

The seal of the University of Wisconsin - Parkside is a circular emblem. It features a central five-pointed star with a leafy branch extending from its base. The words "UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN - PARKSIDE" are inscribed around the perimeter of the seal, and the year "1968" is at the bottom.

CELEBRATING THE

# *Class of 2025*

DECEMBER 13, 2025

UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN **PARKSIDE**

# Welcome to the UW-Parkside Alumni Family!

**As a UW-Parkside alum, you are always a Ranger.**  
Join us for alumni-exclusive activities and participate in  
all UW-Parkside has to offer you post-graduation.

## STAY CONNECTED!

Let us know about important changes in your life: a new home, career changes, and special achievements.

[alumni@uwp.edu](mailto:alumni@uwp.edu)



UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN

PARKSIDE



ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

# University of Wisconsin-Parkside Commencement

**Saturday, December 13, 2025**

## **SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

**10:00 a.m.**

Master's, Baccalaureate, and Associate Degree Candidates

Alfred & Bernice De Simone Arena  
Sports & Activity Center  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside

### ***Immediately Following the Ceremony***

Reception for Degree Recipients and Guests

Frank J. Petretti Fieldhouse  
Sports & Activity Center  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside

# CHANCELLOR'S MESSAGE



Chancellor Lynn D. Akey

Welcome to the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Fall 2025 Commencement. Established in 1968 to provide access to higher education in southeastern Wisconsin, today UW-Parkside serves students across the country and around the globe.

As each graduate crosses the stage, that individual carries a personal and compelling story of determination in successfully achieving this important milestone. It is the combination of these stories for more than half a century that has established the valued legacy of our university.

Commencement is also a time for us to salute more than 31,000 UW-Parkside graduates, over 45% of whom were the first in their immediate families to earn a university degree. Thanks to an educational environment that reflects and celebrates the vibrant diversity of our world, UW-Parkside graduates combine relevant academic skills with practical experiences for a unique perspective focused on our future.

At the heart of our university is a remarkable team of faculty and staff. This dedicated group supports the work and commitment of our graduates as they achieve their dreams and allows our university community to realize shared goals.

Today, more than 400 men and women join a tradition of excellence in serving as proud and talented UW-Parkside alumni.

To the friends and family members of our graduates, thank you for the countless hours of support. To the University of Wisconsin-Parkside Class of 2025, my heartiest congratulations on your success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lyn D. Akey". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Lyn" and last name "Akey" clearly legible.

Lynn Akey  
Chancellor

# SEMESTER HIGHLIGHTS

## **Finding His Voice: Jerome Porter's Journey Through Music at UW-Parkside**

Jerome Porter discovered his artistic voice at UW-Parkside, beginning with the first live performance of his original composition, *Walk on a Rainy Street*, during his freshman year. Supported by faculty like Professor Russ Johnson, Jerome has developed as both a musician and creative thinker. His time at Parkside gave him opportunities to compose, collaborate, and grow in a program that nurtures originality and confidence. From that first performance to his continued musical achievements, Jerome's journey reflects the transformative power of hands-on learning and supportive mentorship. His experience shows how UW-Parkside empowers students to turn talent into artistry.

## **Unearthing Connections: Dr. Caitlin Curtis Whitaker Brings Global Archaeology to Life**

Through international fieldwork and community-engaged teaching, Dr. Caitlin Curtis Whitaker offers UW-Parkside students exceptional opportunities to explore global archaeology. Her work on the Ararat Plain in Armenia—through the APSAP project—connects cultural landscapes, technology, and heritage studies. Student Karissa “Ris” Homar joined Dr. Whitaker to excavate the Bronze and Iron Age Vedi Fortress, gaining experience with traditional digs, drone mapping, and 3D modeling. Homar credits Whitaker for fostering collaboration and demonstrating how archaeology links people across time. The experience deepened students' skills in research, teamwork, and cultural understanding, highlighting UW-Parkside's commitment to meaningful, hands-on global learning.

## **UW-Parkside Awarded NSF Grant to Strengthen Regional Innovation Partnerships**

UW-Parkside earned a competitive \$399,765 National Science Foundation EPIIC grant to support faculty, regional partnerships, and community engagement. Over three years, the award will fund the university's participation in the national ARISE cohort, a program designed to create stronger connections between university expertise and regional needs. The initiative will help businesses, nonprofits, and community partners more easily access UW-Parkside's research strengths and student talent. The grant represents a major investment in southeastern Wisconsin's innovation ecosystem and reinforces UW-Parkside's role as a catalyst for applied research, workforce development, and collaborative problem-solving across the region.

## **UW-Parkside and ArtRoot Unveil Wall Poem No. 8**

UW-Parkside and ArtRoot unveiled the eighth Wall Poem installation in Racine, featuring an excerpt from “Rooftop” by poet Monica Thomas. Designed by UW-Parkside student Sophia Lefeber in Professor Carey Watters' graphic design course, the mural highlights the power of collaboration between students, local artists, and community partners. The project was supported by area donors and the Uptown BID, with Tawwater Sign Company completing the installation. Wall Poems of Racine brings poetry and visual art into public spaces, enriching community life while showcasing UW-Parkside student creativity and the university's strong connection to regional arts initiatives.

## **BenthicNet: Revitalizing Biomonitoring Through Student Research**

BenthicNet, supported by the Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin, is training UW-Parkside students in aquatic insect identification and water-quality biomonitoring. Led by Associate Professor Jessica Orlofske and partners from UW-Madison, UW-Stevens Point, and the Milwaukee Public Museum, the project immerses students in fieldwork, sample collection, and preservation techniques. Over the coming year, the team will develop a digital database integrating decades of benthic macroinvertebrate collections from multiple institutions. This resource will support researchers, the Wisconsin DNR, and community science initiatives. Students describe the hands-on workshops—affectionately known as “Bug Camp”—as a transformative learning experience in freshwater science.

## **UW-Parkside Student-Athlete and Staff Praised for Life-Saving Efforts**

During a September soccer match, UW-Parkside student-athlete Jamie Le Comte rushed to assist a referee who collapsed on the field. Athletic Trainer Kaela Johnson quickly responded, performing CPR while Coach Jason Zitzke delivered an AED to restore the referee's heart rhythm. Their swift actions, followed by support from Kenosha Fire Department responders, helped save a life. The incident highlighted the exceptional training, preparedness, and compassion within the Parkside community. Le Comte's instinct to help and Johnson's professional expertise reflect the university's commitment to safety, teamwork, and service—core values that define the Ranger spirit.

## **Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin Supports Student Training at UW-Parkside**

The Freshwater Collaborative of Wisconsin committed \$88,600 to UW-Parkside for three new projects focused on student training and workforce development. The statewide initiative is investing more than \$4.2 million across the Universities of Wisconsin to prepare the next generation of water professionals. Parkside's funded projects will create hands-on research experiences for high school, undergraduate, and graduate students while addressing key water challenges in the region. Through partnerships with industry, government agencies, and community organizations, these efforts expand opportunities for students to gain real-world skills and contribute to Wisconsin's water sustainability and environmental resilience.

## **UW-Parkside Sees Growth in New Undergraduate Enrollment**

UW-Parkside welcomed one of its largest entering classes in recent years, with first-day data showing an 8.4% increase in new freshmen over the previous year. Nearly 900 new undergraduate students joined the university this fall, with more than 1,000 new students enrolling across undergraduate and graduate programs. Chancellor Lynn Akey noted the growth reflects families' confidence in UW-Parkside's strong academic programs and personalized support. The increase demonstrates the university's continued momentum and its commitment to providing accessible, high-quality education that prepares students for meaningful careers and lifelong success.

## **Kenosha to Cosenza: Sister Cities Mural Unveiled Through International Collaboration**

A new collaborative mural celebrating the Sister Cities relationship between Kenosha, Wisconsin and Cosenza, Italy was unveiled at the Italian American Society of Kenosha. Designed by Italian muralist Carlo Giardina in partnership with Professor Carey Watters' UW-Parkside graphic design students, the artwork blends imagery

and cultural elements from both communities. The mural is the first of two international public artworks created through the collaboration, symbolizing friendship, shared heritage, and artistic connection. The project highlights UW-Parkside's role in global partnerships and experiential learning, giving students the opportunity to contribute to meaningful community-based art.

## **UW-Parkside Launches Six New Accelerated Online Bachelor's Programs**

UW-Parkside is now enrolling students in six accelerated, fully online bachelor's degree programs designed for working adults, transfer students, and learners seeking flexible options. Courses follow a 7-week format with six start dates per year, allowing students to progress at a pace that fits their schedules. Chancellor Lynn Akey emphasized that the programs reflect UW-Parkside's mission to expand access to affordable, workforce-ready education. Students will learn from expert faculty while benefiting from the university's robust virtual support services. The new programs strengthen regional workforce pathways and broaden educational opportunities for nontraditional learners.

## **UW-Parkside Earns Brandon Hall Award for Excellence in Training**

UW-Parkside received a Silver Award of Excellence from the Brandon Hall Group for its training program on global accessibility standards. Developed with Dynamic Training Resources and ELB Learning, the module—Safety and Empowerment for Experiential Learning—supports professional behavior and boundary-setting for experiential education environments. Competing with major organizations worldwide, UW-Parkside's recognition reflects its commitment to high-quality training and inclusive learning experiences. The award highlights the university's leadership in creating impactful professional development tools that support safety, equity, and accessibility for students and community partners across diverse experiential learning programs.

## **OUR MISSION**

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside is committed to high-quality educational programs, creative and scholarly activities, and services responsive to its diverse student population, and its local, national, and global communities.

## **OUR VISION**

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside is a dynamic learning community grounded in academic excellence and focused on student success, diversity, inclusion, and community engagement. The campus will be a premier comprehensive public institution and a destination of choice, serving as a focal point of local, regional, and global progress.

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

**Keith Smith, M.B.A.**

**President of Vonco Products**

Keith Smith brings over 25 years of relevant industry experience to Vonco. He currently serves as President and CEO of Vonco Products. Prior to acquiring Vonco in December of 2012, he served as a General Manager of Carbonless Rolls and Security Papers for Appleton Papers, the largest division of a \$1BN paper company. From 2005 to 2012, he served in various sales, marketing, and general management roles for Appleton Papers in thermal and carbonless paper. He brings significant flexible packaging sales, technical and printing/converting operating experience. Prior to his tenure in the paper businesses, he held various general management, operations, and engineering roles with Appleton within the blown films and converting businesses and started his flexible packaging career with Printpack in 1994 running printing presses. His education consists of a bachelor's degree in industrial engineering as well as an MBA from Northern Illinois University and Lean and Six Sigma certifications from the University of Michigan. He has a passion for cultivating infectious energy within his organizations and for innovation, creation, inspiration, and adventure. He generously contributes both time and resources to fellow entrepreneurs, education, athletics, and health endeavors.



Keith Smith,  
President of Vonco Products



# OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AWARDS

**Gabriela Guzmán**  
***Elementary Education, B.S.***

Gabriela Guzmán is an outstanding educator-in-training whose academic strength, professional readiness, and deep commitment to community define her time at the University of Wisconsin–Parkside. Completing a major in Elementary Education alongside an ESL minor and a Bilingual-Bicultural Education certificate, she will graduate licensed in three high-need areas and distinguished by a record of academic excellence recognized through repeated Dean’s and Provost’s List honors and the Academic Achievement Award.



Gabriela’s instructors describe her as persistent, empathetic, and student-centered—an educator who has grown from uncertainty to complete confidence in her instructional skills. Through rigorous coursework, extensive clinical placements, and reflective practice, she has developed a strong foundation in multilingual education and an ability to design responsive, learner-focused instruction.

Her impact extends well beyond required fieldwork. Gabriela consistently volunteers additional hours in local schools, mentors younger learners, supports after-school programs, and serves her hometown community through educational and advocacy efforts. Compassionate, dedicated, and driven, she represents the very best of UW-Parkside’s mission and exemplifies the qualities of an Outstanding Graduate.

**Nathaniel Mack**  
***Communication, B.A.***

Nate Mack is an exceptional graduating senior whose academic excellence, leadership, and service embody the highest ideals of the University of Wisconsin–Parkside. A first-generation college student, Nate has distinguished himself as a sharp, thoughtful communicator with a powerful writing voice and a deep commitment to community engagement. His scholarly work reflects a keen interest in disability experiences and the ways social perceptions shape everyday interactions—an area he explores with insight and originality.



Beyond the classroom, Nate contributes meaningfully to campus life as a member of The Straylight Literary Arts Magazine, collaborating with fellow students to produce and promote creative work. He also serves the broader community by leading writing workshops for participants at Easter Seals of Southeast Wisconsin and the Kenosha Achievement Center, helping individuals develop foundational literacy and communication skills. Nate’s resilience, intellectual curiosity, and generosity have made him a valued member of the UW-Parkside community and an outstanding graduate.



# OUTSTANDING GRADUATE AWARDS

**Zarangiz “Zara” Misaghi**  
***Health Information***  
***Management and***  
***Technology, B.S.***

Zarangiz “Zara” Misaghi’s academic journey is defined by remarkable resilience, professional focus, and an unwavering commitment to personal growth. As a distinguished graduate of the Health Information Management and Technology program, she excelled across a rigorous curriculum while balancing full-time employment, part-time teaching, and the responsibilities of raising two children, consistently upholding the highest standards of performance and integrity.

Zara also played a pivotal leadership role in shaping student engagement within her program. As a founding officer and inaugural Vice President of the HIMT Student Organization, she helped establish its mission, coordinated professional development opportunities, and fostered a collaborative environment that continues to strengthen the student community.

Her accomplishments are deeply underscored by her personal history. After being denied access to higher education in Iran, Zara pursued the opportunities once withheld from her with determination and humility. Her perseverance, character, and dedication to service make her an extraordinary representative of UW-Parkside.



**Alicia Torkelson**  
***Music, B.A.***

A dynamic musician, educator, and campus leader, Ali Torkelson has made a lasting impact on the University of Wisconsin–Parkside through her artistry, initiative, and commitment to her community. An accomplished performer and emerging music educator, Ali has excelled in her scholarship and demonstrated remarkable readiness for the profession through her student-teaching placement, where her thoughtful preparation, reflective practice, and ability to connect with students have earned enthusiastic praise.

Ali revitalized UW-Parkside’s collegiate chapter of the National Association for Music Education, transforming it into a vibrant, sustainable organization that now serves as a key professional resource for peers. She also launched the university’s first student-run Video Game Music Concert, showcasing her creativity, organizational skill, and passion for collaborative performance.

A first-generation college graduate, Ali has built an extraordinary record of service, leadership, and artistic excellence—leaving UW-Parkside stronger through her achievements and example.



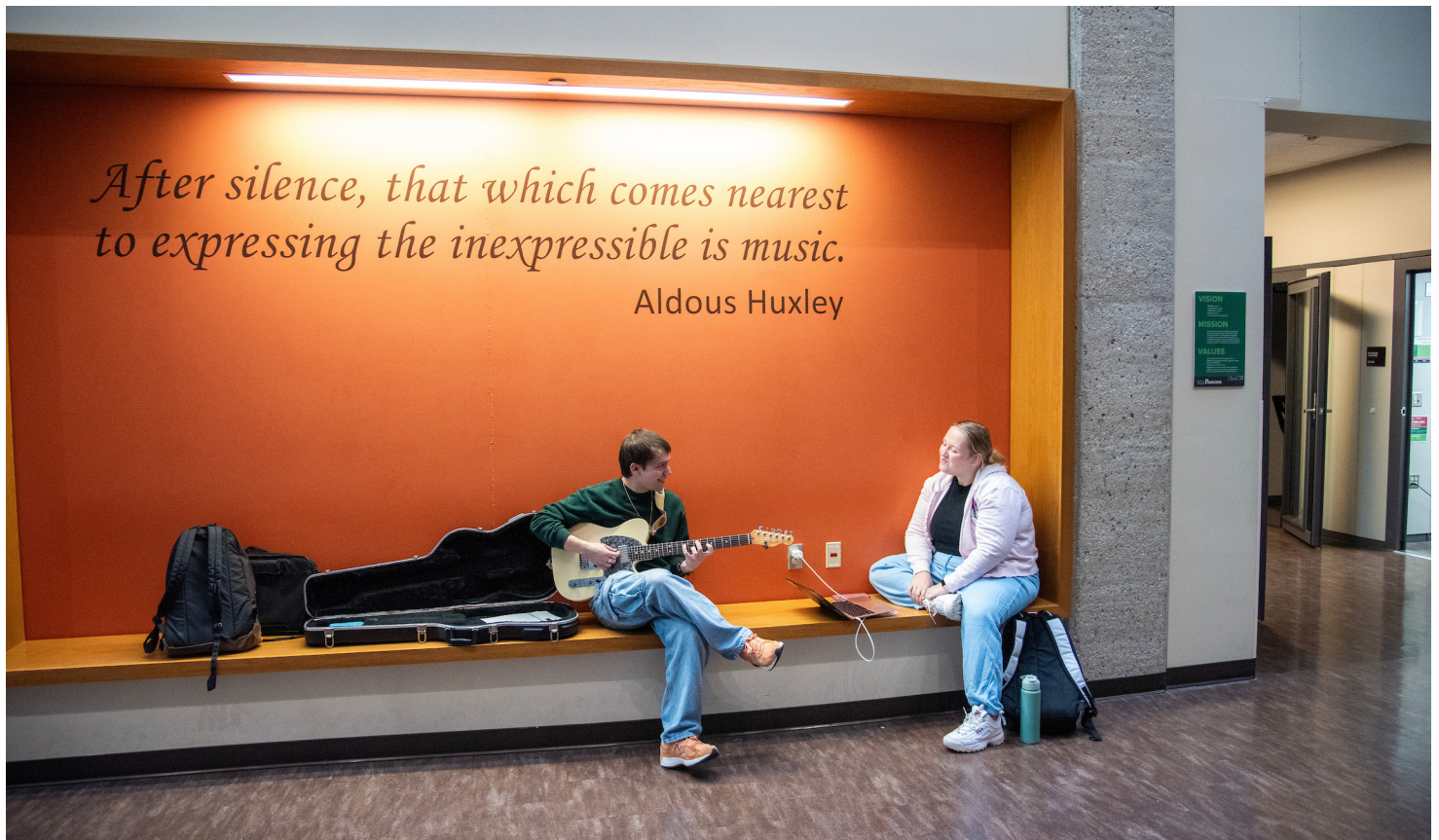
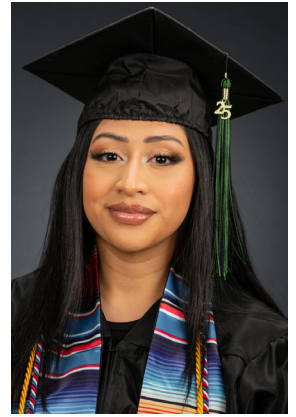
# CHANCELLOR'S AWARD

**Stephanie Narciso Avelino**  
***Business Management, B.S.***

Guided by a deep commitment to service and community impact, Stephanie Narciso has built an extraordinary record of leadership and academic distinction at the University of Wisconsin–Parkside. As a Business Management major with minors in Finance and Human Resources, she has consistently demonstrated the drive, insight, and initiative of an emerging leader in her field.

Stephanie plays an integral role in several student organizations, including the Parkside Asian Organization, Latinos Unidos, Parkside Advocacy for Women, and the Black Student Union, where her creativity and outreach efforts have helped strengthen cultural awareness and foster a more connected campus community.

Her dedication to public service extends beyond UW-Parkside. Through Habitat for Humanity and a community-based learning partnership with KODA Midwest, Stephanie applied her strategic and organizational skills to support housing initiatives and enhance systems serving deaf adults. She also brings meaningful real-world experience as an Employment and Training Specialist and through her military service. Thoughtful, determined, and impact-driven, Stephanie exemplifies the spirit of an Outstanding Graduate.



# PROGRAM AND PROCESSION

## PROCESSIONAL

*Pomp and Circumstance* by Edward Elgar  
This will be played on the screen while students process.

The audience is asked to rise when the academic processional enters the arena.

## PROGRAM

### Presiding Officer

Lynn D. Akey, Ph.D., *Chancellor*

### Anthems - Voices of Parkside

*Star Spangled Banner*  
by Francis Scott Key  
Jackie Geiss, *Student Vocalist*

*Lift Ev'ry Voice and Sing*  
by James Weldon Johnson &  
J. Rosemond Johnson  
Ben Kinchen, *Student Vocalist*

James Kinchen, Ed.D., *Director*  
Professor of Music and  
Director of Choral Activities

### Introduction of University Officers and Special Guests

### Outstanding Graduate Awards

Tammy McGuckin, Ed.D.,  
*Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs*

### Chancellor's Award

Lynn D. Akey, Ph.D., *Chancellor*

### Commencement Address

Keith Smith, M.B.A.  
*President of Vonco Products*

### Conferral of Academic Degrees

## RECESSIONAL

*Allegro Energico* by Jean Baptiste Loeillet

## ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL

Grand Marshal

Officers of the University  
and Special Guests

Faculty and Staff Marshals

Faculty and Staff of the  
University of Wisconsin-Parkside

Flag Bearer

Candidates for Academic Degrees

# OFFICERS AND MARSHALS

## PLATFORM PARTY

Lynn D. Akey, Ph.D.  
*Chancellor*

Matt Cecil, Ph.D.  
*Provost and Sr. Vice Chancellor  
for Academic Affairs*

Theresa Castor, Ph.D.  
*Vice Provost for Research and Administration*

Tammy McGuckin, Ed.D.  
*Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs*

Lesley Walker, Ph.D.  
*Senior Vice Provost and Dean of the Faculty*

Aubri McDonald, Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice  
Grand Marshal*

Stephanie Narciso Avelino  
*Chancellor's Award Recipient*

## SPECIAL GUESTS

Noah Fritz  
*Regent, Universities of Wisconsin  
Board of Regents*

Keith Smith, M.B.A.  
*President of Vonco Products  
Commencement Speaker*

## GRAND MARSHAL

Aubri McDonald, Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice*

## MARSHALS

John D. Skalbeck, Ph.D.  
*Professor of Geosciences  
Academic Director, Master of Science in  
Sustainable Management*

Abey Kuruvilla, Ph.D.  
*Professor and Chair, Business*

Hanif Nu'Man, J.D., Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor, Criminal Justice*

Pritosh Kumar, Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor of Supply Chain Management,  
Business*

Jessica Orlofske, Ph.D.  
*Associate Professor, Biology  
Director, Environmental Studies*

Torin Akey, M.S.  
*Associate to the Chancellor*

Kim Fitzgerald, M.Ed.  
*Ascension Scholar Program Manager*

Kelli Stein, M.S.  
*MBA Program Manager*

Carey Watters, M.F.A.  
*Professor, Art and Design  
Faculty Director, Community Based Learning*

Crista Kruse, M.S.  
*Director, Professional and Continuing Education*

Kathy McKee, Ph.D.  
*Assistant Professor of Marketing, Business*



# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

## *Master Degrees*

### MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION – WINTER 2025

Jennifer Hanson-Clope

Melissa Steier

Heidi L. Mahler  
*with Distinction*

Ray Alexander Nolden

Alisa A. Streets  
*with Distinction*

### MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL STUDIES – WINTER 2025

Tyler Scot Kochan

Shawana Smith

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – WINTER 2025

Scott Joseph Beranich  
*with Distinction*

Azani Iona Campbell

Stephanie Jean Cascio  
*with Distinction*

Tziomara R. Cazares  
*with Distinction*

Darrell Clayton

Ashley Elizabeth Cox  
*with Distinction*

Aadya Dash

Aaditi Dash

Matt Effinger  
*with Distinction*

Brittany A. Enz

Angela Michele Fischer

Pasquale Delsworth Frankoviglia

Jeff Funnell

Alberto Garcia

Ricardo Garcia  
*with Distinction*

Rebecca Lynn Gau  
*with Distinction*

Noah Gerritson  
*with Distinction*

Mark Gifford  
*with Distinction*

Sara Rose Gonzales  
*with Distinction*

Mikhail S. Gorbachev

Rachel Hang

Marquis T. Harris

Heather L. Harwell  
*with Distinction*

Savanna D. Ihrcke

Nadiia Ivanchenko

Hemant Vivek Jain

Anthony Jared Klein  
*with Distinction*

Phillip James Laird

Sebastian Lara

Michael John Linzmeier

Christine Marie Maki

Olivia Mckoy-Easy

Garnet McLeod  
*with Distinction*

Alyssa R. Montiel  
*with Distinction*

Colin R. Mullen  
*with Distinction*

Vincent D. Mussehl  
*with Distinction*

Shubham Narkar

Sabrina Marie Olson

William Alan Paczkowski

Jay Sanjay Parekh

Rishabh Vinay Pandey

Jennifer Mae Peaslee  
*with Distinction*

Spencer Matthew Peck  
*with Distinction*

Steven James Pepin  
*with Distinction*

Amanda Louise Porth  
*with Distinction*

**Dorale Davon Portis**

*with Distinction*

**Ritesh Ranjeet Prasad**

*with Distinction*

**Meghan K. Pynckel**

**Christina Marie Ramirez**

*with Distinction*

**Daniyal Rana**

**Melody M. Reyes**

**Veraunica Honoré Ruffin**

*with Distinction*

**Brian R. Ruha**

*with Distinction*

**Parth Sawlikar**

**Andrew R. Schneider**

**Brooke Marie Segerstrom**

*with Distinction*

**Kendra Mae Severson**

*with Distinction*

**Lamar Simpson**

*with Distinction*

**Krishahn G. Singh**

**Teresa Sommerfeld**

*with Distinction*

**Kristen Stark**

*with Distinction*

**Jeremy Quinn Steward**

**Nathan D. Stine**

**Nathan Swanson**

*with Distinction*

**Rafael Trinidad**

**Emilie Laureen Valdez**

**Shubham Goutam Vankatte**

**Connor Vertz**

**Elijah K. Vue**

*with Distinction*

**Lindsey Anna Wandel**

**Paul Anthony Wirth**

**Maitrue T. Yang**

**Elisa Zermeno Pina**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES – WINTER 2025**

**Alyssa Anne Ranker**

**Madison Rae Johnson**

**Skylar A. Johnston**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN CLINICAL MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING – WINTER 2025**

**Karley E. Anderson**

*with Distinction*

**Neleana Guadalupe Cervantes**

*with Distinction*

**Madyson Contreras-Perrin**

*with Distinction*

**Marianne Cuevas**

*with Distinction*

**Khari Lee Davis**

**Stephanie Garcia**

**Kelly Marie Halladay**

*with Distinction*

**Stephanie Rose Haschker**

*with Distinction*

**Alina Caroline Jordan**

*with Distinction*

**Lisa N. Kurman**

*with Distinction*

**Emma Mortensen**

**Madelyn Lee Mueller**

**Lisa Marie Reed**

*with Distinction*

**Nika Jordan Rose**

*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS – WINTER 2025**

**Mohammad Sakib Hasan**

*with Distinction*

**Zachary Alexander Zagra**

*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION – WINTER 2025**

**Bridgette S. Opalewski**

*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT MANAGEMENT – WINTER 2025**

**Malcolm R. Andrew**

**Sabrina A. Beinlich**

*with Distinction*



**Mario Bolado Palencia**  
**Damien James Bouchette**  
**Chase William Crawshaw**  
*with Distinction*  
**Steven Nicholas Drobot**  
*with Distinction*  
**Olivia Mae Killian**  
**Ellie Kathryn MacKenzie**  
**Lloyd J. Reynolds**  
**Hayden A. Thompson**  
**Alana Nichele Warren**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT – WINTER 2025**

**Molla M. K. Anam**  
**Scott E. Kolarz**  
**Kristine Harney Miller**  
**Melissa Ann Marquez**  
**Elizabeth Richard Nail**  
*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL COMMUNICATION – SUMMER 2025**

**Brenda Citlali Brambila Flores**  
*with Distinction*

**Katharyn Gengler**  
*with Distinction*  
**Nicole Heidi Schuster**  
**Adrienne F. Stiger**

## **MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL STUDIES – SUMMER 2025**

**Brendan G. Gallert**  
**Mason R. Smith**

## **MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – SUMMER 2025**

**Holly Allard**  
*with Distinction*  
**Bryttanee Ambrosini**  
**Nathan C. Bennett**  
**Colby Bruton**  
*with Distinction*  
**Thomas Vincent Coppola**  
*with Distinction*  
**David A. Enfinger**  
**Olena Joy Fischer**  
**Amy Belle Garcia**  
**Jeremy Green**  
**Chelsea Lorraine Starr**  
**Alexis Jodyne Hayes**



**Alexander Hejna**  
*with Distinction*

**Arthur Franklin Jones III**

**Whitni Diane Kral**  
*with Distinction*

**Michael P. Kulisch**  
*with Distinction*

**Nicole Lincoln**

**Maria Antonietta Lovo**

**Taylor Kim Martin**  
*with Distinction*

**Caimen S. Masterson**  
*with Distinction*

**Hannah M. Meverden**

**Steven Duane Mihalik**  
*with Distinction*

**Cory Lee Olbrys**  
*with Distinction*

**Rosendo Ortiz**

**Tyler Daniel Penrod**  
*with Distinction*

**Rachel Jean Petersen**

**Karen Clarine Popp**

**Matthew Reisdorf**  
*with Distinction*

**Erin P. Ryan**  
*with Distinction*

**Bradley Scholl**  
*with Distinction*

**Dominic Stancato**  
*with Distinction*

**Terese Nicole Stanelle**

**Michael Shorley Sullivan**

**Gabriella Mae Umentum**  
*with Distinction*

**Tanya C. Valles-Badillo**  
*with Distinction*

**Kevin J. Wall**  
*with Distinction*

**Ashutosh Arjun Yadav**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES – SUMMER 2025**

**Farron Laura Bussian**  
*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN COMPUTER INFORMATION SYSTEMS – SUMMER 2025**

**Matthew McPherson**  
*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTHCARE ADMINISTRATION – SUMMER 2025**

**Melissa S. Fuerte**

**Jodi Lynn Simmelink**  
*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN HEALTH & WELLNESS MANAGEMENT – SUMMER 2025**

**Elise Heneghan**  
*with Distinction*

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGEMENT – SUMMER 2025**

**Adrian Mercado**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORT MANAGEMENT – SUMMER 2025**

**Alberto Centeno**

**Martin P. Joyce**

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SUSTAINABLE MANAGEMENT – SUMMER 2025**

**Jill Sweeney**

## **MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION – SPRING 2025**

**Gina Chiappetta Aker**  
*with Distinction*

# CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

## *Bachelor and Associate Degrees*

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS - WINTER 2025**

**Miranda Corrine Allard**

*B.A. Art, B.S. Marketing, Summa Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Hannah Elizabeth Allie**

*Theatre Arts*

**Jennifer L. Baker**

*Criminal Justice*

**Diana Barajas**

*Criminal Justice*

**Camiren I. Birchard**

*Spanish, Magna Cum Laude*

**Carter Brooke Borkhuis**

*English, History, Cum Laude*

**Jesena L. Borkowski**

*International Studies*

**Michael T. Burian**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies, Cum Laude*

**Zachary Cain**

*Criminal Justice, Cum Laude*

**Nicole Cannon**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Joe W. Carle**

*Criminal Justice*

**Samuel Francis Carlson**

*Theatre Arts, Summa Cum Laude*

**Allison Sue Costeira**

*Graphic Design*

**Emma Barbara Donovan**

*Communication*

**Noah Henry Dufek**

*History, Summa Cum Laude*

**Mya Lynn Feltner**

*Criminal Justice*

**Fitzel Alfred Ross**

*B.A. History, B.S. Secondary Education*

**Noah Scott Gayle**

*Sociology*

**Rogelio Alexis Guerrero**

*Political Science*

**Katherine Gullo**

*Graphic Design*

**Emilee Lynn Habel**

*Political Science, Magna Cum Laude*

**Yasmine Hamdan**

*Spanish, Criminal Justice*

**Tamika Renee' Hardy**

*Criminal Justice*

**Carley Faye Hart**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Ryan William Havron**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Rafael Herrera, Jr.**

*Criminal Justice*

**Katherine E. Holmes**

*Communication*

**Alexis M. Hora**

*English, Summa Cum Laude*

**Emily Jasso**

*Criminal Justice*

**Audrey Kiersten Jenkins**

*History, Political Science, Magna Cum Laude*

**Juleia Rose Jocius**

*Graphic Design*

**Emily D. Kruchten**

*Criminal Justice, Psychology*

**Jason Levin**

*History*

**John Liptak**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Jacqueline Lopez**

*Criminal Justice*

**Daniel Lunkenheimer**

*Communication*

**Nathaniel Dash Mack**

*Communication, Cum Laude*

**Kaitlyn Maranger**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Melissa Matute**

*Criminal Justice, Summa Cum Laude*

**Sydney Mitsch**

*History, Magna Cum Laude*

**Aseel Taiseer Mohammad**

*Art*

**Cayla C. Morden**

*Sociology, Summa Cum Laude*

**William Harold Morley III**

*History, Secondary Education*

**Alexis Rose Mudgett**

*Communication*

**Chelsey L. Myhre-Foster**

*Sociology*

**Serenity K. Novak**

*Art*

**Katie Marie Opal**

*Communication, Magna Cum Laude*

**Jevin Phillips**

*Criminal Justice, Magna Cum Laude*

**Lucas A. Pitt**

*English*

**Faith Kathleen Price**

*Art, Magna Cum Laude*

**Amelia Reed**

*Theatre Arts*

**Brook Elizabeth Reed**

*Criminal Justice*

**Ian Emilio Riley**

*Communication*

**Michelle L. Rindahl**

*Music, Cum Laude*

**Jena Nicole Shaffer**

*History, Magna Cum Laude*

**Miera Alani Smith-Gayden**

*Art*

**Julia L. Sollazo**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies, Cum Laude*

**Emma Lynn Sorensen**

*English, Communication, Summa Cum Laude*

**Allison Marie Stone**

*Criminal Justice*

**Alicia Estelle Torkelson**

*Music, Magna Cum Laude*

**Aileen Jeanne Torola**

*Art, Cum Laude*

**Leslie Anastasia Townsend**

*Criminal Justice*

**Jacqueline Elizabeth Vinje-Shields**

*Leadership and Personalized Studies*

**Julianna Washington**

*Criminal Justice*



**Kimora Ann Wilson**

*Sociology*

**Denise Daniela Zamora**

*Political Science, Magna Cum Laude*

## BACHELOR OF ARTS - SUMMER 2025

**Selena L. Bento**

*Criminal Justice, Cum Laude*

**Kaiya Breezae Henson-Jordan**

*History*

**Jesenia Marie Jaimes**

*Criminal Justice, Cum Laude*

**Aaron John Melby**

*Art*

**Jonathan Miranda**

*Criminal Justice*

**Matthew Anton Murray**

*Criminal Justice*

**Gunnar John Zanzucchi**

*Communication, Cum Laude*

## BACHELOR OF ARTS - SUMMER 2026

**Jaden Andre Stevens**

*Criminal Justice, Cum Laude*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – WINTER 2025

**Marissa E. Acuna**

*Business Management*

**Maryem Alchaar**

*Elementary Education, Summa Cum Laude*

**Gisselle Ivette Alejandre-Hernandez**

*Business Management*

**Abd lejawad Ali**

*Computer Science*

**Danny Alicea**

*Accounting, Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Miranda Corrine Allard**

*B.S. Marketing, B.A. Art, Summa Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Jack T. Allen**

*Computer Science, Mathematics*

**Connor Alton**

*Biological Sciences*

**Safia Amtulbaseer**

*Biological Sciences, Magna Cum Laude*



**Samantha Clare Andersen**

*Business Management*

**Liu Arnold**

*Psychology, Magna Cum Laude*

**Nicole Marie Arwood**

*Early Childhood Education, Magna Cum Laude*

**Ramla Batool Bajabar**

*Biological Sciences, Magna Cum Laude*

**Aminante Ariyana Batton**

*Sport Management*

**Todd James Bell**

*Psychology*

**Jesse Benitez**

*Applied Health Sciences, Magna Cum Laude*

**Emily Sage Berg**

*Biological Sciences, Magna Cum Laude*

**Kayla Marie Berg**

*Biological Sciences*

**Rebecca L. Bergmann**

*Business Administration, Summa Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Brooke Elizabeth Booth**

*Environmental Studies*

**Keith T. Brandt**

*Accounting*

**Ayden Charles Brey**

*Sport Management*

**Trevor Robert Briscoe**

*Marketing*

**Royce Lamar Burns**

*Business Management*

**Andy Campos**

*Psychology*

**Delilah Cantu**

*Biological Sciences*

**Sean Matthew Carolan**

*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Anita Christmas**

*Psychology*

**Mary Virginia Climer**

*Business Administration, Business Honors*

**Eileen Conway Lev**

*Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Mariena Claire Coon**

*Business Management, Business Honors*

**David D. Culbertson**

*Sport Management*

**Amy Elizabeth Donaldson**

*Elementary Education, Summa Cum Laude*

**Melissa Dubeau**

*Business Administration, Business Honors*

**Faith Ann Duensing**

*Applied Health Sciences, Magna Cum Laude*

**Kenneth R. Ekern**

*Accounting*

**Morgan Lindsay Ellis**

*Business Administration, Business Honors*

**Karla Escobedo**

*Marketing, Business Honors*

**Arik Xavier Espinosa**

*Management Information Systems, Business Honors*

**Jessica Felix**

*Accounting, Business Management, Cum Laude*

**Walter Edward Fick**

*Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Caitlin Flaherty**

*Elementary Education*

**Macy X. Flanagan**

*Business Management, Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Briant A. Francies**

*Secondary Education, Mathematics*

**Kaitlin Francis**

*Applied Health Sciences*

**Sergio Garcia**  
*Business Management, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Adelina Ivélis González**  
*Psychology*

**Matthew M. Greinke**  
*Computer Science*

**Mykaela Grube**  
*Biological Sciences*

**Luke Emanuel Gulbranson**  
*Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Gabriela Guzmán**  
*Elementary Education*

**Lydia L. Haller**  
*Health Information Management and Technology*

**Joshua Hamlet**  
*Biological Sciences*

**Nicholas M. Hawkins**  
*Computer Science*

**Sirrenda Victoria Hayes**  
*Environmental Studies*

**William J. Heinemann**  
*Psychology*

**Faith S. Hellmich**  
*Environmental Studies*

**Evan B. Henry**  
*Business Management*

**Calvin Hightower**  
*Computer Science*

**Marissa Louise Howard**  
*Psychology, Magna Cum Laude*

**Ash Hueston**  
*Psychology*

**Shannon Huot**  
*Business Administration, Business Honors*

**Kyle Andrew Janis**  
*Marketing*

**Vanessa Jones**  
*Applied Health Sciences*

**Jaelyn N. Kapter**  
*Psychology*

**Charles Keil**  
*Accounting, Business Honors*

**Amy Angela Kelley**  
*Business Management, Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Morgan Michael Steven Kiolbasse**  
*Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude*

**Tyler James Kittelson**  
*Business Administration*

**Terese Kornelik**  
*Psychology, Magna Cum Laude*

**Meredith Kremer**  
*Sport Management*

**Matthew J. Kubik**  
*Geosciences, Summa Cum Laude*

**Lillie Marie Lehman**  
*Marketing, Business Management, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Maria P. Lema**  
*Psychology*

**Morgan M. Lofton**  
*Psychology*

**Emily Rose Lorentzen**  
*Elementary Education, Magna Cum Laude*

**Mitchell J. Macaluso**  
*Sport Management*

**Neal A. Maki**  
*Business Management*

**Madison Markham**  
*Elementary Education, Cum Laude*

**Alexandra Lynn Michelau**  
*Business Management, Cum Laude*

**Brennen John Miller**  
*Business Management, Cum Laude*

**Tyler J. Miltimore**  
*Environmental Studies*

**Raven Nicole Mitchell**  
*Business Administration*

**Justin Mittelstaedt**  
*Sport Management*

**Stephanie Narciso Avelino**  
*Business Management, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Samanta Emily Nelson**  
*Psychology*

**Autumn R. Nowicki**  
*Psychology*

**Kalyn Ocampo Mondragon**  
*Marketing*

**Gianni Olivares**  
*Kinesiology and Sport Performance*

**Marin Rae Ovitt**  
*Psychology*

**Joshua Pacheco**  
*Psychology, Neuroscience*

**Darian Malik Parks-Knight**  
*Sport Management*

**Sushankumar Pravinkumar Patel**  
*Computer Science*

**Lidamulage Wonara Dewnethmi Perera**  
*Psychology*

**Ibelisse Cecilia Perez**  
*Sport Management*

**Lauren Grace Petersen**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Jacob Darien Petroski**  
*Accounting*

**Ryley Cierra Lewis Poulsen**  
*Psychology*

**Jocelyn Ramos**  
*Psychology*

**Lillian Kathryn Ray**  
*Psychology, Summa Cum Laude*

**Jack Redlin**  
*Sport Management*

**Crystal Aida Reynoso**  
*Psychology*

**Samir A. Rihman**  
*Business Management*

**Neysha A. Rodriguez**  
*Management Information Systems, Business Honors*

**Fitzel Alfred Ross**  
*B.S. Secondary Education. B.A. History*

**Lizbeth Ruvalcaba**  
*Business Management*

**Claudia Santos**  
*Psychology*

**Kelsi Victoria Santos**  
*Psychology, Cum Laude*

**Ellie Scheuerman**  
*Environmental Studies*

**Jacob Schlais**  
*Geosciences*

**Madelyn Noel Schleicher**  
*Elementary Education, Cum Laude*

**Benjamin Daniel Shackelford**  
*Computer Science, Magna Cum Laude*

**Jacob P. Sikorski**  
*Computer Science, Summa Cum Laude*

**Melissa Springer**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Camille Mary Stanczak**  
*Psychology*

**John Thomas Stehlik**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Brooke Elizabeth Sturycz**  
*Business Management*

**Isabelle K. Stypla**  
*Mathematics*

**Matthew Svoren**  
*Computer Science, Magna Cum Laude*

**Jacob Walter-James Sykora**  
*Marketing*

**Jaclyn Rose Syrett**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Carrie A. Szulczewski**  
*Psychology*

**Bassil C. Taylor**  
*Computer Science*

**Riley H. Tucker**  
*Physics*

**Samantha C. Vanderhoef**  
*Mathematics*

**Andrew Vela**  
*Marketing*

**Katie Ann Vitrano**  
*Business Administration*

**Morgan Judith Wagner**  
*Marketing, Business Honors*

**Maxwell Justin Walker**  
*Applied Health Sciences*

**Hannah M. Wehausen**  
*Elementary Education*

**Grace L. White**  
*Elementary Education, Cum Laude*

**Joseph James White**  
*Business Administration, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Elizabeth YuShan Wieties**  
*Accounting, Business Management, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Alleigha Chantell Williams**  
*Marketing, Accounting, Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Rachael Ann Ferris**  
*Psychology, Communication, Cum Laude*

**Brandon R. Wilson**  
*Biological Sciences*

**Jessica Zarinana**  
*Psychology*

**Brooke Alexis Zwicke**  
*Psychology*



## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – SUMMER 2025**

**Jehad Emad Abdijawad, Sr.**  
*Marketing, Magna Cum Laude*

**Shahed Emad Abdijawad**  
*Marketing*

**Aech Paul Ahrens**  
*Psychology, Magna Cum Laude*

**James Bigley**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Owen Michael Brock**  
*Sport Management, Cum Laude*

**Molly A. Calderon**  
*Business Management*

**Sam Carles**  
*Marketing, Magna Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Alvaro Luis Diaz**  
*Business Management*

**Brandon J. Dodge**  
*Business Management, Business Honors*

**Carolina Josefina Galvan**  
*Psychology*

**Aaia J. Jarabaa**  
*Applied Health Sciences*

**Joseph William Koren**  
*Business Management*

**Lizbeth M. Manzanera**  
*Business Management, Cum Laude*

**Olivia Masnica**  
*Sport Management*

**Zarangiz Misaghi**  
*Health Information Management and Technology*

**Jaevin T. Pearson**  
*Accounting, Cum Laude, Business Honors*

**Amanda D. Regenold**  
*Health Information Management and Technology*

**Adam C. Rodriguez**  
*Health Information Management and Technology*

**Brandon James Stevens-Rustad**  
*Sport Management*

**Parker William Swanson**  
*Marketing*

**Orreanna Lashawn Townsend**  
*Psychology*

**Caitlin A. Tramte**  
*Marketing, Business Management*

**Anthony Tricoli-Walkanoff**  
*Marketing*

**Chloe Van Zeeland**  
*Psychology*

**Savannah Grace Wittig**  
*Applied Health Sciences*

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE – SPRING 2026**

**Beatriz Morales**  
*Health Information Management Technology, Cum Laude*

## **ASSOCIATE OF ARTS – WINTER 2025**

**Logan Michael DePerte**  
*Professional Studies*

**Kaitlyn L. Herrin**  
*Professional Studies*

## **ASSOCIATE OF ARTS & SCIENCES – WINTER 2025**

**Olivia Lynn Albelo**

**Shaun Patrick Gilboy**

**Isaiah Jerrell Lambert**

**Kristen Moses**

## **ASSOCIATE OF ARTS & SCIENCES – SUMMER 2025**

**Rebecca Coutley**

**Lydia Fielder**

**Jasiyen Jamir Malcom**

**Tyler Kenneth Steege**

**Daniel Lee Winter**



# COMMENCEMENT RECEPTION

Immediately following ceremony

*Come  
celebrate!*



# COMMENCEMENT TRADITIONS

## ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Traditional academic attire of caps, gowns, and hoods dates to the 12th century, when faculty were often members of the clergy who wore garb similar to those of church orders. Over the centuries, this formal academic attire has come to symbolize the academic achievement of the wearer.

The gown and hood symbolize the degree the wearer holds or is about to receive. The bachelor's degree gown has a closed front and long, pointed sleeves. The master's degree gown has a closed sleeve with a slit near the upper arm and the pointed part of the sleeve dangling below the arm. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet and has three chevrons on each bell shaped sleeve. The velvet may be black or its color could indicate the field in which the degree was taken; the most common color is dark blue signifying the Ph.D. Notable exception to the traditional black doctor's robes are those worn by graduates of Yale (blue) and Harvard (crimson). We also have faculty with degrees from international universities who wear different styles of robes or hoods.

Hoods are rarely worn for bachelor's degrees. The master's hood is shorter than the doctor's and lacks its colored panels. Hoods are lined with the colors of the institution granting the degree and are edged with velvet in the color symbolic of the wearer's academic field: business, tan; science, gold; dark blue for the Ph.D. designates learning and scholarship and not a degree in philosophy.

The mortarboard cap came into use after the hood was no longer worn on the head. The tassel, worn over the left temple, is usually black although a colored tassel can be worn to designate an academic discipline. The doctor's cap may be a tam or soft cap of various designs, and the tassel may be gold.

## COMMENCEMENT SYMBOLS

The University Medallion is worn by the chancellor. The medallion incorporates the university mark and was made by Judith Olsen, '75, Art. The flags displayed on the platform carry the colors of the academic disciplines. The mace, of brass and raw purple heartwood, is a symbol of authority carried by the grand marshal. The mace was designed by Rollin G. Jansky, emeritus associate professor of art.

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## PRIVACY ISSUES

Some students have exercised their option under the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, not to have their names included in this program.

This program does not constitute official university certification that all whose names appear here have completed degree requirements.

The University of Wisconsin-Parkside is committed to equal opportunity for all persons, regardless of race, color, sex, creed, age, ancestry, national origin, disability, sexual orientation, political affiliation, marital status, arrest or conviction record in its education programs, activities, and employment policies.

# SPECIAL THANKS

## HEAD MARSHAL

Lisa Marie Barber, M.F.A.

*Professor, Art*

*Director, Leadership and Personalized Studies*

*Academic Director, Associates of Arts and Sciences*

## DEGREE CANDIDATE ANNOUNCERS

For Master Degree Candidates:

Theresa Castor, Ph.D.

*Vice Provost for Research and Administration*

For Bachelor and Associate Degree Candidates:

Adrienne Viramontes, Ph.D.

*Professor, Communication*

## FLAG BEARER

Emily Jasso

*Parkside Student Government*

## USHERS

## 2025 WINTER COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE

## PROCESSION AND RECESSIONAL MUSICIANS

## VIDEO PRODUCTION, LIVESTREAMING, AND EVENT PHOTOGRAPHY

Ranger Studios Staff

Professor Alvaro Garcia, Kevin Gray, and Students

University Relations

Catherine Mantuano, Laura Mason, and Erika Ottosen

Media and Marketing

Derek Fye and Andrea Schulner

## EMPIRE PHOTOGRAPHY

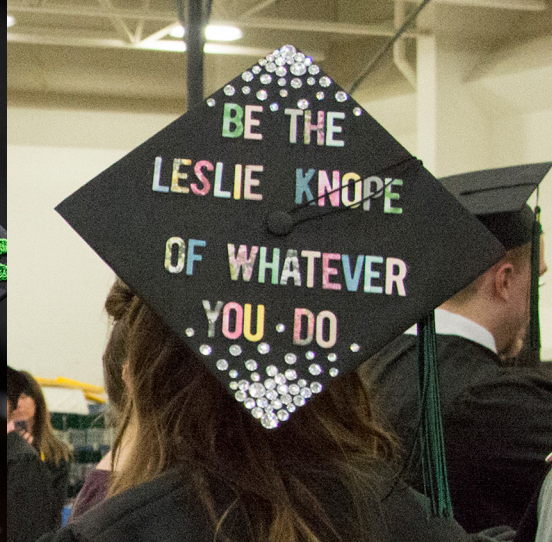
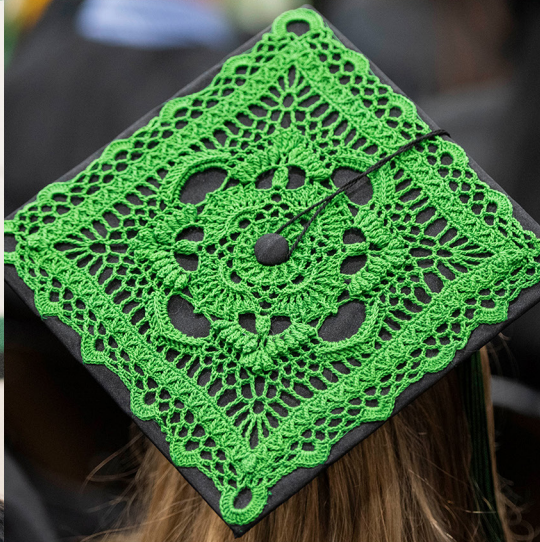
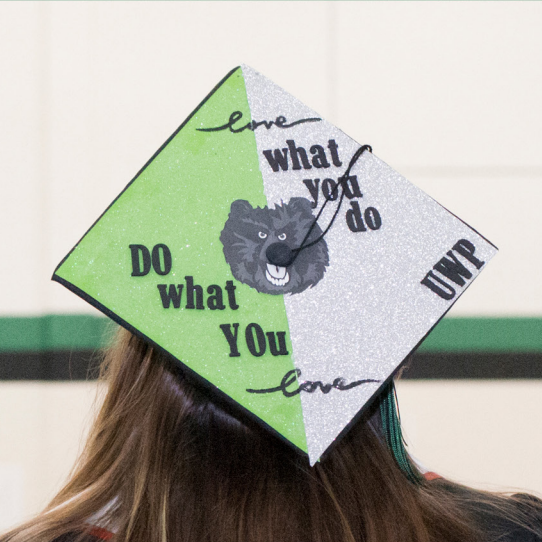
Your photos:

[www.empirephotos.com/uwpark](http://www.empirephotos.com/uwpark)

FREE PROOFS with no obligation to purchase will be sent to you after the ceremony. All information will only be used to get you the Grad pics. We do not sell or spam any information.







UNIVERSITY OF  
WISCONSIN **PARKSIDE**