

WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY  
2018 COMMENCEMENT



UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY  
FRIDAY, MAY 18, 2018, 9:00 A.M.  
PRUDENTIAL CENTER, NEWARK, NEW JERSEY





# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Graduate,

On behalf of the faculty and staff at William Paterson University, I offer our warmest congratulations as you and your family celebrate this milestone event in your life. Today we will award you the university degree that you so richly deserve. As this chapter of your life comes to a close, I encourage you to reflect on your journey to this place and time, and to look forward to the world that awaits you.

You will have opportunities beyond imagination in the years ahead. But with opportunity comes responsibility. The world will need strong leaders and engaged citizens to make the good choices that will lead our country forward to higher ideals. You will be called upon to marshal the resources to help realize the dreams of your ancestors and to create a sustainable world for generations to come.

As artists and musicians, you will embody the creative spirit of a new generation. As business women and men, you will build and sustain our nation and world economically into the twenty-first century. As educators, you will shape the minds and lives of our children and grandchildren. As humanists, you will create new and deeper ways of thinking and perceiving ourselves and our world. And as social and natural scientists, you will help us more deeply understand ourselves and create scientific discoveries that will better our daily lives.

You are our future...and we couldn't be more proud of you.

There is no limit to your aspirations. You now have the academic preparation to begin the fulfillment of your dreams. And as you leave William Paterson University, know that we stand behind you and will always be proud that you graduated from this University.

Best wishes for a bright and happy future!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kathleen Waldron". The script is fluid and cursive.

Kathleen Waldron  
President

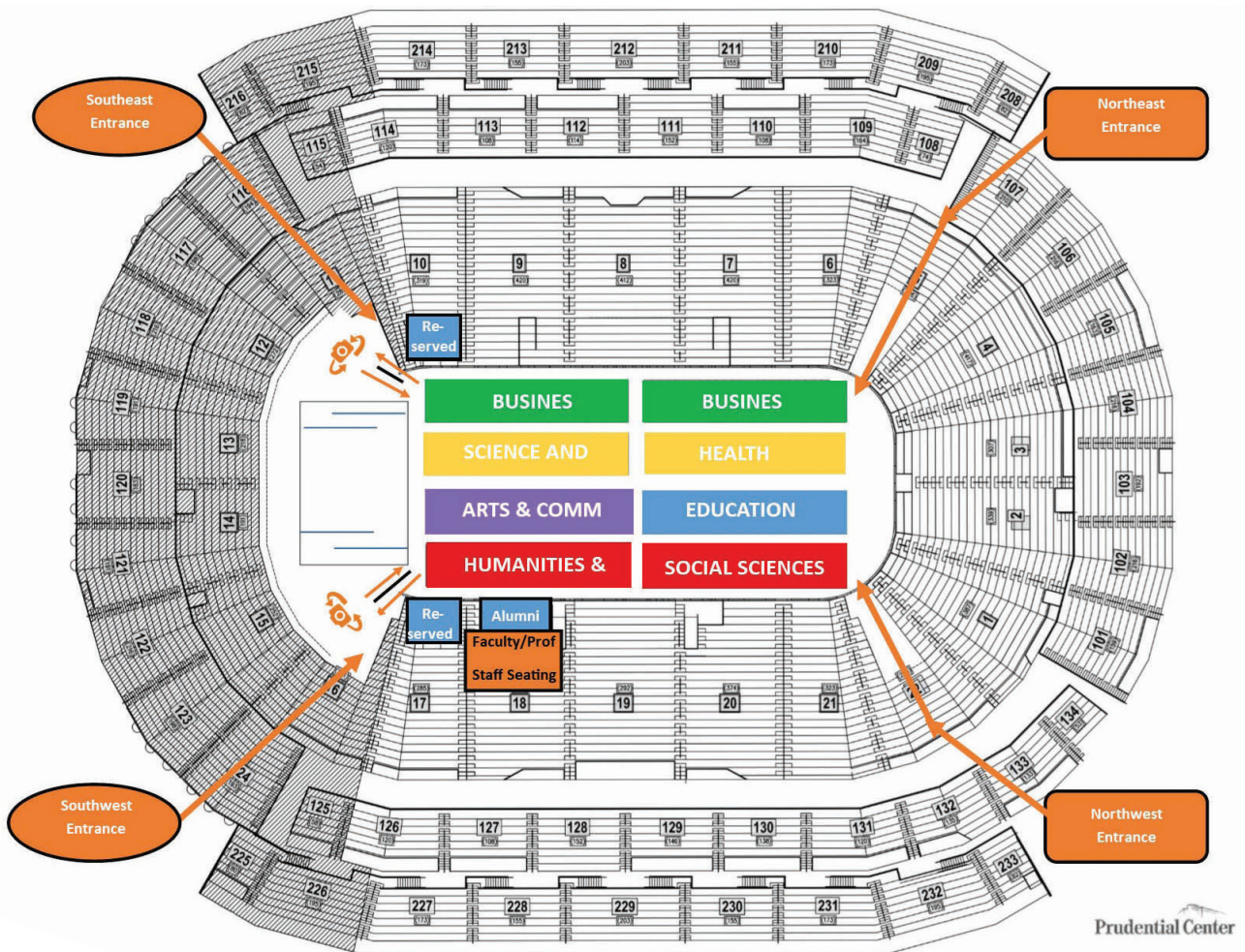
# GUEST INFORMATION

Welcome to William Paterson University's 2018 Undergraduate Commencement Ceremony.

The audience is requested to stand for the National Anthem and the Alma Mater. Each candidate for a degree will be individually recognized during the ceremony. We ask that you hold your applause and other expressions of recognition during the degree presentations. The ceremony is expected to last up to three hours. A map of the Prudential Center, designating the seating sections for the graduates by academic college, can be found below. Family members will not be able to interact with the graduates on the arena floor.

Out of respect for all the graduates, we ask that you remain in your seats until the end of the ceremony. Commencement will officially conclude after the Recessional, during which the University Marshal will lead the platform party from the stage, followed by the new graduates, who will exit from their seats on the floor and proceed to exit the building through the Lafayette Tower. Please arrange a mutually agreed-upon location to meet outside the Prudential Center following the ceremony.

**Photographs:** A professional photographer will photograph each graduate as he or she is greeted on stage. Proofs will be available online at [gradimages.com](http://gradimages.com) within five to seven days following the ceremony.



# ORDER OF CEREMONY

## **Processional**

Pomp and Circumstance March, No. 1, by Sir Edward Elgar  
(Audience is requested to remain seated for the academic procession)

## **National Anthem**

Thomas C. Carrico, tenor, Bachelor of Music candidate,  
accompanied by Carl Bolleia '08, adjunct professor of music

## **Introduction**

Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University

## **Valedictory Address**

Abigail DeBel, Bachelor of Arts candidate, Communication Disorders

## **Faculty Excellence Awards**

Warren G. Sandmann, PhD, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs, presenting

## **Comment to the Class**

Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University

## **Conferral of Honorary Degrees**

Frederick L. Gruel, Chair, William Paterson University Board of Trustees, presenting

Dr. Henry J. Pruitt, Jr., Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

Kristine Johnson, Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters

## **Commencement Address**

Kristine Johnson, Anchor, WCBS-TV

## **Alumni Association Welcome**

Domenico DiMaio '97, President, William Paterson University Alumni Association

## **Presentation of Degree Candidates**

Warren G. Sandmann, PhD, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Candidates will be recognized by the deans of their respective colleges:*

**Daryl Moore**, MFA, Dean, College of the Arts and Communication

**Siamack Shojai**, PhD, Dean, Cotsakos College of Business

**Dorothy Feola**, EdD, Interim Dean, College of Education

**Kara Rabbitt**, PhD, Dean, College of Humanities and Social Sciences

**Venkat Sharma**, PhD, Dean, College of Science and Health

## **Conferring of Degrees**

Kathleen Waldron, PhD, President of the University

## **Alma Mater**

Matthew Moretta, tenor, and Alyssa Warner, soprano, Bachelor of Music candidates,  
accompanied by Carl Bolleia '08, adjunct professor of music

## **Recessional**

Suite No. 2 in F, by Gustav Holst

(Audience is requested to remain seated until the academic procession has left)

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER AND HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

## KRISTINE JOHNSON

**Anchor, WCBS-TV**

*Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters*

Kristine Johnson currently co-anchors the 5:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. news at WCBS-TV, the CBS owned and operated station in New York City. She joined CBS 2 in fall 2006. Since then, she has been the recipient of several Emmy awards.



Ms. Johnson has navigated her viewers through numerous breaking news events, including Hurricane Sandy, the Newtown school massacre, the Boston marathon bombings, and two separate papal visits to New York. She also anchors weekly on the network's digital platform CBSN, is a fill-in anchor for *CBS This Morning*, and has filed reports for *CBS Sunday Morning*.

In 1994, Ms. Johnson began her career at WPRI in Providence, Rhode Island, where she was hired as a part-time assignment editor. Over the next 10 years, she transitioned through several production positions to her ultimate goal of reporting. Ms. Johnson left Providence for New York City in 2004. She was hired by MSNBC and anchored daytime coverage.

Ms. Johnson represents CBS 2 at various events around the tristate area. She has worked closely with the greater New York chapters of Susan G. Komen Race for a Cure, the March of Dimes, the Brain Tumor Foundation, and the Stephen Siller Tunnel to Towers Run. A graduate of the University of Nebraska with a bachelor's degree in journalism, she lives with her family in northern New Jersey.

# HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

DR. HENRY J. PRUITT JR.

**Retired Principal, Janis E. Dismus Middle School and  
Trustee Emeritus, William Paterson University Board of Trustees**

*Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters*



Dr. Henry Pruitt retired from the William Paterson University Board of Trustees in June 2017 after 33 years of service, becoming the longest-serving board member in the University's modern history. Dr. Pruitt, who was named trustee *emeritus* of the Board in 2017, joined the board in 1983. He served in numerous leadership roles, including chair of the board from 1991 to 1993, and chair of several key committees, including the Educational Policy and Student Development Committee, the Finance and Audit Committee, the Minority Affairs Committee, and the Personnel and Compensation Committee.

Beyond William Paterson University, Dr. Pruitt served as chairman of the board of the New Jersey Association of State Colleges and Universities, the agency that advocates on behalf of public higher education in New Jersey, from 2001 to 2003, and vice chair from 2000 to 2001.

A tireless advocate for students, and especially students of color, Dr. Pruitt focused on the intellectual, cultural, and personal merits of diversity and led William Paterson University to achieve one of the most diverse student bodies in the state and region as well as a diverse faculty and staff. During his tenure on the William Paterson Board of Trustees, he oversaw the significant expansion of the institution's student body, growth in the number of faculty to more than 400, the creation of a residential campus, and the construction of major new facilities.

Dr. Pruitt spent more than three decades as a junior high school teacher, assistant principal, and principal, including 18 years as principal of Janis E. Dismus Middle School in Englewood. A resident of Teaneck, where he is an elected councilman and deputy mayor, he has served as president of the Teaneck Board of Education, president of the Teaneck Community Relations Advisory Board, member of the Teaneck Visioning Task Force, and member of the Teaneck Parks and Recreation Board, among numerous other professional and community activities. He has received many honors and awards for his commitment to education and service, including the 2017 Julian Bond Civil Rights Award presented by the Bergen County NAACP. Dr. Pruitt holds a doctorate in education from Teachers College, Columbia University, where he majored in education finance. He was inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame in 2009.

# VALEDICTORIAN

**Awarded to the highest-achieving student  
who completed all credits at the University**

## ABIGAIL DEBEL

Communication Disorders, *summa cum laude*

Abigail DeBel is a May 2018 graduate with a bachelor of arts degree, *summa cum laude*, in communication disorders, with a minor in psychology. A Dean's List student throughout her four-year career, Ms. DeBel also completed the Honors College cognitive science track. She currently serves as a vice president of the University's chapter of the National Student Speech Language Hearing Association, and has been a member for four years. In 2017, she presented her research, *Does Modality Matter? Reading Comprehension on Mobile Screens and on Paper*, at the annual conference of the Eastern Psychological Association. Ms. DeBel is an active volunteer at the Christian Health Care Center in Wyckoff, where she also served as a teacher's aide in the daycare center. She is currently enrolled in William Paterson University's master's degree program in communication disorders.



# SALUTATORIAN

**Awarded to the highest-achieving transfer student**

## LULJETA BEQIRI

Early Childhood Education and Sociology,  
*summa cum laude*

Luljeta Beqiri is a January 2018 graduate of William Paterson University with a bachelor of arts degree in early childhood education and sociology, *summa cum laude*. A Dean's List student, Ms. Beqiri is a member of *Pi Lambda*

*Theta* International Honor Society and Professional Association in education, the *Zeta Alpha* chapter of *Kappa Delta Pi* International Honor Society in education, and the *Alpha Kappa Delta* International Sociology Honor Society. She has won numerous awards, including the Paul Vouras Award for social sciences, as well as several scholarships. Her research project, "The Experiences Between Younger and Older Muslim Women from 9/11 and Forward," in which she examined how Muslim women dealt with the rise in Islamophobia in the United States after the 9/11 attacks, won a poster award at the Eastern Sociological Society's annual conference. She is seeking a position in early childhood education.

# FACULTY AWARDS

2018 Faculty Award for Excellence in Research,  
Scholarship, and Creative Expression

## MICHELE CASCARDI, *Professor of Psychology*

Professor Michele Cascardi is a researcher and scholar whose work in clinical psychology focuses on adolescent relationship abuse, intimate partner violence, and sexual assault on college campuses. Her scholarship contributes to finding solutions to these pressing social problems. Topics have ranged from understanding the link between child maltreatment and intimate partner violence to designing instruments that accurately measure aggression in romantic relationships. Professor Cascardi is a prolific scholar, having published 56 peer-review articles and book chapters and delivered 92 academic presentations throughout her career. She has received more than \$2 million in grant support for her work and most recently secured five grants, including a National Institute of Justice grant and a Eunice Kennedy Shriver National Institute of Child Health and Human Development award. These grants support graduate research assistantships for doctoral students in clinical psychology. She is a consultant in her field, an academic reviewer, and a spokesperson in the media on issues of teen anxiety and violence. Professor Cascardi serves on various committees at William Paterson, mentors student research, and is graduate director of the doctoral program in clinical psychology.

A graduate of Duke University with a bachelor's degree in psychology and election to *Phi Beta Kappa*, she holds a master's degree in psychology and a PhD in clinical psychology, both from the State University of New York, Stony Brook. She was a pre-doctoral clinical psychology intern at Medical College of Pennsylvania at Eastern Pennsylvania Psychiatric Institute and a National Institutes of Mental Health (NIMH) post-doctoral fellow at the University of South Florida, Louis de la Parte Florida Mental Health Institute.



2018 Faculty Award for Excellence in Teaching

## BETTY KOLLIA, *Professor of Communication Disorders*

Professor Betty Kollia is a speech language pathologist with expertise in speech and language sciences and disorders. Her research is interdisciplinary, ranging from autism spectrum disorders to bilingualism to stroke and dementia. Much of her teaching is also interdisciplinary and extends from her



Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences to others, such as the linguistics minor and the Honors College Cognitive Science Track. Professor Kollia's interdisciplinary

teaching and research have led to the development of an inter-professional education component of three clinical disciplines (nursing, exercise physiology, and communication disorders) and to a successful Special Topics Honors Course in Psychology. She mentors student research across the disciplines, and has worked with students from fields such as psychology and music, in addition to her own students in communication disorders. She has guided over 60 master's theses and research studies, and many have been presented in conferences nationwide. Her service for more than 15 years on her department's curriculum committee further underscores her dedication to developing and teaching a sound curriculum for the nationally accredited program in communication disorders and sciences.

Professor Kollia holds dual bachelor of arts degrees in art history and psychology as well as a bachelor of science in speech and hearing sciences from the University of Minnesota; a master of arts in speech language pathology from Hunter College, City University of New York; and a master of philosophy and PhD in speech science from The Graduate School and University Center of the City University of New York.



### 2018 Faculty Award for Excellence in Service

#### BRUCE DIAMOND, *Professor of Psychology*

Professor Bruce Diamond contributes to the Department of Psychology with his expertise in the study of brain-behavior relationships. He serves the program and college in his commitment to developing curriculum and policy. He helped build the Honors College's Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology Track, contributed to the early growth of the master's program in clinical psychology and counseling, and helped conceptualize and usher the University's doctoral program in clinical psychology through the approval process. He has chaired the Faculty Senate Graduate Policy Council since 2014 and served on and chaired the Technology Across the Curriculum Committee. Significantly, Professor Diamond serves students, having mentored more than 80 students in the Neuropsychology and Neuroscience Lab and 30 thesis students in the Honors College, and currently mentors three doctoral students. His research students have won awards for their work, co-authored chapters, manuscripts, and numerous conference presentations, and many have gone on to graduate programs and successful careers.

Professor Diamond earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology from The Ohio State University, a master's in education and child development from Smith College, and a PhD in neuropsychology and psychophysiology from the University of Manchester in the United Kingdom.

# Bachelor's Degree Recipients

## College of the Arts and Communication

### Bachelor of Arts

#### ART

Anna A. Arcuri  
Janet Atkinson\*\*\*  
Kenneth James Day  
Jaclyn Leigh Desensi  
Daisy Ferro\*  
Ashley Nicole Florio\*\*  
Jason Robert Goon  
Alexandra Hampson  
Lily Antonia Jones  
Shelby Nicole Kopeski\*  
Victoria Alison Maslak\*\*  
Lara Hillary Meyer\*\*  
Peryhan Mustafa  
Amber Monet Nelson  
Michael John Rhinesmith  
Stephanie Rodriguez\*  
Sean Sotelo  
Erin Stewart  
Jesse K. Sulewski\*  
Lateyah T. Wilson

#### ART HISTORY

Lisa Guadalupe Lakomy\*  
Angela Pecci\*\*

#### COMMUNICATION

Sarah A. Abaza\*\*  
Brittany R. Abbate  
Rachel A. Aguirre  
Muna Dahish Ahmad  
Salsabil F. Ahmed  
Kanian A. Aiken  
Nicole Ann Alessandrino  
Fabian Lloyd Allen  
Jennifer Angeles  
Aaron Shakir Anthony  
Andres Felipe Arbelaez  
Maxine Aviles\*\*  
Lisa J. Baca  
Zaria Suzanne Banks  
Michael Philip Beltramba  
C'shae Monae Bess-Perez\*  
Joel Luther Binns

Gabriel Antonio Jorge Bonilla  
Travis Bouquet\*  
Gregory Gerard Brennan  
Daniel Aaron Brink\*  
Yvette Brito  
Stefone G. Brown  
Lyndsay Alexis Buonforte\*  
Rayanna Dorothy Burse  
Johana M. Caba\*  
Jetmira Cafuli  
Melissa Elaine Calora  
Matthew William Candrilli\*  
Victoria Rose Capizzi  
Alexis Cardoza\*  
Maynor Alfredo Castillo\*\*\*  
Janina Kandice Charles  
Sergio Adam Chavarria\*  
Michele Ciz  
Isaac Coates  
Jacqueline Patricia Corton  
Amanda Ariele Costantino  
Ryan Albert Crisafulli  
Mary Grace Czapran\*\*  
Dania Damrah  
Jessica Marion D'Anna  
Brianne Rose Deflora  
Jonathan Thomas Dekovics\*\*  
Glacelys De La Hoz\*  
Alexander John Delesky  
Bella Delgado  
Charles DelValle  
Bimal C. Desai  
Adams Nelson Desir  
Nisha Dhawan  
Mariah Yasmia Diaz  
Matthew Anthony Di Giacomo  
Isaiah Kye Diaz-Mays  
Jonathan William Dolan  
Daniel Charles Donohue  
Sara A. Douglass  
Daniel Raymond Dragonetti  
Zakiyyah Kiyannah Duncan  
Tiana Katrice Duran  
Anthony Ebanks  
Paula Echeverry\*  
Maria Elaine Economou\*\*  
Nadia Fatima Elmahdy  
Edgar Steven Enriquez  
Aniyah Shrae Evans  
Todd Matthew Evans  
Leah Tess Feld  
Mildred Figuerate

Anthony L. Fillari Jr.  
Nicholas William Fischer  
Natalie Catherine Focht  
Daniel John Frost  
Jamie L. Gentile  
Ali Ghacham  
Matthew Vincent Ghiretti  
Thomas Francis Giordano  
Oscar Gola\*  
Jasmin Gonzalez  
Jasmine Dominique Grant  
Eric Joseph Greco  
Hannah Cerqueira Greve  
Brittany Griffin  
Andres Javier Gutierrez  
Matthew T. Gysin  
Daniel Davis Howe\*\*\*  
Gregory V. Huepler  
Nicholas Joseph Insinga  
Brian E. Jaeger  
Tiffany Lauren Jairala  
Christopher J. Kailath  
Ryan Robert Kerr\*  
Ashley Victoria Kopack  
John Joseph Kotchkowski  
Christian D. Landry  
Shaney Lara  
Natalie Marie Lardieri  
Kahlisha Yvette Laurel  
Daniel J. Leedy\*  
Alfredo Enrique Leon  
Chelsea Rose Lester\*\*  
Alexandra Katarzyna Lewinska  
Miranda Julia Liburdi\*  
Brittany Elizabeth Line\*\*\*  
Nicole Anne LiSanti\*  
John William Loennecker\*  
Jaquillha Loretta Longstreet  
Ana Lourdes Lopez  
Valerie Lora  
Grant Ludmer  
Tihany Marie Luna  
Christopher Lynch  
Samantha R. Maclean  
Anthony Joseph Mandanici  
Michelle Ann Mango  
Tara R. Maniscalco  
Maurice Corrado Marsilla  
Joshua Rafael Marte  
Natoya Mason  
Wyatt David Mayes\*  
Danielle Y. McCalla

Aziza McGill Ayinde\*\*  
 Justin Paul McHugh  
 Shanee M. McNeill  
 Villaznim Selim Dema Mehmetaj  
 Kristina Marie Menhinick  
 Martin Mihaly  
 Brielle Kelly Minaya\*  
 Alexander Tyler Miranda\*  
 Mairead Virginia Mitru  
 Andre H. Montazem  
 Tiffany Ariel Moon\*\*\*  
 Emily Anne Mulqueen  
 Angela Danielle Murphy  
 Ryan G. Myers  
 Dean Rocco Newman  
 Meesol Noh  
 Kolade Okusanya  
 Joshua R. O'Mara  
 Natanael Isaac Orbe  
 Nicholas Philip Pachiole  
 Daniel Padilla\*  
 Kevin Jose Padilla  
 Jude L. Palacio  
 Conor Dolan Palecek  
 Brianna Marie Panico  
 Nicholas Christopher Pastor Poe  
 Maria Y. Perdomo  
 Camila Perez  
 Cassondra Alexa Perez  
 Bianca Angelina Petrosino  
 Daniel J. Popoloski\*\*  
 Mark Xavier Potenza  
 Lisa Evelyn Potts  
 Michael R. Pressler\*  
 Melissa Leigh Puentes  
 Amanda Lindsay Quinn\*  
 John Anthony Raffaele  
 Joseph Jason Rea  
 Edward O. Reed\*  
 Dominick Edward Ricchiuto  
 Simone Gabriella Richards  
 Michael Paul Riggi  
 Cory Mitchell Ring  
 Jeffrey Ramon Rodriguez  
 Rosa Maria Rodriguez  
 Christina Arianna Roofe  
 Shania Roper  
 Christopher Rosado  
 Anastasia Marie Rosip  
 Kelly L. Ross  
 Timothy James Sabbagh  
 Juan Carlos Samaniego  
 Brian Craig Sandler\*  
 Ra'Nasia Kierra Sangster\*

Moriah Angelique Santana  
 Victor Manuel Santana  
 Nicole Santosuosso  
 Caitlin Elizabeth Sawicki\*\*  
 Gregory Daniel Schmitt  
 Jeffrey Leo Sebor  
 Patrick Frank Segreti  
 Khalid Malik Shakur  
 Dominic Ricca Siconolfi\*  
 Theodore Thomas Sicurella  
 Juston R. Sky\*  
 Thomas Mark Smith\*  
 Robert Christopher Sorrenti  
 Katherine Enid Soto\*\*  
 Mary Elizabeth Spardel  
 Shania Kenisha Spence  
 Deirdre St. John  
 Kevin Antonio Steele\*\*  
 Thomas J. Sudzinski  
 Megan Catherine Summers  
 Anthony L. Tamuzza  
 Tamara Taylor  
 Bridget Teixeira  
 Landon Michael Alexander  
 Thomas  
 Nicole Kay Toland\*  
 Albert John Vergara Torillo  
 Christina Rosa Torres\*  
 Amanda Elizabeth Touw\*  
 Courtney Traci Trammell  
 Ingrid Urquijo\*  
 Alyssa Maria Valenti  
 Dhariany Altagracia Valerio  
 Rodriguez  
 Alexis D. Vargas  
 Justin Christopher Vasquez  
 Lydin Vega  
 Lyndsay M. Vonegosch  
 Samantha Josephine Vuono  
 Cheyenne Louise Wagner  
 Shareta M. Ward-Gilot  
 Erik Dieter Wegner  
 Matthew Behen Wendler  
 Tori Woetzel\*  
 Ryan Wong  
 Samantha Ashley Woods  
 Whitney Wu\*  
 Issraa Yaljrouta  
 Joseph Janghyun Yun

## MUSIC

Ashley Rose Baram  
 Michael Evan Barrow  
 Evangelea Rose Bourinaris

Matthew Stephen Carafello\*\*  
 Emily Rose Case\*\*  
 John Amelo Cruz  
 Fatima Lenore-Irene Diakite  
 Jennette Elizabeth Firriolo\*\*\*  
 Miguel A. Gomez\*\*  
 David Hauck  
 Cory Joseph Ianuale  
 Christina D. Limos  
 Melissa Cheri McDermott\*\*\*  
 Rachel Simone Miller\*  
 Daniel L. Molloy\*  
 Henoc Morrobel\*  
 Anthony Petruccello III\*  
 Kristina Nicole Rigamonti\*  
 Zachary Allen Smith\*  
 Nicholas Michael Spillert\*\*  
 Marsha M. Sponheimer  
 Timothy C. Stecher\*

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## Bachelor of Fine Arts

### ART

Melissa Alvarez\*  
 Michael D. Aromando\*\*\*  
 Carly Jane Baker\*\*  
 Nejesa Marie Brown\*  
 Kelli Lillian Buchholz  
 Ashley Samay Castillo\*  
 Jin Young Choi\*  
 Justin B. Cotto  
 Robert G. Dietz  
 Jessica Rose Drago  
 Winifer Estevez  
 Robert Philip Gratson  
 Aurel Hoxha\*\*  
 Nicole Ashley Kiswa  
 Katherine Anna Machere\*\*\*  
 Avery William Mason\*\*  
 Sara Johnson May  
 Christopher Joseph McKiernan  
 Viviana P. Mercado\*  
 Tamira S. Phillips  
 Marco John Sarno  
 Jonte Essan Silver\*\*  
 Justin Andrew Sisti  
 Matthew James Sorrentino  
 Corinne Nicolle Sullivan\*  
 Laura Yamile Taveras\*\*  
 Morgan Lyn Taylor\*\*\*  
 Bleriot Mendel Thompson  
 Michael Toro\*  
 Kimberly Nicole Verost\*\*\*  
 Parker Robert Waterhouse\*

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## Bachelor of Music

### MUSIC

Erika Jasmin Arango\*\*  
Frank Alexander Barbaro  
Brian Edward Bernotas  
Hannah Blessing Breckenridge\*\*\*  
Lisa Ruth Bremer\*\*  
Steven Tyler Caporale\*\*  
Thomas Christopher Carrico\*  
Marla R. Cassenti\*  
Adrian Rafael Condis  
Steven M. Crammer\*\*  
Cooper W. Davis  
Sean Michael Dello Monaco\*\*  
Noah James Dondero  
Brinley Charlotte Edwards  
Daniel Perez Escusa\*  
Jesse James Gerbasi\*\*  
Kendall Thomas Haskins  
Seungyoung Hong  
Joshua Alexander Idio\*\*  
Justin Dale Jones  
Jordan Harper Kenney\*\*  
Steven David Kirsty  
Hayley Joon Kowkabany\*\*\*  
Jana Krupkova  
Joseph William Larkin  
Rebecca Marie Levin\*\*  
Thomas John Marden\*\*  
Matthew Vincent Moretta  
Jacob Eric Morris  
Chloe E. Norell\*\*  
Alan F. Posadas  
Jamie Lee Ruggiero\*  
Ja'lyn Christa Russell\*  
Kyle Joseph Silvestri  
Miranda Nicole Vargo\*\*  
Christine Desiree Wagner  
Alyssa Schmidt Warner  
Lindsey Noelle Wormald

## Cotsakos College of Business

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### Bachelor of Arts

#### ECONOMICS

Nicole J. Alon  
Lana Bachkhaz  
Justin Lance Bryant  
Michael Anthony Campbell-  
Vincent  
Evan D. Cubby  
Toni A. Difranco  
Gonzalo A. Figueroa\*\*  
Keith A. Hoyte  
Stefanie Rose Hrbek\*\*  
Victoria Erin Inglis  
Ibrahim Mahmoud Kahla  
William C. Kapp  
Jin Woong Kim  
Seongwon Kim  
Mohamed Fouad Menisy  
Lee Otto Nadeau III\*  
Michael A. Padilla  
Chris Anthony Pitt  
Thomas J. Racz  
Mark Gordon Riley  
Viviana Isabel Rosas  
Cory John Sala  
Edwin Danilo Sena\*\*\*  
Christopher Anthony Senyk\*\*  
Daniel William Visicaro\*\*\*  
Washington Alberto Vivero

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### Bachelor of Science

#### ACCOUNTING

Andy Muhammad Adrian  
James Ahn  
Emmanuel Alvarez  
Ariel Angeles  
Michael Joseph Annicchiarico  
Annette B. Antwi  
Kisairis N. Ariza  
Matthew Seth Averbach\*  
Tristana M. Bhulai  
Naeem Lee Billie  
Agnes Blachut  
Dana Shaletta Boone  
Brienna C. Borsi\*\*\*  
Daniel Eduardo Brand

Abigail Noeleen Browne  
Alexander James Burke  
Jean Bustamante  
Veronica Zarela Callegari-Valentin  
Diana Paola Candamil  
Jennifer Judith Castaneda  
Robbyn La-nette Chapman  
Asad Choudhry  
Da'nashia Nicole Clay  
Jenee Tyffani Collick  
Michael Frank Conca  
Jorge L. Cordova  
Evan D. Cubby  
Samantha Lynn Cummings\*\*  
Paola Dallaku  
Claudia Berenice Delacruz  
Joseph D. Del Polito  
Andrea DeRoma  
Rafael Dominguez  
Katherine Echavarria  
Lyona Danielle Elie  
Gino Frank Escobar  
Rachel Fair  
Laura Lynn Franco  
Joseph Anthony Fumosa  
Tarang P. Gandhi  
Mark Ryan Garrovillas  
Hyron Daniel Gonzalez  
Isabel Emilia Gonzalez  
Tiara Gonzalez  
Richard Grajales  
A'brielle S. Graves  
Raul Rigor Gutierrez  
Jennifer L. Hatchett  
Pavlo Holdfeld  
James Hamilton Hook\*\*  
Lauren Mary Hozak\*  
Mia Victoria Incorvaia  
Abdulhafez Adnan Iqnais  
Youstina Issa  
Paolo J. Jose  
Malgorzata Kaniuk\*\*  
Orkhan T. Karimov  
Derrick V. Laboy  
Stephanie Leslie Loayza  
Giovanni Londono  
Anthony Gian Lucarella  
Michael Gerard Lucarella  
Anna Marchut  
Olena Matano\*\*  
Carmen McElveen  
Nigel N. McPleasant  
Anthony Medina  
Sabina Mehmedoski

Claris A. Mendez  
 Brittni A. Miller  
 Pravin Mohan  
 Andres F. Molina  
 Lissette Muriel  
 Matthew Listano Nacpil  
 Bryan Charles Near  
 Mathedalie Baptiste Nicolas  
 Michael Anthony Notorgiacomo  
 Janitza Nuesi  
 Timothy M. Nugent  
 Paris John Nuttall\*  
 Maya Othman  
 Jakub Pawluk  
 Lubica Perez  
 Jacob Puzio\*\*  
 John Philip Quirolo\*\*  
 Granit Ramadani\*\*  
 Harsh J. Raycha  
 Angie F. Retuerto  
 Cristian Reyes\*  
 Stefanie Nicole Rivadeneira-  
 Fuentes\*  
 Caitlin Joelle Roach  
 Danielle Christina Roberts  
 Marquis E. Robinson  
 Ramon Luis Rojas  
 Estefania Sanchez  
 Ruby E. Sanders  
 Duvan A. Santamaria  
 John Francis Sauers  
 Kelsey Lauren Sessa  
 Jamil Sharari  
 Anbreen Sheikh  
 Raymond Michael Simone Jr.  
 Talia Li-zhen Spille\*\*\*  
 Tyler Joseph Stalter\*\*  
 Tyler Steimel  
 Agnieszka Maria Stepień\*  
 Amber Joy Strayer\*\*\*  
 Randall James Tashjian\*\*\*  
 Sagar Vijay Thakkar  
 Justyna Maria Tofil  
 Alfonso Toxtli  
 Alondra Trofel  
 Kelsey Kathleen Trujillo  
 Alejandro Chua Urquico\*\*  
 Rodney Vanden Heuvel III  
 Alexis Natasha Vassell  
 Sergio Luis Vera  
 Alexa Rae Vigorita  
 Giovanni Francisco Viznay  
 Brianna J. Winning  
 Jefferson A. Zotamba

## FINANCE

Adeel Abbasi  
 Patricia Alele  
 Adrian Rumenov Andonov  
 Nelson X. Angulo  
 Rudes Baez  
 Matthew Paul Betley  
 Jenna Michele Black  
 Tyrone Cadet  
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### Bachelor of Arts

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Kordian Janusz Starczyk\*  
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### CRIMINOLOGY AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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 Christine Rose Gustafson\*  
 Bayan Riad Hammoudeh\*  
 Assma Hussaini\*  
 Enas S. Jumhour  
 Olga Kalokira  
 Morgan E. Keck  
 Georgina Kay Keller\*\*  
 Kristal Kirtis  
 Megan Elizabeth LaPorte  
 Nicole Amber Lederle  
 Paul Stephen Cadsawan  
 Lepasana\*  
 Amanda Luisa Mallillin  
 Samantha Marcelino  
 Sachi C. Marfatia  
 Charlett Christine Mohan\*  
 Samantha Marie Monzo  
 Melissa Muriel  
 Vivian Nava  
 Amanda Marie Nowakowski\*\*  
 Nicole Marie Palanca  
 Gina M. Pasquale\*\*\*  
 Gabriel A. Perez\*\*  
 Jesenia Perez  
 Lindsey Rae Radice\*  
 Nicole Teresa Rebisz  
 Erin Julia Roach\*  
 Manuel Roque III  
 Fallon Caroline Salkins  
 Celine-Ann Teh-Ching  
 Samaniego\*\*  
 Steven Santiago Jr.  
 Anjenette D. Santos\*  
 Alexandria Clarice Soden  
 Hannah Padriga Solon  
 Jessica Soltys  
 Morgan E. Stavenik  
 Mary Anne Stillman  
 Melanie Beth Tanis\*\*  
 Janella Mae Antonio Tenorio\*\*  
 Lisa Turner\*  
 Carly R. Turton\*\*  
 Gifty Walker  
 Erica Wu  
 David Gary Yablonsky

*This program does not constitute the official list of graduates. The students included in the program have applied to graduate as of April 15, 2018. Their degree and designation of Latin honors will be officially posted by the Office of Registration Services after their grades have been received and verified.*

\*Cum Laude \*\*Magna Cum Laude \*\*\*Summa Cum Laude

# HONORS COLLEGE GRADUATES

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## Biology Track

Yuliana Cruz Herrera  
Rita De-Almeida  
Megan E. Deschaine  
Nicole Sha Miller  
Nicholas Michael Morelli  
Tehreem Tahir

Lily Ann Fritsch  
Kaylalee Cannizzaro Garcia  
Izabela Grzebyk  
Matthew Jacob Iannuzzi  
Maitry R. Mahida  
Summer Rae Pirro  
Katherine M. Stetser  
Sara Paige Zammit

Amanda Marie Nowakowski  
Erin Julia Roach  
Fallon Caroline Salkins  
Celine-Ann Teh-Ching  
Samaniego  
Melanie Beth Tanis  
Janella Mae Antonio Tenorio  
Erica Wu

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## Business Track

Samantha Lynn Cummings  
James Hamilton Hook  
Seongwon Kim  
Kristen Elizabeth Podmajersky  
Rachel M. Rivell  
Estefania Sanchez  
Thomas K. Savoie  
Moetaz Said Shair  
Erik Pieter Slump

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## Humanities Track

Nia Natasha Hayes

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## Independent Track

Alexandrea Clarice Soden

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## Music Track

Hannah Blessing Breckenridge  
Steven Tyler Caporale  
Steven M. Crammer  
Anthony Petruccello III

---

## Nursing Track

Maridel Tajonera Asuncion  
Jeremiah Francisco Bueno  
Tyler D. Burd  
Rachel M. Felton  
Katelyn Rose Gunn  
Bayan Riad Hammoudeh  
Morgan E. Keck  
Amanda Luisa Mallillin  
Samantha Marie Monzo

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## Performing and Literary Arts Track

Michael D. Aromando  
C'shae Monae Bess-Perez  
Nejesea Marie Brown  
Jan Robin Feigenbaum  
Jennette Elizabeth Firriolo  
Jamie L. Gentile  
Joseph William Larkin  
Rebecca Marie Levin  
Daniel J. Popoloski  
Thomas Mark Smith  
Morgan Lyn Taylor  
Whitney Wu

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## Clinical Psychology and Neuropsychology Track

Natalie Ann Arcello  
Nancy Bzadough  
Andreas Zisimos Katsoudas  
Tyler Jules Kennedy  
Annelise Malgieri

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## Cognitive Science Track

Kimberly A. Boyle  
Adeline Camacho  
Abigail Ellen DeBel

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## Social Sciences Track

Kelley Breheny  
Johana M. Caba  
Miranda Galambos  
Kelsey Elizabeth Harkins  
Brittany Elizabeth Line  
Karen Lintag Mendoza

# ACADEMIC AWARDS

## COLLEGE OF THE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION

Dean's Award for Creative  
Excellence  
Janet Atkinson

Creative Excellence in  
Fine Art Award  
Kimberly Nicole Verost

Scholarly Excellence in Art  
History Award  
Angela Pecci

Excellence in Media (Radio, TV,  
Film, or Theater) Award  
Matthew William Candrilli

Excellence in Public Relations  
Award  
Michele Ciz

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## Department of Art

Creative Excellence in Applied  
Art  
Morgan Lyn Taylor

Creative Excellence in Digital Art  
and Design Award  
Carly Jane Baker

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## Department of Communication

Excellence in Interpersonal  
Communication Theory Award  
Daniel Davis Howe

Excellence in Journalism Award  
Maynor Alfredo Castillo

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## Department of Music

Music Scholar Award  
Jennette Elizabeth Firriolo

Outstanding Musician Award  
Erika Jasmin Arango  
Hannah Blessing Breckenridge

# ACADEMIC AWARDS *continued*

## COTSAKOS COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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### Department of Accounting and Law

#### Outstanding Senior Accounting Major Award

Amber Joy Strayer

### Department of Economics, Finance, and Global Business

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Economics

Stefanie Rose Hrbek

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Finance

Ava Christine Oliver

Giovanni Luigi Valsoaney

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Financial Planning

Rebecca Patricia Renna

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Global Business

Mamad A. Kakhiyev

### Department of Marketing and Management Sciences

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Management

Rishi J. Dave

Kevin Michael Giaccone

#### Award for Outstanding Senior in Marketing

Michaela Bublikova

### Department of Professional Sales

#### Professional Sales Award

Conor James Labita

Gretchen J. Roughgarden

Thomas K. Savoie

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

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#### Dean's Award

Summer Rae Pirro

### Department of Elementary and Early Childhood Education

#### Excellence in Teaching Award

Luljeta Beqiri (P-3)

Valeriya Krumkachova (K-6)

Kathleen Elizabeth Seward

(P-3 with Teacher of Students  
with Disabilities.)

### Department of Secondary and Middle School Education

#### Academic Achievement and Excellence in Teaching Award (K-12)

Sotirios Efthimiopoulos

### Department of Special Education and Counseling

#### Excellence in Teaching Award

Lianna Marie Palladino

## COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

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#### Dean's Award

Unnati Patel (Humanities)

Jackeline Reyes (Social Sciences)

#### William Paterson University- Mercer County Community College Academic Excellence Award

Patricia Madeline Cueva

### Department of Anthropology

#### Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Jonathan Edward Dernbach

#### Franz Boas Award

Rae F. Cade

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### Department of English

#### The Helen and Philip Manno Award

Susan K. Cook

### Department of Geography and Urban Studies

#### Excellence in Geography Award

Gunther Finn Wassong

### Department of History

#### Livio Stecchini Award

Miranda Galambos

#### Outstanding Graduating Senior Award

Steven Frank Scarpulla

#### Patricia Ripmaster Award

Sotirios Efthimiopoulos

### Department of Languages and Cultures

#### Award for Excellence in French and Francophone Studies

Bettina Destin

#### Award for Excellence in Spanish

Jessica Feliciano

#### Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Edytta Anna Wojnar

### Department of Philosophy

#### Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Valarie Grande

Brian Kobylarz

### Department of Political Science

#### Academic Excellence and Service Award

Edita Diunov-Uster

#### Outstanding Senior Award in Political Science

Karen Lintag Mendoza

#### Outstanding Senior Award in Legal Studies

Kianna Noel Luscher

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## Department of Psychology

### Excellence in Academic Achievement

John Edward Mayers IV

### Excellence in Academics, Research, and Service Award

Tameh Sayed Rohani

### Outstanding Academic Achievement and Research Award

Maitry R. Mahida

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## Department of Sociology

### Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Marlene Calixto

Christina Lynn Dovedytis

Jackeline Reyes

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## Department of Women's and Gender Studies

### Norma Van Dyke Award

Laura Beth Lee

Unnati Patel

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## Asian Studies Program

### Distinguished Graduate in Asian Studies Award (Chinese Language)

Lucy Lazoff

### Distinguished Graduate in Asian Studies Award (Japanese Language)

Cristina Valerio

### Outstanding Graduate in Asian Studies (Japanese Concentration)

Justin Michael Sita

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## Latin American and Latino Studies Program

### Catarina T. Feldman Award

Ambar Marina Acosta

Yiliam Santana

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## Liberal Studies Program

### Liberal Studies Outstanding Academic Achievement Award

Florinda Abedinoska

Alexandria Fila

George Harry Giousios

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## Departments of History and Philosophy

### Paul Vouras Humanities Award

Brian Kobylarz

Luke William Ramsey

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## Departments of Sociology, Psychology, and Political Science

### Paul P. Vouras Social Sciences Award

Jackeline Reyes

Kelly L. Ross

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## COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND HEALTH

### Dean's Award

Reem Eldabagh

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## Department of Biology

### Outstanding Senior Award

Reem Eldabagh

### C. Kent Warner Award

Karen Abboud

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## Outstanding Undergraduate Research Award

Reem Eldabagh

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## Department of Chemistry

### Excellence in Chemistry Award

Reem Eldabagh

Amhay Margarita Hernandez

Mujica

Gurjeet Kaur Longia

Laura F. Lopez

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## Department of Communication Disorders and Sciences

### Undergraduate Excellence Award

Lily Ann Fritsch

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## Department of Computer Science

### Omicron Omega Award for

Excellence in Computer Science

Joseph Candela

Jose Humberto Gonzalez

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## Department of Environmental Science

### Excellence in Environmental Science Award

Rita De-Almeida

Grant Michael Ginder

Joseph C. Miller

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## Department of Kinesiology

### Athletic Training Education Program Academic Award

Julianne L. Purves

### Exercise Physiology Award for Physical Education

Eleni Lutas

### Cindy Keller Award for Physical Education

Bayley E. Hickey

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## Distinguished Sport Management Student Award

George B. Antoun

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## Department of Mathematics

### Academic Excellence Award in Mathematics

Nia Natasha Hayes

Matthew S. Brauer

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## Academic Excellence and Service Award in Mathematics

Summer Rae Pirro

---

## Department of Nursing

### Nursing Excellence Award (R.N. Students)

Gina M. Pasquale

---

## Department of Public Health

### Excellence in Health Education Academic Award

Vanessa Owusu

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## Excellence in Public Health Academic Award

Razimhan Laypan

# CLASS OF 2018

## “SAY THANKS” COMMENCEMENT DEDICATIONS

William Paterson University is proud to acknowledge the following members of the Class of 2018 who participated in the “Say Thanks” initiative. The gracious gifts donated by the Class of 2018 will go to The Fund for WP. One hundred percent of the monies raised will support scholarships for students by students. On behalf of William Paterson University, we would like to thank these students for the difference they are making in the lives of future Pioneers.

**Sirena Adessa:** THANK YOU MOM and Dad. Love you.

**Geraldine Aliaga:** Thank you Mom and Dad! LOS AMO!

**Amy Alonzo:** Thanks Mom—Thanks to all.

**Emmanuel Alvarez:** Mom, this one’s for you! Special thanks to Berto, Manuela, N. Fam., Sito, Sammy, and Steve.

**Sue Arcila:** Thanks Mom and Dad for everything!

**David Armbruster:** Thank you Mom & Dad for everything!

**Nicole Bais:** To my amazing family, thank you!

**Abeer Bajes:** Thanks for everything May, Love you.

**Alberto Balmaceda:** To my woes and family, One Love!

**Ayme Barbaran:** I couldn’t have made it this far without the support of my family and friends. Big thank you to all. Special shout out to Mami and Papi. This one’s for you Tio Axel. Love you all!

**Jennifer Baum:** Thank you to my mother and father for always believing in me and pushing me to my dreams! Thank you to my sister for being my role model! Love you all! Theta Phi <3! Love, Jenn <3

**Alyson Bilder:** Mom & Dad: Thank you will never be enough for everything you have provided me—financially and emotionally. Both of you and Nolan inspire me every day! I love you all beyond words!

**Ksawery Biskup:** Thank you Jolanta Biskup, I love you.

**Dana Boone:** I COULDN’T HAVE DONE THIS WITHOUT YOU GUYS.

**Alixandra Borst:** To Mom & Dad, Thank you for your endless support over these past five years. Thank you for all your sacrifices. Love your little nurse, Ali.

**Ayasha Brown:** I would like to thank my family and friends. Love, Ayasha.

**Justin Bryant:** Thank you everyone! Love you all!

**Michaela Bublikova:** DEKUJI, ZE JSTE TADY SE MNOU! PUSANEK.

**Daniel Bulay:** Thanks Mom and Dad for everything!

**Victoria Bush:** Thank you to my family and friends for the constant love and support.

**Marjory Bustamante:** Gracias familia! Son mi motivación.

**Sade Bynum:** God and my family...I thank you! Amen.

**Molly Camera:** Thank you for always believing and supporting me, Camera Clan!

**Jasmyn Carballeira:** Thank you to my grandparents, fiancé, and parents for their continuous guidance and support. This would not have been possible without you!

**Emily Case:** Thanks Mom, Dad, & Zach!

**Jennifer Castaneda:** Thanks Family. Hope I made u proud!

**Liliana G. Castro:** Gracias a mis padres por todo!

**Robbyn Chapman:** Thank you to my family and friends and please forgive my late night yelling to be quiet. Michael, Bre Yaya and Snow and Bea and all my support.

**Monica Ciasullo:** Sincere gratitude for all support.

**Daisy Claudio Bermudez:** Gracias mi amado esposo por apoyarme! Thank you Yariel, Brayan & Yandel to be my motor! Gracias Titita, mi primis Elsie & mis Pastores Marisol & Castor Castillo por crear en mi!

**Jaclyn Conte:** THANK YOU MOM AND DAD FOR ALL THE FOOD, LOVE, AND SUPPORT!! I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! I WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ACCOMPLISH THIS WITHOUT YOU! <3

**Jessica Contino:** Thanks to my parents. Love You!

**Susan Cook:** To my wonderful family and friends, who have made this day possible, I love you and bless you all.

**Deborah Cooney:** Thanks to my amazing family. I could not have done it without your support! Love you all!

**Maribel Cortes:** Thank you to my parents, my husband, and my boys for all the love and support. I love you.

**William Cortez:** Thank you Mom, Dad, Chris, Christine, Friends and the Ex Phys Jaws!

**Mariana Cotzomi:** Todos mis logros son suyos. Los amo mami y papi, gracias por todo!

**John Cruz:** Thank you Mama and Papa for staying patient and always believing in me.

**JanMae Cruz:** Thank you to my parents for sacrificing so much for me to go through college. Mahal kita parentals!

**Patricia Cueva:** To the Cueva clan: gracias por enseñarme lo mas importante en la vida.

**Samantha Cummings:** Thank you Mom & Dad! I love you!

**Elzbieta Czekanski:** Dziękuję za wielkie wsparcie Adas, Piotrus, Karolinka, Kasia, Mamus i Tatus. Kocham Was bardzo.

**Jessica D'Anna:** Thanks Mom & Dad, I love you!

**Danielle Dannacher:** Thanks to my family, I love you!

**Jamilka De Los Santos:** Thank you to my family for supporting me through this journey. Love you!

**Megan Deschaine:** Mom, Dad, Kelly: Thank you for everything! I'm awesome because of you!

**Bettina Destin:** Made It! Thank God. Thanks to my 'families,' Greg, Bree, Mom for love n support. To all my profs—Dr. Cheruvu, Mankiw, Mukherjee. My friends Ash, Mi, Em, Lu, Cas: You girls rock!

**Fatima Diakite:** I love you, my best friend, Mama.

**Isaiah Diaz-Mays:** To everyone who helped along the way...here's to being on a roll.

**William Dickerson:** Thank you to my wonderful mother, girlfriend, family, and amazing professors supporting me through my journey!

**Paula Echeverry:** MOM I LUV U MORE THAN THE 1ST DAY WE MET.

**Maria Economou:** Thank you to God, my parents, and Tom for supporting me and my passions.

**Michelle Ejiofor:** THNX 2 GOD, FAM & FRIENDS! TALK 2 ME NICE!

**Nadia Elmahdy:** I did this for you Ma!

**Olivia Engel:** Thank you for believing in me. Love ya!

**Cynthia Escarcega:** Love you Escarcega Family! I did it!

**Jan Robin Feigenbaum:** Thank you Sean, Dad, Ma, Nastia & Rachel for everything! I love you all!

**Ebony Felton:** THX Mom! Rest in Peace Auntie Ziaeda.

**Alexia Francisco:** Thank you Mom for your support I Love you! Thanks Yissi & Val for the encouragement.

**Amanda Frato:** Mom, Dad—Thank you for all of your love and support. I could not have done it without you guys!

**Kristina Garcia:** To my loving parents—You have given me the world.

**Daysi Gonzalez:** Gracias por su apoyo familia!

**Alexander Gracie:** Thank you everyone! Love you all.

**Karinna Guess:** Thanks Mom, Dad, and Luanne.

**Rayshell Harrison:** Thanks Mom for giving me the world!

**Valentina Haruchava:** Many thanks to Kate, Duke, Carlos!

**Jennifer Hatchett:** Thank you Mom & Dad for everything!

**David Hauck:** Love you Mom and Dad! And Jimmy!

**Feliszity Hernandez:** To my Family, thank you for all the love and support that all of you have given me. I couldn't have done it without you.

**Lauren Hozak:** Thank You Mom, Dad, and Jay for all of your support! I love you all! I couldn't have done it without you!!

**Felicia Huntington:** Dad, Mom, Elise, Dana, and Kitty, you guys are the bomb.com! Thanks for supporting me. I love you!!

**Amanda Ianniello:** Thank you to all of my amazing friends and family; I couldn't have done this without you!

**Joshua Idio:** Friends, Family, CCM, I made it! Thank you for supporting me!

**Youstina Issa:** Thank you Mom, Dad, and my sisters for all the sacrifices and support. Without you I wouldn't have made it. Daddy I can't thank you enough and I really wish you were here reading this, Love you!

**Jacquelyn Jensen:** Thank you to my family! Love you ALL!

**Morgan Keck:** Forever grateful for you all, love ya.

**Melanie Kiskanyan:** Thank you Mom, Dad, and Phil for all the support and love. I love you all!

**Kyle Kocijan:** THANKS to my mom, my Fraternity Brothers, my family, and friends for your support.

**Florenca Kolldani:** Thank you to my beautiful family :)

**Kevin Kpeli:** Thx to all who supported me on my journey here. Wouldn't have made it this far w/o y'all. RIP Mum we made it, love u.

**Alexander LaSaracina:** To Mom, Dad, and Sue, thank you!

**Ana Lasure:** STEVEN, BYRON, AARON, Thank you for your love.

**Amy Leogrande:** Mom, Dad and Gwen; thank you for all your love and support! You've given me everything I could ever ask for.

**Diana Lima:** Thank you to my amazing family for their all their support!

**Brittany Line:** Thanks Dad, Dawn, Lex, and Brandon!

**Jennie Lliguicota:** Thank u mi vida for all ur love & support, and especially for believing in me, you're the best! We did it! Gracias mami chula y a todos por acompañarme en este momento tan especial!

**Marisa Lomax:** Adam, Sam, and Drew—YOU CAN DO WHATEVER YOU WANT ( I PROMISE) JUST PUT YOUR WHOLE HEART IN IT.

**Nicole Lotterman:** I, Nicole Leigh Lotterman, would like to thank my parents, sister Kaylee, boyfriend Joey, best friend Kaitlyn, and my family for always believing in me. I love all of you endlessly.

**Tihany Luna:** Gracias Mami y Papi. LO LOGRAMOS!

**Kianna Luscher:** Mom and Dad, thank you so much for all that you have done for me over these past three years. It has been a long journey, but an amazing one. With all my heart, Ki.

**Katherine Machere:** Thanks for making me go to William Paterson, Mom & Dad! Sincerely, Low Student Debt.

**Aleksandra Malec:** Thanks for all the love and support!

**Steven Malone:** I give thanks to God, my family and faculty who encouraged excellence.

**John Mannion Jr.:** I want to thank all my family and friends who have been cheering me on. I finally did it!!!

**Maria Marin:** Gracias Familia Por su apoyo Los amo.

**Pablo Martes:** Ana, thanks for your unconditional support.

**Justice Mascola:** Thank you Mom and Grandpa! Your support means the world to me. I couldn't have done this without you.

**Wyatt Mayes:** Thank you to all who ever helped!

**Carmen McElveen:** Thank u Ma & my loli girls! Love y'all.

**Christopher Melvin Jr.:** Thank you Mom, Dad, J, and everybody else that supported me. We made it!

**Christine Mesa:** Thank you Mom & Dad! I love you guys so much! XOXO

**Brittini Miller:** Thank you, Mom and Luke, for helping me reach new heights.

**Nicholas Milone:** Mom and Dad, Thank you for everything.

**Tiffany Moon:** Mom & Dad, love u to the moon & back!

**Justyn Moore:** To my wife Jana, my mother Tamara, my uncles Ricky and Greg, my sister Angelica, and Aline. Thank you! I wouldn't be here today without your constant love and support.

**Patrick Moran:** Thanks Mom & Dad, I love you!

**Taylor Morgan:** Thank you Mom, Dad, David, Damian, and friends! I love you! Wish you were here Stephanie.

**Henoc Morrobel:** Thanks Jeylisse, Mom and Dad.

**Jeena Naduparambil:** Thank you Mommy and Daddy and everyone that supported me! <3

**Cristina Natareno:** Thx to God, my Papi in heaven, Alex & Diana & Frank. Gracias, Mami. Luv u.

**Lillian Navarra:** Thanks Mom & Dad, I love you guys!!

**Danielle Nelson:** Thank you so much Mom and Dad! xoxox

**Kristina Nieves:** Thank you Mom, Dad, Family & Friends for your support I love You! WE DID IT.

**Amanda Nowakowski:** Thanks to my entire family and Mat!

**Shayna Ocello:** Family—I love you! Thank you so much.

**Mykhaylo Oreletskiy:** Тато і Мата рідненькі, Спасибі за все, що даєте в житті, Даровані небом від Бога у мене Батьки!

**Devon Orozco:** "Love who you are, and know that you are loved. Always." Thank you, Mom.

**Jesselyn Ospina:** I want to thank my family for supporting me on this very long journey, especially my mom! I love you all.

**Manuela Ospina:** Thank you for your love—te amo Mami!

**Daniel Padilla:** With cheese, life tastes better. Without cheese, life feels better.

**Aida Padilla:** Mom, I love you to the moon and back!

**Maria Pagan:** TO MY KIDS: BELIEVE, ACHIEVE, & DREAM BIG! LUV, MOM. XOXO

**Gina Pasquale:** Thanks to my amazing family! Love you.

**Parth Patel:** Thank you Mom, Dad, Nish, and Special Ones. I Love You All. मैं आपका तहे-दिल से शुक्र-गुजार हूँ.

**Tamika Payne:** Thank you Mom, I love you & God!

**Brianna Pennington:** THANK YOU FAMILY AND FRIENDS!!

**Freddy Perez:** I want to thank God, Family, Work @ BioReferences, Professors at WPUNJ, and ABOVE ALL MYSELF for overcoming the challenges. Gracias Marleny, Mami y Pai Titi los Amos. Puerto Rico#

**Regina Poerio:** Thanks for everything, Mom and Dad!

**Ana Polanco:** Mamma, Papi, Hector, Mami, Polanco Rodriguez Family, Famiglia Marchese, and, the love of my life, Justin; without all of you, this degree would not have been possible. I LOVE Y'ALL.

**Samantha Pontrella:** Sending a huge thank you to my parents, Sharon and James Pontrella. Your support is what makes today possible for me. Today is as much for you as it is for me. I love you guys!

**Joelle Prinzo:** Thank you Mom, Dad, & Heather for always supporting me. Love, Joelle.

**Justin Puchalski:** Thank you Mom and Dad for all your support!

**John Quirolo:** My deepest thanks to the WPU.

**Jasmine Ramsey:** Thank you to my family & friends for your ongoing support!

**Carolyn Rebori:** Mom, Dad, Elise, and Brett—thank you for the love and unconditional support through this journey I couldn't have done it without you I love you all.

**Taylor Repetti:** Thank you so much for supporting me on this journey. My family and friends are the reason I'm standing here today.

**Tamar Richardson:** Thank you Mommy, Daddy & siblings for pushing me when I could no longer push myself. This is for you Avery, Mommy loves you!

**Kayla Rodriguez:** Thank you to my mom, family & friends for your love, guidance & support.

**Charles Rossi:** THANKS MOM & DAD. LOVE YOU GUYS!!!

**Jamie Lee Ruggiero:** Thanks Mom and Dad! We made it!

**Omar Samkough:** SPECIAL THANKS MOM AND DAD AND ALL FAMILY AND FRIENDS!

**Marlenee Sanchez:** MAMI, WE MADE IT!! GLORY TO GOD!!

**Melissa Sanchez:** Madre y padre, esto es para ustedes!

**Caitlin Sawicki:** Mom, Dad, Lori, and Ted—Thanks for never giving up on me even when I wanted to give up on myself. Your unconditional support means the world to me. Love, Caitlin.

**William Schamber:** Thanks Mom/Dad/Miz and Grandma Paula.

**Julie Schwartz:** Thank you so much to my parents Alyssa & Barry for their undying support of me & my lengthy college career. Special thanks to Ilana & Emma, love u guys. And to Esther, Arlene & Joel.

**Matthew So:** This goes out to all my family, friends, the Arnone Lab, and everyone else who has played such an integral part in coming this far! Here's to the future!

**Jennifer Soriano:** Gracias Mami y Papi esto es para ustedes! WE DID IT! #SORIANO-FAMILY

**Tania Soto:** Thanks Baba for everything, I love you!

**Allison Speranza:** Thank you Mom, Dad, Travis and the rest of my family! Love you all!

**Mary Springer:** Thank you, Mom!

**Kevin Steele:** THANKS MOM AND DAD FOR ALWAYS SUPPORTING AND BELIEVING IN ME!

**Natalya Suizzo:** Thank you Mom and Dad for the inspiration, support, and love! Thank you all, I am truly blessed!

**Megan Summers:** Mom & Dad, thank you for everything.

**Tamara Taylor:** Keisha's 5. I love you Mom and all the siblings you've blessed me with. I couldn't ask for more love and support. I wouldn't be here, accomplishing my goals, if it weren't for you.

**Edward Thompson:** Thanks to Professors Scillieri, Ma, Holle, Lewis, Zdan, Mouldovan, Alexander, Kraus, Leibowitz, Walsh, Rivera, Celestine, Lerner, & Luzzi; Carene, Colin, Blake, Jude, & Carter.

**Chantel Thompson-Aiken:** Thank you to my family for everything, I love you!

**Mary Thorpe:** I MADE IT! Thanks family!

**Xiomara Torres-Guerra:** Un agradecimiento especial para dos individuales extraordinarios, mis padres. Les AMO!

**Cassidy Trause:** Thanks Nonni and Dad! This was all for you! Love, Ca\$\$.

**Dhariany Valerio:** Thank you Jehova for grace. Casiano y Riany los amo. Mamy Papi Abue sis, bro grax. Rafael, Jose, Kim my angels.

**Sergio Vera:** Thankful to my parents for all the sacrifices made for my success.

**Washington Vivero:** Thanks to my wife and children & my best friend Reynaldo for their love & support.

**Lyndsay Vonegosh:** I love you, Mom & Dad! I wouldn't have made it without your support.

**Cheyenne Wagner:** Thank you Mom, Dad, Chrissy, Mema & Poppop, and Nana & Poppy for believing that I could do this!

**Parker Waterhouse:** Mom & Dad, thank you for the help and support you've given me throughout the years, and for always pushing me for my own good. I truly hope that I have made you proud. Love, Parker.

**Megan Whiteman:** Mom, Dad, Gram, Pop, Bubba, Tita, Chris, Luna. You guys have been my rock through this process! I love you!

**Jhenelle Williams:** I thank God, MOM, family and friends.

**Lindsey Wormald:** The light in you guided me through.

**Whitney Wu:** Thanks All Might! Plus Ultra!!!

**Alyssa Yang:** Thanks Mom and Dad for supporting me through my journey.

**Andrew Yumang:** Thank you Mom, Dad, and Arnel.

**Anabel Zorrilla:** Thank You Mom and Dad. LOVE U! Anabel.

**Jefferson Zotamba:** Thank you mami y papi para todo lo que me han dado en mi vida. Love you. Special thanks to AKPsi for giving me a new home and meaning to my life.

# ABOUT WILLIAM PATERSON UNIVERSITY



William Paterson University traces its roots to the city of Paterson, where it was founded in 1855. For more than a century, training teachers for New Jersey schools was its exclusive mission. In 1951, the University moved to the present campus in Wayne. Originally known as Ailsa Farms, this 300-acre site was purchased by the state of New Jersey in 1948 from the family of Garret A. Hobart, the 24<sup>th</sup> vice president of the United States. The original manor house, built in 1877, was the weekend retreat and summer residence of the Hobart family. Today the building is known as Hobart Manor and is the home of the Office of the President and the Office of Institutional Advancement. Hobart Manor was designated a national and state landmark in 1976.

The University changed its name to Paterson State Teachers College when it relocated from Paterson in 1951. In 1966, the curriculum was expanded to

include degree offerings other than those leading to a teaching career. In 1971, the institution was renamed The William Paterson College of New Jersey. The change of name honored William Paterson, the man who was the state's first senator, its second governor, and a United States Supreme Court Justice appointed by President George Washington; the name also reflected both the institution's proud beginnings in the city that also bears his name and the legislative mandate to move from a teachers college to a broad-based liberal arts institution. In another historic milestone, William Paterson was awarded university status by the Commission on Higher Education in June 1997.

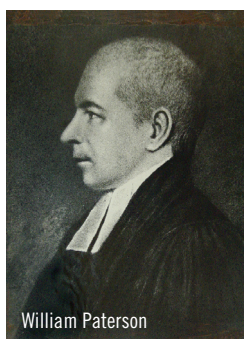
The University has continued to evolve. Today, William

Paterson University enrolls more than 10,000 undergraduate and graduate students, including 2,600 residential students. The University's five colleges—Arts and Communication, Cotsakos College of Business, Education, Humanities and Social Sciences, and Science and Health—support 52 bachelor's degree programs

and 45 master's degree programs. The institution also has expanded to include doctoral programs: the doctor of nursing practice, added in 2011, and the doctorate in clinical psychology, established in 2015.

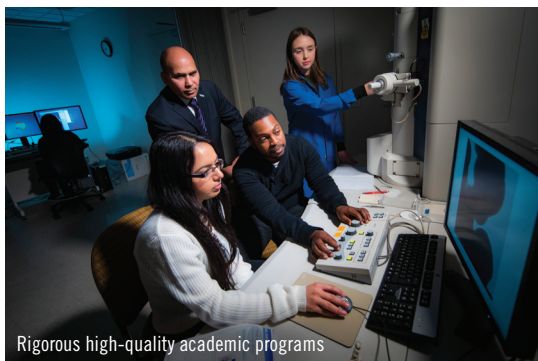
An Honors College provides academically gifted students with a rigorous curriculum.

The University's many accreditations include the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, Association to Advance Collegiate Schools



of Business, Commission on the Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, National Association of Schools of Art and Design, National Association of Schools of Music, and National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education, among others.

The institution's more than 400 full-time faculty, who are widely respected for their teaching, research and scholarship, include 41 Fulbright scholars, two Guggenheim Fellows, and recipients of numerous other awards, grants, and fellowships. The University generated more than \$4.6 million in federal, state, and local government grants and contracts in support of academic research and educational initiatives during the 2016-17 academic year.



Rigorous high-quality academic programs

University President Kathleen Waldron joined the institution in 2010 following the retirement of President Arnold Speert, who served as president for 25 years. Under her leadership, the University has increased the number of full-time faculty, improved retention and graduation rates, revitalized student support, completed a

Strategic Plan 2012-2022 and developed several zone master facility plans to renovate and construct new facilities.

While keeping education affordable with historically low increases in tuition, she has led strategic investment in student/faculty research, increased alumni relations and philanthropy, renovated facilities, and enhanced outside support for the institution.

William Paterson provides learning opportunities in its classrooms, laboratories, and studios, and throughout the campus, as well as at various off-campus locations, including the adjacent High Mountain Park Preserve. It continues to expand its state-of-the-art facilities, including an expanded and

renovated Science Complex, dedicated in 2012, and a new 80,000-square-foot \$40 million academic building, University Hall, which opened in 2016 and was funded in part by \$30 million from New Jersey's "Building Our Future" Bond Act. An initiative to modernize the academic core of the campus continues with renovation of two



Known for civic engagement opportunities

academic buildings, Preakness Hall, formerly Hunziker Wing, which reopened in fall 2017, and Hunziker Hall, scheduled for completion in 2018.

William Paterson is the third most diverse public university in New Jersey and nearly 30 percent of its students are the first in their families to attend college. In 2015, the University was designated as a Hispanic-serving institution with more than 25 percent of its students claiming Hispanic heritage.

In 2011, the University became the first public New Jersey college or university to require new undergraduates to take a course on civic engagement. During the 2016-17 academic year, nearly 2,000 students completed 62 different civic engagement courses in a variety of disciplines and students contributed 10,000 hours to community service projects.

The University is committed to sustainability and is a charter signatory of the American College & University Presidents Climate Commitment. Its solar panel installation, dedicated in 2010, ranks among the largest university installations in the United States.

# UNIVERSITY TRADITIONS

## ACADEMIC PROCESSIONAL AND RECESSIONAL

The academic processional begins with the entrance of the gonfalon, or University banner, carried by the Salutorian, who is followed by the graduates. After the graduates have taken their places, the University Marshal, carrying the University mace, leads the faculty to their places. The University Marshal then leads the platform party, which includes the president, the Board of Trustees, vice presidents, deans, and other University officials, to the stage. The mace is presented at the center of the stage while those processing enter and take their places. Once the mace is placed on the stand, it signals the beginning of the ceremony.

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the recessional order is reversed; the last to have entered are the first to recess. The University Marshal leads the platform party, headed by the University president, followed by other dignitaries and University officials, the faculty, and, finally, the graduates. The audience is requested to remain seated until the recessional is concluded.

## MACE

The mace—in the form of a staff topped by a ball with spikes—was a weapon of warfare in medieval times, but in the 14<sup>th</sup> century it evolved into a ceremonial object that is a symbol of authority. William Paterson University,

like most colleges, has a mace that is used at all academic ceremonies. Carried by a senior University faculty member who is designated as the University Marshal, the mace is the emblem and symbol of the president's authority to administer the University. At Commencement, after the graduates have taken their places, the University Marshal carrying the mace leads the faculty to their places and then leads in the president, the Board of Trustees, vice presidents, deans, and other University officials. The mace is presented at the center of the stage while those processing enter and take their places. Once the mace is placed on the stand, it signals the beginning of the ceremony.

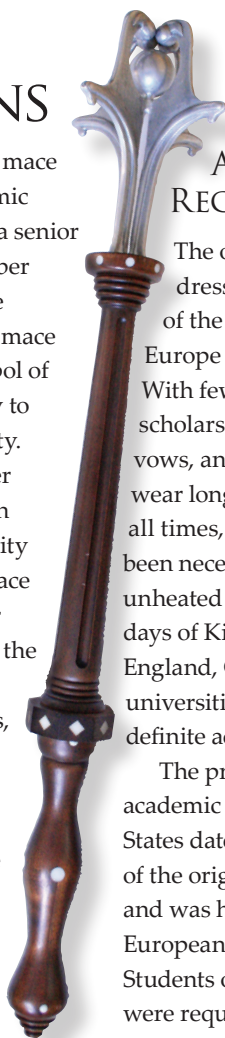
This mace was first used in the 153<sup>rd</sup> Commencement ceremony in 1987 and was designed and crafted by Ming Fay, a retired professor of art. The top piece, cast of brushed aluminum, features a center ball symbolizing universal knowledge, surrounded by four curved fins radiating outward, representing the University's community outreach. The bottom portion, made of teak and inlaid with faux ivory, was carved with the assistance of Joseph Van Putten, an award-winning graduate of the University's Art Department and a retired assistant professor of art.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The origins of academic dress date to the founding of the oldest universities in Europe in the Middle Ages. With few exceptions, medieval scholars had taken religious vows, and were obliged to wear long gowns and caps at all times, which also may have been necessary for warmth in unheated buildings. In the days of King Henry VIII of England, Cambridge and Oxford universities began prescribing a definite academic dress.

The practice of wearing academic regalia in the United States dates to the establishment of the original colonial colleges and was heavily influenced by European practices and styles. Students of most colonial colleges were required to wear the gowns at most times, a practice that lasted until the eve of the Civil War in many institutions of higher learning. Today, academic regalia is worn primarily for Commencement and other academic ceremonies.

Though some universities in the United States and abroad have other colors, the usual color for gowns in America is black. The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves. The gown for the master's degree gowns has oblong sleeves that are open at the wrist. Doctoral degree gowns have sleeves that are bell-shaped and the front is faced with black velvet. Three bars of velvet are placed across the sleeves; these bars may be of velvet of the



color distinctive of the faculty or subject to which the degree pertains.

Hoods are lined with the official color of the college or university that conferred the degree. The velvet edging color represents the appropriate degree as follows: bachelor of arts—white; bachelor of fine arts—light brown; bachelor of music—pink; bachelor of science—golden yellow. Mortarboards (caps) are usually black. The gown and hood of the University Marshal and the president were made especially for William Paterson University ceremonies in the official colors of orange and black.

## ALMA MATER

The Alma Mater was originally written in 1940. Mark Karp, a professor *emeritus* of reading and language arts, and Earl Weidner, a professor of music, collaborated on the song, with Professor Karp writing two verses of lyrics, which were set to music by Professor Weidner. Changes

to the original lyrics were made in the 1950s. In 1997, in honor of William Paterson's change from a college to a university, David Shapiro, a poet and professor of art, wrote two additional verses.

## CEREMONIAL BANNERS

William Paterson University's ceremonial banners include the University gonfalon in the institution's colors of orange and black and featuring the University seal in silver. Another banner signifies graduate studies. Additional banners identify the University's five colleges, in colors representative of the degrees they confer. They are:

College of the Arts and Communication:  
Black and purple

Cotsakos College of Business:  
Black and gold

College of Education:  
Black and blue

College of Humanities and Social Sciences: Black and red

College of Science and Health:  
Black and green



## PRESIDENT'S MEDAL

The President's Medal worn by President Kathleen Waldron was first presented in 1978. It is awarded periodically to individuals who have made outstanding contributions of service to the University community, to academe, or to society as a whole. The medal has been presented to those who have given time, talent, or funds to the University; who have enhanced cultural, scientific, or artistic awareness in New Jersey; who provide a positive role model in personal achievement and/or outstanding service to others; and who have strengthened higher education locally or nationally.





## LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT

Dear Class of 2018,

Congratulations! After all your hard work and dedication, you have earned your bachelor's degree from William Paterson University. On behalf of the entire William Paterson alumni community, we applaud you for achieving this important milestone.

As a graduate of William Paterson University, you join a network of more than 78,000 proud Pioneers worldwide who are using their William Paterson degrees and experiences as a springboard to professional accomplishment and personal growth. They are leaders in the arts, business, health care, sports, entertainment, the media, and education. They are public servants, artists, musicians, teachers, scientists, television personalities, authors, politicians, crime fighters, and entrepreneurs. Their achievements reflect the University's mission and commitment to preparing graduates for success in their careers, communities, and lives.

Alumni play an important role in the past, present, and future of William Paterson. As a graduate, you are now a member of the William Paterson University Alumni Association, our official alumni organization. We encourage you to take advantage of the many exciting opportunities available to you, such as networking events, social outings, exclusive benefits, career resources, and volunteer opportunities.

We have a wide variety of activities and services tailored especially for new and recent alumni, and as a member you will also receive frequent communications, including *WP Magazine*. We also invite you to become an active participant in the many events we host each year. You can also stay connected to William Paterson through our official alumni website, [wpunj.edu/alumni](http://wpunj.edu/alumni) and our Facebook page, [facebook.com/wpunj](https://facebook.com/wpunj), and can make professional connections through our LinkedIn group, [wpunj.edu/linkedin](http://wpunj.edu/linkedin). Or, follow us on twitter at [twitter.com/WPUNJ\\_Alumni](https://twitter.com/WPUNJ_Alumni).

Again, congratulations, and we look forward to sharing the next stage of your William Paterson life with you! Our very best wishes as as you begin your journey as William Paterson alumni.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Domenico DiMaio', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Domenico DiMaio '97

President

William Paterson University Alumni Association

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**Heejung An**, Interim Associate Dean, College of Education  
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Aaron Van Duyne '75, MM '08,  
Chair

## Alumni Association

Domenico DiMaio '97, President

## Faculty Senate

Arlene Holpp Scala, Chair

## University Marshal

Jean Levitan, Professor, Public  
Health

## Student Government Association

Brianna Egers, President

## Valedictorian

Abigail DeBel

## Salutatorian

Luljeta Beqiri

## Banner Carriers

### College of the Arts and Communication

Brittany Line

### Cotsakos College of Business

Amber Strayer

### College of Education

Bettina Destin

### College of Humanities and Social Sciences

Florinda Abedinoska

### College of Science and Health

Jessica Jacob

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Educational Opportunity Fund

David Demsey, Professor, Music

Anthony Leckey,  
Senior Associate Director,  
Undergraduate Admissions

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Languages and Cultures

Cinzia Richardson, Director,  
Office of International  
Students and Scholars

Julie Rosenthal, Associate  
Professor, Elementary and  
Early Childhood Education

Danielle Wallace,  
Associate Professor,  
Africana World Studies

# ALMA MATER

William Paterson University of New Jersey

Prof. Mark Karp  
(verses 1 and 2)  
Prof. David Shapiro  
(verses 3 and 4)

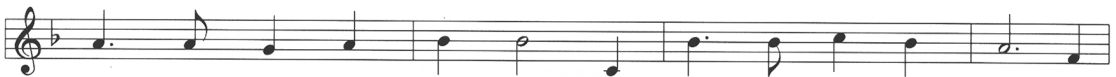
Prof. Earl Weidner



To thee, our Al - ma Ma - ter, We raise our voic - es high In  
The years may soon di - vide us, Our hearts re - turn to thee Thy  
A new song bursts like blos - soms A new school grows like fire And  
The earth is our great teach - er In wild - er - ness and grace It



learn - ing's path you'll lead us, To fol - low you we'll try We'll  
les - sons held and cher - ished, En - shrined in mem - o - ry We're  
stu - dents rise with vis - ions and vis - ions won't ex - pire And  
tells us to build gar - dens With kind - ness on our face The



guard and share thy learn - ings, Dif - fuse thy truth and light En -  
pi - o - neers cour - a - geous, We face a wid - er world Aid -  
con - stant in our cour - age We sing in un - i - son Our  
fu - ture is that gar - den We're plant - ing in the sun And



light - en ea - ger child - ren, Add to our coun - try's might.  
ing the spread of know - ledge, Truth's ban - ner bright un - furled  
dream has sprung where we've be - gun At Wil - liam Pat - er - son  
all our seeds will wake up flowers At Will - iam Pat - er - son

Engraved by John Link  
Department of Music

## OUR MISSION

William Paterson University of New Jersey is a public institution that offers an outstanding and affordable education to a diverse traditional and nontraditional student body through baccalaureate, graduate, and continuing education programs. The University's distinguished teachers, scholars, and professionals actively challenge students to high levels of intellectual and professional accomplishment and personal growth in preparation for careers, advanced studies, and productive citizenship. Faculty and staff use innovative approaches to research, learning, and student support to expand students' awareness of what they can accomplish. The University's graduates embody a profound sense of responsibility to their communities, commitment to a sustainable environment, and active involvement in a multicultural world.

## VISION:

### THE UNIVERSITY IN 2022

William Paterson University will be widely recognized as the model of outstanding and affordable public higher education characterized by rigorous academic preparation and a wide array of experiential, cocurricular, and extracurricular opportunities. The University will be distinctive for nationally recognized programs that prepare its students for the careers of today and tomorrow and known for its support of the personal growth and academic success of a highly diverse student body. It will be an institution of first choice for students committed to transforming their lives and making a difference.

*Approved by the William Paterson University  
Board of Trustees, March 19, 2012*

## CORE VALUES

At the core of everything the University does, the following five values define its ethos and fundamental beliefs:

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE** As individuals and as an institution, we seek to model and to impart to our students the highest standards of knowledge, inquiry, preparation, academic freedom, and integrity, as well as an expanded sense of what an individual can accomplish.

**CREATING KNOWLEDGE** We strive to expand the boundaries of knowledge and creative expression in and outside of our classrooms. We help students think imaginatively and critically and encourage innovative solutions to social issues, the challenges of ecological sustainability and economic growth, and ethical dilemmas confronting our communities, regions, nation, and world.

**STUDENT SUCCESS** Students are our reason for being. We judge our effectiveness, progress, and success in terms of how well we provide a platform for their personal, intellectual, and professional development, enabling them to transform their lives and become civically engaged.

**DIVERSITY** We value and promote the expression of all aspects of diversity. We maintain a campus culture that welcomes diversity of personal circumstances and experiences and prepares students to become effective citizens in an increasingly diverse, interdependent, and pluralistic society.

**CITIZENSHIP** We challenge our students, faculty, staff, and alumni to recognize their responsibility to improve the world around them, starting locally and expanding globally. We offer critical expertise to New Jersey and our region, while our scholarship and public engagement address pressing community needs in the region and beyond in keeping with our public mission.



