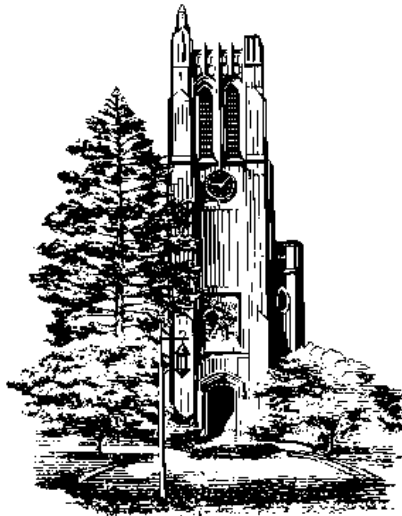


# CHARLES DREW SCIENCE SCHOLARS

## 2023 GRADUATING SENIORS RECOGNITION & AWARDS PROGRAM



**KELLOGG CENTER**

**BIG TEN C**

**APRIL 30, 2023**

**3:00 – 5:00 PM**

**COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCE**

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

# Program

## **Welcome & The Occasion**

Jerry Caldwell, PhD, Director  
Ariel Robbins, Assistant Director & Academic Advisor

## **Congratulatory**

Lynmarie Posey, PhD, Associate Dean,  
Undergraduate Studies  
College of Natural Science

## **Alumni Keynote Address**

### **Stephen V. Carney, PhD**

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Seattle Children's Ben Towne Center  
for Childhood Cancer Research

## **Senior Reflections**

Breanna M. Williams  
Nicholas A. Schwartz

## **Cording of Graduates & Awards**

**Dr. Charles Richard Drew Outstanding Student Awards** *for*  
Leadership · Service · Scholarship · Exemplar

## **Alumni Endowed Scholarship**

## **Outstanding Alumni Award**

## **Alumni Welcome**

## **Special Recognitions**

## **Fellowship**

# Senior Reflections



## Breanna Williams

Breanna Marie Williams is a graduating senior, majoring in Human Biology with a minor in Health Promotion from Oak Park, Michigan. Breanna has served in many roles within the Charles Drew Science Scholars Program including being the 2021-2023 Lead Office Assistant and a peer mentor. On campus, she is a member of the Honors College, Dean's List recipient, and has held several positions in the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students including president. Breanna is the current president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated - Delta

Zeta Chapter. Upon graduation, Breanna will be attending Michigan State College of Osteopathic Medicine. Breanna looks back to all her years in the program and appreciates Drew for being her home away from home.



## Nick Schwartz

Nick grew up in Saint Charles, Illinois, and will graduate from the honors college with a degree in Physics and a minor in Data Science. During his undergraduate career he worked with Drew as an academic coach for mathematics, enjoying helping other Drew students learn. Nick was also able to get a position as an undergraduate researcher in the Physics Education Research Lab (PERL) where he did research into how student connections impacted Physics and Astrophysics majors. In the Fall Nick will

be joining the Computational Mathematics Science and Engineering (CMSE) department as a graduate student in the Computational Education Research Lab (CERL). Some of his most meaningful interactions on campus outside of Drew were the opportunities the University provided to meaningfully connect with international students with diverse backgrounds and cultures. Nick is very grateful to have been a part of the Drew program and all the opportunities it has provided him, as well as being excited for the next step in his academic career.

# Alumni Keynote Address



## **Stephen V. Carney, PhD**

Stephen grew up in Canton, MI and earned two bachelor's degrees in Animal Science and Genomics & Molecular Genetics from Michigan State University in 2015. With the intention of applying to veterinary school, he conducted research on the behavior of piglets raised at the MSU Student Organic Farm with Dr. Laurie Thorp. He worked as a research assistant studying antimicrobial resistance in dairy cattle under the mentorship of Dr. Bo Norby. He made the decision to switch career paths from

veterinary medicine to biomedical research. He was accepted to the NIH-sponsored Postbaccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP) bridge to the doctorate program at Case Western Reserve University. At Case Western, he studied cortical brain development in stem cells derived from a patient with the neurodegenerative disease, ataxia telangiectasia, in Dr. Anthony Wynshaw-Boris' laboratory. This opportunity assisted in his acceptance to the University of Michigan, where he completed his PhD in Cancer Biology, working in the laboratory of Dr. Maria Castro. His dissertation explored the epigenetic changes in adult brain tumors that impact radiation resistance. Dr. Carney was selected by the Invent at Seattle Children's Research Institute's Postdoctoral Scholars Program for his postdoctoral fellowship training. This summer he will evaluate novel drugs for the treatment of medulloblastoma, working with Dr. Myron Evans at the Ben Towne Center for Childhood Cancer Research. Contrary to an academic postdoctoral fellowship, with the goal of becoming university faculty, this program focuses on clinical trial design, pharmaceutical patents, and professional entrepreneurship in the biotech industry. Dr. Carney is planning to apply broadly to medical science liaison, senior scientist, or consultant positions after the completion of his postdoctoral fellowship.

# 2023 Graduating Seniors

Anita Agasaveeran	Astrophysics
Andrew Barash	Human Biology
Zamaria Battle	Human Biology
Kaitlin Bennett	Psychology
Keyana Blake	Neuroscience
David Callaway	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Ariana Carson	Human Biology
Kenya Collins	Human Biology
Ryan Copeland	Astrophysics
Toriona Day	Physiology
Andrew Decker	Physiology
Eric Delgado	Physics
Christina Donaldson	Human Biology
Jessica Egleston	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Fairley Taylor	Psychology
Emma Force	Zoology
Karen Gutierrez Chavez	Biomedical Laboratory Science
Delaney Hamlin	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Chakata Hart	Zoology
Shannon Havlik	Neuroscience
Nick Heelan	Biochemistry & Molecular Biology
Caleb Haywood	Neuroscience
Saniya Henderson	Human Biology
Amber Hickey	Human Biology
Christopher Infante	Human Biology
Charla Jackson	Biomedical Laboratory Science
Pamela Jones	Microbiology
Morgan Jones	Microbiology
Fernanda Lopez Bermejo	Genomics & Molecular Genetics
Destyni Luna	Human Biology
Andrew Barash	Human Biology

<b>Marqell McClendon</b>	<b>Communication</b>
<b>Kirsten McDonald</b>	<b>Physiology</b>
<b>Abby Mondro</b>	<b>Neuroscience</b>
<b>Alexis Morse</b>	<b>Computational Data Science</b>
<b>Justin Murray</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Ebube Okpechukwu</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Nikolai Panergo</b>	<b>Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</b>
<b>Leslie Ramirez</b>	<b>Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</b>
<b>Hunter Reilly</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Emily Robledo</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Sophia Rubio</b>	<b>Physiology</b>
<b>Kamryn Sarratt</b>	<b>Physiology</b>
<b>Nicholas Schwartz</b>	<b>Physics</b>
<b>Alexis Smith</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Caiyah Stephens</b>	<b>Physiology</b>
<b>Rhiannon Stevens</b>	<b>Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</b>
<b>Suzu Thompson</b>	<b>Neuroscience</b>
<b>David Tran</b>	<b>Biochemistry &amp; Molecular Biology</b>
<b>Anna Trbovich</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Allen Trevizo</b>	<b>Genomics &amp; Molecular Genetics</b>
<b>Payton Walton</b>	<b>Astrophysics</b>
<b>Darla Washington</b>	<b>Physiology</b>
<b>Janiya Welsh</b>	<b>Kinesiology</b>
<b>Breanna Williams</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Aniyah Williams</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>
<b>Carcia Young</b>	<b>Mathematics</b>
<b>Samara Zinnerman</b>	<b>Human Biology</b>

# **Alumni Graduates**

**Tatiana Harris**

Doctor of Medicine, MSU College of Human Medicine

**Bernie L. Barden III**

Doctor of Medicine, MSU College of Human Medicine

**Ronald D. Roseman**

Doctor of Medicine, MSU College of Human Medicine

**Stephen V. Carney**

Doctor of Philosophy, Cancer Biology, University of Michigan

**Kelly M. Montgomery**

Doctor of Philosophy, Chemical Biology, University of California, SF

**Dominique A. Garrison**

Doctor of Philosophy, Pharmacology, Ohio State University

**Bianca D. Smith, MPH**

Doctor of Philosophy, Public Health, Johns Hopkins University

**Arielle J. Buckley**

Master of Public Health, Nutritional Sciences, University of Michigan



# Drew History

The Charles Drew Science Scholars program, originally known as the Charles Drew Science Enrichment Laboratory, was established in 1979 within the College of Natural Science (NatSci) at Michigan State University. The goal was to effect greater retention, academic success, and graduation of students from groups under-represented in natural science and mathematics degree attainment. Over its forty-year history, the Drew program has helped more than eighteen hundred students fulfill their goal of obtaining a college degree by providing comprehensive academic and psychosocial support. The Drew program has continued to make positive strides in helping students achieve greater academic success, retention at the University and in science degree programs, and degree completion.

To accomplish and improve these outcomes, the program provides students with comprehensive support through academic advising, course-based academic coaching, career advising, and a residential learning community. In addition, continued progress has been made by increasing Drew students' academic and social integration at MSU and in NatSci through greater participation in faculty-mentored research and student-run disciplinary organizations.

The mission of Drew is to support the all-around success and well-being of its students as defined by the three program pillars: academic achievement, career exploration and preparation, and community engagement and service. Through a culture of inclusion, Drew nurtures each student's development to enhance their preparation for career access and civic engagement within a multicultural society.





The Charles Drew Science Scholars program faculty and staff would like to congratulate the families and friends of the 2023 graduates for their support over the years. We consider it an honor to share in this moment of celebration.

*I hope your dreams take you to the corners of your smiles, to the highest of your hopes, to the windows of your opportunities, and to the most special places your heart has ever known.*

-Unknown

