Albany Law School

presents

The Class of 2023

172\textsuperscript{nd} Commencement

Friday, the nineteenth day of May, two thousand and twenty-three at ten o’clock in the morning

Saratoga Performing Arts Center

Saratoga Springs, New York
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Donna E. Wardlaw ’77
Stephen P. Younger ’82

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David R. Harris
Alicia Ouellette ’94
Tai O. White ’23
Program

Processional . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Majestic Brass

Introduction . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Debra B. Treyz
   Chair, Board of Trustees

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   Class of 2024

Call To Order . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Debra B. Treyz

Welcoming Remarks . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Alicia Ouellette
   President and Dean

Presentation of Faculty Awards . . . . . . . . . Professor Danshera Cords
   Professor Edward De Barbieri
   Professor Patricia Reyhan

Introduction of Commencement Speaker . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Alicia Ouellette

Commencement Address . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Roberta “Robbie” Kaplan

Presentation of Candidates. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Rosemary Queenan
   Associate Dean for Academic Affairs

Conferring of Degrees . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Debra B. Treyz

Calling of Names . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Rosemary Queenan

Presentation of Doctoral Hoods . . . . . . . . . Professor Ava Ayers
   Professor Danshera Cords
   Professor Edward De Barbieri

Friend of the Class Award. . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Michelle McCabe, Class President
Senior Class Gift Presentation

National Alumni Association President’s Welcome . . . . . . . . . . . . . Mark Chieco
   President

Closing Remarks . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Alicia Ouellette

Recessional . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . . Majestic Brass
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2022-2023

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J.D., Distinguished Professor of Law;
Director, Academic Success;
Writing Specialist

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Associate Professor of Law

Hayat Bearat, B.A., M.A., J.D.,
Visiting Assistant Professor; Director of
the Family Violence Litigation Clinic

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Professor of Law; Director, Business
Law Programming; Director, Albany
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Community Development Clinic;
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Democracy; Professor of Law;
Director, Domestic Violence
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Assistant Professor of Law;
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The Justice Center; Director,
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Affiliated Faculty with University at Albany

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Brian Nussbaum, B.A., M.A., Ph.D.  David Turetsky, B.A., J.D.
Alicia Ouellette ’94 President & Dean

Alicia Ouellette is the 18th President and Dean of Albany Law School.

As a leader in legal education, Dean Ouellette has championed the value of law schools as drivers of change in communities, society, and the lives of students and graduates. As President and Dean, she has presided over Albany Law School’s execution of a new strategic plan, fulfillment of an institutional affiliation with the University at Albany, expansion into online graduate programs, and completion of a record-setting fundraising campaign, We Rise Together: The Campaign for Albany Law School.

Prior to her appointment as President and Dean, she served as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Intellectual Life and a Professor of Law. Before joining the law school in 2001, Dean Ouellette was an Assistant Solicitor General in the New York State Attorney General’s Office and a law clerk to the Honorable Howard A. Levine at the New York Court of Appeals.

As a scholar, Dean Ouellette focuses on health law, disability rights, family law, children’s rights, and human reproduction. Her book, Bioethics and Disability: Toward a Disability Conscious Bioethics, was published in 2011 by Cambridge University Press. She has authored numerous articles published in academic journals such as the American Journal of Law and Medicine, American Journal of Bioethics, Nevada Law Journal, Hastings Law Journal, Indiana Law Journal, and Oregon Law Review.

She has presented to distinguished audiences around the globe, including at the Yale School of Medicine and the United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland.

In September 2020, Dean Ouellette was appointed to New York Governor’s COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution and Implementation Task Force. In October of 2022, she was awarded the 2022 Academic Laureate Award from the University at Albany Foundation.

Dean Ouellette has served in leadership positions for numerous professional and community organizations, including as chair of the Association of American Law Schools (AALS) Section for Deans, secretary and a board member for the Commission on Independent Colleges and Universities (CICU), secretary and a board member for the Burdett Birthing Center in Troy, N.Y., and a board member for the University at Albany’s Institute for Health and Human Rights.

An alumna of Hamilton College, Dean Ouellette graduated magna cum laude in 1994 from Albany Law School, where she was editor-in-chief of the Albany Law Review.
Roberta “Robbie” Kaplan, Commencement Speaker

Roberta “Robbie” Kaplan successfully argued before the Supreme Court of the United States on behalf of LGBTQ rights activist Edith Windsor, in United States v. Windsor, a landmark decision that invalidated a section of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) requiring the federal government to recognize marriages of same-sex couples.

Kaplan went on to author Then Comes Marriage: United States v. Windsor and the Defeat of DOMA, chosen by the Los Angeles Times as one of the top 10 books of 2015.

Kaplan currently leads some of the country’s highest-profile commercial and public interest litigation, from suing the neo-Nazis behind the violence in Charlottesville to representing E. Jean Carroll, Mary Trump and investors in ACN in lawsuits against Donald Trump.

Kaplan left Big Law to found Kaplan Hecker & Fink in 2017 as a new kind of law firm blending a high-stakes commercial and white-collar practice with a fundamental commitment to public interest cases centered on values of inclusion, equity and justice. The firm is majority women- and LGBTQ+-owned and more than 75 percent of its attorneys identify as women, people of color and/or LGBTQ+.

KHF takes on groundbreaking, precedent-setting cases that not only advance the public interest, but have a significant impact beyond the courtroom – especially for women and other marginalized groups. In pioneering this new kind of boutique law firm, Kaplan has redefined the traditional concept of “pro bono” by taking on important matters – both to the firm and the public – and ensuring they are at the core of the firm’s practice.

Kaplan has been widely recognized for her impact and leadership, including the New York State Bar Association’s Gold Medal Award and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the New York Law Journal, which also named her Attorney of the Year in 2020. Kaplan was also named Litigator of the Year by The American Lawyer and Most Innovative Lawyer of the Year by The Financial Times.

In addition to an A.B. from Harvard College (magna cum laude) and a J.D. from Columbia Law School – where she teaches a seminar on advanced civil procedure – Kaplan holds honorary doctorates from Johns Hopkins University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, among others.
Class of 2023

Master of Laws (LL.M.)

Joanys Marie Aparicio Massanett  
summa cum laude
Distinguished Leader Award

Jordan Bentz El-Halim^  
summa cum laude

Donald L. Buresh*  
summa cum laude

Mhamed Dalil***  
cum laude

Emil N. Kambala*

Lee C. Kindlon*  
magna cum laude
Distinguished Award for Practical Application of the Law
Terence L. Kindlon ’73, father

Venita Whidbee-Jordan  
summa cum laude
Distinguished Award for Practical Application of the Law

George N. Zazzali
summa cum laude

Mavourneen W. Ballard^  
summa cum laude

Stephanie M. Batt*  
summa cum laude

Andrew M. Blanchard**  
summa cum laude

Jerry Broekman  
summa cum laude

Barry Cook  
cum laude

Cari L. Daniels^  
summa cum laude

John W.E. Hall  
magna cum laude

Hafsa K. Iqbal

Adolphe Mogbaya Mopotu
Edward A. O’Brien III**  
magna cum laude

J. Anthony Ogden*  
summa cum laude

Manuel Perez-Muniz*
summa cum laude

Julia Stecuik*

Mavourneen W. Ballard^  
summa cum laude

Stephanie M. Batt*  
summa cum laude

Andrew M. Blanchard**  
summa cum laude

Jerry Broekman  
summa cum laude

Barry Cook  
cum laude

Cari L. Daniels^  
summa cum laude

John W.E. Hall  
magna cum laude

Hafsa K. Iqbal

Durray Kausar

Christopher C. Lang*  
magna cum laude

Gabrielle Constance Mitchell^  

Wayne R. Premo, Jr.*  
cum laude

Shawn Raby*

Peiman Saadat Shayda Naseri  
Nita Saadat^  
summa cum laude

Sarah A. Schanz  
summa cum laude

Madhuri Sreepada-Singh**  
magna cum laude

Master of Science (M.S.)
Master of Science (M.S.)

Dana L. Wagner**
summa cum laude

David Williams*
cum laude

Juris Doctor (J.D.)

Estefania Acosta*

Emily Ann Ahlqvist
summa cum laude
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Submissions, Albany Law Review

Jenny Ahn

Jinah Ahn
summa cum laude
Associate Editor, Albany Law Review

Nicholas Alfano*

Matthew Algino

Nathaniel Adam Altman
cum laude

Leigh Aman
magna cum laude
Amy Knussman ’02, aunt

Philip Amur
3L Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023)

Chirag Arora

Medea Asatiani
summa cum laude
Associate Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology

James Ashley
summa cum laude
Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition; First Prize, Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Notes & Comments, Albany Law Review

Mohammad M. Awais****

Taylor Anne Bacon

Samantha L. Bardwell*
cum laude
Patricia E. Salkin, Esq. ’88 Government Law Center Prize

Joel Patrick Callahan Barron
cum laude
Associate Editor, Albany Government Law Review

Miguel Bautista

Evan R. Bernstein
summa cum laude

Julia Berry Lopez*
summa cum laude
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Symposium, Albany Law Review

Aristide G. Bishop*
Diversity Representative, Student Bar Association (2022)

Emmalynn Salazar Blake
National Order of Barristers; Domenick L. Gabrielli National Family Law Competition Chair, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023); Associate Editor, Albany Law Review; Phyllis Erikson Esq. ’77, grandmother; Dana L. Salazar Esq. ’05, mother; Frederik Erikson Esq. ’99, uncle; Erik Piorkowski Esq. ’22, cousin
Alice M. Broussard  
*summa cum laude*  
Cameron-Danahe Prize; Siegel Scholarship; Executive Managing Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Elise I. Butler  
*summa cum laude*  
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Notes & Comments, *Albany Law Review*

Erin Lynn Butler  
*summa cum laude*  
Thomson Reuters Award; Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Notes & Comments, *Albany Law Review*

Lindsay Katherine Carr  
Lead Article Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Rebekah E. Carson  
***magna cum laude***  
Kate Stoneman Student Award; Subeditor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Cassandra L. Carudo  
*magna cum laude*  

Aziz Z. Chalisa

Skylar L. Cherney  
*Elan Y. Cherney ’75, grandfather*

Kaitlynn J. Chopra  
*summa cum laude*  
Law Clinic & Justice Center Prize; Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Salvatore C. Costanza

Burke M. Cronin  
*Kara Czapski-Orlop*

Shivani Damera  
*cum laude*  
Student Service Award 2022

Mia C. Dardanelli  
*cum laude*  
National Order of Barristers; Director of Competitions, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023)

Matt DeLaus  
*magna cum laude*  
J.D./M.P.A University at Albany

Nicholas Deon

Deana J. DiBenedetto  
*summa cum laude*  
Judge Merle Nahum Fogg, Jr. ’45 Moot Court Prize; The Edward F. Layden, Esq. ’53 and Kathryn I. Layden, Moot Court Award; Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition, Second Prize; Karen C. McGovern Senior Trials Prize, First Prize; National Order of Barristers; Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*; 1L Class Representative, Student Bar Association (2020-2021); *Jenna M. DiBenedetto ’22, sister*

Nicholas Dimatos  
*cum laude*  

Brandon Dixon  
***

William O. Donovan  
*magna cum laude*  
*AbiDemi M.J. Donovan ’22, spouse*

Andrew Doody  
**

Dwight D. Eagan

Rachel Eagan

Nicholas Erly  
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Lead Articles, *Albany Law Review*
Stephanie Fattorusso  
*cum laude*

Willy J. Ferreiras**
*cum laude*
The Jay H. Milstein Award

Dagmar (Erika) Fiacco***
NYSBA Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023)

Noah N. Field
*magna cum laude*
Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Ryan Forbes

Brittney M. Fraine
Article Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Brett Michael Fuller
Executive Treasurer, Student Bar Association (2022-2023), 2L Representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Alexandra Louise Galus
*cum laude*
National Order of Barristers; Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition Chair, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023); Managing Editor for Research & Writing, *Albany Government Law Review*

Elizabeth L. Getz
*magna cum laude*
John B. Lurie ’20 Memorial Prize; Kate Stoneman Student Award; Managing Editor for Submissions, *Albany Government Law Review*; 1L Class Representative, Student Bar Association (2020-2021)

Manuel Giraldo*
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Kerri Glover*

Neha Goel
*cum laude*
Stone Family Prize Fund in Business and Entrepreneurship

Benjamin W. Goldberg

Yaqarra Greene°

Colin Sayer Grimm*
*cum laude*

Lillian Charis Hahn
Karen C. McGovern Senior Trials Prize, Second Prize; National Order of Barristers

Brandon Harley**

Alexandra Beall Harrington*
*summa cum laude*
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Lana S. Harvey

Elizabeth A. Helmer
*cum laude*
*Stephen Helmer ’82, uncle*

Richard Henry*
Pro Bono Honors

Alexis L. Herringshaw
*cum laude*

Marissa Rose Hochberg
Pro Bono Honors; Executive Secretary, Student Bar Association (2022-2023); Executive Secretary, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)
Robert R. Hojnacki
Karen C. McGovern Senior
Trials Prize, Second Prize;
National Order of Barristers

Audrey A. Hollick
summa cum laude
Online Content Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology

Magdalena Rose Holmes
cum laude
Martin H. Belsky Graduation Prize;
Francis H. Anderson Negotiation Award; Donna Jo Morse Negotiations Competition Winner (2021-2022)

Lisa-Michelle P. Houck
cum laude
The Moscowitz Health Law Clinic Prize

Ryan Christopher Janes

Levi Wayne Jenkins
magna cum laude
Associate Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology

Anthony Jenouri
magna cum laude

MingHong Ji*
cum laude

Olimata Jobe

Grace Ann Johnson
cum laude
Outstanding Clinical Student Award

Seaborn William Jones
magna cum laude
Regina Katherine Treffiletti ’89, aunt

Aastha Kataky-Alvarez
David A. Wanger Memorial Award;
Associate Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology

Murphy Kenefick

Lily G. Killar
cum laude

Olivia H. Kim
summa cum laude
Lead Article Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology;
Alexis E. Kim ’15, sister

Abigail Mary King
summa cum laude
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Notes & Comments, Albany Law Review

Lesley A. Kirkpatrick*
magna cum laude
Isabelle Redman Prize

Lianna Kubista*

Evan R. Levesque
summa cum laude
Thomson Reuters Award; Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition, First Prize; Siegel Scholarship; Executive Managing Editor, Albany Law Review

Renee M. Liporace

Keenan J. Loder
summa cum laude
Frank M. Patterson Prize; Cardozo Prize;
Siegel Scholarship; Editor-in-Chief, Albany Law Review

Shaun P. LoVerdi
magna cum laude
NYSBA Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023)

Conor M. Lynch
summa cum laude
Gary M. Peck ’79 Memorial Prize;
Symposium Editor, Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology;
Margaret Comard Lynch ’82, mother;
Michael C. Lynch ’79, father
Allison M. Magnarelli  
*magna cum laude*  
Judge Merle Nahum Fogg, Jr. ’45 Moot Court Prize; Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition, Second Prize; Karen C. McGovern Senior Trials Prize, First Prize; National Order of Barristers; Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Coordinating & Operation, *Albany Law Review*; 1L Class President, Student Bar Association (2020-2021)

Michael P. Maio  
*cum laude*  
Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Miscarriages of Justice, *Albany Law Review*

Daniel Mancini  
*cum laude*

Logan M. Martin  
*magna cum laude*  
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Julia Massimi**

Matthew J. McAuliffe  
3L Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023), 2L Representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)  
*James G. McAuliffe ’82, father*

Michelle A. Viera McCabe  
3L Class President, Student Bar Association (2022-2023)

Thomas McCarthy  
*summa cum laude*  
Edward M. Cameron, Jr. ’21 Memorial Prize; Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for Research & Business, *Albany Law Review*

John R. McCartin

Brian B. McCauley  
*cum laude*  
Securities Regulation Prize

Daniel R. McCormick***  
*cum laude*  
Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*; *Thomas McCormick ’02, father; Kathleen Nally ’76, aunt; Arthur Peer ’60, uncle*

Meaghan Rose McKay  
*cum laude*

Katherine Aurelia Miller

Lukas J. Moller  
*cum laude*

Matthew Mosdell  
*summa cum laude*  
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Nikita Nayar

Beven B. Nedumthakady  
*magna cum laude*  
National Order of Barristers; 3L Executive Vice President, Student Bar Association (2022-2023); 2L Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2021); 1L Representative, Student Bar Association, (2020-2021)

Jacob M. New  
Selections Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Jack Nicholas
Rebecca L. Novick  
*cum laude*  
Robert A. Barker Award; National Order of Barristers; Associate Board Member, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2021-2022); Executive Director, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023); Managing Editor for Business and Production, *Albany Government Law Review*

Jared J. Novotny  
*cum laude*

Emily Kate O’Halloran  
*cum laude*

Anna Victoria O’Neill  
*Michael J. Murphy ’82, uncle*

Joshua Paultre*  
*magna cum laude*  
Note and Comment Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Lyssabeth Pedersen**  

Taane J. Pegg  
*magna cum laude*

Keith M. Pelcher  
*cum laude*

Jessica M. Phillips  
*magna cum laude*  
The Honorable Leslie E. Stein ’81 Commencement Prize

Madeline K. Ping  
*magna cum laude*  
Executive Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Michael Pitcher  
*cum laude*  
Managing Editor for Production, Research and Writing, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Kyle C. Pittman  
*magna cum laude*  

Paige M. Pomerantz  
*cum laude*

Gabrielle A. Popielarski

Shane Protivansky  
*cum laude*

Olivia Reinhardt

Emma Renzi*  
*summa cum laude*  
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review; Robert Renzi ’60, great uncle*

Zoe N. Reszytniak  
*cum laude*  
Executive Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology; Hon. Anthony V. Cardona ’70, grandfather*

Jacob E. Richards*  
*cum laude*

Daniel W. Richer

Brittany (Brit) Reneé Rios  
*cum laude*

Chloe I. Ross

Hilana T. Said  
*summa cum laude*  
Francis H. Anderson Negotiation Award; Donna Jo Morse Negotiations Competition Winner (2021-2022); Siegel Scholarship; Executive Editor for New York Appeals & State Constitutional Commentary, *Albany Law Review*

Lauren A. Salatto-Rosenay**  
*summa cum laude*  
Subeditor, *Albany Law Review*
Danielle A. Salazar
Garreth L. Santosuosso
*magna cum laude*

Nathanael Savasta*
magna cum laude
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Jared L. Scali

Madisyn Alessandra Scopteuolo-Camus
*magna cum laude*
Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Charles E. Serino
cum laude

Kelsey A. Shaffer
*summa cum laude*
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*

Omid Michael Shamim
Lead Article Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Jacob Sheingold

Luke T. Sheridan
cum laude
Donna Jo Morse Memorial Award; National Order of Barristers; Donna Jo Morse Client Counseling and Negotiations Competition Chair, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023); Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*

Katelynne L. Shoots

Noah F. Smith**

Ashley Libertta Snyder***
cum laude
Subeditor, *Albany Law Review*; Spring Start Representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Craig D. Specht
*magna cum laude*
Michael Specht ’90, father

Shawn Ray Sperbeck
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*
Ashley Sperbeck ’19, spouse

Cole H. Stevens
cum laude

Claire J. Stratton

Amber L. Swinden

Trevor J. Telisky**

Tina Thermadam
National Order of Barristers

Jason Thomas
Executive Treasurer, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Marcus J. Thompson

Joshua A. Trott
cum laude

Daniel C. Twardowski^*

Alexandra F. Vecchio

Raymond P. Weiss Jr.*
magna cum laude
American Bar Association State and Local Government Law Section Prize; Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*
Morgan A. Welling°
summa cum laude
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Jacob Wheeler

Patricia Tatyana Whelan
Associate Editor, *Albany Law Review*; 3L Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023), ABA Representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Tai Olivia White
ACBA Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023), ACBA representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Matthew R. Winchell*

John E. Winters

Taylor L. Yates
cum laude
Note and Comment Editor, *Albany Law Journal of Science & Technology*

Taylor Lea Yensan

Jaclyn R. Yoselevich
summa cum laude
Capital District Trial Lawyers Association Prize; National Order of Barristers; Associate Board Member, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2021-2022); Karen C. McGovern Senior Prize Trials Competition Chair, Anthony V. Cardona ’70 Moot Court Program (2022-2023); Associate Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*; 3L Representative, Student Bar Association (2022-2023), 2L Representative, Student Bar Association (2021-2022)

Patrick R. Youngs***

Karen L. Zenilman*
summa cum laude
Article Editor, *Albany Government Law Review*; Maria Lally Clark ’89, aunt; John Clark ’90, uncle

JingYu Sophie Zhang*
cum laude

Yue Zhang

Xin Zhao*

* Veteran
^ July or August 2022 graduate
* December 2022 graduate
** July or August 2023 graduate
*** December 2023 graduate
° Pro Bono Scholar graduate
The Justinian Society

Members of the class receiving their Juris Doctor degrees summa cum laude, magna cum laude, or cum laude become members of the honorary legal society of Justinian. Academic honors designation is based on grade point average as of the conclusion of the fall 2022 semester.

Cord Distinctions:
- White: summa cum laude
- Gold: magna cum laude
- Silver: cum laude
- Red/White/Blue: veteran

Prizes, Honors, and Awards

American Bar Association State and Local Government Law Section Prize – A prize awarded to the graduating senior with the highest standing in Land Use Law. Raymond P. Weiss Jr.

Francis H. Anderson Negotiation Award – An award established in honor of Professor Emeritus Francis H. Anderson, presented to the two students who displayed competence in their capacity as conciliators and negotiators by winning the annual Donna Jo Morse Negotiations Competition. Magdalena R. Holmes and Hilana T. Said

Robert A. Barker Award – An award given in honor of Professor Emeritus Robert A. Barker, former Associate Dean, to the graduate chosen by the Moot Court Board for outstanding service to the Moot Court Program. Rebecca L. Novick

Martin H. Belsky Graduation Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by the friends and colleagues of Martin H. Belsky, former dean, to the graduate who has demonstrated the greatest commitment to Public Interest Law during law school. Magdalena R. Holmes

Edward M. Cameron Jr. ’21 Memorial Prize – A prize established by the Lyric Foundation in memory of former foundation president and former Albany Law School trustee, Edward M. Cameron Jr., Class of 1921, to the highest-ranking graduate who has made a significant contribution in the area of public interest law. Thomas McCarthy

Cameron-Danaher Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by the families of Frederick W. Cameron, Class of 1882, former trustee and faculty member, and Franklin M. Danaher, a member of the State Board of Law Examiners for many years, to the graduate having the highest standing in the subjects of Civil Procedure and Evidence. Alice M. Broussard
Capital District Trial Lawyers Association Prize – A prize awarded by the Capital District Trial Lawyers Association to honor students who compete in trial team competitions with other law schools nationwide. Prize recipients are selected by faculty and coaches based on students’ dedication to trial practice and on the trial skills they demonstrate in competition. Jaclyn R. Yoselevich

Cardozo Prize – A prize awarded by a fund established by the late Benjamin N. Cardozo, former Justice of the United States Supreme Court and member of the Law School faculty, to the graduating member of the Law Review Board who, in the judgment of the Law Review faculty advisor, has made the most significant contribution to the Albany Law Review during the academic year. Keenan J. Loder

Judge Merle Nahum Fogg, Jr.’45 Moot Court Prize – A prize dedicated to the memory of Judge Merle N. Fogg, Jr., Class of 1945, awarded annually in equal shares to the two winners of the Moot Court Senior Prize Trials. Deana J. DiBenedetto and Allison M. Magnarelli

Domenick L. Gabrielli Appellate Advocacy Competition – Prizes awarded to the winners of the Gabrielli Appellate Moot Court Competition from a fund set up in honor of Domenick L. Gabrielli ’36, former judge of the New York State Court of Appeals. (Final Round held in Spring 2022). James C. Ashley and Evan R. Levesque – First Prize; Deana J. DiBenedetto and Allison M. Magnarelli – Second Prize

Law Clinic & Justice Center Prize – A prize awarded to a student in the Clinic and Justice Center who has exhibited the most interest in and has contributed significantly to individuals represented by the clinic during the academic year. Kaitlynn J. Chopra

The Edward F. Layden, Esq. ’53 and Kathryn I. Layden Moot Court Award – A prize awarded in memory of Edward F. Layden, Esq. class of 1953, a distinguished alumnus of Albany Law School who was valedictorian of his graduating class and a Moot Court winner, to a third-year student involved in Albany Law School’s Moot Court Program in the areas of Appellate, Advocacy, Negotiations, or Client Counseling, who expresses a high level of performance in competitions as either a participant or coach and is dedicated to improving and promoting the Moot Court Program. Deana J. DiBenedetto

John B. Lurie ’20 Memorial Prize – A prize dedicated to the memory of John B. Lurie, Class of 1920, and established by the estate of Lurie’s wife, Ada B. Lurie, awarded to a third-year student who has demonstrated academic merit and professional promise. Elizabeth L. Getz

The Jay H. Milstein Award – A prize awarded from a fund established by family and friends in memory of Jay H. Milstein, Class of 1949, to a graduating student who demonstrates leadership, professionalism, ethical judgment, strong problem-solving skills, and advocacy through participation in Albany Law School’s Field Placement Clinic. Preference is given to a student from Albany County. Willy J. Ferreiras

The Moscowitz Health Law Clinic Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established in honor of the marriage of Martha Kronholm Moscowitz ’08 and Frank Moscowitz to recognize and reward talented students in the Health Law Clinic at Albany Law School’s Clinic & Justice Center. Lisa-Michelle P. Houck

Donna Jo Morse Memorial Award – The criteria for this prize was established by Professor Donna Morse shortly before her death. Her wish was that the student who did the most to help other students be recognized. Therefore, this prize is awarded to the student who has demonstrated an incredible amount of dedication to the Moot Court Program. Luke T. Sheridan

Donna Jo Morse Negotiations Competition – This competition is dedicated to the legacy and memory of the late Donna Morse, a 1991 graduate of Albany Law School. Donna later returned to the school to teach the Introduction to Lawyering course to first-year students. She also served as faculty advisor for the Law School’s American Bar Association Negotiation Team from 1991 to 1995. During that time she successfully guided the Albany Law School Negotiation Team to five regional championships. These competitions are held in honor of her contribution as a teacher, mentor and friend to the Law School community. Magdalena R. Homes and Hilana T. Said (2021-2022)

National Order of Barristers Award – Certificates are awarded to the graduates who have made outstanding contributions to the Moot Court Program. Mia C. Dardanelli, Deana J. DiBenedetto, Alexandra L. Galus, Lillian C. Hahn, Robert R. Hojnacki, Allison M. Magnarelli, Beven B. Nedumthakady, Rebecca L. Novick, Emmalynn Salazar Blake, Luke T. Sheridan, Tina S. Thermadam, Jaclyn R. Yoselevich

Outstanding Clinical Student Award – An award given by the Clinical Legal Education Association to a student nominated by the law school clinical faculty, in recognition of excellence in clinical fieldwork, high quality of representation provided to clients, and outstanding participation in clinical seminar. Grace A. Johnson

Frank M. Patterson Prize – A prize from a fund established by Frank M. Patterson, awarded to the students having the highest standing in Contracts. Keenan J. Loder

Gary M. Peck ’79 Memorial Prize – Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated a personal commitment to Environmental Law and issues, and exhibits the highest principles of integrity, honesty and professionalism. Conor M. Lynch
Isabelle Redman Prize – A prize created to honor Isabelle A. Redman, Class of 1999. This prize will be given to the graduating student who has demonstrated the qualities personified by Ms. Redman: courage, perseverance, and graciousness in confronting extraordinary challenges. Lesley A. Kirkpatrick

Thomson Reuters Award – Prizes awarded annually to the students having the highest standing in the field of Evidence. Erin L. Butler and Evan R. Levesque

Patricia E. Salkin, Esq. ’88 Government Law Center Prize – A prize awarded to one or two graduates who have participated in Government Law Center programs and who have demonstrated a commitment to law and public policy with a potential for distinction in these areas. Samantha L. Bardwell

Securities Regulations Prize – A prize established by Joseph Dormer Stephen III, Class of 1996, awarded to the student having the highest standing in Securities Regulations. Brian B. McCauley

The Honorable Leslie E. Stein ’81 Commencement Prize – To commemorate her retirement from the Court of Appeals of the State of New York, the dedicated law clerks of Judge Stein established this award. It is given to a graduate who has demonstrated a strong academic record and a commitment to helping others navigate family law issues. The award honors Judge Stein, a graduate of Albany Law School, who has exemplified judicial compassion, collegiality, and excellence throughout her tenure on the bench at each level of the New York State court system. Jessica M. Phillips

Siegel Scholarships – Prizes awarded by the Siegel family from a fund established by the late Distinguished Professor Emeritus David D. Siegel to members of the Albany Law Review editorial board for excellent service and academic leadership. Emily A. Ablqvist, James Ashley, Julia Berry Lopez, Alice M. Broussard, Elise I. Butler, Erin L. Butler, Nicholas Erly, Abigail M. King, Evan R. Levesque, Keenan J. Loder, Allison M. Magnarelli, Michael P. Maio, Thomas McCarthy, and Hilana T. Said

Stone Family Prize Fund in Business and Entrepreneurship – A prize awarded from a fund established by Christine Stone ’81 to a graduate who has distinguished him, her, or themselves through outstanding efforts in the Community Development Clinic. Neha Goel

Kate Stoneman Student Award – A prize awarded from a fund established by Miriam M. Netter, Class of 1972 and founding member of Kate Stoneman Day, to the graduating senior who exemplifies the pioneering spirit of Kate Stoneman, Class of 1898, first female graduate of Albany Law School and first female member of the New York State Bar. Rebekah E. Carson and Elizabeth L. Getz

Student Service Award – A prize awarded from a fund established by members of the Class of 1990 to a student at the end of the second academic year in recognition of unselfish commitment to the Law School community. Shivani Damera (2022)
David A. Wanger Memorial Award – A prize awarded from a fund established by the family of Judge David Wanger, Class of 1920, to the second-year student who has shown outstanding ability in moot court and advocacy programs.

Aastha Kataky-Alvarez

THE FOLLOWING WILL BE AWARDED BASED ON GRADE POINT AVERAGES AS OF THE CONCLUSION OF THE SPRING 2023 SEMESTER:

Maurice Supiro Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by Mildred Supiro, in memory of her brother, Maurice Supiro, Class of 1919, to the valedictorian of the graduating class.

Trustees’ First Prize – A prize awarded by the Board of Trustees to the graduate maintaining the highest average for the three-year course of study.

Trustees’ Second Prize – A prize awarded by the Board of Trustees to the graduate maintaining the second highest average for the three-year course of study.

Matthew Bender Prize – Copies of Drafting New York Wills and Lexis Nexis Answer Guide New York Surrogates Court, 2015 Edition is awarded by Lexis Nexis Matthew Bender, a leading provider of analytical legal research, to the two graduates having the highest standing in the field of Trusts and Estates.

Herbert E. Cohen Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established under the will of Herbert E. Cohen, Class of 1957, to the graduate demonstrating the greatest potential for excellence in the area of Corporate Law and Taxation.

John Dugan Prize – A prize awarded to a student who has demonstrated academic excellence in one of the fields of particular interest to Mr. Dugan: Tax Law, Tax Policy, and Government Finance

Friedman Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by Irving and Lillian S. Friedman, Class of 1958, to the graduate who attains the highest average in the subject of Family Law.

The Eugene M. Karp, Esq. ’56 Prize in Trust & Estates – A prize awarded from a fund established by the Karp family in memory of Eugene M. Karp, Esq., Class of 1956, a distinguished alumnus of Albany Law School and prominent member of the legal community, to the graduate having the highest standing in the subject of Trusts & Estates.

MatLaw™ Prize – An annual award, provided by MatLaw™, Inc., given for outstanding achievement in family law to the graduates having the highest standing in the courses of Family Law and Matrimonial Law and Practice.

Patrick B. McNamara Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established in memory of Patrick B. McNamara, Class of 1978, to the student having the highest grade in the Labor Law field.
Selma Mintz Memorial Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by Dr. Stephen J. and Nancy Mintz Sills, Class of 1976, in memory of a most supportive mother, awarded to a student who graduates with honors while raising a family.

Joseph Rosch Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by Emil Peters, Class of 1932, and his wife, Winifred Rosch Peters, in honor of her father, Joseph Rosch, former Justice of the New York State Supreme Court and former Chairman of the Board of Trustees, to the graduate having the highest standing in the subject of Administrative Law.

Jacob L. Rubenstein Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by the will of Ida D. Rubenstein in memory of Jacob L. Rubenstein, Class of 1914, awarded to the graduate having the highest standing in Procedure subjects.

The Wann Family Prize for Excellence in Business Law and Litigation – A prize awarded from a fund established by Nancy Wann ’06 and the Wann Family Foundation to the graduate having the highest grade point average within the litigation concentration after the first semester of the third year.

John C. Welsh Prize – A prize awarded from a fund established by members of the faculty and staff in recognition of the many services given to Albany Law School by Professor John C. Welsh, Class of 1955, to the graduate having the highest standing in the subjects of Property and Trusts and Estates.

White-Rosbrook Prize – A prize awarded by the Board of Trustees in memory of Frank White and Alden Rosbrook, former teachers at Albany Law School and authors in the field of Corporate Law, to the graduates having the highest standing in Business Organizations.

**Online Graduate School Prizes, Honors And Awards**

Distinguished Award for Practical Application of the Law – For exhibiting an ability to produce outstanding and highly-practical coursework that models the quality and scope of work product expected from successful practitioners in the field. Lee C. Kindlon and Venita Whidbee-Jordan

Distinguished Leader Award – For exhibiting peer-to-peer leadership qualities, including exceptional collaboration, professional dialog, and support for others within the learning community. Joanys Marie Aparicio Massanett and J. Anthony Ogden*
Albany Law School is the nation’s oldest independent school of law. Founded in 1851, Albany Law has played an important role in the development of legal education in the United States.

In mid-19th century America, the standard preparation for the bar was a legal clerkship. The school’s founders—Amos Dean, Ira Harris and Amasa Parker, all successful lawyers active in public affairs—felt that this approach fell short in preparing new lawyers. The trio set out to replace it with a structured educational program that encompassed both thorough knowledge of the principles of law, and experience in applying them. Their philosophy of legal education caught hold and Albany Law School flourished. This combination of theory and practice continues to be a hallmark of an Albany Law education today.

The school’s early history is marked with a range of noteworthy milestones and accomplishments. In 1873, it affiliated with Albany Medical College and Union College to form Union University. Later on Albany College of Pharmacy, now Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, joined. Each institution has its own governing board and is responsible for its own programs.

Albany Law School has attracted and produced many historically-distinguished alumni, including:

- David Brewer, U.S. Supreme Court Justice
- James Campbell Matthews, New York State’s first Black judge
- Robert H. Jackson, U.S. Supreme Court Justice
- William McKinley, 25th President of the United States
- Kozu Senzaburo, first Asian graduate
- Kate Stoneman, first woman admitted to the New York Bar
- Alinton Telle, first Native American graduate; National Secretary, Choctaw Nation

In 1875, Albany Law published the nation’s first student-edited law review, the Albany Law School Journal. An innovative lecture series on legal ethics began just after the turn of the century.

Throughout the 20th century, Albany Law School expanded and diversified the faculty, curriculum and student body. It added important programs such as the Albany Law School Clinic & Justice Center (now the Edward P. Swyer Justice Center), in which students and faculty provide legal support for low-income citizens, and the Government Law Center, a highly respected resource for law and policymakers in Albany and elsewhere around the country.