

## Joanne Block Rief, DDS '86



Dr. Joanne Block Rief's career in dentistry started at the age of 13. Prior to starting Dental Hygiene school, Joanne assisted her father, the late Stanley Earle Block, DDS '58, at his dental practice in Annapolis, Maryland, and worked as a dental assistant through a temporary agency. In 1982, she graduated from the dental hygiene program at the University of Rhode Island and began attending the University of Maryland School of Dentistry and graduated in 1986. After graduating in 1986, she

practiced with her mentor and first employer - her father. The duo worked together for 18 years, until Dr. Block Rief purchased her own office in Owings Mills, Crossroads Dental Arts.

Dr. Block Rief is an active member of the Maryland State Dental and Baltimore County Dental associations. A member of The Pierre Fauchard Academy and The International College of Dentists, she enjoys attending study clubs and listening to dental and motivational speakers from around the country. Dr. Block Rief consults with peers who are just starting out in practice, lectures to dentists and dental students on practice management and marketing and has served as a writer for *Dental Economics* magazine.

Married for 34 years to her husband Marshall, Dr. Block Rief is a proud mother of Erika and Austin, son-in-law Jonathan, daughter-in-law Talia, and grandmother and part-time nanny to Dalia and Idan. In her spare time, she enjoys traveling, entertaining, working out at the gym, walking, playing pickleball, marketing her dental practice, and listening to podcasts.

## Jordan Virden, DDS '17, Pediatrics '19



Jordan Virden obtained her Doctor of Dental Surgery degree and Pediatric Dental Certificate from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in 2017 and 2019, respectively. During her time in residency, she was selected by the faculty to serve as co-chief resident.

She volunteers her time teaching and mentoring dental students and pediatric dental residents as University of Maryland School of Dentistry's Dean's Faculty member, working in the pediatric dental clinic, and lecturing on

Motivational Interviewing and Child Abuse and Neglect.

Dr. Virden is a Diplomate of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry and was recently selected to be a member of the 2023 Class of the International College of Dentists. She is currently an associate pediatric dentist at Smiles4children.

Dr. Virden is very honored to be speaking today, as the dental and dental hygiene students continue their journeys in the oral health professions.



UNIVERSITY of MARYLAND  
SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

## Professional Oath

Being admitted to the profession of dentistry/dental hygiene, I pledge myself to the service of humanity — my patients, my community, and my colleagues. The health and well-being of my patients will be my first consideration: I will uphold the highest standards of care for my patients and hold in confidence all they entrust to me. I will promote the welfare of my community by speaking out against injustice and providing unbiased service to those in need. I will strive to merit the trust that society has placed in my profession, faithfully observe its principles of ethics and integrity, maintain the highest standards of personal and professional behavior, and encourage my colleagues to do the same. I am indebted to my teachers, and I pledge to improve my skills through a commitment to continuous learning. I promise to maintain my own well-being and assist my colleagues to do the same. I take this oath freely and upon my honor.

## White Coat Ceremony

*Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene Class of 2025*  
*Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2026*

Monday, September 16, 2024  
5 p.m.

## Thank you to our White Coat sponsors!

For a complete list of sponsors, scan the code:



University of Maryland, Baltimore  
Leadership Hall at MSTF  
685 West Baltimore Street  
Baltimore, Maryland

## Welcome

Tintu Chandy, ^ DDS, MS  
Assistant Professor, Division of Prosthodontics

## The Procession of the Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene Class of 2025

## The Procession of the Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2026

### Greetings

Mark A. Reynolds, DDS '86, PhD  
Dean and Professor

Melvin Kushner, DDS '66  
Chair, Board of Visitors

### Guest Speakers

Joanne Block Rief, DDS '86  
President, Alumni Association Board

Jordan Virden, DDS '17, Pediatrics '19

### Presentation of Coats

*Dental Hygiene Class of 2025*  
Asmita Koirala, President

#### Assisted by

Lisa Bress, ^ RDH, MS, Clinical Associate Professor,  
Division Chief, Dental Hygiene  
Suzanne Burgee, ^ RDH, BSDH '12, MSDH, Clinical Instructor  
Cindy Frinfrock, ^ RDH, MS, Clinical Instructor, Senior Clinic Coordinator  
Oksana Mishler, ^ DHSc, RDH, BSDH '09, MS '12, Clinical Associate Professor,  
Academic Program Director, Dental Hygiene

*Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2026*  
Cameron Watson, President

#### Assisted by

Joanne Block Rief, DDS '86, President, Alumni Association Board  
Barry Cohan, DDS '74, Pediatrics '76, Board of Visitors  
Stanley Cohen, ° DDS '85, Clinical Instructor,  
Assistant General Practice Director  
Stephanie Dennison, DDS, ° Clinical Instructor, General Practice Director  
Eve Desai, ° DDS '09, Clinical Instructor, General Practice Director  
Alexandra Fitzgerald, DDS '18, Alumni Association Board,  
President, Maryland State Dental Association  
Kamila Kantovitz, ° DDS, Clinical Assistant Professor,  
General Practice Director  
Ramsay Koury, ° DMD, Clinical Assistant Professor,  
General Practice Director  
Henry Lee, DDS '79, Board of Visitors  
Marc Nuger, DDS '79, Immediate Past President, Alumni Association Board  
Kwanrak Sanit, ° DMD, Clinical Instructor, General Practice Director  
Michael Wright, DDS '99, Prosthodontics '02, MS '02

## Professional Oath

Patricia Meehan, DDS '93, BSN, FACD, FICD  
Associate Dean, Academic Affairs, Associate Professor

## Closing Remarks

Mark A. Reynolds, DDS '86, PhD  
Dean and Professor

## Adjournment

## Class Photograph

Leadership Hall



## Faculty Marshals

### Chief Marshal

Nisha Ganesh, DDS '07, MAEd  
Clinical Associate Professor, Vice Chair, Department of Comprehensive  
Dentistry, Director of Predoctoral Education in General Dentistry

### Dental Hygiene, Class of 2025

Lisa Bress, ^ RDH, MS, Clinical Associate Professor,  
Division Chief, Dental Hygiene

### Doctor of Dental Surgery, Class of 2026

Lisa D'Affronte, ° DDS '12

#### Class Advisor

Clinical Assistant Professor, General Practice Director,  
Director, Division of General Practice

Jeffery Price, ~ DDS, MS, MAGD, FICD, FACD  
Class Advisor

Clinical Professor, Director, Division of Oral Radiology,  
Co-Director, Division of Artificial Intelligence

## Thank you, student volunteers!



## Bachelor of Science Dental Hygiene Class of 2025

*Bahar Ademoglu\**  
*Erobomhan Agbonkhese*  
*Stephanie Benitez*  
*Gabrielle Coltrane\**  
*Asmita Koirala*

*Kim Nguyen\**  
*Samantha Reiz*  
*Elisheva Smith*  
*Angelyna Tuck*

*\*BS/MS Dual Degree Clinical Dental Hygiene Leader Track*

*°Department of Comprehensive Dentistry*

*~Department of Advanced Oncology and Diagnostic Services*

*^Department of Advanced Oral Sciences and Therapeutics*

## Doctor of Dental Surgery Class of 2026

<i>Sarah Abdelwahab</i>	<i>Natalie Gochar</i>	<i>Bryan Oh</i>
<i>Safa Ahteshamuddin</i>	<i>Austin Gray</i>	<i>Olayinka Olatunde</i>
<i>Haya Akhras</i>	<i>Cameron Hadeed</i>	<i>Emma O'Shea</i>
<i>Karla Alexander</i>	<i>Dorsa Haftsavar</i>	<i>Katelyn Park</i>
<i>Meghan Alexis</i>	<i>Muhammad Hamza</i>	<i>Lydia Park</i>
<i>Noor Al-Shalabi</i>	<i>Youstina Hanna</i>	<i>Pujan Patel</i>
<i>Amirabbas Amindarolzari</i>	<i>Jasmine Hariri</i>	<i>Riva Patel</i>
<i>David Annan</i>	<i>Rewa Hazim</i>	<i>Jeremie Piña</i>
<i>Autumn Aragones-Knight</i>	<i>Kevin Heo</i>	<i>Alex Prokopenko</i>
<i>Bryana Ardrey</i>	<i>Ben Hung</i>	<i>Raheel Raad</i>
<i>Madeleine August</i>	<i>Earl Joshua Hurley</i>	<i>Matthew Rampersad</i>
<i>Efraín Baca Hernández</i>	<i>Bach Huynh</i>	<i>Heera Rasheed</i>
<i>Bolutife Baiyewu</i>	<i>Kobi Igwilo</i>	<i>Safeer Rasul</i>
<i>Prabhleen Kaur Batra</i>	<i>Valeria Iza</i>	<i>Nicole Reynoso Sanchez</i>
<i>Mahsa Bayati</i>	<i>Ashley John</i>	<i>Brenton Rosa</i>
<i>Nicolette Beatenbough</i>	<i>Ryan Kasraii</i>	<i>Ryan Rubenstein</i>
<i>Nicholas Bondra</i>	<i>Kevin (Dong) Kim</i>	<i>Hanna Salehi</i>
<i>Robert Caffrey</i>	<i>Azel King</i>	<i>Anika Samee</i>
<i>Lillie Caravati</i>	<i>Joseph Kvint</i>	<i>Marina Samouel Hermeena</i>
<i>Nicole Carlson</i>	<i>Ashley La</i>	<i>Gurneet Sandhu</i>
<i>Pasquale Carpentiere</i>	<i>Sharon Lahijani</i>	<i>Saeid Shadmani</i>
<i>Vincent Catania</i>	<i>Frederick Lane</i>	<i>Aza Shiao</i>
<i>Allison Cates</i>	<i>Anh Le</i>	<i>Evan Shupe</i>
<i>Nicholas Chan</i>	<i>Nyle Le</i>	<i>Elliana Singh</i>
<i>Michael Chehade</i>	<i>Quynh Le</i>	<i>Leap Stewart</i>
<i>Michael Cheng</i>	<i>Anne Marie Lee</i>	<i>Daphnie Sumah</i>
<i>Nadia Crossman</i>	<i>Michelle Lee</i>	<i>Shafia Talat</i>
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<i>Julie Erhart</i>	<i>Harris Malik</i>	<i>Ryan Witte</i>
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<i>Harini Ganesh</i>	<i>Frances Morales</i>	<i>May Zelevski</i>
<i>Tsion Getahun</i>	<i>Leila Movahedi</i>	<i>Eileen Zhi</i>
<i>Kevin Glasser</i>	<i>Emily Nguyen</i>	<i>Jiajun Zhou</i>