To commemorate the brave contributions of Francis “Frank” Sturcken (’51), a white student who delivered a speech advocating for desegregating the College of Charleston.

Student Orators
In order of presentation

Jordan Mercer
she/her

Taylor Boes
she/her

Sylvie Baele
she/her

Jake Brown
he/him

Sean Dalton
he/him

Grace Headrick
she/her

Remarks from:

Patricia Williams Lessane
she/her
Associate Dean of the Libraries, Co-Principal Investigator for the Race and Social Justice Initiative, and Executive Director for the Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture

Elizabeth (Ginger) Sturcken
she/her
Managing Director, EDF + Business
daughter of Francis “Frank” Sturcken

Tanner Crunelle
he/him
Honors College ’20, School of Humanities and Social Sciences

Serving on the panel are: Dr. Alicia Caudill (she/her, Executive VP for Student Affairs), Dr. Julia Eichelberger (she/her, Southern Studies faculty), Dr. Caroline Foster (she/her, Communications faculty), Tamika Gadsden (she/her, local activist), and Summer Standiford (she/her, English student)

The Sturcken Oratorical is a collaboration between: The Avery Research Center for African American History and Culture, the Black Student Union, Catering Services, the Charleston Activist Network, the Division of Student Affairs, the Honors College, the Office of the Provost, the Office of Sustainability, the Phillip Simmons Foundation, Physical Plant, Prism, the Race and Social Justice Initiative, the School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Special Collections, the Sustainability Literacy Institute, and the academic Departments of African American Studies, Communications, English, Women’s and Gender Studies, and Southern Studies.