



# Cathy Hughes School of Communication *eblasts*

**\*\*Good news on the recent accomplishments of our CHSOC faculty, staff, students, and alumni \*\***

## May 2023

**Class of 2023** – The Cathy Hughes School of Communications celebrated the graduating Class of 2023 on May 12<sup>th</sup> in Burr Gymnasium. Stacey Hightower, CEO of Omnicom Specialty Marketing Group, addressed the class. The university Commencement was held Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> downtown at Capital One Arena. The commencement speaker was President Joseph Biden.



**Summer Academy Fellowship** – CCMS faculty **Loren Saxton Coleman** and COSD faculty **Miguelina Zapata** were selected for the 2023 Junior Faculty Writing and Creative Works Summer Academy (Summer Academy)! Congratulations!

**Successful Dissertation Defense** – CCMS doctoral student **Britney Gulledge**, successfully defended her dissertation entitled, "Exploring Mutual Aid Groups Function as Community Health Knowledge Producers: A Washington D.C. Case Study. " Committee: Dr. **Wei Sun**, chair; Dr. **Monica Ponder**, advisor; Dr. **Jae Eun Chung**; Dr. **Carolyn Stroman**  
External examiner: Dr. Linda Bland Stewart, Senior Speech Language Pathologist Montgomery County Public School Systems

**MFA Degree** – MJFC Professor **Maha Haddad** received her MFA in Film in April, from the Vermont College of Fine Arts. Her feature narrative screenplay was "The Great American Experiment." Congratulations!

**Howard University Grad Stories** – Dr. **Yanick Rice Lamb**, a professor in the Media, Journalism and Film department and founding editor of BET Weekend magazine, in an interview talks about how her newest accomplishment of a PhD from Howard's Sociology department strengthens her expertise in journalism. "I've always been around a lot of Howard people ... I had Howard interns. I guess it was destined for me to be here. People thought I was a Bison before I became one." See the interview: <https://vimeo.com/824202961>

**HBCU Fellows Goodbye** – **Jasper Smith**, a rising senior and HBCU Fellow, completed a project with women who are returning to HBCUs to finish degrees after time away. Jasper says she grew as an enterprise reporter during the fellowship. "A lesson I have learned is that good reporting can take time. I have deepened my appreciation for taking time to speak with a variety of sources and get an array of perspectives," she said. Next up, she will be a digital media intern at the *Arizona Republic* this summer, via the Dow Jones News Fund.



**White House Correspondents Association Scholars** – Congratulations to MJFC students **Briana Alvarado, Alecia Taylor, and Jordyn Taylor**, who were selected as 2023 White House Correspondents’ Association Scholars. They each received a \$7,000 scholarship.



**NOTE:** The *CHSOC eBlasts* is on hiatus for the summer and will resume in the fall. The next edition will be in September 2023.

**PLEASE NOTE:** If you have news and would like to submit it to our CHSOC e-newsletter, please use the [Submission Form](#). Complete the form or send an email to [socdean@howard.edu](mailto:socdean@howard.edu).