

Class of 2020

**COMMENCEMENT
CEREMONY**



T E X A S I R R A D I E N T

KIPP:

**SUNNYSIDE
HIGH SCHOOL**

Saturday, June 6, 2020

5:00PM

#kipptexas2020

#kshs2020

*"Widen the path of opportunities and continue to leave a powerful
and positive legacy in the world." -Luis Fonsi*



KIPP Sunnyside High School Class of 2020 Virtual Commencement

KSHS Mission

KSHS is committed to the growth and achievement of all students and the development of thoughtful leaders who will advocate for themselves and others. Through rigorous scholarship in a nurturing environment, our graduates are empowered to take ownership of their lives and possess the knowledge, skills, and courage to be successful in college and beyond.

School Motto - Terras Irradiant, *"Let them give light to the world"*

School Colors – Blue, Black, and White

KSHS Core Values

KSHS has three core values which govern our thoughts, words and actions.

- ♦ **Scholarship:** Excellence in scholarship opens a door for future opportunities and increases the ability to help others.
- ♦ **Courage:** Courage is making the right decisions and taking the best course of action regardless of time, place, or circumstance.
- ♦ **Community:** Community means taking individual responsibility for your actions and words for the collective success of your school, family, and neighborhood.



The ama-gi, a Sumerian cuneiform word, is the earliest known written symbol representing the idea of freedom.

Dear Class of 2020, when you started at KIPP Sunnyside High School in August of 2016, we boldly declared the vision was clear for 2020. We had no idea what the universe had in store. Challenges and obstacles are an unavoidable part of life. Learning to accept inevitable change, anchor yourself in your truth, and adjust your expectations accordingly are some of life's toughest lessons. You have navigated through these challenges and life lessons with immeasurable maturity, strength, and grace. Although uncertainty may surround us, the vision for your future remains clear. You will continue to use your education to live a choice-filled life and change the world. *Terras Irradiant.*

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."
–Nelson Mandela



KIPP Sunnyside High School
Class of 2020 Commencement Program

Processional (Pomp and Circumstance).....	Sir Edward Elgar
Announcement of Commencement.....	Sehba Ali <i>Chief Executive Officer, KIPP Texas Public Schools</i>
Welcome Address.....	Dr. Rian K. Wright <i>School Leader, KIPP Sunnyside High School</i>
Introduction of Student Speakers.....	Ms. R. Malené Dixon <i>Founding Counselor</i>
Valedictorian Address (Scholarship).....	Ms. Daisy Moreno <i>Valedictorian</i>
Special Senator Address (Courage).....	Mr. Yann Nicolas Dzeukou <i>Class of 2020</i>
Special Senator Address (Community)	Mr. King Northington <i>Class of 2020, President</i>
Commencement Address.....	Samantha Agniel <i>Class of 2016, KIPP Sunnyside High School</i> <i>Class of 2020, Rice University</i>
Recognition of Graduates.....	Mr. Conor Hynes <i>Assistant Principal, 12th Grade</i>
Presentation of Diplomas.....	Dr. Rian K. Wright <i>School Leader</i>
Recessional.....	Never Stop <i>Nya Winfield, 2020</i> <i>Khari Douglas, Class of 2019</i>

"Follow your dreams despite what other people think, and work toward them every day."--Nydia Monarrez



KIPP Sunnyside High School Class of 2020 Honors, Awards, and Recognitions

Honors

Valedictorian.....Daisy Moreno
Salutatorian.....Samantha Nava
Terras Irradiant AwardDamian Sanders-Russell
Jason P. Cisneros Everyday Hero Award.....Amy Aviles

Honor Graduate Designation

Honor graduates earn the privilege to wear gold, silver, or bronze cords in recognition of their academic achievement based on cumulative, weighted high school grade point averages.

*** Summa Cum Laude	With Highest Honors	Gold Cords	3.75 or higher
** Magna Cum Laude	With High Honors	Silver Cords	3.50 – 3.74
* Cum Laude	With Honors	Bronze Cord	3.25 – 3.49

Class of 2020 Student Leadership Team

President.....King Northington
Vice-PresidentAmy Aviles
SecretaryBrejaun O'Neal
Treasurers.....Karla Macedo and Samantha Nava
Peer Counselor.....Chakyra Richard
Class Representative.....Yann Nicolas Dzeukou

Departmental Awards

Excellence in English Awards.....Yairely Lopez Jimenez
Excellence in Pre-Calculus Math Award.....Nya Winfield
Excellence in AP Statistics Math Award.....Anakary Osorio
Excellence in AP Calculus Math Award.....Daisy Moreno
Excellence in Social Studies Award.....Damian Sanders-Russell
Excellence in Science Award.....Amera Chenevert
Excellence in STEM.....Marquise Wilson

Ignite. Political Power in Every Young Woman

The Ignite program trains young women to understand how government works, why it matters, and how to analyze the policy issues that impact their lives. Throughout this program of rigorous self and community exploration, young women ultimately define their call to service and learn how to become the next generation of civic and political leaders. Students who participated in the Ignite Program since 9th grade earned the privilege to wear pink cords in recognition of their commitment to our core values of scholarship, courage and community.

Scholarship Recognition

To date, the Class of 2020 has accrued approx. \$1.1 million in college grants and scholarships.

*"Whatever we believe about ourselves and our ability comes true for us."
- Susan L. Taylor*



KIPP Sunnyside High School
Class of 2020 Graduates

Top Ten Percent

Daisy Moreno***
Smith College

Samantha Nava***
University of Richmond

Samiya Taylor***
University of Texas-Austin

Caleb Carr***
Colby College

Brejaun O'Neal***
Bryn Mawr College

Anakary Osorio***
Franklin and Marshall College

Yann Nicolas Dzeukou***
Texas A&M University-College Station

Joanna Velazquez***
Colby College

Daleda Norfleet***
University of Houston

Gael Machuca**
University of Houston

Allen, Angel
Roger Williams University

Amy Aviles*
University of Texas - San Antonio

Kylassia Bernard
Texas Southern University

Devin Bibbs*
Texas State University - San Marcos

Tempestt Bibbs**
Howard University

Tamia Bradford
Houston Community College

Shamarr Calvin
Workforce

Rae'niqua Campbell
Houston Community College

Lalah Carter
Southern University and Texas A&M University

Mark Castro
Texas State Technical College

Alisha Chapel
Houston Community College

Arisbeth Chavarra*
Workforce

Amera Chenevert**
San Jacinto College - Central

Karla Davila
Workforce

Yasmine Dennis
University of Mary Hardin-Baylor

Joshua Edwards
Workforce

Odaeshia Eli
Lamar University

Heidy Fernandez
Workforce

Darryl Flood
Workforce

Jacqueline Gallegos
University of Houston - Downtown

Damar Garcia
University of Houston - Downtown

Desiree Gentry
Workforce

Ademola George
Texas Southern University

Delvis Gonzalez Chun
Texas State Technical College

Kimberly Gonzalez
University of Houston - Downtown

Milton Gunner
Workforce

John Hall
Workforce

Diamond Hamilton
Houston Community College

Jarren Harrell
Workforce

Jewel Harris*
Texas State University-San Marcos



KIPP Sunnyside High School Class of 2020 Graduates

Deric Haywood
Blinn College

Jaylin Henderson
Houston Community College

Ke-Shontae Huery
Workforce

Kalayah Jammer**
Prairie View Texas A&M University

Breaunna Johnson
Houston Community College

Chasity Johnson*
Texas State University - San Marcos

Joseph Eugene Jones
Houston Community College

Joseph Theodore Jones
Houston Community College

Elexus Kelley
University of Houston - Downtown

Akira Krauth
Blinn College

Gerard Lancelin-Shields
Blinn College

Branden Leslie
Lamar Institute of Technology

Alexyia Lewis
Lamar Institute of Technology

La'Travia Lewis
Texas Southern University

Favian Liggins
San Antonio College

Yairely Lopez Jimenez
University of Houston - Downtown

Vania Lopez
University of Houston - Downtown

Karla Macedo**
University of Texas - Arlington

Maritza Martinez Vasquez
Workforce

Alonso Martinez
Workforce

Joseph Martinez
Huston-Tillotson University

Daya McClelland
Texas Southern University

Estefani Medina**
University of Houston

Javier Mendoza
Houston Community College

Daisya Miles
Workforce

Melanie Mohammed-Thomas
Texas State University - San Marcos

Edgar Montero
Texas State Technical College - Waco

Henry Moreno
Workforce

Sha'kyra Newson
Texas Tech University

Adrian Nickerson
Military

King Northington**
Prairie View Texas A&M University

Brittney Phillips
Workforce

David Piñeda Sanchez
Workforce

Felisa Quiñones Nava
Houston Community College

Yorke Reaux
Houston Community College

Ashley Reyes
University of Houston - Downtown

Chakyra Richard**
Lamar University

Luis Rivera
Lone Star College - North Harris

Jamilet Rodriguez
Houston Community College

Marquis Rollins
Workforce

Brayan Romero
Texas State Technical College-Waco

Edward Romero
Workforce



KIPP Sunnyside High School
Class of 2020 Graduates

Luis Ruiz Ramirez
Workforce

Damian Sanders-Russell**
University of North Texas

Krista Saulter*
Prairie View Texas A&M University

Trajon Scott
Workforce

Whitney Smith
Houston Community College

A'Aliyah Stanford*
Sam Houston State University

Jenae Stewart
Houston Community College

Patrick Sudds
Texas A&M University - Kingsville

Kyron Taylor
Blinn College

Tyra Thomas
Workforce

BreJanea Thompson
Military

Ieshia Walls
Workforce

Jonnae Watler
University of Houston - Downtown

Kourtney Wells
Military

DeShawn Williams
Houston Community College

Kaia Williams
Houston Community College

Lyndnita Williams*
Texas Southern University

Marquise Wilson
Workforce

Nya Winfield
Lamar University

Sierra Woodard
Blinn College

Alexandria Worsham**
Workforce

Quan Young
Central Baptist College



KIPP Sunnyside High School College Acceptances

The following is a list of colleges where KIPP Sunnyside High School's 2020 graduates received offers of admission:

Abilene Christian University	Prairie View A & M University
Alabama State University	Rhodes College
Alcorn State University	Roger Williams University
Alfred University	Saint Edward's University
Alvin Community College	Sam Houston State University
Austin College	San Jacinto Community College
Baylor University	Seton Hall University
Blinn College - All Campuses	Smith College
Bryn Mawr College	Southern Methodist University
Clark Atlanta University	Southern University and A & M College
Colby College	Southwestern University
Corban University	Spelman College
Dallas Baptist University	Stephen F Austin State University
Dillard University	Tarleton State University
Fisk University	Texas A & M University-Kingsville
Franklin and Marshall College	Texas A&M International University
Full Sail University	Texas A&M University-College Station
Grace College and Theological Seminary	Texas A&M University-San Antonio
Hendrix College	Texas A&M University-Texarkana
Houston Baptist University	Texas A&M University, Commerce
Houston Community College System	Texas A&M University, Corpus Christi
Howard University	Texas Southern University
Huston-Tillotson University	Texas State Technical College Waco
Jarvis Christian College	Texas State University
Johnson & Wales University	Texas Tech University
Kilgore College	Texas Woman's University
La Sierra University	The Ohio State University
Lamar Institute of Technology	The University of Memphis
Lamar University	The University of Texas at Arlington
Langston University	The University of Texas at Austin
Lee University	The University of Texas at San Antonio
Lesley University	The University of Texas, Tyler
Liberty University	Tyler Junior College
Lone Star College	University of Colorado Boulder
Louisiana State University	University of Dallas
Loyola University New Orleans	University of Downtown
Lycoming College	University of Houston
Manchester University	University of Houston-Victoria
Marymount California University	University of Mary Hardin-Baylor
Marymount Manhattan College	University of Maryland Eastern Shore
McMurry University	University of Nevada-Las Vegas
Metropolitan State University	University of North Texas
Metropolitan State University of Denver	University of North Texas at Dallas
Midwestern State University	University of Richmond
Morehouse College	University of San Francisco
Northern Illinois University	University of St Thomas
Northland College	Washington & Jefferson College
Odessa College	Wentworth Institute of Technology
Ohio University-Main Campus	Wharton County Junior College
Our Lady of the Lake University	Xavier University of Louisiana



KIPP Sunnyside High School—Faculty and Staff

Dr. Ashley Bennett, Director of College Counseling

*University of Oklahoma, B.A.
University of Central Oklahoma, M.Ed.
The University of St. Thomas, Ed.D.*

Etima Bowman, 10th Grade Assistant Principal

*Sam Houston State University, B.S.
Prairie View A&M, M.Ed.*

Kyrris Brown, Writing & Composition

Texas Southern University, B.A.

Xenia Chavez, Office Clerk

College of Healthcare Professions

Zachary Dao, Algebra & Algebra II

University of Houston

Christian Cheairs, English

Hampton University, B.A.

R. Malené Dixon, Senior Counselor

*Spelman College, B.A.
University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, M.B.A.
University of Houston, M.Ed.*

Asya Dousé, Forensic Science

*Texas Southern University, B.S.
University of Phoenix, M.H.A., M.B.A.*

Marquis Edwards, Sr. Business Manager

*Prairie View A&M University, B.A.
Keller School of Management, M.B.A.*

Felicia Ernest, Literature

*Sam Houston State University, B.A.
Fort Hays State University, M.L.S.*

Buck Elkins, Algebraic Reasoning

University of Houston

R. Dennis Euell, AP World History

University of St. Thomas, B.A.

Nicholas Flye

Baylor University, B.B.A.

Veronica Foreman, AP U.S. History

*University of Texas at Austin, B.S.
Texas State University, M.Ed.*

Jessica Goldman, Pre-Calculus & AP Calculus

Carnegie Mellon University, B.S.

Gabriela Gomez, Advise Texas

Texas A&M University-College Station, B.A.

Angela Gomez, Social Worker

*University of Houston-Clear Lake, B.S.W.
University of Houston, M.S.W.*

Sabrina Goodman, Office Clerk

*David Flores Greenfield, AP Literature
University of Texas at Austin, B.A.
University of Massachusetts-Boston, M.Ed.*

Brenda Guardiola, Art

*University of Houston, B.A.
San Jacinto College A.A.*

Sheila Hopkins, Dance

*Sacramento State University, B.A.
Mills College, M.F.A.*

E. Conor Hynes, 12th Grade Assistant Principal

Boston College, B.A. & M.Ed.

Jarod Johnson, College Counselor

*University of Texas at San Antonio
Nyjah Johnson, English
New Jersey City University, B.A.*

Ada Jovel, Dean of Academic Progress

University of Houston - Downtown, B.S.

Cornelius Yancy, Math Models & Geometry

Prairie View A&M University, B.A.

Jimin Kim, Chemistry

Cornell University

James King, Geometry & Math Models

*Morehouse College, B.S.
Texas Southern University, M.B.A.*

Denise Ma, Biology

St. Mary's University, B.S.

Kerryea Martinez, Biology & AP Biology

Prairie View A&M University

William Mattes, Physics

St. John's University, B.A.

Akliah Miles, AP English Language

*Alcorn State University, B.A.
University of Memphis, M.A.*

Natalya Milton, College Counselor

*University of Houston, B.S.
Ashford University, M.A.*

Kenya Pinkard, 11th Grade Assistant Principal

*University of Texas at Arlington
University of Houston-Clear Lake*

Christopher Pinto-Ruelos, Algebra 2 & AP Stats

*University of Houston, B.S.
Oklahoma State University, M.S.*

Sindy Ramos-Valerio, Español 2

University of Houston - Downtown, B.A.

Hulon Reed, Paraprofessional

LeTourneau University, B.B.A.

Renee Richardson, Economics & Government

*University of Houston, B.A.
Prairie View A&M University, M.A.*

Ronda Roberson, Paraprofessional

Shandrea Sellers, 9th Grade Assistant Principal

*University of Alabama, B.A.
Houston Baptist University, M.B.A.*

Shalayla Simmons, Theatre

*Northern Illinois University, B.A.
University of Houston - Victoria, M.Ed.*

Tabari Simon, Special Education Teacher

*Xavier University of Louisiana, B.S.
Grand Canyon University, M.Ed.*

Ayanna Smith

Alcorn State University, B.S.

Crayg Smith

Dwayne Thomas, Athletic Director & PE

McPherson College, B.S..

Olga Torres Español 1

University of Turabo, B.A.

St. Catherine University, M.Ed.

Sonji Warren

*University of Houston-Downtown, B.S.
Prairie View A&M University, M.S.*

Eugenia Washington, Office Assistant

University of Houston-Downtown, B.B.A.

Lawrence Watson, Human Geography

Louisiana State University and A & M College

Gregory Webb, Dean of Culture

Prairie View A&M University, B.S.

Shaena Weber, STEM

University of Houston, B.S.

Dr. Rlan Wright, School Leader

*Central Michigan University, B.S.
University of Texas at Austin, M.Ed., Ph.D.*



KIPP Texas Board of Directors

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Pepe Guevara	Shawn Raymond	Kent Wallace
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KIPP Texas Leadership Team

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Daphane Carter, Chief Academic Officer and State Superintendent
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Jeff Hines	Lauren Morgan	Enoch Woodhouse
Courtney Johnson Rose	Celie Niehaus	Alan Ying

Graduates Commitment

Today, I am making a commitment to myself, my family, and my community to strive and reach the highest level of education that I can possibly attain.

I will do the best that I can in every endeavor that I encounter, never tolerating mediocrity or complacency.

I will always conduct myself in a manner of integrity, and exemplify nothing less than excellence.

I understand that the road to success is filled with obstacles, failures and setbacks, but I will not yield to either.

My dreams and desires are valued treasures that I will protect and never give up.

"Hold on to your dreams of a better life and stay committed to striving to realize it."
– Earl G. Graves, Sr.

GRATITUDE

The KIPP Sunnyside High School Faculty would like to thank the families of our Senators for your continued support over the years, especially during this historic yet trying year of 2020. This school year began with so much excitement, pride, and hope. Never could we have imagined that it would come to an end so abruptly with so much uncertainty.

We appreciate your patience and flexibility through it all. We are sincerely grateful for you entrusting us with your child's education.

It truly takes a village to raise a child. We are honored and humbled to be part of your child's village.

"Success is to be measured not so much by the position that one has reached in life as by the obstacles which he has overcome while trying to succeed."

– Booker T. Washington