



*Multicultural  
Stole Ceremony  
2023*

Saturday, May 13, 2023

## *Program*

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	Joe Kirk Master of Ceremony Director of Campus Safety
<b>REMARKS FROM INTERIM PRESIDENT WAYNE P. WEBSTER</b>	
<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	Jennifer Bowen Dean for Curriculum and Academic Engagement and Professor of Mathematics
<b>MUSICAL SELECTION</b>	“The Prayer” by Andrea Bocelli Byera Kashangaki ’24 and Cameron Love ’25
<b>KEYNOTE ADDRESS</b>	Hannah Thomas Interim Director of International Student Services
<b>STOLING</b>	Jill Munro Associate Director of Community Engagement  Erin Guzmán Henry J. Copeland Interfaith Chaplain Director of Religious & Spiritual Life
<b>CLOSING REMARKS</b>	Cheryl Nuñez Vice President for Equity, Inclusion, and Diversity

2023 GRADUATE	STOLER	RELATIONSHIP WITH STOLER
Eric Adadevoh	Silva-Maria Adadevoh	Sister
Nana Abena Adu-Boahen	Lucy Owusu Senyah	Mother
Edwina Akonor	Anita Akonor	Sister
Inethia Allen	Naoko Skala	Professor
Teresa Ascencio	Jimmy Noriega	Advisor
Natalie Belle	Randa Abboud	Friend
Bee Bi	Emily Baird	Advisor
Harvey Briscoe	Amber Larson	APEX Academic Advisor
Xiao Wu, Maud Bulman	Dr. Pam Frese	Advisor
Sammie Burke	Tessa Hall	Writing Center Associate
Hope Carmody	Hamed Goharipour	Advisor
Cloud Chang	Jane Todd	Host Family
Alegnta Dawit Mezmur	Peter Abramo	Mentor
Jamie Do	James West	Advisor
Anailah Funchess	Lillian Evans	Supporter
Oriana Galvis Marin	Katharine Beutner	English Professor/Supervisor
Aileen Garcia	Arturo Garcia	Father
Solomon Gebrekiros	Desta Mebrahtu	Mother
Katiasofia Gonzales Virto	Marcel Elkouri	Mentor/Friend
Najee Hardaway	Nya Hardaway	Sister
Stacey Harris	Elizabeth Hall	Friend
Naafi’ah Hennie	Amber Larson	Mentor
Sena Houessou-Adin	Sessi Houessou-Adin	Sister
Naol Hulufe	Franol Hulufe	Sister
Taylor Jackson	Marion Duval	I.S. Advisor
Min kyung Kim	Rachel David	Health Education Coordinator/Supervisor
Yakeria Lamar	Miracle Lamar	Sister
Morgan Malone	Tanya Malone	Mother
Sharif McGee	Juwaan McGee	Brother
Emily Mendoza	Rosalba Mendoza	Mother
Stephany Miranda	Amber Larson	APEX Academic Advisor
Giuliana Morales	Aries Torres	My little/Friend
Salem Nega	Salem Nega	Mother
Bolanle Oladeji	Olamide Oladeji	Brother
Penelope Pintor	Jesus Pintor	Brother
Kennedy Pope	LaCrecia Pope	Mother
Kyerra Preston-Ervin	Lillian Evans	Associate Dean
Raisa Raofa	Mohammad Zahirul Alam	Father
Namara Kilumushwa Rwakatare	Gail Rwakatare	Mother
Zineb Sair	Khalid Sair	Father
Emma Schell	Jennifer Faust	I.S. Advisor
Zoe Seymore	Ziying You	Professor
Shiropa Shahreen	Sabrina Rahman	Sister
Victoria Silva	Jimmy Noriega	Advisor
Katie Spence	Emily Baird	Academic/I.S. Advisor
Kayla Stevens	Katja Stevens	Mother
Nkosi Stewart	Neil Clayton	Teammate/Roommate
Huayu Sun	Rica Tang	Friend
Sobika Thapa	Sofia Visa	Academic Advisor
Austin Thomas	Jen Bowen	Mentor
Anna Truong	Liz Ford	Women’s Lacrosse Coach
Aavash Upadhyaya	Seema Upadhyaya	Mother
Yatzari Venzor	Julie Sierra	Sister
Shipei Wang	Ziyuan Zeng	Partner
Rekik Ziku	Sintayehu Gebresilassie	Mother

### **Ceremony Purpose and History**

The Multicultural Stole Ceremony was inaugurated in May 2014 at The College of Wooster, by the now retired Dean Carolyn L. Buxton, to provide graduating BIPOC students an opportunity to not only celebrate their graduation achievements, but also acknowledge multicultural and international student mentors (faculty, staff, friends, family, and community partners). Their chosen stolers have acted as pillars of support throughout their undergraduate studies, thus, highlighting the impact of community on individual success.

Since then, the ceremony has further grown to provide an inclusive opportunity to also recognize and celebrate the academic achievements of international students, and global nomads.

### **The Stole**

The stole is a symbol of academic achievement or honors. The use of graduation stoles dates back as far as the Middle Ages. Individuals of stature, clergymen, or those who bore a significant title wore stoles as part of their official attire. The use of stoles in American academia dates to the first college graduation ceremonies. College of Wooster graduates will be presented with a stole that is representative of their self-identifying racial, ethnic, cultural, and/or national heritage to be worn at commencement.

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*Special thanks to the Center for Diversity and Inclusion,  
President's Office, and volunteers.*

