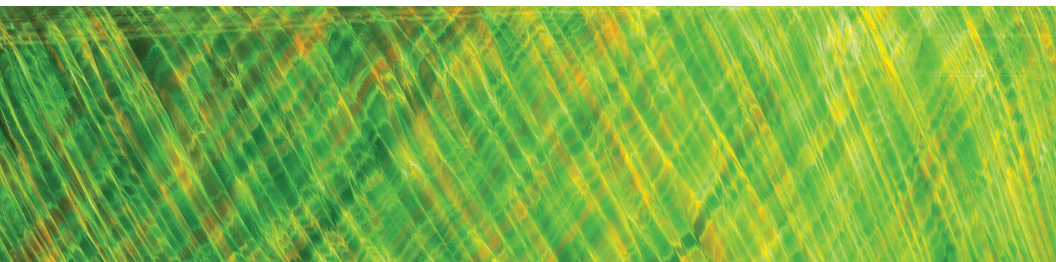


CELEBRATING INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE



*THIS IS  
INCLUSIVE  
EXCELLENCE.*

# ORDER OF EVENTS

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2021

6:00 P.M.



## WELCOME

Ray L. Watts, M.D.

President  
The University of Alabama at Birmingham

## REMARKS

Paulette Patterson Dilworth, Ph.D.

Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

## PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S DIVERSITY CHAMPION AWARDS

Holly D. Holliday-Jones

Director of Strategic Initiatives  
Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

## CLOSING

Ashleigh Aldridge

Communications Director  
Office of the Vice President for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

# PRESIDENT'S DIVERSITY CHAMPION AWARD



The President's Diversity Champion Award honors recipients in five categories: undergraduate student, graduate/professional student, student organization, faculty, and staff, who have:

- Demonstrated dedication to advocating for diversity, equity, and inclusion with a particular emphasis on underrepresented groups.
- Participated in or facilitated the development of programs to enhance diversity, equity, and inclusion within an organization, on campus, or throughout the community.
- Displayed leadership, which fosters positive interaction between people of different lifestyles, cultural backgrounds, and identities.
- Demonstrated extraordinary or exceptional efforts to promote a university environment that is free from bias and discrimination.
- Demonstrated a sustained commitment to the advancement of diversity and inclusion on campus and within the community.
- Implemented initiatives that create a supportive environment for diversity, equity, and inclusion.
- Exhibited a consistent pattern of an organizational commitment to the recruitment and retention of individuals from underrepresented populations.
- Maintained involvement in organizations that foster diversity awareness.

# THE COMMEMORATIVE AWARD



Orbix Hot Glass created the commemorative awards specifically for the President's Diversity Champion Awards. Owner Cal Breed said that people always ask, "Where did you get the name Orbix Hot Glass?" In glassblowing, the gaffer must always keep his pipe turning, or orbiting, otherwise the piece won't be made the way it was intended. In a similar way, Orbix exists because of Cal's personal orbits and their intersection with many other personal paths along the way: engineering and artist parents who instilled a great love for how to make things well and beautiful; world-class glass artists who taught skills to make ideas real; and three kids who inspire hard work. Like the name, Orbix strives for distinction in glass.

The photos below show the process in which the awards are made.





## 2021 FACULTY



PRESIDENT'S  
DIVERSITY  
CHAMPION

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### Tina Simpson, MD, MPH

Professor and Vice-Chair of  
Faculty Development

School of Medicine

Dr. Simpson is a Professor and Vice-Chair of Faculty Development in the Department of Pediatrics and is actively involved in diversity, equity, and inclusion activities at UAB and at the national level. Dr. Simpson serves as the departmental Diversity Liaison for the Office for Diversity and Inclusion in the School of Medicine. She has helped lead several diversity education initiatives within the Department of Pediatrics.

Dr. Simpson led the 2017 Maternal and Child Health Bureau-funded Diversity and Health Equity Peer Learning Collaborative, which was comprised of eight teams from training programs across the country and designed to help MCH training programs more effectively address diversity and health equity. Dr. Simpson is a member of the Society for Adolescent Health and Medicine Diversity Committee and in 2020 co-authored a position statement regarding immigrant youth in Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention centers and a manuscript calling for the use of anti-racism approaches to address health inequities.

Because of her involvement with the Birmingham Mayor's Office Division of Youth Services, Dr. Simpson has been recognized by the city as a "Hidden Hero." She was honored by BHAM Black Pride with the Dr. Tina Simpson Invisible Warrior Award.



## 2021 STAFF



PRESIDENT'S  
DIVERSITY  
CHAMPION

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### Jordan Perchik, MD

Department of Radiology  
School of Medicine

Dr. Jordan Perchik began his Diagnostic Radiology residency in the UAB Department of Radiology on July 1, 2018. He developed an early interest in medical student education and mentorship and joined the Near-Peer student-resident mentorship program, the Radiology Diversity and Inclusion Committee, and the international Radiology outreach organization RadAID; he now serves as a resident leader in these organizations. He has mentored medical students and fellow residents of diverse backgrounds and experiences and has connected them with mentors, facilitated their pursuit of meaningful research, and worked to address health disparities in Radiology. Dr. Perchik's efforts have improved inclusion and representation of women and under-represented minorities in the UAB Radiology Residency and have contributed to overall advances in resident wellness.

Dr. Perchik has also worked to improve transgender health literacy in Radiology at a local and national level. He, along with a supportive team in the UAB Radiology Department, has recently published a systematic review of transgender related research in the Radiology literature, developed sessions in transgender health literacy for the resident education curriculum, and advocates for equitable delivery of healthcare for transgender and gender diverse individuals.



## 2021 GRADUATE/ PROFESSIONAL STUDENT



PRESIDENT'S  
DIVERSITY  
CHAMPION

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**Nia Taylor**

School of Dentistry

Nia is currently a third-year dental student at UAB and is enrolled in a dual degree program to pursue both her DMD and MBA degrees with an expected graduation date of May 2022. Nia has a Bachelor's degree from the University of Pennsylvania and received a Master's degree in Biomedical and Health Sciences from The University of Alabama at Birmingham in 2018. Since then, she has been actively engaged in student activities at UAB School of Dentistry (SOD). Her current involvement includes serving as the Treasurer of the Student Research Group, Program Director of the Dental Business Club, a UAB SOD Ambassador for the 2020-21 Admissions cycle, and serving as the current president of the Student National Dental Association (SNDA). She has also participated as a dental student mentor to undergraduate students for the past three summers at UAB's Summer Health Professions Education Program.





# 2021 STUDENT ORGANIZATION



PRESIDENT'S  
DIVERSITY  
CHAMPION

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## MSHA DEI Student Council

School of Health Professions

The MSHA DEI Student Council is a permanent committee of the MSHA Student Organization, established during the summer of 2020. The summer of 2020 presented varying emotional predicaments: students were not only navigating the COVID-19 pandemic but were digesting an influx of media showing social injustices across the country. Naturally, students craved a space to speak candidly, share lived experiences, and ask questions that may have been considered taboo. As a result, the MSHA DEI Student Council was born. The purpose of the MSHA DEI Student Council is to prioritize diversity, equity, and inclusion as fundamental pillars of the MSHA program, while also bringing heightened social awareness to the faculty, staff, and students of the program. Using a collaborative platform as a foundation, the Council is critical in helping faculty and staff integrate DEI into all aspects of the MSHA program, including the curriculum, admission process, Lunch and Learns, and guest lecturers. The presence of the Council ensures the perpetuity of a platform that calls attention to the diverse perspectives of current students and alumni. The Council will continue to create, support, and sustain initiatives that help achieve the MSHA program's DEI-related goals.

# PAST PRESIDENT'S DIVERSITY CHAMPION AWARD RECIPIENTS

**2020**

Farah D. Lubin, Ph.D.,  
School of Medicine

April Coleman  
Kiera Walker  
Herbert Wilkerson

Student Counseling Services  
Division of Student Affairs

Denise Dixon  
Morgan Gordon  
Chukwuemeka Ikejiani  
Carissa Jones  
Andrea Reed  
Carl Robinson

Occupational Therapy Graduate  
School of Health Professions

Active Minds

**2019**

Monica L. Baskin, Ph.D.  
School of Medicine  
Tamika Pilgrom, MSW  
School of Health Professions  
Valene Garr Barry, M.S.  
School of Health Professions  
Erica Webb  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Disability Advocates  
Organization

**2018**

Edwin W. Cook III, Ph.D.  
College of Arts and Sciences

Kathryn Morgan, Ph.D.  
College of Arts and Sciences

Sherri Moultrie, MA, CRC  
Human Resources

Mikael Guzman Karlsson, Ph.D.  
School of Medicine

Mugdha Mokashi  
College of Arts and Sciences

UAB Student National  
Dental Association

**2017**

C. Ann Gakumo, Ph.D., RN  
School of Nursing

Cortney Johnson, M.Ed.  
Division of Student Affairs

Leucas Miller  
College of Arts and Sciences

Calvin Colvin  
College of Arts and Sciences

The National Association of  
Black Accountants, Inc  
Collat School of Business

**2016**

Stephanie Yates, Ph.D.  
Collat School of Business

Andrea N. Holmes  
School of Dentistry

Abidin Yildirim, Ph.D.  
School of Engineering

Daniella E. Chusyd  
School of Health Professions

Sarah Owens  
School of Engineering

Carolyn Braswell, Ed.D.  
Office of Diversity, Equity and  
Inclusion

**2015**

Grace Jepkemboi, Ph.D.  
Department of Curriculum and  
Instruction

Nathan Oliver, M.B.A.  
Management, Information Systems  
& Quantitative Methods

Charity Yoonhee Ryder  
Biology and Anthropology

**2014**

Carlton J. Young, M.D.  
School of Medicine

Jenice Prather-Kinsey, Ph.D.  
School of Business

Dwight W. Lewis  
School of Public Health

Claudia Hardy  
School of Medicine

Chelsea R. Singleton  
School of Public Health

Ariel D. Smith  
School of Business  
Janet Yother, Ph.D.  
School of Medicine  
Lois Christensen, Ph.D.  
School of Education

**2013**

Susan Spezzini, Ph.D.  
School of Education

Frank Wisner  
School of Nursing  
Jonathan Casino  
College of Arts and Sciences

**2012**

Waldemar Carlo, M.D.  
School of Medicine

Kay Emfinger, Ph.D.  
School of Education

Marilyn Kurata, Ph.D.,  
Core Curriculum Enhancement

Natasha Varma  
School of Dentistry

Michael "Josh" Carter  
Study Away Program

Michelle Cardel  
School of Health Professions

Elizabeth Casswell  
College of Arts and Sciences

**2011**

Lee Asherman, M.D.  
School of Medicine

Michael Brooks, Ph.D.  
College of Arts and Sciences

Kirk Williams, Ph.D.  
Joint Health Sciences

Jeffrey Engler, Ph.D.  
Graduate School

Norma May Isakow  
School of Medicine

Erica Whitby  
Student Success

## 2010

Brian Sims, Ph.D.  
School of Medicine  
Isabel Scarinci, Ph.D.  
School of Medicine  
Sonia Nkashama  
School of Dentistry  
Marsha Kelly Sutton  
School of Medicine  
Irene Tami, Ph.D.  
School of Public Health  
Kelli Money  
College of Arts and Sciences

## 2009

Lamia Zayzafoon, Ph.D.  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Cramin P. Wiltz  
School of Dentistry  
Debora Morgette  
Student Success  
Andrew Uehlin  
School of Engineering  
Amanda Azoroh  
College of Arts and Sciences

## 2008

Mona Fouad, M.D.  
School of Medicine  
Cynthia Scott  
Student Success  
Kajal Buckoreelall  
Joint Health Sciences  
Edina Mwangi  
School of Business

## 2007

Michele Wilson, Ph.D.  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Jose Fernandez, Ph.D.  
School of Health Professions  
Preeti M. Chopra  
School of Dentistry  
Demetria P. Scott  
Equity and Diversity/Supplier  
Diversity  
Bunyamin Ozaydin  
College of Arts and Sciences  
Brooke Horton  
College of Arts and Sciences

## 2006

Carol Z. Garrison, Ph.D.  
Office of the President  
Madelyn Coar, DMD  
School of Dentistry  
Stacye Fraser  
International Scholar and Student  
Services  
William Smith  
Social and Behavioral Sciences



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