

< OUR HISTORY

Delegate Alumni

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Her Excellency Shamma Al Mazrui, Class of 2014

Minister of State for Youth and Chair of the National Youth Council, United Arab Emirates

Shamma Al Mazrui was appointed Minister of State for Youth, and Chair of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) National Youth Council, in February 2016. She is the youngest minister in the world. At only 22 years old, she was awarded the UAE cabinet position soon after graduating from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, with a master's degree in public policy. Born and raised in Abu Dhabi, she received a bachelor's degree in economics in 2014, with a concentration in finance, from New York University's Abu Dhabi campus. She spent the previous autumn studying at the university's Stern School of Business campus in New York. Her work experience has included assignments as a researcher at LCN Capital Partners in New York, and at Tamkeen, the UAE's strategic affairs advisory unit. Her duties as an analyst at the UAE Embassy in Washington involved work in the trade and economy division, the media and culture department and the consular affairs section. She was a recipient of the scholarship of the Abu Dhabi Education Council, reserved for the Emirate's top students, and the Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Scholarship for exceptional students from all the member states of the UAE.



Her Royal Highness Reema Bint Bandar Al Saud, Class of 2014

Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to the United States



Princess Reema Bint Bandar Al Saud is the first woman to serve as Saudi Arabia's Ambassador to the United States. Born in Riyadh, she grew up in Washington, D.C. and graduated from George Washington University. On her return to Saudi Arabia, she became CEO of the luxury retail corporation Alfa International, which operates the Harvey Nichols department store in Riyadh. She made a highly public commitment to expanding opportunities for women in her country, not only hiring women in positions where they had seldom been seen before, but also providing transportation and daycare for her female employees. She served Women's Campaign International as the Saudi Arabia committee expert and mentor for the advancement of women's leadership in the Middle East and North Africa. She was named "Most Creative Person of 2014" by the business publication *Fast Company*. Prior to her appointment as Ambassador, she was President of the Saudi Federation for Community Sports, and vice president for Development and Planning at the Saudi Arabian General Sports Authority. She has also been active in raising awareness of breast cancer and raising funds for cancer research, leading imaginative campaigns such as the world's largest human pink ribbon and the first Saudi female expedition to reach Everest base camp.



Ori Allon and Robert Reffkin, Class of 2006

Founders, Compass

After completing his military service in an elite infantry unit of the Israel Defense Forces, Ori Allon moved to Australia and received computer science degrees from Monash University and the University of New South Wales. His Ph.D. research led to the creation of a patented search engine technology he called Orion. After Google acquired Orion, Mr. Allon led the team at Google that integrated the Orion technology and algorithms with the Google search engine. He then started a company called Julpan, which he sold to Twitter in 2011. He served as Director of Engineering at the New York office of Twitter before starting the real estate firm Compass with fellow Academy alumnus Robert Reffkin. Ori Allon serves as the company's Executive Chairman, Robert Reffkin as the Chief Executive Officer.

Prior to co-founding Compass, Robert Reffkin was Chief of Staff to the President and Chief Operating Officer of Goldman Sachs. He had spent five years working in the firm's private equity arm, at Lazard and at McKinsey & Company. In 2005, he was appointed as a White House Fellow to serve as Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Treasury. A New Yorker with He a B.A. and M.B.A. from Columbia University, he has run 50 marathons, one in each state, to raise \$1 million for

nonprofits, including New York Needs You, which he founded to support first-in-their-family college students. Allon and Reffkin, who met at the Academy's International Achievement Summit in 2006, founded Compass in 2012. The company, which employs advanced software to speed communication and facilitate transactions between real estate brokers, has grown explosively since its inception and is now among the largest real estate brokerages in the country. A 2019 funding round valued Compass at \$6.4 billion. According to reports in the financial press, an initial public offering in 2021 will be underwritten by Goldman Sachs and Morgan Stanley.



Emily Balskus, Ph.D., Class of 1988

Morris Kahn Associate Professor of Chemistry and
Chemical Biology, Harvard University

Emily Balskus joined Harvard's chemistry faculty in 2011 and is now the Morris Kahn Associate Professor of Chemistry and Chemical Biology. She is also an Associate Member of the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT, a Faculty Associate of the Microbial Sciences Initiative at Harvard, and a member of the Harvard Digestive Diseases Center. In 2019, Dr. Balskus received the Blavatnik National Award for Young Scientists, the largest unrestricted scientific prize offered to America's early career researchers. A prize of \$250,000 was awarded to each of three winners in different fields of science, selected from a pool of 343 nominees. Balskus was awarded the chemistry prize for her discoveries concerning the chemistry of specific bacteria in the human gastrointestinal tract. She has identified species implicated in pancreatic cancer, inflammatory bowel disease, and diabetes, and has discovered a specific bacterial product which may play a role in colorectal cancer. Her studies are already contributing to new treatment options for Parkinson's disease. Her work, which links the disciplines of chemistry, biology and microbiology, is changing the way other researchers explore the world within us.



Sylvia Banderas Coffinet, Class of 2000

Publisher and Chief Revenue Officer
Hola! USA

Sylvia Banderas first attended the International Achievement Summit as a high school senior from San Marino, California. After graduating from Columbia University she worked at the magazine *Town & Country* and as Beauty Director of

the magazines *Latina* and *Glamour*, before joining *PEOPLE en Español*, where she rose to the position of National Advertising Director of Integrated Sales. In August 2016 she was named first Publisher/Vice President of Integrated Sales for the newly launched magazine *Hola! USA*. The U.S. publication of the Spanish company HELLO! & ¡HOLA! Media Inc., it is part of a global media enterprise that includes websites, a broadcast channel, and 30 international print editions that collectively reach more than 25 million readers every week. In Banderas Coffinet's first six months on the job she signed up more than 35 major advertising partners; in the first year, she surpassed the magazine's circulation goals by more than 20 percent. Having reached the top of her profession at age 33 after a meteoric rise in the publishing industry, she gives back to the community as a mentor for underprivileged youth through the Los Angeles-based nonprofit ELLAS. In 2019, she added the title of Chief Revenue Officer to her portfolio of responsibilities at *Hola! USA*.



Samantha Barry, Class of 2012

Editor-in-Chief, *Glamour*

In 2018, publisher Condé Nast announced that Irish journalist Samantha Barry would become the editor-in-chief of *Glamour*. She is only the eighth person to lead the magazine in its nearly 80-year history, and the first to come from a background in broadcasting and digital media rather than print journalism. She has worked in over 25 countries, reporting and training other journalists on broadcasting, technology and social media. A graduate of University College, Cork and the City University of Dublin, Barry worked as an editor and foreign correspondent for the Irish broadcasting network RTE and for BBC World News before becoming Executive Producer for Social and Emerging Media at CNN Worldwide. Under her leadership, CNN presence became the most followed news organization in the world of social media. She led CNN's social media coverage of the 2016 presidential election, winning the first Edward R. Murrow Award to be given for excellence in social media.



Ruzwana Bashir, Class of 2014

CEO and Founder, Peek.com



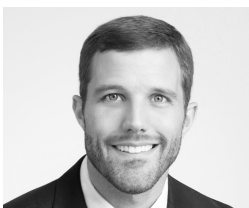
At Oxford University, Ruzwana Bashir was the first British woman of Asian descent to serve as President of the prestigious Oxford Union debating society. After earning her MBA as a Fulbright Scholar at Harvard Business School, she worked in private equity at the Blackstone Group and investment banking at Goldman Sachs. She then worked directly with CEO Kevin Ryan at the Gilt Groupe online shopping site and was part of the founding team at Artsy, the online art dealer. In 2012, she founded Peek.com, an online activities platform based in San Francisco, with support from Google Chairman Eric Schmidt, Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey and TPG Capital founder David Bonderman. A one-stop-shop to book travel activities, Peek provides tour operators with online booking capabilities and powerful inventory management tools. She was selected as one of *Forbes* magazine's "30 Under 30 in Technology," *Fast Company*'s "100 Most Creative People" and *Vanity Fair*'s "Next Establishment."



Nicola Benedetti, Class of 2005

Internationally Acclaimed Violinist

At 16 years of age, Scottish-born classical violinist Nicola Benedetti signed a £1 million, six-album deal with the Universal Music Group. Her recordings for the Decca and Deutsche Grammophon labels include the violin concertos of Szymanowski, Bruch and Tchaikovsky and the bestselling *Homecoming: A Scottish Fantasy*. She is in constant demand as a featured soloist, appearing with the leading orchestras of Europe and the United States. In 2017 she became the youngest person ever to receive the Queen's Medal for Music and in 2019 she was named a Commander of the Order of the British Empire (CBE). In February 2018 she completed a ten-city tour of North America with the Orchestra of the Age of Enlightenment. Her record pairing the violin concertos of the Russian romantic composer Alexander Glazunov and the 20th century master Dmitri Shostakovich has been one of her most acclaimed to date. In 2020, she won her first Grammy Award for her recording of a violin concerto composed especially for her by Wynton Marsalis.



Seth Bodnar, Class of 2002

President of the University of Montana



Seth Bodnar graduated first in his class from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point. He earned two master's degrees as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford and later served as an assistant professor in the Department of Social Sciences at West Point, where he taught economics. As a special forces officer in the U.S. Army, his overseas deployments included service as a rifle platoon leader in the 101st Airborne Division, detachment commander in the Army's 1st Special Forces Group, and special assistant to the commanding general of the Multi-National Force in Iraq. As a result of his outstanding leadership, he received an early promotion to the rank of Major. Before coming to the University of Montana, he was a senior executive at the General Electric Company, where he was responsible for long-term strategy and business transformation at GE Transportation, a global company with over 10,000 employees and approximately \$5 billion in revenue. He previously served as President of GE Transportation's Digital Solutions business and was GE Transportation's first-ever Chief Digital Officer. In January 2018, he became the 19th President of the University of Montana. He continues to serve in the Montana National Guard, and he is a board member of The Positivity Project, a non-profit organization focused on character education.



Chesa Boudin, Class of 2006

San Francisco District Attorney

Chesa Boudin was 14 months old when his parents, members of the radical Weather Underground, were sentenced to long prison terms for their role in a robbery that led to the deaths of two policeman and a security guard. His mother was not released until he was 22 years old; his father remains in prison. The practice of restorative justice enabled Chesa Boudin to transcend a devastating experience. Beginning in high school, he spoke out for the children of incarcerated parents. He has dedicated his career to reforming the criminal justice system. In 2003 he graduated *summa cum laude* from Yale University, with honors in History. At Yale, and as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford where he earned two master's degrees, he focused on public policy in Latin America, studying and working in Chile and Venezuela. His book, *Gringo: A Coming of Age in Latin America*, was published in 2009. After graduating from Yale Law School, he served as a law clerk on the United States District Court and the United States Court of Appeals. In 2015, Boudin joined the San Francisco Public Defender's Office. As a deputy public defender, he handled more than 300 felony cases and led efforts to reform the cash bail system in California. As a candidate for San Francisco District Attorney, he pledged to

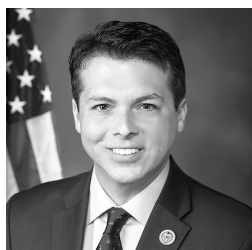
improve public safety by addressing the high rate of recidivism in the criminal justice system. In 2019 he was elected District Attorney of the City and County of San Francisco. He was sworn into office on January 8, 2020.



Edward S. Boyden, Ph.D., Class of 2014

Associate Professor, MIT Media Lab

At MIT in the 1990s, Edward Boyden earned an undergraduate degree in physics, and both undergraduate and graduate degrees in electrical engineering and computer science. His early work experience included stints at Bell Labs and in video game design. At Stanford, he earned a doctorate in neuroscience before returning to MIT to pursue his research interest, developing tools for systematic analysis and engineering of the brain. At MIT, he holds joint professorship in biological engineering and in brain and cognitive sciences. As Leader of the Synthetic Neurobiology Group and Co-Director of the Center for Neurobiological Engineering, he is inventing technologies that enable the systematic mapping and engineering of the brain and the computations that it performs. Ultimately, he hopes to create neurotechnologies that will provide insights into how the brain generates thoughts and feelings, and to enable the correction of brain disorders that currently affect over a billion people worldwide. In 2015, he won the largest scientific prize in the world, the Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, for his work on developing methods for controlling brain cells with light.



The Honorable Brendan F. Boyle, Class of 2005

U.S. House of Representatives

Brendan Boyle was born and raised in the City of Philadelphia. The son of a janitor and a crossing guard, he was the first in his family to attend college. He earned academic scholarships to attend the University of Notre Dame and later earned a master's degree in Public Policy at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. While at Harvard, he took a leave of absence to accept the Democratic nomination for a seat in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. After four years of service in Harrisburg, he was elected to the United States Congress, representing the District of his hometown.



Reuben E. Brigety II, Class of 1991

President of Sewanee, The University of the South

Reuben E. Brigety II is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy, where he served as Brigade Commander and earned a B.S. degree in political science. While serving as an officer in the United States Navy, he held staff positions at the Pentagon, and with fleet support units. While in the Navy, he earned a Master of Philosophy degree in International Relations at Cambridge University. After his military service he returned to Cambridge and completed a doctorate in International Relations. Returning to the United States, he taught at George Mason University and the American University School of International Service in Washington, D.C. He conducted research in the war zones of Iraq and Afghanistan for the Arms Division of Human Rights Watch and served as a Special Assistant in the Bureau for Democracy, Conflict, and Humanitarian Assistance at the U.S. Agency for International Development. From 2008, he was Director of the Sustainable Security Program at the Center for American Progress and was a senior advisor for Development and Security to the U.S. Central Command Assessment Team in Washington and Qatar. In 2009, he joined the State Department as Deputy Assistant Secretary of State in the Bureau of African Affairs, with responsibility for Southern African and Regional Security Affairs. In 2013, President Obama appointed him to be Representative of the United States of America to the African Union, and Permanent Representative of the United States to the UN Economic Commission for Africa. From 2015 to 2020, he was Dean of the Elliott School of International Affairs at George Washington University. In February 2020, he was chosen to serve as the 17th Vice Chancellor and President of Sewanee, the University of the South, a historic institution in Sewanee, Tennessee, founded in 1857.

Sergey Brin & Larry Page, Class of 2000

Founders of Google

It was Larry Page who first had the idea of analyzing Internet links to rate their relevance to a given information search. Initially, Page was only interested in writing an entertaining dissertation, but he soon realized his idea had far greater potential. With his classmate Sergey Brin, he presented his work to acclaim at the World Wide Web conference in 1998. Within a year they had raised over \$30 million to start a company, Google Inc., providing a free Web search service that could return an ordered list of results in a fraction of a second. The simple white page with the multi-colored logo was an immediate hit with Web surfers around the

world. The website generates enormous revenue by providing advertising space linked by content to the results of a given search. When Page took the company public in 2004, he and Sergey Brin became multi-billionaires overnight. That same year, they joined the select company of Academy of Achievement student delegates who have returned to the International Achievement Summit as honorees of the Academy. Today, Google is the most-used Web search service in the world, conducting more than a billion searches a day, in over 100 languages, and has given the English language a new verb: “to Google.” Larry Page and Sergey Brin have transformed the way the world accesses and uses information.

The Honorable Pete Buttigieg, Class of 2008

United States Secretary of Transportation

Pete Buttigieg became mayor of his hometown, the City of South Bend, Indiana, in January 2012. Elected at the age of 29, he was the youngest mayor of an American city with over 100,000 residents. His responsibilities included overseeing a city workforce of more than 1,000 employees and an annual budget topping \$300 million. In 2013, he was named national Mayor of the Year by GovFresh.com, sharing the award with New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg. He was President of the Indiana Urban Mayors Caucus, and has served on the boards of the Indiana Association of Cities and Towns and the Truman National Security Project. The *Washington Post* called him “the most interesting mayor you’ve never heard of.” Mayor Buttigieg took a leave of absence to serve in Afghanistan during a seven-month deployment in 2014. As a lieutenant in the U.S. Navy Reserve, he earned the Joint Service Commendation Medal for his counterterrorism work. Following his return from Afghanistan, he sought a second term as Mayor of South Bend, and in November 2015, he was re-elected with over 80 percent of the vote. As a Rhodes Scholar, he studied philosophy, politics, and economics at Pembroke College, Oxford. A 2004 graduate of Harvard University, he earned a bachelor’s degree in American history and literature, and a citation in Arabic. In 2000, while still in high school, he won the nationwide J.F.K. Profile in Courage Essay Contest; in 2015, he received a J.F.K. New Frontier Award, given annually to two young Americans who serve as models for modern public service in the spirit of John F. Kennedy. An unsuccessful effort to win the chairmanship of the Democratic Party raised his profile in the national media and prompted talk of a possible run for higher office. In 2019, he announced his candidacy for President of the United States and quickly posted impressive fundraising and polling numbers. He emerged from the 2020 Iowa caucuses leading his fellow Democrats in the delegate count, and scored a

strong second-place finish in the New Hampshire primary before withdrawing from the race in March of that year. The newly elected President Joseph Biden named Buttigieg to his cabinet as Secretary of Transportation, an appointment confirmed by the Senate in February 2021.

Jared A. Cohen, Class of 2006

President of Jigsaw (previously Google Ideas)

Jared Cohen is the President of Jigsaw (formerly known as Google Ideas) and an Adjunct Senior Fellow at the Council on Foreign Relations. Previously, he served as a member of the Secretary of State's Policy Planning Staff and as an advisor to Condoleezza Rice, Hillary Clinton, and Richard Holbrooke. Cohen was among the early adopters of social media in the U.S. government and is widely credited with integrating social media into U.S. diplomatic strategy. His published books to date include *Children of Jihad: A Young American's Travels Among the Youth of the Middle East*; *One Hundred Days of Silence: America and the Rwanda Genocide*; and *The New Digital Age: Re-shaping the Future of People, Nations and Business*.

Cesar Conde, Class of 2003

Chairman, NBCUniversal News Group

In May 2020, Cesar Conde was named Chairman of the NBCUniversal News Group. The son of a Peruvian immigrant father and Cuban exile mother, he was born in New York City and grew up in Miami, Florida. At Harvard University, he was cofounder and President of the Cuban-American Undergraduate Students Association. He was president of his class at the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School of Business. At age 28, Mr. Conde was the Vice President of Business Development at Univision Network, the largest Spanish language media company in the United States. Chosen by President George W. Bush as a 2002-2003 White House Fellow, Conde served under Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. Following his service in Washington, Conde returned to Univision and rose still higher. Throughout his career, he has sought opportunities to support greater educational opportunities for Hispanic youth. President Obama appointed Conde to a presidential advisory commission; he now serves on the board of the Foundation for Excellence in Education. He became President of Univision in 2008, serving for five years before joining NBCUniversal in 2013. In 2015, he became Chairman of NBCUniversal International Group and NBCUniversal Telemundo

Enterprises. As Chairman, he was responsible for the operations and international expansion of NBCUniversal businesses outside of North America. He also oversaw NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, a growing portfolio of media properties primarily serving Hispanic audiences in the United States. Under Conde's leadership, Telemundo hit a milestone in 2016, surpassing Univision for the first time, and outpaced Fox to become the nation's fourth most-watched network in primetime among adults 18-49. In his new role as Chairman of NBCUniversal News Group, he has oversight of NBC News, MSNBC, and CNBC, including their editorial and business operations.

Andrew Manuel Crespo, Class of 2008

Professor of Law, Harvard Law School

Andrew Manuel Crespo is a Professor of Law at Harvard Law School, where he teaches criminal law and criminal procedure. Professor Crespo's research focuses on the institutional design and administration of the American penal system, with a particular focus on the administrative role courts play in regulating law enforcement behavior. His scholarship has been honored by the Association of American Law Schools and profiled in *The New York Times*. His leading articles have appeared in the *Harvard Law Review*, the *Columbia Law Review*, and the *Yale Law Journal*. Professor Crespo also writes regularly about legal issues for the general public, with his contributions appearing in *The New York Times*, *The Washington Post*, *The Boston Globe*, and the *Journal of the American Medical Association*. Prior to beginning his academic career, Professor Crespo served as a Staff Attorney with the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia, where he represented adults and juveniles charged with serious felonies, ranging from armed robberies, to burglaries, to homicides. Professor Crespo graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College, and from Harvard Law School in 2008, where he served as president of the *Harvard Law Review*, the first Latino to hold that position. Following law school, Professor Crespo served as a law clerk for Justices Stephen Breyer and Elena Kagan of the U.S. Supreme Court.



Karl Deisseroth, Ph.D., Class of 1989

D.H. Chen Professor of Bioengineering and of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences, Stanford University School of Medicine



In his laboratory at Stanford, Dr. Deisseroth focuses on developing molecular and cellular tools to observe, perturb, and re-engineer brain circuits. His laboratory is based in the James H. Clark Center at Stanford and employs a range of techniques including neural stem cell and tissue engineering methods, electrophysiology, molecular biology, neural activity imaging, animal behavior, and computational neural network modeling. Also a clinician in the psychiatry department, Dr. Deisseroth employs novel electromagnetic brain stimulation techniques in human patients for therapeutic purposes. He is a recipient of the 2016 Breakthrough Prize in Life Sciences, an international award honoring outstanding achievements in three categories — Life Sciences, Fundamental Physics and Mathematics. Breakthrough Prize laureates receive \$3 million each, the largest monetary award in the sciences.



Melissa Dell, Ph.D., Class of 2014

Professor, Department of Economics, Harvard University

Melissa Dell joined Harvard's economics faculty in 2014 and was promoted to full professor in 2018. A development economist, much of her work has focused on the long-term impact of historical factors such as war, colonialism and climate change on developing economies in Asia and Latin America. Dell grew up in Enid, Oklahoma, where she overcame poor eyesight to become a champion long-distance runner. She graduated *summa cum laude* in economics from Harvard, earned her master's with distinction as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, and her Ph.D. at MIT. The first graduate of her high school to attend Harvard, she founded a nonprofit and produced a book, *The College Matters Guide to Getting Into the Elite College of Your Dreams*, to assist ambitious students from underserved communities. Concurrently with her appointments at Harvard, she has served as a Visiting Professor at the Stanford Institute for Economic Research and is a Faculty Research Fellow of the National Bureau of Economic Research. She has been recognized as one of the world's leading young economists by *The Economist* magazine and by the International Monetary Fund. In 2018, she was the recipient of the Ellen Bennett Research Prize, and in 2020, the John Bates Clark Medal of the American Economic Association, the top prize for an economist under 40. Her work has investigated the historic roots of economic conditions in Vietnam, Indonesia, Taiwan and Japan, the mining industry in Peru, the impact of government action on the underground drug economy, and of trade-induced worker displacement in

Mexico. Most recently, she has undertaken pioneering applications of machine learning technology to mine vast quantities of historic economic data for new insights into the challenges of economic development.



Illac Diaz, Class of 2008

Founder, MyShelter Foundation and Liter of Light

Born in the Philippines, Illac Diaz completed a Master's in Public Administration as a Catherine B. Reynolds Foundation Fellow at Harvard University's John F. Kennedy School of Government. His best-known project, Liter of Light, addresses the problem of energy poverty by in rural areas that lack access to affordable electricity. The project teaches villagers how a recycled plastic water bottle can be filled with water and bleach and hung in an opening of the roof to diffuse sunlight in a dark house. Liter of Light has illuminated the lives of more than 690,000 people around the world. Diaz and MyShelter have also devised inexpensive solar lighting systems employing small solar panels, LED lights and recycled batteries to bring environmentally sustainable electric light to areas far from the conventional electrical grid. These systems, which create business opportunities for women entrepreneurs in underdeveloped communities are expected to benefit a million customers in 15 countries around the world. In 2015, Diaz and Liter of Light received the \$1.5 million Zayed Future Energy Prize, awarded by the United Arab Emirates for achievements in sustainable energy development. Diaz and Liter of Light received the Asia Pacific Social Innovation and Partnership Award in 2020 for their "Light It Forward" campaign, which mobilizes artists, the media, businesses and service groups to change the world, even while masses of people are confined to their homes by the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Honorable James Joshua Edelman, Class of 2000

Justice, High Court of Australia

Justice Edelman attended the 2000 International Achievement Summit in London while studying as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. He completed his doctorate in law the following year and returned to his home state, Western Australia, to practice law. In 2005, he took up a position as a Fellow and Tutor in Law at Keble College and lecturer at Oxford. He practiced law full-time in England while teaching, becoming the youngest law professor at Oxford. He has written and edited six books on damages, interest awards, equity, unjust enrichment, and torts. In 2011,

he returned to Western Australia to accept a commission as a Justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia. In 2015, he was appointed to a Federal Court, and in the closing weeks of 2016 was appointed to the highest court in the Australian judicial system. At age 42, he is the youngest judge to be called to the High Court since 1930. He had previously appeared before the High Court on three occasions, winning the release of men wrongly convicted of murder.

José Manuel Edwards Silva, Class of 2006

Chamber of Deputies, Republic of Chile

As an undergraduate, José Edwards was a co-founder of Un Techo para Chile, a non-governmental organization that built thousands of emergency houses all over Latin America. After graduating as a transport engineer from Catholic University of Chile, he worked as an investment analyst in the Chilean Stock Exchange, and continued his work with Techo. He attended the 2006 International Achievement Summit while studying at Harvard's John F. Kennedy School of Government as a Catherine B. Reynolds Fellow. In 2009, Mr. Edwards was elected to Chile's National Congress, where he represents the country's only minority-majority district. In office, he has sought equality of access to education, justice and public benefits for the district's indigenous people, the Mapuche. Issues confronting his district include clean water, rural public transportation and economic development. He chairs the Economic Committee and sits on the Foreign Affairs Committee, where he has devoted much of his energy to the Alianza del Pacifico. The member states of this alliance — Mexico, Peru, Colombia and Chile — are achieving a degree of integration that is unprecedented among Latin American countries.



Jordan Ellenberg, Ph.D., Class of 1989

Author and Mathematician, John D. MacArthur
Professor of Mathematics, University of Wisconsin

The son of two statisticians, Jordan Ellenberg excelled in mathematics from an early age, and competed for the U.S. in the International Mathematical Olympiad three times, winning two gold medals and one silver medal. He graduated from Harvard, earned a master's degree in fiction writing from Johns Hopkins, and then returned to Harvard for his Ph.D. in math. In 2004, he joined the faculty of the University of Wisconsin at Madison, where he is now the John D. MacArthur Professor of Mathematics. Mr. Ellenberg's research centers on the fields of number

theory and algebraic geometry, the parts of mathematics which address fundamental questions about algebraic equations and their solutions in whole numbers. His research has uncovered new and unexpected connections between these subjects and algebraic topology, the study of abstract high-dimensional shapes and the relations between them. He has been writing for a general audience about math for more than 15 years; his work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Washington Post*, *Wired*, *The Believer* and *The Boston Globe*. He is also the author of the “Do the Math” column in *Slate*. His novel, *The Grasshopper King*, was a finalist for the 2004 New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction Award.



The Honorable Nancy Freudenthal, Class of 1972

Chief Judge, U.S. District Court of Wyoming

Nancy Freudenthal earned her bachelor’s and law degrees, both with honors, from the University of Wyoming. From 1980 until 1989, she served as Attorney for Intergovernmental Affairs under two Governors of Wyoming, while also teaching environmental law at the University of Wyoming. She served on the State Tax Commission and was Chairman of the Board of Equalization until 1995, when she joined the law firm of Davis & Cannon. For eight years, she was the First Lady of Wyoming, while her husband, Dave Freudenthal served as the state’s Governor. In 2010, President Barack Obama nominated her to the federal bench, and following confirmation by the U.S. Senate, she was sworn in as U.S. District Court Judge for the District of Wyoming. Judge Freudenthal is the seventh federal district judge to serve Wyoming since statehood, and the first woman district court judge in the state. She has been Chief Judge of the District since 2011.



The Honorable Jesse M. Furman, Class of 1991

District Judge, U.S. District Court for the Southern District of New York

Jesse Furman is a Judge of the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. Furman graduated from Harvard in 1994 and studied at Oxford University as a Henry Fellow. He earned his law degree at Yale and served as a law clerk for federal judge and future Attorney General Michael Mukasey. He then served as a law clerk for the United States Court of Appeals and for Judge Jose Cabranes. From 2002 until 2003, he served as a clerk to United States Supreme

Court Justice David Souter. Furman was with the law firm Wiggin & Dana until 2004, when he became an Assistant United States Attorney in the Southern District of New York. From 2007 until 2009, he was Counselor to the Attorney General of the United States. In 2011, President Barack Obama nominated Furman to a seat on the United States District Court for the Southern District of New York. The United States Senate confirmed his nomination in February 2012. In January 2019 Judge Furman ruled against the Trump administration's plan to add a citizenship question to the 2020 United States Census.

The Honorable Juan Manuel Galán Pachón, Class of 2002

Senator of the Republic of Colombia

Juan Manuel Galán Pachón is a Colombian politician and member of the Liberal Party, currently serving as Senator of Colombia. He is the son of Luis Carlos Galán Sarmiento, a politician and presidential candidate who was shot to death in 1989 by hit men hired by the notorious drug lord Pablo Escobar. Also in 1989, Juan Galán graduated from the *Instituto Pedagógico Nacional* in Bogotá, and after his father's assassination, his family moved to France. He attended the Paris Institute of Political Studies and obtained a Certificate of Political Studies in 1992. He went on to graduate from the *École des Hautes Études Internationales*, also in Paris, in 1997, with a master's degree in international affairs. Later that year, Galán returned to Colombia to begin his political career. He drew controversy by backing the candidate running against his uncle in Bogotá's mayoral race, and infuriated members of the New Liberalism Party, founded by his father, when he criticized some of his father's former associates for exploiting his father's image for political gain. In 1998, he supported Conservative Party presidential candidate Andrés Pastrana Arango, and after Pastrana's election, was named Deputy Director for Youth at the Ministry of National Education. In 2003, he earned a master's of science degree in foreign service from the Edmund A. Walsh School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. He was appointed as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Colombian Embassy in London, in 2004, by Colombian President Álvaro Uribe Vélez. The following year, he resigned his office in London and returned to Colombia to run for the Senate. He easily defeated his opponent in the 2006 Senate race, and again when he ran for re-election in 2010. Juan Galán is a member of the Senate's First Commission, which deals with Statutory Laws and Internal Affairs, and has supported voluntary

euthanasia and physician-assisted suicide; marriage for same-sex couples; and drug liberalization policies. He has been married to Carmenza Lian Barrera since 2002, with whom he has two children.

Anthony Goldbloom, Class of 2014

Founder and CEO, Kaggle

Anthony Goldbloom is the founder and CEO of Kaggle. In 2011 and 2012, *Forbes* magazine named Anthony as one of the “30 Under 30” in technology, in 2013 the *MIT Tech Review* named him one of the top “35 Innovators Under 35” and the University of Melbourne awarded him an Alumni of Distinction Award. He holds a first class honors degree in Econometrics from the University of Melbourne. Anthony has published in the *The Economist* and the *Harvard Business Review*. He was working as a research economist at the Reserve Bank of Australia when he conceived the idea that became Kaggle. Since countless analytic strategies can be applied to building a predictive model from any given set of data, why not make a sport of finding the most effective one? He started Kaggle as an online platform where companies and researchers could post their data, and statisticians and data miners could process the data and compete to produce the best predictive models. Since then, Kaggle has grown to a community of more than half a million data scientists all over the world. In March 2017, an acquisition agreement was announced whereby Kaggle becomes a distinct team within the Google Cloud team.

Viviana Gradinaru, Ph.D., Class of 2017

Director of the Center for Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience, California Institute of Technology

Viviana Gradinaru began her studies in biology at the University of Bucharest, Romania, before transferring to the California Institute of Technology (Caltech), where she completed her degree in physics before earning a doctorate in neuroscience at Stanford. Today, she is Professor of Neuroscience and Biological Engineering at Caltech and Director of the institute’s Center for Molecular and Cellular Neuroscience. The research team led by Professor Gradinaru is developing and using visual methods — optogenetics and tissue clearing — to investigate the circuitry underlying functions such as locomotion, reward, and sleep. These investigations could enable us to predict and modify how neural circuits are wired,

how neurons degrade, and how powerful chemicals are released or blocked in the brain. This work may lead to new therapies for neurological disorders such as Parkinson's. Her work has been recognized with the NIH Director's New Innovator Award and a Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers.

Sachin H. Jain, M.D., Class of 2005

President & CEO, CareMore Health System

Dr. Sachin H. Jain is President and CEO of CareMore Health System, an innovative health plan and care delivery system with \$1.2 billion revenue and over 100,000 members in seven states. He is also a consulting professor of medicine at Stanford University School of Medicine and a contributor to *Forbes* magazine. Prior to joining CareMore, Dr. Jain was Chief Medical Information and Innovation Officer at Merck & Co. He also served as an attending physician at the Veterans Administration Boston Medical Center and a faculty member of both Harvard Medical School and Harvard Business School. From 2009-2011, Dr. Jain worked in the Obama Administration, where he was senior advisor to the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS). Dr. Jain was the first deputy director for policy and programs at the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Innovation (CMMI). He also served as special assistant to the National Coordinator for Health Information Technology. Dr. Jain graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College with a BA in government and continued on to earn his M.D. from Harvard Medical School and an MBA from Harvard Business School. He trained in medicine at the Brigham and Women's Medicine, and continues to practice medicine at CareMore. He is co-founder and Co-Editor-in-Chief of the Elsevier journal *Healthcare: The Journal of Delivery Science & Innovation* and is an elected member of the National Academy of Social Insurance (NASI). He has published over 100 peer-reviewed articles in journals such as the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA*, *Health Affairs*, and the *Harvard Business Review* blogs and was an editor of the book, *The Soul of a Doctor* (Algonquin Press). A native of Bergen County, New Jersey, Dr. Jain currently resides in Los Angeles, California.

Vuk Jeremić, Class of 2003

President, Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development

Vuk Jeremić is a Serbian diplomat who served as Serbia's Minister of Foreign Affairs between 2007 and 2012, and President of the 67th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2012-2013. A native of Belgrade, he and his parents were forced to leave Yugoslavia in the early 1990s, while he was still a teenager, after a falling-out with the country's communist government. He attended Cambridge University, graduating in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in theoretical physics. While at Cambridge, during the Milosevic era, he organized Serbian students and expatriates to coordinate information campaigns and establish international contacts for the democratic opposition. He went on to attend Harvard University's Kennedy School of Government as a Fellow of the Kokkalis Foundation's Program on Southeastern and East-Central Europe, and graduated in 2003 with a master's degree in public administration and international development. He began his Ph.D. studies in quantitative finance at the University of London (Imperial College), and worked for Deutsche Bank, Dresdner Kleinwort and AstraZeneca while in London. In the early 2000s, he became an advisor to Serbian President Boris Tadić. In 2007, while Tadić was still in office, Jeremić was appointed Minister of Foreign Affairs. During his term, he spearheaded Serbia's opposition to Kosovo's unilateral secession. In 2012, he was elected President of the United Nations General Assembly, and remains the youngest person ever to have held the office. The same year, he was elected to Serbia's National Assembly, and acted as Democratic Party legislator while also serving as President of the General Assembly. In 2013, following Boris Tadić's departure from the Democratic Party, Jeremić stepped down from his positions within the party, and was subsequently expelled from the Democratic Party, yet he maintained his parliamentary seat as an independent. After his term as President of the General Assembly expired, in 2013, he founded the Center for International Relations and Sustainable Development (CIRSD), a public policy think-tank. The following year, he joined the Leadership Council of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Solutions Network. He currently serves as the president of CIRSD, and as editor-in-chief of *Horizons*, an English-language global public policy magazine.

Alec Karakatsanis, Class of 2017

Founder and Executive Director, Civil Rights Corps

Alec Karakatsanis created Civil Rights Corps to challenge mass incarceration and to expose other inequities in the nation's criminal justice system. He is devising new litigation strategies to pursue cases involving human caging, wealth-based detention, surveillance, immigration law, and the death penalty. Today, Alec is one

of the most important young leaders litigating issues related to the criminalization of poverty. He has attacked the system of money bail by bringing lawsuits under the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment. Civil Rights Corps has won a series of landmark cases with this strategy, eliminating the money bail system in seven states and other jurisdictions. Karakatsanis graduated from Yale with a degree in ethics, politics and economics. At Harvard Law School, he reported on the Supreme Court for the *Harvard Law Review*. After law school, he clerked for federal judge Myron Thompson in Montgomery, Alabama, and worked as a civil rights lawyer and public defender. Alec has stated that “I think that everybody should make a decision about how they want to live their life, and how they have the most impact on other people while they are here. You can use what you have learned, and the skills that you have, and the wealth you have accumulated, and do a great deal of good to really change our society.”



Christopher Kirchhoff, Ph.D., Class of 2005

Senior Fellow, Schmidt Futures

Dr. Kirchhoff began his career on staff of the Space Shuttle Columbia Accident Investigation. After helping analyze the breakdown of safety culture inside NASA, he went on to write the U.S. government history, *Hard Lessons: The Iraq Reconstruction Experience*, coined “The Iraq Pentagon Papers” by *The New York Times*. During the Obama Administration, Kirchhoff served as an aide to the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, as Senior Advisor to Presidential Counselor John Podesta, and as Director of Strategic Planning for the National Security Council. He led both the Chairman’s Initiatives Team and the NSC’s Strategic Planning Small Group, working on issues ranging from how technology will change the future of security to the design of Operation United Assistance, which deployed 3,000 U.S. service members to end the Ebola epidemic in West Africa. Kirchhoff also helped create and lead the Pentagon’s Silicon Valley Office, Defense Innovation Unit X, which harnesses emerging commercial technology for national security innovation. He has been awarded the Civilian Service Medal for hazardous duty in Iraq and the Secretary of Defense Medal for Outstanding Service. From 2011 to 2015, he was the highest-ranking openly gay adviser in the U.S. military. Kirchhoff graduated with highest honors in history and science from Harvard and holds a doctorate in politics from Cambridge University, where he was a Gates Scholar. He is now a Senior Fellow at Schmidt Futures, a philanthropic venture founded by former Google and Alphabet Chairman Eric Schmidt to finance science and technology initiatives that benefit society and humanity.



Michelle Kuo, Class of 2008

Author of Reading With Patrick

The daughter of Taiwanese immigrants, Michelle grew up in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After graduating *magna cum laude* from Harvard College and earning an M.Phil. in Development Studies at Cambridge University, she joined the Mississippi Delta Corps of Teach for America. For two years, she taught English at a school in Helena, Arkansas, in one of the poorest counties in America. Years later, on the eve of graduation from Harvard Law School, she learned that one of her most promising students, Patrick Browning, was in jail awaiting trial for murder. Convinced that her work as a teacher was incomplete, she returned to Arkansas to resume Patrick's education while he awaited trial, a story she recounts in her gripping memoir, *Reading With Patrick*. Kuo's book has been hailed as "an inspirational story of friendship, a coming-of-age story for both a young teacher and a student, an expansive, deeply resonant meditation on education, race, and justice in the rural South, and a love letter to literature and its power to transcend social barriers." Since graduating *magna cum laude* from Harvard Law School, Michelle Kuo has worked as an immigrants' rights lawyer in Oakland, California, clerked for a federal appeals court judge in the Ninth Circuit, and taught prisoners at San Quentin. She is now teaching courses on race, law, and society at the American University of Paris.

Eric S. Lander, Ph.D., Class of 1974

Founding Director, Broad Institute

From an early age, Eric Lander made a name for himself as a mathematical prodigy, winning the Westinghouse Science Talent Search. Class valedictorian at Princeton, Rhodes Scholar at Oxford, he was poised for a career as a theoretical mathematician. Yet he was dissatisfied. He wanted his research to serve a more immediate human purpose. He embarked on a career teaching managerial economics at Harvard Business School; although he loved the teaching, he found the research unsatisfying. In the midst of a promising career, with a growing family to support, he dropped everything and made a mid-life course correction. Although he was already a professor in the business school, he undertook basic studies in biology. He soon found a new application of his mathematical prowess in the emerging field of genomics, the study of all the genes in a given organism, and their function in sickness and in health. He played a leading role in the Human Genome Project, and is the first listed author on the article describing the complete human

genome published in *Nature* in 2001. Today, he is Founding Director of the Broad Institute, a joint project of Harvard, MIT and the Whitehead Institute, where he is leading a revolution in our understanding of the nature of life — and the causes and treatment of disease.

Travis LeBlanc, Class of 2003

Partner, Cooley LLP

A graduate of Princeton University and Yale Law School, Travis LeBlanc holds degrees in public administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government and in international law from Cambridge. He served in the Justice Department during the Obama administration and was a special assistant to California Attorney General Kamala Harris. He was an associate at the law firms of Williams & Connolly in Washington, D.C. and Kecker & Van Nest in San Francisco. A leading authority on consumer protection, cybersecurity and the regulation of emerging technologies, LeBlanc served as Chief of the Federal Communications Commission's Enforcement Bureau, where he led hundreds of consumer protection actions, fighting fraud and anti-competitive practices. He later served as a partner at the law firm of Boies Schiller Flexner. In 2018, President Trump named LeBlanc to the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, an independent, bipartisan panel of advisers that monitors the government's national security activities to ensure that U.S. counterterrorism actions are conducted with respect for civil liberties. He is now a partner of the law firm of Cooley LLP, where he serves as vice chair of Cooley's cyber, data and privacy practice.

Katie Ledecky, Class of 2014

Olympic Gold Medalist

At age 15, Katie Ledecky was the youngest member of the U.S. delegation at the 2012 Olympics in London. Her youth was no handicap. She defeated the defending world and Olympic champion in her own country, and took home the gold medal in the 800-meter freestyle, breaking an American record that had stood for 24 years. At the FINA international competition in Barcelona the following year, she won the world championship in four events and broke world records in two. The international swimming federation (FINA) named her World Swimmer of the Year. From June to August of 2014, she set world records in the 400-, 800- and 1500-meter freestyle races, and then broke her own records in the 400 and 1500 at the

Pan Pacific Swimming Championships in Australia. An honors student at Stone Ridge School of the Sacred Heart in Bethesda, Maryland, she graduated high school in 2015, and accepted an athletic scholarship to attend Stanford University. She chose to defer her entry to Stanford until after the 2016 Olympics. In her spare time, she volunteers with Wounded Warriors, the Shepherd's Table Homeless Center, Bikes for the World and the Help 2.0 Clean Water Project. In 2015, Katie Ledecky broke the 1500-meter freestyle world record. In early 2016, she broke her own 800-meter freestyle world record in the Arena Pro Swim Series. At the 2016 Rio Olympics — in one of the greatest performances in Olympic history — she earned four gold medals in the 200-, 400- and 800-meter freestyle races, as well as the 2×400 relay, and set a new world record in the 800-meter. In 2018, in her first professional event, she broke her own world record in the women's 1,500-meter freestyle, finishing 49 seconds ahead of her nearest competitor. It is the 14th time she has set a world record.



Steven Levitt, Ph.D., Class of 1985

University of Chicago Economist and Author

Steven Levitt is the William B. Ogden Distinguished Service Professor of Economics at the University of Chicago, where he directs the Becker Center on Chicago Price Theory. Professor Levitt earned his bachelor's degree from Harvard University in 1989 and his Ph.D. from MIT in 1994. He has taught at the University of Chicago since 1997. In 2004, he received the John Bates Clark Medal, awarded to the most influential economist under the age of 40. In 2006, he was named one of *TIME* magazine's "100 People Who Shape Our World." He co-authored *Freakonomics*, which spent over two years on the *New York Times* bestseller list and has sold more than four million copies worldwide. *Super Freakonomics*, released in 2009, includes brand-new research on topics from terrorism to prostitution to global warming. He is also the co-author of the popular *Freakonomics* blog.



Tara Lipinski, Class of 1993

Olympic Gold Medalist

Tara Lipinski is an internationally acclaimed figure skater who won the gold medal at the 1998 Nagano Olympics — the youngest individual gold medalist in the history of the Winter Games. In 1997, she was also the youngest-ever winner of the U.S. and World Figure Skating Championships. In the years since her Olympic triumph, she

has worked as a television sports commentator for NBC, NBC Sports and Universal Sports. Today, she regularly appears as a TV analyst for the World Figure Skating Championships, the Grand Prix of Figure Skating Series and the U.S. Figure Skating National Championships. At the 2014 Winter Olympics in Sochi, Russia, she was a commentator and analyst for NBC Sports.



David R. Liu, Ph.D., Class of 1990


Director of the Merkin Institute of Transformative Technologies in Healthcare, Broad Institute

David R. Liu graduated first in his class at Harvard in 1994. During his Ph.D. research at U. C. Berkeley, Liu initiated the first general effort to expand the genetic code in living cells. Today, Dr. Liu is Director of the Merkin Institute of Transformative Technologies in Healthcare, and Vice-Chair of the Faculty at the Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT. He is a Howard Hughes Medical Institute Investigator and holds endowed chairs at the Broad Institute and Harvard. At the Broad Institute, he developed more precise systems of CRISPR gene editing technology, known as base editors. In a 2019 paper published in the journal *Nature*, he demonstrated the development of a still more sophisticated form of CRISPR technology he calls “prime editing.” The new system can swap any single letter of the genetic code for any other, enabling researchers to write edited genetic information directly into the genome. It is predicted that prime editing can correct approximately 89 percent of the mutations that cause heritable human diseases. Dr. Liu’s lab has already used prime editors to overwrite the genetic variations that cause sickle cell anemia, cystic fibrosis, and Tay-Sachs disease. Other researchers will be able to freely access the new technology through a nonprofit repository where Liu’s team has already placed the DNA blueprints for making prime editors. Dr. Liu is a founder or co-founder of seven biotechnology and therapeutics companies. He has published more than 180 papers and is the inventor of more than 70 issued U.S. patents. In 2017, *Nature* named him one of the top ten 10 researchers in the world, while *Foreign Policy* named him one of its “Leading Global Thinkers.”



The Honorable Debra Ann Livingston, Class of 1977

United States Circuit Court Judge



Debra Ann Livingston was appointed U.S. Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit in 2007. Prior to her appointment, she was a law professor and Vice Dean at Columbia Law School. Judge Livingston joined the Columbia faculty in 1994, and she continues to teach criminal procedure on a regular basis. She is a recipient of Columbia's annual Wein Prize for Social Responsibility. She received her bachelor's degree, *magna cum laude*, from Princeton University, where she was elected to Phi Beta Kappa; she received her law degree, *magna cum laude*, from Harvard Law School, where she was an editor on the *Harvard Law Review*. Following law school, she served as a law clerk to Judge J. Edward Lumbard of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit. Judge Livingston was an assistant U.S. attorney in the Southern District of New York from 1986 to 1991, and she served as a deputy chief appellate attorney in the Criminal Division from 1990 to 1991. She was an associate with the New York law firm of Paul, Weiss, Rifkind, Wharton & Garrison from 1985 to 1986, and again from 1991 to 1992, when she elected to pursue an academic career. She was a member of the University of Michigan's Law School faculty from 1992 until 1994. Judge Livingston is a co-author of the casebook, *Comprehensive Criminal Procedure*, and has published academic articles on various legal topics. She has taught courses in evidence, criminal law and procedure, law and policing, and national security and terrorism. From 1994 to 2003, she was a commissioner on New York City's Civilian Complaint Review Board. She presently serves as a member of the Judicial Conference Advisory Committee on Evidence Rules.

Erica Mackey, Class of 2014

Co-founder and CEO, MyVillage

A graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, with an MBA from Oxford, Erica Mackey spent over ten years working in sub-Saharan Africa. As Executive Director of Support for International Change, a rural health service provider in East Africa, she observed that “the world's poorest people pay the most for the dirtiest energy.” She responded by co-founding Zola Electric, the world's first massively scalable off-grid electric company, connecting over 1 million Africans to affordable solar energy. By utilizing distributed renewable energy, Zola sells pre-paid power to customers who suffer from an expensive or unreliable grid, or have no electrical grid access at all. After serving as Chief Operating Officer of Zola, Mackey co-founded MyVillage, a community-driven solution to the national childcare shortage. As CEO of MyVillage, she is now creating a technology-enabled community of educators and mentors dedicated to empowering home-based childcare and preschool providers with the tools they need to grow successful businesses that

puts kids and families first. Her ventures have raised more than \$250 million from world-class investors including Tesla, Paul Allen, and others. In 2012, she was recognized by *Forbes* as one of its “30 Under 30 Social Entrepreneurs.” She has also received the C3E Clean Energy Award for Entrepreneurship, the Citi Ashden Award for Innovative Finance, the Oxford Saïd Impact Career Award and the \$1.5 million Zayed Future Energy Prize from the United Arab Emirates.

The Honorable Anna Marie Manasco, Class of 1998

United States District Court Judge, Northern District of Alabama

Anna Marie Manasco earned her B.A., *summa cum laude*, from Emory University, her Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees from the University of Oxford, and her Juris Doctor from Yale Law School, where she served as an executive editor of the *Yale Law & Policy Review*. She served as a law clerk to Judge William H. Pryor Jr. of the United States Court of Appeals for the Eleventh Circuit. From 2009 to 2020, she was a partner at the firm of Bradley Arant Boult Cummings in Birmingham, Alabama, where her practice focused on trial strategy and appeals in complex commercial litigation. She has represented clients before the Supreme Court of Alabama, numerous federal courts of appeals and the Supreme Court of the United States. In December 2019, President Trump nominated her to the United States District Court for the Northern District of Alabama. Her nomination was confirmed by the United States Senate in May 2020.

Wes Moore, Class of 2004

CEO, Robin Hood Foundation

Wes Moore is a youth advocate, Army combat veteran, social entrepreneur and author. His first book, *The Other Wes Moore*, was released in 2010 and became an instant *New York Times* bestseller; his 2015 book *The Work* — also a *New York Times* bestseller — was featured by Oprah Winfrey on her show *SuperSoul Sunday*. In 1998, he graduated from Valley Forge Military College, and at age 19 was the youngest commissioned officer in the U.S. Army. He continued his education at Johns Hopkins University, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa, with a double degree in international relations and economics. He continued his study of international relations as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. As a paratrooper and captain in the United States Army, he completed a combat tour of duty in Afghanistan with

the 82nd Airborne Division. He was then appointed as a White House Fellow, assisting Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. He serves on the boards of the Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) and Johns Hopkins University, and founded an organization called STAND! that works with Baltimore youth involved in the criminal justice system. Wes Moore is also the founder and CEO of BridgeEdU, a social enterprise that assists young people in making the transition from high school to college and employs mobile technology to maximize students access to financial aid. He was the executive producer of the 2016 documentary film *All the Difference*, which follows two young African American men as they graduate from high school and try to navigate higher education. The film was first broadcast on the PBS television program POV. In 2017 he became CEO of Robin Hood foundation, a New York-based anti-poverty organization that distributes over \$130 million annually to over 200 programs, including schools, food pantries, homeless shelters, job training centers, health care providers, legal clinics and early childhood programs.

The Honorable Seth Moulton, Class of 2009

United States House of Representatives

After graduating from Harvard with a degree in physics, Seth Moulton enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and served two tours of duty as a platoon commander in Iraq. He participated in the initial invasion and in the 2004 Battle of Najaf. He later served as a liaison to senior Iraqi military and political leaders for General David Petraeus. Although he left active duty in 2006, and was accepted into a joint degree program at Harvard Business School and the John F. Kennedy School of Government, he returned to Iraq for another year as a special assistant to General Petraeus. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives as a Democrat in 2014. Congressman Moulton has focused on veterans' health care, among other issues, and has served on the House Armed Services Committee, the House Budget Committee and the House Small Business Committee.

Josh Nesbit, Class of 2012

CEO of Medic Mobile

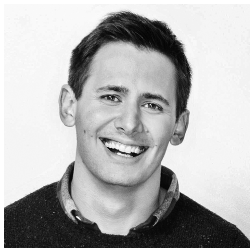
Josh Nesbit is the Chief Executive Officer of Medic Mobile, a nonprofit organization founded to improve health in the hardest-to-reach communities. Medic Mobile's software helps over 12,000 community health workers provide care for more than

one million families in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The organization focuses on ensuring safe pregnancies, increasing coverage for childhood immunizations, delivering lifesaving treatments for children, monitoring stock levels for essential medicines, and tracking disease outbreaks more rapidly. In 2014, Medic Mobile received a Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship. Before co-founding Medic Mobile, Mr. Nesbit studied global health and bioethics at Stanford University, where his qualitative research focused on pediatric HIV/AIDS in Malawi. He is an Ashoka Fellow, PopTech Social Innovation Fellow, Echoing Green Fellow, and Rainer Arnhold Fellow. He has served on the Board of Directors for Developing Radio Partners and IntraHealth International. Selected by Devex as one of the 40 Under 40 Leaders in International Development, he has also received the Truman Award for Innovation from the Society for International Development, and was named by *Forbes* as one of the world's top 30 social entrepreneurs. In 2016, Josh Nesbit received a Muhammad Ali Humanitarian Award. He is continually inspired by community health workers around the world and emboldened by a vision of global health equity.

Collin O'Mara, Class of 2004

President and CEO, National Wildlife Foundation

Collin O'Mara serves as President and CEO of the National Wildlife Federation, America's largest wildlife conservation organization with 51 state and territorial affiliates and nearly six million hunters, anglers, birders, gardeners, hikers, paddlers, and wildlife enthusiasts. Under O'Mara's leadership, the National Wildlife Federation is focused on recovering America's wildlife ranging from bison and bighorn sheep to pollinators like monarch butterflies and native bees, improving management of and access to public lands, restoring America's water bodies, advancing environmental education and connecting every American child with the great outdoors. He is regularly called before Congress to testify about wildlife, water, and sportsmen issues. Prior to heading the National Wildlife Federation, he led the State of Delaware's Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control. When he was appointed in 2004, he was the youngest state cabinet official in the nation. A native of Syracuse, New York, O'Mara was a Marshall Scholar at the University of Oxford, a University Fellow at the Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, and a Presidential Scholar at Dartmouth College. O'Mara and his wife Krishanti are both Academy of Achievement alumni.



Benj Pasek, Class of 2014

Oscar-winning Composer and Lyricist

Benj Pasek is half of the award-winning songwriting team behind the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *Dear Evan Hansen*. The show, set at a high school, received glowing reviews for its moral complexity as well as its musical ambition. Mr. Pasek and his music-and-lyrics writing partner, Justin Paul, won a 2016 Obie (the major award for Off Broadway productions) for Musical Theater for the premiere production of *Dear Evan Hansen*, as well as a Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Lyrics. The production was quickly picked up for transfer to Broadway. Pasek and Paul previously enjoyed Tony-nominated success as the creative duo behind the Broadway musical *A Christmas Story*, which broke box-office records at the Lunt-Fontanne Theatre. In addition to its Tony nominations for Best Score and Best Musical, the show was nominated for the Outer Critics Circle and Drama Desk Awards. The team made their debut with the musical *Edges*, which has already had more than 250 productions on five continents. Pasek and Paul's other works include the Off Broadway musical *Dogfight*, and musical adaptations of *James and the Giant Peach* and *If You Give a Pig a Pancake*. Their songs were featured on the second season of NBC's *Smash* and rose to the top 25 on the iTunes pop chart. Their work has been heard on numerous TV shows, including *Late Night with Jimmy Fallon*, and was featured on the MTV series *Happyland*. A graduate of the University of Michigan, Pasek has lectured and taught master classes at institutions throughout North America, Europe and Australia, including Columbia, Harvard and Princeton. Disney has also hired Pasek and Paul to write new songs for a live-action remake of *Snow White*. Pasek and Paul won the 2017 Oscar for Best Song as well as the Golden Globe for their song "City of Stars" from the hit film *La La Land*. They continued their remarkable winning streak by taking home the 2017 Tony Award for Best Original Score for the Broadway production of *Dear Evan Hansen*, which also won the year's Tony Award for Best Musical. In 2018 they received a second Golden Globe for Best Original Song for "This Is Me" from the 20th Century Fox film musical *The Greatest Showman*.

Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz, Ph.D., Class of 2002

Professor of Astronomy and Astrophysics, University of California, Santa Cruz

Enrico Ramirez-Ruiz, Ph.D., professor and chair of astronomy and astrophysics at University of California, Santa Cruz, has been honored by the High-Energy Astrophysics Division (HEAD) of the American Astronomical Society with the 2019

HEAD Mid-Career Prize. The award recognizes Ramirez-Ruiz “for his key contributions to our physical understanding of transient phenomena involving compact objects.” He was previously awarded the 2017 Edward A. Bouchet Award from the American Physical Society. The Bouchet Award recognizes a distinguished minority physicist who has made significant contributions to physics research. Dr. Ramirez-Ruiz was chosen for the award in recognition of his “important contributions to the dynamics of plasma in extreme astrophysical environments.” While at UC Santa Cruz, he has also earned a Packard Fellowship, a Radcliffe Fellowship, and a \$5 million Niels Bohr Professorship by the Danish National Research Foundation. The five-year Niels Bohr award supports an international research collaboration in theoretical astrophysics led by Dr. Ramirez-Ruiz, who divides his time between UC Santa Cruz and the Niels Bohr Institute (NBI) at the University of Copenhagen in Denmark. The collaborative program, called the NBI Center for Transient Astrophysics, focuses on the physics of transient astronomical phenomena such as exploding stars and gamma-ray bursts. Dr. Ramirez-Ruiz has been working to develop the theoretical framework needed to interpret observations of astronomical transients and maximize the scientific yield of large survey projects. At the University of Copenhagen, he works with Professor Jens Hjorth, director of the Dark Cosmology Centre at NBI. A long-term associate at the center, Dr. Ramirez-Ruiz was named affiliated professor of high-energy astrophysics at NBI in 2014. A graduate of the National Autonomous University of Mexico, he earned a bachelor of science degree in physics, with honors. As a student, he won numerous honors including the Leon Lederman Award in Physics. He was conducting research at the Los Alamos National Laboratory in the U.S. on an NIS Award in Space Science when he received word that he had been awarded the Young Scientist Presidential Award, Mexico’s highest academic youth honor, personally awarded by the President of Mexico. In 2003, he earned a Ph.D. in astronomy and astrophysics at Cambridge University. He was a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University from 2003 to 2007, prior to beginning his professorship at UC Santa Cruz.

Lisa Randall, Ph.D., Class of 1980

Frank B. Baird, Jr. Professor of Science, Harvard University

The first female theoretical physicist to gain tenure at Harvard, Lisa Randall is the proponent of a radical new cosmology that may overturn our old conceptions of time, space and the universe. The Standard Model of physics has proved highly accurate in predicting the relative strength of the known forces in verifiable ways,

with the exception of gravity, which appears inexplicably weak in relation to the other forces, such as electromagnetism. Randall has proposed that most of the gravity in the universe is concentrated in a dimension that is hidden from us — that our picture of the universe is distorted because we live in “a three-dimensional sinkhole.” She outlines these ideas for the general reader in her book *Warped Passages: Unraveling the Mysteries of the Universe’s Hidden Dimensions*. While in high school, she won the Westinghouse Science Talent Search and, in 1980, attended the Academy of Achievement’s Salute to Excellence program as a student delegate. She earned her Ph.D. at Harvard and held professorships at MIT and Princeton before returning to Harvard as full professor in 2001. In 2007, *TIME* magazine named her to its list of the “100 Most Influential People in the World.”

Bruce Reed, Class of 1978

White House Deputy Chief of Staff

Bruce Reed comes to his current role as Deputy Chief of Staff to President Joseph Biden with a decade of previous experience as a White House policy advisor in both the Clinton and Obama administrations. An Idaho native, he graduated from Princeton and earned his master’s in English literature as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford. He began his career as chief speechwriter for Senator Al Gore of Tennessee and policy director at the Democratic Leadership Council, then headed by Arkansas Governor Bill Clinton. He served as deputy campaign manager for policy in the 1992 Clinton-Gore presidential campaign. In the administration of President Clinton he was director of the Domestic Policy Council. He later served as CEO of the Democratic Leadership Council. A longtime contributor to *Slate* and *The New Republic*, he co-wrote his 2006 book *The Plan: Big Ideas for America* with fellow White House veteran Rahm Emmanuel. During the Obama administration, he served as Executive Director of the Bowles-Simpson deficit reduction commission, then as Assistant to the President and as Chief of Staff to Vice President Joe Biden. In 2013, he became the first President of the newly established Broad Foundation. Prior to joining the Biden administration, he was Co-Chair of the Aspen Institute Future of Work Initiative and was the founder and first CEO of Civic, a social enterprise and public policy firm.

Jennifer Robinson, Class of 2008

Doughty Street Chambers

Jennifer Robinson is a practicing attorney with the civil liberties firm Doughty Street Chambers in London. She also serves as an adjunct law professor at the University of Sydney Law School in Australia. At the Australian National University, Ms. Robinson graduated with a double degree in law and Asian studies. She was the University Medalist in Law and a Distinguished Scholar for Asian Studies. As a Rhodes Scholar, she completed a bachelor of civil law (BCL), with distinction, and an M.Phil in public international law. In 2011, she began a five-year term as Director of Legal Advocacy for the London-based Bertha Foundation, where she oversaw the development of the Bertha Justice Initiative, a program that supports over 100 fellowship positions, every two years in 17 different countries, for the next generation of human rights lawyers. Robinson has a special interest in the West Papuan independence movement, as attorney to the leader-in-exile, and as co-founder of the legal networking organization International Lawyers for West Papua. As a media and free speech law expert, Robinson is best-known for her longtime representation of WikiLeaks and its founder, Julian Assange. Her other high-profile clients include *The New York Times*, scientist Richard Dawkins and the actress Rose McGowan. In 2020, she represented actress Amber Heard as a witness in British court during the *The Sun* newspaper's successful defense against the libel case brought by Heard's ex-husband Johnny Depp.

Pardis Sabeti, M.D., Class of 2000

Associate Professor, Center for Systems Biology,
Harvard University Howard Hughes Investigator,
Broad Institute of Harvard and MIT

When the Ebola epidemic began in West Africa, Dr. Pardis Sabeti led a team that did something critically important: it sequenced virus samples from infected patients almost as soon as the outbreak began. This marked the first in-depth use of real-time DNA sequencing in the midst of such a deadly pandemic. She and her team were able to clearly determine that the virus was being spread by human-to-human contact — and not from mosquito, pig or other transmissions. In the wake of this widespread human crisis, at a time when myths and theories were running rampant, Dr. Sabeti's work proved the power of real data to establish scientific conclusions. Tragically, several of her research collaborators died from Ebola contamination during the outbreak. Her high-risk work was ultimately critical to the containment and suppression of the disease, and in December 2014, Dr. Sabeti was included as one of 22 people named by *TIME* magazine when it chose "The Ebola Fighters" as its Person of the Year.

Stav Shaffir, Class of 2017

Leader of the Green Party of Israel

In 2012, Stav Shaffir became the youngest female member in the history of Israel's parliament, the Knesset. A professional journalist and peace activist, she rose to prominence as a leader of the largest protest movement in Israel's history, the movement for housing, social services, equality and democracy that brought hundreds of thousands of Israelis into the streets in the summer of 2011. A veteran of the Israel Defense Forces she holds a degree in journalism and sociology from City University London, where she was the recipient of the Olive Tree Scholarship, a dedicated initiative for young leaders from the Middle East. At age 27 she was elected to the Knesset as a member of the Labor Party. Elected to a second term in 2015, Shaffir chaired the transparency committee and the social justice caucus. She has been an outspoken advocate for fiscal oversight of settlement funding, increased support for affordable housing, and equal rights for women and the LGBTQ community. In 2017, she became the first chair of the international Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's committee on government transparency. After losing a contest for leadership of the Labor Party in 2019, she resigned her seat in the Knesset and became leader of Israel's Green Movement. Reorganizing the movement as a political party, she led the Greens into a new alliance alongside other parties in the Democratic Union but failed to win a seat in the Knesset elections of 2020.

Beth Shapiro, Ph.D., Class of 2000

Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,
University of California, Santa Cruz

Beth Shapiro is an evolutionary molecular biologist best known for her studies of ancient DNA. From her base at the University of California, Santa Cruz, she has traveled to Kenya, Canada, Alaska and Siberia collecting samples of the bones, teeth, skulls and tusks of creatures long extinct — mammoths, mastodons and saber-toothed cats. In the Yukon, she has uncovered remains buried under layers of volcanic ash for 130,000 years. By extracting and comparing DNA samples from remains of different eras, she has traced the evolution, diversification and extinction of entire species. Her research has challenged long-held beliefs about the extinction of the giant mammals and diversity loss among species such as the great North American bison. Dr. Shapiro earned her bachelor's and master's degrees at the University of Georgia and her doctorate in zoology as a Rhodes

Scholar at Oxford. She received a University Research Fellowship from the Royal Society in 2006, a MacArthur “genius grant” in 2009, and was named a National Geographic Emerging Explorer in 2010. Her recent research publications have included studies of prehistoric human migration in the Middle East and North Africa, the kinship of brown bears and polar bears in the last Ice Age, and the molecular epidemiology of the AIDS virus.

Mikhail G. Shapiro, Ph.D., Class of 2005

Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering and Heritage Principal Investigator, California Institute of Technology

A native of Russia, Mikhail Shapiro is Assistant Professor of Chemical Engineering and Heritage Principal Investigator at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). His laboratory develops technologies to image and control biological function non-invasively at the molecular level, with applications in basic biology and cellular therapy. Dr. Shapiro received his Bachelor of Science degree in neuroscience from Brown University, where he worked to develop implantable systems allowing paralyzed patients to control computers with their thoughts. He went on to earn a Ph.D. in biological engineering at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, followed by postdoctoral research in biophysics at the University of Chicago. In 2011, he launched his independent research program at the University of California, Berkeley, and moved to Caltech in 2014 to join its chemical engineering faculty, with appointments in bioengineering and medical engineering. Dr. Shapiro’s research has been recognized by the Hertz, Soros, Miller and Life Science Research Foundation Fellowships; the Hertz Ph.D. Thesis Prize; the Burroughs Wellcome Career Award at the Scientific Interface; the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency’s Young Faculty Award and Director’s Fellowship; the Pew Scholars Award; the Sontag Foundation Distinguished Scientist Award; the Packard Fellowship in Science and Engineering; and the Technology Review TR35 Award for top innovators under age 35. Additionally, Dr. Shapiro has served as a Defense Sciences Research Council Fellow and a member of the National Academy of Sciences Standing Committee on Technology Insight. Apart from his academic career, he has been active in biotechnology entrepreneurship. He was a co-founder of Cyberkinetics, the company that developed the first implantable brain-computer interface, and was a venture principal at Third Rock Ventures, where he helped launch Foundation Medicine and Afferent Pharmaceuticals. In 2018, he received the Roger Tsien Award for Excellence in Chemical Biology from the World Molecular Imaging Society. The award recognizes his pioneering development of acoustic

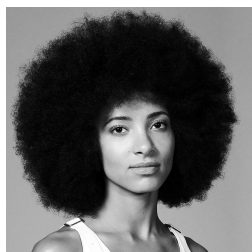
and magnetic biomolecules that allow the imaging of cells deep inside the body using magnetic fields and sound waves. This technology makes it possible to study cellular function in intact organisms and develop new diagnostic and therapeutic approaches to diseases such as cancer and neurodegeneration. His work has won him the 2019 Vilcek Prize for Creative Promise in Biomedical Science.



Brad Smith, Class of 2009

Health Care Entrepreneur and Public Servant

Born and raised in Knoxville, Tennessee, Brad Smith graduated *summa cum laude* from Harvard University. Following graduation from Harvard, he worked on the campaign of U.S. Senator Bob Corker and served in the White House Office of Political Affairs. He attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar, earning an M.Phil. in Comparative Social Policy. Returning to Tennessee, he served as Chief of Staff at the Tennessee Department of Economic Development and as the founding Executive Director of the Tennessee State Collaborative on Reforming Education (SCORE), a non-profit focused on bringing diverse stakeholders together to improve K-12 education in Tennessee. He was the Co-Founder and CEO of Aspire Health, which he grew from an idea into the nation's largest home-based palliative care provider, operating in 25 states and over 70 cities. Aspire was sold to Anthem in June 2018. More recently, he served as Chief Operating Officer of Anthem's Diversified Business Group (DBG), which included companies specializing in primary care, specialty benefit management, healthcare research, program integrity, and behavioral health. In the administration of President Donald Trump, Smith served as Deputy Administrator and Director of the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.



Esperanza Spalding, Class of 2014

Singer, Songwriter and Jazz Bassist

Vocalist, composer and instrumentalist Esperanza Spalding fell in love with music as a little girl in Portland, Oregon. She first drew acclaim as a child violinist before discovering the upright bass as a teenager. Within months she was playing in local clubs, exploring pop, rock, hip-hop and especially jazz. By age 20, she was an instructor at Boston's prestigious Berklee College of Music, and was performing with singer Patti Austin and a stellar roster of jazz greats. Her 2008 album, *Esperanza*, topped Billboard's Contemporary Jazz chart. The following year,

she was invited to perform at The White House and the Nobel Peace Prize ceremony in Stockholm. At the 53rd annual Grammy Awards, she was honored as Best New Artist of the Year. With her 2011 album, *Chamber Music Society*, she became the bestselling contemporary jazz artist in the world. On the follow-up, *Radio Music Society*, she played her own compositions alongside an eclectic selection of tunes by everyone from the Beach Boys to one of her heroes, jazz great Wayne Shorter. With every performance, every recording, she continues to explore an ever-expanding musical universe.



Debbie Sterling, Class of 2014

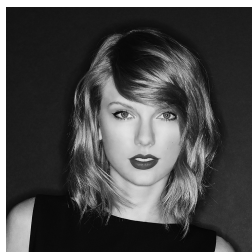
Founder and CEO, GoldieBlox

Debbie Sterling is the Founder and CEO of GoldieBlox, the award-winning children's multimedia company offering a unique line of construction toys designed to interest young girls in building and engineering, including the world's first girl engineer character. Sterling herself discovered engineering in her freshman year at Stanford, and graduated in 2005 with a degree in mechanical engineering and product design. After graduation, she worked as marketing director for a national jewelry brand, and then as a brand strategist for Hornall Anderson, advising the agency's top clients, including Microsoft, T-Mobile, Frito Lay and the New York Knicks. Recalling how few women there had been in her engineering program, she noted that men still greatly outnumber women in science, technology, engineering and math. Because girls often lose interest in these subjects in elementary school, she decided to devise a line of toys to capture girls' interest at an early age. By tapping into their verbal skills, the GoldieBlox "story + construction set" bolsters confidence in girls' spatial skills while giving them the tools they need to create, design and build. She has been named *Time's* "Person of the Moment," honored by the National Retail Foundation as one of 25 "People Shaping Retail's Future," and was recently added to *Fortune* magazine's prestigious "40 Under 40" list. In 2015, she was inducted as a Presidential Ambassador for Global Entrepreneurship and honored by the National Women's History Museum with a "Living Legacy" Award for her work to empower girls around the world. Debbie Sterling is an engineer, entrepreneur, and one of the leaders in the movement toward empowering girls to build their confidence, dreams, and ultimately, their futures.

Bryan A. Stevenson, Class of 1977

Founder and Executive Director, Equal Justice Initiative

Bryan Stevenson is the Founder and Executive Director of the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) in Montgomery, Alabama. He is a widely acclaimed public interest lawyer who has dedicated his career to helping the poor, the incarcerated and the condemned. Under his leadership, EJI has won major legal challenges, eliminating excessive and unfair sentencing, exonerating innocent death row prisoners, confronting abuse of the incarcerated and the mentally ill, and aiding children prosecuted as adults. Mr. Stevenson has successfully argued several cases in the U.S. Supreme Court, and recently won a historic ruling that mandatory life-without-parole sentences for all children 17 or younger are unconstitutional. He and his staff have won reversals, relief or release for over 115 wrongly condemned prisoners on death row. He has initiated major new anti-poverty and anti-discrimination efforts that challenge the legacy of racial inequality in America, including major projects to educate communities about slavery, lynching and racial segregation. Mr. Stevenson is also a law professor at the New York University School of Law. His work fighting poverty and challenging racial discrimination in the criminal justice system has won him numerous awards, including the prestigious MacArthur Foundation “Genius” Prize. He is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *Just Mercy*, which was named by *TIME* Magazine as one of the “10 Best Books of Nonfiction for 2014.” Under Stevenson’s leadership, the Equal Justice Initiative unveiled the National Memorial for Peace and Justice in Montgomery, Alabama in 2018. Located in a six-acre field of green space, the central structure of the memorial displays 800 hanging columns of Corten steel, representing the 800 counties of the United States where more than 4,400 African Americans were lynched between the years 1877 and 1950. The memorial offers all Americans a place to confront and contemplate a painful chapter of their shared history. Bryan Stevenson’s work is the subject of the documentary film *True Justice*, and the feature film *Just Mercy*, both released in 2019.



Taylor Swift, Class of 2008

Singer and Songwriter

A prodigiously talented singer and songwriter, Taylor Swift’s dedication to music began in childhood. She started crafting songs at the age of five, and by the time she turned ten, was performing at karaoke contests, festivals and county fairs around her hometown of Wyomissing, Pennsylvania. At age 12, she persuaded her parents to move to Nashville so she could pursue her singing career. In only two years, she had signed a publishing contract with Sony, making her the youngest

professional songwriter in the industry. In 2006, her self-titled debut album was released, when she was 16, and has sold more than three million copies. She wrote every song on the album, including the year's number one country single, "Our Song." Taylor Swift is a ten-time Grammy winner, the youngest recipient in the history of the music industry's highest honor, the Grammy Award for Album of the Year — and the first woman to win Album of the Year twice, in 2008 for *Fearless* and in 2015 for *1989*. She is the only artist in history to have an album hit the \$1-million first-week sales figure three times (2010's *Speak Now*, 2012's *RED* and 2014's *1989*). She's a household name whose intensely catchy yet deeply personal self-penned songs transcend music genres, and a savvy businesswoman who has built a childhood dream into an empire.



Sabriye Tenberken, Class of 2003

Co-founder, Braille Without Borders

As the first blind student at Bonn University, Sabriye Tenberken studied the Mongolian, Chinese and Tibetan languages in conjunction with sociology and philosophy, developing the first Braille script for the Tibetan language, initially for her own use. In 1997, she traveled on her own through the Tibetan Autonomous Region to investigate the situation of blind children there. The following year, she returned to Tibet to open a training center for the blind, including a preparatory school, a Braille printing press, a vocational training farm and a medical massage training program. In 2001, with her Dutch colleague, Paul Kronenberg, she co-founded Braille Without Borders (BWB) to empower blind and visually impaired people around the world. A BWB international center is now being built in Kerala, India, where blind people from developing countries will train to establish social projects for the blind in their own countries. In recognition of her service to humanity, Ms. Tenberken has received the Albert Schweitzer Award, has been honored as a Young Global Leader by the World Economic Forum, was named a "Hero of 2004" by *TIME* magazine, and has been knighted by the Queen of the Netherlands.

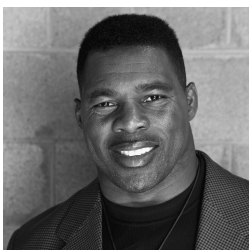


Vice Admiral Joseph E. Tofalo, USN, Class of 1977

Commander of Submarine Forces, Submarine Force Atlantic, and Allied Submarine Command



Vice Admiral Joseph Tofalo graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy in 1983 with a bachelor's degree in computer science. He also holds a master's degree in engineering management from Catholic University of America. A career submarine officer, his at-sea assignments have included service on four different vessels and as Commander of Submarine Squadron Three. His shore assignments have included service as an aide to the Superintendent of the U.S. Naval Academy; as a Chief of Naval Operations staff member; as Deputy Executive Assistant to the Joint Staff at the U.S. Joint Forces Command; and as Commander of Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Following these commands, he served as Executive Assistant to the Commander, U.S. Fleet Forces Command, and as Executive Assistant to the Vice Chief of Naval Operations. Selected as Rear Admiral in 2009, his first flag assignment was as Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Global Force Management and Joint Operations at U.S. Fleet Forces Command in Norfolk, Virginia. He assumed command of Submarine Group 10 in 2011, and in December 2013, he became Director of Undersea Warfare on the Chief of Naval Operations staff at the Pentagon. Vice Admiral Tofalo assumed his current duties in September 2015: as Commander of Submarine Forces, he is the Undersea Domain lead, and is responsible for the submarine force's strategic vision; as Commander of Submarine Force Atlantic, he commands all Atlantic-based U.S. submarines, their crews, and supporting shore activities; and as Commander of the Allied Submarine Command, he acts as the principal strategic advisor to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Strategic Commanders on submarine-related issues.



Herschel Walker, Class of 1980

College Football Hall of Fame

An inactive child by his own account, Herschel Walker went on to set all-time football records at every level of play, from high school to the pros. He finished his professional career with a total of 8,225 yards and 61 rushing touchdowns. He also caught 512 passes for 4,859 yards and 21 scores. In 1981, he became the first Academy of Achievement honor student to return to the annual program as a recipient of the Golden Plate Award. The following year, while a junior at the University of Georgia, he won the Heisman Trophy as the outstanding player of the year. He was inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in 1999, and was selected as the second greatest player in college football history, just behind the legendary Red Grange. Mr. Walker has also devoted himself to working with numerous charitable and educational organizations.



Shad White, Class of 2008

State Auditor, Mississippi

In July 2018, Shad White was sworn in as Mississippi's new State Auditor. The first millennial to hold statewide office in Mississippi, he may be the first of his generation to assume such a position anywhere in the Deep South. A native of Sandersville, Mississippi — population 731 — White graduated Phi Beta Kappa from the University of Mississippi's Honors College with a B.A. in Economics and Political Science. During his senior year of undergraduate studies, he authored an honors thesis critiquing Mississippi's education funding formula. In 2008, the Board of Trustees of Mississippi's university system adopted the recommendations of a report he authored on fairer textbook pricing and information policies. He undertook graduate studies as a Rhodes Scholar at Oxford University, and later earned a degree from Harvard Law School. White ran Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant's 2015 re-election campaign and served as Bryant's policy director. More recently, he was director of the Mississippi Justice Institute and lead attorney for the Mississippi Center for Public Policy. Governor Bryant appointed him to complete the term of the previous State Auditor, who resigned to accept another position with the state. In November 2019, White was elected to a full term in the office.



Alex Wissner-Gross, Ph.D., Class of 1999

President of Gemedi, Inc.

A scientist, inventor and entrepreneur, Alex Wissner-Gross serves as the President of Gemedi, Inc., a pioneering intelligent systems company, and also holds academic appointments at the Harvard Institute for Applied Computational Science, the Harvard Innovation Lab, and the MIT Media Lab. He has been granted 22 issued, pending, and provisional patents and has founded four technology companies. As a high school student, he won the U.S.A. Computer Olympiad and the Intel Science Talent Search. He graduated first in his class from the MIT School of Engineering, earning simultaneous degrees in physics, electrical science and engineering, and mathematics. Dr. Wissner-Gross earned his Ph.D. in physics at Harvard, with an award-winning dissertation on programmable matter, ubiquitous computing, and machine learning. His TED talks have been viewed more than 1.75 million times and translated into 26 languages. His work has been featured in the *New York Times*, CNN, *USA Today*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Businessweek*. In 2019, Wissner-Gross's company Gemedi, along with ACET (Adams Communication

& Engineering Technology, Inc.), was awarded a \$28 billion Defense Department contract to provide research, development, testing and evaluation support. Gemedy will apply its machine learning technology to cybersecurity, data analysis, modeling and simulation, knowledge management and information sharing throughout the Defense Department and all branches of the armed services.



Feng Zhang, Ph.D., Class of 2000

W. M. Keck Professor of Biomedical Engineering,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Feng Zhang is a bioengineer focused on developing tools to better understand nervous system function and disease. His lab applies these means to interrogate gene function and study neuropsychiatric diseases in animal and stem cell models. These novel tools, which he has made widely available, are accelerating biomedical research around the world. In 2012, he submitted a breakthrough paper which reported the first successful programmable genome editing of mammalian cells, and remains the most-cited paper in genome editing. Dr. Zhang's technique for mammalian genome editing has had enormous impact on experimental science and holds great promise for therapeutic applications. He is also widely recognized for developing another breakthrough technology called optogenetics, with fellow Academy of Achievement alumni Karl Deisseroth of Stanford and Edward Boyden of MIT.