8th Annual
Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence
Celebration of Achievement

Thursday, April 26, 2012
Ted Mann Concert Hall
University of Minnesota
MULTICULTURAL CENTER FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE
The Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence develops and fosters inclusive, coherent learning for undergraduates at the University of Minnesota through educational support programs, community engagement and cultural activities.
mcae.umn.edu

OFFICE FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY
The Office for Equity and Diversity leverages the transformative power of equity and diversity to advance excellence in teaching, research and community engagement at the University of Minnesota. The Office for Equity and Diversity includes: Business & Community Economic Development; Disability Services; the Office for Equal Opportunity and Affirmative Action; the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Ally Programs Office; the Office for Diversity in Graduate Education; the Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence; and the Women’s Center.
amademic.umn.edu/equity

The University of Minnesota shall provide equal access to and opportunity in its programs, facilities, and employment without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, gender, age, marital status, disability, public assistance status, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression.

This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Direct requests to 612.624.0394. Lost and found items can be retrieved at Ted Mann Concert Hall.

PROGRAM

PROCESSIONAL  Mu Daiko (Mu Performing Arts)

EVENT HOST  Sue W. Hancock, former Senior Advisor for External Relations, University of Minnesota

WELCOME  Kristin N. Lockhart, Associate Vice President, Office for Equity and Diversity

PERFORMER  Diego Rowan-Martin, flamenco guitarist
“La Barrosa” by Paco De Lucia

UNDERGRADUATE SPEAKERS  Lolla Mohammed Nur, College of Liberal Arts
Lorna Emily Her Many Horses, College of Continuing Education and College of Liberal Arts

PERFORMANCE  Hmong Minnesota Student Association
Hmong Water Dance

KEYNOTE ADDRESS  Dr. Verna Cornelia Price, Founder, President and Principal Consultant of J. Cameron & Associates

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STOLE  Frederic MacDonald-Dennis, Director, Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES  Frederic MacDonald-Dennis, Director
Juavah Lee, Assistant Director for Engagement & Outreach
College Deans and Representatives

CLOSING  Dr. Karen Hanson, Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

RECESSIONAL  Mariachi Band: Mariachi Los Mensajeros

RECEPTION FOLLOWS IN LOBBY
Sue W. Hancock retired from the University of Minnesota, having worked in higher education for 27 years. She remains passionate and active as an educator, working with young people, mentoring young professionals, serving on professional, corporate and community boards, and continuing to contribute to the University community.

Lolla Mohammed Nur is a first-generation college student of Ethiopian and Eritrean heritage. She is graduating with political science and journalism degrees, with a minor in African American and African studies. Lolla has written for various Twin Cities media outlets, is a Community Engagement Scholar, and hopes to pursue graduate studies in the near future.

Lorna Emily Her Many Horses grew up on the Rosebud Reservation in South Dakota. She is Sicangu and Oglala Lakota, and enrolled in the Rosebud Sioux Tribe. Emmy is graduating with American Indian Studies and special education degrees, and plans to return to her community upon earning her M.Ed. in Special Education.

EVENT HOST: Sue W. Hancock

UNDERGRADUATE SPEAKERS: Lolla Mohammed Nur

SPEAKERS: Lorna Emily Her Many Horses

PERFORMERS: 1. Drumming: Mu Daiko (Mu Performing Arts)

2. Flamenco Guitarist: Diego Rowan-Martin performing “La Barrosa” by Paco de Lucia

3. Student Organization Performance-Dance: Hmong Minnesota Student Association (HMSA) Hmong Water-Garden Dance

4. Mariachi Band: Mariachi Los Mensajeros

FLAG BEARERS, MARSHALS: Multicultural Center for Academic Excellence Volunteers

KEYNOTE SPEAKER: Verna Cornelia Price, Ph.D., is the founder, president and principal consultant of J. Cameron & Associates, an organization committed to empowering and motivating people to realize and positively use their personal power. Dr. Verna is an author, organizational consultant, motivational speaker, executive coach, and educator. Her professional experience includes teaching pre-school through 6th grade and working as a program director, senior marketing manager, assistant dean of women, director of leadership programs, and college professor.

In 2002, she created a Power of People Professional Development Process. In 2005, Dr. Verna founded Girls in Action™ and in 2007, Dr. Verna and her husband co-founded The Power of People Leadership Institute™. Dr. Verna was awarded the MN Black MBA Association's Entrepreneur of the Year Award, as well as Women Venture's Pioneer Award for being a trailblazer and a visionary in Minnesota on behalf of women's economic success.

She is the author of three best-selling books: *The Power of People: Four Kinds of People Who Can Change Your Life* (2003); *The Silent Cry: Dealing with Subtracters in Work and Life* (2008); and *Change your life in 30 days: a personal power change guide* (2010). She received her Ph.D. in Educational Policy and Administration from the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Verna is married to Shane Martin Price and is blessed to be the mother of Justice Cameron, twins Cornelius Scott and Ktyal Liberty Amani, and Purpose Martinique.
DISTINGUISHED GUESTS:

Karen Hanson
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost,
Office of Senior Vice President and Provost

Lee Anderson
Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, College of Design

Heidi Barajas
Associate Dean for Engagement, Diversity, and
Undergraduate Programs, College of Education and
Human Development

Jay Bell
Associate Dean, College of Food, Agricultural and
Natural Resource Sciences

Norma Gutierrez
Assistant Director, Office of Admissions

Rickey Hall
Assistant Vice President, Office for Equity and Diversity

Paul Imberson
Professor, College of Science and Engineering

George John
Associate Dean, Carlson School of Management

Kris Lockhart
Associate Vice President, Office for Equity and Diversity

Naty Lopez
Assistant Dean for Admission and Diversity,
School of Dentistry

Robert McMaster
Vice Provost and Dean of Undergraduate Education,
Office of Senior Vice President and Provost

Louis Mendoza
Associate Vice Provost, Office for Equity and Diversity

Brent Opall
Program Director, Carlson School of Management

James Reinardy
Director, School of Social Work

Mary Rowan
Director, School of Nursing

Henning Schroeder
Associate Provost & Dean of Graduate Education,
Graduate School

Wayne Sigler
Director, Office of Admissions

Maggie Towle
Director, Student Unions/Activities

Jennifer Windsor
Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
The stole was designed by Sysouk Khambounmy '97, an employee of University Printing Services and a University of Minnesota alumnus.

The stole is patterned after the traditional African Kente cloth, which were hand woven in Ghana by weavers in four different locations. The master weaver wove sample stoles for the other weavers to copy. This accounts for the slight variations in the designs and makes each stole unique.

All the weavers agreed that this stole was the most difficult and unique design they have ever woven. Each stole took one day to weave. The colors on the stole are significant. Black represents the people and continent of Africa, red symbolizes the bloodshed and struggle of our ancestors, green portrays the grass, trees, forests and all the vegetation that grows from the rich land, purple characterizes the royalty of our rich heritage, gold illustrates the brilliance of the sun, white represents the cleansing of the spirit and blue depicts the oceans and the sky.

The three symbols on the stole reflect values important to the communities represented by our graduates. The endless knot is found in many traditions, including the Tibetan and Celtic cultures. It represents the interconnectedness of life and the ability of that connection to affect transformation. The two lizards or alligators share the same stomach, portraying unity among different groups of people and sharing with your neighbors. In American Indian cultures, human beings are connected to the earth and are related to all species — each and every plant and animal. The four arrows symbolize people coming from all directions, united in wisdom.

GRADUATES, WE GIVE YOU THIS STOLE,

not only to honor your academic achievement, but also to help you to always remember connection, unity and wisdom in your life. As you go forth into the world to continue finding success, remember that you have never been alone.

Never forget that your life was possible only because of your parents, your family, your teachers, your friends, your people, your history, the earth and all her plants and animals. We ask you to take this stole and go forth wisely into the world. You are our bright hope for the future, and our bearers of crucial lessons of the past.

We hope you will proudly wear your multicultural celebration stole!
Leilah Abdennabi, CLA
Dahir Abdi, CEHD
Fartun Abdi, CLA
Abdul Abdirahman, CSOM
Shukri Abdulahi, CEHD
Shankaroon Abdullahi, CLA
Abdihakim Abdullahi, CSE
Roza adam, CLA
Muna Adani, CLA
Forrest Agnew, CSOM
Modupe Akinwande, CLA
Shanza Alam, CSOM
Abdiwahab Ali, CLA
Amal Ali, CLA
Hassan Ali, CLA
Yonis Ali, AHC
Linda Allotey, CLA
Ayme Almendarez Espino, CEHD
Buzayew Ansha, AHC
Onyinyechi Anyanwu, SN
Simisola Arogundade, CSE
Sara Aschalew, CLA
Jasmin Avalos, CEHD
Natashay Bailey, CBS
Warsme Bashir, CCE
Mekdelawit Bayux, CLA
Yonas Bekele, CCE
Sarah Beraki, CLA
Gadisa Berkessa, CSE
Yeshiwas Bitew, CBS
Edwin Borffii, CEHD
Sharon Hubbard Booth, CLA
Jamila Boudliali, CLA
Philip Brodeen, LS
Asmaa Burhan, CEHD
Danielle Cabezas, CLA
Sindhu Carlson, CLA
Catherine Carlson, CLA
Wendy Chan, CSE
Sacha Changavong, CLA
Angela Chang, CBS
Nadeem Chaudhry, CSE
Sosehiika Chhuth, CDes
Hans Chui, CSOM
Ayana Cole, CLA
Jo-Ann Cole, CLA
Melya Collins, CLA
Kimberly Crislis, CLA
Kimberly Crislis, CLA
Jean Noriel Cruz, CFANS
Ellyn Dam, CLA
Jonathan Dang, CSE
Isiah Dennis, CEHD
Leina Desta, CSE
Bikash Dhakal, CLA
Kidist Dimore, CLA
Falmetu Dube, CEHD
Shadi Ebrahim, CEHD
Kaitlin Ellis, CLA
Aya Elmileik, CLA
Sicced Elsheikh, CFANS
Theresa Uche Enekwe, CEHD
Persia Erdrich, CLA
Paolo Espornol, CSOM
Sololita Etafa, CLA
Faturna Farah, CLA
Ma-Eyongerie Frambo, CEHD
Jessica Fremland, CLA
Alisha Fujita, CLA
Cymone Fuller, CLA
Deena Gant-Gaines, CLA
Ahmed Garad, CSE
Misty Garcia Blue, CLA
Daad Garballa, CFANS
Daniel Garrison, CLA
Medhawi Giri, CLA
Brittany Gomez-Matos, CLA
Christine Halstead, CEHD
Lina Hamid, CBS
Joohie Han, CBS
Amira Hassan, CLA
Mohamed Hassan, CLA
Roda Hassan, CLA
Jemil Hassen, AHC
Hayat Hassen, CBS
Adam Hayow, CSE
Chee Her, CEHD
Pa Her, CLA
Pang Ter Her, CLA
Lorna Her Many Horses, CLA
Griselle Hernandez Nieves, CLA
Jamelah Hersh, CLA
Kaylord Hill, CLA
Abshir Hirsi, CEHD
Abdiasis Hirsi, CLA
ShaVunda Horsley, CLA
Lensa Hunte, CLA
Halimo Husein, CLA
Fervent Igbineweka, CLA
Aanya Ilangaratne, CCE
Gina Iliev, CLA
Amira Jama, CEHD
Aliya Jeylani, CEHD
Shami Jeylani, CLA
Abdi Jibril, CLA
SungHyun Jo, CEHD
Hellen Keraka, CEHD
Zeinab khalif, CEHD
Pema Khando, CLA
Lubna Khatoon, CLA
Christopher Kimbowa, CLA
Elizabeth Klein, CLA
Illeen Kondo, CLA
Anirudh Krishna, CSE
Anissa Labyad, CLA
Tien Le, CSOM
Congratulations Class of 2012 – Well Done!

As you prepare to graduate, take a few moments to reflect on your experiences at the University (both inside and outside the classroom) and ask yourself to what extent those experiences have helped you demonstrate the following Student Development Outcomes. The answers to your questions will help you articulate to yourself and others the value of your University of Minnesota education.

University of Minnesota graduates will demonstrate:

**Responsibility and Accountability** by making appropriate decisions on behavior and accepting the consequences of their actions

**Independence and Interdependence** by knowing when to collaborate or seek help and when to act on their own

**Goal Orientation** by managing their energy and attention to achieve specific outcomes

**Self-Awareness** by knowing their personal strengths and talents and acknowledging their shortcomings

**Resilience** by recovering and learning from setbacks or disappointments

**Appreciation of Differences** by recognizing the value of interacting with individuals with backgrounds and/or perspectives different from their own

**Tolerance of Ambiguity** by demonstrating the ability to perform in complicated environments where clear cut answers or standard operating procedures are absent

Office for Student Affairs
Congratulations, Class of 2012!

Congratulations from the Office of Undergraduate Admissions!

Welcome to the vibrant community of University of Minnesota alumni, and best wishes in your future.

As you think, you travel, and as you love, you attract. You are today where your thoughts have brought you; You will be tomorrow where your thoughts take you.

- James Lane Allen
Congratulations!
WE CELEBRATE YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.

Dear College of Biological Sciences graduates,

Just as biodiversity strengthens ecosystems, cultural diversity strengthens the college and the world. Your unique perspectives bring us closer to finding innovative ways to provide food, energy, clean water and air, and freedom from disease for the world’s growing population.

Thank you, and congratulations.

Educating a diverse dental team to care for our communities.
The University of Minnesota School of Dentistry

Congratulations to the Class of 2012!
The College of Science and Engineering faculty and staff congratulate you on your success and accomplishments during your undergraduate career at the University of Minnesota.

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2012!
cse.umn.edu

The College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences

University of Minnesota

CONGRATULATIONS PUBLIC HEALTH GRADUATES!

from the faculty and staff of the School of Public Health

University of Minnesota

School of Public Health

Driven to Discover™
CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES
on this milestone in your
life and your professional career.
We are very proud of you!

Dean Connie W. Delaney on behalf of our
faculty, staff, students, and alumni

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faculty, staff, students, and alumni

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
School of Nursing
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Student Unions & Activities

Congratulations the Class of 2012

All our dreams can come true...
if we have the courage to pursue them. – Walt Disney

Student Unions Activities sua.umn.edu

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover™
The Carlson School of Management proudly recognizes the Class of 2012 graduates.

We congratulate you on your achievement and wish you continued success on all of your endeavors.