

**1979**

Special Ceremony, Golden Year Celebration, September 16, 1979

William Coit Ackerman '24, UCLA pioneer, coach  
John E. Canaday '27, former president, UCLA Alumni Association, UC regent

**1980**

Special Ceremony, Charter Day, March 2, 1980

J.D. Morgan '41, director, Intercollegiate Athletics

Commencement, June 15, 1980

Gordon H. Ball, professor, zoology  
Joseph Kaplan, professor, geophysics  
Earl J. Miller, professor, economics  
Flora Murray Scott, professor, botanical sciences  
Marion A. Zeitlin, professor, Spanish

Special Ceremony, Reception in Honor of Byron Atkinson, September 29, 1980

Byron Harry Atkinson '40, M.A. '50, Ed.D. '60, administrator

**1981**

Commencement, June 21, 1981

Warren Minor Christopher, attorney and diplomat  
Shirley Ann Mount Hufstedler, attorney and judge  
William Polk Longmire, Jr., founder, UCLA department of surgery

**1982**

Commencement, June 20, 1982

Simon Ramo, co-founder of TRW  
Richard Callender Maxwell, former dean, UCLA School of Law  
Dorothy Buffum Chandler, arts patron and UC regent

**1983**

Commencement, June 19, 1983

Tom Bradley '41, mayor, City of Los Angeles  
Elinor Raas Heller, UC regent  
Laurence Olivier, actor  
David Stephen Saxon, president emeritus, University of California

**1984**

Commencement, June 17, 1984

Anna Bing Arnold '40, philanthropist and humanist  
Franklin David Murphy, UCLA chancellor emeritus  
Isaac Bashevis Singer, author and Nobel Prize recipient

**1985**

Commencement, June 16, 1985

Carol Burnett '54, actress  
Edward William Carter '32, businessman and UC regent  
John Robert Wooden, former UCLA men's basketball coach

**1986**

Commencement, June 22, 1986

Robert Howard Ahmanson '49, president, Ahmanson Foundation  
John Hope Franklin, historian  
William W. Melnitz M.A. '43, Ph.D. '47, former dean, UCLA College of Fine Arts  
Robert Bruce Merrifield '43, Ph.D. '49, biochemist and Nobel Prize recipient  
Toshiro Mifune, Japanese actor

**1987**

Commencement, June 14, 1987

Richard Diebenkorn, artist  
Ella Fitzgerald, performer  
John W. Ryan, educator

**1988**

Commencement, College of Fine Arts, June 11, 1988

Robert E. Wise, Academy Award-winning director

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 12, 1988

Frank Press, geophysicist  
Rufino Tamayo, artist  
Robert Vosper, university librarian

**1989**

Special Ceremony, UCLA Campaign Celebration/Academic Convocation, April 7, 1989

Lauro F. Cavazos, secretary of education, the United States of America

Commencement, School of Law, May 21, 1989

Harry A. Blackmun, associate justice of the Supreme Court

Commencement, College of Fine Arts, June 17, 1989

Walter Mirisch, film producer

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 18, 1989

Rosemary Park, educator  
John Brooks Slaughter M.S. '61, president of Occidental College  
Robert McCormick Adams, secretary of the Smithsonian Institution

**1990**

Commencement, Graduate School of Library and Information Science, June 16, 1990

Warren J. Haas, librarian

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 17, 1990

Anna L. Fisher '71, M.S. '87, M.D. '76, astronaut  
I.M. Pei, architect  
Roald Z. Sagdeev, Soviet physicist

**1991**

Commencement, Anderson Graduate School of Management, June 14, 1991

James D. Hodgson, former United States ambassador to Japan

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Physical Sciences, June 16, 1991  
Carl E. Sagan, planetary physicist

Special Ceremony, Academic Convocation, October 25, 1991  
Václav Havel, president of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic

### **1992**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, June 5, 1992  
Gordon L. MacDonald, founder, MacDonald Group, Ltd. (awarded posthumously\*)  
*\* Due to his passing after he had accepted the nomination*

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Physical Sciences, June 14, 1992  
Stephen Jay Gould, evolutionist and historian of science

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 14, 1992  
Orlando Patterson, historian and author

### **1993**

Commencement, School of Law, May 23, 1993  
Dorothy Wright Nelson '50, LL.B. '53, United States circuit judge

Commencement, School of Theater, Film and Television, June 19, 1993  
James Earl Jones, actor

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Humanities, June 19, 1993  
Carlos Fuentes, ambassador and author

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Social Sciences, June 20, 1993  
Elizabeth Glaser, co-founder of Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Physical Sciences, June 20, 1993  
Donald J. Cram, chemist and Nobel Prize recipient

### **1994**

Special Ceremony, Tribute to Henry Mancini - A 70th Birthday Celebration, April 19, 1994  
Henry Mancini, musical composer

Special Ceremony, Board of Directors Meeting, School of Medicine, May 10, 1994  
Phillip L. Williams, vice chairman emeritus, Times-Mirror Company

Special Ceremony, Academic Convocation, 75th Anniversary of UCLA, May 20, 1994  
William Jefferson Clinton, president of the United States of America

Commencement, School of the Arts, June 17, 1994  
Jane Alexander, actress and chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Physical Sciences, June 19, 1994  
George E. Brown, Jr. '46, congressman

Commencement, School of Theater, Film and Television, June 19, 1994  
Francis Ford Coppola M.F.A. '67, film producer and director

Special Ceremony, Official Visit and Public Lecture, October 6, 1994  
Shimon Peres, foreign minister of Israel

**1995**

Special Ceremony, Official Visit and Public Address, April 12, 1995  
Benazir Bhutto, prime minister of Pakistan

Commencement, School of Law, May 21, 1995  
Janet Reno, attorney general of the United States of America

Special Ceremony, Anderson School Dedication, June 8, 1995  
John E. Anderson '40, president, Topa Equities, Ltd.

Commencement, School of the Arts and Architecture, June 17, 1995  
Quincy Jones, musician

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 18, 1995  
Stanley Engerman, professor, University of Rochester

Commencement, AGSM Executive M.B.A. Program, September 9, 1995  
Benjamin Cayetano '68, governor of Hawaii

**1996**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, May 31, 1996  
Michael Ovitz, '68, president, the Walt Disney Company

Commencement, School of Theater, Film and Television, June 15, 1996  
Marvin Neil Simon, playwright

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Social Sciences, June 16, 1996  
Lew Wasserman, chairman emeritus, MCA, Inc.

**1997**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, May 30, 1997  
Leslie and Susan Gonda, founders, Leslie and Susan Gonda (Goldschmied) Foundation

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Humanities, June 14, 1997  
Dennis B. Ross '70, special Middle East coordinator

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Life Sciences, June 14, 1997  
Jerry Lewis '56, congressman

Commencement, School of the Arts and Architecture, June 14, 1997  
Harold M. Williams '46, president and CEO, Getty Trust

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Physical Sciences, June 15, 1997  
Fred Lawrence Whipple '27, astronomer

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding Ceremony, June 15, 1997  
Leroy Hood, scientist

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Social Sciences, June 15, 1997  
Kareem Abdul-Jabbar '69, basketball player

**1998**

Special Ceremony, "A Nobel Experience" Lecture, April 9, 1998  
Paul D. Boyer, professor of chemistry and Nobel Prize recipient

Special Ceremony, Official Visit and Public Address, April 22, 1998  
Kofi Annan, secretary-general of the United Nations

Commencement, Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, June 20, 1998  
Richard Riley, secretary of education of the United States of America

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Social Sciences, June 21, 1998  
Oscar Arias Sanchez, former president of Costa Rica and Nobel Prize recipient

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 21, 1998  
Michael Apple, professor, University of Wisconsin, Madison

Special Ceremony, Donor Luncheon, July 18, 1998  
Edie Wasserman, UCLA supporter and humanitarian

Special Ceremony, Lecture and Reception, November 2, 1998  
William F. Sharpe '55, M.A. '56, Ph.D. '61 Nobel Prize recipient

Special Ceremony, Charles E. Young Library Renaming, December 6, 1998  
Charles E. Young '55, M.A. '57, Ph.D. '60, UCLA chancellor emeritus

**1999**

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Humanities, June 19, 1999  
Mario Vargas Llosa, Peruvian poet and humanitarian

**2000**

Special Ceremony, Center for the Book and Joint Degree Announcement, January 21, 2000  
James Billington, librarian of congress

Special Ceremony, June 1, 2000  
Frank W. Clark, Jr., former UC regent

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 15, 2000  
Jules B. LaPirus, president, Council of Graduate Schools

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Life Sciences, June 17, 2000  
Rita Colwell, director, National Science Foundation

Commencement, School of the Arts and Architecture, June 17, 2000  
Gloria Kaufman, UCLA supporter

Commencement, School of Public Health, June 18, 2000  
Rob Reiner, actor, writer, child advocate

Special Ceremony, Brodie Lecture, November 1, 2000  
Jimmy Carter, former president of the United States of America

Special Ceremony, November 30, 2000  
Stanley A. Dashew, entrepreneur, industrialist and inventor

### **2001**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, June 1, 2001  
Iris Cantor, chairman and president, Iris and B. Gerald Cantor Foundation

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, Humanities, June 16, 2001  
Andrea L. Rich '65, M.A. '66, Ph.D. '68, president, Los Angeles County Museum of Art

### **2002**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, May 31, 2002  
Lynda and Stewart '59, J.D. '62 Resnick, co-chair and chair, Roll International Corporation

Commencement, School of Theater, Film and Television, June 14, 2002  
Kirk Douglas, actor, director and producer

### **2003**

Commencement, School of Law, May 11, 2003  
Lee Hamilton, Woodrow Wilson Intl. Center for Scholars director, former congressman

Commencement, School of Nursing, June 14, 2003  
Lois Capps, California congresswoman, healthcare advocate

### **2004**

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 17, 2004  
George Aratani, founder, Mikasa Dinnerware/Kenwood Electronics, community leader

Commencement, School of Public Policy and Social Research, June 18, 2004  
George Mitchell, former US senator, international peacemaker

### **2005**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, June 3, 2005  
Jane and Terry Semel, founder, ijane.inc., and chairman and CEO, Yahoo

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 17, 2005  
Umberto Eco, scholar and author

Commencement, School of Theatre, Film and Television, June 17, 2005  
Anthony Hopkins, actor

Commencement, School of the Arts and Architecture, June 18, 2005  
Frank Gehry, architect

Commencement, Graduate School of Education and Information Studies, June 18, 2005  
James Banks, professor and director, Center for Multicultural Education, Univ. of Washington

**2006**

Special Ceremony, Campaign Closing Legacy Ball, April 21, 2006  
Bob and Marion Wilson, UCLA supporters

Commencement, School of Theatre, Film and Television, June 16, 2006  
Samuel Goldwyn, Jr., director, writer, producer

Commencement, School of the Arts and Architecture, June 17, 2006  
Edythe and Eli Broad, founders, The Broad Foundations

**2007**

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, June 1, 2007  
Chien Chung Pei, architect

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 14, 2007  
Morgan Chu, attorney

Commencement, School of Public Affairs, June 15, 2007  
Norman Y. Mineta, former secretary of transportation of the United States of America

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 15, 2007  
Antonio Villaraigosa, mayor, City of Los Angeles

**2008**

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, May 27, 2008  
Lloyd Cotsen, businessman and founder, Cotsen Family Foundation

Commencement, Anderson School of Management, June 13, 2008  
Richard Ziman, founding chairman and CEO, Arden Realty, Inc.

Commencement, School of Engineering and Applied Science, June 14, 2008  
Charles M. Vest, president, National Academy of Engineering

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 12, 2008  
Linda Griego, former deputy mayor of Los Angeles, and former president and CEO, Rebuild LA

**2009**

Special Ceremony, Lester Breslow Distinguished Lecture, April 16, 2009  
Jonathan E. Fielding, doctor

Special Ceremony, UCLA Day, May 9, 2009  
Rachel A. Robinson '42, social activist, civic leader and nurse

Commencement, School of Theatre, Film and Television, June 12, 2009  
Haskell Wexler, cinematographer, director

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 12, 2009  
Dolores Huerta, labor activist

**2010**

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, January 14, 2010  
Eugene S. Rosenfeld '56, businessman

Special Ceremony, Bernard Brodie Lecture on the Conditions of Peace, March 2, 2010  
Ban Ki-moon, secretary-general of the United Nations

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, June 4, 2010  
Gerald S. Levey, dean emeritus, School of Medicine

Commencement, School of Engineering and Applied Science, June 12, 2010  
Henry Samuelli '75, M.S. '76, Ph.D. '80, businessman

**2011**

Special Ceremony, The College of Letters and Science Awards Dinner, March 29, 2011  
Elinor Ostrom '54, M.A. '62, Ph.D. '65, professor and Nobel Prize recipient

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 10, 2011  
Aaron S. Williams, director, Peace Corps

**2012**

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 15, 2012  
Paul I. Terasaki '50, M.A. '52, Ph.D. '56, professor emeritus of surgery, medical pioneer

**2014**

Special Ceremony, Luskin School of Public Affairs Lecture, January 29, 2014  
Madeleine Albright, former secretary of state of the United States of America

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, March 3, 2014  
Larry Brilliant, physician, epidemiologist, and former director of Google.org

Special Ceremony, Royce Hall, March 5, 2014  
Hillary Rodham Clinton, former secretary of state and former U.S. senator from New York

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, May 8, 2014  
James L. Easton '59, businessman

Commencement, School of Medicine, Hippocratic Oath Ceremony, May 30, 2014  
David Geffen, record executive, film and theatrical producer

Commencement, School of Dentistry, June 1, 2014  
Gary Parker D.D.S. '77, oral and maxillofacial surgeon

Commencement, The College of Letters and Science, June 13, 2014  
Randy Schekman '71, professor and Nobel Prize recipient



**2015**

Commencement, Graduate Division, Doctoral Hooding, June 11, 2015  
Shirley Malcom M.A. '68, STEM education advocate

Special Ceremony, Royce Hall, October 5, 2015  
Toni Morrison, author, professor, Nobel laureate

**2016**

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, March 7, 2016  
Laurence D. Fink, author, businessman

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, May 6, 2016  
James '50 and Carol Collins, UCLA supporters

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, May 17, 2016  
Rafer Johnson '59, Olympian, actor

**2017**

Special Ceremony, Royce Hall, April 10, 2017  
John Robert Lewis, congressman

Special Ceremony, Luskin Conference Center, June 8, 2017  
Raphael Montañez Ortiz, artist, professor of visual art

Commencement, School of Music, June 16, 2017  
Herb Alpert, artist, musician, recording industry executive

Special Ceremony, Royce Hall, October 30, 2017  
Juan Felipe Herrera '72, poet and professor

Special Ceremony, Schoenberg Music Building, November 12, 2017  
Plácido Domingo, opera singer, conductor

Special Ceremony, David Geffen Hall, December 4, 2017  
Loretta Jones, civil rights activist, health policy advocate, social architect

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, December 4, 2017  
Peter Guber, music and film producer

**2018**

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, January 11, 2018  
Martine Rothblatt '77, M.B.A '81, J.D. '81, CEO, lawyer, author, and entrepreneur

Special Ceremony, Luskin School of Public Affairs Lecture, October 9, 2018  
Jorge Ramos, journalist and author

Special Ceremony, Chancellor's Residence, October 24, 2018  
Morton La Kretz '48, real estate developer, champion of environmental conservation and sustainability



Special Ceremony, Carnesale Commons, November 28, 2018  
James M. Lawson Jr., activist and university professor

**Total: 162 Recipients**

**Updated: November 29, 2018**