

Yale University  
Honorary Degree Honorands  
1977-2020 (a)

Year	Master of Arts (M.A. Privatim)(b)	Doctor of Divinity (D.D.)	Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)	Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)	Doctor of Humanities (DHum)	Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)	Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.)	Doctor of Medical Science (D.M.S.)	Doctor of Music (Mus.D)	Doctor of Science (Sc.D.) (Soc.Sc.D)	Total Honorary Degrees	
1977	25		Louise Bourgeois	Gerald M. Durrell J. H. Franklin James Reston		Kingman Brewster, Jr. Mairead Corrigan Gerald R. Ford Peter Ramsbotham Irving S. Shapiro Betty Williams	Edward Bond Paul Horgan		B.B. King	Seymour Benzer	39	
1978	32	Gershon Scholem Raul S. Henriquez	Philip Johnson	Nancy Hanks Meyer Schapiro		John R. Evans Hanna H. Gray Gabriel Hauge	Joseph Brodsky			Paul Berg George B. Dantzig William W. Morgan	44	
1979	35	Pauli Murray	Robert Venturi Mikhail Baryshnikov	Herman Liebaers J. Irwin Miller		Tom Bradley Reginald H. Jones Justine W. Polier	Robert S. Fitzgerald		Leontyne Price	Franz J. Ingelfinger Steven Weinberg	George A. Miller	48
1980	13	L.J. Suenens	Lucia Chase	Danny Kaye N. Scott Momaday		Frank M. Johnson, Jr. John Miller Musser Abraham A. Ribicoff Simone Veil	Wole Soyinka		D. Fischer-Dieskau	Roald Hoffmann John G. Thompson		25
1981	20	George W. Webber	H. Frankenthaler	Fernand Braudel Sherman E. Lee		Shirley M. Hufsteler Damon J. Keith Brian Urquhart	Sterling A. Brown Elie Wiesel		Itzhak Perlman	Harish-Chandra Charles Yanofsky	Frederick Mosteller	33
1982	32		James Earl Jones	James Laughlin Maureen O'Donnell		Philip C. Habib C. William Verity, Jr.	James Merrill		Benny Goodman	Virginia Henderson Barbara McClintock J. Tuzo Wilson	Marcel P. Boiteux	43
1983	33	Joseph Bernardin	Athol Fugard Meryl Streep	Bernard M.W. Knox		Lloyd N. Cutler A.L. Higginbotham				Paul B. MacCreedy Shella Sherlock	Sir W. Arthur Lewis	42
1984	25	Allan A. Boesak Gerson D. Cohen	Maria Tallchief	David S. Broder		Tommy T.B. Koh John R. Opel Bayard Rustin Paul A. Volcker	John Hersey			Philip Leder	Alice M. Rivlin	36
1985	25	Ernst Kasemann		Arnaldo Momigliano Jerzy Turowicz Joe Wood		Howard H. Baker, Jr. Marian W. Edelman Ellen Ash Peters Shridath S. Ramphal	Toni Morrison		Frederica von Stade	Wolfgang Panofsky	Austin Ranney	37
1986	22	Jaime L. Sin	Jacob Lawrence	A. Bartlett Giamatti Helen F. North Roger T. Peterson H.J. Polotsky		William S. Beinecke Daniel Oduber	Nadine Gordimer		Ella Fitzgerald	Donald Henderson Daniel Nathans	Robert M. Solow	35
1987	17	James I. McCord	Maya Ying Lin	Felix Gilbert		William J. Brennan, Jr. Charles Mathias, Jr. Constance B. Motley			Yo-Yo Ma	Michael E. Fisher Matthew Meselson	Gerard Debreu Clifford Geertz	28
1988	26		Suzanne Farrell	Anne T. Macdonald Paul Newman		Robert M. Ball Harold T. Shapiro	August Wilson		William Schuman	Donald W. Seldin Charles H. Townes		35
1989	28	Robert A.K. Runcie C.F. Beyers Nande	Saul Steinberg Sir Anthony Caro	Sir Isaiah Berlin Rhetaugh G. Dumas Marek Edelman Eugene Lang		Lewis F. Powell, Jr.			Celia Cruz	Stephen Hawking Frank Press	Ronald H. Coase	41
1990	40	Frederick Buechner		Irving Harris Gertrude Himmelfarb Wilma Mankiller				Jonathan E. Rhoads	Jessye Norman	C. Nusslein-Volhard Vera C. Rubin	David Blackwell Albert O. Hirschman	50
1991	32		John Crosby	Russell Baker Johanna B. Cole George Soros		George H. W. Bush W. Edwards Deming Herbert Wechsler			Lukas Foss	Elizabeth Blackburn		41
1992	34		Nancy S. Graves	Kenneth N. Dayton M. Isolina Ferré		Teddy Kollek Vytautas Landsbergis Neil L. Rudenstein	Nina Berberova Edward Shils	M. Joycelyn Elders June Elaine Osborn	Alfred Brendel	Francis S. Collins Walter E. Massey		47

Yale University  
Honorary Degree Honorands  
1977-2020 (a)

Year	Master of Arts (M.A. Privatim)(b)	Doctor of Divinity (D.D.)	Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)	Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)	Doctor of Humanities (DHum)	Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)	Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.)	Doctor of Medical Science (D.M.S.)	Doctor of Music (Mus.D)	Doctor of Science (Sc.D.)	Doctor of Social Science (Soc.Sc.D)	Total Honorary Degrees
1993	33	Rembert Weakland		Arthur R. Ashe P. Richardson Bass James T. Laney Deborah W. Meier		Elena Bonner Howard R. Lamar	A. Alistair Cooke J. de Romilly			Robert McC. May	Aaron Wildavsky	44
1994	35		Martin Puryear	G.I. Tantaquidgeon		Jack B. Weinstein	Mario Vargas Llosa	Robert E. Cooke	Kurt Masur	Maxine Singer	Amos Tversky	43
1995	25	Martin E. Marty	Kevin Roche	Yvon Chouinard J. R. Dilworth		Lowell Weicker, Jr.	Frank Kermode	Margaret C. Heagerty Florence S. Wald	Wynton Marsalis			34
1996	25		Charles T. Close	S.E. Schmidheiny Eunice K. Shriver		Richard Posner		Dr. Benjamin Carson	Paul Simon	Jack Kilby	Eleanor J. Gibson	33
1997	29	Bishop C.F.X. Belo	Jodie Foster Judith Jamison	Roberto Goizueta Eddie Robinson		Mary Robinson	Maurice Sendak	Dr. Alfred Gilman		Mario J. Molina		38
1998	28	Bartholomew I		Lena Horn Sadako Ogata Fredrick P. Rose			Gerda Lerner David McCullough		Robert L. Shaw	Edward O. Wilson	Muhammad Yunus	37
1999	37	Barbara Harris	Julie Andrews	Alan Greenspan S. Roger Horchow		Aharon Barak Helen Suzman	Seamus J. Heaney	Dr. J. B. Richmond		Bruce Alberts Charles Kuen Kao		47
2000	40	Desmond M. Tutu	Frank O. Gehry	William F. Buckley, Jr.		Gerhard Casper Daniel P. Moynihan Hugh B. Price	Tom Stoppard Helen Vendler	Dr. Samuel O. Thier			Marie de la Soudiere	50
2001	38		Arthur Mitchell Samuel A. Waterston	Richard J. Franke Ellen V. Futter		George W. Bush Robert E. Rubin Ernesto Z. Ponce de Leon Patricia M. Wald	Sir Bernard A.O. Williams		Dawn K. Upshaw	Evelyn B. Granville Dr. Harold E. Varmus		48
2002	46	William Sloane Coffin		Steven Spielberg		Robert L. Carter	Robert Fagles	Jeanne Q. Benoliel		Gordon E. Moore Shirley M. Tilghman	Ela Ramesh Bhatt Claude Mason Steele Lawrence H. Summers	58
2003	41	David Hartman	Norman Foster	Robert Louis Bernstein William H. Cosby Jr.		John Hart Ely Ruth Bader Ginsburg	Nell Irvin Painter	Anthony S. Fauci	Krzysztof Penderecki	Sydney Brenner	Amartya Kumar Sen	69
2004	46		Lee Friedlander	Nannerl Keohane Willie Mays Wangari Maathai			Tom Wolfe	Bernard Fisher		David Baltimore	Jan Assmann	54
2005	29		David Hockney	Robert DeVecchi Mamphele Ramphele		Bryan A. Stevenson		William H. Foege		Jacqueline K. Barton Andrew J. Wiles	Paul A. Samuelson	37
2006	35	Moshe Idel	Zaha Hadid	John Ennis Pepper, Jr.	Peter Brown	Sandra Day O'Connor	Edward Albee	Nancy Sabin Wexler		Peter Raven		44
2007	43		Julie Harris	F. H. Abed Richard Gilder	M. H. Abrams	Pius Nkonzo Langa	Peter Matthiessen	Mary-Claire King	Emanuel Ax	Robert Langer	John A. Ferejohn	53
2008	73	Mercy Amba Oduyoye	Cesar Pelli	Rajendra Kumar Pachauri	Drew Gilpin Faust	Carla Anderson Hills	John Ashbery		Sir Paul McCartney	Martin Rees		81

**Yale University**  
**Honorary Degree Honorands**  
**1977-2020 (a)**

Year	Master of Arts (M.A. Privativum)(b)	Doctor of Divinity (D.D.)	Doctor of Engineering & Technology (established in 2011)	Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.)	Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.)	Doctor of Humanities (DHum)	Doctor of Laws (LL.D.)	Doctor of Letters (Litt. D.)	Doctor of Medical Sciences (D.M.S.)	Doctor of Music (Mus.D)	Doctor of Science (Sc.D.)	Doctor of Social Science (Soc.Sc.D)	Total Honorary Degrees
2009	42	Gustavo Gutierrez		Bill T. Jones Richard Serra	Alison F. Richard Bill Drayton		Hillary Rodham Clinton	John Angus McPhee	Leroy E. Hood	Sofia Gubaidulina		Thomas C. Schelling	52
2010	39			Zhang Yimou	David Levin Michael Feinberg	Robert Alter	Ellen Johnson Sirleaf	Orhan Pamuk	Michael Rutter	Aretha Franklin	Steven Chu	Marilyn Strathern	49
2011	41		Douglas Engelbart	Martin Scorsese	Gro Harlem Brundtland	John Heilbron	George J. Mitchell	Joan Didion	Richard Peto Janet Rowley	Youssou Ndour		Chris Argyris	51
2012	27	Angelika Neuwirth			Robert M. Gates	Robert C. Darnton	Margaret H. Marshall	Richard Wilbur	Aaron T. Beck	Midori Goto	Jane Lubchenco	William J. Wilson	36
2013	27	Elizabeth Clark	Vinton Cerf	William Kentridge	Richard C. Levin Frederick Smith	Natalie Zemon Davis	Sonia Sotomayor	Edwidge Danticat		John Adams		Esther Duflo	37
2014	40		Sir Timothy Berners-Lee	Anna Deavere Smith	David F. Swensen	Ramachandra Guha	Michael H. Posner	Rita Dove	Huda Y. Zoghbi	Joseph W. Polisi Ralph Stanley	Elliot M. Meyerowitz Ahmed H. Zewail	Daniel Kahneman	52
2015	61		Dean Kamen Elon Musk		Larry Kramer Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala	Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak			Jeffrey Michael Friedman	Algelique Kidjo	Peter Schultz	Janet Yellen	70
2016	30	David Saperstein		George C. Wolfe	Calvin Hill Alice Waters	Arnold Rampersad	Rosalie Silberman Abella	Haruki Murakami		Audra McDonald	Jennifer Doudna		39
2017	87		Irwin Jacobs				John Kerry John R. Lewis	Ngugi wa Thiong'o		Martin Alsop Stevie Wonder	Cornelia Bargmann	Jessie Little Doe Baird	58
2018	50	Rowan Williams	Judea Pearl	Angela Evelyn Bassett	Neil deGrasse Tyson	Laura Mulvey		Elizabeth Alexander Marilynne Robinson	Richard P. Lifton	Willie Ruff		Frans de Waal	60
2019	39	Sister Helen Prejean		Carmen de Lavallade Sheila Hicks	James A. Baker, III Gloria Steinem Indra K. Nooyi Strive Masiyiwa	Mary Beard		Chimamanda Adichie			Lawrence S. Bacow	Cynthia Moss	50
2020	65		Michael I. Jordan	Ming Cho Lee	Christiana Figueres		Jerome Alan Cohen	Paula Vogel	Jim Allison	Herbie Hancock Renée Fleming	Svante Pääbo		74

Notes:

(a) The following honorary degrees may be awarded by vote of the Corporation: Master of Arts (M.A.), Master of Science (M.S.), Doctor of Divinity (D.D.), Doctor of Science (Sc.D.), Doctor of Medical Sciences (D.M.S.), Doctor of Social Science (Soc.Sc.D.), Doctor of Music (Mus.D.), Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.), Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.), Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.), and Doctor of Laws.

(b) Yale traditionally confers the honorary Master of Arts (Privativum) degree upon those appointed to the rank of Professor in the University who have not previously received Masters or Doctoral degrees from Yale. The tradition of awarding these degrees began in 1872.

Source: Office of the Secretary (Heather Calabrese)

W015\_Degs\_Hon

Last updated (11/18/2020)