
MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY

FALL CONVOCATION



2022

Monday, August 29
Breslin Student Events Center



FALL CONVOCATION

A Formal Academic Ceremony

The Fall Convocation you are attending today and the Commencement ceremony that you will attend upon graduation are intended to be bookends to your college experience. Both are formal academic ceremonies that feature members of the university's faculty and administration in academic regalia.

The regalia that each faculty member and administrator wears communicates specific information about their level of education, their academic discipline, and the institution that awarded their degree. The majority of the faculty and administrators seated on stage have earned doctoral degrees. Those who have earned their doctorate wear robes bearing three bars of velvet on each sleeve and velvet panels on the front of the robe.

In addition to the robe, the hood also communicates information about the accomplishments of the person who wears it. The color of the velvet edging of the hood (visible around the neck in the front and down the back) signifies the discipline studied. Similarly, the tassel that you will wear when you graduate from MSU will be the color of the discipline of your major. Some of the colors and corresponding disciplines that you may see include:

Agriculture - Maize	Medicine - Green
Arts and Letters/RCAH - White	Music - Pink
Business - Drab (Tan)	Natural Science/Lyman Briggs - Gold
Communication - Royal Blue	Nursing - Apricot
Education - Light Blue	Philosophy - Dark Blue
Engineering - Orange	Social Science/James Madison - Citron
Law - Purple	Veterinary Medicine - Gray

Many institutions that award advanced degrees, such as the Doctorate of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree or Medical Degree, use hoods that have dark blue velvet edging signifying the discipline of Philosophy or Medicine. Other institutions award hoods for the Ph.D. and the M.D. that use the color of the actual discipline studied. President Stanley earned his medical degree from Harvard Medical School and his hood bears the color crimson.

ORDER OF EVENTS

Processional and Welcome

Welcome Message

Teresa K. Woodruff, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs

Land Acknowledgment

Emily Sorroche, Ph.D.
*Associate Director, Office of Diversity Equity and Inclusion
College of Agriculture & Natural Resources*

Remarks and Induction of the Class

Samuel L. Stanley Jr., M.D.
President

Student Remarks

Jordan Kovach
*ASMSU President
Social Relations and Policy
James Madison College*

Sade Omoniyi
*International Student Association President
Accounting
Eli Broad College of Business*

Faculty Remarks

Spirals of Excellence: Food, Water, and Climate

Dr. Bruno Basso
*MSU Foundation Professor
Earth and Environmental Sciences
College of Natural Science*

Spirals of Excellence: Arts and Humanities

William T. Langford IV—aka “Will the Poet”
MSU Spartan Marching Band Drumline

Spirals of Excellence: Physics

Dr. Jonas Becker
*Jerry Cowen Chair of Experimental Physics, Assistant Professor of Physics
College of Natural Science*

Dr. Shannon Nicley
*Assistant Professor, Electrical and Computer Engineering
College of Engineering*

Introduction to Traditions

Singing of MSU Shadows and MSU Fight Song
Spartan Sur

Recessional

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MSU SHADOWS

MSU we love thy shadows when twilight
silence falls. Flushing deep and softly
paling O'er ivy covered halls. Beneath the pines
we'll gather to give our faith so true.
Sing our love of Alma Mater and thy praises MSU.

When from these scenes we
wander and twilight shadows fade,
Our memory still will linger where
light and shadows played.
In the evening oft we'll gather and
pledge our faith a new, Sing our love for
Alma Mater and our praises MSU.



SPECIAL THANKS

Announcer:

David Brown, Staff Emeritus, MSU Alumni Office

Sign Language Interpreters:

Annescia Dillard and Mieken VanderWaerden

University Mascot:

Sparty

University Student Radio Station:

Impact 89FM | WDBM-FM student radio station

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MSU Marching Band Drumline

The Spartan Marching Band (SMB), founded in 1870 as a ten-member student group, is now comprised of 300 members. It has grown into one of the premier college bands in the nation and prides itself on its musical excellence, physical toughness, and extreme precision. The band has performed for five U.S. presidents, at four Rose Bowls, at two World's Fairs, and at one World Series.

The MSU Spartan Marching Band Drumline serves as an integral unit of the MSU Marching Band, performing at all home football games as well as several exhibitions.



Bio for MSU Poet

Alumnus William “The Poet” Langford, IV ('11, College of Arts and Letters)—a modern-day poet, teaching artist, PhD student, and Fulbright scholar. The original work poem *Pamoja* (As One) conveys a message of unity for Spartans across the globe. When translated from Kiswhili to English, the poem's title *Pamoja* means as one.



SPARTAN CODE OF HONOR

ACADEMIC PLEDGE

“As a Spartan, I will strive to uphold values of the highest ethical standard. I will practice honesty in my work, foster honesty in my peers, and take pride in knowing that honor is worth more than grades. I will carry these values beyond my time as a student at Michigan State University, continuing the endeavor to build personal integrity in all that I do.”

