Welcome ......................................... Maggie Best, Miranda Bohl, Katie Thompson

Class History .......................................................... Ashlynn Davis, Jessica Jacks

Oddballs Presentation .................................................... Sarah Middleton

Wishbone Presentation and Class Traditions ........ Maggie Best, Miranda Bohl, Katie Thompson

Big Sister Tribute ........................................................ Denise Bahena-Bustos

Big-Sis & Little-Sis Serenades ...................... Amber Austin, Cassie Dickerson

Class Gift ................................................................. Neali Helms, Lindsey Lewis

Special Awards & Recognitions ..................................... Lindsey Lewis

Closing Remarks ......................... Maggie Best, Miranda Bohl, Katie Thompson

Recessional and Numeral Presentation ........ Class of 2023 and Class of 2021
Gwendolyn is proudly wearing her natural hair styled with two braids on top. Her distressed jean jacket is similar to those worn by many of our sisters to sporting events, concerts, or to class. The back is painted with the words “Meant to Fly” which comes from the song “Starships” used in one of her Freshman year Cornhuskin’ dances. There are wings painted around the lyrics; a nod to being the kind of woman who truly is capable of flying wherever she dreams—a Meredith Angel. Her white cropped tee shirt has hands of all races reaching up and using American Sign Language to spell out the phrase “Be Kind.” Black pants are staple in her wardrobe: leggings on a casual day, when working out, or for class, and skinny jeans, preferably with some holes in them, when she is hanging out with friends or going on a coffee run. Her white sneakers resemble the ones so many of us have in our closets and she is wearing her favorite everyday accessories: a tiny gold necklace, hair-tie, gold hoops, and most importantly her onyx. Her final accessory is her mask that she wears to protect herself and others during the pandemic.

The various items Gwendolyn has with her represent some of the traditions, memories, people, and accomplishments that made the class of 2021’s time at Meredith so amazing. She is carrying her rollerskates that she wore for her junior year Cornhuskin’, when her class brought disco and rollerskating to the amphitheater. Tucked in her book bag, she also has the spirit stick they won that night. This was so special
because, having no idea this would be their last true Cornhuskin’, the class of 2021 united together, spread positivity, and boogied their hearts out to win the most important Cornhuskin’ award of all. Her book bag has two buttons attached to the outside: one says, “odds love evens” and the other depicts Ruth Bader Ginsburg’s collar. The Ruth Bader Ginsburg button is a memento from RBG’s Meredith College lecture less than a year before Ginsburg passed away. Inside she has a trophy from where her class won STUNT as sophomores, an Oddball ring from Ring Week, wireless headphones, and her laptop. She personalized her laptop with stickers that are meaningful to her. The M and N are for her amazing Cornhuskin’ and STUNT Co-chairs, Megan Gale and Neali Helms. The “vote” sticker is from voting in the 2020 presidential election, a pivotal and historical marker in our lives as we voted for the first time and the first woman of color was elected Vice President. Her circular pride sticker is a public display of support for her LGBTQ+ sisters. The numbers 19 and 23 are for her Big Sis and Little Sis classes. The BLM sticker shows her support of the Black Lives Matter movement.

Gwendolyn Daisy Ad Astra is her full name. Gwendolyn is in honor of Gwendolyn Matthews, ’71, who was the first Black student to graduate from Meredith College. We recognize how vital our sisters of color are to our class and admire those who, like Gwendolyn, are breaking barriers both on and off-campus. Her middle name is Daisy because of the part this flower has played in so many of the traditions we have experienced together. At the Orientation Welcome Session in our first year, we were given daisy seeds. We made flower crowns out of daisies with our Big Sisters during our Big-Little Reveal. For Class Day we made chains of daisies before the sun rose. During Ring Week, we wore a daisy ring on the day we got to pick up our onyxes. Lastly, Ad Astra is Latin for “through adversity” and is in honor of our fighting spirit. The class of 2021 faced numerous challenges during our time at Meredith: protesting for our rights, severe storms, unique personal struggles, and the COVID-19 pandemic, but together we prevailed. We have faced losses, made sacrifices, and been forced out of our comfort zones. We have struggled, but through it, we gained knowledge, we became better people, and most importantly, realized the true depth of our strength.
Class of 2021 Officers
Lindsey Lewis, President
Alexis Henderson, Vice President
Abby Pleasants, Secretary
Paige Lawrence, Treasurer
Ashlynn Davis, Historian
Taylor Twine, Class Adviser

Class of 2023 Officers
Denise Bahena-Bustos, President
Hunter Klas, Vice President
Reagan (Scout) Burch, Secretary
Ava Baumgartner, Treasurer
Julianne Pitts, Historian
Erin Cleghorn, Whitley Glosson, Beth Hwang, Class Advisers

Class of 2021 Tri-Chairs
Maggie Best
Miranda Bohl
Katie Thompson

Class of 2023 Co-Chairs
Amber Austin
Cassie Dickerson

Oddballs
Blake Byrum
Annabelle Candlish
Kaitlyn Daniel
Sarah Middleton

The Class of 2021 would like to extend appreciation to our class advisers and to all the committee chairs and class officers who have served the class during our time here at Meredith.