

Alumni Association Thesis Grant
Recipients

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| 1991 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Janet Saxon | “Cries in the Dark: Health Care Providers and the AIDS Epidemic” |
| 1992 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Linda Williams | “What is the Psychological Impact of the <i>Endangered Species</i> Phenomenon of African American makes: An Exploratory Study” |
| 1993 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Jacqueline Gray McDonald | “How does Skin Tone Influence African American Women’s Views of Sexual Abuse” |
| 1994 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Preston Burrell Katherine Oscar | “The Measurement of Meaning in Client/Therapist Dyads: An Exploratory Study of the Effects of Language in Therapy” |
| 1995 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Donna Schmidt | “A Narrative Approach to Exploring the Role of Cultural Rituals in Building Ego Strengths in Southeast Asian Refugee Women: An Exploratory Study” |
| 1996 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Lisa Werkmeister Rozas | “The Bilingual/Bicultural Therapist: Clinical Issues in Conducting Therapy in Spanish and English” |
| | Alumni/Student of Color Research Grant | Debora Brooks | “Racial Identity and Social Work: Reflections on the Process of Becoming a Professional Social Worker (co-authored with Lee Scriggins) |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Award | Jennifer Roberts | “When Fantasy Meets Reality: Adolescent Mothers’ Experiences of the First Months with their Newborns” |
| 1997 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Nikol Nabors-Glass | “Single African American Mothers who Lose their Adolescent Sons to Violence” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Award | Howard Hoffman | “Mentors for Hire: Expanding the Concept of Mentoring in the ‘90s” |

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| 1998 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Lisa Moore | “Black Lesbian Identity Development: A Study of the Applicability of William E. Cross’ Model of Black Identity Development and Vivienne Cass’ Model of Lesbian/Gay Identity Formation to the Black Lesbian Experience” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Award | Noel Ramsbey Cain | “Psychotherapists with a Personal History of Psychiatric Hospitalization: An Exploration of the Countertransference in Wounded Healers” |
| 1999 | Alumni Association Thesis Award | Jenny Miller Sechler | “Trauma, Oppression and Agency” |
| 2000 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Michelle Oliva | “How does Immigrant Policy Affect Service Delivery Needs for Undocumented Mexican Immigrant Women in Atlanta Georgia” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Kathleen Kelly | “Listening to Mothers’ Voices: Maternal Identity Development with Adolescent Mothers” |
| 2001 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Quo Judkins | “An Exploration of Accredited Schools of Social Work and the Diversity Curriculum Incorporated in their Programs” |
| | Thesis Grant for Outstanding Student Research on At-Risk Populations | Dionne Bennett | “When a Letter is not Enough: Female Ex-Convicts of Color Tell their Stories and Discuss the Emotional Effects of Being Separated From Their Children” |
| | Alumni/Student of Color Research Grant | Irma Ilustre | “Does it Really Work? The Impact of Race Sensitive Education on the Clinical Practice of Social Workers: A Descriptive Study” |
| 2002 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Cindy Taketa | “Internment of Japanese Americans: Generational Transmission of History” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Liza Wolff | “Border Crossing for Undocumented Mexican Immigrants as Traumatic” |
| | Alumni/Student of Color Research Grant | Vassi Johri | “Attaining Multiplicity toward Anti-Racist Social Work Practice” |
| 2003 | Thesis Award for Students of Color | Gabrielle Stevens | “Surviving Invisibility: How Race and Racism is Filtered through the Lives of Middle Class Graduate Educated African Americans” |

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| | Thesis Grant for Outstanding Student Research on At-Risk Populations | Sheila DeRensis | “The Faces of Violence: Their Traumatic Impact on African American Male Adolescents and Treatment Implications” |
| 2004 | Thesis Grant for Students of Color | Daijiro Ueda | “Coping Strategies of the Ambivalence and Ambiguity of Gay Men Living with HIV Infection Spiritual Aspects” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Mary Herron | “Transgender Identification During Adolescence: An Investigation into the Process of Self-Acceptance” |
| | Alumni/Student of Color Research Grant | Sujin Lee | “Exploring the Relationship between Asian Mental Health Practitioners’ Level of Acculturation and their Experiences with Race Experiences with Race and Ethnicity in a Clinical Setting” |
| | Special 85 th Anniversary Thesis Award | Ruth Pearlman | “What are the Emotional, Psychological and Sociological Effects on Children Growing Up in a Foster Care System that Defies the Basic Tenets of Attachment, Grief and Trauma Theories?” |
| 2005 | Thesis Grant for Students of Color | Alejandro Luciano | “Negotiating Differences: Transitioning from Disadvantaged Environments to ones of Dominant Culture and its Effect on Identity Development in Black and Hispanic Students Attending Elite Private High Schools” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Amy Ferlazzo | “Birthplace as a Lost Object: An Exploratory Study of the Potential Relationship between Nostalgia and Subjective Quality of Life among Latin-American Immigrant Women” |
| 2006 | Thesis Grant for Students of Color | Myrtho Gardiner | “Can Individuals Develop an Addiction to the Lifestyle or Behavior Associated with the Distribution of Narcotics? A Theoretical Analysis of Criminal Behavior using Social Learning and Moral Models” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Shelah Corey | “Interactive Mismatch between Infants and Foster Parents: Coping Behaviors of Infants in Foster Care” |

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| 2007 | Thesis Grant for Students of Color | Aziza Jones | “Humor as Resilience: African American Standup Comedy and Collective Identity” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Mekhala Koshy | “The Immigration Debate: A Cross-Cultural Analysis of Naturalized Mexican Citizens of the United States and Non-Hispanic White Citizen’s Attitudes toward Undocumented Mexican Immigration in the United States” |
| 2008 | Thesis Grant for Students of Color | Anastasia McRae | “A Survey of Clinicians’ Use of Touch and Body Awareness in Psychotherapy” |
| | Alumni Association Thesis Grant | Brianne Goodman | “The Strength of Muslim Couples in the Face of Heightened Discrimination from September 11 and the Iraq War” |
| | Thesis Research Grant | Joanna Vaughn | “The Smith College School for Social Work Anti-Racism Commitment: A Chronology and Reflection on the Years 1993-1998” |
| | 90 th Anniversary Thesis Grant | Mary Fisher | “The Use of Psychoeducation in the Treatment of PTSD with Military Personnel and their Family Members: An Exploratory Study from a Clinician’s Perspective” |

