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Honorary Degree Recipients

University Commencement Committee

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Honorary Degree Recipients

YEAR	NAME	AFFILIATION	DEGREE AWARDED
1975	Dr. Brage Golding Mr. Frederick A. White Dr. Lionel Newsom	First WSU President First WSU Acting President President, Central State	Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws
1976	Mr. John Jakes Mr. Robert S. Oelman	Author Founder, Former Bd. Chair	
1977	Mrs. Virginia Kettering Mr. David L. Rike	Philanthropist Philanthropist	Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws
1978	No Honorary degrees given		
1979	Father Ray Roesch Mr. C. William Verity, Jr. Dr. Clifton Wharton, Jr.	President, UD Chairman, Armco Chancellor, NY State U.	
1980	Mr. Harry P. Jeffrey Mrs. Thelma Fordham Pruett	Former WSU Bd. Chair Philanthropist	
1981	Mrs. Ivonette Wright Miller Mr. Horace Wright	Philanthropist Philanthropist	Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws
6/1982	Mr. James McSwiney Gov. James Rhodes Mrs. Clara Weisenborn	Chairman, Mead Governor of Ohio Former State Rep.	Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws Dr. of Laws
12/1982	Mr. Albert H. Sealy	Former WSU Bd. Chair	
6/1983	Ms. Josephine Schwarz	Choreographer; Founder of Dayton Ballet	Dr. of Laws
12/1983	No Honorary degrees given		
6/1984	Gen. Pres. Tsutomu Kake Richard DeWall, M.C.	President, Okayama U.	Dr. of Human Letters Dr. of Science
12/1984	Dr. Paul Katz Ms. Helen Hooven Santmyer	Founder, Conductor, Dayton Phil. Author	
6/1985	Commodore Grace M. Hopper	US Navy	Dr. of Science
12/1985	C. Chester Bussey	Former President, Sinclair College	Dr. of Humane Letters
5/1986	Gov. Richard Celeste	Gov., State of Ohio	Dr. of Laws
6/1986	C.J. McLin, Jr.	State Representative	Dr. of Humane Letters
12/1986 – 6/1989	No Honorary degrees given		
12/1989	William B. Coulter	Chancellor, Ohio Board of Regents	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/1990 – 12/1994	No Honorary degrees given		
6/1995	Virginia Hamilton	Author	Dr. of Humane Letters

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6/1996	Suzanne Murray Bassani	Founder: Muse Machine, Human Race Theatre	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/1997	Jeraldyne Blunden Steve Mason	Founder and Artistic Director of the Dayton Contemporary Dance	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/1998	Dr. Allan Eckert	Historian, Author	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/1999	G. Wilkinson Wright	Grand Nephew of Orville & Wilbur Wright	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2000	Hon. Walter H. Rice	Federal Judge	
6/2001	Dr. Tom Crouch	Senior Curator, aeronautics for the National Air and Space Museum at the Smithsonian	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2002	Dr. Fritz J. and Delores Russ	Founders, Systems Research Laboratories	Dr. of Humane Letters
11/2004	Dr. David Satcher	Former Surgeon General	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2005	Raj Soin	Entrepreneur	
6/2006	Tony Hall	Ambassador	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2007	Dr. David Albright	President, Institute for Science and International Security, Washington, DC	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2008	Merle Grace Kearns	Director, Ohio Dept. of Aging	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2009	Dr. David Ponitz	Former Sinclair College President	Dr. of Humane Letters
11/2009	Renate Frydman	Holocaust Education and Exhibit	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2010	Dr. Herbert Woodward Martin	Dayton's poet laureate	Dr. of Humane Letters
6/2011	Doreen Mogavero	Pres. , CEO and lead broker of Mogavero, Lee & Co.	Dr. of Humane Letters