

Fay Jones School
of
Architecture and Design

**2023
COMMENCEMENT
CEREMONY**





Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design
2023 Commencement Ceremony
 Barnhill Arena, University of Arkansas

Saturday, May 13, 2023

Program

Processional March	
Opening Remarks	Dean MacKeith
“The Star-Spangled Banner”	
“Lift Every Voice and Sing”	
Welcome on Behalf of the Graduates	Conley Lents
Recognition of the Golden and Silver Graduates	Dean MacKeith
Greetings and Good Wishes	Chancellor Robinson
Special Recognitions, Awards and Honors	Dr. Goodstein-Murphree
Senior Scholar Remarks	Jessica Shearman
Introduction of Commencement Speaker	Samantha Hernandez
Commencement Address	Brandon Bibby
Awarding of the Degrees	Dean MacKeith
Master of Design Studies	Dr. Webb
Landscape Architecture	Prof. McCown
Interior Architecture and Design	Prof. Matthews
Architecture	Prof. Folan
Gratitude from the Graduates	Hayden Wyrick
Closing Remarks and Announcements	Dean MacKeith
Recessional March	

The Official Party

Dr. Charles F. Robinson Chancellor, University of Arkansas	Morril Harriman Chairman, University of Arkansas Board of Trustees
Peter B. MacKeith Dean	Dr. Ethel Goodstein-Murphree Associate Dean
Dr. Jennifer Webb Assistant Dean for Graduate Programs	Gabriel Diaz Montemayor Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
John Folan Department Head, Architecture	Carl W. Matthews Department Head, Interior Architecture and Design
Ken McCown Department Head, Landscape Architecture	Brandon Bibby, B.ARCH. 2014 Senior Preservation Architect, National Trust for Historic Preservation
Conley Lents Senior Scholar, Architecture	Jessica Shearman Senior Scholar, Landscape Architecture
Samantha Hernandez Senior Scholar, Architectural Studies	Hayden Wyrick Senior Scholar, Interior Architecture and Design

Distinguished Guests

Jennie Popp Associate Dean, Honors College	Michael Popp Professor, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness
Larry Foley Chair and Professor, School of Journalism and Strategic Media	

Commencement Speaker



Brandon Bibby, ASID, AIA, NOMA, NCARB, WELL AP

Brandon Bibby is an artist, activist, and architect raised in the plains of Arkansas, where the Delta meets the Ozarks. He is a multidiscipline researcher and designer invested in questioning narrative, representation, and access in the built environment and its impacts on memory and behavior for marginalized communities. He is a next-generation preservationist motivated by movement, memory, and culture in contemporary Black space.

In his current role at the National Trust for Historic Preservation, Bibby is the Senior Preservation Architect for the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund. Founded in 2017, the African American Cultural Heritage Action Fund is the largest program in the United States dedicated to preserving Black spaces and the contributions of African American sites of activism, achievement, and resilience in the American landscape. His portfolio of past and ongoing work includes stewarding the preservation, design, and interpretation of sites, including the John and Alice Coltrane Home in Dix Hills, Langston Hughes House in Harlem, Robert's Temple Church of God in Christ in Chicago, and King's Chapel Memorial to Enslaved Persons in Boston.

Bibby began his journey in architectural and preservation practice with WER Architects and Planners in Little Rock, Arkansas, and before joining the Action Fund in September 2022, was a Space and Society Fellow and Senior Architect in the Public Memory and Memorials Lab at the 2022 AIA Architecture Firm of The Year, MASS Design Group. He is a 2014 Bachelor of Architecture graduate and Alpha Rho Chi Bronze Medal recipient of the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design.

Celebrated for his design leadership and community activism, Bibby is a 2022 Ones To Watch Awardee and Scholar with the American Society of Interior Designers. In 2019, he was named a "New Influential" in *Arkansas Business'* list of 20 in their 20s. He has taught with the Boston Architectural College, lectured with the American Institute of Architects, Architecture and Design Network, AARP, and served as a Health Equity Advisor with the International Well Building Institute.

Senior Scholars

Conley Lents, Bachelor of Architecture

Conley Lents, from Cabot, Arkansas, graduates Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Architecture and a minor in History of Architecture and Design. During her time at the Fay Jones School, she was awarded the Pryor Award for Leadership in Architecture and Design, Pella Scholarship for Architecture Design Excellence, Ernest N. Pettit Jr. Memorial Scholarship, Howard S. Eichenbaum and Frank J. Erhart Memorial Scholarship, AIA Medal for Academic Excellence, Barbara C. Crook Medal, and Edward Durell Stone Medal. She was active in AIAS and as a teaching assistant. After graduation, she plans to join Polk Stanley Wilcox Architects in Little Rock.

Jessica Shearman, Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Growing up in Northwest Arkansas, Jessica realized the critical issues of climate, equity, urbanization, and justice in her community. Receiving a degree in Landscape Architecture from the University of Arkansas and working in long-range urban planning for two years, she is interested in understanding the intersection of policy, planning, and design on an international scale. Jessica has led the Arkansas Student Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects for three years advocating for her discipline. She recently completed her Honors Thesis of analyzing perceived safety and equitable access of the Razorback Regional Greenway in Fayetteville, Arkansas. After graduation, Jessica will move to Birmingham, England, to work as a Graduate Urban Designer at the design and planning firm Define. After working abroad, she plans to eventually return to the Midwest region to foster change of climate justice through land-use planning, policy, and design.

Samantha Hernandez, Bachelor of Architectural Studies

A Rogersville, Missouri, native and honors student, Samantha Hernandez graduates Summa Cum Laude with degrees in Architectural Studies and Spanish, along with a minor in the History of Architecture and Design. In her time at the university, she has explored her interests through serving on the executive team for the Volunteer Action Center and Sigma Delta Pi, as well other programmatic roles on campus. Through an Honors capstone and time abroad in Spain, she developed a passion for architectural history and later assisted with history of architecture courses. She will continue her education in the fall at the Rhode Island School of Design pursuing a Master of Architecture, with a focus on history and sense of place. Samantha could not be more grateful for all the support, time, and attention the Fay Jones School has given to her and each of their students.

Hayden Wyrick, Bachelor of Interior Architecture and Design

Hayden Wyrick is a graduate of the Interior Architecture and Design program. Four years ago, she moved to Fayetteville, Arkansas, from Littleton, Colorado, to pursue a sought-after education at the Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design. Outside of class, Hayden was involved within the campus community as Fundraising Chair for the American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) student chapter, being an active member of the Honors College, and of Greek Life. Her collective experiences within the University of Arkansas have pushed her as an individual and allowed her to flourish. Upon graduation, she will embark on her next journey of moving to Los Angeles, California, and beginning her career in commercial design. Hayden believes the school has established a great foundation for her success, and she is forever grateful for the faculty, staff, and students that have made her time at the school so impactful.

Special Recognitions

Fay Jones School Academic Honors

Alpha Rho Chi Medal

For the final-year student who has shown leadership ability, performed willing service for the school and demonstrated promise of professional merit through attitude and personality

Carter Brooks (ARCH)

ARCC King Student Medal Award

The King Medal is awarded by institutional members of the Architectural Research Centers Consortium (ARCC) to an undergraduate or graduate student who demonstrates innovation, integrity, and excellence in architectural and environmental design research and scholarship.

TBD

Michael J. Buono Sustainability Medal

For the advanced or graduating student(s) who has demonstrated the greatest concern in design studios, cognate courses and the community for environmental, ecological and energy conservation issues

Noah Berg (ARCH)
Cada Fischer (LARC)

Tau Sigma Delta Bronze Medal

The Bronze Medal is awarded by the individual chapters of Tau Sigma Delta to students who have distinguished themselves in design in the field of architecture, landscape architecture, or the allied arts. The selection of the recipient is made by the student membership of each chapter.

Taylor Brown (IARD)

Architecture Academic Honors

AIA Medal for Academic Excellence

For the first-ranked, final-year architecture student in recognition of scholastic achievement, character, leadership and promise of high professional ability

Conley Lents

C. Murray Smart Medal

For the final-year architecture student or students with the highest scholastic record in the study of history and theory of architecture

Samantha Hernandez

Edward Durell Stone Medal

For the final-year architecture student with the highest overall grade point average in design studio work

Conley Lents

Herbert K. Fowler Medal

For the third-, fourth- or fifth-year architecture student who demonstrates outstanding hand drawing skills, excellent conceptualization of interior spaces and volumes, especially as they relate to human interaction, and successfully incorporates classic principles of proportion and balance into the design of modern architecture

Bethany Holden

John G. Williams Joy of Architecture Medal

For the graduating senior who exhibits a devotion to the profession and a positive work ethic, and who demonstrates promise of professional success

Mark Johnson Jr.

Mariana Van Rensselaer Medal

For the architectural studies student who has achieved excellence in attaining a liberal education with focus on architecture and its allied disciplines

Samantha Hernandez
Myles Richter

Mort Karp Medal

For the fifth-year student who has demonstrated the greatest concern for social, cultural and behavioral issues as they relate to design

Sally Senn

Interior Architecture and Design Academic Honors

Interior Architecture and Design Medal of Excellence

For the first-ranked, final-year interior architecture and design student in recognition of scholastic achievement

Hayden Wyrick

Interior Architecture and Design Medal for Excellence in Material Exploration

For a final-year interior architecture and design student who has demonstrated curiosity, research capabilities, creativity and sophisticated application of materials in studio design projects

Ashlynn Weidman

Landscape Architecture Academic Honors

ASLA Honor and Merit Awards

For landscape architecture students with high academic performance, design ability, self-motivation and personal responsibility

Honor: Cada Fischer
Jessica Shearman
Merit: Landyn Green
Hagen Rushing

Verna C. Garvan Medal

For the senior student of landscape architecture who, through performance in the studio sequence, has demonstrated outstanding design ability

Hagen Rushing

Awarding of the Degrees

Master of Design Studies

Amanda Burcham, B.I.D., University of Arkansas, 2014
Tyler Hash, B.ARCH., University of Arkansas, 2021
Luke Young, B.I.D., University of Arkansas, 2022

Bachelor of Architecture

Kelly Tate Alspaw
Joshua Amaya
Lindsay Anderson
Diego Ayala Hernandez
Gregory Azlin
Milo Barnes *High Distinction*
William Ethan Bellamy
Isaak James Benchoff *Magna Cum Laude*
Noah H. Berg *Magna Cum Laude*
Victoria Renee Best *Cum Laude*
Hannah Nicole Blang
Josephine Boynton
Carter Brooks
Eva Christine Bwiza
Olivia Caldwell
Hadley May Carter
Alan S. Castro
Patrick Claybrook
Meredith Coan *Distinction*
Nate Cole *Magna Cum Laude*
Emily Kate Coleman
Emily Compean-Sanchez
Alexander D. Cooper *Cum Laude*
Jake Monroe Deats
Chloe Devecsery *Cum Laude*
Lauren Nicole Dillon *Distinction*
Thomas Donaldson III *Distinction*
Allison L. Drooger
Nicole Maria Finder
Jeremy Patrick Foley
Nayelli Garcia
Brock Anderson Harper
Bethany Joy Holden
Derek Jebson *Distinction*
Annie Johnson
Mark E. Johnson Jr.
Shelbie G. Karafa
Jessica C. Kim
Conley Lents *Summa Cum Laude*
Joshua Lowry
Harlee Louise Marroy *Distinction*
Katie E. Marshall
Sarah McKenzie McBride
Chaz A. McRae *High Distinction*
Nicholas James Monks
Sewon Park
Hannah Elaine Peevey
Dougan C. Phillips *Distinction*
Andrew Popp *Cum Laude*
Cameron C. Riffle *High Distinction*
Evan Claire Roberts
Camila Salgueiro *Cum Laude*
Jacob A. Seddelmeyer *Cum Laude*
Sally B. Senn
John Slack
Mason M. Smith
Brett Evan Sorters
Anindhitha Sudhakaran *Magna Cum Laude*
Laura Nicole Wehrung *Distinction*
Grant Detjen Wilson *Cum Laude*
Natalie Elizabeth Wish *Distinction*
Yoji Yamakita

Bachelor of Science in Architectural Studies

Emma Edwards High *Distinction*
Dawson Ervie
Samantha Hernandez *Summa Cum Laude*
Kimberly Morelock
Julia Rose Razer *High Distinction*
Myles Richter *Summa Cum Laude*
Mackenzie Creig Rogers
Parker Sene

Bachelor of Interior Architecture and Design

Shannon Bencsik
Emily Borgfeld
Taylor Brown *High Distinction*
Abigail Chandler
Emily Creek *Distinction*
Hannah Eslick
Maya Fallows *High Distinction*
Emily Fordyce *High Distinction*
Mia Haake
Sydney Hanavec
Katelyn Alexis Hill
Ivy Huang *High Distinction*
Krista Sara Hunt *High Distinction*
Margaret Imber
Kendal Rene Kennedy
Madison Claire King
Jade McKnight *Distinction*
Anna Grace McMoran
David Ford Modesett
Megan James
Audrey Pace *High Distinction*
Ellison Roe Poellot
Ava Gale Prentice
Sydney Lynn Ruland
Haley Nicole Russell
Madison Ann Shell
Skylar Struck *Distinction*
Tracy Caitlin Thirion
Sadie Uselton
Diamonique Vang
Sydney Walker
Ashlynn Weidman *Distinction*
Emily Leanne Wright *High Distinction*
Hayden Wyrick *Summa Cum Laude*

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture

Emily Booth
Rebekah Crowley *High Distinction*
Isaac Diaz
Cada Ivy Fischer *Distinction*
Charles Alan Goodgame *Distinction*
Landyn Faye Green *High Distinction*
Luis Antonio Jorge Hernandez
Rylee Lorts
John B. Marion V
Brett Thomas Paris
Phillip Partain
Hagen William Rushing *Distinction*
Jessica Shearman *Magna Cum Laude*
Hunter Reed Waters *Distinction*

Bachelor of Science in Landscape Architectural Studies

Tristan J. Lewis
Sydney Moore

Commencement Committee

Ethel Goodstein-Murphree
Associate Dean

Carol Rowser
Assistant Dean for Administration

Melinda Smith
Director of Student Services

Michelle Parks
Director of Communications

Byron McCuan
Special Events Manager

Sheri Lynn Brown
Senior Academic Counselor

Theresa Parrish
Academic Counselor

Cassidy Flanagan
Creative Services Manager

The Fay Jones School community wishes to express its appreciation for assistance of all people who helped make the Spring 2023 Fay Jones School of Architecture and Design Commencement Ceremony a success.

Congratulations to the Class of 2023!

FAY



UNIVERSITY OF
ARKANSAS

Fay Jones School
of Architecture + Design