

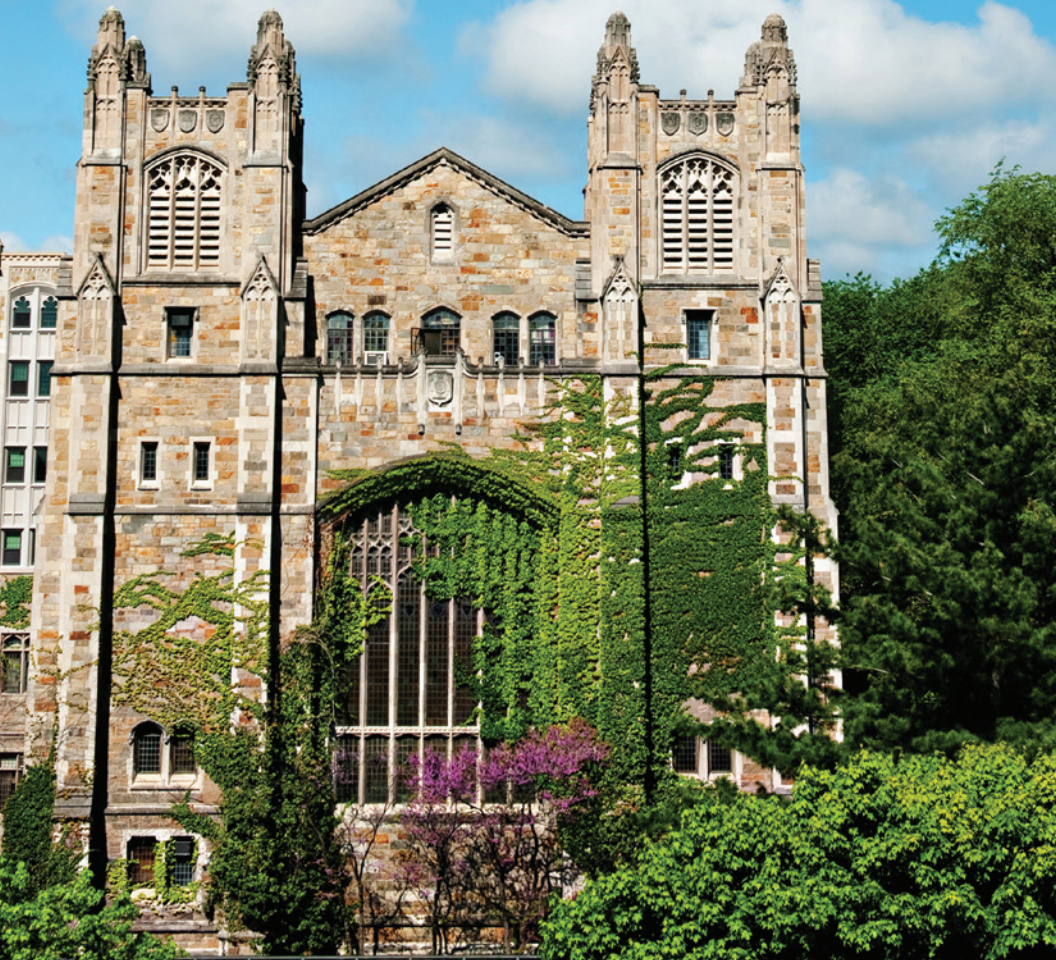
SENIOR DAY 2026


MAY 11 • HILL AUDITORIUM



MICHIGAN LAW
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

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THIS IS AN EXCITING DAY. For the family and friends who have supported and cheered for our graduates, thank you from all of us at the Law School. Graduates, as you head off to whatever lies ahead, please know that you will always have a home here at Michigan Law. Alumni are a huge part of what makes our Law School so special, and we hope you will stay actively connected to Michigan Law for a lifetime.



Neel U. Sukhatme

David A. Breach Dean of Law
Professor of Law

ORDER OF EXERCISES

PRELUDE AND PROCESSIONAL

Today's Brass with Tympani

WELCOME

PRESENTATION OF AWARDS

Neel U. Sukhatme

David A. Breach Dean of Law and Professor of Law

STUDENT SPEAKER

Ruben Mendoza Piñuelas

JD Candidate, Class of 2026

ADDRESS

Sarah C. Zearfoss, '92

Senior Assistant Dean, University of Michigan Law School

MEDLEY

Law School Headnotes

**Please stand during the alma mater.*

INTRODUCTION AND HOODING OF GRADUATES

BY FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATORS

Maureen Carroll

Eric C. Christiansen

Margaret Hannon, '05

Jessica Lefort

Barbara McQuade, '91

Sarah C. Zearfoss, '92

PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES OF MEMBERSHIP IN THE LAWYERS CLUB

Kimberly D'Haene, '03

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

Pyper Alpern, '03

Attorney-Counselor, Office of Career Planning

RECESSIONAL

Today's Brass with Tympani

RECEPTION

Immediately following in the Law Quadrangle





Ruben Mendoza Piñuelas

JD Candidate, Class of 2026

Wrongfully convicted and sentenced to 60 years to life, Ruben Piñuelas began studying the law in his solitary confinement cell, ultimately leading to his exoneration. He came to law school with an understanding of the legal system that few survive to share, and he now uses his lived experience to provide justice and restore hope for others.

At Michigan Law, Piñuelas has continued his public interest work as a student-attorney with the Michigan Innocence Clinic and as a member of MDefenders. He is a leader in the criminal justice reform community as a member of the Organization of Exonerees, engaging in policy work and public speaking across the country. He also served as a notes editor on the editorial board of the *Michigan Law Review*.

After graduation, Piñuelas will return home to begin his career at the Los Angeles Public Defender's Office, advocating for the communities he comes from.

A first-generation, nontraditional, and justice-impacted student of color from a low socioeconomic background, Piñuelas is a 2021 graduate of Pomona College. He is deeply grateful for a second chance at life and education and for the support of his family, mentors, and classmates, whose trust he is honored to carry as the voice of the Class of 2026.



Sarah C. Zearfoss, '92

Senior Assistant Dean, University of Michigan Law School

Sarah C. Zearfoss, '92, directs all aspects of JD and LLM admissions at the University of Michigan Law School and supervises the Office of Financial Aid.

Zearfoss earned a BA in psychology, *cum laude*, from Bryn Mawr College and a JD, *magna cum laude*, from Michigan Law. In law school, she served as editor-in-chief of the *Michigan Journal of International Law* and authored a note on international women's rights, for which she received the Eric Stein Award. She received the Henry M. Bates Memorial Scholarship and the Robert S. Feldman Labor Law Award, and she was a member of the Order of the Coif.

Following graduation, Zearfoss clerked for the Hon. James L. Ryan on the US Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and worked as a litigation associate in the Detroit office of Pepper Hamilton LLP.

Zearfoss returned to the Law School in 1999 as the judicial clerkship adviser before moving to the Office of Admissions in 2001. In addition to her work in Admissions and Financial Aid, she has, at different times, overseen the Offices of Career Planning and Student Life. During her time at the Law School, she has volunteered extensively for the Law School Admissions Council, including serving twice on its board of directors. She also served for many years as a cooperating attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, working on First Amendment, second-parent adoption, voting rights, employment law, and reproductive rights matters.

AWARDS PRESENTATION

HENRY M. BATES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Presented to outstanding seniors in the Law School, with account taken of scholarship in legal studies, personality, character, extracurricular interests, and promise of a distinguished career. The award was established in 1949 through the generosity of alumni and friends of the Law School in memory of the late Dean Henry M. Bates.

Madeline Guth
Haley M. Rogers
Hazel Rosenblum-Sellers

JANE L. MIXER MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented to the students who have made the greatest contribution to activities designed to advance the cause of social justice. Students, faculty, and staff provide nominations for the award, which was established in 1969 through the generosity of alumni and friends in memory of the late Jane L. Mixer, who died while she was a student at the Law School.

Nithya Arun
Gabriel Jimenez
David A. Seaman

IRVING STENN JR. AWARD

Presented to students who have demonstrated leadership and contributed, through extracurricular activities, to the well-being and strength of the Law School or University. The award, established in 1976, is made possible through the generosity of Irving Stenn Jr., '55, and his father, Irving Stenn Sr., both of Chicago.

Heather Jane Foster
Nathaniel B. Magrath
Jasmine Neosh
Victoria Pedri



The Victors

(Chorus)

(L. Elbel)/Regents of the University of Michigan

Hail! to the victors valiant
 Hail! to the conqu'ring heroes
 Hail! Hail! to Michigan
 the leaders and best
 Hail! to the victors valiant
 Hail! to the conqu'ring heroes
 Hail! Hail! to Michigan,
 the champions of the West!

The Yellow and Blue (alma mater)

*Please stand during the alma mater.

(C.M. Gayley, M.W. Balfé)/Regents of the University of Michigan

Lyrics as sung by The Headnotes

Sing to the colors that float in the light;
 Hurrah for the Yellow and Blue!
 Yellow the stars as they ride through the night
 And reel in a rollicking crew;
 Yellow the field where ripens the grain
 And yellow the moon on the harvest wain;
 —Hail!
 Hail to the colors that float in the light
 Hurrah for the Yellow and Blue!
 Hurrah for the Yellow and Blue!

Juris Doctor

Claudia Abbey-Mensah

Colton Abbott

Breezy Adams

Walter Aguilar

Dariush Ahdoot

Liv Akkerman-Byram

Mohammed M. Alzweiy

Libby Antonneau

Richard W. Archer III

Devyn M. Arora

Nithya Arun

Francesca Alexandra Bagala
Maggiolo

Nika Baghestani

John Balash

Tiffany Nicole Bankhead

Abigail Banks

Nour Basharaheel

Kassem Bazzi

Charlotte Grace Beaudoin

Hannah Beermann

Emily Madison Belanger

Tannicil M. Bellot

Aoife M. Bennett

David W. Berg

Carsten Berger

Jacie Bissell

Natalie Joyce Blair

Niko A. Blakely

Adara Blaney

Stephen Blanton

Celina W. Boey

Luqmaan Syed Bokhary

Zack Born

Zachary Breininger

Lindsey Sierra Bressler

Joshua Levitt Bretthauer

Nicole M. Brigstock

Elle Brown

James Eric Brown

Maggie Lauren Brown

Liam Brull-Haviv

Eli Silver Burstein

Cannon Douglas Bush

Guihyun Byon

Isabel Bysiewicz

Ryan Daniel Carmody

Delpha Carpenter

Eric Carr

Helen Olivia Carr

Elizabeth Lauren Cetnar

Jacob R. Chang

Edward William Chapman

Lana Kassem Charara

Ellen Chirikos

Yue Chu

Katherine Cleary

Avery Comar

Madeline Anne Cook

Avery E. Coombe

Conor M. Cox

Hiba Ali Dagher

Amanda Eve Daily

Jennifer L. DaPolito

Patrick Voris Davis

Samantha de Gyarfas

Jaden Aimee Deibo

Hadley Elizabeth Delany

Agustin Rene DeLuna

Natalie R. DenHartog

Nicola Vittorio DePalma

Payton G. DeWitt

Stephanie Elena Diaz

Isadora Dimovski

Ryan Distaso

Kendall Doer

Kenneth W. Donaldson II

Zainab M. Dossaji

Ryan DoyLoo

Andrew Druart

Erin C. Duffy

Honesty Eddins

Joseph Ehrenkranz

Zachary English

Kennedy Enus

Henry R. Evans

Raisa N. Faatimah

Nicholas Hendry Falkides

Oliver Worsh Farnum

Zarin Aisha Farook

Nadia H.C. Fassa

William Fazzone

Juliet Ferreyra

Haley Ryan Feuerman

Jamie Fisher

Jon M. Foissotte

Kelsey L. Ford

Benjamin Foster	Ryan Michael Hodgett	Suji Kim
Heather Jane Foster	Matthew Alexander Holmes	Sherman Theodore King
Peter Armstrong Foster	Brett Hostert	Rory Zian Klein
Alexis Iman Freeman	Caleb Hu	Kyle Knoll
Colton Sager French	Ryan Hughes	Betsy Knox
Calvin Frifeldt	Joclyn Aliyah Hutchison	Samara Arielle Kohn
Alison Rebecca Futter	Ahmad Ibsais	Alexander Michael Kolnitys
Emily Gallo	Sabriya Imami	Jessica Morgan Korn
Gina Gasparotto	Lindsay Ito	Hailey Ann Kozuchowski
Alexandra George	Alexandra Jackman	Spoorthi Krishnaraj
Jacob E. Gerszten	Tess Jacobs	Hannah Kuriakose
Ayesha Javed Maqbool Gill	Mendel Jacobson	David Lapidus
Evan T. Goldstein	Anushka Jain	LamPhuong Le
Adrian Antonio Gonzalez	Alexander C. Jarecki	Jeffrey Lee-Heidenreich
Brad Gonzalez	Aarvi Jhaveri	Jacob C. León
Herman Gonzalez Jr.	Gabriel Jimenez	Audrey Z. Li
Elias Graça	Ashton S. Johnson	Sydney Liang
Bernadette Nicole Green	Johnathan Micah Johnson	Alex H. Lim
Madeline Guth	Keelly Michael Jones	Vera Lin
Jacquelynn Gutierrez	Ashley Juarez	Rachel Lincoln
Katie Ann Guyer	Anna Virginia Kallmeyer	Julie Liu
Abigail Tyrella Hack	Richa B. Kanani	Katie Lo Re
Lynnaya Bardi Hamby	John T. Kanzler	Elise Marais Longley
Ashley Nicole Hamilton	Karma Karira	Evangelina (Eva) Lopez
Nell Haney	Lucy Kates	Oscarin G. Lopez
Graham Herndon Hardig	Daniel Adair Kaylor	Elijah Lora
Etan Harwayne-Gidansky	Nour Jamal Kazbour	Kyle Lovas
Abbigail Rhoads Henry	Christian Kelley	Shirin Maani
Megan Hess	Ajar Kerey	Matthew John Magill
Eddy Hevia	Moamen Keshlaf	Nathaniel B. Magrath
Shannon T. Hickey	Elias Khoury	Alexander Francis Banle Maletis
Tyler Raymond Hines	Jennifer Jiwon Kim	

Drake M. Marsaly	Stephen Pallante	Habib Jalil Saad
Grace Margaret Martin	Lochlan Stone Oberlee	Lindsay Saginaw
Nicholas Rafael Martire	Palmrose	Jason Sanchez
Tony Mayotte	Michael L. Olsen-Vandergriff	Soren Sawitz-Warren
Patrick McGarvey	Malvika Atul Pandya	Alexandra C. Saylan
Alex McGrath	Rishi J. Patel	Devon Angel Schwitzman
Lenneal McKudu	Victoria Pedri	Anna Scott
Daniel B. Meek	Isabelle Grace Penta	Sarah Sculco
Melissa Menta	Katherine M. Perez-Oviedo	David A. Seaman
David Harris Metzger	Lydia Peterson	Mike Shares
Winkler Michel	Stefan Sasha Petrović	Ryan Michael Shaw
David A. Mikkola	Evelyn Pigott	Yangji Sherpa
Ginny Miller	Teresa Claflin Pilon	Lyllian Simerly
Cody Mills	Ruben Mendoza Piñuelas	Amelia Lynn Wittig Simpson
Matthew Jeffery Mincher	Nathan Pitock	Cadigan Smith
Emily Jiwen Ming	Sophia Irene Poe	Dustin Robert Smith
Christopher Brian Moeckel	Luke Pomrenke	Jordan Kelley Smith
Ibrahim Abdul-Aziz Mohyuddin	Alana Ann Porter	Salma Edith Son-Garcia
Theodore Molina	Kristia Marie Postema	Patrick J. Spagnuolo
Jason L. Moonka	Stefan David Price-Aguirre	Evan Spinner
Logan V. Moore	Jackson Fryer Prieto	Thomas Philip Stamatakos
Kate Mulligan	Muhammad Sibgatullah	Savanna Nicole Stewart
Mckenna Murray	Qaasim	Sydney Peyton Suedmeier
Alaa Mustafa	Aidan Samardich Raffaele	Nathaniel Sumimoto
Madena Mustafa	Ankit Raghunath	Amanda Violet Swan
Selena Nandiwada	Natasia Mariah Raptis	Avalon Linae-Virginia Swanson
Ruby Alice Momeyer Napora	Mustafa Abdur Rasheed	Daniel Takash
Veronica Navarro	Karissa J. Rendon	Brooke Tatum
Lila Carlson Nazarian	Alexander C. Rochon	Isabelle Louise Tegtmeier
Jasmine Neosh	Haley M. Rogers	Michael Terraso
Nisim Nesimov	Joshua R. Rogers	Rana Walid Thabata
Tylor M. Nowell	Hazel Rosenblum-Sellers	Case Thomason
Madilynn Nichole O'Hara	Noah Rotroff	Eleanor L. Thompson
Allison Leigh Opheim	Allison Russell	

Riley Jude Tigue	Clay Wagar	Jessie Skylar Williams
Afnan Tolba	Anna Song Wan	Miquael Renee Williams
Chase Tragesser	Meghan Ward	Riley Thomas Wilson
Tori T. Tran	Bryan Waugh	Andrew Wright
Nathan Daniel Turner	David T. Weaver	Megan Wright
Chinenye Rachel Ugocha	Jack G.Z. Webb	James Hing Pui Yen
John W. Urban IV	Noah Weisskopf	Favio C. Yepes
Davianna Velasco Valdivieso	Hillel Weitzman	Sowon Yoon
Emma Vayda	Joseph Weydt	Justin J. Yu

Master of Laws

Muhammad Hammad Amin	Alex Louter	Febriantoro Suardy
Lukas Friedrich Jörg Blum	Eiko Mitsugi	Hirofumi Takano
Augusto Colín	Benjamin Moret	Jiwei Wang
June Fan	Chise Mori	An Ping Yang
Hendrik Flindt	Felix Ruyter	Reimi Yokoyama
Ross Franke	Mayumi Sano	Ziyue Zhai
Iilir Hajraj	Abdigapar Saparbek	Li Zhang
Danielle Karikari-Darko	Jose Luis Silvero Duarte	

Doctor of the Science of Law

Avaskhan Zainudin Asanaliyev

Dissertation: “Rethinking Transnational Adjudication: The Normative Foundations of Institutional Design, Sanctions-Related Arbitration Frameworks, and Digital Recognition Systems”

Moshe Jaffe

Dissertation: “Tax Laws and Proportionality: Analyzing Implementation and Advocating for Reform”

Francis Tom Temprosa

Dissertation: “Proving Mass Atrocities in UN Commissions of Inquiry: From Practice to Theory”

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

APALSA 1L PUBLIC INTEREST FELLOWSHIP

Presented by the Asian Pacific American Law Students Association to students who have evidenced an intent to contribute to the Asian Pacific Islander American community and the public interest.

Aaron Lombardi

CLARA BELFIELD AND HENRY M. BATES OVERSEAS FELLOWSHIP

Enables students who have completed two or more years of law study to pursue academic or professional projects abroad. These fellowships were established by the late Helen Bates Van Tyne.

Jonas Gomes

Alyssa Schams, '25

Valentina Urrea, '25

Carlos Larrauri, '24

Abhi Parekh Hu, '23

Bridget Grier, '21

S. ANTHONY BENTON MEMORIAL AWARD

Recognizing scholastic excellence in the fields of international and/or constitutional law, as well as participation and leadership in activities related to the Law School's educational program. The fund for this award was established by friends and associates of the late S. Anthony Benton, '63, an excellent student and a participant and leader in extracurricular activities at the Law School.

Moamen Keshlaf

Eleanor L. Thompson

WILLIAM W. BISHOP JR. AWARD

Recognizing distinction in the field of international law and in related Law School activities. The award was established by friends, colleagues, and students of the late Professor William W. Bishop in appreciation for his long and distinguished service as teacher, scholar, and editor-in-chief of the *American Journal of International Law*.

Madilynn Nichole O'Hara

LEE C. BOLLINGER PRIZE

Recognizing excellence in the study of the First Amendment. This award was established by graduates of the Law School in honor of Lee Bollinger, dean of the Law School from 1987 to 1994 and president of the University of Michigan from 1996 to 2001.

Avery Comar

HENRY M. CAMPBELL MEMORIAL PRIZE AND CAMPBELL COMPETITION

The oldest of the various competitions at the Law School, the Campbell Competition involves many hours of intense preparation by both its participants and the student board, which plans and implements the event. The competition is sponsored by Dickinson Wright PLLC.

First Place

Madeline Guth

Second Place

Hazel Rosenblum-Sellers

ALDEN J. "BUTCH" CARPENTER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Presented to students who have evidenced an intent to apply their legal training in a manner that will assist the development of an economically depressed and traditionally disadvantaged community. The fund for this award was established by the Black Law Students Association in cooperation with the Black Alumni Association to motivate law students toward the social commitment demonstrated by Michigan Law student Butch Carpenter before his death in 1978.

Winner

Joe Edens

Runners-up

Erica Shields

Abigail Clark

CLASS OF 1908 MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD

Presented to the student who attained the highest scholastic average at the beginning of their senior year. The award was established by the late Hon. Guy B. Findley, 1908.

Madeline Guth

HOWARD B. COBLENTZ PRIZE

Presented to a member of the *Michigan Law Review* editorial staff for outstanding contributions. The award honors Howard Coblentz, 1918, who enlisted as a student and died during World War I.

Walter Aguilar

HELEN L. DEROY MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented to the author of the best student contribution to the *Michigan Law Review*.

Avery Comar, "Standalone Municipal Liability"

HELEN L. DEROY SCHOLARLY WRITING AWARD

Recognizing scholarly work that was prepared without the expectation of publication for seminars or independent research projects.

Conor M. Cox

Kelsey L. Ford

Peter Armstrong Foster

Jacob E. Gerszten

Lila Carlson Nazarian

Sarah Sculco

PAUL R. DIMOND PRIZE

Awarded each fall to recognize the best scholarly work in civil rights, constitutional law, or judicial review during the previous academic year. The award is funded by Paul Dimond, '69.

Alexander Votta, '25, "The Great Rampart in Protecting Human Liberty: The Right to Education in Antebellum and Reconstruction Black Constitutional Consciousness"

RAYMOND K. DYKEMA SCHOLARSHIP

Recognizing a *Michigan Law Review* editorial board member for leadership of and significant contributions to the journal.

Ashton A. Smith

EMMETT E. EAGAN AWARD

Recognizing excellence in courses in the field of corporate law. The award was established by the Detroit firm Miller Canfield to honor its senior partner, Emmett E. Eagan, '34.

Carsten Berger

EQUAL JUSTICE WORKS FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to graduates working to ensure equal access to justice and addressing unmet legal needs among underserved populations across the country.

Libby Antonneau

ROBERT S. FELDMAN LABOR LAW AWARD

Recognizing outstanding work through courses, seminars, research, and/or journals. The award was established by the late Robert S. Feldman, '38, a leading labor-relations attorney in Michigan.

Gabriel Jimenez
Riley Jude Tigue

FISKE FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to graduates serving as government employees at the federal, state, or (in exceptional cases) local level who demonstrate a commitment to public service values. These fellowships are funded by Robert B. Fiske Jr., '55.

Henry R. Evans
Gina Gasparotto
Graham Herndon Hardig
Taylor Hopkins, '24

RALPH M. FREEMAN FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to the second- or third-year student who has demonstrated true excellence in the fields of criminal law and procedure.

Lila Carlson Nazarian

DANIEL H. GRADY PRIZE

Presented to the student who has graduated with the highest standing in their Law School class after completing the full course of study.

Arthur Etter, '25

CARL GUSSIN MEMORIAL PRIZE

The prize was established by friends of Carl Gussin, '31, a trial lawyer and co-founder of the Negligence Committee of the State Bar of Michigan, to recognize excellence in trial work.

Oliver Worsch Farnum

ROCKWELL T. GUST ADVOCACY AWARD

Recognizing the student who has demonstrated the greatest potential as a trial lawyer and advocate. The award was established by the law firm Butzel Long to honor its senior partner, Rockwell T. Gust, 1914.

Lucy Kates
Mike Shares

INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY OF TRIAL LAWYERS AWARD

Presented to a senior student who has demonstrated outstanding ability in courtroom advocacy.

Ruben Mendoza Piñuelas

RICHARD KATCHER SENIOR TAX PRIZE

Recognizing excellence in courses and seminars in taxation and related areas. The prize was established by the late Richard Katcher, '43.

Andrew Wright

ALLAN LEWIS KAUFMANN MEMORIAL AWARD

Recognizing the best student contribution(s) to *Michigan Law Review*. The award was established by the late William Allan Lewis Kaufmann, '43, in memory of his father, Allan Lewis Kaufmann.

Hazel Rosenblum-Sellers

JON HENRY KOUBA PRIZE

Awarded each fall to recognize the best student papers on the European Union and international peace and security during the previous academic year. The prize was established by the late Jon Henry Kouba, '65.

European Union

Isobel Blakeway Philips, '25

"The AI Act and the GDPR: Implications for Personal Data and Methods of Redress"

International Peace and Security

Mike Tiu, LL.M. '25

"Treating Social Media Corporations as Quasi-State Actors to Address the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Content Moderation"

JEFFREY S. LEHMAN LEGAL PRACTICE AWARD

Presented to the best Legal Practice student from the previous year. This award honors Jeffrey S. Lehman, '81, dean of the Law School from 1994 to 2003, and is funded by the Homeland Foundation.

Sofia Laguarda

DORES MCCREE AWARD

Presented to a student who has consistently demonstrated the personal qualities that Doree McCree exemplified during her work at the Law School from 1988 to 1996: extraordinary devotion to the well-being of students, commitment to a widely inclusive and unified vision of the Law School community, grace, wisdom, compassion, and modesty.

Victoria Pedri

MICHIGAN SUPREME COURT HISTORICAL SOCIETY LAW STUDENT PRIZE

Recognizing outstanding work in courses relating to legal history.

Michael Whelan

SAUL L. NADLER MEMORIAL AWARD

Recognizing outstanding work in courses and written projects relating to commercial law, corporate law, creditors' rights, and securities regulation. The award is funded by a gift from the Nadler Foundation in memory of Saul L. Nadler, '36.

Ashton S. Johnson

Alexander Michael Kolnitys

Nathan Daniel Turner

Favio C. Yepes

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LAWYERS OUTSTANDING LAW STUDENT AWARD

Recognizing a graduating student who has demonstrated achievement and motivation in academic and community work and has exhibited the potential for future contributions to the advancement of women in society and in the legal community.

Megan Hess

OUTLAWS PUBLIC SERVICE FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to a student who demonstrates a commitment to pursuing work that advances the mission of OUTLaws and the LGBTQ+ community during their 2L summer.

Dana Craig

Kerry Holihan

JACK C. RADCLIFFE JR. AWARD

Presented to second- or third-year students who served as senior judges in the Legal Practice Program and demonstrated excellence in mentoring first-year students. The award honors Jack C. Radcliffe Jr., '70, and his commitment to supporting and mentoring young lawyers.

Jeffrey Daley

JENNY RUNKLES MEMORIAL AWARD

Presented to second-year students who have exhibited a selfless commitment to improving the Law School community and society as a whole through devotion to public interest and diversity.

Dana Craig

Zoe Hayes

Kerry Holihan

SALZBURG CUTLER FELLOWSHIP

Awarded to outstanding students who are interested in international law and legal practice.

Augusto Colín

Raisa N. Faatimah

Moamen Keshlaf

Eleanor L. Thompson

SKADDEN FELLOWSHIP

Presented to recent law graduates to pursue the practice of public interest law on a full-time basis, addressing unmet civil legal needs of people living in poverty in the United States.

Megan Hess

CRAIG SPANGENBERG ORAL ADVOCACY AWARD

Recognizes exceptional ability in courtroom oral advocacy. The International Society of Barristers established the award in memory of Craig Spangenberg, '37, a founder of the society and its first president.

Nithya Arun
Katherine Cleary

ERIC AND VIRGINIA STEIN AWARD

Recognizing the best student contribution to the *Michigan Journal of International Law*. The award was established by the late Eric Stein, the Hessel E. Yntema Professor of Law Emeritus, and his wife, Ginny.

Madilynn Nichole O'Hara

JUAN LUIS TIENDA MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Presented to students with financial need who have an affinity for the socioeconomic, political, and economic advancement of the Latino community. Special consideration is given to applicants who express an interest in working with the legal problems of the Latino community. The fund for this award was established in memory of Juan Luis Tienda, who died following his second year in law school.

Maddy Molina
Kristen Lewis Perez
Claudia Tio-Cartagena

VICTOR'S FELLOWSHIP

Supporting entry-level public interest employment, including project-based proposals to work with sponsoring nonprofits.

Nithya Arun
Natalie Joyce Blair
Jordan Kelley Smith

WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN FOUNDATION AWARDS

Recognizing women law students who have demonstrated leadership capabilities in advancing the position of women in society, business, and the community. The awards are funded by the WLAM Foundation.

Kimberly M. Cahill Scholar
Dana Craig

General Motors Scholar
Sarah Bazzi

Salvatore Prescott Porter & Porter
Scholar
Zoe Hayes

MYINT ZAN LLM PRIZE

Presented to an exemplary student who has demonstrated interdisciplinary interests, a commitment to social justice, and an understanding of how law can ease the plight of disadvantaged members of society. The prize is funded by Myint Zan, LLM '82.

Ross Franke

AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL JOURNAL SERVICE

Recognizing outstanding all-around contributions to a journal. (The journals are listed in chronological order by the date they were first published.)

Michigan Law Review
Isabelle Louise Tegtmeier

***University of Michigan Journal
of Law Reform***

Kenneth W. Donaldson II

Michigan Journal of International Law

Moamen Keshlaf

Michigan Journal of Gender & Law

Megan Hess

Michigan Journal of Race & Law

Nell Haney

Michigan Technology Law Review

Malvika Atul Pandya

***Michigan Journal of Environmental
& Administrative Law***

Jessie Skylar Williams

***Michigan Business & Entrepreneurial
Law Review***

Emily Madison Belanger

**AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING SCHOLARLY
CONTRIBUTION TO A JOURNAL**

Presented to the author of the best note published by each journal. (The journals are listed in chronological order by the date they were first published.)

Michigan Law Review

Lee Rodriguez

“Algorithmic Medicine and the Duty to Disclose: Informed Consent Through the Lens of Radiology”

***University of Michigan Journal
of Law Reform***

Lila Carlson Nazarian

“Peaceable Public Carry: The Evolving Landscape of Second and Fourth Amendment Rights, and the Task for Criminal Defense Attorneys”

Michigan Journal of International Law

Lana Kassem Charara

“Recognition Without Refuge: When Genocide Declarations Fail to Trigger Refugee Protection”

Michigan Journal of Gender & Law

Victoria Pedri

“Health Care Civil Rights: Addressing the American Maternal Mortality Disparity Through Health, Law, and Policy”

Michigan Technology Law Review

Jacob E. Gerszten

“A Modern Legal Tender Debate: Assessing State-Based Attempts to Counter Central Bank Digital Currencies”

***Michigan Journal of Environmental
& Administrative Law***

Liesl Bogaard

“Four Decades, No Progress: Time for a Columbia River Basin Compact”

***Michigan Business & Entrepreneurial
Law Review***

John T. Kanzler

“Denizens of Dexit: Why Controlled Companies Are the First to Leave the First State”

1L ORAL ADVOCACY COMPETITION

An internal competition that serves as an introduction to moot court.

First Place

Erica Shields

Runner-up

Clint Keaveny

STUDENT LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Student Leader of the Year

Recognizing students who demonstrated exceptional leadership, program implementation, and organizational management of their student organization or program.

Oliver Worsh Farnum

Zoe Hayes

Matthew Alexander Holmes

The Michigan Difference Award – Excellence in Mentorship

Recognizing students who went above and beyond through personal engagement and stewardship of their mentees.

Ari Calem
Anghad Bullar
Jamie Fisher

The Michigan Difference Award – Michigan Gem

Recognizing those who make student life better and the community stronger.

Shawn Deloach
Manuel Lewis
Hannah Regan

PRO BONO RECOGNITION

The following senior students have completed the Pro Bono Pledge of at least 25 hours (LLM) or 50 hours (JD) of pro bono service while attending law school.

Nithya Arun	Brad Gonzalez	Victoria Pedri
Emily Madison Belanger	Nell Haney	Evelyn Pigott
Jacie Bissell	Megan Hess	Nathan Pitock
Natalie Joyce Blair	Alexandra Jackman	Joshua R. Rogers
Elle Brown	Alexander C. Jarecki	Jason Sanchez
Delpha Carpenter	Gabriel Jimenez	Alexandra C. Saylan
Eric Carr	Spoorthi Krishnaraj	Lyllian Simerly
Avery Comar	Evangelina (Eva) Lopez	Amanda Violet Swan
Amanda Eve Daily	Nicholas Rafael Martire	Rana Walid Thabata
Oliver Worsh Farnum	Emily Jiwen Ming	Chinenye Rachel Ugocha
Emily Gallo	Kate Mulligan	Meghan Ward
Alexandra George	Lila Carlson Nazarian	Riley Thomas Wilson
Adrian Antonio Gonzalez	Malvika Atul Pandya	Sowon Yoon

EXCELLENCE IN PRO BONO SERVICE AWARDS

Presented to students and groups who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to pro bono work.

OUTSTANDING 1L

Minnie Boadu-Bennett

OUTSTANDING 2L

Zoe Hayes
Andrea de Jesús Colón
Manuel Lewis

OUTSTANDING 3L

Lila Carlson Nazarian
Brad Gonzalez

OUTSTANDING PRO BONO PROJECT

Student Rights Project

TEACHING AWARDS

These awards recognize professors for their exceptional teaching, dedication to students, and their embodiment of the spirit of Michigan Law. Recipients are selected by vote of the student body.

L. HART WRIGHT AWARD FOR TEACHING EXCELLENCE

Spencer Smith

1L LEGAL PRACTICE PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Kerry Kornblatt

CLINICAL AND EXPERIENTIAL PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Frank E. Vandervort

INCLUSIVE, INNOVATIVE, AND INTERDISCIPLINARY TEACHING PROFESSOR OF THE YEAR

Adrian Ohmer, '13

CERTIFICATE OF MERIT AWARDS

Presented at the end of each term to the student who achieved outstanding performance in each Law School course.

WINTER 2025

Accounting for Lawyers
Carsten Berger

Administrative Law
Cannon Douglas Bush

Bloodfeuds
Elaine Kub

**Business Economics
for Lawyers**
Frederick Folz, '25

Civil Procedure
Jack Benson
Lazar Gueorguiev

**Civil Rights in
Federal Courts**
Madilynn Nichole O'Hara

Commercial Arbitration
Shannon T. Hickey

**Commercial Law:
Secured Transactions
and Mortgages**
Frederick Folz, '25

**Comparative and
International
Competition Law**
William Dempsey, '25

Complex Litigation
Madena Mustafa

Consumer Bankruptcy
Andrew Spearing, '25

Contracts
Colin Hawkinson
Katherine Welsch-Lehmann

Copyright
Jeesae Kim, '25

Corporate Finance
Niko A. Blakely

**Corporate Governance
and Investment Banking**
Jacqueline Blenderman

**Corporate Lawyer:
Law and Ethics**
Tomás Rios, '25

**Criminal Justice:
Investigation and
Police Practices**
Jackson Guilford, '25

Criminal Procedure: Bail to Post Conviction Review

Arthur Etter, '25

Economic Analysis of Law

Mohamad Reda

Enterprise Organization

Carsten Berger

Entertainment Law

Daniel Takash

Environmental Law and Policy

Matthew John Magill

EvidenceNour Basharaheel
William Dempsey**Family Law**Jacquelyn Sharon
Ingrassia, '25**Federal Antitrust**

T.J. Kory, '25

Financial Regulation

Jacob E. Gerszten

First Amendment

Avery Comar

Formation of the Common Law

Leonie Schwannecke

Immigration and Nationality

Cole Newcomb, '25

International Human Rights Law

Emi Owens

International Investment Law and ArbitrationAlexander Francis Banle
Maletis**International Law**

Abigail Tyrella Hack

International Litigation

Leonie Schwannecke

International Refugee Law

Madeline Mosolino, '25

International Trade Law

Kyle Lovas

Introduction to Constitutional LawKatharine Barton
Ainsley Coty
Claire Hipps
Sam Parhamfar**Labor Law**

Madeline Guth

Legal Ethics and Professional Responsibility

Dariush Ahdoost

Legislation and RegulationKyle Brinker
Aidan Samardich Raffaele**Local Government**

Madeline Guth

Making of Civil Law

Jacob R. Chang

Mergers and Acquisitions

Joseph L. Honeycutt, '25

Modern American Legal History

Jessica Baer

National Security and Civil Liberties

Afnan Tolba

Partnership Tax

Zachary Cantor, '25

Property

Andrew Wright

Remedies

Hailey Badger Gordon

Securities Regulation

Noah Hellum, '25

Taxation of Individual IncomeDaniel Cohen
Daniel Adair Kaylor**Torts**William Andriola
Edie Knoop**Tribal Law**Ryan Lawton, '25
Ebony C. White, '25**Venture Capital**

Kennedy Enus

Water Law

Gina Gasparotto

FALL 2025**Accounting for Lawyers**

Ashton S. Johnson

Animal Law

Laken Rivet

Bankruptcy

Ryan (Sang Won) Kim

Civil Procedure

AG McGee

Edward McKinley

Alexander Shehab

Jamie Solomon

Comparative Human Rights Law

Coleman Hopkins

Complex Litigation

Dustin Robert Smith

Constitutional Transition

Davianna Velasco

Valdivieso

Contracts

Mary Caroline Heinen

Edward McKinley

Teo Tezcan

Copyright

John Lee

Corporate Finance

John T. Kanzler

Corporate Lawyer: Law and Ethics

Karma Karira

Corporate Reorganization

Tracey McEvans

Corporate Taxation

Andrew Wright

Criminal Justice: Investigation and Police Practices

Madena Mustafa

Criminal Law

Christopher Cheek

Ellen Schlick

Critical Issues in Law and Development

Angela Yuan

Employment Discrimination

Lila Carlson Nazarian

Employment Law

Rishi J. Patel

Energy Law

Connor Tooman

Enterprise Organization

Laken Rivet

Environmental Law and Policy

Benjamin Korn

European Union Law

Lukas Friedrich Jörg Blum

Ashton S. Johnson

Evidence

Taite Puhala

Family Law

Riley Thomas Wilson

FDA Law

Angela Yuan

Federal Antitrust

Brett Hostert

Federal Courts

Nathaniel Sumimoto

Federal Criminal Law

Nina Kanamaluru

Federal Indian Law

Brooke Klasko

Mustafa Abdur Rasheed

First Amendment

Alfred Kalantar

Formation of the Common Law

Edie Knoop

Habeas Corpus

Nell Haney

Health Law

Eduard Toderescu

Immigration Consequences of Crime

Gabriel Jimenez

International Law

Jessie Skylar Williams

International Tax

Caleb Hu

Andrew Wright

International Trade Law

Ryan Michael Shaw

**International Investment
Law and Arbitration**
Emily Jiwen Ming

**Introduction to
Constitutional Law**
John Emmons
Ilir Hajraj
Edward McKinley
Shealyn Millay

**Introduction to Income
Tax of Business**
Xiaorong Chen
Kristen Lewis

**Jurisdiction and
Choice of Law**
Matthew Jeffery Mincher

**Legal Ethics and
Professional
Responsibility**
Katherine Cleary

**Legislation and
Regulation**
Jack Benson

**Managing Crisis:
Strategies and Tactics for
Corporate Distress**
Will Gusick

**Modern American Legal
History**
Ryan Daniel Carmody

**Mutual Funds, ETFs,
and Private Equity**
Aidan Katsikas

**National Security and
Civil Liberties**
Mathieu Ackaouy

Patent Law
Erin Kelley

Property
Edie Knoop

**Public Interest Litigation
Ethics**
Riley Jude Tighe

Securities Regulation
Carsten Berger

**Taxation of Individual
Income**
Victoria Pedri

Torts
Max Cassell
Cindy Chen
Kyle Flick
Lucinda Sherman Roberts
Charles Solomon

**Voting Rights and
Election Law**
Thomas A. Lichtenberg

Women's Human Rights
Clarisse Baudraz-Vonck

The Headnotes

The Headnotes perform as an a cappella singing group that draws its membership from the Law School student body. The Headnotes boast a wide repertoire of popular and classical arrangements and can be heard in concert throughout the school year, both on and off the campus. *The graduating members of the Headnotes are performing during today's ceremony.*

Edward William Chapman	Tenor
Jamie Fisher	Soprano
Alison Rebecca Futter	Soprano
Samara Arielle Kohn	Alto
Kate Mulligan	Alto
Miquael Renee Williams	Alto

Today's Brass with Tympani

Carrie Banfield-Taplin	French horn
Joseph DeMarsh	Tuba
Clark Irwin	Trumpet
Cary Kocher	Percussion
Derek Lockhart	Trumpet
Brian Robson	Trombone

Profile of the Class of 2026

JD STUDENTS

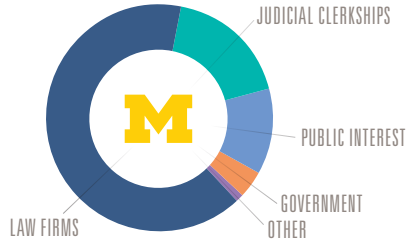
317

GRADUATE STUDENTS

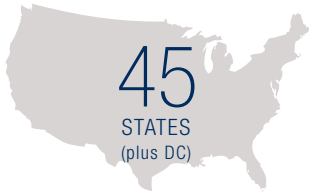
23

WHAT WILL THEY DO?

JD JOBS BY SECTOR



WHERE ARE THEY FROM?



WHERE WILL THEY GO?

MOST POPULAR JD JOB MARKETS



UNDERGRADUATE SCHOOLS REPRESENTED





ONE OF THE MOST COLORFUL FEATURES of an academic procession is the appearance of the graduates and faculty in full academic attire. These caps, gowns, and hoods have long histories, and their patterns and colors have special significance.

The origins of academic dress date back to the 12th and 13th centuries, when universities were taking form. The ordinary dress of the scholar—student or teacher—was the dress of a cleric.

In modern universities, the distinctive mark of a degree is the hood, which in its earliest form was simply an article of clothing; since churches and lecture halls of European universities were cold and drafty, scholars wore their hoods as head coverings. American institutions, unlike those of England and Europe, have adopted a standard code of academic costume. The design of the gown; the color of the tassel on the cap; and the pattern, length, and colors of the hood all have special significance.

Both the associate's and bachelor's gowns are closed at the throat and have long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown has oblong sleeves, open at the wrist, tapering at the back in a square cut, which ends in an arc cutaway. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet and has bell-shaped sleeves. Each sleeve carries three bars of velvet or chevrons.

The most colorful part of the costumes is the hood. The color of the velvet trim indicates the department that granted the degree, and the width of the trim corresponds to the level of degree (two, three, and four inches, respectively). The lining, or area inside the velvet, denotes the college or university awarding the degree. Michigan Law juris doctor candidates have purple velvet trim and maize and blue lining.

During the juris doctor degree recognition, recipients receive their hoods from faculty marshals as they enter the stage. After being draped with the hood, they walk across the stage for individual recognition.

A Brief History of the University of Michigan Law School

1859 ● **MICHIGAN LAW DEPARTMENT OPENS** with 90 students and three part-time faculty members: James V. Campbell, Thomas M. Cooley, and Charles I. Walker.

1863 ● **FIRST LAW BUILDING COMPLETED.**



1868 ● **FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT ADMITTED.** Gabriel Franklin Hargo became the first African American student to graduate from the Law School in 1870.

1870 ● **FIRST FEMALE STUDENT ADMITTED.** Sarah Killgore graduated in 1871, the first woman with a law degree in the nation to be admitted to the bar.



1877 ● **CLARENCE DARROW STUDIES LAW.**

He would go on to be regarded as a courageous defender of human rights and perhaps the greatest trial lawyer in US history.



1882 ● William W. Cook receives LL.B. **COOK GAVE NEARLY HIS ENTIRE FORTUNE**—equivalent to hundreds of millions of dollars today—to the Law School, laying the architectural foundation for the Law Quadrangle and establishing a rich research endowment.

1883 ● **FIRST FULL-TIME PROFESSOR APPOINTED**, and high school graduation is required for admission.



1890 ● **FIRST LL.M DEGREES GRANTED.**

1895 ● **COURSE OF LAW STUDY EXTENDED TO THREE YEARS.**

1909 ● **JD DEGREE APPROVED**; required bachelor's degree and three years of law school.

1915 ● **LAW DEPARTMENT CHANGES TO LAW SCHOOL BY REGENTAL ACTION.**

1922 ● **LAW QUADRANGLE CONSTRUCTION BEGINS.** Consists of: The Lawyers Club (1924), the John P. Cook Dormitory (1930), the Legal Research Library (1931), and Hutchins Hall (1933).



1935 ● **513 STUDENTS, 19 FACULTY, 48 COURSES OFFERED.**

1944 ● **JANE CLEO MARSHALL LUCAS BECOMES THE FIRST AFRICAN AMERICAN WOMAN TO GRADUATE FROM MICHIGAN LAW.** Lucas was admitted to the Michigan bar and was the first African American woman to pass the Maryland bar.

1946 ● Publication of the casebook ***CASES ON REMEDIES II: RESTITUTION AT LAW AND IN EQUITY***, by Professors John P. Dawson and Edgar N. Durfee, marked the creation of restitution law.

1969 ● Publication of the influential casebook ***BASIC CRIMINAL PROCEDURE: CASES, COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS***, by Professors Yale Kamisar and Jerold H. Israel (with Wayne R. LaFave).

1971 ● **CLINICAL LAW PROGRAM ESTABLISHED.**

1981 ● **THE ALLAN AND ALENE SMITH LAW LIBRARY ADDITION OPENS.**



1996 ● **LEGAL PRACTICE PROGRAM BEGINS.**

2012 ● **JEFFRIES HALL ACADEMIC BUILDING AND AIKENS COMMONS OPEN.**



2015 ● **125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LLM PROGRAM.**

2024 ● **100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST STUDENTS MOVING INTO THE LAWYERS CLUB.**



2025–2026 ● **1,019 STUDENTS (JD, LLM, SJD), 197 FACULTY, 374 COURSES AND 17 CLINICS OFFERED, 23,244 ALUMNI.**

“The character of the legal profession depends on the character of the law schools. The character of the law schools forecasts the future of America.”

—WILLIAM W. COOK

University of Michigan Law School Commitment to Integrity

Because the strength of the legal profession depends on the character of its members, during my career as a law student and as a professional after law school, I commit to comport myself honorably and with integrity. Specifically, I promise to maintain high standards of:

Academic conduct in all academic relationships with the Law School and the University; professional conduct while functioning in a lawyer-like capacity during my Law School and professional careers; and personal conduct in all matters that touch or affect the Law School, the University, and their community members and guests.

Law School Leadership

David A. Breach Dean of Law
Professor of Law

NEEL U. SUKHATME

Chief of Staff

JAY BAER, '09

Director of the Law Library

KINCAID BROWN, '96

Assistant Dean for Development
and Alumni Relations

MARY BUIKEMA

Assistant Dean for International Affairs

ERIC C. CHRISTIANSEN

Associate Dean for Experiential Education
Clinical Professor of Law

DEBRA CHOPP

Assistant Dean for Student Affairs

KIMBERLY D'HAENE, '03

Registrar and Director of the
Office of Student Records

RASHIDA DOUGLAS

Chief Operating Officer

MICHELE FRASIER WING, '98

Assistant Dean for Career Planning

RAMJI KAUL, '05

Associate Dean for Academic Programming

Ralph W. Aigler Professor of Law

ELLEN KATZ

Chief Communications and Marketing Officer

SHELLEY RODGERS

Director of Law School Financial Aid

KERI WEBER-DAVIES

Associate Dean for Faculty and Research

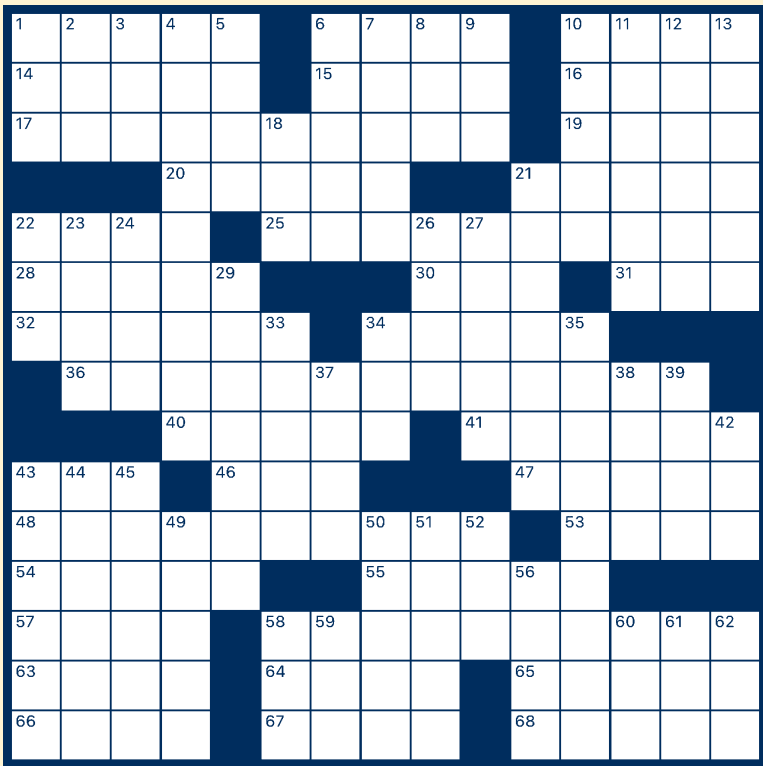
Thomas M. Cooley Professor of Law

EKOW YANKAH

Senior Assistant Dean

SARAH C. ZEARFOSS, '92



Solution found at [facebook.com/umichlaw](https://www.facebook.com/umichlaw)**ACROSS**

- Graduation speaker nickname
- _____ Good Men (1992)
- El _____, Texas
- Paint oneself _____ corner
- _____ fide
- Portuguese feminine plural pronoun
- Henry M. Campbell and others
- Dense, squalid urban neighborhood
- Leave without saying goodbye
- Part of a play or movie
- In _____ of
- Bob Ufer's favorite team?
- Shorter version of a graphic novel
- Realization exclamation
- A2 time zone
- And _____ Rise, poem by Maya Angelou
- _____ boy or girl?
- Soon to be title of MLaw graduate
- Gold potato
- Always, in Latin
- "First Take" host (init.)
- Pistons on a scoreboard
- Spring weather, often

- Foundations of stare decisis
- Dispense or allot justice
- Bitter
- Coffee _____?
- Cast off
- Where to bid on a Logue Barn Party
- Not yours
- Mashed avos
- Future forecaster
- "Before" prefix
- Law and _____

DOWN

- Not bright
- Musician Brian
- Frat in Burns Park
- Music to an MDefender's ears?
- "Scrubs" star Braff
- Treat terribly
- One's specialty
- Tolkein tree
- Used to be
- Joe who played fan favorite movie lawyer
- Claim to be true
- Hot or wet spa rooms
- Haley Joel last name
- Break into jagged pieces

- MLB semifinal
- Minuscule amount
- Give off
- Not difficult
- Nutritious seeds
- Spotted type of leopard
- Annoyed
- French suffix denoting where you're from
- Michigan Law, to our graduates
- Student legal paper
- Left already
- Bursts of back pain
- Peaceful
- Classic autumn drink with donuts
- 0% yogurt
- Tiny amount
- Douglass of the early Beilein era
- Sound reverberation
- 2025 NBA MVP
- What Michigan Law proves law school can be
- DC airport
- Lyrical poem
- Big Apple NHL team

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!





michigan.law.umich.edu



umichlaw

#UMichLaw2026

Thank you for attending this event.

Along with many other college campuses, we occasionally encounter disruptions during campus events. When that happens, we strive to de-escalate the disruption and continue with the event. We appreciate your cooperation and understanding.

As a public university and an institution committed to diversity of thought and freedom of expression, the University of Michigan has many forums where members of the University community, speakers, artists, invited guests, and/or the general public can express their views and opinions. Yet not all University spaces or events are forums where everyone is invited to speak, perform, or gather.

No one is entitled to substantially disrupt the lawful speech or activities of others.

If the hosts of this event or University representatives believe that disruptions are interfering unduly with an event, they will, typically, warn the disruptors, and if the warnings are not heeded, then the disruptors may be removed from the event.

625 South State Street, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48109-1215
2026