colleagues and others in the school.

Graduates, the faculty and staff of the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine take great pride in the educational, research and clinical programs that have provided you with the knowledge and skills that you now possess as new dentists. While you are now distinguished alumni of our great school, your education is not over. As capable professionals, you are entering the dental profession at a time when both your skills and compassion are much in demand.

As you meet the new challenges of treating patients in your communities, please remember the underserved and less fortunate populations who also need your care. Commit to increasing access to oral health care and improving lives. Be mindful of your personal needs and care for yourself while caring for others.

May the opportunities and privilege to treat others be a source of great professional and personal satisfaction for you.

Best wishes for a bright future,

Denise K. Kassebaum, DDS, MS
Dean, School of Dental Medicine

ORDER OF EXERCISES

WELCOME

Denise K. Kassebaum, DDS, MS
Dean, CU School of Dental Medicine

CONVOCATION ADDRESS

Leah E. Schulz, DDS '14
Colorado Dental Association President-elect

REMARKS TO THE DENTAL CLASS OF 2023

Wyatt Nguyen, DDS '23
Class President

PRESENTATION OF DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY DEGREES

Denise K. Kassebaum, DDS, MS
Dean

Lonnie R. Johnson, DDS, PhD
Senior Associate Dean of Clinics and Professional Practice

Eric Mediavilla, DDS '00
*Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs
Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry*

PLACEMENT OF ACADEMIC HOODS

Thomas Greany, DDS '97
*Clinical Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry
Director, Academic Technology Initiatives*

Kyle Pelkey, DMD, MBA
Clinical Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry

OATH

Tracy de Peralta, DMD, PhD, MClinEd
Senior Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Innovation

Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2023

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Leah E. Schulz, DDS '14

Leah E. Schulz, DDS '14, is an alumna from the University of Colorado School of Dental Medicine and is the current President-elect of the Colorado Dental Association (CDA). She is passionate about improving health equity through her work as the Director of Dental Projects at Salud Family Health, a federally qualified health center. Schulz enjoys precepting predoctoral dental students and postdoctoral AEGD residents at the CU School of Dental Medicine and NYU Langone Health. Schulz has a keen interest in political advocacy efforts, especially those that benefit the historically marginalized, and is actively involved in the National Network for Oral Health Access (NNOHA) Policy and Advocacy Committee, the CDA Government Relations Council and the CDA Small Donor Committee. She chairs the Colorado Dental Political Action Committee, is a CDA Action team leader, and is the dentist representative on the Colorado State Medical Assistance and Services Advisory Council. Equally passionate about practice management and organizational leadership, she is a member of NNOHA's Practice Management Committee, a delegate to the American Dental Association (ADA), an ADA Success Speaker, a 2019 graduate of both the National Oral Health Leadership Institute and the Regional Institute of Health and Environmental Learning's Primary Care Movers and Changers Leadership Program, and a 2020 graduate of the ADA Institute for Diversity in Leadership. Schulz was awarded the Geiger-Gibson Emerging Leader national distinction in 2018, was honored with a fellowship by the Pierre Fauchard Academy in 2022 and will be inducted into the International College of Dentists later this year.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

The following teaching awards were celebrated during the DDS Class of 2023 Banquet & Awards Ceremony. The award recipients were selected by the graduating Class of 2023.

PRESIDENT'S EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

Alison Morrison, DMD

Assistant Professor, Division of Endodontics, Department of Surgical Dentistry

CHANCELLOR'S TEACHING RECOGNITION AWARD

Thomas Greany, DDS '97

Clinical Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry

Director of Academic Technology Initiatives

Associate Professor, Modern Human Anatomy Program

OUTSTANDING BASIC SCIENCES INSTRUCTOR

Caley Orr, PhD

Associate Professor, Anthropology

OUTSTANDING DIDACTIC INSTRUCTOR

Kunjan Kakar, DDS (ISP '10), MS, BDS

Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry

OUTSTANDING PRE-CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR

James DeLapp, DDS '82, MS

Associate Professor, Restorative Dentistry

OUTSTANDING CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR

Daniel Melamed, DDS

Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry

SPECIAL RECOGNITION

OUTSTANDING PART-TIME FACULTY

Yoolim Kim, DMD, MS
Assistant Professor, Surgical Dentistry

ALTRUISM FACULTY RECOGNITION AWARD

Eric Mediavilla, DDS '00
Associate Dean of Admissions and Student Affairs
Assistant Professor, Restorative Dentistry

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Leah E. Schulz, DDS '14
Colorado Dental Association President-elect

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON HONORARY INDUCTEE

Diedre Callanan, RDH, DC, MPH
Assistant Professor, Community Dentistry & Population Health
Director of Continuing Education
Title IX Ally

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON HONORARY INDUCTEE

Maureen Pasquale
Former Director of Finance

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON FACULTY INDUCTEE

Emanouela Carlson, DDS '09
Associate Professor & Chair, Surgical Dentistry

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON LIFETIME INDUCTEE

Denise Kassebaum, DDS, MS
Dean

CLASS OF 2023



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BRUCE ABBOTT
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BLAKE ALEXANDER
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ABDELRAHMAN ALJASSAR
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LAYLA ALMUBARAK
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CLASS OF 2023



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JESSE E. ANDREWS
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FAITH ARNESON
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MADISON AUNGST
Quintessence Award for Research Achievement
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LOGAN AUÑÓN
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CLASS OF 2023



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KATLYN BARLOWE
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NOAH BARRETT
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BRENDA BATRES
Society of Color and Appearance in Dentistry
Award
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JOSEPH BORST
.....

CLASS OF 2023



BENJAMIN BRIGHT



KATRI CASE



MADISON COURTNEY

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial
Surgeons Dental Student Award
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



MEKAYLA DAVICO

CLASS OF 2023



ZALEON DINH



MARK FIORELLO

Dr. Solomon Averbach Humanitarian Award



MAKENNA FOPMA

Predoctoral Student Prosthodontic Achievement
Award



GILBERT A. FRU

American Academy of Periodontology Dental
Student Award
Dr. Thomas J. Bomberg Memorial Award
International Congress of Oral Implantologists'
(ICOI)/Sullivan Schein Dental Predoctoral
Achievement

CLASS OF 2023



JEFFERY GIUS



KATHRYN GORCZYCA



STEPHANIE GUIMARÃES

American Academy of Pediatric Dentistry
Certificate of Merit Award



ANYA HATFIELD

CLASS OF 2023



SASHA HILL



MEGAN HOANG



MADISON HOBBS

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial
Pathology Dental Student Award
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



ZACHARY HOLLOWAY

CLASS OF 2023



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FAITH HOPE
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DANNY HUYNH
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KENNY HUYNH
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SARAH INGAH
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CLASS OF 2023



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MICHAEL JAISLE
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PATRICK JONES
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ZANE KHATTAK
The Colorado Prosthodontic Society Award
Dr. Kenneth Grove/Memorial of the Dental
Foundation of Colorado Award
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member
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JOURDAN KIDD
American Academy of Oral Medicine
Certificate of Merit
Western Society of Periodontology Award
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Award
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member
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CLASS OF 2023



AMELIA KRAFT

Advanced Clinical Training and Services Program
Award
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



KYLIE KUDRNA



THI LE



TRAVIS R. LEE

American College of Dentists Student Award
Brasseler USA Award

CLASS OF 2023



EMILY LI

Outstanding Dental Student in Implant Dentistry-
Academy of Osseointegration
The Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Student
Award
Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievements in
Periodontics
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



PEI-HSUAN LIN

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



JACQUELINE MERZ

International College of Dentists Leadership Award
American Association of Public Health Dentistry
Award



FAITH MEYER

CLASS OF 2023



MOHAMMAD MOHAMMAD



PATRICK MUGABE

International College of Dentists Student
Humanitarian Award
Predoctoral Student Achievement Award in
Endodontics



PATRICK MURPHY

Hanau Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics
American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial
Surgeons Dental Implant Student Award



YALDA NAZERI

CLASS OF 2023



BAO-CHI CLARA NGHIEM

Alpha Omega International Fraternity Award
American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial
Radiology Achievement Award
Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in
Restorative Dentistry
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member



KHAI NGUYEN



WYATT NGUYEN



ENZO OLABI

CLASS OF 2023



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DANIELA ORTIZ
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.....
HANNAH PAUL
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KENDALL PECK
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SARAH POSANTE
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CLASS OF 2023



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JOSHUA PRESLEY
Dr. Barry Beauvais/Special Care Dentistry
Associaiton Award
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BRENDAN REICH
Omicron Kappa Upsilon Member
.....



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ELIZABETH RODIE
Brian D. Stone Memorial Award
.....



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JUAN RODRIGUEZ
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CLASS OF 2023



LANDON ROGERS



MEGAN RYAN



COURTNEY SANTISTEVAN

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award



ANDREAS SCHMALZ

American Academy of Implant Dentistry Dental
Student Award

CLASS OF 2023



AKSHAY SHAH

Academy of General Dentistry Senior Student
Dental Award

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Award



AMANDA SLAVIK



HAYDEN SMITH

Miles Markley Delta Sigma Delta Award



BRITTNEY SULLIVAN

American Association of Orthodontists Student
Dental Award

CLASS OF 2023



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TJ SWANSON
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JACOB TAYLOR
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AMY TRAN
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THUY TRANG TRANG
American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award
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CLASS OF 2023



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GINNETH TRUJILLO
MACKENZIE
.....



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MINH-TOM VAN
American Equilibration Society Award
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JADE VIGIL
Academy of Dental Materials Award
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STEPHANIE WAKEFIELD
Colorado Coalition for the Homeless Award
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CLASS OF 2023



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SAUL YI
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DENTAL PROFESSIONS OATH

DEAN: Today you stand before family, friends, faculty, and colleagues, ready to become dentists. In closing this ceremony, you now have the opportunity to articulate your commitment to the profession. The oath you have chosen sets forth ideals and principles to guide the work ahead of you.

CLASS: Now being admitted to the profession of dentistry, I pledge myself to the service of humanity, my patients, my community, and my profession. I will use my skills to serve all in need, with openness of spirit and without bias. The health and well-being of my patients will be my first consideration. I will hold in confidence all that my patients entrust to me. I will not subordinate the dignity of any person to monetary, scientific or political ends.

I recognize that I have responsibilities to my community, to promote its welfare and to speak out against injustice. The high regard of my profession is born of society's trust in its practitioners; I will strive to merit that trust.

I will promote the integrity of my profession with honest and respectful relations with other health professionals. I am indebted to those who have taught me its art and science and I recognize my responsibility, in turn, to contribute to the education of those who come after me. I will strive to advance my profession by seeking new knowledge and by reexamining the ideas and practices of the past.

I assume these responsibilities, knowing that their fulfillment depends upon my own good health. I ask that my colleagues be attentive to my well-being as I will be to theirs. I will seek to improve my practice by maintaining my skills and addressing my mistakes.

I take this oath freely and upon my honor.

Based on the Hippocratic Oath



CONGRATULATIONS



TO THE
DDS CLASS OF 2023!

A Message from the CU Anschutz Alumni Team:

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

We welcome you to our CU Anschutz alumni community.

Our alumni are important ambassadors between the university and the greater healthcare community, and vital mentors for our students and recent grads. Our alumni network has more than 56,000 graduates from all schools on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus. The CU School of Dental Medicine alumni network has more than 3,200 graduates.

To get involved, please connect with us:

healthalumni@cuanschutz.edu

 **[@cuanschutzalumni](https://www.instagram.com/cuanschutzalumni)**

dental.cuanschutz.edu/alumni



School of
Dental Medicine

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO
ANSCHUTZ MEDICAL CAMPUS

