



Dear GSAS Alumni,

Please join me in welcoming the more than 1,900 MA and PhD students who graduated this spring and are now part of the GSAS Alumni Association, which includes more than 47,000 alumni across 157 countries. Wherever you are, there is almost certainly [another GSAS alum](#) and a [Columbia Alumni Club](#) to help you make personal and professional connections. I invite you to make the world a little smaller for our new graduates by registering as an alumni contact on [GSAS Connect](#), and keeping us updated about any [new position or change of address](#), [new or existing business](#), [new book](#), or [any](#) other exciting accomplishment.

If you are one of those new MA and PhD graduates, you have an amazing resource to help with your job search: [GSAS Compass](#), our graduate career and professional development office. The Compass team offers career development programming and one-on-one advising to help you navigate your professional path.

I hope you all have a chance this summer to catch your breath and connect with family and friends—and, we hope, fellow alumni!

Warm regards,

Erin Hussein '92CC, '95LAW
Associate Director of Alumni Relations and Events
Graduate School of Arts and Science

RECENT ALUMNI EVENTS

CONVOCATION & COMMENCEMENT



On Sunday, May 14, under sunny skies, Dean Carlos J. Alonso presided over two GSAS convocation ceremonies. At the [Doctoral Convocation](#), Turkuler Isiksel, Associate Professor and Deputy Chair of Political Science, was the keynote speaker. Later that day, Carol Gluck, George Sansom Professor Emerita of History, spoke at the [Master's Convocation](#). Over 1,300 graduates crossed the stage, some with their children and even cap-and-gown-wearing dogs on their way to shake Dean Alonso's hand. On Wednesday, May 17, GSAS graduates gathered in Low Plaza where Dean Alonso lauded, roasted, and declared them the newest class of Columbia GSAS alumni. Lee Bollinger, in his last [Commencement Ceremony](#) as President of Columbia, made it so.

DEDICATION CEREMONY FOR DR. MARIE MAYNARD DALY

The American Chemical Society hosted a ceremony in Havemeyer Hall to honor Marie Maynard Daly ('47PhD, Chemistry), the first Black woman to earn a PhD in Chemistry in the United States. Read more about her journey [here](#).

SYNTHESIS COMPETITION

GSAS alumni Reena Jana ('05MA, South Asian Studies) and Jake Moreno Coplon ('18MA, Human Rights) served along with faculty as judges for the Seventh Annual GSAS SynThesis Competition, where Master's students honed their thesis research down to a sharp three-minute talk with a single visual slide. Read more about the event and the winners [here](#).

UPCOMING ALUMNI EVENT

ART TOUR IN PHILADELPHIA

Monday, September 13

Join Dean Carlos J. Alonso and GSAS alumni for a private, after-hours tour at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts in Philadelphia. The tour will be led by [Leah Triplett Harrington](#), Director of Exhibitions & Contemporary Curatorial Initiatives at PAFA, and [Megan K.](#)

McCarthy ('15PhD, Art History and Archaeology), PAFA's Senior Director of Individual Giving. The tour will explore the exhibition [Rising Sun: Artists in an Uncertain America](#) and its interplay with the building's galleries. The evening includes a wine and cheese reception in the Washington Foyer of PAFA's Historic Landmark Building. Tickets are limited and are [available here](#).

ALUMNI NEWS

BOOKS

Tiffany Babb ('17MA, American Studies) published her first book of poetry, [A List of Things I've Lost](#), in 2021.

Eric Kim ('15MPhil, English and Comparative Literature), food writer and recipe developer, published his cookbook [Korean American](#) in 2022, also featured in [Columbia Magazine](#).

Jennifer Finn Palmer ('06MA, Classics) published her history book, [Contested Pasts: A Determinist History of Alexander the Great in the Roman Empire](#), in 2022.

Elizabeth L. Block ('04MA, American Studies) published [Dressing Up: The Women Who Influenced French Fashion](#) in 2022.

Rosemary Salomone ('76PhD, Linguistics '84 Law) published [The Rise of English: Global Politics and the Power of Language](#) in 2021.

AWARDS

Kyle DeCoste ('20MPhil, Music Science), an ethnomusicologist, was awarded the 2021 [Zora Neale Hurston Prize](#) by the American Folklore Society for his work co-writing with the Stooges Brass Band the 2020 book [Can't Be Faded: Twenty Years in the New Orleans Brass Band Game](#).

Ani Kodzhabasheva ('17MPhil, Art History and Archaeology), grant writer and project manager for an architecture and urbanism nonprofit in Bulgaria called The Collective Foundation, won a prize in the [2021 Idea Challenge](#) for co-creating a Danube river celebration project.

Viviana Zelizer ('77PhD, Sociology), Lloyd Cotsen '50 Professor of Sociology at Princeton, will receive the [W.E.B. Du Bois Career of Distinguished Scholarship Award](#) from the American Sociological Association (ASA) in August 2023.

Victoria de Grazia ('76PhD, History), Moore Collegiate Professor of History at Columbia, was awarded in 2021 the [Helen and Howard R. Marraro Prize](#) in Italian history or Italian-American Relations for her 2020 book [The Perfect Fascist: A Story of Love, Power, and Morality in Mussolini's Italy](#).

PROFESSIONAL MILESTONES & PROJECTS

Fadi A. Bardawil ('10PhD, Anthropology), Associate Professor of Asian and Middle Eastern Studies at Duke, was [awarded tenure](#) in 2021.

Adam Levine ('10PhD, Mathematics), Associate Professor of Mathematics at Duke, was [awarded tenure](#) in 2021.

Ben Vinson III ('98PhD, History) was named the [President of Howard University](#) in May of 2023.

Robert T. Miller ('92CC '00MPhil, Philosophy) was named the [F. Arnold Daum Chair in Corporate Finance and Law](#) at the University of Iowa Law School in 2021.

Fereshteh Daftari ('88PhD, Art History and Archaeology) curated an exhibition of modern Iranian art in 2022, [Rebel, Jester, Mystic, Poet: Contemporary Persians—The Mohammed Afkhami Collection](#) as a follow-up to his 2019 book [Persia Reframed: Iranian Visions of Modern and Contemporary](#).

[Art.](#)

ALUMNI IN THE MEDIA

David Woo ('96PhD, Economics) launched the blog [Unbound](#) in 2021 about the economy and geopolitics, which he discussed on a Bloomberg podcast [interview](#).

Eric Foner ('63CC '69PhD, History), DeWitt Clinton Professor Emeritus of History at Columbia, appeared in an April 2023 Columbia Journalism Review [conference](#) about the Press and Democracy.

Do you have news to share? Write to us at gsas-alumni@columbia.edu.

GSAS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION BOARD

You can assist the [GSAS Alumni Association Board of Directors](#) in advancing the vision of GSAS Dean Carlos J. Alonso by joining one of four alumni board committees: Awards, Professional Development, Recent Alumni and Students, and Stewardship and Engagement. Write to gsas-alumni@columbia.edu for more information.

CONNECT WITH COLUMBIA

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