Terry McMillan
Author

Terry McMillan was born and raised in Port Huron, Michigan and discovered her love of literature while shelving books at the local library. After graduating from UC Berkeley, Terry published her debut novel, MAMA, in 1987, which won the Doubleday New Voices in Fiction Award as well as the American Book Award (from the Before Columbus Foundation). Her second novel, DISAPPEARING ACTS, was published in 1989, and later made into an HBO film starring Sanaa Lathan. During her tenure as a professor at University of Arizona, Terry wrote her third novel, WAITING TO EXHALE, which became a major motion picture starring Whitney Houston and Angela Bassett, and went on to win seven Grammy Awards. Now a #1 New York Times Bestselling author, Terry is the author of HOW STELLA GOT HER GROOVE BACK (also a major motion picture starring Angela Bassett and Taye Diggs) and A DAY LATE AND A DOLLAR SHORT (A Lifetime Original Movie starring Whoopi Goldberg) and several others, including I ALMOST FORGOT ABOUT YOU (currently in development at Universal as a feature film starring Viola Davis). In addition to winning the NAACP Image Award and the Essence Magazine Lifetime Achievement Award, all of Terry’s novels have been New York Times Bestsellers upon release, including her newest novel, IT’S NOT ALL DOWNHILL FROM HERE, which was published in 2020.

This special day and ceremony celebrate a major achievement in your life.

The warm thoughts and good wishes of the faculty, the administration, and your many friends at UC Santa Barbara go with you as you pursue graduate or professional schooling, or your chosen career field.

All of us are confident that your time here has instilled within you the knowledge, skills and confidence to enrich the world around you, and that your future will be as challenging and fulfilling as your years at UC Santa Barbara. We hope that your involvement with your campus is only just beginning, as you now join a network of over 241,000 UC Santa Barbara alumni.
CONFERRING OF DEGREES
Chancellor Yang
University Marshal Scott

UNIVERSITY SONG
Celine Emein

Hail to California

Hail to California, Alma Mater dear,  
Sing the joyful chorus,  
Sound it far and near,  
Rallying 'round her banner,  
We will never fail—  
California, Alma Mater,  
Hail! Hail! Hail!

RECESSION

Carillon Music from Storke Tower

Wesley Arai
University Carillonist

Displayed today are the flags of the United States, California, and the 34 countries in which the university offers international opportunities.

This event will be photographed and recorded.

#UCSB2023