

List Recipients of Honors Awarded by JCU
(2000-2023)

Selected Commencement Speakers prior to 2000

Professor Amintore Fanfani, former Prime Minister of Italy
Francesco Rutelli, Mayor of Rome

2000 Commencement Ceremony, JCU Courtyard:

- Prof. Giuliano Amato, Prime Minister of Italy, Commencement Speaker
Honorary Degree and Distinguished Service Award
- Giovanna Melandri, Minister of Culture
- James R. Bowditch, Professor at John Cabot University

2001 Commencement Ceremony, JCU Courtyard:

- Cathrine Bertini, Director, World Food Program, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

2002 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Macchia Madama:

- James Nicholson, US Ambassador to the Holy See, Commencement Speaker
- Letizia Moratti, Minister of Education,
- Antonio Martino, Minister of Defense

2003 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Walter Veltroni, Mayor of Rome, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*
- H.E. Ambassador Mel Sembler, United States Ambassador to Italy
Recognized with plaque
- Dr. Margaret B. Melady, President of The American University of Rome
Recognized with plaque
- Dr. Portia Anne Prebys, Trustee
Doctor of Letters, *honoris causa*

2004 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Dr. Joseph Hagan, Chairman JCU Board of Trustees

Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*, Commencement Speaker

- Prof. Brian Williams, first Professor Emeritus
Recognized with plaque
- Dr. John Falconieri, first president of John Cabot University
Recognized with plaque

2005 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Senator Marcello Pera, President of the Senate of the Republic of Italy, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*
- Ambassador James F. Creagan, Former President of John Cabot University
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2006 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Prof. Robert D. Putnam, Peter and Isabel Malkin Professor of Public Policy at Harvard University
Commencement Speaker,
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2007 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Ronald Spogli, US Ambassador to Italy, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2008 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Dr. Gianni Letta, Under Secretary to the Presidency of the Council of Minister, Republic of Italy
Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*
- Dr. John Bailey, President, American College of Greece,
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2009 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Josette Sheeran, Executive Director, World Food Program, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

2010 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- David H. Thorne, US Ambassador to Italy, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*
- Dr. Ali Arabnia, '83, JCU Trustee,
Doctor of Business Administration, *honoris causa*

2011 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- The Honorable Ertharin Cousin, US Ambassador to the US Mission to the UN, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

2012 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Prof. Mstislav Afanasiev, Rector, The State University of the Ministry of Finance of the Russian Federation
Doctor of Public Administration, *honoris causa*, Commencement Speaker
- The Honorable William J. Martini, US District Court Judge for the District of New Jersey
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2012 Special Convocation, John Cabot University, Lemon Tree Courtyard, Guarini Campus:

- H.E. Giulio Terzi di Sant'Agatha, Minister of Foreign Affairs
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

2013 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Wilhelmina Cole Holladay, Founder and Chairman of the Board of the National Museum of Women in the Arts, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*
- His Eminence Cardinal Edwin Frederick O'Brien, Grand Master of the Equestrian Order of the Holy Sepulcher of Jerusalem
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2014 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- His Highness Fra' Matthew Festing, Prince and Grand Master of the Sovereign Order of Malta
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*, Commencement Speaker
- The Venerable Geshe Nicholas Vreeland
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2014 President's Gala, Hotel Hassler:

- Paula Frohring, JCU Trustee,
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2015 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Dacia Maraini, Author, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*
- John Phillips, US Ambassador to Italy,
Presidential Medal

2016 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Minister Dario Franceschini, Italian Minister of Culture and Tourism, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*
- Mr. Roberto Wirth, President and Managing Director of the Hassler Roma
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2017 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

- Ms. Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA),
Commencement Speaker
Doctor of International Affairs, *honoris causa*
- Ms. Milena Gabanelli, Italian Journalist and Television Host
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2018 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

H.E. Frà Timothy Dunlap
Doctor of Public Service, *honoris causa*

2019 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

Mr. Greg Burke, Journalist, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2020 & 2021 Commencement Ceremony, John Cabot University, Guarini Campus

The Honorable Staffan de Mistura
Former Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of International Affairs, *honoris causa*

2022 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

Billy Collins, U.S. Poet Laureate, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

Prof. Azza Karam, Secretary General, Religions for Peace International
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

2023 Commencement Ceremony, Villa Aurelia:

David P. Haney, Commencement Speaker
Doctor of Humane Letters, *honoris causa*

Dr. Luise Drücke, Scholar and Practitioner in the field of international relations
Doctor of International Affairs, *honoris causa*. “For her contributions to the dissemination of knowledge about human rights and refugees matters, and for having led major efforts by the UNHCR in bringing protection and assistance to refugees and other persons in need in many parts of the world.”
