



Fall
Convocation
November 18, 2021



UNIVERSITY OF
TORONTO

University of Toronto Fall Convocation 2021

Virtual Ceremony Program

U of T Welcome Ambassadors

Procession

Land Acknowledgement

Chancellor convenes Convocation

Admission to Degrees *in absentia*

President's Remarks

Convocation Address to the Class of 2021

Closing Remarks

O Canada

Recession

U of T Divisional Student Ambassadors and Academic Leaders

Scrolling of the names and degrees of the Class of 2021

Chancellor's Procession

Dr. Rose M. Patten
Chancellor

Professor Meric S. Gertler
President

Mr. Brian Lawson
Chair of the Governing Council

Mr. Andrew Chen
Student Governor

Ms Mozynah Nofal
Student Governor

Mr. David Simon
Organist

Convocation Speaker

Mr. Lesra Martin

Of his eight siblings, Lesra Martin is the only one with a high school diploma. He completed high school as an Ontario scholar in 1983 and received an Honours B.A. from the University of Toronto in 1988. He earned his law degree from Dalhousie Law School in 1997 and was admitted to the British Columbia Bar in 1998.

Lesra began his law career in Vancouver and subsequently served as a Crown Prosecutor in Kamloops, British Columbia. Now, he practices primarily in the area of civil litigation. He is a co-founder and partner at Martin & Martin Lawyers, a practice he shares with his wife, Cheryl Martin. Lesra is a member of the Canadian Bar Association and the Trial Lawyers Association of BC.

Lesra is perhaps most known for his role in assisting to free famous US boxer, Rubin “Hurricane” Carter. Lesra’s life story was co-featured in the Hollywood motion picture, *The Hurricane* starring Denzel Washington. The National Film Board of Canada has also produced a documentary on Lesra’s life entitled, *The Journey of Lesra Martin*.

In his keynote presentations to corporate, community, and educational groups, Lesra often shares inspirational life lessons from his book, *The Power of a Promise*. Lesra has addressed an international convention of world leaders held at Cambridge University. He was also invited to speak to the General Assembly delegates at the United Nations, where he gave an impassioned speech about the devastating effects of illiteracy and poverty. Lesra has been featured on countless television and radio shows, most notably as a special guest on *The Oprah Winfrey Show* and the *Larry King Live Show*. *The Washington Post*, *Sports Illustrated* and *Reader’s Digest Magazine* have chronicled aspects of Lesra’s life.

Lesra has received numerous awards and certificates of recognition for his willingness to be a role model and mentor for youth. “The power to make a difference exists in each of us,” he tells audiences.

Credits and Acknowledgements

U of T Welcome Ambassadors

Amna Adnan

(UTM)

Devlin Grewal

(UTSC)

Khaled Elemam

(St. George)

Divisional Student Ambassadors and Academic Leaders

Faculty of Applied Science and Engineering

Samantha Cheung | Christopher Yip, Dean

John H. Daniels Faculty of Architecture, Landscape, and Design

Lily Lawson | Juan Du, Dean

Faculty of Arts and Science

Prathit Dave | Melanie Woodin, Dean

Innis College

Joshua Staynor | Charlie Keil, Principal

New College

Terrence Amponsah | Bonnie McElhinny, Principal

St. Michael's College

Idara Okon | David Sylvester, President and Vice-Chancellor

University of St. Michael's College

Trinity College

Mailey Jean Michel | Mayo Moran, Provost and Vice-Chancellor

University College

Khaled Elemam | Markus Stock, Principal

Victoria College

Rena Seeger | William Robins, President and Vice-Chancellor

Victoria University

Woodsworth College

Setareh Malekian Naeini | Carol Chin, Principal

Divisional Student Ambassadors and Academic Leaders (cont'd)

Faculty of Dentistry

Fang-Chi Li | Daniel Haas, Dean

Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy

Jessica Rapson | Peter Loewen, Director

School of Graduate Studies

Faraz Alidina | Joshua Barker, Dean

Faculty of Information

Gillian Jiajing Shi | Wendy Duff, Dean

Faculty of Kinesiology and Physical Education

Brenaven Kugamoorthy | Gretchen Kerr, Dean

Faculty of Law

Anil Nair | Jutta Brunnée, Dean

Rotman School of Management

Marcin Zegarmistrz | Susan Christoffersen, Dean

Temerty Faculty of Medicine

Jennifer Hutter | Patricia Houston, Acting Dean

Faculty of Music

Aishwarya Patel | Ellie M. Hisama, Dean

Lawrence S. Bloomberg Faculty of Nursing

Yukei Ng | Linda Johnston, Dean

Ontario Institute for Studies in Education

Janelle Brady | Normand Labrie, Interim Dean

Leslie Dan Faculty of Pharmacy

Julian Gilmore | Lisa Dolovich, Dean

Dalla Lana School of Public Health

Courtney-Brooke Laurie | Adalsteinn Brown, Dean

Factor-Inwentash Faculty of Social Work

Annalicia Skeete | Lin Fang, PhD Program Director

University of Toronto Mississauga

Kaeliana Smoke | Alexandra Gillespie, Vice-President and Principal

University of Toronto Scarborough

Alin Condescu | William A. Gough, Vice-Principal Academic and Dean

Music Acknowledgements

We thank the following for their contributions:

Composer | **Aaron Tsang** (BMus '07, MMus '09),
Faculty of Music, composed the soundtrack music
in honour of the Class of 2021

UTogether 2021: A Convocation Tribute © 2021 Aaron Tsang

Carillunist | **Roy Lee** (JD '04)

Vive La Canadienne from *Commentaires folkloriques*, by Émilien Allard
© 1991 The Guild of Carillonneurs in North America
(www.gcna.org SKU 01338)
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Carillunist | **Elisa Tersigni** (MA '08, PhD '18)

Gaudeamus Igitur (So Let Us Rejoice), traditional graduation hymn,
arranged by Elisa Tersigni

Organist | **David Simon** (BMus '15, MM '17)

Processional: Grande Marche Triomphale, O. 47, *Alexandre Guilmant*

Recessional: Sonata, Op. 65, No. 4 in B Flat;
Allegro Maestoso e Vivace, *Felix Mendelssohn*

O Canada

Composed by Calixa Lavallée (1842–1891)
Arranged by John Fenwick (1932–1993), BMus 1954, MMus 1956
Performed by the University of Toronto Symphony Orchestra and
the University of Toronto Wind Ensemble

Faculty of Music

Uri Mayer, Professor, Conductor of UTSO

Gillian MacKay, Professor, Director of the Wind Ensemble

Lorenzo Guggenheim, DMA Candidate, Assistant Conductor, UTSO

Jeff Wolpert, Audio Engineer, Adjunct Professor, Music Technology & Digital Media

Peter Olsen, Technical Director, Walter Hall

Special thanks to:

Ellie M. Hisama, Dean and Professor, Faculty of Music

Jehanbakhsh (John) R. Jasavala, Director, Artistic Outreach, Faculty of Music

We wish to also thank:

Campus Events

True Blue, Official Mascot of the U of T Varsity Blues

UTM Eagle, Official Mascot of U of T Mississauga Campus

Rex the Raccoon, Official Mascot of the
U of T Scarborough Campus Students' Union

Additional drone footage courtesy of the
Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy

**The U of T Virtual Convocation Ceremony
is a production of:**

The Office of Convocation in the Office of the Governing Council

The Offices of the President and the Chancellor

University of Toronto Communications