



One Hundred Twentieth Commencement

Saturday, December 3, 2022
Sawyer Center

SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

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Two O'clock P.M. · Sawyer Center

***PROCESSIONAL**

“Pomp and Circumstance” by Sir Edward Elgar

Prof. Tim Marek

Adjunct Professor, School of Music

FLAG BEARERS

Putnam City High School

Air Force JROTC Color Guard

MACE BEARER

Dr. Koshy Muthalaly

Professor, School of Professional and Graduate Studies

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Terry Rowland

Chair, Board of Trustees

***INVOCATION**

Rev. Michael Pigg

SNU Board of Trustees / SNU Class of 1999

Parent of Graduate

***HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

Dr. Jim Graves

Associate Professor, School of Music / Director

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Keith Newman

University President

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Mr. Lee Roland

Executive Director, Hope United

AWARDING OF HONORARY DOCTORAL DEGREE

Dr. Keith Newman

HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Tim Eades

Provost

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. Tim Eades

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Dr. Keith Newman

INTRODUCTION OF GRADUATES

Dr. Lena Crouso

Vice President for Intercultural Learning and Engagement

ALUMNI INDUCTION

Rev. Larry Morris
Vice President for University Relations

SNU ALMA MATER

Dr. Jim Graves

*BENEDICTION

Mrs. Charlie Carney
Parent of Graduate

RECESSIONAL

*Board of Trustees, faculty and platform personnel will recess in a line of march.
Graduates and guests will be dismissed at the conclusion of the recessional.*

GUEST DISMISSAL

Dr. Dennis Williams
Vice President of Strategy and Innovation

**Audience please stand as you are able.*

ALMA MATER

*Words: Adopted 1940;
Revised by J. Michael Crabtree (1986),
Music: H.S. Thompson (1857)*

VERSE 1

Of all the schools in this fair land
There's one whose name we praise,
She's founded on ideals of right,
To her our songs we raise.
(to Chorus)

VERSE 2

We'll work for her, we'll fight for her,
Be loyal, brave, and true,
We'll bring her fame and grace her name
In everything we do.
(to Chorus)

VERSE 3

Though many ways our paths may lead
When we from school depart,
Let faith in God now burning bright
Remain in every heart.
(to Chorus)

CHORUS

Alma Mater, Alma Mater,
Hail, all hail to you.
Red and white stand for the light
Of dear old SNU.

JOY TO THE WORLD

*Words: Isaac Watts, 1719
Music: George Frederick Handel, 1741;
arr. by Lowell Mason, 1848*

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King!
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let men their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of His righteousness
and wonders of His love,
and wonders of His love,
and wonders, wonders of His love.

Degree Candidates

Associate of Arts

Rashonda Elayne Ables

Kennedie Barton

Matthew Bryan Torres***

Bachelor of Arts

Angel Jacquez*

Natalie LaVon Jones***

Claire Elizabeth Simpson**

James Stillings

Bachelor of Science

Christine Rachel Abraham***

Angela Amick

Alejandra Andrade

Diante William Andrews

Federico Boscolo Anzoletti*

Juan Avila

Samantha Avila

Isabel M. Azera

Bobby L. Bacon II

De'Von A. Bailey*

Brad Baker**

Rico Baker

Lacie Jo Barber*

Caleb McCrae Bates*

Chet Bates

Edyon Batta

Kristina L. Bitzer

Jeremy E. Black

Robert Blakely

Morgan E. Brannon***

Heather L. Briggs***

Marsha L. Brown^***

Brandie Bruce

Buket Bugdal

Gordon Cade Burton

Amon Byars

Paul Carter

Suzan Marie Chacon

Sara Chavers

Maggie Cook*

Angie Cox

Nathaniel Mark Crump***

Marla Joy Cullison

Misty Dawn Daniels

Whittney Danielle David

Victoria Davis***

Shelby L. Day^

Michelle R. Englis

Preston Waggoner Fant

TyRhonda LaTara Fisher

Cameron Flowers

Caleb Frazier***

Sammy A. Frejo III*

Alisha Frye

Zachary Ryan Fullingim

Gerald W. Gillanders, Jr.***

Dominick Isaac Gonzalez

Abriana Goree^

Joshua Preston Gray***

Shalea Guillory

Hannah Jacklyn Hamilton***

Mason Hamilton

Jason Clay Harrison***

Michael S. Hatfield, Jr.

Chase Hebert

Wendi Hedrick

Jovanny Hernandez-Ruiz

Tyler Hicks

Joshua Eugene Hines*

Stanley D. Horton**

Teresa K. Housley

Christopher B. Howle

Shelby Hutchison*

Martha Islas

Benita Jose-Mathew

Jenai Adelle Rose Keith

Crystal Dawn Larabee^*

Antonio Leake, Sr.

Kayla Morgan Little*

Jasmine Livingston

Kaci Logan

Keefe Lovgren

Madeline Lynch***

Cory Manley**

Kalyn McDonald^*

Katreena Faith McGee

Casey Minchey

Destiny Minnifield

Bence Mocsari

Benjamin James Moore

Lonathan Chance Morgan

April Morgan*

Katrinia Marie Moss^*

Valerie Anne Moutinho***

Donald Eugene Mullican III

Tracy Ray Mussett

Carissa Renee New^*

David Nguyen

Samuel Nichols

Emma Nightengale**

JaCoby Kaleen Norrid**

Giselle Anahi Nunez*

Tajudeen M. Oseni

Peyton Elizabeth Parsons*

Jennifer Marie Perkins

Catherine Peters

Bachelor of Science CONTINUED

Benjamin Noah Quirino
Dustin Blake Rachal
Diego Ramirez
Cecilia G. Record
Joab Rios
Victor Manuel Rivera
Seth A. Rollins
Lorenzo Ruiz
Donald Eugene Ryan
Noah McGavin Serrano
Taylor Mae Setliff Spears
Benjamin D. Settles*
Tina Sexton
Spencer Shaw
Collin Monroe Shockley
Raelyn Marie Grundstrom Sibley
Jacob Smith
Mary Samantha Spann
Allen Lee Starks, Jr.
Chamika V. Starks
Arrieann Marie Sweat***
Glendon Brant Taylor^**

Carlos Lee Thomas
Zachary Austin Tisdale
Keyontae D. Triplett
Jeromy D. Turner^
Shametria Turner*
Eric Cody Tyler
Sharkista Upshaw
Randi Danielle Vinson
Peyton Vinyard***
Abigail Warner
Melinda Washington^**
Micah Weber
Chandler Howard Wilberding
Bryan D. Williams
Glenda Marie Williams
Jeremy C. Williams
Frederick R. Wilson
Matthew Ryan Winfield
Jessica D. Wood^**
Lisa J. Woodson*
Daniel J. Wylie
Laura A. Yanez

Bachelor of Music Education

Esther Ruiz***

Master of Arts

Elizabeth Nichole Adcock
Ashlyn Danielle Barnett
Mikyla Barnett
Weston James Bates
Traci Lea Bean
Christina Bibbs
Teresa Marie Bieber
Zebedee Blash, Jr.
Deanna Lynn Braggs
Natalie J. Brown
Hannah M. Burris
Alyssa Kay Carney
Stephanie M. Cheatwood
William Coleman
Scott Cooper
Taylor Lynn Cormier
Krystal Nicole Crockett
Carrie Gayle Daniels
Shantel Cornelius Davis
Jermaine Davison
Carter Devine-Billen
Sammy Joe Drinkard, Jr.
Courtney Elizabeth Drumm
Adeline Drummond
Alisha Anne Dupuis
Ashlee Edwards
Tara Servello
Stony Fath
Rosario Garcia
Danita Gaut
Doris Green
Elke K. Grether
Jared Grob
Kandi Gustafson

Kyle Matthew Hall
Brooklyn Hill
Shelbi Hladik
Brian Hopgood, Sr.
Nicholas Phillip Jackson
Tonya Jewett
Justin D. Kimble
Nazire Kont
Britny Lane
Lee Ledbetter
Kelsie Lopez
Ali Mark
Kaci Gail Martin
Dasha McBane-Spence
Starla Marie Medlock
Emily Myers
Noemi Nunez Franco
Kari Larene Phillips
Kayla Clarissa Phoenix
W. Cory Pitts
Talynn Lacy Portillo
Lyndi Marie Purkey
Aaron Purkins
Ethan Lee Purkins
Russell Ronning
Perry Shelby
Cassie Benae Shelton
Laurie J. Smith
Deanna Thomason
Caylan Blythe Thompson
Torrie LaShaun Whatley-Williams
Jacob T. Willard
Saralyn M. Williams
Rocio Zamora

Master of Business Administration

Abdullah Taher Aljuraysh
Ashleigh Victoria Easlick
Lintasha Z. Toles-Emami
Osvaldo Lourenço Fernandes
Brian K. George
Christopher Germann
Kelsey Leigh Hall
John M. Kilgo
Amber Michele Mansfield

Cecilia Denise Marion-Harris
Shamekka Marion-Johns
Seth Michael McDevitt
Andrew S. McGee
Gage Michael Porter
Amber Reid
Eliana L. Rivas-Castro
Roberta Janine Squires

Master of Leadership

Nicholas Bailey
Susan K. Baker
Misty M. Berg

Kellen Ray Escoe
Kacee Johnson
Patricia Gates Milford

Master of Science

Matthew Tyler Bolt
Cherrell Gintina Drake
Yletha Hart
Natasha Heidi Hill

Derrick Alonzo Peay
Emily N. Shorter
Madison Abigail Grace Sturgis

Doctor of Education

Dr. Carma Barlow
*Managing Stress of the Profession: A Case Study of
Teacher Resilience and School Culture*
Committee Chair: Dr. Kent Shellenberger

Dr. Ravonda R. Higgins
*CTE Instructional Leaders' Experiences in Building School
Capacity Through a Collaborative Leadership Approach*
Committee Chair: Dr. Brent Casey

Dr. Sayra Bryant
*The Role of Teacher Motivation in the Implementation
of Professional Development*
Committee Chair: Dr. Dawn Pearce

Dr. Cristel M. L. Miller
*Examination of An Emergent Bilingual Pedagogy
Program: Community of Inquiry Model*
Committee Chair: Dr. Jessica Noonan

Dr. Carole Ann Campbell
*Barriers to Building Strong Positive Relationships
Between High School Teachers and Students*
Committee Chair: Dr. Scott Drabenstot

Dr. Stacy Miller
*Essential Components for Implementing Trauma-Informed
Practices in One Oklahoma School District*
Committee Chair: Dr. Kim Dyce

Dr. Jessica Lyn Cates
*The Role of Cognitive Development Theory in
Building Phonemic Awareness in Elementary Students*
Committee Chair: Dr. Shawn Pendley

Dr. Kenneth W. Moore
*The Relationship Between Student Hope and
Student Collective Trust*
Committee Chair: Dr. Josh Robinson

Dr. Tiffanie Cox-Toll
*The Role of Labeling in the Educational Journeys of
Individuals Who Were Formerly Incarcerated*
Committee Chair: Dr. Shawn Pendley

Dr. Stacy Pulliam Nobles
*Dispositional Factors Leading to Subsequent
eBook usage in Higher Education*
Committee Chair: Dr. Bud Turman

Dr. Joshua Lofton Cunningham
*The Role of Self-Efficacy in Supporting Rural Teachers
in the Implementation of Blended Learning*
Committee Chair: Dr. Shawn Pendley

Dr. John Edward Stewart
*Expectation Gap: How Autonomy, Meaningfulness,
and Feedback Influence Job Satisfaction*
Committee Chair: Dr. Bud Turman

Dr. Annora Elise Gilliss
*USA's Rising Homeschool Population: A Qualitative
Phenomenology of Caregivers' Rationalizations
to Homeschool*
Committee Chair: Dr. Anne Ghost Bear

Dr. Melanie Renae Sweeney
*Standards-Based Grades and Standardized
Tests Scores: A Correlational Investigation*
Committee Chair: Dr. Jenn Ivie

Speaker

MR. LEE ROLAND

Mr. Lee Roland is married to Wanda, his lovely wife, for over 40 years. He is the proud father of a son and daughter, and the extra proud grandfather of a grandson and granddaughter. Lee Roland currently acts as the Executive Director of a non-profit, Hope United, and a Public Speaker, Education Consultant, and Adjunct Professor of Sociology at Southern Nazarene University. Lee has lovingly worked as a public school educator and administrator for over 30 years. He is formerly the proud principal of Tulakes Elementary School in the Putnam City School District. His book, *The Fantastic Voyage: A Story of School Turnaround and Achievement by Overcoming Poverty and Addressing Race*, chronicles the success of his school in a high-challenged community in Northwest Oklahoma City that had previously experienced years of underperformance and poor image before his arrival.

Lee Roland has enjoyed great success throughout his career as an educator. He has also presented at countless conferences, workshops, and summits across Oklahoma and beyond, particularly regarding racial disparities/awareness, effectively addressing our chronically underserved and vulnerable children. He has thus received numerous awards, none more gratifying than being inducted into the Oklahoma Black Educator's Hall of Fame. Roland serves on multiple community, city, and civic boards, mostly involving children's welfare. He believes that America's moral obligation is to improve our society via public schools, one of his foremost missions in life.

Commencement Information

ACADEMIC MACE

The honor of Academic Mace Bearer is awarded by a faculty vote to a senior member of the SNU faculty in recognition of dedicated service and outstanding qualities that exemplify the SNU motto "Character / Culture / Christ." Today the mace is carried by Dr. Koshy Muthalaly, Professor, School of Professional and Graduate Studies. Dr. Muthalaly has served full-time as a SNU faculty member since 1999.

The academic mace traces its origins to the medieval battle mace and royal scepter and was adopted in the 14th century as a symbol of the university's ideals and commitment to learning. On ceremonial occasions at SNU, the mace is carried by a senior faculty member at the head of the procession. For commencement exercises, the mace is placed in its stand to signal the beginning of the ceremony and removed to mark the ceremony's end.

The SNU academic mace made its inaugural journey in the May 2008 Commencement. It is crafted in walnut from a tree that once grew on SNU's campus, and the stand is made from wood salvaged from another historic SNU building called The Tabernacle where early Nazarenes once worshipped. Both of these pieces of wood, though cracked and flawed, were saved by the late Dr. Lyle Tullis, SNU Professor Emeritus of Sociology, whose life and service impacted countless SNU colleagues and students. His son, Dr. K. J. Tullis, used this wood to craft the mace.

HONORS AND REGALIA

Students graduating with high cumulative grade point averages are indicated in the candidate lists as follows. Grade point averages for the most recent semester may or may not be included.

*Cum laude - cumulative GPA of 3.50 through 3.74

**Magna cum laude - cumulative GPA of 3.75 through 3.89

*** Summa cum laude - cumulative GPA of 3.90 through 4.00

Hoods are unique to educational institutions and are vestments that identify the degree conferred and the granting institution. Students receiving master's degrees today are vested with a hood with the SNU colors identified in the silk lining. The edging of the hoods shows the colors of degrees conferred today: drab for Master of Business Administration and Master of Leadership, white for Master of Arts, golden-yellow for Master of Science, and light blue for Doctor of Education.

Cords and **medallions** worn by degree candidates signify membership in honor societies, participation in the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement program, participation in Student Support Services, participation in the Presidential Leadership Scholar program, participation in the LiveLast service program or completion of the SNU Honors Program. Military students and faculty are wearing red, white and blue cords signifying their service.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Distinguished Achievement Award is an honor granted to students from each cohort in the School of Professional Studies. Selection is based on outstanding scholarship and exceptional leadership within the program and on recommendations by program directors, faculty and classmates. Recipients are identified with the ^ symbol in the degree candidates list. This marks the 37th year for the presentation of these awards.

UNIVERSITY HONORS

The University Honors Award is an honor of special recognition chosen by the Board of Trustees. Each honor is an expression of the values of Southern Nazarene University. In bestowing any of them, the Board of Trustees not only recognizes an individual but also states publicly that the individual exemplifies SNU’s values. Honorary doctorates signify high distinction in a career or profession.

COMMENCEMENT PERSONNEL

Faculty Marshals and the Office of Academic Affairs, in conjunction with other Commencement Planning Committee members, are primarily responsible for the planning and coordination of Commencement ceremonies. The Faculty Marshals serving today are Dr. Sylvia Goodman, Professor and Director, Kinesiology Graduate Programs; Dr. Cathy Hutchings-Wedel, Professor and Director, Organizational Leadership, School of Professional Studies; Dr. Melany Kyzer, Professor and Chair, Division of Cultural and Communication Studies; Dr. Loren McElroy, Associate Professor and Director, PTA Program; Dr. Tim Taylor, Professor, School of Education; and Dr. Ron Wright, Professor, Department of Psychology and Counseling.

University Marshals are students recognized for their outstanding academic performance among those anticipating graduation in the coming academic year. These students are selected each year based on cumulative credit hours and grade point averages. The following University Marshals are assisting the Faculty Marshals during the December 2022 Commencement:

Paige Adams
Sara Armstrong
Julia Benn
Catherine Boulding

Kinley Downing
Clayton Hooper
Rouve M. Jacques
Josh John

Julia Klein
Gage Miller
Asa Robertson

IN EVENT OF EMERGENCY

- Announcements and/or instructions will be given by SNU platform personnel.
- Law enforcement officers and SNU security personnel are on site to assist.
 - Be aware and give assistance to elderly, disabled and children.
 - Elevators should not be used during emergency evacuation.
 - Exits are located at the outer four corners of the Sawyer Center.



Our mission is to make Christlike disciples
through higher education.