**[Name of school] holds Nursing Oath Ceremony [or White Coat Ceremony or the name your school uses] for Class of [20XX]**

**DATE – [Name of school]** hosted its Nursing Oath Ceremony, a rite of passage to emphasize the importance of compassionate patient care at the very start of training.

**[QUOTE by dean, speaker or student on the significance of the ceremony]**

**[X number]** new students recited an oath to patient care. **[optional: include type of oath, a quote, or a note if the students created the oath themselves]**

Students came forward during the ceremony to be coated **[by names of deans/faculty who cloaked them]** before family and friends in the iconic white coat that signifies their status as healthcare professionals.

The keynote speech was given by **[name and title of speaker]**.

**[QUOTE by the speaker]**

**[Other information about the event. It could include a quote by a student, other notable attendees and speakers, ceremony dedication, sponsors or supporters.]**

The original White Coat Ceremony was initiated in 1993 at Columbia University Vagelos College of Physicians & Surgeons by Arnold P. Gold, MD, who was a professor and pediatric neurologist. Dr. Gold, a passionate advocate for humanistic healthcare, believed that the oath taken by new physicians at the end of medical school came too late. Through the nonprofit organization that he and his wife, Dr. Sandra Gold, started, The Arnold P. Gold Foundation has expanded the White Coat Ceremony around the globe.

Today, nearly every medical school in the United States, hundreds of nursing schools, and many other health profession schools around the globe participate in this tradition of humanistic care.

“This ceremony is so important because it requires each student to publicly commit their intention to care for every patient with compassion,” said Dr. Kathleen Reeves, President and CEO of the Gold Foundation. “The White Coat Ceremony **[you can change this to Nursing Oath Ceremony if needed]** also shows **[insert your school’s name]**’s commitment to humanism for patients, families, healthcare workers, faculty, the community, and their students. Humanism is truly essential to health for all of us; it's so important that we must start every student’s journey with a personal commitment to humanism.”

The Gold Foundation champions the human connection in healthcare. The foundation engages schools and their students, health systems, companies, and individual clinicians in the joy and meaning of humanistic healthcare, so that patients and their families can be partners in collaborative, compassionate and scientifically excellent care.

[**optional:** The foundation’s other programs include the Gold Humanism Honor Society, the Dr. Hope Babette Tang Humanism in Healthcare Essay Contest, and Tell Me More® initiative to encourage personal communication.

For more information about the Gold Foundation, visit [www.gold-foundation.org](http://www.gold-foundation.org).

**Media contact:**

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