

September 7, 2021

Greetings New and Recurring Students,

Welcome to the 2021 -2022 academic year! On behalf of the Board of Trustees, the administrative team, faculty, staff and alumni; we are so excited that you are a part of the New York Theological Seminary community this year. We extend a special welcome to the newest members of the NYTS family, and a warm welcome back to all of our returning students and our distinguished faculty.

Due to the growing concerns of the COVID-19 global pandemic, we will continue to offer classes in a fully online (and possible hybrid) format. Please know that we are here to support you and we appreciate your patience as we work together, navigating new ways of teaching, learning and building community.

I continue to be encouraged by your commitment to theological education, despite the many challenges before us. We constantly find ourselves confronted with the repercussions of a world in flux. Threats from global warming and climate change, the relentless cry for equality and justice, and the COVID-19 global health crisis impact all of us. As these issues coalesce, they threaten our communal and individual patience, peace and resolve. This is why your commitment to serve as change agents in our nation and in our world is so important.

Thank you to our students, faculty and staff for your understanding and perseverance during these trying times. Because of you, the NYTS community is poised to move forward with strength - *preparing faith and thought leaders to engage in relevant, restorative and revolutionary ministry*. As this academic year begins, let us, in community - do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'LaKeesha Walrond', written over a horizontal line.

The Reverend LaKeesha Walrond, Ph.D.
President, New York Theological Seminary

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