

OPENING CONVOCATION SPEAKERS

1969Graham Anderson Martin '32, US Ambassador to Thailand ('63-'67), *Reflections on Dissent*

1970Sam Levering, Orchardist, Virginia

1971Vernon E. Jordan Jr., Executive Director Elect, National Urban League

1972Hodding Carter III, Editor and Publisher, Delta Democrat-Times

1973Senator Sam J. Ervin Jr. LLD '71

1974James McNaughton Hester, President, New York University

1975Olin C. Robinson, President, Middleburg College

1976Mrs. Edward Carwile LeRoy '57, (First Female Convocation speaker)

1977John W. Gilbert, Minister of Defense, Great Britain

1978William Van Alstyne Professor of Law, Duke University

1979Robert M. Helm '39, Professor of Philosophy, WFU, *The Spring of Learning*

1980R. Kirby Godsey, President, Mercer University, *In Pursuit of Honor*

1981

1982Don M. Randel, Professor of Music, Cornell University, *A Plaine and Easie Introduction to Practicall Musicke*

1983Mortimer J. Adler, Director, Institute for Philosophical Research, *Faith and Reason*

1984John P. Anderson, Vice-President for Administration and Planning, WFU, *Parallel Paths*

1985Richard Groves, Minister, WF Baptist Church, *Tradition and Freedom*

1986Bill Bradley, US Senator from NJ and Jack Kemp, US Representative from NY

1987Gardner C. Taylor, Pastor, The Concord Baptist Church of Christ, Brooklyn, NY, *We Hold These Truths*

1988Roone Arledge, Group President, ABC News and ABC Sports, *TV and the Political Process*

1989Arthur Ashe, Wimbledon & US Open Champion, Captain, US Davis Cup Team, author and Washington Post Columnist, *Academics Come First*

- 1990 John G. Medlin, President, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, First Wachovia Corporation, *The Importance of Studies in the Humanities to Prepare for a World Undergoing Fundamental Change*
- 1991 Maya Angelou, Wake Forest University Professor of American Studies, author, poet and playwright
- 1992 G. Maria Henson '82, editorial writer, Lexington (KY) Herald Leader
- 1993 Arthur Schlesinger, historian and author
- 1994 William H. Rehnquist, Chief Justice of the United States
- 1995 Julius L. Chambers, Chancellor, NC Central University, "The Future of Race Relations in America."
- 1996 Beverly Sills, Chairman of the Board, Lincoln Center for the Performing Arts, "The State Of The Arts."
- 1997 Harold S. Kushner, Robbi Laureate Temple Israel, Natick, Massachusetts, "What's The Point of Being Religious?"
- 1998 Oscar Arias Sanchez, Former President of Costa Rica and 1987 Nobel Peace Prize Recipient, "Diversity, Globalization and Human Security: A Call to Responsibility."
- 1999 James Watson, Scientist, author and Nobel Peace Prize Recipient, "Living with DNA."
- 2000 Stephen Carter, William Nelson Cromwell Professor of Law, Yale University, "Ethics, Religion and Politics in American Life."
- 2001 Mary Pipines Easley '72, JD '75, Professor of Law at North Carolina Central University and First Lady of North Carolina, *Competence, Confidence and the Comfort Zone; How to Color Your Life Outside the Lines*
- 2002 Dr. J. Craig Venter, "*Sequencing the Human Genome: Gateway to a New Era in Science & Medicine*" *Founded Celera Genomics in 1998.*
- 2003 Tim Auman, University Chaplain "*The Conversion of Language*"
- 2004 Lee Hamilton, Vice Chair of 9/11 Committee, Former U.S. Congressman from Indiana, "Foreign Policy and the 2004 Presidential Campaign."
- 2005 *Two symposiums in conjunction with Inauguration of President Nathan O. Hatch: "Why the Liberal Arts? Exploring the Aims of a University Education," and

“The Moral Challenges of Professional Life”

2006 Leonard Pitts, Jr., Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist and author, “Home of the Brave.”

2007 James Billington, The Librarian of Congress, “The Future of Freedom.”

2008 David Lubin, Charlotte C. Weber Professor of Art, “Disturbing the Peace: Wake Forest and the Arts.”

2009 Suzanne Reynolds, Professor of Law, “Inquiring Minds and Open Hearts: Wake Forest and Public Engagement”