# FRIENDSHIP COLLEGIATE ACADEMY



THURSDAY, MAY 22, 2025 | 1 PM audi field & friendship virtual auditorium



CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2025



# FROM THE CHAIRMAN

# Congratulations Class of 2025

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 2025. 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

# FROM THE CEO



# 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 2025 graduates.

We applaud YOU!

Patricia Brantley

**CEO** 

# FROM MAYOR MURIEL BOWSER

# Congratulations

Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2025

May 22, 2025

As Mayor of Washington, DC, I am honored to join your family, friends, neighbors, teachers, and school administrators in extending congratulations to the Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2025!

High school is a time of growth, discovery, and transformation, and I am extremely proud of the countless hours of study, projects, exams, and extracurricular activities that have led you to this achievement.

Your internships, educational field trips, and other unique learning experiences have helped position you for success in our nation's most competitive institutions.

Your future is yours to define. I encourage you to dream big, work hard, and never stop believing in your ability to make a difference.

On behalf of the more than 700,000 residents of Washington, DC, congratulations, and may success follow you always.

Muriel Bowser

Mayor, Washington, DC







# FROM THE DC ADVISORY NEIGHBORHO



### DC Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 7C03

Dear Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2025 Graduates,

On behalf of Washington, DC Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7C & Advisory Neighborhood Commission Small Member District 7C03, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the Friendship Collegiate Academy Graduation Class of 2025. Congratulations on reaching this incredible milestone in your life. Today marks not just the culmination of your hard work and dedication, but the beginning of a new chapter filled with promise and opportunity.

Graduation is more than a ceremony—it's a testament to your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to your dreams. In the face of challenges, you've shown resilience and determination, and that strength will serve you well as you take your next steps into the future.

Your perseverance through challenges, your commitment to learning, and your dreams for a better future are a source of inspiration for our entire community. As you step forward—whether to pursue higher education, join the workforce, or explore new paths—I urge you to lead with courage, compassion, and integrity.

As an elected representative, I am deeply proud of the dedication you've shown, and I'm hopeful for the future you are shaping—not just for yourselves, but for your communities, your country, and our world.

Our community is stronger because of young leaders like you. I have no doubt that the knowledge, skills, and values you've gained will help shape a brighter future for all of us.

Congratulations once again on this tremendous achievement. I wish you continued success and fulfillment in all that lies ahead. Remember, the journey ahead may not always be easy, but each of you has already proven that you are capable of achieving great things. Carry that confidence with you, lift others as you rise, and never stop learning, growing, and leading.

Congratulations once again, Friendship Collegiate Academy Class of 2025! We are all cheering you on.

With pride and best wishes,

Dr. Carlos Richardson

Washington, DC Advisory Neighborhood Commissioner 7C03

# OD COMMISSION

### Chairman, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7F

Dear Class of 2025,

First and foremost, congratulations on your graduation from High School!

This moment is a true milestone – an intersection where your past journey meets the bright future ahead. You've worked hard, stayed the course, and achieved something that deserves to be celebrated.

You are graduating at a time when our world is still finding its way after years of uncertainty and change. Yet through it all, you've pushed forward with resilience, determination, and hope. That's something no one can ever take away from you.

As you celebrate this achievement, I encourage you to pause and give thanks to your parents and grandparents, your teachers, counselors, mentors, and all those who have stood beside you. Your success is built not just on your own hard work, but also on the sacrifices and love of many who believed in your future before you could even see it for yourself. It's a gift. Never take it for granted.

We your family, friends, and community are proud of you. We're standing with you, praying for your happiness, and believing in everything you will become. As you move into this next chapter of life, carry gratitude in your heart, stay joyful even when the road gets tough, and stay true to who you are. And please take some time this summer to breathe, to celebrate, and to appreciate the moment you're in. Because if you learn to appreciate the now, you'll always have it to reflect on. But if you're always chasing tomorrow, you may miss the beauty of today.

Congratulations, Class of 2025 – the best is yet to come!

Tyrell M. Holcomb

Chairman, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 7F



# FROM THE PRINCIPAL



Dear Class of 2025 Scholars, Parents, Families, Friends, Alumni, Staff, and Honored Guests,

Welcome to this momentous occasion! It is with deep pride and heartfelt joy that I greet each of you as we gather to celebrate the incredible accomplishments of the Class of 2025.

To our scholars—you did it! As I stand before you today, I do so not only as your Principal but as someone who has had the great honor of walking alongside you through these defining years of your educational journey. I've watched you grow into thoughtful, resilient, and capable young adults—ready to embrace the world beyond our doors. Today, you become alumni of Friendship Collegiate Academy, and you carry our mission, our legacy, and our hope into the future.

You are stepping into a world that is uncertain and ever-changing—a world where many of the things we once counted on have shifted. But with change comes opportunity. And it is you, Class of 2025, who we are depending on to be the change agents our world so desperately needs. We are counting on you to be the engineers who design safer cities and smarter systems, the scientists who uncover cures and protect our communities, the educators who ignite curiosity and confidence in the next generation, the artists who challenge us to think differently, and the attorneys and politicians who lead with justice, empathy, and truth. The world needs you—your vision, your voice, and your unwavering sense of purpose.

You've earned over \$20 million dollars in scholarships—a testament to your excellence, hard work, and determination. Many of you are graduating today with more than 15 college credits already under your belt, and you've gained invaluable real-world experience through internships that have shaped your path forward. Your achievements have set a powerful example, not only for those who come after you but for all of us who have had the privilege of guiding and watching you grow.

As of today, you are officially alumni of Friendship Collegiate Academy. And that comes with a new responsibility. When you are home from college or taking the next step in your career, we are depending on you to return—to mentor, to uplift, and to help guide those who will walk the hallways after you. Your presence, your journey, and your success will help smooth the path for future Knights.

Always remember the values that have shaped you here at Collegiate. When people see you in the world, they will see integrity, responsibility, confidence, care, commitment, patience, persistence, and respect—because these are not just our core values; they are yours. They are written into the way you show up in the world.

Finally, never forget—you are *ethical*, *literate*, *well-rounded*, *and self-sufficient citizens*, prepared to contribute actively and meaningfully to your communities and beyond.

Congratulations, Class of 2025. You have made us proud. We believe in you. And we are cheering for you—every step of the way.

With pride and joy,

Dr. Peggy Jones

Principal

Friendship Collegiate Academy Early College High School



#### Mistress and Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Carlos Richardson, Lead Teacher and Dr. Cara Battle, Collegiate Online Program Director

Class of 2025 Processional Pomp and Circumstance | The Class of 2025

The National Anthem | Paige Douglas, FCA Choir

Welcome & Introduction of Speaker | Isaiah Gerald, Class of 2025

#### **Commencement Address**

#### Jamal Holtz

Alumni of Friendship Collegiate Academy, Class of 2016 | Chief of Staff, LINK Strategic Partners

Perseverance Award | Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal

Community Spirit Award | Dr. Mary Dunnock, Deputy Chief Academic Officer

Presentation of Valedictorian & Salutatorian | Jerome Young, Academy Director

Salutatorian Address | Avyona Turner, Class of 2025 Salutation

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

Conferring of the Diplomas | Shukurat Adamoh-Faniyan, D.C. Public Charter School Board Member

Presentation of Class of 2025 | Dr. Peggy Jones, Principal

#### Awarding of Diplomas

Tamara DiRobbio, College Counselor | Marion Malone, College Counselor | Carmielle Darden, Senior Class Sponsor

#### CEO Charge

Turning of the Tassels | Patricia A. Brantley, CEO and Classt of 2025

Musical Selection: I Was Here | Paige Douglas, Class of 2025

Special Presentation | Nicholas McCray | Christian Lawson | Class of 2025 Co-Presidents

Senior Class Charge | Terrance West, Class of 2025

Recessional Grand March | The Class of 2025

# COLLEGIATE CLASS OF 2025

ONLINE ACADEMY

Ariyanna Allen

Dudley's Beauty College

Jayna Avery

Georgia State University

Shamara Seleria Boone

Salem State University

Leilani Brown

College of Southern Maryland

**Larrine Carter** 

**Darious Dunbar** 

Trina Fields

Trinity Washington University

**Stephanie Fuentes Jimenez** 

Prince George's Community College

Maryam Gant

Trinity Washington University

Marquan Giles

York College of Pennsylvania

**Eugene Goncalves** 

Jackson State University

Makyra Hamilton

Penn Foster

**Chyanne Hamilton** 

Bowie State University

Janasha Harris

Dairelynn Hernandez

Zoey A. Hill

University of the District of Columbia

Ta'zon Holston

Nazir Hunter

University of the District of Columbia

**Bryce Jenkins** 

University of Maryland College Park

Shakiya Johnson

Charmaine Joyner

American University

Christian Lawson

University of the District of Columbia

**Keith Lucas** 

Robert Lucas Jr

Electrical Trade Program

Kingston Mason

Undecided

**Anthony McGriff** 

Hanan Mohammed

George Mason University

**Deerick Nelson** 

Anne Arundel Community College

Kendric C Rheinhardt

Nicholas Savoy

Gabriella Scott

**Unique Simmons** 

Sanaa Thomas

Southern New Hampshire University

Serria Thompson

Plymouth State University

Melvin Valentine Jr

University of the District of Columbia

Kevin T. Watkins

University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Imani Watson

Trinity Washington University

Christian Webb

Western Washington University

Nakaia Wells

Purdue University

Sincere Wells Evans

United States Army

**Jewhel White** 

Morgan K. Yancey

Trinity Washington University

Mikyah Young

George Mason University Honors College

STEM ACADEMY

Computer Science

Larry Biscoe

Morgan State University

Louis Brown IV

Morgan State University

**Dewight Butler** 

North Carolina A&T State University

Joseph Butts

Bennett Career Institute

Jamaya Lynne Dawes

Norfolk State University

Virdell Garvin

United States Navy

Carter Griffith

Clark Atlanta University

Khamare Harrison

Ja'von Antonio Jackson

University of the District of Columbia

Kenneth Jones

Lincoln Tech

**Zaire Kennedy** 

Norfolk State University

**Mysoun Patrick** 

UPO Trade Program

Asiyah Emani Ross

Alabama A&M University

Earl Spencer

Marymount University

Kyndell Wray

Prince George's Community College

Engineering

Courtney Agnew

Marshall University

Rocquies Baker

Undecided

Decaryi Bowman

Prince George's Community College

Malcolm Clarke

Marshall University

Iose Costa III

Lincoln Tech

Adrian Fridie

Riverside City College

Nijay Harris

Lincoln Tech

Jordan Jones

United State Air Force

Taj Jones

Electrical Trade Program

Jaron Joseph

Norfolk State University

Michael Keels

University of the District of Columbia

Dallas Kyree Minor

United States Naval Academy

Zniyah Moore

Trinity Washington University

**Duane Mosby** 

Norfolk State University

**Derick Nelson** 

Norfolk State University

**Rondez Pittman** 

Lincoln Tech

Sa'Mya Riddick

Lincoln Tech

D'marco Shade

Trade School

Zo'shawn Simon

George Mason University

Frederick Stokes

George Mason University

Jocquinn Thompson

Norfolk State University

**Kevin Tinsley** 

Prince George's Community College

Health Science

Zaria Austin

Montgomery College

Elijah Bost

Virginia Union University

Rakyah Burden

Fire Cadet Academy

**Jaylen Burton** 

Coppin State University

Maurice Calloway

Virginia State University

Mekhai Cannady

Montgomery College

Ricayah Clayborne

Coppin State University

Carlos Cole

Lincoln Tech

Nevaeh Costello

Virginia Union University

Paige Douglas

Trinity Washington University

**Tylil Frazier** 

Virginia Union University

**Mishell Gross** 

**EMT Medical Program** 

Na'Zyre Holmes

Trade School

Jaila L.Houston

Alabama A&M University

London Hubbard

Coppin State University

Diamond Saniya Hunter

Winston Salem State University

Keone Edwin Jackson

Delaware State University

Amoni Johnson

Prince George's Community College

Antonio Johnson

Millersville State University

**Rashad Jones** 

Montgomery Community College

Brandon Lemons Jr

Bowie State University

Keviana Little

Jordynn McKenzie Long

Trinity Washington University

Veonna Matthews

Norfolk State University

Nicholas McCray

George Mason University

Nykira Napoleon

Virginia State University

Mariyah Richardson

Undecided

**Kareem Rivers** 

Coppin State University

Alora Sereana Thomas

University of the District of Columbia

Avyona Turner

Xavier University of Louisiana

Andriana Twisdale

Morgan State University

Nina Tyler

Winston Salem State University

Royalty Venable

Virginia Union University

Shirlron Moriah West

North Carolina Central University

**Donovan Williams** 

Informational Technology

Neva'eh L. Williams

United States Air Force

Nyaira Williams

Temple University

Renada Williams

Coppin State University

Ryan Anthony Williams

Norfolk State University

Shewn Winfree

Lincoln Tech

A'janae Womack

Virginia Union University

Diondre Wooden

Fire Cadet Academy

**Fine Arts Academy** 

Andre L Arrington Jr

Electrical Trade Program

Dorian Blackmon II

Sa'id Braxton

Prince George's Community College

Loren Brown

Winston Salem State University

Sonata Cherie Cain

Winston Salem State University

Malaika An'ya Caldwell

University of the District of Columbia

Imani K Chase

Texas Southern University

Antwanae Cosby

Prince George's Community College

Secoya Maria Crews

Prince George's Community College

Egypt Dixon

Marshall University

Corrin Evans

George Mason University

Katara Flagg

Winston Salem State University

Dontae Ford

Mount St Mary University

Janaria Gladden

Nursing

Jonathan Garcia

Prince George's Community College

Isaiah Gerald

Virginia Commonwealth University

**Eugene Goncalves** 

Jackson State University

Maliah A Green

Georgia State University

# COLLEGIATE CLASS OF 2025

Jovaughn Greene

Prince George's Community College

Miracle R Hill-Hester

Fire Cadet Academy

**Jack Jones** 

Prince George's Community College

Denjiha Quanique King

Lincoln Tech

**Diamond Lewis** 

Trade School

**Andrese Lowery** 

**Damarcus Mitchell** 

Marshall University

Raaniya A. Muhyee

Marshall University

Jeremy Paige

University of District of Columbia

Jacquez Pratt

Norfolk State University

**Dahnasia** Proctor

Trinity Washington University

Danae' Ray

Undecided

**Dezion Riley Holt** 

Norfolk State University

**Arden Robinson** 

Trinity Washington University

Ashley Valjean Scott

Trinity Washington University

Myandre Shannon

Virginia Union University

Freddie Ronald Simmons III

George Mason University

**Dameon Simms** 

North Carolina Central University

Ashanti Smith

Amari K Snowden

Trade School

Aundra Stokes

Montgomery College

**Tyreke Stubbs** 

Mount St Mary University

**Thailind Subaney** 

Undecided

**Elena Thomas** 

Undecided

Kayla Tinsley

University of District of Columbia

Jaylin Tyree

Louisiana State University

Israel Walston

University of the District of Columbia

Terrance West

Undecided

Malik Whitby

University of the District of Columbia

TySean Whitfield

University of the District of Columbia

Derek Wilcox

Coppin State University

**Charles Williams** 

Computer Programming Certificate

Program

Kaleice Williams

South Carolina State University

Cartier Womack

Undecided

Markisha Young

Georgetown University

# 2025 SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

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Zaria Austin	\$7,395	Ja'von Antonio Jackson	\$7,395 \$7,395	<b>Avyona Turner</b> Andriana Twisdale	\$911,211
Rocquies Baker	\$171,335	Keone Edwin Jackson	\$7,395 \$1,000		\$211,395
Larry Biscoe	\$309,565	Antonio Johnson	\$1,000	Nina Tyler	\$492,963
Shamara Seleria Boone	\$13,470	Jordan Jones	\$7,395	Jaylin Tyree	\$125,395
Elijah Bost	\$7,395	Kenneth Jones	\$37,795	Royalty Venable	\$7,395
Sa'id Braxton	\$3,190	Rashad Jones	\$7,395	Kevin T. Watkins	\$315,395
Loren Brown	\$88,000	Taj Jones	\$195,395	Imani Watson	\$75,395
Louis Brown IV	\$174,895	Charmaine Joyner	\$1,146,787	Nakaia Wells	\$566,395
Rakyah Burden	\$55,395	Zaire Kennedy	\$211,395	Shirlron Moriah West	\$383,565
Jaylen Burton	\$32,000	Denjiha Quanique King	\$7,395	Jewhel White	\$100,000
Dewight Butler	\$600,195	Christian Lawson	\$261,000	Derek Wilcox	\$601,395
Joseph Butts	\$39,395	Brandon Lemons Jr	\$395,395	Donovan Williams	\$920
Sonata Cherie Cain	\$532,595	Jordynn McKenzie Long	\$75,395	Kaleice Williams	\$72,000
Malaika An'ya Caldwell	\$96,000	Keith Lucas	\$7,395	Neva'eh L. Williams	\$7,395
Maurice Calloway	\$860,075	Veonna Matthews	\$7,395	Nyaira Williams	\$539,395
Mekhai Cannady	\$32,000	Nicholas McCray	\$1,543,795	Renada Williams	\$283,395
Malcolm Clarke	\$17,395	Dallas Kyree Minor	\$16,000	Ryan Anthony Williams	\$307,395
Ricayah Clayborne	\$88,000	Damarcus Mitchell	\$49,980	Cartier Womack	\$7,395
Nevaeh Costello	\$111,395	Hanan Mohammed	\$218,417	Morgan K. Yancey	\$65,395
Secoya Maria Crews	\$39,395	Zniyah Moore	\$7,395	Markisha Young	\$4,390
Jamaya Lynne Dawes	\$191,395	Duane Mosby	\$39.395	Mikyah Young	\$161,395
Egypt Dixon	\$7,395	Raaniya A. Muhyee	\$7,395		
Paige Douglas	\$40,000	Nykira Napoleon	\$606,299		
Corrin Evans	\$61,395	Derick Nelson	\$32,000		
Trina Fields	\$183,395	Jeremy Paige	\$7,395		
Katara Flagg	\$139,395	Mysoun Patrick	\$599,395		
Dontae Ford	\$135,395	Jacquez Pratt	\$17,395		
Tylil Frazier	\$52,959	Dahnasia Proctor	\$601,895		
Adrian Fridie	\$153,620	Danae` Ray	\$32,000		
Maryam Gant	\$161,395	Kendric C Rheinhardt	\$1,290		
Jonathan Garcia	\$2,595	Mariyah Richardson	\$7,395		
Virdell Garvin	\$7,395	Arden Robinson	\$17,395		
Isaiah Gerald	\$468,071	Asiyah Emani Ross	\$551,395		
Marquan Giles	\$39,263	Ashley Valjean Scott	\$7,395		
Eugene Goncalves	\$7,395	D'marco Shade	\$7,395		
Maliah Green	\$7,395	Dameon Simms	\$955,941		
Carter Griffith	\$107,665	Zo'shawn Simon	\$7,395		
Mishell Gross	\$7,395	Ashanti Smith	\$32,000		
Makyra Hamilton	\$7,395	Earl Spencer	\$417,243		
Miyazia Menen Harris	\$96,000	Aundra Stokes	\$32,000		
Zoey A. Hill	\$10,000	Tyreke Stubbs	\$123,395		
Na'Zyre Holmes	\$2,510	Alora Sereana Thomas	\$131,395		
Jaila L.Houston	\$424,052	Sanaa Thomas	\$92,000		
London Hubbard	\$478,500	Jocquinn Thompson	\$358,195		
Diamond Saniya Hunter	\$340,500	Serria Thompson	\$27,395		

# SPECIAL THANKS

#### **Board of Trustees**

Donald L. Hense, Founder & Chairman
Dr. Gregory S. Prince, Jr., Vice Chairman
Victor E. Long, Esq., Secretary
Darrin L. Glymph, Esq., Treasurer
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Carol Thompson Cole
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Eric McKinley King
Dr. Deborah M. McGriff
Jeanette Mendes, Parent Representative
Anise Walker
Chris White

# Friendship Public Charter School Executive Staff

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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 2025**

Dr. Peggy Jones Jerome Young Dr. Cara Battle Nicolas Pearson Marion Malone

#### **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

#### **SENIOR SPONSORS**

Carmielle Darden Jennifer Thompson Maya Jackson

#### District of Columbia Public Charter School Board

Michelle J. Walker-Davis, Ed.D, Executive Director Melodi Sampson, Chief School Performance Officer Raven Freeman, Chief of Staff Sarah Hampton Cheatham, General Counsel Tomeika Bowden, Chief External Affairs Officer Will Henderson, Chief Operating Officer



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