

**EMORY UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS
1917 - present**

May 8, 2017	Natasha Trethewey* Poet and Scholar
May 9, 2016	William H. Foege Renowned Epidemiologist and Humanitarian
May 11, 2015	Salman Rushdie* Author, Professor, and Human Rights Advocate
May 12, 2014	John Lewis* Congressman and Civil Rights Hero
May 13, 2013	Rita Dove* Poet, Professor, Advocate of the Arts
May 14, 2012	Benjamin S. Carson Sr.* Physician, Mentor, Leader
May 9, 2011	Janet Napolitano* Public Servant, Lawyer, Leader
May 10, 2010	Arnold Schwarzenegger* Public Servant, Environmentalist, Philanthropist
May 11, 2009	Vicente Fox* Diplomat, Collaborator, Visionary
May 12, 2008	Bernard Marcus* Entrepreneur, philanthropist, humanitarian
May 14, 2007	Paul Farmer* Physician, medical anthropologist, author
May 15, 2006	Marian Wright Edelman* Humanitarian, Advocate, Writer
May 16, 2005	Tom Brokaw* Journalist, Author, Historian
May 10, 2004	Mary Robinson* Human rights advocate Ireland's first woman president

May 12, 2003	Seamus Heaney* Nobel Laureate and Teacher
May 13, 2002	Alfred Uhry* Playwright and screenwriter
May 14, 2001	Deborah E. Lipstadt Director, Institute for Jewish Studies
May 15, 2000	George J. Mitchell* Statesman
May 10, 1999	Robert B. Reich* Former Secretary of Labor
May 11, 1998	Tenzin Gyatso* The XIV Dalai Lama
May 12, 1997	Christiane Amanpour* Distinguished International Broadcast Journalist
May 13, 1996	Johnnetta B. Cole* President of Spelman College
May 8, 1995	Henry Louis Gates, Jr.* Literary Scholar
May 9, 1994	The Honorable James Thomas Laney* United States Ambassador to the Republic of Korea
May 10, 1993	Donald Raymond Keough* Former President and Chief Operating Officer The Coca-Cola Company
May 11, 1992	Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev* Former President of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
May 13, 1991	Eduard Shevardnadze* Former Minister of Foreign Affairs, USSR
May 14, 1990	Elizabeth Dole* United States Secretary of Labor

May 15, 1989	Sam Nunn United States Senator
May 16, 1988	Archbishop Desmond Tutu*
May 11, 1987	Paul A. Volcker* Chairman, Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System
May 12, 1986	Dr. Steven Watson* Principal of the University of St. Andrews
May 13, 1985	Daniel Joseph Boorstin* Historian, Librarian of Congress
May 14, 1984	Joseph Cardinal Bernardin* Archbishop of Chicago
May 16, 1983	Terry Sanford President of Duke University
June 14, 1982	Roberto C. Goizueta Chairman of the Board and Chief Executive Officer The Coca-Cola Company
June 15, 1981	The Honorable Sam Nunn* Senior Senator from the State of Georgia
June 9, 1980	William Robertson Coe Professor of American History at Yale University and Dean of Yale College
June 11, 1979	Judson C. Ward Jr. Executive Vice President and Dean of Faculties
August 19, 1978	Walter R. Davis Jr. Alumni Secretary
August 18, 1978	Henry L. Bowden Chairman of the Board of Trustees
June 12, 1978	Hywel David Lewis* Visiting Professor of Philosophy and Theology
August 12, 1977	Edna M. Grexton Dean, Nell Hodgson Woodruff School of Nursing

June 13, 1977	Sanford S. Atwood President of the University
August 21, 1976	Alfred E. Wilhelmi Charles Howard Candler Professor and Chairman Department of Biochemistry
June 14, 1976	The Honorable Harry Andrew Blackmun* Associate Justice, United States Supreme Court
August 23, 1975	Evangeline T. Papageorge Executive Associate Dean of the School of Medicine
June 16, 1975	The Honorable Sam A. Nunn, Jr. The United States Senate
August 17, 1974	Bell I. Wiley Charles Howard Candler Professor of History
June 10, 1974	John Calvin Portman*
August 18, 1973	Dr. Arthur P. Richardson Dean of the School of Medicine
June 11, 1973	J. Pollard Turman*
August 19, 1972	Dr. William H. Jones Professor of Chemistry and Director of the Summer School
June 12, 1972	Morris B. Abram
August 14, 1971	Dr. John C. Stephens, Jr. Dean of Emory College
June 7, 1971	Dr. Rosemary Park Professor of Education University of California at Los Angeles
August 15, 1970	Dr. Thomas L. Fernandez Vice President for Student and Academic Services
June 8, 1970	Dr. Benjamin E. Mays* President, Atlanta Board of Education

August 16, 1969	Dr. Clark E. Myers Dean, School of Business Administration Emory University
June 9, 1969	Dr. Barnaby C. Keeney Chairman, National Endowment of the Humanities
August 17, 1968	Dr. Charles T. Lester Dean, Graduate School of Arts and Sciences Emory University
June 10, 1968	Dr. James L. Goddard* Commissioner of Food and Drugs
August 19, 1967	Dr. J. Willis Hurst Chairman, Department of Medicine Emory University School of Medicine
June 12, 1967	Robert Shaw* Music Director, The Atlanta Symphony Orchestra
August 12, 1966	Weston E. Vivian United States House of Representatives
June 13, 1966	J. George Harrar* President, the Rockefeller Foundation
August 21, 1965	Douglas M. Knight President, Duke University
June 14, 1965	Wernher von Braun* Director, George C. Marshall Space Flight Center
August 22, 1964	Guy R. Lyle Director of the University Libraries
June 8, 1964	Sanford S. Atwood President of the University
August 24, 1963	Frank G. Dickey Executive Director of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools

June 10, 1963	The Honorable Donald Russell The Governor of South Carolina
August 25, 1962	Charles H. Kellstadt Former President and Chairman of the Board Sears Roebuck and Company
June 11, 1962	John A. Sibley* Chairman, Executive Committee Trust Company of Georgia
August 19, 1961	Morris Abram Atlanta Bar Association
June 5, 1961	Dr. H. Baker Carlos Princeton University
August 13, 1960	Dr. William H. Jones Director, Summer Session
June 6, 1960	Dr. Louis M. Orr* President, American Medical Association
August 22, 1959	Dr. Andrew D. Holt President, University of Tennessee
June 5, 1959	Dr. Robert Manning Strozier President of Florida State University
August 15, 1958	Dr. Henry K. Stanford President, Birmingham-Southern College
June 7, 1958	Dr. Henry Lumpkin Bowden Chairman of the Board of Trustees
June 6, 1958	Dr. William Fletcher Quillian, Jr. President of Randolph-Macon Woman's College
August 17, 1957	George Boyde Connell President, Mercer University
June 7, 1957	Elbert Parr Tuttle United States Court of Appeals

June 6, 1957	Dr. Theodore Henley Jack President Emeritus, Randolph-Macon Woman's College
August 18, 1956	Dr. John Knox Union Theological Seminary
June 8, 1956	Dr. Ernest Mason Allen* National Institutes of Health
June 7, 1956	James Soule Pope* Editor, Louisville Courier-Journal and Louisville Times
August 20, 1955	Dr. Ernest C. Colwell Vice-President of the University
June 4, 1955	Dr. Leonard Carmichael Secretary Smithsonian Institution
August 21, 1954	Dr. George Kerry Smith Executive Secretary for the Association of Higher Education
June 5, 1954	Spessard Lindsey Holland Member of the United States Senate
August 22, 1953	Dr. Omer Clyde Aderhold President University of Georgia
June 6, 1953	Robert E. Gross President Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
August 29, 1952	Dr. Allen D. Albert, Jr. Public Relations Director Lockheed Aircraft Corporation
June 7, 1952	Nolan B. Harmon Book editor of the Methodist Church
June 6, 1952	Dr. Robert D. Calkins Director of the General Education Board

August 24, 1951	Dr. Andrew David Holt University of Tennessee
June 2, 1951	Honorable Millard F. Caldwell, Jr. Federal Civil Defense Administration
August 25, 1950	Dr. John Lawrence Seaton
June 3, 1950	James V. Carmichael
June 2, 1950 August 26, 1949	John A. Sibley Dr. Arthur Hollis Edens President of Duke University
June 4, 1949	Alben William Barkley* Vice President of the United States
June 3, 1949	Oren Austin Oliver*
August 27, 1948	Dr. Wallace McPherson Alston
June 5, 1948	Dr. James Harris Purks, Jr.
June 4, 1948	Dr, Ernest Cadman Colwell
June 7, 1947	John Lord O'Brain
February 28, 1947	Dr. Alton Ochsner
June 8, 1946	Charles Howard Candler
March 16, 1946	Dr. Daniel Collier Elkin
June 16, 1945	Col. LeRoy W. Nichols General Staff Corps, Director, Army Specialized Training Division Fourth Service Command
June 2, 1945	Robert B. Troutman
September 16, 1944	Lt. Colonel Louis Krause Medical Corps Army of the United States

June 3, 1944	Eugene Epperson Barnett* General Secretary International Committee of Young Men's Christian Associations
December 20, 1943	Dr. James Edgar Paullin President, American Medical Association
May 29, 1943	Herman L. Turner Pastor, Covent Presbyterian Church of Atlanta
March 18, 1943	Dr. William Pearson Tolley Chancellor of Syracuse Un.
May 29 and 30, 1942	Dr. Frank Kells Boland President, Alumni Association
June 9 and 10, 1940	Dr. Douglas Southall Freeman
June 4 and 5, 1939	Robert M. Strickland
June 5 and 6, 1938	Dr. William D. Haggard
June 6 and 7, 1937	Bishop Charles Wesley Flint
June 7 and 8, 1936	Dr. Dumas Malone*
June 9 and 10, 1935	Hon. Richard B. Russell, Jr.
June 9, 10, and 11, 1934	Rev. Edward McLellan
June 10, 11, and 12, 1933	Dr. Theodore H. Jack*
June 5, 6, and 7, 1932	President Daniel L. Marsh
June 7, 8, and 9, 1931	John Huston Finley
June 8, 9, and 10, 1930	Rev. John Ernest Rattenbury*
June 2, 3, and 4, 1929	Dean Roscoe Pound
June 3, 4 and 5, 1928	Hon. Thomas G. McLeod
June 5, 6, and 7, 1927	Dr. Stewart R. Roberts
June 6, 7 and 8, 1926	Hon. Chase S. Osborn

June 7, 8, and 9, 1925	Judge Samuel Hale Sibley
May 31 – June 3, 1924	Dr. Charles P. Emerson
June 2, 3, 4 and 5, 1923	Dr. Samuel Chiles Mitchell
June 6, 1922	Rev. S. Parkes Cadman
June 7, 1921	Warren Akin Candler Chancellor
June 8, 1920	Warren Akin Candler Chancellor
February 28, 1919	Lieutenant Col. W. Wayne Babcock Chief of Surgical Service U.S.A. General Hospital No. 6 (School of Medicine)
	Lieutenant Col. E. C. Davis Director of Emory Unit
June 11, 1918	Bishop W. A. Candler (School of Liberal Arts)
May 29, 1917	Dr. Victor C. Vaughn (School of Medicine & School of Theology)

* *Received an Honorary Degree at Commencement*

Information provided by Emory University Archives, Special Collections, Woodruff Library