

COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

OF THE TOURO COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE
AT NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE

Class of 2025
6th Commencement

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21, 2025 AT 3:00 P.M.
THE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER AT PURCHASE COLLEGE
NEW YORK



Mission Statement

THE MISSION OF THE TOURO COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE AT NEW YORK MEDICAL COLLEGE IS TO GRADUATE OUTSTANDING DENTAL PROFESSIONALS WHO WILL UTILIZE A COMPLEX KNOWLEDGE BASE AND SOPHISTICATED PERCEPTUAL SKILLS TO DELIVER EXCELLENT HEALTH CARE SERVICE WITH INTEGRITY, COMPASSION, AND EMPATHY. THE SCHOOL IS DEDICATED TO CONDUCTING IMPORTANT EDUCATIONAL AND CLINICAL RESEARCH, WHILE PROVIDING EXCELLENT DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES TO THE PUBLIC.

ORDER OF PROCESSION

The Mace Bearer

The Flags of the United States, the State of New York and Touro University

The Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery

The Faculty

The Grand Marshal

The Marshals of the Hooding Ceremony

The Administration

The Military Representative

The Alumni Representative

The Presenter of the Candidates

The Dean of the Touro College of Dental Medicine

The Commencement Speaker

The President

The Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer

OFFICERS OF COMMENCEMENT

Mace Bearer

Rhonda Kaufman, DDS

Marshals of the Hooding for the College of Dental Medicine

Isidore Brody, DDS

John Browne, DDS

Joseph Browne, DDS

Jennifer Chan, DDS

Gregory Gang, DDS

Tina Tran, DDS

Marshals of the Faculty

Carla Tornatore, DDS

Shahrzad Mirafzali, DDS

Marshals of the Students

Heidi Dubois, RDH

Maureen Gallagher, DDS

Douglas Sheahan, DDS

Richard Stauber, DDS

Alumni Representative

Lana Hashim, DDS '20

FLAG BEARERS

United States of America

Emily Angelis

Class of 2026

State of New York

Veean Chen

Class of 2026

Touro University

Emma Tetelbaum

Class of 2026

PROGRAM

Processional

Introductions by the Grand Marshal

Marvin Brody, DDS

Director of Clinical Education, Touro College of Dental Medicine

The National Anthem

Instrumental

Invocation

Rabbi Moshe Krupka, MS

Executive Vice President, Touro University

Welcome

Ronnie Myers, DDS

Dean of the Touro College of Dental Medicine

Recognition of the Omicron Kappa Upsilon Inductees

Katrin Tamari, DDS

Immediate Past President, OKU

Student Greetings

Cory Golden

President, Class of 2025

Introduction of the Commencement Speaker

Aaron Yancoskie, DDS

Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, Touro College of Dental Medicine

Commencement Address

Susan W. Fox, PhD, MEd, MA

President and CEO, Westchester Institute for Human Development

Remarks and Conferring of Degrees

Alan Kadish, MD

President, Touro University

Presentation of the Candidates for the Degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery

Ronnie Myers, DDS

Dean of the Touro College of Dental Medicine

Introduction of the Candidates

Karen Longo, MPH

Senior Director of Student Affairs, Touro College of Dental Medicine

Administration of the Dental Oath

David J. Katz, DDS, FAGD, FACD

Vice Dean, Touro College of Dental Medicine

Induction into the Armed Forces

Mill Etienne, MD '02, MPH

Associate Dean for Student Affairs, New York Medical College

Remarks and Charge to the Class of 2025

Edward C. Halperin, MD, MA

Chancellor and Chief Executive Officer, New York Medical College

Recessional

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Susan Fox, BS, MEd, MA, PhD

*President & CEO, Westchester Institute for Human Development
Associate Professor of Health Policy & Management, New York Medical College*

Dr. Susan Wirka Fox is the President and CEO of the Westchester Institute for Human Development (WIHD) in Valhalla, NY, where she provides leadership and direction to achieve the Institute's mission and strategic goals. She has led WIHD for the past nine years, including the challenging years through COVID. Under her leadership, WIHD has increased its community presence, developed new service offerings to support young adults with developmental disabilities, and grown its programs and services. Dr. Fox is an Associate Professor of Health Policy & Management in NYMC's School of Health Science and Practice and serves on numerous academic committees within the School.

Susan has a Ph.D. in Sociology from the University of New Hampshire, where she also earned her Master's degrees in Sociology. In addition, she holds a Master's of Science in Educational Leadership and a Bachelor's of Science in Human Development. Her career spans over four decades, focusing on developmental services, mental health, aging, and community living. She has held significant roles such as Associate Director at the Institute on Disability, Director of the Center on Aging and Community Living, and Director of the State Division of Developmental Services in New Hampshire.

Susan is a published author with numerous articles and technical reports on aging, disability, and community services. She has been recognized with several awards, including the City and State Westchester County Power 100 and the 914 INC Women in Business Award. She is very active in community service, serving on multiple non-profit boards, and currently serving on the boards of the Business Council of Westchester and NonProfit Westchester.

Susan has three grown children and one (soon to be two) grandchild. Her oldest daughter has significant disabilities and lives in a group residence in Massachusetts.

OMICRON KAPPA UPSILON

Touro College of Dental Medicine Omicron Kappa Upsilon National Dental Honorary Society Beta Mu Chapter

Omicron Kappa Upsilon is a national dental honor society founded for the purpose of encouraging scholarship and advancing the ethical standards of the dental profession. Members of Touro College of Dental Medicine's Beta Mu Chapter are elected from the top 20 percent of the graduating class. These outstanding individuals have demonstrated potential for future professional growth and serve as examples among their peers.

2025 STUDENT INDUCTEES

Deena Abittan
Mateen Alizadeh
Vartkes Arakelian
Daniella Berlin
Jacob Buchinger
Sarah Danesh
Francesco DiNatale

Arielle Durani
Katherine Flannery
Abigail Gruneisen
Dean Guevarra
Nicole Israeli
Luna She
Uriel Waldman

2025 FACULTY INDUCTEES

Shahrzad Mirafzali, DDS
Assistant Professor of Dental Medicine

Joseph Stern, DDS
Director of Endodontics
Clinical Assistant Professor of Dental Medicine

2025 HONORARY INDUCTEE

Karen Longo, MPH
Senior Director of Student Affairs

CLASS OF 2025

DUTCHESS CLINICAL PRACTICE

Sammy Basil Ahmed

BS, Nova Southeastern University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/ Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
(New York)

Linxinyue Chen

BS, University of Rochester
General Practice Residency
New York City Health - Bellevue
(New York)

David Cho

BS, University of Washington
Private Practice (Massachusetts)

Arielle Rebecca Durani

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
Phelps Hospital/Northwell Health (New York)

Katherine Gayle Flannery

BA, The University of Virginia
MA, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
Saint Louis University Center for
Advanced Dental Education (Missouri)

Calev Yeshayahu Glick

BS, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
Hackensack University Medical Center (New Jersey)

Steven Huerta

BS, Kean University
MBS, Rutgers University
Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology
Northwell Health, North Shore University
Hospital/LIJMC (New York)

Mohammad Javid

BA, Brooklyn College, CUNY
Private Practice

Eema Manzoor

BA, Hunter College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
Northwell/Staten Island University Hospital (New York)

Geraldine Alejandra Pullas

BA, Florida International University
Private Practice
(Florida)

Lucas Resnick

BA, Hartwick College
MS, Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
VA - Hudson Valley VA Health Care System (New York)

Rachel Elizabeth Rolnick

BA, Queens College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
Hackensack University Medical Center (New Jersey)

Jordan Duraid Sahawneh

BS, Stony Brook University, SUNY
General Practice Residency
Jacobi Medical Center (New York)

Emanuel Shaddaie

BA, Binghamton University
General Practice Residency
Jacobi Medical Center (New York)

Brian Shin

BS, University of Florida
General Practice Residency
NYC H+H/Metropolitan Hospital (New York)

Deon Li Jiun Teh

BS, University at Albany, SUNY
General Practice Residency
Montefiore Medical Center (New York)

Christian Nguyen Tran

BS, Virginia Commonwealth University
Private Practice (Virginia)

Cindy Zheng

BS, Salisbury University
General Practice Residency
Staten Island University Hospital (New York)

CLASS OF 2025

ORANGE CLINICAL PRACTICE

Mateen Alizadeh

BS, University of California, Davis
Private Practice (*Connecticut*)

Ragad Alsaeed

BS, University of Michigan
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (Michigan)

Vartkes Nicholas Arakelian

BA, Stony Brook University
General Practice Residency
*Northwell Health, North Shore University Hospital/
LIJMC (New York)*

Binyamin Kalman Brill

BS, Excelsior College
Public Health
National Health Service Corp (New Jersey)

Francesco M. DiNatale

BS, Binghamton University
General Practice Residency
*Northwell Health, North Shore University Hospital/
LIJMC (New York)*

Xiaoqing Gan

BA/BS, Case Western Reserve University
Orthodontics Fellowship
The Ohio State University (Ohio)

Abigail Elaine Gruneisen

BS, Clarkson University
Public Health
National Health Service Corp

Nicole Rachel Israeli

BS, Touro College, Lander College for Women
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
Touro College of Dental Medicine (New York)

Taylor Kolish

BS, Shippensburg University
Pediatric Dentistry
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (Massachusetts)

Diana Josefina Laukamg

BA, Queens College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Jeremy Judah Lichter

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
Jamaica Hospital Medical Center (New York)

I-Mu Lin

BS/ME, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
Private Practice (*California*)

Tatum Lea McGann

BS, The Ohio State University
Pediatric Dentistry
Jacobi Medical Center (New York)

Isai Morgado

BA, The City College of New York, CUNY
General Practice Residency
Open Door Family Medical Center (New York)

Yehudis Newman

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
*Northwell Health, Staten Island University Hospital
(New York)*

Ruyu Ning*

BS, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
General Dentistry
Army Dental Corps (New York)

Shayan Solomon Porooshasp

BS, College of Mount Saint Vincent
Pediatric Dentistry
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (New York)

Armita Saneii

BS, University of California, San Diego
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

*Armed Forces Inductee

CLASS OF 2025

PUTNAM CLINICAL PRACTICE

Abraham Moshe Brandel

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Victoria Estelle Burns

BS, Long Island University C.W. Post
Pediatric Dentistry
Stony Brook School of Dental Medicine (New York)

Noor Chalabi

BS, George Mason University
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (New Jersey)

Sarah Leah Danesh

University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Private Practice (*Maryland*)

Graziella Maria De Monte

BS, The University of Iowa
General Practice Residency
Loyola University Medical Center (Illinois)

Dean Edward Guevarra

BS, University of Connecticut
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery
Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (New Jersey)

Rachel Hahn

BS, Cornell University
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Dillon Hebertson

BS, Brigham Young University
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Internship Non-Categorical
Rutgers School of Dental Medicine (New Jersey)

Jenna Lori Kahn

BS, University at Buffalo
General Practice Residency
The Queen's Medical Center (Hawaii)

Gi Nam Kim

BS, University of Maryland, College Park
General Practice Residency
Jersey City Medical Center (New Jersey)

Minkyu Kim

BS, Brandeis University
Private Practice (*Massachusetts*)

Shaina Rachel Lavi

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Noah David Lebovitz

BS, Muhlenberg College
General Practice Residency
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center (New Jersey)

Kyle Scott MacKey

BS, The University of Tampa
Pediatric Dentistry
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (Arizona)

Adam Mustafa

BS, University of South Florida
Private Practice (*Florida*)

Vasyl Nayda

BA, Drew University
MS, Rutgers the State University of New Jersey
Prosthodontics
NYU College of Dentistry (New York)

Jessica Lindsay Rodrigues

BS, University of California, San Diego
Private Practice (*New Jersey*)

Gidon Y. Sher

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
Jamaica Hospital Medical Center (New York)

Uriel Mordechai Waldman

BS, Touro College
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
CTOR Academy (New Jersey)

CLASS OF 2025

ROCKLAND CLINICAL PRACTICE

David Arkow

BS, Stony Brook University, SUNY
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

Jamie Chen

BS, University at Buffalo, SUNY
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

Albert Gendy

BA, New York University
General Practice Residency
Montefiore Medical Center (New York)

Cory Andrew Golden

BS, Syracuse University
MS, New York University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/ Weill Cornell Medical Center (New York)

Emily Thucdan Huynh

BS, University of California, Irvine
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (California)

Aaron Kaplan

BA, Queens College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
One Brooklyn Health (New York)

Sandra Dina Kashani

BS, St. John's University
General Practice Residency
Nassau University Medical Center (New York)

Artaza Muhammad Khan

BA, University of Maryland, Baltimore County
Private Practice (*Maryland*)

Joshua Aaron Konikoff

BA, University of Miami
General Practice Residency
NYC H+H/Metropolitan Hospital (New York)

Ryan Lavi

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
Jamaica Hospital Medical Center (New York)

Jeong Mok Lee

BS, University of California, Berkeley
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Benjamin Leitman

BS, York University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Nicole Marcus

BA, University of Colorado, Boulder
MS, New York Medical College
General Practice Residency
Harlem Hospital Center (New York)

Yakira Markovich

BS, Binghamton University, SUNY
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Weill Cornell Medical Center (New York)

Michael Aharon Mokhtar

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

Daniel Mullokandov

BS, Touro College
MS, New York Medical College
Pediatric Dentistry
BronxCare Health System (New York)

Sarah Michelle Porgess

BS, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

Daniel Steinberger

BA, Touro College
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (New York)

Hyeji Yoon

BS, Adelphi University
General Practice Residency
One Brooklyn Health (New York)

CLASS OF 2025

SULLIVAN CLINICAL PRACTICE

Mohammad Alomari

BS, University of Illinois, Chicago
Private Practice (*Illinois*)

Maryam Arshad

BS, Siena College
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
VA - Hudson Valley VA Health Care System
(*New York*)

Nicolas Joseph Belmonte

BS, Binghamton University, SUNY
General Practice Residency
Montefiore Medical Center (*New York*)

Anya Renae Braverman

BA, University of Delaware
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Brooklyn Methodist Hospital
(*New York*)

Alexander John Constantine

BS, Manhattan College
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Columbia University Med Ctr
(*New York*)

Zirou Deng

BS, McMaster University
General Practice Residency
Westchester Medical Center (*New York*)

Shoshana Genack

BA, Touro College
General Practice Residency
Northwell Health, North Shore University
Hospital/LIJMC (*New York*)

Samantha Golod

BS, The College of New Jersey
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
Roseman University of Health Science (*Nevada*)

Yejin Hwang

BS, University of Georgia
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Lovejit Kaur

BS, New York Institute of Technology
Private Practice (*Pennsylvania*)

Danny Khaimov

BA, Brooklyn College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
Maimonides Medical Center (*New York*)

Hasan Kuliev

BA, Hunter College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
Woodhull Medical Center (*New York*)

Zachary Z. Mann

BS, Touro College
Private Practice (*New Jersey*)

Saul B. Schnitzler

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
Staten Island University Hospital (*New York*)

Ali Shambayati

BA, University of Dallas
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Luna Ruoxuan She

BS, University of Maryland, College Park
General Practice Residency
St. Barnabas Hospital (*New York*)

Jisoo Suh

BA, University of Southern California
Private Practice (*Washington*)

Aron Yakov Yaghar

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
Nassau University Medical Center (*New York*)

Bryan Ho Sing Zhong

BS, University of California, Los Angeles
Private Practice (*Maine*)

CLASS OF 2025

WESTCHESTER CLINICAL PRACTICE

Deena Esther Abittan

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Boushra Belkhir

BS, Marist College
General Practice Residency
University of Colorado School of Medicine (Colorado)

Daniella Shayne Berlin

BA, Yeshiva University
Pediatric Dentistry
Jacobi Medical Center (New York)

Joseph Bizar

BS, University of Washington
Advanced Education in General Dentistry Programs
NYU Langone Dental Medicine (Washington)

Tovah Gitel Blank

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Jacob Buchinger

BS, Touro College
Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery Internship
Non-Categorical
St. Joseph's University Medical Center (New Jersey)

Michael Craig Gabay

BA, Yeshiva University
General Practice Residency
Harlem Hospital Center (New York)

Kash Ghadirian

BS, University of Houston
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Allison B. Goldblatt

BS, Touro College
General Practice Residency
Open Door Family Medical Center (New York)

Hiba Samar Iqbal

BS, University of Rochester
Private Practice (*Texas*)

Michael Krivichkin

BS, University of Michigan
General Practice Residency
Newark Beth Israel Medical Center (New Jersey)

Amy Misawa

DDM, Tsurumi University, Japan

Lizabeth Neshiwat

BS, Iona College
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Diana Passariello

BS, Binghamton University, SUNY
General Practice Residency
Montefiore Medical Center (New York)

Karishma Patel

BS, University of Florida
Private Practice (*Florida*)

Erika Elizabeth Pimentel

BS, St. Joseph's University
General Practice Residency
*Northwell Health, North Shore University Hospital/
LIJMC (New York)*

Stephanie Rachaf

BS, Binghamton University, SUNY
Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics
Touro College of Dental Medicine (New York)

Patricia Lien Romero Chirino

BS, Florida International University
Private Practice (*Florida*)

Vimaxi Shah

BDS, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, India
Private Practice (*New Jersey*)

Esther Rivkah Shimunov

BA, Queens College, CUNY
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

Rachel Sheindl Wildstein

BA, Yeshiva University
BA, Stern College for Women
General Practice Residency
New York-Presbyterian/Queens Hospital (New York)

CLASS OF 2025

ADVANCED STANDING

Vimaxi Shah

BDS, Krishna Institute of Medical Sciences, India
Private Practice (*New Jersey*)

Amy Misawa

DDM, Tsurumi University, Japan

AWARDS

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

American Student Dental Association (ASDA) Award of Excellence

Alexander Constantine

International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award - USA Section

Jeremy Lichter

Dr. Jeanne C. Sinkford Student Leadership Award

Abigail Gruneisen

Touro College of Dental Medicine Rabbi Lander Humanitarian Award

Katherine Flannery

New York Academy of Dentistry Annual Student Ethics and Professionalism Award

Binyamin Brill

CLINICAL EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Touro College of Dental Medicine Clinical Excellence and Professionalism Award

Arielle Durani

Tatum McGann

Graziella DeMonte

Cory Golden

Zirou Deng

Jacob Buchinger

Marc Rosenblum Award for Excellence in Operative Dentistry

Calev Glick

Diana Laukamg

Sarah Danesh

Joshua Konikoff

Shoshana Genack

Vimaxi Shah

The American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Student Award of Merit

Daniel Steinberger

Academy of General Dentistry: Future Leader in General Dentistry Award

Francesco DiNatale

AWARDS

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Implant Dentistry

Vasyl Nayda

Dr. Jay Rubin Award for Care & Compassionate Dentistry

Abigail Gruneisen

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Dental Patients with Special Needs

Allison Goldblatt

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Orthodontics

Samantha Golod

American Association of Orthodontics Academic Excellence Award

Stephanie Rachaf

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Endodontics

Zachary Mann

New York State Association of Endodontists Student Achievement Award

Maryam Arshad

The American Association of Endodontists Award

Sarah Danesh

Jay Goldsmith Award for Excellence in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Abigail Gruneisen

American Association of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Student Award

Alexander Constantine

New York State Society of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons Outstanding Student Award

Dillon Hebertson

ACOMS: William H. Bell Award for Predoctoral Achievement in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

Dean Guevarra

Academy of Laser Dentistry Student Award

Vartkes Arakelian

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Digital Dentistry

Emanuel Shaddaie

The Academy of Operative Dentistry Student Award

Lucas Resnick

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics

Daniel Steinberger

AWARDS

The American Prosthodontic Society Student of Merit Award

Vasyl Nayda

ICOI Student Achievement Award

Francesco DiNatale

American Academy of Orofacial Pain Outstanding Senior Award

Uriel Waldman

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Award

Dean Guevarra

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Pathology

Noah Lebovitz

The American Academy of Oral Medicine Certificate of Merit

Artaza Khan

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Dental Student Award

Steven Huerta

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Dental Radiology

Erika Pimentel

The American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Achievement Award

Nicole Israeli

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Pediatric Dentistry

Taylor Kolish

AAPD Certificate of Merit Predoctoral Student Award

Victoria Burns

The Pierre Fauchard Academy Senior Student Award

Nicole Israeli

**American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) Dental Student Recognition Award
for Achievement in Community Dentistry and Dental Public Health**

Abigail Gruneisen

Dental Lifeline: Brian D. Stone Memorial Award

David Arkow

Touro College of Dental Medicine Award for Excellence in Research

Jordan Sahawneh

TRADITION OF ACADEMIC ATTIRE & THE MACE

The tradition of academic regalia is as old as organized learning. Academic attire had its origins in the medieval universities of Europe, particularly Oxford and Cambridge, where students and faculty donned clerical gowns because of the two universities' close connection with the church. Worn every day, the gowns not only identified academic disciplines but also provided warmth in poorly heated buildings. While the early code of academic attire dates back to the days of Henry VIII, it wasn't until the late 19th century when specific colors were assigned to each discipline.

At American colleges and universities today, formal academic attire consists of three elements: the cap, the gown and the hood. The velvet academic tam distinguishes those holding a doctoral degree while others wear a black mortarboard. The tassel should be either black or the color of the academic discipline. A black tassel indicates a master's degree and gold signifies the doctorate.

The bachelor's gown, designed to be worn closed, may be recognized by its pointed sleeves. The master's gown has somewhat longer, oblong-shaped sleeves, which are worn open at the wrist. The robe for the doctorate has bell-shaped sleeves, designed with fasteners so they may be worn open or closed. The gowns for the bachelor's and master's degrees are not trimmed, whereas the gown for the doctorate degree is trimmed down the front with black velvet and on the sleeves with three velvet bars. These velvet trimmings may correspond with the color of the graduate's academic discipline. Gowns being adorned today by Touro College of Dental Medicine graduates are made of recycled materials, including post-consumer plastic bottles to reduce the environmental impact of everyday life.

The hood is the most colorful feature of academic attire. The colors in the satin lining are those approved and authorized by the college or university where the degree was earned. The length of the hood and width of its velvet border indicate the level of degree held, while the color of the border indicates the degree earned. The hooding ceremony signifies a scholarly personal achievement. Graduated members (senior leaders, faculty, and special hooders) of the profession place the hood on the student as a symbol of their passage from student status to graduate status.

The official colors of the fields of learning that may be represented in the academic procession are listed below. For the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) degree, dark blue is used regardless of the field of specialization.

○ Arts, Humanities: White	● Library Science: Lemon Yellow	● Public Health: Salmon Pink
● Business: Light Brown	● Medicine: Green	● Science: Goldenrod
● Dentistry: Lilac	● Pharmacy: Olive Green	● Social Work: Peach
● Economics: Copper	● Physical Therapy: Teal	● Theology: Divinity Scarlet
● Education: Light Blue	● Psychology: Dark Blue	● Veterinary Science: Gray
● Law: Purple	● Public Administration: Peacock Blue	

The use of the mace in formal collegial processions dates from thousands of years ago. In medieval times, the mace was used as a weapon of war or was borne by a royal bodyguard to precede the king in processions. By the 1500s, maces lost their warlike appearance and, decorated with jewels and precious metals, were used more for ceremonial functions.

The ceremonial mace, usually about four feet in length, survives today as a symbol of authority. Notable instances of its use are found in the sessions of the British House of Commons, where it is placed on the treasury table, and in the sessions of the United States House of Representatives, where it is placed to the right of the Speaker.

In 1985, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of New York Medical College, Honorable and Mrs. Emil Mosbacher commissioned Tiffany & Co. to create a new mace for the College. The mace was made from walnut wood that was removed from the building, located at the corner of Third Avenue and 20th Street in Manhattan, in which the College was originally housed in 1860. The mace is 42 inches long and contains silver engravings of the College seal on two sides. On the other two sides are William Cullen Bryant, the founder of the College (originally known as the Homeopathic Medical College of the State of New York in the City of New York), and Samuel Hahnemann, the father of homeopathic medicine.

TOURO COLLEGE OF DENTAL MEDICINE OATH

I PUBLICLY ACKNOWLEDGE AND ACCEPT
THE PRIVILEGES AND RESPONSIBILITIES GIVEN TO ME TODAY AS A DENTIST
AND DEDICATE MYSELF TO PROVIDE CARE TO THOSE IN NEED.

I PLEDGE MY UTMOST EFFORT TO ACQUIRE THE
KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS, ATTITUDES, AND BEHAVIOR REQUIRED
FOR THE PRACTICE OF DENTISTRY, EMBRACING OPPORTUNITIES
TO LEARN FROM PATIENTS, TEACHERS, AND COLLEAGUES.

I WILL SEEK NEW KNOWLEDGE AND TEACH WHAT I HAVE LEARNED.

I WILL ACKNOWLEDGE MY LIMITATIONS AND MY MISTAKES
SO THAT I MAY LEARN FROM THEM.

I WILL RESPECT ALL PATIENTS AS INDIVIDUALS,
WITHOUT REGARD TO GENDER, RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN,
RELIGION, OR SEXUAL ORIENTATION.

I WILL EMBRACE THE HIGHEST STANDARDS OF THE DENTAL PROFESSION
AND PLEDGE TO CONDUCT MYSELF ACCORDINGLY
IN ALL OF MY INTERACTIONS.

I WILL ALWAYS PLACE THE NEEDS OF MY PATIENTS ABOVE MY OWN.

I WILL USE MY SKILLS TO CARE FOR ALL IN NEED,
WITHOUT BIAS AND WITH OPENNESS OF SPIRIT.

I WILL STRIVE TO ALLEVIATE SUFFERING. EVEN UNDER DURESS,
I WILL NOT USE MY KNOWLEDGE OR SKILLS AGAINST HUMANITY.

TO UPHOLD THESE RESPONSIBILITIES,
I WILL MAINTAIN MY OWN WELL-BEING
AND THE WELL-BEING OF THOSE CLOSE TO ME.

I AM COMMITTED TO MAKE MYSELF A TRUSTWORTHY DENTIST
WHO WILL PRACTICE DENTISTRY WITH EXCELLENCE, INTEGRITY,
AND DEVOTION TO MY PATIENT.

I COMMIT MYSELF TO A LIFE THAT WILL BRING HONOR TO MY PROFESSION.

I MAKE THESE PROMISES SOLEMNLY, FREELY, AND UPON MY HONOR.

