CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024
Congratulations Class of 2024

Year after year, I watch our impressive graduates walk across the stage with proud, beaming smiles to receive the diplomas that you have justly earned. The opportunity to present these diplomas is a highlight of the year for me, your teachers, your families, and the Board of Trustees of Friendship Public Charter School.

This is a moment brimming over with opportunity. Your next steps will require more of you – more effort, more creativity, and more leadership. But you will persevere because you have persevered and you will succeed because, as this special day acknowledges, you have succeeded!

The day will come some years in the future when you say that you were part of the historic class of 2024. It will happen as part of the recognition as to how the world had to adjust to a pandemic, to tragedy, and to unrest. And you will be among those celebrated as the ones who launched a new era of peace and prosperity.

We celebrate you with congratulations for today and with confidence for the future. The road forward will not be easy, but we are in a time of renewal. We want you to know how very much your lives matter to all of us.

Sincerely,

Donald L. Hense
Founder and Chairman
Be the Change We Seek

Friendship Collegiate Graduates:

True greatness calls for courage and good judgment. Sometimes it seeks patience, sometimes speed. It always requires respect and deep determination.

The graduates you see before you today know something about greatness. They have earned their way to the podium, through no easy path but by learning, understanding, and practicing the principles of greatness.

At Friendship, our graduates have had the opportunity to see the world through many lenses. They have been exposed to the extraordinary and the uncomfortable. They have learned to communicate, both by speaking up and by listening. They have built bridges they had never imagined and built bonds for life.

Always, they have had to work hard. And along the way, each of them has laid the foundations for a lifetime of learning and leadership.

Knowledge is power, never more so than in the hands of the bright, fearless, educated leaders who stand before you today.

Friendship has prepared these graduates not just for college but for all that lies beyond – careers of their choosing. Confidence to face challenges head-on. Contributions to their communities. Most of all, the passion, courage, and capacity to chase their dreams.

And that is truly great. Congratulations 2024 graduates.

We applaud YOU!

Patricia Brantley
CEO
Congratulations
Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2024

May 23, 2024

As Mayor of Washington, DC, I am deeply honored to join your family, friends, neighbors, teachers, and your school administrators in extending congratulations to the Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2024!

High school is a critical time for self-exploration, personal growth, and taking on new challenges. Even when the challenges you faced were unexpected, such as the global pandemic, you adapted and persevered with the support of the entire District, and I am so proud of you.

Graduating in Washington, DC connects you to the world in a special way. I trust your student experience will continue to empower you to become the best version of yourself and shape your journey beyond graduation into a bright future.

Your future is yours to define. I encourage you to continue to work hard and strive for excellence.

On behalf of the nearly 700,000 residents of Washington, DC, I congratulate you on your accomplishment. May success follow you always.

Muriel Bowser
Mayor, Washington, DC
Dear graduates, parents, members of the board, esteemed faculty and staff, honored guests:

It is my greatest pleasure to welcome you to the 22nd Annual Commencement Ceremony for the Friendship Collegiate Academy Early College High School. For the last 16 years, I have had the awesome task of sending our young people into the world with what I hope is sage yet practical advice, words of hope and optimism that still carry the weight of the daunting responsibility that lies ahead. Each year, I struggle with the fact that I am one of the last voices they will hear as children because this ceremony is in fact a celebration of their entrance into the adult world. In this ceremony they cross the threshold, leave childhood and childish concerns behind to grandly enter the world of university and work.

As I began to prepare my final words to the Class of 2024, I found myself thinking deeply about world quite different from the world parents, your teachers, or I entered upon graduating high school and college. As a nation, we face unprecedented challenges: an economic recession, an energy crisis, the ongoing cultural wars, and the environmental threat. In our communities, some of us face even bleaker possibilities as we battle addiction, poverty, and a pervasive, persistent sense of hopelessness.

Yet even in the midst of pain and crises, opportunities bloom. There is an abundance of beauty, hope, and optimism. I see this optimistic determination everyday as I travel throughout the building. I see it, as I look out in the audience at your eager, young, gifted faces, so ready to begin the next chapter of your lives. As you can see, the world is desperately awaiting your dogged persistence, unwavering commitment, steady patience, generous compassion, steadfast responsibility, confident leadership, resolute integrity, and noble respect for humanity.

My charge to you is to take these eight essential core values—persistence, commitment, patience, compassion, responsibility, confidence, integrity, and respect, the values that you have spent the last four years mastering, and let them guide you during your successes and your failures to come. Demonstrate to the world the raw intellectual and ethical power a Friendship Collegiate Academy scholar holds: Remember what we have taught you about patience, persistence, commitment and responsibility when you are struggling with a course or a concept as you adjust to the rigors of university; exercise compassion, patience, and respect when you are faced with challenging people and unfamiliar circumstances; show confidence and integrity when confronting difficult moral quandaries and ethical dilemmas.

This is the path that you have been groomed to follow; this is the path you must choose to create your most authentic life. It is the gift you must give to yourself and then to the world. As Barak Obama has taught us, “Change will not come if we wait for some other person or some other time. We are the ones we have been waiting for. We are the change that we seek.” Therefore, in this rich and troubling world, in this time of equality and disparity, hope and fear, I ask you who will you be. How will you serve? How will you use the education that transformed your life to transform the world?

With Love,

Dr. Peggy Jones
Principal
Mistress and Master of Ceremonies
Dr. Carlos Richardson, FCA Social Studies Teacher and Jaraina Jamison, FCA Social Studies Teacher

Class of 2024 Processional “Pomp and Circumstance”
The National Anthem | FCA Choir | Reginald Golden, FCA Director
Introduction of Speaker | Diamond Fowler, Mayor Class of 2024

Commencement Address
Donna Brazile
Former DNC Chairwoman, ABC Contributor & NYT Best-selling Author

Musical Selection | FCA Choir | Reginald Golden, FCA Director

Perseverance Award | Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal

Community Spirit Award | Jerome Young, FCA Academy Director

Presentation of Valedictorian & Salutatorian | Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal

Valedictorian Address | Jeremiah Barnes, Class of 2024 Valedictorian

Message from FPCS Founder & Chairman | Donald L. Hense, Founder & Chairman

Musical Selection | FCA Choir | Reginald Golden, FCA Director

Conferring of the Diplomas | D.C. Public Charter School Board Member

Presentation of Class of 2024 | Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal

Awarding of Diplomas
Tamara DiRobbio, College & Career Counselor | Marion Malone, Guidance Counselor
Naima Wallace, Senior Class Sponsor | Kaiee Hooper, Senior Class Sponsor

Musical Selection | FCA Choir | Reginald Golden, FCA Director

Charge & Acceptance of the Class of 2024 | Vielka Scott-Marcus, Chief Academic Officer, FPCS

Senior Class Charge | Paris Barnes, Class of 2024 President

Special Presentation | Jordan Rouse, Class of 2024 Vice President | Treasure Jenkins, Class of 2024 Secretary

Recessional | Class of 2024
Haneef Abdul-Hakim  
Livingstone College, University of the District of Columbia, Wheeling University

Jahlil Abdul-Sabur  
Montgomery College, NewU University, University of the District of Columbia

Soraya K. S. Ali  
Mary Baldwin University, Marymount University, Trinity Washington University, University of the District of Columbia, Washington Adventist University

Emonie Anderson  
Livingstone University, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, South Carolina State University, University of the District of Columbia, Wilberforce University

Parris Ke’yonnie Barnes  
Coppin State University, Hampton University, Livingstone College, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, Southern University at New Orleans, Trinity Washington University, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Winston Salem State University

Jeremiah Barnes Jr.  
Central State University, Georgia State University, Livingstone College, Louisiana State University, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina A&T State University, Prince George’s Community College, Temple University, University of the District of Columbia

Sylvanus Bickersteth  
Chesapeake College, Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Ameia Brisbon  
Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

Jamyia Brown  
Carroll College, Clark Atlanta University, George Mason University, Jackson State University, Norfolk University, North Carolina Central University, Old Dominion University, Shaw University, Towson University, University of the District of Columbia, West Virginia State University

La’Yonna Brown  
Alabama A&M University, Grambling State University, Jackson State University, Miles College, North Carolina Central University, Prince George’s Community College, Shaw University, Voorhees University

Michael Brown  
Howard University, Livingstone College, Northern Virginia Community College

Serenity Brown  
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Sha’kia Brown  
Livingstone College, Marshall University, Mount Aloysius College, Prince George’s Community College

Joseph Burton  
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Jailen Bynum  
Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

Ja’Juan Cash  
Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

Je’niya Clark-Gregory  
Anne Arundel Community College, Community College Prep, Prince George’s Community College

Autumn Coleman  
Livingstone College, Northern Virginia Community College

Kenya Coley  
Norfolk State University, Prince George’s Community College, Xavier University of Louisiana

Dionna Collins  
Livingstone College, University of the District of Columbia, Wilberforce University

Darrell Cook  
Livingstone College, Marshall University, Morgan State University, Prince George’s Community College, Towson University, University of the District of Columbia

DeAndre Cook  
Penn State University

Khadijah Cooper  
Temple University, Virginia Commonwealth University

Antwanae Cosby  
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Listing of a student's name does not indicate completion of all graduation requirements set forth by the District of Columbia.
Jayden Credit
Livingstone College, NewU University, Prince George’s Community College

JiQuari Davis
Northern Virginia Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Selina Senya Duarte
Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Virginia Commonwealth University

Addison Fair
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Cecil Fergusson Jr.
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

De’Asya Ford
Clark Atlanta University, Illinois State University, Montgomery College, Norfolk State University, North Carolina A&T University, North Carolina Central University, Prince George’s Community College, Temple University, University of the District of Columbia

Diamond Geneva Mykiea Fowler
Livingstone College, Prince George’s Community College

London Galbraith
Jackson State University, Livingstone College, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, Shaw University, University of the District of Columbia, Voorhees University

Yaquin Gant
Albright College, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Marshall University, North Carolina Central University, Notre Dame of Maryland University, University of the District of Columbia, University of Hartford

Lena Gonzales
Columbia College of Chicago, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Kameron Grant
Harcum Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Tyaira Hager
Alvernia University, Central State University, Delaware State University, Jackson State University, Juniata College, Montgomery College, Norfolk State University, North Carolina Central University, Old Dominion University, Prince George’s Community College, Shaw University, University of the District of Columbia, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Jayden Amari Harris
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Pierre Hernandez William
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Jaelin Monae Hicks
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, Trinity Washington University, Wilberforce University

Marcus Hill
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Kamiya Hooker
Benedict College, Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Wilberforce University

Jaida Hooks
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Jazz House
Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia, University of Maryland Global Campus

Kaniya Howard
Livingstone College

Izaiah Huggans
Elizabeth City State University, North Carolina Central University, Prince George’s Community College, Talladega College, Virginia State University

Makhi Hughes
Marshall University, Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Desiree Jenifer
Cleveland State University, Livingstone College, Mount St. Mary’s University, West Virginia State University, William Paterson University

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COLLEGIATE CLASS OF 2024

Treasure Anyiah Jenkins
Alabama State University, Fayetteville State University, Florida A&M University, Morgan State University, Prince George’s Community College, South Carolina State University, Wilberforce University, Xavier University

Michael Jeter
Delaware State University, Marshall University, Montgomery College, Morgan State University, Prince George’s Community College

Aniya Johnson
University of the District of Columbia

Kennedy Lauren Johnson
Livingstone College, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, University of the District of Columbia, Wilberforce University

Terrell Jones
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Makaio Keels-Johnson
Bethune Cookman University, North Carolina Central University, Prince George’s Community College, Tennessee State University, University of the District of Columbia

Terrion Keyes
Livingstone College, Mary Baldwin University, University of the District of Columbia

JaKayla Kinney
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Christopher Lane Jr.
Marshall University, Old Dominion University, Prince George’s Community College, Temple University, Virginia State University

Garrison Mack
University of the District of Columbia

Davon Marshall
Bowie State University, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Delonna Martin
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Donye’ Massey-Jackson
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Ciara McArthur
Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College

Imara McClam
Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College

Taajah McDonald
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Helesha Mohamad
Garrett College, Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Marquis Monk
Livingstone College, Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

Dashawn Monroe
Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College

Paris Murray
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Sonai Nicholson
Mount St. Mary’s University, Norwich University, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia, Washington Adventist University

Dorian Norman
Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

Demetrius Oliver
Prince George’s Community College, Virginia Union University

Ronte Pelzer
Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Janae Dimond Phelps
Prince George’s Community College, Montgomery College, University of the District of Columbia

D’avani Porter
Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College

Darian Queen
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Listing of a student’s name does not indicate completion of all graduation requirements set forth by the District of Columbia.
Ronelle Ray  
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Jamia Richardson  
Livingstone College, Montgomery College  
Mount St. Mary’s University, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, Trinity Washington University

Lamonte Robertson  
Laurel Ridge Community College, Livingstone College, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Darnell T. Roland  
Livingstone College, University of the District of Columbia, Wheeling University

Stephen Roland  
Anne Arundel Community College, Montgomery College

Ricayla Ross  
Edward Waters University, Montgomery College, South Carolina State University, University of the District of Columbia

Jordan Rouse  
Albright College, American University, James Madison University, Montclair State University, Norfolk State University, Old Dominion University, Prince George's Community College, State University of New York-Oswego, Temple University, University of the District of Columbia, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Virginia Commonwealth University, Virginia Tech University

Jhalil Scott  
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Tionna Smith  
Trinity Washington University, University of the District of Columbia

Keyon Starkey-Webb  
Livingstone College, South Carolina State University, Virginia State University, Virginia Union University

Dylan Stewart  
University of South Carolina

Shaniya Kimani Taylor  
Alabama State University, Goucher College, Juniata College, Louisiana State University, Marymount University, Michigan State University, Morgan State University, North Carolina Central University, Temple University, University of Oregon, Virginia State University, West Virginia State University

Elena Thomas  
Northern Virginia CC

Trevon A. Thomas  
NewU University, Northern Virginia Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Malakhi Thompson  
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Brenton Toles  
Hampton University, Prince George’s Community College

La'Sky Toogood  
Culinary Institute of America, Morgan State University, Prince George’s Community College, Virginia State University

Malik Vann  
Montgomery College, Prince George’s Community College

Camari Venable  
University of the District of Columbia

Jessie Vines  
John Melvin University, Montgomery Community College, Prince George’s Community College

Lillian Washington  
Montgomery College, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George’s Community College, University of the District of Columbia, West Virginia State University

Ste’niya Imari Watson  
Prince George’s Community College, Shaw University

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COLLEGIATE CLASS OF 2024

Donte West
Prince George's Community College, University of Pennsylvania, Virginia Union University

Jayda West
Prince George's Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Tylar Dayonni Whitby
Montgomery College, Prince George's Community College

Caden K. White
Hampton University, Kent State University, Morgan State University, NewU University, Northern Virginia Community College, North Carolina A&T University, Prince George's Community College, Temple University, Tennessee State University, Towson University, University of Houston, University of North Carolina Charlotte, University of North Texas, University of Toledo, West Virginia University

Eriana Taniyah White
Clark Atlanta University, Coppin State University, Georgia State University, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina State University, Prince George's Community College, St. Mary's University of Maryland, Temple University, Trinity Washington University, University of the District of Columbia, University of Hartford, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Virginia Commonwealth University, Winston Salem State University

Juriel White
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George's Community College

Carlos Williams
Montgomery College, Prince George's Community College, University of the District of Columbia

Kaiden Williams
Edward Waters University, Marshall University, Montgomery College, Morgan State University, Norfolk State University

Denajah Ayona Wilson
Bowie State University, Coppin State University, Delaware State University, Jackson State University, Norfolk State University, North Carolina Central University, Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George's Community College, Shaw University, Trinity Washington University, University of the District of Columbia, University of Maryland Eastern Shore, Wilberforce University, Xavier University of Louisiana

Jamisha Wilson
Grambling State University, Lafayette College, Marymount University, Montgomery College, North Carolina A&T State University, North Carolina Central University, Prince George's Community College, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Lakisha Wright
Northern Virginia Community College, Prince George's Community College

Listing of a student's name does not indicate completion of all graduation requirements set forth by the District of Columbia.
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<td>Christopher Lane Jr.</td>
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<td>Garrison Mack</td>
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</table>
SPECIAL THANKS

Board of Trustees
Donald L. Hense, Chairman and Founder
Gregory S. Prince, Jr., Vice Chairman
Victor E. Long, Secretary
Darrin Glymph, Treasurer
Patricia Brantley
Carol ThompsonCole
Unique Fullmore, Parent Representative
Tracy Gray
Eric McKinley King
Deborah M. McGriff
Jeanette Mendes, Parent Representative
Anise Walker
Chris White

Friendship Public Charter School
Executive Staff
Patricia Brantley, Chief Executive Officer
Ken Cherry, Chief of Staff
Vielka Scott-Marcus, Chief Academic Officer
John Glover, Chief of External Affairs
Dylan Gruver, Chief People Officer
Zachary Morford, Performance Officer
Catherine Sanwo, Chief Financial Officer
James Waller, Chief of School Operations

Friendship Collegiate Academy
Administrative Team
Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal
Jerome Young, Upper School Academy Director
Dr. Arsallah Shairzay, Dean of Early College Academy
Renard Lewis, Interim 9th Grade Academy Director
Adrienne Lester, Director of Compliance
William Sustachek, Special Education Coordinator
Nicolette Smartt, Instructional Specialist
Bharti Bhasin, Instructional Specialist

Friendship Collegiate Academy
Graduation Committee
SCHOLARS CLASS OF 2024
Jeremiah Barnes, Valedictorian
Jamisha Wilson, Salutatorian
Parris Barnes, Class of 2024 President
Jordan Rouse, Class of 2024 Vice President
Diamond Fowler, FCA Youth Mayor, Class of 2024

FCA STAFF
Reginald Golden, FCA Choir Director
Jennifer Thompson, FCA Band Director, Fine Arts Chair
Tamara DiRobbio, College & Career Counselor
Nicholas Pearson, Upper School Counselor
Carlos Richardson, FCA Fine Arts Academy Lead
Jaraina Jamison, History Teacher, FCA Class of 2012
Adrienne Lester, BSM and Director of Marion Malone, FCA Online Counselor

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CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2024
THURSDAY, MAY 23, 2024 | 1 PM
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COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY
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