



WILKES UNIVERSITY'S 78<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# Spring Commencement

FOR THE CONFERRING OF GRADUATE DEGREES

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Saturday, May Seventeenth  
Two-thousand and twenty-five • 10 a.m.

# THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

*O say, can you see, by the dawn's early light,  
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,  
Whose broad stripes and bright stars,  
Through the perilous fight,  
O'er the ramparts we watched,  
Were so gallantly streaming?  
And the rockets' red glare,  
The bombs bursting in air,  
Gave proof through the night  
That our flag was still there.  
O say does that star-spangled banner yet wave  
O'er the land of the free  
And the home of the brave?*

---

*Words by Francis Scott Key  
Arranged by John Philip Sousa  
Harmonized by Walter Damrosch*

# ALMA MATER

*Wilkes, our Alma Mater,  
We pledge our hearts to thee,  
Honor, faith, and courage,  
Truth and loyalty,  
In our work and in our pleasure,  
Guide us as a friend;  
We shall always love thee,  
Loyal to the end.  
Thou shalt lead us onward  
In search of finer things.  
May we find the wisdom  
That thy spirit brings.  
May our deeds of love and service  
Ever swell thy fame —  
Wilkes, we stand to greet thee!  
Glory to thy name.*

---

*Words and Music by Eleanor C. Farley*



WILKES UNIVERSITY'S SEVENTY-EIGHTH ANNUAL

# Spring Commencement

*DISCLAIMER: Due to the early print date of this Commencement Program, the inclusion of a student's name in this program does not indicate that the student has successfully completed their degree requirements and graduated. Noted Latin Honors status may also have changed. The updated Honors status will be announced when the student's name is called on stage.*

# Order of Exercises

PROCESSIONAL

March No. 4, Op. 39.....Edward Elgar  
Arranged by Joel M. Graham

(The audience is requested to rise as the procession begins.)  
The Wilkes University Commencement Band

WELCOME .....DAVID M. WARD  
Senior Vice President and Provost

INVOCATION .....REV. JANE O'BORSKI  
Heshbon Park United Methodist Church

The Star-Spangled Banner.....Words by Francis Scott Key  
Arranged by Joel M. Graham  
(The words to The Star-Spangled Banner are printed on the inside front cover of the program.  
The audience is requested to stand and sing the National Anthem with the chorus and band.)  
The Wilkes University Commencement Band and Chorus

GREETINGS .....WILLIAM R. MILLER '81  
Chair, Board of Trustees

ANDREW MILLER  
Chair, Faculty Affairs Council  
Professor, Political Science

NANCY DEE GEORGETSON  
Member of the Class of 2025

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS .....DAVID HICKS  
Director/Faculty of Practice, Creative Writing

# Order of Exercises

THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES.....GREG CANT

ALUMNI INDUCTION.....MICHAEL NOONE '97  
*President, Alumni Association*

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE.....GREG CANT

Alma Mater.....*Eleanor C. Farley*  
*Arranged by Joel M. Graham*  
*(The words to the Alma Mater are printed on the inside front cover of the program.*  
*The audience is requested to stand and join in the singing.)*  
The Wilkes University Commencement Band and Chorus

BENEDICTION.....REV. JANE O’BORSKI

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You* .....*Peter C. Lutkin*  
*Edited by Ruth Heller*  
The Wilkes University Commencement Chorus

RECESSIONAL  
*Seventeen Come Sunday*.....*Ralph Vaughan Williams*  
*Arranged by Ed Huckleby*  
*(The audience is requested to rise as the recessional begins.)*  
The Wilkes University Commencement Band

**Music Provided By:**  
*Wilkes University Commencement Band*  
Joel M. Graham, Conductor  
*Wilkes University Commencement Chorus*  
Joshua Harper, Conductor

**Ceremony Interpreted By:**  
Interpretek

# Commencement Address

## DAVID HICKS

David Hicks is the director of the nationally-ranked Maslow Family Graduate Program in Creative Writing at Wilkes University. Since joining Wilkes University in 2020, enrollment in the graduate creative writing program has more than doubled. Previously, he taught at Pace University in New York as well as Regis University in Denver, where he co-founded and co-directed the MFA program in creative writing.

Hicks is the author of several short stories as well as a novel-in-stories, *White Plains*, a finalist for the Colorado Book Award and *Westword Magazine's* #1 book by Colorado authors. His recent children's book, *The Magic Ticket*, about the death of his sister when he was a boy, has been called "a beautiful exploration of the power of books to be company when we feel lonely, a salve when we are hurting" by Anythink Libraries.

His soon-to-be released second novel, *The Gospel According to Danny* (Vine Leaves Press, May 2025), has been called "deeply evocative" by Lori Ostlund, "dark, funny, [and] modern" by Robert Mooney, "a breakneck pursuit of the American dream" by Matt Bell, and "a dynamic portrait of . . . the fall of the American empire" by Philip Brady.

Hicks is a first-generation college student and son of an immigrant parent. He earned his bachelor's degree from Nazareth College of Rochester and his doctorate in American Literature at New York University.

**MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES**

**The College of Arts and Sciences**

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

**MASTER OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING**

Vito Balice	Alexandria Quigley
Rachel E. Brown-Rooney	Michelle Ramírez Mercado
Elizabeth Cunningham	James Lee Rinehart
Christian M. Curet	Briauna Robinson
Samantha Leigh Dutcher	Selena Shandi Thomas
Sarasha Elion	Jessica Van Orden
Ericka Joseph	Tonya Y. Walker
Sarah Elizabeth Hall Lyons	Benjamin Winderman
Jason R. Macey	Assetou Xango
Kimberly Muta	Mary Anne Zamora
Chlorissa Naedean Prothro	

**The College of Business and Engineering**

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

**The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership**

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

<sup>28</sup> Cassidy Brumagin	<sup>17,22</sup> Jason Lin
Daniel Cruz	<i>Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy</i>
Matthew Nakai Davidheiser	Matthew Joseph Malaniak
<sup>17,22,28,30</sup> Nathaniel Brenner Edwards	Gianna Margarita Manzi
<i>Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy</i>	Bryan Misiewicz
Allison Engle	Kaleb Matthew Mushock
Jacqueline P. Eovitch	Peter R. Rocco
Megan Leigh Ferrell	<sup>28</sup> Jackson Lambert Shafer
Brian Guzman	<sup>28</sup> Alexander E. Sias
Savannah Grace Roos Hallett	<sup>28</sup> Aliyah Morgan Smolinsky
Ryan Scott Hilty	<i>Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy</i>
Cole Jungwirth	Bailey Marie Tregan
Michael Anthony Kachmarsky	<sup>17</sup> Lauren Elizabeth Wagner
Richard J. Kern	<i>Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy</i>
Katelyn Irene Kinczel	Joseph Alexander Zvorsky
<i>Second Degree, Doctor of Pharmacy</i>	
Nicole M. Lewis	

**MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES**  
**The College of Business and Engineering (*Continued*)**

**Engineering**

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOENGINEERING**

Alsahli, Ahmed Saleh S	Alivia Rae Womelsdorf
Tristan James Flood	<sup>28</sup> Frank Anthony Yuscavage III
Joseph Michael Marino	<i>Second Degree, Mechanical Engineering</i>
<sup>28</sup> Colton Miller	Molly Marie Yuschock
Calleb Omollo	

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN ENGINEERING MANAGEMENT**

Kyle Jeffrey Hall	Tejinder Singh
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**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING**

Aaron Ajani Palmer	<sup>28</sup> Frank Anthony Yuscavage III
	<i>Second Degree, Bioengineering</i>

**The College of Health and Education**

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

**MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING**

David Bass	Meghan Marie Kosek
Meghan Marie Cain	Carina P. Lindsay
Elizabeth Crossin	Amber McCarver
Molly Marie Davis	Aaron Joseph Miller
Sage Elizabeth Dengler	Abby Muth
Eric Dottle	Haley Helen Novitski
Elizabeth Dries	Sonya Marie Torres
Fritzner Dupiche	Melissa Sue Van Orden
Stephanie Lynn French	Ginger A. Walsh
<sup>13</sup> Jovian Hanna	Ava Ward
Anthony Joseph Kenney	Daun Marie Williamson

**MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION**

Christopher Gerald Adams	Mark Artley
Diana Frosch Anders	<sup>13</sup> Mary C. F. Asbell
Lexi Andrews	Anna E. Avery
Jamison Christian Appel	Benjamin Aysan



# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Abigail Rose Ballentine	Jordan Nicole Delp
Caitlin Banks	Sarah DeMaria
Douglas K. Barriner, Jr.	Lucas Denczi
Reuben Paul Bathgate	Jennifer Lynn Detz
Amber Elise Baxter	Rayne Azayvia Dickson
Marissa Bear	Alyssa Nicole DiSabato
Jacquelyn Joyce Beck	Sarah Domenick
Aubrey Becker	Timothy John Donley
Austin Beidelman	Kathleen M. Doolin
Christine Beidleman	Skyanne Douple
Amelia J. E. Bellis	Michelle Dovey
Danielle Elizabeth Bentzel	Victoria Kathleen Dunn
Haley Bergeman	Matthew David Durich
Anna Berger	Allison Catherine Ebner
Jeana Leah Berkowitz	Amy Edge
Angela Blake	Jessica Nicole Eppes
Marie Bolettieri	Haley C. Evans
Kendra Ann Boris	Miles Fagley-Orfanella
Heidi Beth Lever Brillhart	Allison Marie Fiorini
Grace Christie Brosius	Kennedy Weeks Fitzgerald
Christine Brule	Juliana Fonticoba
Brianna Brungard	James David Fout
Jacquelyn Bucher	Amanda L. Freiler
Julie Ann Burchfield	Michelle Frey
Amber Carado	Erica Furman
Rebecca Lynn Cariola	Matthew Gartland
Jacqueline Carlin	Madison Nicole Gasper
Alyssa Carmona	Monica Alicia Geist
Keith Ericson Carpenter	Vincent Genoble
Noah Michael Carr	GaoSen RuiNa Gentile
Amanda Rose Carson	Collin Michael Glorioso
Curtis Catwood	Adam Goldinger
Brielle Nicole Celoni	Nicole Grieboski
Annalia April Chaplin	Kortney L. Grimm
Colleen Ciprich	Emily Renea Groshek
Jayna Class	Joyana Gross
Angela M. Colbenson	Cara Delaney Haley
Hali Cormany	Keith Thomas Hampton
Katerina E. Cosgrove	Robert William Harris III
Amy L. Costello	Madeline Harro
Amanda Curcio	Madeline P. Hartman
Emily Delp	Jessica Hatch

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Jared B. Hayden	Alexis Luberti
Jennifer Lynn Heller	Erica Lynn Lutri
Danielle Hennigan	Amanda Lynn Maggs
Charles Robert Hess II	Marcus Maggs
Lauren Elizabeth Hess	Suzanne Malone
Alyssa Hofer	Anthony Robert Massa
William L. Hower	Tracy Matulevich
Macie Hughes	Heidi Maurer
Ashleigh Hulsizer	Hannah R. McGovern
Olivia Noel Hutchinson	Nicole Debra Meader
Mariah Lynn Hutchison	Shawn Allen Mellinger
Alexander Irvine	Emily Elizabeth Mencer
Christy Christopher Jacob	Emily Elizabeth Messinger
T. Andrew Janke	Jonvia H. Metevia
Ashton Taylor Jenkins	Nicole Lynn Meyer
Kaitlyn Jones	Sheena Micklo
Megan Jones	Lauren Miller
Kristen Kandeel	Kali Minnich
George E. Karnbauer	Holly Marie Mitman
Peter Michael Kelly	Tara Mollica
Catherine Millard Kersey	Laura Monzo
Nicole Kiser	Kelsey A. Morariu
Dane A. Koch	Hannah Murphy
Angela Kohrt	Carla J. Myers
Nicolette Alyssa Kreppel	Cole Neff
Adam M. Kreuzer	Janelle L. Nemeth
Olivia Krouse	Kimberly M. O'Brien
Jacob Kudysch	John David Okuniewski, Jr.
Malari Lee Lapp	Heidy Jo Oldt
Erik Lehman	Benjamin R. Orner
Brian Matthew Leible	Kelli O'Rourke
Shawn Gregory Lemke	Megan Elizabeth Owens
Madeline Lane Leshner	Larissa Claire Parks
Stephanie May Levin	Sara Beth Parsons
Adelynn Renee Lingle	Nicolette Patton
Kylie Linke	Trevor Pawlik
Britt Ezra Linn	Leah A. Pearson
Kassandra J. Logue	Kathryn Sava Pecharo
Michael Long	Dariel Pelton
Jacqueline Sara Lowe-Paupst	Kirsten Marie Perez
Bethany Lowrie	Melissa J. Pfautz

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Joe Potteiger	Alayna Marie Soucy
Elezebeth Prentice	Tiffany Christine Specht
Emma Rosalie Price	Jessica Lyn Spengler
Rachelle Price	Jennifer Spickler
Anthony W. Rapp	<sup>13</sup> Sydney Sportelli
Joel Edward Raudenbush	Elizabeth Mae Squire
Sarah Reichard	Michele Lynn Stager
Lauren Reightneour	Sarah Stasiuk
Daniella Leigh Repkoe	Brooke Lee Steele
Scott W. Richards	Bailey Elizabeth Stone
Marlaina Ember Riegel	Jeremy Stricker
Daisy Roberti	Chelsea Sweeney
Ashley Robinson	Jessica Swenson
Matthew Robinson	Lindsey Taaffe
Courtney Rodgers	Allison Templeton
Rebecca E. Rodgers	Anthony M. Thomas
Albert W. Sampson	Hannah Lynne Thompson
Stephanie B. Sampson	Ashley Thorp
Tonya Renee Santamaria	Katie Marie Trainello
Robyn D. Scheick	Agnes Turner
Julia Nathalie Rose Schneck	Kimberly Ann Umphrey
Jessica L. Schnettler	Sarah Verzella
Jordan I. Schutter	Lauren Vikara
Patty Jo Secrist	Andrew Nichols Vriens
Ashley Ann Selige	Taylor Walker
Meghan Lynn Seprosky	Robert R. Warmouth
Hailey McKenna Seyfert	Katherine Tate Watson
Camryn Olivia Shank	Amber Weaver
Wendy E. Sharpe	Katelyn Danielle Weaver
Gina M. Shemory	Kelly Weiss
Adam Sherlock	Heather Marie Wetherald
Kaylie Elizabeth Shygelski	Christian Dale Wieand
Stephen J. Sisock, Jr.	Emma Elizabeth Wilson
Madison J. Sitler	Kiley Ruth Wojewoda
Samantha Lynn Sklareski	Alyssa Wolfe
Jennifer Smerker	Katelyn Lorraine Wolosyn
Laura T. Smith	Amy Yancheck
Rebecca Jane Sniezevage	Katherine Mary Zangari
Sarah Ann Solano	Diana Zimmerman
Mandy L. Sommer	<sup>13</sup> Molly Jane Zvirblis

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

### The Passan School of Nursing

#### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Chelsea Laine Abbott	Hayley Nicole Chamberlain
Olubola Tomilola Adesuyi	Joseph Chambers
Ugochi Jennifer Agwunobi	Reema Ruth Cherian
Madison Grace Algayer	Rebecca Childs Derhak
Nana Aishat Alli Porras	Xiomara Coffman
Sheena T. Alston	Carola Elizabeth Crawford
Martin Amodei, Jr.	Anna Criswell
Francisca Anim-Addo	Laura M. Day
Ihunanyachi Regina Anokwuru	Rowena Harper-Descartes
Ann-Marie Faith Anthony	Janis Alexa Desrosiers
Maria F. Arana	Christine R. Dively
Aderoju Arasanyin	Roxanne R. Dolan
Mikayla K. Ardizzoni	Kieran Donahue
Caitlin Courtney Armao	Michelle Margaret Dragun
Rebecca Ann Ashworth	Rachel M. Dukovic
Hilton Mac Atttoh	Jaclyn Lee Eastman
Anthony Audsley-Moran	Eleanor Ebbing
Robert Edward Aurilia	Marion Manyi Egbe
Luke Emmett Ballenger	Ekene Egboka
Erica Rochelle Barnes	Joanne Onyinye Ekpeni
Stacia Barrow	Malcolm Ekpeni
Olajumoke Adeola Basaru	Sharon Ellis Campbell
Lisa Meredith Bates	Jennifer Elmore
Jessica Lynn Baxter	Talia Marie Enos
Julia Benavides	Tyler Evans
Johanne Benjamin	Justin Thomas Foss
Joshua David Berger	Meghan Maureen Freeman
Elizabeth Biddle	Leah Dana Frye
Jamie Binks	Imani Gaetjens-Oleson
Rachel T. Blackstone	Morgan Gao
Stephanie Jean Bloye	Cody Christopher Gargac
Emerald Aislinn Blum	Heidi Elizabeth Gerondakis
Katherine Bonnar	Catherine Gibson
Erik Borodemos	Iyuna D. Gibson
Karen Bossert	Stephanie Gillgannon
Susan Marie Brannigan	Tiari Glasby
Ashley D. Breshears	Sara Anne Goldfarb
Cynthia Danielle Browne	Rosemary Gonzalez
Jacqueline Anne Lydia Burke	Amelia Greenidge
Jesse Camano	Karleen Margaret Guluzzy
Melinda Cardenas Rodriguez	Winifred Gyepi-Garbrah
Teuta Celaj	Natalie Martina Gloria Harris

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Hailey Hartman	Joyce Manu
Stacey M. Hawkins	Carol Martin
Meghan Smith Heacox	Tayler Victoria Martz
Megan Higgins	Hannah Alice Deah
Heather L. Himlin	Shantel Maxwell
Luana Li Hinkel	Donna McCarthy
Devan Marie Hower	Kendal L. McKenzie
Eugie Efe Nicole Idehen-Johnson	Peta-Gaye McPherson
Chibuike Henry Iloka	Samara Mego
Muideen Ipadeola	Yitzchok Mehlman
Heather Jacobson	Nalina Ann Mendez
Nathan Jarick	Briahna-Mary Merrill
Yurany Jarvis	Audrey C. Michalak
Alicia Rae Jenkins	Haleigh Tabitha Millward
Victor Jerome	Chelsea Taylor Minix
Kangsun Jin	Julie Moore
Adetutu Jolaogun	Sheila Michelle Moran
Hannah Jones	Dennis Koori Mugambi
Susanne Jones	Morlinda Murray
Marie Johanne Joseph	Britney Lee Natale
June Seongeun Jung	Veronica Bain Nelson
Marcin Karman	Malkah Neuberger
Shannon Mary Kehoe	Mary Naitore Njugi
Daniel Kelley	Sharon Rose Nkashama
Briana Marie Cole Kesselring	Michelle Renee North
Jillian Colleen Kleintop	Piagre Obijiofor
Abigail Dorothy Culver Klena	Cliff Moseti Obwoye
Baila Klugmann	Timothy P. O'Donnell
Elena S. Kononchuk Foley	Ayoyemi Okoduwa
Robbin Kramer	Hannah Onome Nerea Okoro
Laken Lerae Lambert	Alison Oliver
Danielle Nicole Missouri-Lee	Nneka Onuzulike
Ann Brenna Leviness	Onaedo Onyia
Stacey Alisha Lindsay	Chidumebi Opara
Lydia Amber Lingis	Kevin Richard Owens, Jr.
Travis Edward Litz	Widia Dewi Owens
Amber Locke	Lydia Oyawole
Patrick Ondieki Machuki	Devan Pacheco
Raequel Allyssa Madara	Eduardo Paiz
Katrina Lee Madonia	Nikki Kanoelani Palitz
Elizabeth Malin	Sarah Panati
Casey Deanne Malloy	Kate Elizabeth Parisi
Briana Rae Mangan	Julie M. Parker
Chandra Mansell	Akanksha Patel

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Shrushti Jayant Patel	Sasha Marie Shenck
Tracy Ann Patnoude	Adriann B. Shepherd
Sindy Pegus	Denise Singh
Cristina Pereira-Klewin	Darya Skamyanava
Megan L. Pultz	Samantha Smajla
James Carlos Raymond	Laura Anne Smith
Christyl Nicola Richards	Kristin V. Staten
Svetlana Richer	Ashley Marie Strauss
Adriana Rifendifer	Vani Sudheesh
Kasey Ro	Cherise Teague
Melissa C. Rodriguez	Amy Michelle Thompkins
Anntoinette Romanowski	Molly Ann Turner
Nechama Rothkopf	Mary Viglas
Elizabeth Ann Royer	Marzena Villacorta
Ashley Rucko	Marina Leigh Villanueva
Bethany L. Sage	Kristine Vitelli
Risa-Gay Ramona Salmon	Lauren Rachel Wallis
Edirin Sankey	Brooke Ashley Wilcox
Timothy Sautter	Nana Gyamfua Williams
Toni R. Scharpnick	Serena Williams
Rina D. Scheiner	Heather Marie Wolak
Britni Schnupp	Kimberly Worsley
Martin Schwarting	Alesha Worthington
G. Nicole Shea	Stephanie Yunker
Nicole L. Sheehy	Emily Rose Zaremba
Julia Rose Shellhamer	Mae Zoltowsky
Alyssa Sheluga	

### POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING

Olalekan K. Adefowokan	Bimisa Augustin
Olumide Olusegun Adeyemo	Patricia Barranca
Shawnese L. Adger	Breanna Catrice Bell
Amanda Adiyia	Mary Ruth Bernardo
Myrtis M. Agen-Davis	Julianne Berol
Savanah Marie Alas-Ruiz	Joanna Bielin
Edmund Allison	Andrew Casmir Bilinski
Chiquana Sonsaray Allman	Danyell Bishop-Lewis
Cesar A. Almanza	Michele AnnMarie Blackburn
Ronke Ambode	Everton Boothe
Arlene Anderson	Denitra Bettina Bost
Precious Dapaah-Ntiamoah Anderson	Courtney Bowler
Elsie Asare	Kendra Alina Bowles

# MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Takiya Boyd	Agnes K. Eyong
Heather L. Bradfield	Shardell Fairfax
Donna Bragg	Janice Lorraine Fletcher
Melissa Autumn Brown	Naime Fliess
Tamika Flynt Brown	Belinda Fosuhene
Shirley Brunot	Elyssa Fry
De’Nika Hatchet Buck	Vanessa Iris Fuentes
Madison Haley Buck	Tanya S. Fuller-Pellin
Yulienny Cabrera Jimenez	Ashley Elizabeth Fumanti
Kenya Terecia Cannonier	Yanina Tynda Galan
LaSonia Carr	Jude Mary Gaughan
Kelly Michelle-Reffitt Carte	Alyssa Marie Gentile
Kimberly Michelle Cedillo	Ancy S. George
Daylin Altiery Chaplin	Megan E. Gleason
Jean Kesner Charles	Jessica Lynne Goggins
Ayla Charm	Ronelle Guinyard Goodwin
Ebony Monique Chatmon	Orin Stefan Greene
Viviane N. Che	Cynthia Cortez Guerrero
Cathleen Ni-Hua Chou	Haidy Samuel Guirguis
Jacqueline Churchman	Joshua Habansky
Brielle M. Cioni	Lauren Harris
Eduardo Cisneros	Eric Hartman
Heather L. Clark	Josephine Harts
Calandra Cleveland-Anderson	Daniel Jonathan Hayes
Ada Lys Contreras	Sonya Nicole Head
Danielle J. Cooper	Martha Hicks
Alicia Costabile	Tessaneka Felicia Hill
Lisa A. Crane	Christine Hughes
Jessica Maria Cunniff Darcy	Ramatu Ibrahim
Danita Tamara Custis	Maureen Ngozi Ifeacho
Monica Czypull	Debra Iglesias
Jyl de la Rosa	Jovita Chinenye Ike
Ashika Hawanya Dickerson	Jolanta ILowska
Yaakov Diner	Kaniz F. Islam
Mandy Do	Michele Javadpoor
Lia Seoyeon Doh	Carline Jean-Philippe
Leydi Dominguez	Nichole Cecilia Jenisch
Victoria K. Donaldson	Dominique Joseph
Alisa Dawn Donson	Sini Joseph
Susan Ogechi Eluwa	Kimberly Ann Kaestner
Mfon-Obong Nseuwa Etukudoh	Jennifer Ann Kalinowski
Katherine Judith Eyegue-Sandy	Ngozi Gladys Kalu

# MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Se Yeon Kang	Sharron Rochelle Mitchell
Irina Kats	Olufunke Patience Momoh
Julia Katz	Maria E. Montalvo
Gurpreet Kaur	Tammy L. Moon
Rajinder Kaur	Sasha Moonilall
Avorie Kennard	Caroline Suzanne Moran
Bindu Kochuparambil	Amy M. Morgan
Malgorzata Jolanta Kostrzewa	Christina C. Morgan
Amber Krehnovi	Nadege Morisset
Melissa Kulbis	Melissa Motes
Laura Ann LaBombard	Tamara Muller
Brian Laguatan	Carolyne W. Munge
Fatima Ayodele Lah	Norbert Mwangi
Lisa Lakins	Undraa Nergui
Shanique Leah Lankford	Megumi Neth
Hibsteab Girma Lemma	Marie Carolle Neviaser
Danielle Marie Lettieri	Anne Gia Mar Chua Noble
Francis Edward Levandowski III	Erika A. Notice
Monica Liy	Eugenia Notte
Natasha S. Lopez	Chinyeaka U. Nwoko
Jason Lord	Constance Malobi Ojeah-Williams
Mary Virginia Girardeau Lucas	Blessing Okon Okpo
Fadette Lumorin	Favour Nkiru Okwoli
Denise Bonney Lynam	Sheila Olira
Reshma Maharaj	Ifeoma Theresa Ozugha
Elaine Maloney	Margaret Zipporah Pallo
Amrinder Kaur Mangat	Sonia Jasmine Patel
Dana R. Mars	Trishna Ankit Patel
Cheryl Martelli	Kenya Esther Penca
Luis Martija	Iris Peppers
Yaneisy Martinez Soto	Chanelle V. Perry
Charles Mason	Octavia D. Perry
Ednora Bradley Mason	Nicolas John Pertile
Sheila R. Matthias	Amber Lynn Peterson
Philip N. Mayer	Damilola A. Pius
Phina Mayu	Martine Polycarpe Bonhomme
Melissa McAdoo	Gaele Angelicka Pompee
Helder Tiago Mendes	Molly Pritchard
Christy L. Mezger	Dawn Ramsay-Dasent
Alisha Patrice Miles	Courtney Elizabeth Rayno
MaLinda Miller	Cindy Marie Rich
Mary P. Mitchell	Sarah Rieber



# MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Amanda Roberts-Garcia	Brooke LaShae Stanley
Kimberly Nicole Robinson	Alla Stepanyan
Siobhan Isis Rock	Larissa Sutphen
Roxana Rodriguez	Nadege Innocent Telcy
Maria Socorro A. Romea	Nisha Thakkar
Kristen Hescille Ross	Ruat Nei Thiam
Shalan Nattoya Ross	Shekila Marie Thomas
Cheryl Lynn Rumph	Rachael A.Tikum
Christine Saftchick	Roussel Toussaint
Aciel Sagrera Mullen	Annette Trzeciak
Jaime Sanchez	Hannah Twumwaa
Pamela Santiago	Bernadette Nneka Udeozor
Lea Marris P. Sayoc	Chaiti Dewan Utley
Mary C. Seals	Angela VanMatre
Erin Leigh Sharp	Tralynn Michelle Victorian
Sharon P. Shaw	Kathryn Vieira
Nicole Latasha Shell	Charolette Lynn Vozdecky
Nancy Shora	Laurie Christine Wahl
Josephine Simpson	Satin Charnel Tiffani Webster
Ashley C. Smith	Suzanne R. Weinrich
Barbara A. Smith	Devon J. Whiting
Cassandra Smith	Callie Whittington
Julie M. Snider	Carey Williams
Tina Solomon	Angeline Renee Taylor Wlock
Dayra Soto	Ruth Yeboah
Stella T. Squire	Halina Zaborniak
Lorinda J. Stahley	Amy Elizabeth Ziegler

## The College of Arts and Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

### MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

Suleyman Anadol	Victoria Rendina
Hillary Jarvis	Tasha Saint-Louis
Stephanie Karpeuk	Kajal Hareshkumar Thakker
Melanie McGehee	Alexandra Thomas
Shari Nieschmidt	Josephine Kay Wickman

# DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

## The Nesbitt School of Pharmacy

Jonathan D. Ference, *Dean*

### DOCTOR OF PHARMACY

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <sup>22</sup> Ashleigh Heather Brady,<br><i>Summa Cum Laude</i>             | Christopher Lombardo, <i>Cum Laude</i>  |
| Guinevere Jolie Realta Caprari  | <sup>17,22,30</sup> Megan Ann Makovsky, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                |
| Colton Joseph Card, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                                  | Kathleen Elizabeth McDonald   |
| Joseph Castellani   | Morgan Elizabeth McIntyre   |
| Kailyn Nicole Croucher, <i>Cum Laude</i>                                    | Abigail Lynn Mendygral  |
| <sup>30</sup> Philip Andrew Davis II, <i>Cum Laude</i>                      | <sup>22,30</sup> Nicole Middleton, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>                     |
| Lauren Grace Delamater, <i>Cum Laude</i>                                    | <sup>17</sup> Katelyn Janice Mulcan   |
| Devon Alexis Donley   | Keith Nissen  |
| <sup>17,22,28,30</sup> Nathaniel Brenner Edwards,<br><i>Summa Cum Laude</i> | Nikolas Daniel Norman, <i>Cum Laude</i>                                       |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i>                     | Kevin Christopher O'Donnell   |
| <sup>17,30</sup> Keiana Jada Faltz  | <sup>22,30</sup> Grace Elizabeth O'Toole,<br><i>Summa Cum Laude</i>           |
| <sup>28</sup> Archi Gandhi  | Maura Autumn Olley  |
| <sup>22,30</sup> Brynn Makensie Gilbert,<br><i>Summa Cum Laude</i>          | <sup>22,30</sup> Nikki Ann Polivka, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>                    |
| <sup>22,30</sup> Chloe Madison Gilbert, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>              | Amanda Carole Rawa, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                                    |
| <sup>22</sup> Kyle Greenfield, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                       | <sup>17</sup> Alexa Morgan Ruzicka, <i>Cum Laude</i>                          |
| <sup>30</sup> John Francis Hannaway III,<br><i>Magna Cum Laude</i>          | Jessica Marie Salus   |
| Kailee Harwick, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                                      | <sup>17,22,30</sup> Matthew Charles Schwarztrauber,<br><i>Summa Cum Laude</i> |
| <sup>17</sup> Maura Kathleen Hensel, <i>Cum Laude</i>                       | Kaylee Marie Simmons  |
| <sup>22</sup> James Hiryak, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>                          | Carson James Sinisko  |
| <sup>30</sup> Julia Marie Iskra   | <sup>17</sup> Rileigh Nicole Smith  |
| Kyle A. Kapish  | <sup>28</sup> Aliyah Morgan Smolinsky, <i>Cum Laude</i>                       |
| <sup>28</sup> Huda Khan   | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i>                       |
| <sup>17,30</sup> Lindsey Rose Kieffer, <i>Cum Laude</i>                     | <sup>17</sup> Autumn Marie Snyder   |
| Katelyn Irene Kinczel, <i>Cum Laude</i>                                     | <sup>28</sup> Samantha Regina Stobodzian                                      |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i>                     | Sara Marie Stone, <i>Cum Laude</i>  |
| Kalley Nicole Kovaleski   | Kaleigh Elizabeth Taylor  |
| Aleah Hope Kranson, <i>Cum Laude</i>  | Hannah Brooke Thomas  |
| Long Le   | Kylie P. Thompson, <i>Cum Laude</i>   |
| Payton Angelina Lepore  | <sup>28</sup> Abigail Valente, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                         |
| Alyssa Rose Liford  | <sup>17</sup> Lauren Elizabeth Wagner   |
| <sup>17,22</sup> Jason Lin, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>                          | <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i>                       |
| <i>Second Degree, Master of Business Administration</i>                     | Madison Yeager  |
|   | <sup>17,22,30</sup> Abigail Noelle Zim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>                |
|   | <sup>28</sup> Sammie Zou  |

# DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

## The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

### The Passan School of Nursing

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

#### DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Gabriela Sidania Amaya Martinez  
Zelalem Tadesse Argaw  
Jessica Balok-Angelilli  
Suzanne Marie Benner  
Jessica Bonilla  
Marylouise H. Deaven  
Koren Marie Dixon  
Immaculata Emesue  
Khadija Fofana  
Nancy Dee Georgetson  
Gloria Ozioma Ibezim  
Chante Kelliebrew  
Jill Leah Lambert

Lorena Lopez  
Joyce Jubida Magbanua  
Christiana Adiyiah Manu  
Denise Martinez  
Deborah Diana Mock  
Justina Adaobi Momah  
Kellye Nelson Payne  
Kathryn Ann Ripley  
Darnelle Scott  
Gregory Daniel Snyder  
Davia Titus-Thomas  
Jerelyn A. Valentin

### Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

#### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

<sup>13</sup> Karen Marie Alessi  
Julie Boardsen Bean  
<sup>13</sup> Allyson Elizabeth Bear  
Sherman Bronson  
Jason Robert Carter  
Mary Elizabeth Jen-Hua Cheng-Choo  
Justin C. Collins  
Jeffrey David Craig, Jr.  
Amanda S. Demetros  
LeeAnn Elizabeth Duda  
Marwa Elgezery  
Mona Fairley  
Nicole Marie Fenton  
Lisa Marie Ferry  
Christopher Gentilezza

Tiffany Erin Getty  
Jessica Haczewski  
Holly Marie Hanna  
James Steven Kessler  
Amy Esther Kuiken  
Corey James Moore  
Jessica Marie Noel  
Connie M. Ogle  
Kali Ann Reb  
Lucas Patrick Reid  
Heloise J. Ridley  
Tyler Ryan  
Kathryn Skinner Nichol  
Kerin Renee Steigerwalt  
Emily Rose Windle

### The Passan School of Nursing

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

#### DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

Gryan Eroll Robles Garcia

Melissa Gaydos

# Scholarly Societies and Special Designations

- 1    *Membership in Alpha Chi, the National College Honor Scholarship Society*
- 2    *Membership in Alpha Kappa Delta, the International Honorary Society in Sociology*
- 3    *Membership in Beta Beta Beta, the National Honorary Society in Biology*
- 4    *Membership in Chi Alpha Epsilon, the Honorary Society which recognizes students admitted to  
the University through Higher Education Opportunity Programs*
- 5    *Membership in Zeta Psi Chapter of Delta Mu Delta, the National Honor Society in  
Business Administration*
- 6    *Honors in Biology*
- 7    *Honors in English*
- 8    *Honors in Civil Engineering*
- 9    *Honors in Electrical Engineering*
- 10    *Honors in Environmental Engineering*
- 11    *Honors in Mechanical Engineering*
- 12    *Membership in Lambda Pi Eta, the National Honor Society in Communications*
- 13    *Membership in Phi Phi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi, the International Honor Society in Education*
- 14    *Candidates for Pennsylvania Teacher Certification*
- 15    *Candidates for Pennsylvania Principal Certification*
- 16    *Membership in Phi Alpha Theta, the National Honor Society in History*
- 17    *Membership in Phi Lambda Sigma, the Pharmacy Leadership Society*
- 18    *Membership in Phi Sigma Tau, the National Honor Society in Philosophy*
- 19    *Membership in Pi Kappa Delta, the National Honorary Forensic Society*
- 20    *Membership in Pi Sigma Alpha, the National Political Science Honor Society*
- 21    *Membership in Psi Chi, the National Honor Society in Psychology*
- 22    *Membership in Rho Chi, the National Honor Society in Pharmacy*
- 23    *Membership in Sigma Tau Delta, the National Honor Society in English*
- 24    *Membership in Zeta Psi Chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, the International Honor Society for Nursing*
- 25    *Tom Bigler Scholar*
- 26    *Pre-Medical Scholar*
- 27    *Membership in the National Student Nurses Association*
- 28    *Membership in Sigma Alpha Pi, the National Society of Leadership and Success*
- 29    *Membership in Alpha Lambda Delta National Honor Society*
- 30    *Honors Program Graduate*
- 31    *Membership in Sigma Delta Pi, the National Hispanic Honor Society*
- 32    *Barre Scholars Graduate*
- 33    *Membership in the Society for Student Nurses*
- 34    *Bonner Leader Graduate*

# 2025 Student Awards

For a complete listing of student award winners,  
please scan the QR code below.



## McHale Athletic Center, Simms Center on Main

FIRST AID — Medical personnel are available for first aid assistance at the first aid station in the Engel Room just off the lobby. Should you need assistance, please contact the usher or a Public Safety Officer.

PICTURE TAKING — Because of the space limitations, safety and control, no one, except the professional photographer and members of the press with appropriate credentials, will be allowed access to the stage area for the purpose of taking pictures or video. A photograph will be taken of each graduate as the diploma is presented by the President.

RESTROOMS — Restrooms are accessible from the lobby and on the second floor. A women's restroom is available at the rear of the McHale Athletic Center.

BEVERAGES — Water is available at the drinking fountains on the first floor of the building. Starbucks will be open during the ceremony.

# Academic Costume

The celebration of Commencement is surrounded by rich traditions. The established community of scholars — the Faculty — convene to recognize officially the newest group of proven scholars — the Graduates — and welcome them in fellowship. Graduates don the attire that for years has symbolized scholarly attainment.

During the Middle Ages, those seeking an education traveled to European centers of learning. Centers of learning and universities were closely allied with the clerics of the time, and the scholars donned garb similar to that worn by the clergy. This evolved into the academic uniform, a long black gown, hood and cap, which proved useful for studying in unheated and drafty buildings. The hood served simultaneously as a head covering, a repository for coins and alms and the forerunner of the modern day book bag. The hood was adorned with the colors of the university and designated the young scholar's school or university affiliation. By their distinctive clothing the students were set apart and distinguished from the citizens of the town; hence the origin of the phrase "town and gown."

American colleges and universities adopted the wearing of the traditional apparel in Colonial times, and a common code for academic apparel was established in the mid-nineteenth century.

The hood is the most distinctive feature of academic regalia. The inside of the hood is lined with the official colors of the institution; today you see Wilkes graduates wearing hoods lined with the blue and gold colors of the University. The velvet trim around the outside of the hood designates the degree or field of study of the graduates. The velvet colors worn by today's graduates signify the following:

Golden Yellow — *Science*  
White — *Arts, Letters, Humanities*  
Drab — *Business Administration*  
Brown — *Fine Arts*  
Olive — *Pharmacy*  
Blue — *Education*  
Apricot — *Nursing*

The style of the gown distinguishes graduates by the degree they have earned. Those earning the bachelor's degree wear a simple black gown with elongated pointed sleeves. Holders of the master's degree wear gowns with a longer, closed, square cut sleeve. The doctoral gown is trimmed with velvet stripes on the sleeves and panels of velvet on the front closure of the gown.

Some American universities have adopted doctoral gowns in their distinctive colors. You will notice the slate of Columbia, the red of Cornell, the burgundy of the University of Pennsylvania and the bright blue of the University of Michigan.

To have earned the privilege of wearing academic costume regalia signifies not only the completion of a program of studies, but entrance into the comradery of scholarship.

# **The University Mace and Presidential Chain of Office**

The mace and the presidential chain of office used in academic celebrations represent traditions dating to the sixteenth century. The mace symbolizes the authority of the university and the chain of office designates the presidential leadership of the academy.

The Wilkes University mace and presidential chain of office were gifts of local donors and were first used in 1970 at the inauguration of the second president of Wilkes. They were designed by Ottie Hill Chwalek '61 and executed by Kurt Matzdorf, a nationally recognized gold and silversmith from the State University of New York at New Paltz.

## **The University Mace**

The sterling silver mace has a gilt knob at its base and a gilt circle at the top bearing the inscription “Wilkes College 1933.” The bowl, rising above the neck of the mace, signifies Wilkes-Barre’s role as a melting pot, forming a new and vigorous community of people from many different backgrounds. This theme is reiterated in the inscription of the University’s motto “Unity Amidst Diversity” which surrounds the upper part of the bowl. The gilt flame symbolizes the enlightenment gained from higher education, while the piece of anthracite coal set in the center of the flame commemorates the origin of the University in a community known for its coal mining past.

## **The Presidential Chain of Office**

The Presidential Chain of Office, created from sterling silver, has alternating bowls and gilt flames, repeating the motif of the mace. On the front of the four-foot chain hangs a gilt seal of Wilkes which is suspended from a cluster of oak leaves with acorns, suggesting the strength and sturdiness of future generations. On the back of the Presidential Chain of Office is a silver portrait of Dr. Eugene S. Farley, the first President of Wilkes. Dr. Farley’s portrait is surrounded by gilt oak leaves commemorating his strong leadership of the emerging institution.