

Alma Mater

Alma mater,
wise and glorious,

Child of Light
and bride of truth;

Over fate and foe victorious,

Dowered with eternal youth;

Crowned with love
of son and daughter,

Thou shalt conquer
as of yore.

Dear old Pittsburgh,
Alma Mater,

God preserve Thee
evermore!

The Dental Hygiene Oath

In my practice as a dental hygienist, I affirm my personal and professional commitment to improve the oral health of the public, to advance the art and science of dental hygiene, and to promote high standards of quality care.

I pledge continually to improve my professional knowledge and skills, to render a full measure of service to each patient entrusted to my care, and to uphold the highest standards of professional competence and personal conduct in the interests of the dental hygiene profession and the public it serves.

The Dental Oath

I, realizing the privileges and opportunities that will be given to me in my study of the arts and sciences of dentistry and appreciating the significance of the dental diploma to be conferred upon me, do hereby willingly pledge:

That I will diligently uphold the dignity, honor and objectives of the dental profession and, to the best of my ability, will contribute to its prestige, proficiency, and progress;

That I solemnly accept my responsibility to the patients to give them the best of my knowledge and skill, and to maintain an impeccable relationship with them that will warrant their trust and confidence; That I will faithfully observe the principles of ethics set forth by the profession;

That I will lend my influence and support to dental education, to organized dentistry, and to all segments of the profession which contribute to the fulfillment of its purpose.

2026

School of Dental Medicine
White Coat Ceremony



A recording of today's ceremony can be found at dental.pitt.edu/white-coat



University of Pittsburgh
August 21, 2026

Program

Welcome
Marnie Oakley, DMD
Dean

Alma Mater
Singulum

Research
Nathan Lam
DMD Class of 2028

The Pitt Dental Medicine Family
Alexis Distefano
DMD Class of 2027

The Meaning of the White Coat
Lilly Zhang
DH Class of 2027

White Coat Ceremony
Marnie Oakley, DMD
Dean

Renato Silva, DDS, MS, PhD
Senior Associate Dean

Christine Wankiiri-Hale, DMD
Associate Dean, Student Affairs

Irina Smilyanski, RDH, MSc, MSDH, DHSc
Director, Dental Hygiene

Shabana Reza, MS
Admissions Manager

Closing Remarks
Marnie Oakley, DMD
Dean

Advanced Standing

Sarika Adhikari	McKenna Tovar
Mikayla Byczynski	Angelica Trapp
Winni Chen	Diana Tyutyunnik
Erin Cook	Kristine Veranga
Eliana Doyle	Merna Wahba
Margaret Foley	Karina Wilson
Rylee Gabster	Olivia Yimin
Alicia Garrett	Vicky Zhen
Emily Goodman	
Adella Green	
Danna Ibrahim	
Karson Johnson	
Anna Mailliard	
Hayden Matchak	
Victoria Matchett	
Jayla Mayo	
Grace McCormick	
Ainsley McLane	
Rene Molina	
Zion Moss	
Pari Patel	
Lauren Qualey	
Leslie Saltsman	
Madison Schubert	
Kendyl Scouten	
Aidan Semerod	
Griffin Sicher	

Kanika Awasthi
Amna Huda
Manikanth Jonnalagedda
Jason Luk
Sheefat Musabbir
Siddhi Shah
Bhumika Sharma
Atinderpal Singh
Aditi Sooda
Rahul Yerrapothu

Doctor of Dental Medicine

Jesudarasimi Akinkuowo	Matthew Hannan
Prisha Arora	Kim Hergenhan
Deondria Bass	Victor Hermosillo
Alexis Bennett	Jonah Hillegass
Benita Bernard	Cedric Janvier
Brescias Bocchiaro	Maya Jarrah
Allison Booher	Sumana Kethu
Owen Boozer	Young-Joon Kim
Rachel LaSalvia Brady	Gavin Kint
Jack Brown	Veronica Kochlatyi
Emilio Canales	Jason Komaromy
Varshini Chaganti	Jin Shik Lee
Sanjana Chittimalla	Kya Lester
Kacian Clayton	Aiden Mackrell
Emma Colo	Megan Magee
Luke Culbert	Simran Mashru
Lydia Cwalina	Brett Mashuda
Aayush Dagar	Sarah Matlack
Jheel Dhruv	LilyAnna Muehlbauer
Katelyn Dugery	Subamanaswi Muppa
Joanna Fan	Muhammad Nasir
Kaitlyn Fedorak	Isha Nathan
Lucas Ferranti	Lilian Newcomer
Savanna Fiscus	Caelan O'Donnell
Meagan Frania	Tumay Onat
Anika Ghosh	Andrew Padula
Drew Gordon	Rishika Panda

Veeksha Parasa
Tirth Patel
Matthew Reinard
Ally Rice
Nika Salimi
Mallika Saluja
Omar Sanchez
Jacob Santos
Uhyeon Song
Calli Sophocles
Caroline Spahr
Ami Spencer
Juliana Stellitano
Bridget Swansen
Isabel Vogel
Elijah Wandel
Gloria Wang
Alexa Weaver
David Weldon
Jack Wiitanen
Maggie Wu
Tongya Yang
Emma Yeager
Violet Yu
Cayla Zenie
Eugenia Zhang

Thank You

Dr. Lauren Abes
Dr. Tricia Altschuler
Dr. Erika Babikow
Dr. Michael and Mrs. Susan Ban
Dr. Filip Barbaric
Dr. Thomas Barberio
Dr. George Bellios
Dr. Mary Bennardi
Mrs. Suganya Bernard
Dr. Jeffrey Borandi
Dr. Ellsworth and Mrs. Joanne Bowser
Dr. Darrick Brown
Drs. Maura and Ron Brungo
Dr. Terry and Mrs. Karen Buckenheimer
Dr. Megan Bunting
Dr. Michael Clopp
Dr. Christa Colaizzi
Mrs. Kelly Colwell
Dr. Michael and Mrs. Jaclyn DaBell
Dr. Judith and Mr. Ronald Davenport
Ms. Analisa David
Dr. Patrick DeMarco
Dental Society of Western PA
Dr. April Detar
Dr. Michael Dobos
Lt. Col. John and Ms. Kristin DuMond
Dr. Jim and Mrs. Heather Earle
Dr. Allyson Feinstein
Mr. Michael and Mrs. Kristen Ferranti

Mr. Matthew and Mrs. Autumn Fiscus
Dr. Mark Fiss
Mrs. Mary and Marty Frania
Mrs. Judebernard Francisxavier
Dr. Gary Fredrickson
Dr. James D. Friday
Dr. Allen Geng
Dr. Robert Gleiber
Dr. Robert and Mrs. Diann Glickman
Dr. Michael Godfrey
Dr. Leo Goode
Dr. George Grabbe
Dr. Maggie Gurtner
Dr. Stephen Gurtner
Dr. Priscilla Hamilton
Dr. Jennifer Heming
Dr. Christen Herndon
Mrs. Heidi Hillegass
Dr. Melissa Holt
Dr. Zilun Hu
Dr. Thottala Jayaraman
Dr. Edward Kaiser
Dr. A. Paul King
Dr. Douglas Kistler
Dr. Jason Klevansky
Dr. Jon Klevansky
Dr. Kenneth Kobliner
Dr. Gary Kopesky
Dr. Michael Korch

Dr. Edward Korenman
Dr. Maribeth Krzesinski
Dr. Paul and Ashley Kukunas
Dr. James Kyros
Dr. Katherine Jeeyeon Lee
Mr. Samuel and Mrs. Linda Leister
Mrs. Jenny Lester
Dr. Steve Levine
Mr. Mark and Mrs. Leah Mackrell
Dr. Mary Marazita
Dr. Kathryn Marks
Dr. Marcia Martinez
Mr. Brett Mashuda
Mrs. Annie Mathe
Mr. Ross and Mrs. Lori Matlack
Dr. Philip Michaelson
Dr. Gary Minchau
Dr. Douglas and Emily Moll
Dr. Cyrus Mozayan
Dr. Darius Mozayan
Mrs. Lendi Muehlbauer
Dr. Devan Munk
Dr. Robert Nerone
Drs. Marnie and Geoff Oakley
Dr. Jean O'Donnell
Ms. Tamara Ohler Smith
Oral Surgery Center of Idaho, PLLC
Dr. Nicole Oravec
Dr. Frank and Mrs. Karen Padula

Mr. Muralidhar Panda
Dr. Michael Parenti
Dr. Sunny Park
Dr. Arnold and Mrs. Nora Peace
Dr. Tuyen Pham
Dr. Lee Pollan
Dr. Anitha Potluri
Dr. Joanne Prasad
Dr. Stephen T. Radack III
Ms. Cheryl Ragland
Dr. Randy Rodriguez
Dr. Wellington Rody
Mr. Sam Ryu
Dr. Jack and Mrs. Jennifer Sahlaney
Mr. Harpreet and Biindiya Saluja
Mrs. Merryl Samuels
Mrs. Marissa Santos
Dr. Lawrence and Mrs. Andreen Schneider
Dr. Cynthia Schuler
Dr. Karan Shah
Dr. Renato Silva
Dr. Camille Siqueira Nogueira
Dr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Ellen Slone
Dr. Irina Smilyanski
Dr. Jayson Smith
Dr. Sayuri Smith
Dr. Seokjae Son
Dr. Jack Spagnuolo
Dr. Norman Stern

Dr. Linda Straub-Bruce
Mrs. Regina Stroud
Dr. Deborah Studen-Pavlovich
Dr. Kurt Summersgill
Dr. James Tauberg
Dr. Timothy Tremont
Dr. Beth Troy
Mrs. Ruth Ann Tully
Dr. Rod Uribe
Dr. Gopi Vasireddy
Dr. Richard "Paul" Vidunas Jr
Mr. John and Mrs. Lori Vogel
Dr. Kelly Wagner
Dr. Travis Wagner
Dr. Ron Walker
Dr. Alys Walter
Dr. Christine Wankiiri-Hale
Dr. Robert Weyant
Dr. Matthew Whipple
Dr. Jack White
Mr. Michael and Mrs. Kathryn Wiitanen
Dr. Marian Wolford
Dr. Joseph Yatko
Dr. Peirong Yu and Lily Tan
Dr. Chun Zhang and Mrs. Julie Pui
Dr. Vincent Ziccardi