2023

Spring Commencement

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 2023, 9:00 A.M.
BULLDOG STADIUM, BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY
Bowie State University
2023
Spring Commencement

Friday, May 26, 2023
at Nine O’Clock in the Morning
Bulldog Stadium
Bowie State University
Bowie, Maryland
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Dr. Aminta H. Breaux has served as the visionary 10th president of Bowie State University since July 2017, bringing more than 30 years of diverse higher education leadership experience to the position. As president, she is committed to ensuring that every student at Bowie State University develops an entrepreneurial mindset to achieve success in the rapidly changing workplace and communities. Dr. Breaux initiated a university-wide focus to infuse entrepreneurship education across the disciplines which led to the opening of an Entrepreneurship Living Learning Community in fall 2021. She is dedicated to building on the legacy and rich history of Maryland’s oldest historically Black university with a strategic focus on ensuring the long-term viability of the institution.

Dr. Breaux is a leading voice in 21st century education, and because of her extensive knowledge and expertise, she has been tapped to serve in multiple leadership roles. She was appointed to the President's Board of Advisors on Historically Black Colleges and Universities and the Governor's P-20 Leadership Council of Maryland. She is vice chair for the Board of Directors for the Central Intercollegiate Athletic Association (CIAA).

Dr. Breaux is committed to serving her community, particularly with programs and support activities that enrich the lives of children and youth. She is a member of the board of directors for the Greater Prince George's Business Roundtable, Prince George's County Chamber of Commerce and the University of Maryland Capital Region Health.

Her recent honors include the Educator of the Year Award from the National Council of Negro Women. She also received the Trailblazer Award from the Bowie Business Innovation Center (BIC), the business accelerator located at Bowie State, in conjunction with Capital One, and the Capital City Chapter Links Inc. Leadership Award.

Throughout her career, Dr. Breaux has demonstrated a passion for ensuring student development and success. Prior to joining Bowie State, Dr. Breaux served as vice president for advancement for Millersville University, where she oversaw fundraising, alumni engagement, event management and external relations. Before that, she was vice president for student affairs at Millersville University.

Previously, she was dean of students at University of the Sciences in Philadelphia, known as the country’s first college of pharmacy. At Drexel University, she served as assistant provost. She got her start in higher education as a career counselor at the University of Pennsylvania.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in psychology from Temple University, a master’s degree in psychological services in education from the University of Pennsylvania and a doctorate in counseling psychology from Temple University. She is also a graduate of the Harvard Institute for Executive Management and the American Association for State Colleges and Universities Millennium Leadership Institute.

Dr. Breaux and her husband, Melvin – a former partner of Drinker Biddle & Reath – have three daughters and three grandchildren.
Kenneth C. Frazier is the former Chairman and CEO of Merck, following his retirement from more than 30 years with the company, including a decade-long tenure as CEO.

In his retirement from Merck, Ken has committed himself to organizations dedicated to leading social change and building greater equity for all people. He is the Co-Founder and Co-Chair of OneTen, a coalition of leading organizations committed to upskilling, hiring, and promoting one million Black Americans into family-sustaining jobs. In addition, he is Chairman of Health Assurance Initiatives, at the venture capital firm, General Catalyst, where he advises on investments and partnerships for companies that are well-positioned to help transform the healthcare industry through collaborative and responsible innovation.

Ken's contributions, especially in the legal, business, and humanitarian fields, have been widely recognized. Under his leadership, Merck delivered innovative life-saving medicines and vaccines as well as long-term and sustainable value to its multiple stakeholders. Ken substantially increased Merck’s investment in research, including early research, while refocusing the organization on the launch and growth of key products that provide far-reaching benefits to society. He also led the formation of philanthropic and humanitarian initiatives that build on Merck’s 130-year legacy.

Ken joined Merck in 1992 and held positions of increasing responsibility, including General Counsel, before becoming President and CEO in 2011. Prior to joining Merck, Ken was a partner with the Philadelphia law firm of Drinker Biddle & Reath. He sits on the boards of Weill Cornell Medicine, Eikon Therapeutics, the National Constitution Center, Paradigm, and Cornerstone Christian Academy in Philadelphia, PA. He also is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, the Council of the American Law Institute, the American Bar Association, and a Fellow of the College of Physicians of Philadelphia. Additionally, Ken is Co-Chair of the Legal Services Corporation’s Leaders Council.

As a strong advocate for social justice and economic inclusion, Ken is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Anti-Defamation League Courage Against Hate Award, the Botwinick Prize in Business Ethics from Columbia Business School, the Legend in Leadership Award from the Yale School of Management, the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund National Equal Justice Award, and the National Minority Quality Forum’s Lifetime Achievement Award. In 2018, Ken received the Harvard Law School Association Award, the highest honor given by the prestigious association, in recognition of his extraordinary service to the legal profession, Harvard Law School, and the public. In that same year, Ken was named one of the World’s Greatest Leaders by Fortune magazine and was also named one of TIME’s 100 Most Influential People; he again made that list in 2021. In 2019, he became the first recipient of the Forbes Lifetime Achievement Award for Healthcare. In 2021 his peers named Ken Chief Executive magazine’s CEO of the Year. Most recently, he received the highly esteemed Fordham-Stein Prize from Fordham Law School, an honor bestowed for work embodying the highest standards of the legal profession.

Ken received his bachelor’s degree from The Pennsylvania State University and holds a J.D. from Harvard Law School.
Mr. William T. Wood

William T. "Bill" Wood was appointed in 1999 by Maryland's Governor to the Board of Regents and reappointed for a term beginning July 1, 2018. He is the immediate past Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the University of Maryland Baltimore Foundation and currently serves on the Board of Directors of the University System of Maryland Foundation. He has also served on the Board of Visitors of the University of Maryland University College and as the founding President of the University of Maryland College Park Alumni Association.

Mr. Wood earned a B.S. degree in Economics from the University of Maryland, College Park and a J.D. degree from the Francis King Carey School of Law. He founded Wood Law Offices, LLC, Rockville, Maryland; has been a practicing lawyer for over 40 years; is Past President of the Maryland Trial Lawyers Association; has been listed in The Best Lawyers in America, The Bar Register of Preeminent Lawyers, Super Lawyer's Magazine, Top Attorneys in Washington, D.C. by D.C. Magazine, Top Lawyers by The Baltimore Sun; the National Trial Lawyers Top 100 Trial Lawyers in Maryland; and is AV rated by Martindale-Hubbell. He has been a criminal prosecutor, Treasurer of the President's Council of the American Trial Lawyers Association and State Delegate to ATLA. He also has lectured extensively on litigation related matters and has appeared periodically on Channel 5 Fox Television News in the Washington-Metropolitan area and MSNBC nationally pertaining to legal issues of local and national interest. He has served sitting judges as Treasurer and courthouse candidates as Campaign Manager.

Mr. Wood and his wife Marie live in Chevy Chase, Maryland and have four children and two grandchildren: Mary Beth Wood Olson, Brian Wood, John Wood, and James Wood, deceased, and Mary Beth and her husband Nick's two children George and Helen Olson.
Alma Mater

Charlotte B. Robinson

There's a spot in my heart that never grows cold,
There's a place in my memory that never grows old.
There's a prayer on my lips that I'll ever be true
To God and my country,
To Bowie State, my school.

(REFRAIN)
Oh, Bowie State, dear Bowie State
May you forever be, the flame of faith,
The torch of truth,
To guide the steps of youth.

There's a song in my heart that I'll ever sing
Of the beauties of Bowie State that each season brings.
There's a pledge in my heart that I'll ever keep true
To uphold the standards of Bowie State, my school.

(REFRAIN)
Oh, Bowie State, dear Bowie State
May you forever be, the flame of faith,
The torch of truth,
To guide the steps of youth.

Lift Every Voice and Sing

James Weldon Johnson

Lift every voice and sing, till earth and Heaven ring,
Ring with the harmonies of liberty;
Let our rejoicing rise, high as the listening skies,
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea.
Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us,
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us;
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,
Let us march on till victory is won.
THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

DR. AMINTA H. BREAUX  
President of Bowie State University, Presiding

ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

POSTING OF THE COLORS  
BSU Reserve Officers Training Corps  
LTC Kareem Y. Fernandez, Commander

“THE STAR SPANGLED BANNER”  
by Frances Scott Key  
Ms. Jamari Blagmon (Soprano), Soloist

“LIFT EVERY VOICE AND SING”  
by James Weldon Johnson and J. Rosamond Johnson  
Arrangement by Mr. Brandon Felder, Assistant Director of University Choir  
The Combined Voices of BSU

MOMENT OF REFLECTION  
Dr. William Lewis  
Mace Bearer

GREETINGS  
Mr. William T. Wood  
Regent, University System of Maryland Board of Regents  
Mr. Kamau K. Stith  
President, Senior Class  
Mr. Micheal Lamont McGee  
President, Graduate Student Association

SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS  
Ms. Karen J. Shaheed, Esq.  
Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Chief of Staff

“CITY CALLED HEAVEN”  
Traditional spiritual arrangement by Josephine Pollenitz  
Performed by The Combined Voices of BSU  
Mr. Brandon Felder, Assistant Director of University Choir

INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER  
President Aminta H. Breaux
THE ORDER OF EXERCISES

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Mr. Kenneth C. Frazier
Retired Chairman and CEO, Merck & Co., Inc.
Chairman, Health Assurance Initiatives, General Catalyst

“BARNUM & BAILEY’S FAVORITE”
by Karl King
BSU Concert Band
Mr. Billy Bennett, Director

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DOCTORATE DEGREE
Mr. Kenneth C. Frazier

RECOGNITION OF HONOR GRADUATES
Dr. Carl B. Goodman
Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Candidates for Degrees Presented by
Dr. Carl B. Goodman

PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES
Dr. Cosmas Nwokeafor, Interim Dean, Graduate School
Dr. George Acquaah, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences
Dr. Lawrence McNeil, Dean, College of Business
Dr. Rhonda Jeter, Dean, College of Professional Studies
Dr. Cheryl Blackman, Dean, College of Professional Studies

INDUCTION INTO THE BSU NATIONAL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
Mr. Darren M. Swain
President, BSU National Alumni Association

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES
President Aminta H. Breaux

ALMA MATER
The Combined Voices of BSU

RETIRING OF THE COLORS
BSU Army Reserve Officers Training Corps
LTC Kareem Y. Fernandez, Commander

ACADEMIC RECESSIONAL
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership
    Master of Arts
    Master of Arts in Teaching
    Master of Business Administration
    Master of Education
    Master of Public Administration
    Master of Science

Master of Science in Management Information Systems
    Master of Science in Nursing

THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Bachelor of Arts
    Bachelor of Science

The list of candidates for graduation was prepared within the time limits imposed for printing of the program. Therefore, the list of names is not conclusive. Only those candidates who have met all graduation requirements will be granted a degree.
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Sharone Anderson-Davis  
Bowie, Maryland  
M.A. — Seton Hall University  
The Impact of Principals’ Leadership  
Style in Relation to Teacher Efficacy  
in Urban Elementary Schools in a  
Mid-Atlantic State

Oluseun A. Holmes  
Lanham, Maryland  
M.Ed. — Coppin State University  
Teachers’ Perceptions: Integration  
Of Technological Tools in Teaching  
Mathematics to Fourth Grade Students in  
Title I Schools in a Mid-Atlantic State

Carlos Dwayne Richardson  
Washington, D.C.  
M.A. — American University  
Black Girls "STEM": An Anti-Deficit  
Examination of Science, Technology,  
Engineering, and Mathematics Interest  
and Persistence in Two Charter  
Urban High Schools

Marco Lavert Brooks  
Washington, D.C.  
M.A. — Howard University  
Professional Development: Examining  
the Perspectives of Technology Teachers  
on Technology and the Great Leadership  
Practices of High School Principals  
Supporting Innovative Technology for  
Instruction in Two Urban Public Charter  
High Schools in a mid-Atlantic District

Sharon Michelle  
Marshall Oladokun  
Greenbelt, Maryland  
M.A. — George Washington University  
Navigating School Choice: The Perspectives  
of West African Immigrant Parents

Jewell LaVonne Rich  
Waldorf, Maryland  
M.S. — Trinity University  
Leading on Empty: Examining the Effects  
of Work-Related Stress and Burnout  
of School Principals in a Large School  
District in a Mid-Atlantic State

Dorothy Dixon Clowers  
Bowie, Maryland  
M.A. — Jackson State University  
Title I Elementary Principals’ Perspectives  
on the Effects of Parent Engagement on  
Students’ Absences, Motivation, and  
Achievement in a Mid-Atlantic  
Urban School District

Consuela Alethia-Natasha  
Robinson  
Fulton, Maryland  
M.A. — University of California,  
Berkeley  
Middle School Students’ Perceptions of  
School Climate in Two Mid-Atlantic  
Suburban School Districts Pre- and  
Post- Pandemic-Related School Closures

Elizabeth Olusola Fadairo  
Bladensburg, Maryland  
M.A. — George Washington University  
Examining How School Leaders’ Practices  
Affect Teacher Attrition in Elementary  
Schools in an Urban District

Stephen Thorne  
Bowie, Maryland  
M.S. — Neumann University  
Young, Gifted, and Black: A Thematic  
Analysis Of The Experiences Of  
First-Generation Black Males in a  
Catholic University in a  
Mid-Atlantic State
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

College of Arts and Sciences

MASTER OF SCIENCE
IN COMPUTER SCIENCE
Lindsei Marie Berman
District Heights, Maryland
B.S. — University Maryland Eastern Shore

Madubuko Daberechi Chiedozie
Landover, Maryland
B.S. — Washington & Lee University

Tavien Deshon Floyd
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — Morgan State University

Victor Dzemo Ngoubayo
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

MASTER OF ARTS
IN ENGLISH
Rahmah Turki Alosaimi
Vienna, Virginia
B.A. — King Abdulaziz University

Lama Lafi Alsharari
Sakaka, Saudi Arabia
B.A. — Al-Jouf University

Trinity Latise Mathis
Fort Washington, Maryland
B.S. — University Maryland Eastern Shore

Jonathan Chunsoo Park
Tysons, Virginia
B.S. — Howard University

Kalena Zamora
Odenton, Maryland
B.S. — Wheaton College

MASTER OF ARTS
IN ORGANIZATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS
Ayman Naffa Al Sulami
Vienna, Virginia
B.S. — King Abdulaziz University

Abdulkarim Yahya Alabthani
Fairfax, Virginia
B.S. — King Khalid University

Musaad Mohammed Aldayel
Arlington, Virginia
B.S. — King Saud University

Toni Chika Aniugo
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Morgan State University

Kobby Ayetey
Lanham, Maryland
B.S. — North Carolina Central University

Kohl Imani Byndloss
El Cerrito, California
B.S. — Paul Quinn College

Joshua Clark
Willingboro, New Jersey
B.S. — Wagner College

Asha Leilah Cole
Bladensburg, Maryland
B.A. — University Maryland Eastern Shore

Dejanay Monet Greer
Plainfield, New Jersey
B.S. — Bowie State University

Talanya R. Hutton
Capitol Heights, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Erica Johnson
Bowie, Maryland
B.A. — Bowie State University

Kimberly Norwood-Ingram
Homewood, Illinois
B.S. — Bowie State University

Keshi T. Parker
Capitol Heights, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Jaslyn Saije Riat
Odenton, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Niya M. Stenbar
Columbia, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Stefan Frank Touani
Oxon Hill, Maryland
B.S. — Grambling State University
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

College of Business

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Geordan Christopher Dent
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
B.S. — Virginia Union University

Taliy Tarshya Herbert
Capitol Heights, Maryland
B.S. — North Carolina Central University

Chijoke David Okoro
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — Ladoke Akintola University of Technology

MASTER OF ARTS IN HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
Sinmiloluwa Adeola Abioye
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — University of Ibadan

Bothainah Hathlou Alhathloulo
Arlington, Virginia
B.S. — King Saud University

Kyle Connolly
Crofton, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Bria Monique Davis
College Park, Maryland
B.S. — Howard University

Stacia Sharol D'Souza
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Mangalore University

Keemonie Rezhae Hodges
Washington, D.C.
B.S. — Virginia Union University

Bonnie Renee Trotman Johnson
Odenton, Maryland
B.S. — University of Maryland University College

Kenya Latrice Shanaye Johnson
Capitol Heights, Maryland
B.S. — Howard University

Breshay Tatiana Robinson
Huntersville, North Carolina
B.A. — University of California, San Diego

Khya Wimbery
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
B.S. — San Jose State University

Makayla M. Peterson
Elkton, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Cordell Milton Ray Jr.
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — University of Kentucky, Lexington

MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Ashley Ishanose Ajayi
Bowie, Maryland
B.A. — University Maryland Baltimore County

Candace Chele Carter
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Chelsea Ann Field-Arlantico
Fort Belvoir, Virginia
B.S. — Purdue University Global

Chelsea Foster
Washington, D.C.
B.A. — Southern Adventist University

Jasmine S Blackmon
Crofton, Maryland
B.S. — Howard University

Isaiah C. Hall
Waldorf, Maryland
B.S. — Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute

Kelechi C. Nwadike
Silver Spring, Maryland
B.S. — University of Nigeria

Chukwuyem Nkem Obima
Lagos, Nigeria
B.S. — Bowen University

Olusegun Joseph Odubela
Laurel, Maryland
B.S. — University of Ilorin

Chinenye Golden Okolo
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Abisola Olaitan Olanipekun
Landover, Maryland
B.S. — Landmark University

Boluwatife Isaac Onakunle
Laurel, Maryland
B.S. — Southern Baptist Theological Seminary

Tonja Thomas
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
M.S. — Neumann University
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

College of Education

MASTER OF ARTS
IN COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGY
Deborah Temitope Aiyegbusi
Montgomery Village, Maryland
B.S. — Frostburg State University

Jasmine N. Anderson
Bowie, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Cachet Patrice Burke
Gwynn Oak, Maryland
B.A. — McDaniel College

Darren Coleman
Lanham, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Rhonece Ford
Waldorf, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Erica Michele Gray
Washington, D.C.
B.S. — Trinity Washington University

Briyanee Greene
Bowie, Maryland
B.A. — University Maryland Eastern Shore

Daniel Gerard Madigan
Waldorf, Maryland
B.S. — Salisbury University

Micheal Lamont McGee
Hyattsville, Maryland
B.S. — University of Maryland Global Campus

Rene Patrice Peart
Greenbelt, Maryland
B.A. — University of Maryland College Park

Randy Wendell Prout
New Carrollton, Maryland
B.S. — Illinois State University

Moriba Sise
Memphis, Tennessee
B.S. — Stevenson University

MASTER OF EDUCATION
IN CULTURALLY RESPONSIVE TEACHER LEADERSHIP
Avery Queen
Silver Spring, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Sabrina Kathleen Simpson
Indianapolis, Indiana
B.A. — University Memphis

Zena Whitworth
Hyattsville, Maryland
B.S. — University Maryland Eastern Shore

MASTER OF EDUCATION
IN SCHOOL ADMINISTRATION & SUPERVISION
Nicole Renee English
Greenbelt, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Ashley Etta Jackson
Lexington Park, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

MASTER OF ARTS
IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING
Talaya Nyema Austin
Capital Heights, Maryland
B.S. — Howard University

Shakeela Q. Gray
Gaithersburg, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Jannah Taquiyyah Nash
Largo, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Nia Imani Riddick
Laurel, Maryland
B.S. — Western Carolina University

Tanae Kearrah Smith
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Whalnisha Rita Verbal
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Pontificia Universidad Catolica

Nahir Villarreal
Silver Spring, Maryland
B.S. — Towson University

Bianca Shuan Zhu
Ellicott City, Maryland
B.A. — Wheaton College

MASTER OF EDUCATION
IN SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGY
Hye In Chung
Ellicott City, Maryland
B.S. — University of Maryland College Park

Erin Michelle Conner
Prince Frederick, Maryland
B.S. — Towson University

Sydney Mykal Frederick
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Aneisha Jackson
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — University Baltimore

Erin McAuliffe
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — University of Maryland College Park

MASTER OF ARTS
IN TEACHING
Taylor Elizabeth Bendlin
Bowie, Maryland
B.A. — University of Maryland College Park

MASTER OF EDUCATION
IN READING
Jaylyn R. Norris
Lanham, Maryland
B.S. — Loyola University Chicago

Christine R. Ramroop
Bowie, Maryland
B.A. — Hawaii Pacific University
THE GRADUATE PROGRAM

College of Education

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Rebecca Miatta Akinmurele
Springdale, Maryland
B.S. — Bowie State University

Darius Lawrence Boris
Laurel, Maryland
B.S. — Towson University

Adaire Denean Crabbe
Washington, D.C.
B.A. — Hood College

Leevon Floyd
Gaithersburg, Maryland
B.A. — Dickinson College

Pia Jones
White Plains, Maryland
B.S. — Morgan State University

Jordan Christtina Turner-Bailey
Baltimore, Maryland
B.S. — Fayetteville State University

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

Timothy Tyrone Moorehead
Temple Hills, Maryland
B.A. — George Mason University

College of Professional Studies

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Temeka Rickquele Coates
Upper Marlboro, Maryland
B.S. — Ohio University

Sherry Kathryn Haubert
Great Mills, Maryland
B.S. — University Of Dayton

Tracy Lynn Schaecher
Saint Leonard, Maryland
B.S. — Bennett College
THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Latin Honors

Summa Cum Laude 3.85 – 4.00  Magna Cum Laude 3.65 – 3.84  Cum Laude 3.50 – 3.64

SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Danielle Akibo-Betts  Jill Heather Cruz  Myles W. Moody  Lana R. Scott
Neelover Alhedai  Ingris M. Cuellar Pineda  Michael Ryan Mouton  Justice P. Shreeses
Camille Natalie Allen  Natalia Anna Goraj  Katherine Powers Otten
Jonathan Bamgbade  Movado M. Gray  Ayyreanna P. Pettijohn  Ashley Antoinette Small
Stephanie Azucena Beltran  Tyla A. Handon  Ayyreanna P. Pettijohn  Clarissa Brittany Smith
Destiny D. Brevard  Denson Heard  Tamia Ashanti Reyes  Elaine Diane Thomas
Victoya Payne Chittams  Kamri L. Johnson  Aline Diana Robinson  Madelyn Celina Varela Amaya
Isata Laminatu Conte  Sheila Devonne Jones Wagner  Anthony Randolph Rosemond  Dasia Wade
Thomas J. Cragg  India C. Mallard  Marisa Alexa Starr Ruffin  Talisa M. Watson
Yvette Nicole Adams  Jayne Michelle Considine  Teresa D. Hogan  Khalil E.R. Williams
Jade Anne Aguisingo Aguilar  Genelle K. Courtney  Mohsan Hussain  Obinna Chiazo Okere
Temmy S. Akindolire  Madison R. Dale-Randolph  Nnenna J. Ibenana  Ekene D. Onoh
Abdulaziz Mohammed Alresheed  James J. Demery  Kiara J. Jennings  Christiana C. Pablo
Jazziel Asaph Baez  Ceirra Alayne Dixon  Ayanle Hussein Jirdeh  Asia Janea Parrott
Denicia K. Barnes  Christa Donnelly  Lauren V. Johnson  Dyshawn Jason Payne
Louise Bassog  Aubree T. Ellison  Treeana T. Jordan  Africa I. Pippin
Zaimat Bayero  Dakiyah Karem Floyd  Abigel Kassa  Abigail L. Rishton
Kaledikan C. Bekele  Rakell C. Foye  Je’Neice Lee Lipscomb  Marcus Zachary Samuels
Chadisy Keshon Berry  Dionna C. Garrison  Teria Vershay Ann Manuel  Kayla Marie Sykes
Chantel Melina Brooks  Anthea Rhonda Glassman  Tandria Mason  Sudana N. Thomas
Amaya Brown  Rondex Green  Jaylen Bre’Ann Moody  Shannon Nicole Thornes
Erin Marie Brown  Breanna T. Harvey  Jayda R. Motley  Alexis Victoria VanLandingham
Taylor Breonna Carter  An Nhien Ngoc Hoang  Keiara S. Murray  Rubi Celia Vasquez Martinez

MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Mene D. Bagudu  Jared Alston Davis  Kayla J. Lawrence  Jermaine Shawn Sibley
Cynthia Juanita Bailey  Kevin J. Davis  Imani C. Lee  Navin B. Singh
Timothy C. Barnes  James Anthony Denny  Nancy Martinez  Gabrielle Jeovanna Akayla Smith
John Alexander Briscoe Jr.  Sandra N. Ebenuki  Allyson Mojica  Destiny-Ruth Natalia Sterling
Kevin J. Broome  Devan Alexander Frazier  Marieme Ndiaie  Kamau K. Stith
Aaliyah N. Brown  Breynnah Harding  Chukwudi Nwaolu  Bernadette Watta Thomas
Amari A. Chambers  Cedrick L. Hawkins  Adenike R. Olarewaju  Destiny Louise Thomas
Dilys Ngnungwa Chofong  Tamir Jacobs  Brooke Lynn Parker  Daryl W. Thorpe
Xzavier Nathaniel Clark  Tewelde James  Breon Reid  Carley A. Walker
Daijah Iyanah Coles  Fatima S. Kura  Kimberly S. Sanchez  Kiarah M. Williams
Regina Michelle Colmore  Fatima S. Kura  Rachel Violet Setfon  Tameia D. Williams
Dynasty Covell  Kieya D. Lampkins  Alarie M. Shyllon  Malik Omar Wilson

This list of Honors and Recognition compiled as of May 5, 2023.
THE UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM

Academic Recognition

Transfer students who have earned 30–59 semester hours at Bowie State University with a GPA of 3.50 or higher.

Lesly Jailene Amaya
Desteny C. Anarado Harley
Joshua T. Awe
Tre’ Amanda Bell
William Graham Bourn
Chrissiah Christine Bromfield
Steven Alton Brown
Victoria Kristen Calloway
Virginia Carter
Maria Anayeli Cruz
Jannie Mae Earl
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Zulma Teresa Soto
Nickida Oria Stephens
Elias Tijani
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This list of Honors and Recognition compiled as of May 5, 2023.
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Nush Televine Zweh
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Montgomery, Maryland

Rondez Green
Upper Marlboro, Maryland

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Tyra Scott
Odenton, Maryland

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Bowie, Maryland

Jada Toombs
Lexington Park, Maryland

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Cameron Levon Carney
Temple Hills, Maryland

Justin Robert Daley
Brooklyn, Maryland
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<td>Tamir Jacobs</td>
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<td>Shanya Gordon</td>
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<td>Ronald Hawkins III</td>
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<td>Essex, Maryland</td>
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<td>Destiny-Ruth Natalia Sterling</td>
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<td>Brian U. Uzoma</td>
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<td>Alexis Victoria VanLandingham</td>
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<td>Erica Lashawn Waddy</td>
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<td>Laurel, Maryland</td>
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<tr>
<td>James Everett Young</td>
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Neelover Alhedai  
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Kimberley Alexis Austin  
Silver Spring, Maryland

Lulu Nettie Blake  
Germantown, Maryland

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Oxon Hill, Maryland

Christa Donnelly
Columbia, Maryland

Bradley Michael Ernest
Owings, Maryland

Anthea Rhonda Glassman
Columbia, Maryland

Natalia Anna Goraj
Ellicott City, Maryland

Cedrick L. Hawkins
Huntingtown, Maryland

Lauren V. Johnson
Salisbury, Maryland

Sade Joy Johnson
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<td>Ariel S. Allen</td>
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<td>April M. McGee</td>
<td>La Plata, Maryland</td>
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<td>Mya N. Mitchell</td>
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<td>Chukwudi Nwaolu</td>
<td>Washington, D.C.</td>
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<td>Upper Marlboro, Maryland</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christiana C. Pablo</td>
<td>Bowie, Maryland</td>
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</table>

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Makayla T. Weems
Chestertown, Maryland
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Major</th>
<th>Service Corps</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenant Joshua Timi Awe</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Signal Corps — U.S. Army Active Duty</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Mene Daniel Bagudu</td>
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<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Cyber — U.S. Army Reserve</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Willam Graham Bourn</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Thomas Joseph Cragg</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Jannie Mae Earl</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Brian Anthony Farlough</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenant Kyle Andrew Fernandez</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Communications</td>
<td>Military Intelligence — U.S. Army Active Duty</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenant Chelsea Ann Field Arlantico</td>
<td>M.P.A.</td>
<td>Public Administration</td>
<td>Medical Service Corps — U.S. Army Active Duty</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Devan Alexander Frazier</td>
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<td>2nd Lieutenant Claire Carline Jeanbaptiste</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenant Henry Edward Jackson III</td>
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<td>Adjutant General — U.S. Army Reserve</td>
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<td>Computer Technology</td>
<td>Ordnance Corps — U.S. Army Active Duty</td>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Lieutenant Chidimma Ugomma Ugorji</td>
<td>B.S.</td>
<td>Computer Science</td>
<td>Chemical Corps — U.S. Army Active Duty</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Medallion

The ceremonial chain is being worn by an increasing number of leaders in higher education. The chain designed for Bowie State University, an institution rich in tradition, is one that depicts the university’s heritage.

The ceremonial medallion offers a unique opportunity to honor the presiding president and the former presidents of the university. The Bowie State University medallion includes the university seal, which is three and one-eighth inches in diameter surrounded by a decorative bezel. Each presidential banner that makes up the chain is one and three-eighths inches. Each banner is inscribed with each former president’s name and term of office.
ACADEMIC COMMENCEMENT TRADITIONS

The Mace and Academic Regalia

THE MACE

The mace, introduced in twelfth century France by Philip II and in England by Richard I, was designed as an emblem signifying the authority of state officials, sergeants-at-arms, royal bodyguards and ecclesiastical dignitaries. It has been adopted for its symbolism by colleges and universities in the United States and is traditionally borne in academic processions by the faculty marshal.

The Bowie State University mace stands 50 inches tall and contains design details that represent the rich legacy of the institution’s history and pay homage to its alma mater. The tapered mahogany staff bears seven, gold-plated engraved banners that designate major epochs in the school’s history and changes in its name.

The staff supports an eight-inch brass flame that sits atop a four-sided base, with each side displaying a three-inch, gold-plated medallion. One side of the base features a medallion with the university seal – the opposing side depicts a replica of the African Baptist Chapel on Saratoga Street in Baltimore, where the original school was founded in 1865. The other two medallions bear the words, “Flame of Faith” and “Torch of Truth,” echoed in the alma mater. The lyrics carry the hope that Bowie State will continue to serve generations of students for years to come.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The custom of wearing academic dress can be traced to the Middle Ages when scholars were also clerics and wore the costume of their monastic order. The hood originally was a cowl attached to the gown, which could be slipped over the head for warmth. The cap, originally round, later became the square mortarboard commonly seen today.

Under contemporary rules of protocol, only holders of the doctorate may wear the four-sided, six-sided or eight-sided velvet tam. The gown worn varies according to the degree earned. The bachelor’s gown, for example, is worn closed and can be distinguished from the rest by its long pointed sleeves. The master’s gown is designed to be worn open, with slits at the elbow of the sleeves to accommodate the arms. The doctor’s gown, also worn open, has full, bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal bars stitched across the upper arm. A velvet panel that is stitched down the front edges is draped around the neck.

The doctor’s hood is four feet long, of fuller shape, and rounded at the base. The hood is bordered with velvet, the color of which typically indicates the field of study in which the wearer’s degree was earned: dark blue for philosophy; light blue for education; orange for engineering; gold/yellow for science; green for medicine; salmon pink for public health; purple for law; white for arts and letters, etc. The silk lining of the hood carries the colors of the institution that granted the degree. If more than one degree is held, the gown and hood symbolic of the highest degree are worn.
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BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

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Bowie State University is an outgrowth of a school opened in Baltimore, Maryland, by an organization dedicated to offering educational opportunities that the state failed to provide for its black citizens. From those humble beginnings, Bowie State has become a comprehensive university with more than 6,200 diverse students, offering 29 undergraduate majors and 36 master’s, doctoral and advanced certification programs in a broad range of disciplines. Bowie State University continues to build on its legacy of providing access to high-quality education.

FOUNDING OF THE FIRST SCHOOL

The Baltimore Association for the Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People was organized in 1864 by 46 men, comprised of businessmen, lawyers, clergymen and Quakers, committed to opening schools to educate the state’s newly emancipated citizens. One of those men was Joseph M. Cushing, an outspoken champion for the education of the Black population.

As chairman of the Educational Committee for Maryland’s Constitutional Convention in 1864, Cushing chastised the committee’s refusal to fund schools for black people: “There will come a time when this state will be forced by public opinion to provide means for educating our colored population.”

The association opened its first Baltimore school, School #1, on January 9, 1865, in the African Baptist Church in Crane’s Building on the corner of Calvert and Saratoga streets. The school offered courses in the elements of education. Courses to train teachers were added in 1866.

The facility was woefully inadequate. In 1867, with the aid of the Freedmen’s Bureau, the Quakers of England and others, the Baltimore Association purchased and renovated the Old Friends Meeting House at the corner of Saratoga and Courtland streets to house the Baltimore Normal School for Colored Teachers.

MOVE TO BOWIE

After repeated petitions from the Baltimore Normal School trustees, the state legislature authorized the Board of Education to assume control of the school in 1908 and redesignated it as State Normal School No. 3, finally fulfilling the dream of Cushing and the Baltimore Association. By 1910, the state decided to relocate the school to Bowie, Maryland, purchasing a 187-acre tract formerly known as Jericho Farm dating to 1716. The school opened at the new location in 1911 with about 60 students and Don Speed Smith Goodloe as the first Black man to head the school as principal. In 1914, its name changed to the Maryland Normal and Industrial School at Bowie.

Under President Leonidas James, the school began a two-year professional curriculum in teacher education in 1925, which expanded to a three-year program in 1931. A four-year program to train elementary school teachers was introduced in 1935, and the school was renamed the Maryland Teachers College at Bowie.

Teacher education continued to expand under the 25-year tenure of President William Henry. The institution established programs to train teachers for junior high school (1951) and secondary education (1961) and advanced toward becoming a liberal arts college.

TRANSITION TO A STATE LIBERAL ARTS COLLEGE

The Maryland State Legislature authorized the college to become Bowie State College in 1963, following the establishment of a liberal arts program. New majors in English, history and general social science were added, expanding offerings beyond teacher education.

Under President Samuel Myers, the college established its first graduate degree program, offering the Master of Education in 1969. The first director of the graduate division was Dr. J. Alexander Wiseman, a graduate of the Maryland Teachers College at Bowie and the first African-American to earn a doctoral degree from the University of Maryland, College Park.
EMERGENCE AS A COMPREHENSIVE UNIVERSITY

In 1988, Bowie State College became Bowie State University under President James Lyons, reflecting significant growth in academic programs, enrollment and community service. On the same day, the university also became one of the member institutions of the newly formed University System of Maryland.

Bowie State University gained recognition as a leader in the education of science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) disciplines. In 1995, Bowie State won an 11-year, $27 million award from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration/National Science Foundation, becoming one of only six national Model Institutions for Excellence in STEM.

TODAY’S BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

Bowie State University ranks among the nation’s top comprehensive universities, cultivating next-generation leaders by providing opportunities for students to discover their strengths through focused academic experiences and opportunities to tackle real-world problems.

U.S. News & World Report ranks Bowie State among the top 20 HBCUs. Bowie State’s cybersecurity programs are recognized as a National Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.

Bowie State University remains committed to preparing students for success in a highly technological, global society.
BOWIE STATE UNIVERSITY

University Highlights

LEADING BOWIE STATE INTO THE FUTURE

Bowie State University empowers more than 6,200 students with a rigorous curriculum and the support they need to find their strengths and prepare to compete in a changing world. The university has made great strides on the path to becoming one of the nation’s best comprehensive universities, with expanding academic initiatives and new modern facilities that provide opportunities for innovative teaching, learning and research.

KEY HONORS

- U.S. News & World Report ranks Bowie State in the top 20 historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs).
- Bowie State’s cybersecurity programs are recognized as a National Center for Academic Excellence in Information Assurance Education by the National Security Agency and the Department of Homeland Security.
- The College of Education has maintained continuous accreditation of its professional teacher programs by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) since 1954. The college has also received national recognition for the quality of its partnerships with local schools that place student interns.

FIRST-CLASS TEACHING & RESEARCH

- Undergraduate natural sciences students who choose a research track work with faculty mentors to find breakthroughs in health and medicine.
- By partnering with local school districts, the College of Education has launched initiatives to prepare more students to become certified educators.
- The Bowie Business Innovation Center, a partnership with the city of Bowie, is Maryland’s only business incubator at an HBCU. Students interested in starting a business can enroll in the new entrepreneurship and small business management program and get support from the Entrepreneurship Academy.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENTS

- The Entrepreneurship Living Learning Community is a hub of innovation and home to 500+ students, designed to nurture their passion to start a business.
- The Center for Natural Sciences, Mathematics and Nursing includes research and instructional laboratories, flexible classrooms, a nursing simulation wing and a fully enclosed greenhouse.
- The Fine and Performing Arts Center has the distinction of being an All-Steinway facility, featuring only the prestigious Steinway pianos in both practice and performance spaces.
- The Student Center received LEED Gold certification for its environmentally sustainable design, making Bowie State the first HBCU to receive that honor for a student center.
# History of Chief Executive Officers

1. **Mr. Leonard Waterman**  
   *Principal (1865–1866)

2. **Mr. H.F. Hartwell**  
   *Principal (1866–1869)

3. **Mr. P. J. Doran**  
   *Principal (1869–1870)

4. **Mrs. Anne Coore**  
   *Principal (1870–1872)

5. **Professor M. A. Newell**  
   *Principal (1872–1893)

6. **Professor Alexander Chaplain**  
   *Principal (1893–1893)

7. **Mr. George Harrison**  
   *Principal (1893–1911)

8. **Dr. Don Speed Smith Goodloe**  
   *Principal (1911–1921)

9. **Dr. Leonidas S. James**  
   *Principal (1921–1938)  
   President (1938–1941)

10. **Dr. Joseph Alexander Wiseman**  
    Interim President  
    (December 1941–February 1942)

11. **Dr. William Edward Henry**  
    President (1942–1967)

12. **Dr. Samuel Lloyd Myers**  
    President (1967–1977)

13. **Mr. Edmund C. Mester**  
    Interim President  
    (He became ill in December 1977.  
    Ms. Carolyn Reid-Wallace was appointed by the Board  
    to administer without a presidential appellation from  
    December 1977–May 1978.)

14. **Dr. Rufus L. Barfield**  
    President (1978–1982)

15. **Ms. Marcellina Brooks**  
    Acting President  
    (January 1983–September 1983)

16. **Dr. James Lyons Sr.**  
    President (1983–1992)

17. **Dr. Harold Delany**  
    Interim President  
    (July 1992–July 1993)

18. **Dr. Nathanael Pollard**  
    President (1993–1999)

19. **Dr. Wendell Holloway**  
    Interim President  
    (January 1999–April 15, 2000)

20. **Dr. Calvin W. Lowe**  
    President (2000–2006)

21. **Dr. Patricia Pierce Ramsey**  
    Interim President  
    (July 1–August 31, 2006)

22. **Dr. Mickey L. Burnim**  
    President  
    (September 2006–June 2017)

23. **Dr. Aminta H. Breaux**  
    President  
    (July 2017–Present)

*The title of the Chief Executive Officer was changed from Principal to President in 1938.

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## Special Thanks

Special thanks to ABM Janitorial Services, Bowie State University Bookstore,  
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