



The State University  
of New York

## Office of the Chancellor

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## MEMORANDUM

January 27, 2026

**TO: Members of the Board of Trustees**

**FROM: Dr. John B. King Jr., Chancellor**

**SUBJECT: Initial Approval 2025-2026 Honorary Degree Nominees**

### Action Requested

The proposed resolution authorizes the initial approval of proposed honorary degree candidates nominated in the 2025-2026 academic year, allowing invitations for receipt of honorary degrees to be extended to those individuals.

### Resolution

I recommend that the Board of Trustees adopt the following resolution:

**Resolved** that honorary degree candidates approved by the University-wide Honorary Degree Committee (“Committee”) and supported by the Chancellor, as set forth in a document on file with the Office of the Secretary of the University, be, and hereby are, initially approved, allowing invitations for the receipt of honorary degrees to be extended to these individuals on behalf of the Chancellor and SUNY Trustees, consistent with the *Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees*, as amended June 2018.

### Background

Consistent with the *Guidelines for the Awarding of Honorary Degrees*, the initial approval of honorary degree candidates by the Board of Trustees grants the nominating entity (generally a campus president) authority to extend invitations to approved candidates. Candidates who accept campus invitations are subject to further review by the Chancellor before authority will be granted to confer the honorary degrees.