



# BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL

*A Spirit of Excellence*

May 27, 2009

**Contact:** Christy Cowart Read '89  
Development Director  
[christina\\_read@benfranklinhighschool.org](mailto:christina_read@benfranklinhighschool.org)  
504-286-2615

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## ***BENJAMIN FRANKLIN HIGH SCHOOL AWARDS DIPLOMAS***

Benjamin Franklin High School held its 2008 – 2009 commencement ceremony Tuesday, May 26, 2009 at 7:00 p.m. in the Kiefer UNO Lakefront Arena. Franklin awarded diplomas to 151 students. Bob Licht, Television Broadcaster for the New Orleans Hornets, was the commencement speaker.

During the ceremony the Franklin Alumni Association presented the Key Award to **Jonathan Sterling Chawla**. The Key Award is awarded to the senior who best exemplifies the spirit and broad-based excellence of Mr. Benjamin Franklin.

The **Valedictorian** was **Wenyu “Danny” Zhang** who will be attending Dartmouth in the fall and the **Salutatorian** was **Mobolaji Williams** who will be attending MIT.

In total, the Benjamin Franklin Seniors have been awarded 15.5 million dollars in merit based scholarships.

### **Honor Graduates are as follows:**

Weining Bai, Charles David Borenstein, Sally Rachel Bronston, Tracey Lynn Bullington, Jonathan Sterling Chawla, Shuang Chen, Jacques Mitchell Collet-Dofny, Kylie Vonne Contreary, Emily Danove Degan, Ian Bertel Dejoie, Benjamin Scott Fleury, Charlotte Elliott Fournier, Dan Alexis Johnson, Trevor Aaron Koplitz, Evan Jovan LaBranche, Mallory Marie Lambert, Camille Charlotte Lavoie, Jonathan Alfonso Lazo, Sara Mauldin Lowenburg, Van Kim Nguyen, Jonathan Logan Pick, Jillian Gail Poche, Luke Austin Robison, Tanvi Mukesh Shah, William Francis Walkenhorst, Shuchun Wang, Cynthia Lashlee Warner, Mobolaji Olukayode Williams, Fan Xiong, Kate Emily Youngblood, and Wenyu Zhang.

### **A list of additional graduates follows:**

Taylor James Adams, Burnell Henry Age, Akyea Aboagyewa Aidoo, Charles Garrett Alexander, Anne Elizabeth Allen, Dylan Donovan Beasley, Riley Patrick Bingham, Morgan Christine Bissant, Endia Lania Blunt, Chelsea Michelle Bonner, Walter Otto Borchardt, Nicholas Charles Borkowski, Joshua Darnell Bridges, Leah Curran Britton,



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Myranique Danyelle Brogan, Ireial Akemi Brown, Elizabeth Walker Brusseau, Kerry Diane Burke, Allen Clark Burrell, Angela Nathali Caballeros, Ari Samuel Chalew, Firan Bharat Kumar Chauhan, Patrick Daniel Reilly Cherry, Michael Vincent Ciolino, Michael Joseph Cusack, Amelie Marie Chotin Daigle, Colby Ross Dawson, Katherine Mireille deVay, Daniel Do, Dung Tien Duong, Avery Winter Eames, Alex Andrew Esquilin, Scott Daniel Fatland, Dwayne Anthony Fontenette, Randall Martin Fox, Christian Michelle Gobert, Madeleine Jean Godchaux, Simone Elisa Greene, Sarah Deamber Hamm, Christina Elizabeth Hanson, David Osteen Harrelson, Carl Lawrence Harris, Katherine Dixon Hogue, Sallie Grace Holmes, Lacey Reina Saunders Hutchison, Ariel Rene Jackson, Sarah Alexandra Jackson, Philip Carruth Elliot Jones, Amanda Katherine Justrabo, Benjamin Aaron Kahn, Bryce Nicholas Kardon, Clara Tibbitts Kornovich, Emma Brianne Labranche, Kelvin Kai Wang Lai, Lauren Michelle Lamotte, JaKelle Krienne Langston, Alexander Brunell Law, Jessica Kim Lee, Stacy Lee, Charles William Leshner, Marchelle Patrice Lewis, Sydnea Deborah Lewis, Nicholas Overall Lynch, Margot Le Garrec Marks, Amery Joseph Martinat, Thomas Emmons Mayer, Matthew Ryan McTernan, Edward Craig Moore, Darrielle Centrell Morris, Gwen Klich Mullaney, Sonya Solomon Murphy, Christine Thao Nguyen, ChristineLinh Ngoc Tuyet Nguyen, Dana Hoang Nguyen, Domenique Thang Nguyen, John Tam Nguyen, Minh Phuong Ha Nguyen, Tang Tien Nguyen, Thao-Tam Thuy Nguyen, Thuan Van Nguyen, Tuyet Trinh Katie Nguyen, Julia Scott Nugent, Erik Alexandro Olivo, Samuel Morris Paillet, Sarah Emily Pederson, Andrea Isabel Perez, Fabienne Hanan Placide, Harrison Eli Porobil, Emily Hammond Provosty, Jasmine Dionne Ratliff, Evelyn Kathleen Ray, Gabrielle Elizabe Richard, James Haugh Rivard, John Patrick Robertson, Sonja Isabella Rusek, Martin Mitsuo Saito, Geoffrey Isaiah Samuels, Ida Anne Schooler, William Steffen Schumacher, Chloe Douglas Seydel, Justin Andrew Shapiro, Laura Victoria Skinner, Bernard Ryan Smith, Linton Hare Smith, Frances Laville St. Amant, Candice Donielle St. Etienne, Ronald Roy Strauss, William Kenneth Strauss, Corbin Miles Tanenbaum, Jill Elizabeth Tatarski, Ashley Mary Teamer, Diana R. Thomas, Jordan Christopher Thomas, Monique Latesha Thomas, Linda To, LeAn Maria Tran, Minh-Hang Thi Tran, Sophia Chieu Quan Tran, Phi Ngoc Vu, and Claudnisha M. Washington.

For more information contact Mrs. Christy Read, Development Director, at 504-286-2615 or visit our web site at [www.benfranklinhighschool.org](http://www.benfranklinhighschool.org).

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Benjamin Franklin High School, located on the University of New Orleans campus, was founded in 1957, its stated mission, to promote excellence among New Orleans high school students. Franklin has been consistently ranked as a “top public high school in the nation” by *U.S. News and World Report* and *Newsweek* magazines and has received the highest School Performance Score in Louisiana, making it the #1 public school in the state again this year.