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Celebrating the Class of 2024 School of Education graduates

The School of Education celebrated its 2024 graduates during Commencement weekend May 17-18. Thirty-six doctoral students were honored at our Doctoral Cording Ceremony on Friday. In all, 262 students graduated from undergraduate and graduate programs in education. **More.**



W&M student Commencement speaker

School of Education graduate student **Correnthia Randolph M.Ed. '24** was chosen as the university's student Commencement speaker. Highlights from her remarks provide the narration for W&M's Commencement News Video. "From this day, we are now bonded by the journey and sealed by ceremony." **Watch.**



Doctoral Cording Ceremony

Watch a recording and view photos of the School of Education Doctoral Cording Ceremony.

[Watch Livestream](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)

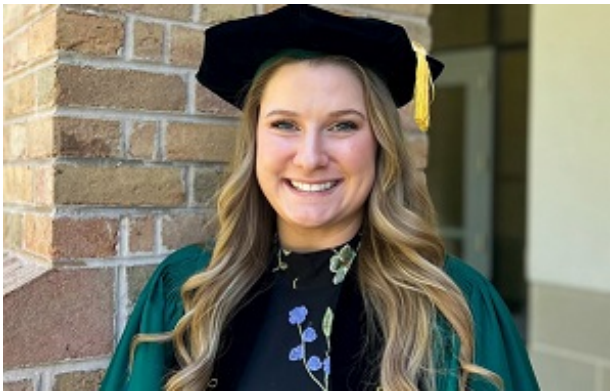


Graduation Celebration

Watch a recording and view photos of the School of Education Graduation Celebration.

[Watch Livestream](#)

[Photo Gallery](#)



Allison Fears earns Thatcher award for trailblazing work in rural school counseling, antiracism and social justice advocacy

The 2024 recipient of the School of Education's Margaret, The Lady Thatcher, Award for Scholarship, Character and Service is Allison Fears Ph.D. '24 Counselor Education and Supervision. Fears not only models the ideal of actions aligning with values, but for her it's a guiding principle in her role as an educator, counselor and advocate. [More.](#)

FROM THE DEAN



The 2024 graduation season has filled the School of Education with celebration and excitement. At Commencement, we awarded 262 degrees, including 36 doctorates, to the next generation of educators, counselors and leaders. Our graduates join an enduring legacy of leaders in the field of education who are prepared to meet the most pressing issues of our time in the service of the commonwealth. I want to extend my sincere appreciation to the faculty and staff of the School of Education for all that they did to support our students and for their contributions to such a joyful event.

— Dean Rob Knoeppel



Rise in rankings reflects School of Education's ongoing priority to address critical needs

In the U.S. News & World Report 2023 rankings of best graduate schools released in April, the William & Mary School of Education joins the William & Mary Raymond A. Mason School of Business and the William & Mary Law School in advancing compared to last year, reflecting continued dedication to the values and vision of William & Mary.

As noted in William & Mary's [announcement of the 2023 U.S. News & World Report rankings](#), the School of Education jumped 12 spots to 58 in the country. Criteria used to evaluate Education schools include research activity, academic excellence of entering students, faculty resources and ratings from education school deans and human resources professionals on program quality. Superintendents and those hiring new educators note the quality of W&M graduates entering the field. **More.**

UNIVERSITY AWARDS



Senior Assistant Dean for Academic Programs & Student Services Dot Osborne receives 2024 Duke Award

It isn't required that Charles and Virginia Duke Award recipients at William & Mary achieve more with less, but the 2024 honorees embrace and embody that remarkable characteristic.

According to Associate Provost for Faculty Affairs and Development Professor of Higher Education Pam Eddy, were Dorothy "Dot" Osborne to leave the School of Education, it would take three people to take her place.

The Duke Award was endowed 67 years ago by Charles Bryan Duke and Ann Evans Duke '57 in memory of Charles Joseph Duke '23 and Virginia Welton Duke for their years of "distinguished and loving service" to William & Mary. It's presented each year to employees who have followed their tradition of exceptional service. [More](#).



W&M Values in Action awardees include two School of Education nominees

The Values in Action Awards recognize William & Mary student organizations, faculty and staff members who embody the university's values of belonging, curiosity, excellence, flourishing, integrity, respect and service. This year's nominees include a current student and faculty member at the School of Education.

Selected from a pool of nominees across the university, this spring's staff and faculty recipients are Amy Alyson Teller '98, M.B.A. '18, Ed.D. '25, section leader at the Raymond A. Mason School of Business Center for Online Learning, and Debbie Ramer, clinical faculty in special education and director of the Elementary Education Program at the William & Mary School of Education. [More](#).

Transformative impact of 2024 Plumeri Awards celebrated

Janise Parker, associate professor of school psychology, was one of 10 leading William & Mary educators recognized on May 10 as the 2024 recipients of the highly coveted Plumeri Awards for Faculty Excellence. Nine professors and one coach were honored for their contributions to elevating excellence at the university and providing the most personal educational experience possible to our students. [More](#).



From military spouse to ‘Dr. Mommy’: Blount’s educational odyssey culminates at Commencement

In the lower left corner of a sprawling whiteboard in Lindsay Blount’s office at William & Mary, her 10-year-old daughter Caroline has carefully chronicled an educational odyssey that has finally come to fruition.

“Dr. Mommy,” Caroline recently wrote.

The 10-year journey began in the galley of a SkyWest Airlines plane, where she served as flight attendant. It included her marriage to an Air Force officer, the birth of two children and a nomadic list of towns and cities the Blounts called home — including Williamsburg, where Blount has just earned her doctorate in educational policy, planning and leadership from the William & Mary School of Education. [More.](#)

BethAnne Klaver’s Fancy Footwork Fuels Success of Local Fundraiser

Each year since 2010, commitment and dedication take center stage during the annual Dancing with the Williamsburg Stars fundraiser to support Big Brothers Big Sisters and **Literacy for Life at the Rita Welsh Adult Learning Center**. This year, just months after starting a new job with the **Training and Technical Assistance Center (T/TAC)** at the William & Mary School of Education, Project Specialist BethAnne Klaver made her swing dancing debut as one of eleven Williamsburg stars volunteering their time and energy to causes close o their hearts. [More.](#)



W&M Father and Son Alumni Welcome the Next Generation of Students into the Teachers of Promise Institute

Five William & Mary School of Education students were honored as “Teachers of Promise” at the **2024 Teachers of Promise Institute**. School of Education faculty nominated students based on their potential to become future teacher leaders within Virginia. The students recognized at the Institute included Audrey Dolak B.A.Ed. '24 Elementary, Campbell Engel B.A. '23, M.A.Ed. '24 Special Education, Rene McPherson, M.A.Ed. '24 Secondary English Education, Susan Tatelli B.A. '23, M.A.Ed. '24 ESL/ Dual Language, and Jeremy Taylor B.A. '24 Secondary Social Studies Education. [More.](#)

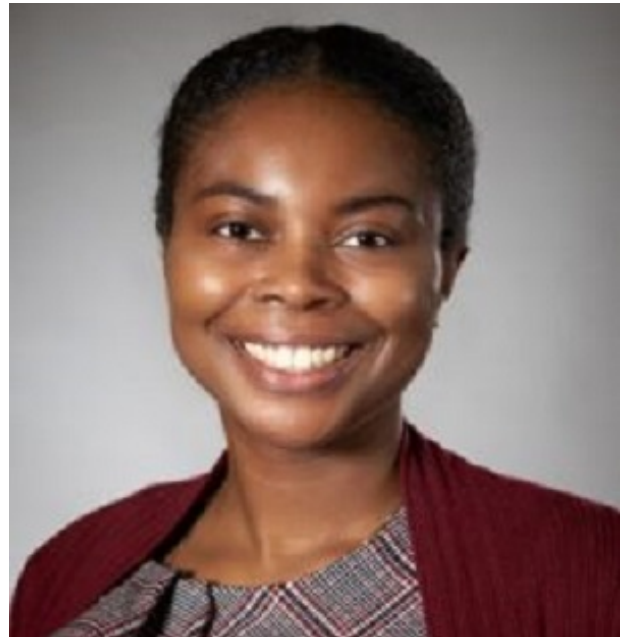


ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Alynn Parham M.A.Ed. '18 awarded Virginia Humanities Educator Fellowship

Alynn Parham M.A.Ed. '18, Jamestown High School social studies teacher, was honored as a 2024 Virginia Humanities Educator Fellow, one of only seven K-12 teachers in Virginia selected to enhance resources available to other educators in the commonwealth teaching humanities.

Over the next nine months, Parham and the Class of 2024 Educator Fellows will meet, learn, and work together to create learning experiences that will be shared on the Virginia Humanities Education website, including the untold stories of diverse groups. [More](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS



Juneteenth at William & Mary

William & Mary's 2024 Juneteenth celebration will be held from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on June 18 in the Sadler Center. The event will include performers, vendors, and more.

[More Information](#)

June 4-August 6: [Evocative Coaching Virtual Book Study](#)

June 10-11: [Annual SURN Leadership Conference](#)

June 11-13: [I'm Determined Youth Summit](#)

June 18: [Juneteenth at William & Mary](#)

July 9-10: [2024 SIM-Posium](#)

July 17: [W&M Washington Center Staff & Faculty Trip](#)

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