

CALUMET COLLEGE  
OF ST. JOSEPH

SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL  
COMMENCEMENT



MAY 10, 2025

**COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES**  
**MAY 10, 2025**  
**NOON**  
**THE DENNIS AND LESLIE RITTENMEYER ATHLETIC CENTER**

Processional.....Pomp and Circumstance

Invocation.....The Very Reverend Jeffrey Kirch, C.P.P.S.  
Povincial Director of the Missionaries of the Precious Blood

Introductions..... Amy McCormack, Ed.D.  
President, Calumet College of St. Joseph

Welcoming Remarks.....Lawrence Meyers  
Calumet College of St. Joseph Board of Trustees

Awarding of Honorary Degree Citation..... Mablene Krueger  
Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

Conferral of Honorary Degree.....Lawrence Meyers  
Calumet College of St. Joseph Board of Trustees  
and  
Amy McCormack, Ed.D.  
President, Calumet College of St. Joseph

Commencement Address.....John G. Morikis

Valedictorian Address.....Sr. Nga Nguyen, '25

Presentation of Degree Candidates.....Mablene Krueger  
Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

Associate of Science, Associate of Arts

Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts

Presentation of Master Degree Candidates.....Mablene Krueger  
Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

Hooding of Master Degree Candidates

Master of Arts in Psychology.....Joseph Kovach, Psy.D.  
Program Director, Psychology  
and  
Maria Arizzi, Ph.D.  
Instructor, Psychology

Master of Arts in Teaching .....Sean Egan, Ed.D.  
Chair, Department of Education  
and  
Kezia Carpenter, Ph.D.  
Asst. Professor, Education Program

Master of Science in Management .....Roy Scheive, Ph.D.  
Chair, Department of Business Management  
and  
Catherine Lopez-Gonzalez, Ph.D.  
Program Director, Business Fast Track

Master of Science in Public Safety Administration.....Danny McGuire, Ed.D.  
Executive Director, Public Service Institute  
and  
Monica Lopez, M.S.  
Director, Public Safety Management Program

Conferral of Degrees.....Amy McCormack, Ed.D.  
President, Calumet College of St. Joseph

Associate of Science, Associate of Arts  
Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Arts  
Master of Science, Master of Arts

Alumni Association Remarks .....Vicki Znavor, '98

Benediction..... Reverend Tim McFarland, C.P.P.S.  
Program Director, Theology, Mission and Ministry

Recessional..... Lovely Day

## 2025 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

### JOHN G. MORIKIS RETIRED, FORMER CHAIRMAN AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER THE SHERWIN-WILLIAMS COMPANY



John G. Morikis retired as Executive Chairman of The Sherwin-Williams Company, a \$23.1 billion global leader in the paint and coatings industry, on December 31, 2024, capping a distinguished 40-year career with the company. He served as Executive Chairman beginning in January 2024 and as Chairman since January 2017.

Mr. Morikis joined Sherwin-Williams in 1984 as a management trainee in the Paint Stores Group. Over the next four decades, he advanced through key leadership roles, including Division President and Group President. From 2006 to 2016, he served as President and Chief Operating Officer

before being appointed Chief Executive Officer, a position he held for eight years.

As CEO, Mr. Morikis led Sherwin-Williams through a strategic transformation that strengthened its market leadership and positioned the company for long-term success. He spearheaded a company-wide overhaul to differentiate Sherwin-Williams from industry commoditization by emphasizing world class talent, breakthrough innovation, customer-driven solutions, and a focus on value-added products and services. Under his leadership, the company expanded its global presence to 123 countries, optimized its supply chain, and invested in technology to enhance the customer experience and operational efficiency. These efforts reinforced Sherwin-Williams' competitive edge, culminating in its inclusion in the Dow Jones Industrial Average and further solidifying its status as a global industry leader.

Beyond Sherwin-Williams, Mr. Morikis serves on multiple Boards including General Mills, Inc., Whirlpool Corporation, and University Hospitals Health System, Inc. He has also served on the Policy Advisory Board at the Joint Center for Housing Studies at Harvard University, the Cleveland American Red Cross, and Fortune Brands Innovations, Inc.

With extensive experience leading a highly complex, multinational organization, Mr. Morikis has deep expertise in global operations, supply chain optimization, acquisition integration and business transformation. His strategic mindset and operational discipline have been key drivers of success in the businesses he has led, enabling them to achieve significant growth and excel in competitive markets.

Mr. Morikis earned dual bachelor's degrees in Business Administration and Psychology from Saint Joseph's College in Rensselaer, Indiana, and a Master's Degree in Business from National Louis University in Evanston, Illinois.

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## ASSOCIATE DEGREES

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Bailey Jessica Chambers	A.S.	Associates of Science Degree		Park Forest	IL
Andru J Levenson	A.S.	Associates of Science Degree		Portage	IN

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## BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

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Eric A Acevedo	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Alondra C Acevedo Vina	B.S.	Psychology		Juana Diaz	PR
Gordon Keith Allen	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Brenda Alvarez	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Cory Anderson	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Morgan A Andrade	B.S.	Business Management		Chicago	IL
Denislav Venelinov Argirov	B.S.	Psychology	With Distinction	Dresden	Germany
Jason Arroyo	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Briana Elise Bailey Irby	B.S.	Psychology		North Chicago	IL
John Banczak	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Nathan R Barbato	B.S.	Elementary Education		Oak Forest	IL
Geralyn Faith Barton	B.S.	Psychology		Plano	IL
Luke Steven Bechina	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Pete Best	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Law'ren M Betterson	B.S.	Accounting	Summa Cum Laude	Croydon	PA
Lawrence Joshua Betterson	B.S.	Business Management	Summa Cum Laude	Croydon	PA
Michael J Bowen	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Tiffanie Marie Brieno	B.S.	Business Management		Whiting	IN
Tyler M Brody	B.S.	Kinesiology		Beecher	IL
Lauren Elizabeth Brown	B.S.	Integrated Studies		Arlington Hts	IL
Antonio Buckley	B.S.	Psychology		Whiting	IN
Garry Alex Cadichon	B.S.	Criminal Justice		Chicago	IL
Veronica Campos	B.S.	Criminal Justice		Hammond	IN
Blaze M Cano	B.S.	Business Management	Magna Cum Laude	Cedar Lake	IN
Brooklinn Alexandria Chavez	B.S.	Forensic Science	Cum Laude	Plainfield	IL
Angel Roberto Cintron	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
MelodyAnn Clark	B.A.	Business Management		Highland	IN
Catherine M Clements	B.A.	English & Media Communication	With Distinction	Hammond	
Timothy Crawford	B.S.	Public Safety Management	Cum Laude	Chicago	IL
Ryan J Davenport	B.S.	Business Management		Griffith	IN
Yanilette M Diaz	B.S.	Criminal Justice		Iowa Falls	IA
Gerald R DiPasquale	B.S.	Public Safety Management	Cum Laude	Chicago	IL
Ian Gregory Dobran	B.S.	Business Management		Centerville	OH
Nicholas Gerald Dudeck	B.S.	Business Management	Magna Cum Laude	Manhattan	IL
Miguel Javier Elizarraras	B.S.	Business Management		Hammond	IN
Areli Enriquez	B.S.	Business Management	Summa Cum Laude	East Chicago	IN
Ariel Esquivel	B.S.	Elementary Education		Griffith	IN
Maxwell Bailey Everaert	B.S.	Psychology	Cum Laude	Kouts	IN
Mark Ryan Fausto	B.S.	Criminal Justice	Magna Cum Laude	Portage	IN
Joseph Featherstone	B.S.	Accounting		Joliet	IL
Jason Park Fong	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Margaux J Fortney	B.S.	General Studies		Valparaiso	IN
John Ryan Garbelman	B.A.	Digital & Studio Arts	With Distinction	Joliet	IL

Graham Gonzales	B.S.	General Studies	With Distinction	Valparaiso	IN
Esteban Gonzalez	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Michael T Green	B.S.	Business Management	Cum Laude	Carthage	MO
Grek Junior Guzman	B.S.	Criminal Justice		Munster	IN
Troy Joseph Hagadus	B.S.	Business Management	With Distinction	Oak Forest	IL
Aman Haidari	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Taylor Monroe Haines	B.S.	Business Management		New Paris	IN
Ahmed Easa Hamed	B.S.	Criminal Justice		East Chicago	IN
Jared L. Hankins	B.S.	General Studies	With Distinction	Indianapolis	IN
Whitney T Harwell	B.A.	Business Management		Merrillville	IN
Francis Cameron Roy Hauze	B.S.	Digital & Studio Arts	Cum Laude	Belize City	Belize
AnnaMaria Hernandez	B.S.	Criminal Justice		Whiting	IN
Peter Herrera	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Curtis A Hinkle	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Jada B Holmes	B.S.	Psychology		Gary	IN
Michael Hudson	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
James M Jachymiak	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Mokena	IL
David Jackson	B.S.	Public Safety Management		University Pk	IL
Francisco Jimenez	B.A.	Business Management		Gary	IN
Jymia Anjuli Jones	B.S.	Business Management		Chicago	IL
Brianne R Kosina	B.S.	Psychology		Saint John	IN
William M Le Pretre	B.S.	Kinesiology		Chicago	IL
Oshawn Anthony Lee	B.S.	Psychology		Chicago	IL
Gregory Leifert	B.A.	Business Management	With Distinction	Merrillville	IN
Angeilly Lopez	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Emmy Corinne Lopez	B.S.	Psychology		Chicago	IL
Novalei B Lopez	B.S.	Kinesiology		Chesterton	IN
David Madriz Chavez	B.S.	Kinesiology	Cum Laude	East Chicago	IN
Antonio A Madrueno	B.S.	Business Management		Whiting	IN
Hrvoje Majcunic	B.S.	Business Management		Jastrebarsko	Croatia
Jacqueline Marquez	B.S.	Kinesiology	Cum Laude	Portage	IN
Natalie Alessandra Marquez	B.S.	Business Management		Cicero	IL
Danielle Madison Martinez	B.S.	Psychology	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Kevin James McCann	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Marissa C McElligott	B.S.	Psychology	Summa Cum Laude	Lockport	IL
Patrick S McLetchie	B.S.	Business Management	With Distinction	Clarkston	MI
Brian G Merito	B.S.	Public Safety Management	Cum Laude	Chicago	IL
Aria Moen	B.S.	Kinesiology	With Distinction	Whiting	IN
Nicole Moore	B.S.	Business Management		Hammond	IN
Joshua Morris	B.S.	Business Management		Chicago	IL
Leilani Murray	B.S.	General Studies		Chicago	IL
Diane Marie Neese	B.S.	Business Management	With Distinction	Peotone	IL
Toni Neuvonen	B.S.	Business Management	Summa Cum Laude	Mikkeli	Finland
Nga T Nguyen	B.A.	Digital & Studio Arts		East Chicago	IN
Andrew Joseph Olejnik	B.S.	General Studies		Hammond	IN
Alyssa Nicole Olson	B.S.	Medical Lab Science	Magna Cum Laude	Antioch	IL
Falynn Margaret Alicia Pena	B.S.	Psychology	With Distinction	Hammond	IN
Christian Emmanuelle Perez	B.S.	Public Safety Management	Summa Cum Laude	Chicago	IL
Skylar Alexis-Yvonne Pittman	B.A.	English & Media Communication	Summa Cum Laude	Blue Island	IL
Piper Mae Plautz	B.S.	Elementary Education	With Distinction	Merrill	WI

Christopher T Purser	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Portage	IN
Ivana Sofia Quinones	B.S.	Criminal Justice	With Distinction	Corozal	PR
Barbara A Ramirez	B.A.	Business Management		Chicago	IL
Ryan M Regnier	B.S.	General Studies		Richmond	IL
Sergio M Reyes	B.A.	English & Media Communication		Aurora	IL
Myron A Richie	B.S.	General Studies	Cum Laude	Glenwood	IL
Savanah Marie Rodriguez	B.S.	Criminal Justice	With Distinction	Winthrop Hbr	IL
George Louis Romero	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Maxwell A Ross	B.S.	Psychology		Gary	IN
Maurice Russell	B.S.	Kinesiology	With Distinction	Crown Point	IN
Gabriel Alejandro Ruvalcaba	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Jose L Sanchez	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Nick P Semancik	B.S.	Business Management	With Distinction	Whiting	IN
Heather L Serrano	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Jacob Thomas Shafer	B.S.	Business Management		Watervliet	MI
Kylee Rose Slack	B.S.	General Studies	With Distinction	Charlott Hall	MD
Joshua Slawinski	B.S.	General Studies		Lombard	IL
Jacob Joseph St. Marie	B.S.	Criminal Justice	Cum Laude	Oak Forest	IL
Adelina Anna Staden	B.S.	Criminal Justice	With Distinction	Romeoville	IL
Jayson Torres	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Jasmine Valentin	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Ally Paige Valentovich	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
George A Valko	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Wadsworth	IL
Matthew Shamus Ward	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Cody Lee Wilkins	B.S.	General Studies		Highland	IN
Brandon Marquez Wilson	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Jeanluc Wilson Bahoun	B.S.	General Studies		East Moline	IL
Jessica Allenay Woods	B.S.	Business Management		Hammond	IN
Tomasz M Zatora	B.S.	Public Safety Management	With Distinction	Chicago	IL
Wenseslao Zavala	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL
Klaudio Zekthi	B.S.	Public Safety Management		Chicago	IL

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## MASTER'S DEGREES

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Rosita M Alicea-Zink	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL
Courtney Bates	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching		Chicago	IL
Thomas J Benson	M.S.	Public Administration		Crown Point	IN
Daniel A Binfa	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL
Robert A Cain	M.S.	Public Administration		Rensselaer	IN
Christina Calderon	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL
Gerardo Calderon	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL
William J Casey	M.S.	Public Administration		Palos Heights	IL
Stefano M Cittadio	M.S.	Management		Fairport	NY
Channing Clark	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching		Highland	IN
Lakissa Clark	M.S.	Management		Gary	IN
Victoria P Clark-Conrad	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching		Crown Point	IN
Charles Hamilton Cox	M.S.	Public Safety Administration		Dolton	IL
Debtra D Daniel	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL
Dervis Demirovic	M.S.	Public Administration		Chicago	IL

Arriana Franco	M.S.	Management	Hammond	IN
Francis J Frye	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Yesenia Galvan	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Thomas Lester Garbutt	M.S.	Management	Punta Gorda Town	Belize
Maurey V Garrett Jr.	M.S.	Management	Homewood	IL
Dana Nicole Giannelli	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Schaumburg	IL
Saahil Hassanali Gilani	M.S.	Public Administration	Cedar Lake	IN
Ryan Lee Gregory	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Portage	IN
Chase Hill	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Dylan G Hill	M.S.	Management	Matteson	IL
Rafid Ifraz	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
James B Kinsella	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Ajibola Adesoji Koko	M.S.	Management	Ibadan	Nigeria
Anthony Tolentino Kurien	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
James Labbe	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
James J Lazansky	M.S.	Public Administration	Westchester	IL
Nicole Lorraine Lozano	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Todd Lukas	M.S.	Public Administration	Munster	IN
Carlos Daniel Macias	M.S.	Management	Chicago	IL
Phillip David Mackey	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Jonathan Thoma Malacina	M.S.	Public Administration	Frankfort	IL
James McDaniels	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	La Porte	IN
Daniel Nick Miller	M.S.	Public Administration	Riverside	IL
Robert Charles Nowak	M.S.	Public Administration	Cedar Lake	IN
Anthony Tyrone Patton	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Merrillville	IN
Jessica Peterson Rogers	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Hammond	IN
Eric John Ramos	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Chicago	IL
Cindy Ramos	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Melissa D Rosch	M.S.	Public Administration	Cedar Lake	IN
Vanessa Sarabia	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Frank Savaglio Jr.	M.S.	Public Administration	North Riverside	IL
Joseph M Schmidt	M.S.	Public Administration	Evergreen Park	IL
Brittany Shelton	M.A.	Psychology	Valparaiso	IN
Marcus Von Shepard	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Phylicia L Spears	M.A.	Master of Arts In Teaching	Gary	IN
Michael John Spilotro	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Jacob Scott Tracy	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
James P Triantafillo	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL
Kyle R Wilbanks	M.S.	Public Administration	Crown Point	IN
Darrick L Williams	M.S.	Management	Chicago	IL
Joshua Zapata	M.S.	Public Administration	Chicago	IL

**CALUMET COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH CLASS OF 2025  
VALEDICTORIAN:**

**Sr. Nga Nguyen**  
**of Lovers of the Holy Cross of Hung Hoa, Vietnam**



Sr. Nga has earned her Bachelor of Arts in Digital and Studio Arts degree with the highest academic standing. She has also received the Dr. Edward Zivich Award and the Outstanding Media and Fine Arts Award from Calumet College of St. Joseph. She has also recently been accepted into an Master of Fine Arts program.

Sr. Nga is known across campus as a selfless and humble person who is a pleasure to teach. She went above and beyond to help her peers, mentoring students, organizing an art show, and donating supplies to underclassmen. Her work in the classroom and in the community are unparalleled. Two pieces of her artwork have become part of the Calumet College of St. Joseph permanent art collection and are currently on display in The Nook on the 1st floor of the main academic building.

**Summa Cum Laude**

The valedictorian of the class has achieved the highest grade point average with at least 60 hours in graded coursework at Calumet College of St. Joseph and was selected from among our December, 2024 and May, 2025 bachelor degree recipients.

## GRADUATION WITH HONORS

Baccalaureate degree (December and May) graduates wearing gold stoles have cumulative grade point averages associated with honors or distinction. Students earning a baccalaureate degree graduate with honors upon completion of at least 60 hours in graded courses at Calumet College of St. Joseph with a cumulative index of 3.50 for the Cum Laude, 3.70 for the Magna Cum Laude, and 3.90 for the Summa Cum Laude recognition. Students earning a baccalaureate degree with fewer than 60 hours in graded courses taken at Calumet College of St. Joseph are awarded the honor "With Distinction" if their cumulative index is at least 3.5. August undergraduate bachelor degree candidates with honors or distinction will wear a gold honor candidate stole (until their course requirements have been fulfilled and a final GPA has been determined) and will be recognized as an honors candidate in the commencement program.

Undergraduate Honor Cords – Calumet College of St. Joseph holds all of its graduates in high esteem and takes an added measure of pride in those who have demonstrated leadership in student organizations. These students are wearing honor cords in colors representing various organizations. They are:

International students are wearing stoles which represent their home country.

Active Minds.....	Blue and Green
Alpha Phi Omega.....	Yellow and Blue
Athletics.....	Maroon and Grey
Black Student Union.....	Red, Yellow, and Black
Education Club.....	Sky Blue
Emmaus Catholic.....	Navy Blue and Silver
English & Creative Writing.....	Green and Silver
First Generation.....	White
St. Gaspar's Honors Learning Community.....	Gold
Los Amigos.....	Yellow, Green and Gold
Student Government Association.....	Yellow and Red
United States of America Military Veterans.....	Red, White and Blue

International students are wearing stoles which represent their home countries.

# GRADUATES

## PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

Calumet College of St. Joseph has three graduation dates per year, but only one commencement ceremony. The graduates you see here today are actually those who graduated last December, those graduating now, and those who expect to complete all requirements for graduation by this August. All who graduate at these three times are invited and encouraged to participate in our annual May commencement.

### COMMENCEMENT ATTIRE

The colors of the gowns worn by our graduates today indicate their level of attainment: black for those receiving master's degrees and baccalaureate degrees, deep red for those receiving associate's degrees.

All graduate hoods are lined in red and gray, the official colors of Calumet College of St. Joseph. The red symbolizes the C.P.P.S., Missionaries of the Precious Blood, the College's sponsoring religious order. The gray represents the steel that is so much a part of the Calumet Region. The color of the velvet lining on each hood and the color of the tassels represent the discipline of the earned degree.

The color of the hood's velvet edging on the master's hoods denotes the field of learning. The tassel color denotes the field of learning as follows:

Accounting	Drab
Biomedical Science	Gold
Business Management	Drab
Criminal Justice	Purple
Digital and Studio Arts	Brown
Education	Light Blue
English, Writing and Professional Communications	White
Forensic Biotechnology	Gold
General Science	Gold
General Studies	White
Health Science	Gold
Human Services	Citron
Integrated Studies	White
Kinesiology	Gold
Media and Fine Arts	Brown
Organization Management	Drab
Psychology	Gold
Public Safety Administration	Peacock
Public Safety Management	Purple

# Calumet College

OF ST. JOSEPH

## LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

*Congratulations, Class of 2025!*

Today, as you cross the stage, you join a proud legacy of Calumet College of St. Joseph graduates who are leaving their mark around the world. You are also becoming a lifelong member of the CCSJ Alumni Association – a community that will continue to support and celebrate you well beyond graduation.

Remember, graduation is not the end—it's the beginning of a lifelong relationship with your alma mater. Our mission is to help you stay connected and engaged through meaningful events, programs, and services. By becoming an active member, you'll gain access to valuable networking opportunities, career development resources, access to college initiatives, and so much more! More importantly, you'll have the chance to give back, make an impact, and help shape the future of this amazing institution.

We are incredibly proud of all you've accomplished and excited to see where your journey takes you next. Let's keep moving forward—together.

Welcome to the CCSJ Alumni family!

Warm regards,



Eran Armstrong c/o 2024  
Alumni & Donor Engagement Sr. Coordinator

# CALUMET COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH

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## STUDENT GOVERNMENT 2024-2025

Aubrie Morales - President

Ashley Meade - Vice President

Jamall Warnell - Secretary

Ian Clark - Treasurer

## VISIT THE COMMENCEMENT EXPERIENCE



**SCAN THE QR CODE TO VIEW OUR DIGITAL COMMENCEMENT BOOKLET**

While you enjoy this momentous occasion with family and friends, be sure to use **#CCSJGrad25** to tag your photos

**SIXTY-THIRD ANNUAL  
COMMENCEMENT AWARDS**

***GRADUATE PROGRAM AWARDS***

**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

**LT. JOE E BARNES OUTSTANDING STUDENTS**

A Public Safety Administration graduate who has maintained a G.P.A. of 4.0, best represents integrity, ability and excellence as personified by CCSJ Alumni Lt. Joe E. Barnes, Jr.  
Recipients of this award were also awarded the Academic Excellence Award.

Christina Calderon  
Gerardo Calderon  
Debra Daniel  
Dervis Demirovic  
Yesenia Galvan  
Chase Hill  
Rafid Ifraz  
James Kinsella

Anthony Kurien  
James Labbe  
James Lazansky  
Nicole Lozano  
Todd Lukas  
Jonathan Malacina  
Esmeralda Melendez  
Daniel Miller

Cindy Ramos  
Vanessa Sarabia  
Jacob Tracy  
James Triantafillo  
Kyle Wilbanks  
Joshua Zapata

**CAPT. JAMES LAVOY LEADERSHIP AWARD**

This award is presented to Public Safety Administration students who maintain a 4.0 G.P.A. while managing a career in Public Safety and who represent the leadership, integrity, ability, and excellence as personified by Calumet College of St. Joseph alumnus, Capt. James Lavoy.  
Recipients of this award also received the Academic Excellence Award.

Christina Calderon  
Gerardo Calderon  
Debra Daniel  
Dervis Demirovic  
Yesenia Galvan  
Chase Hill  
Rafid Ifraz  
James Kinsella

Anthony Kurien  
James Labbe  
James Lazansky  
Nicole Lozano  
Todd Lukas  
Jonathan Malacina  
Esmeralda Melendez  
Daniel Miller

Cindy Ramos  
Vanessa Sarabia  
Jacob Tracy  
James Triantafillo  
Kyle Wilbanks  
Joshua Zapata

## **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

This award is presented to Public Safety Administration students who maintain a 3.75 G.P.A.

Rosita Alicea-Zink  
Thomas Benson  
Daniel Binfa  
Robert Cain  
Christina Calderon  
Gerardo Calderon  
Debtra Daniel  
Dervis Demirovic  
Yesenia Galvan  
Saahil Gilani

Chase Hill  
Rafid Ifraz  
James Kinsella  
Anthony Kurien  
James Labbe  
James Lazansky  
Nicole Lozano  
Todd Lukas  
Jonathan Malacina  
Esmeralda Melendez

Daniel Miller  
Cindy Ramos  
Melissa Rosch  
Vanessa Sarabia  
Marcus Shepard  
Michael Spilotro  
Jacob Tracy  
James Triantafillo  
Kyle Wilbanks  
Joshua Zapata

## **MANAGEMENT**

### **THE DEMONSTRATED LEADERSHIP AWARD**

This award is presented to Public Safety Administration students who maintain a 3.75 G.P.A.

Stefano Cittadio

## ***UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAM AWARDS***

### **WILLIAM P. BROZOVIC AWARD**

This award is presented to the accounting graduate who best represents integrity, ability, and excellence in accounting skills as personified by CCSJ Professor Brozovic, now deceased.

Law'ren Betterson  
Joseph Featherstone

### **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT CHAIR AWARD**

This award is presented to a student in the Business Management Program who demonstrates academic excellence, outstanding classroom engagement, and service to the college.

Morgan Andrade

### **EMIL L. KREJCI FREE ENTERPRISE AWARD**

Presented to a graduating student in the Business Management program who best represents the qualities valued in free enterprise and business management personified by Emil L. Krejci, a member of the CCSJ Department of Development from 1971 to 1992.

Miguel Elizarraras  
Marquez Natalie

### **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT LEADERSHIP AWARD**

Presented to a graduating student in the Business Management program who best exemplifies integrity, leadership, and academic excellence.

Patrick McLetchie  
Toni Neuvonen

### **R. ALLEN BROWN J.D. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE**

This award is presented to a graduate for outstanding performance in the Criminal Justice Program.

Santino Barbosa  
Garry Cadichon  
Veronica Campos  
Yanilette Diaz

Mark Fausto  
Grek Guzman  
Savanah Rodriguez  
Jacob St.Marie

Adelina Staden  
AnnaMaria Hernandez  
Ahmed Hamed  
Ivana Quinones

### **HAROLD E. BURNS EDUCATION AWARD**

This award is presented to graduates who majored in education, excelled in education courses and student teaching, and who exemplify qualities vital to the education profession.

Piper Plautz

### **GERALDINE MARTIN SENIOR ENGLISH AWARD**

This award is presented to a graduate for outstanding performance in creative writing and scholarly research.

Skylar Pittman

### **OUTSTANDING MEDIA AND FINE ARTS AWARD**

Presented to the Media and Fine Arts student who has demonstrated excellence in artistic achievement and contributed significantly to the life of the arts on campus.

Nga Nguyen

### **OUTSTANDING PSYCHOLOGY GRADUATE AWARD**

This award is presented to a graduating student in the Psychology Program for their outstanding performance.

Denislav Argirov  
Emmy Lopez  
Falynn Pena

### **OUTSTANDING SCIENCE BACCALAUREATE AWARD**

This award is presented to a graduate who exemplifies extraordinary academic engagement; shows an ability to make connections between diverse concepts; and thinks creatively and critically.

Aria Moen  
Brooklinn Chavez  
Alyssa Olson

### **DR. ROGERS ELLIS RANDALL MEMORIAL SCIENCE AWARD**

This award is presented to a graduating senior in Science who represents integrity, and has demonstrated the highest level of accomplishment in their pursuit of academic excellence, social responsibility, and commitment to community service at the University and beyond.

Madriz Chavez David  
Marquez Jacqueline

### **DR. EDWARD ZIVICH AWARD**

This award is presented in memory of Edward A. Zivich, Ph.D., master teacher, writer and musician, whose life focused on helping people achieve their potential. The recipient is selected by the faculty as one who demonstrates cheerful enthusiasm, love of life, integrity, and service to their community.

Morgan Andrade  
Catherine Clements  
Nga Nguyen

## ***ACCELERATED PROGRAM AWARDS***

### **ORGANIZATION MANAGEMENT**

#### **ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE**

This award is presented to Accelerated Program graduates who show a commitment to scholarly learning and who have achieved academic excellence.

Barbara Ramirez  
Nicole Moore

### **PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT**

#### **CAPT. MARK C. MARIANOVICH PUBLIC SAFETY LEADERSHIP AWARD**

This award is given to a Public Safety Management graduate who has maintained a G.P.A. of 4.0, best represents integrity, ability, and excellence as personified by Calumet College of St. Joseph alumnus Capt. Mark Marianovich.

Cory Anderson  
Jason Arroyo  
John Banczak  
Pete Best  
Michael Bowen  
Angel Cintron  
Timothy Crawford  
Gerald DiPasquale  
Jason Fong

Peter Herrera  
Michael Hudson  
James Jachymiak  
David Jackson  
Brian Merito  
Christopher Purser  
Josue Rodriguez  
George Romero  
Gabriel Ruvalcaba

Heather Serrano  
Jayson Torres  
Jasmine Valentin  
Ally Valentovich  
George Valko  
Matthew Ward  
Tomasz Zatora  
Wenseslao Zavala

#### **ATTORNEY MICHAEL MCCAFFERTY PUBLIC SAFETY MANAGEMENT AWARD**

This award is given to student for their outstanding performance in the Public Safety Management Program. It is named for deceased Calumet College of St. Joseph professor, Michael McCafferty.

John Banczak  
Timothy Crawford  
Esteban Gonzalez  
James Jachymiak  
Christopher Purser

Josue Rodriguez  
Gabriel Ruvalcaba  
Jayson Torres  
Jasmine Valentin  
Ally Valentovich

George Valko  
Gerardo Hernandez  
Eliseo Peralta Wong  
Joseph Castillo



## **SYMBOLS IN THE OFFICIAL SEAL OF CALUMET COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH**

The seal of Calumet College of St. Joseph contains many significant symbols. Perhaps the most obvious symbol is the cross, which represents the college's founding on Christian values of sacrifice, stewardship and love of all people. The beams of light emanating from it represent our Lord, Jesus Christ, whose power and glory permeates our universe. To the right, a white dove bears an olive branch of peace. Below the lamp of learning, which is burning, represents the enlightenment of education. The silhouettes of a factory and chimneys in the background suggest the industry of the Calumet Region. The circle in which all are contained is our world, to be understood as both our community and the planet Earth. The circle itself speaks to completeness and harmony.

Finally, the outermost circle of slivers represents both the shims used in the construction trades, and the jagged and sharp-edged outer-most rim represents the gears of the machines used in industrial production. The seal is an excellent representation of the many facets of the college and the community it serves.

The college colors are red, representing the Missionaries of the Precious Blood; and gray, representing our dominant industry, steel making.

## THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION



The Presidential Medallion identifies the leadership of the college and signifies the authority of the college's chief executive. Strong leadership by Dr. Amy McCormack has established a future for Calumet College of St. Joseph, filled with a renewed commitment to fulfill the College's mission, and to expand the high quality programmatic offerings in Northwest Indiana. The Presidential Medallion features the official seal of Calumet College of St. Joseph and was presented as a gift from the Board of Trustees to former president Dr. Dennis Rittenmeyer during graduation ceremonies in 2004.



## THE CALUMET COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH MACE

The mace is a symbol of authority. Like the ancient Roman standard, a mace leads a ceremony with tradition and grandeur. The tradition of having a mace carried by the first person in an academic procession dates from the earliest days of the cathedral schools of Bologna, Paris, and Oxford. During those medieval times, liturgical processions were led by a verger, who carried a long wand called a verge to clear a path through the throngs gathered outside the cathedral so that the procession might make its way to the high altar and the bishop's sedile (chair). The mace eventually evolved into a ceremonial scepter that heads all academic processions on such formal and official occasions as matriculation services, and regular and special convocations. The mace symbolizes the authority to grant degrees, an authority granted to the faculty through the college's chief executive.

The Calumet College of St. Joseph mace, created by the woodworking artist John Juscik, is beautifully handcrafted with a combination of two woods representing strength and durability: oak and walnut. This combination of woods represents the student diversity of Calumet College of St. Joseph.

Each year, a faculty member is designated as the Mace Bearer. This year, Dr. Tracy Stone honors the College and represents the faculty and the graduating class as our Mace Bearer. She earned a B.S. in Health and Sport Studies from Miami University, a M.S. in Applied Exercise Physiology from University of Illinois at Chicago and an Ed.D. in Kinesiology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. Dr. Stone serves as the Director of the Kinesiology Program and the Faculty Senate Chair. She is a Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist (CSCS) and a NASM-certified personal trainer and fitness nutrition specialist.



# CALUMET COLLEGE OF ST. JOSEPH

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Amy McCormack, Ed.D., President  
Lynn Miskus, C.P.A., Treasurer  
Ester Diaz, Secretary

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Leon R. Brousseau	1959-1960
Walter A. McDonough	1961-1962
Irving L. Lewin	1962-1972
L. Cosby Bernard	1973-1982
James E. Rasmusen	1982-1985
Walter J. McCarthy	1985-1986
Thomas G. Katsahnias	1986-2011
Lawrence D. Meyers	2011-

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## PRESIDENTS OF THE COLLEGE

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The Rev. John M. Lefko, C.P.P.S.	1967-1975
The Rev. James F. McCabe, C.P.P.S.	1975-1980
The Rev. Louis J. Osterhage, C.P.P.S.	1981-1985
The Rev. Ronald J. Schiml, C.P.P.S.	1986-1987
Dennis C. Rittenmeyer, Ph.D.	1987-2011
Daniel Lowery, Ph.D.	2011-2017
Amy McCormack, Ed.D.	2017-



**Missionaries of the  
Precious Blood**  
UNITED STATES PROVINCE

## MISSION

Calumet College of St. Joseph is a Catholic institution of higher learning informed by the values of its founding religious community, the Missionaries of the Precious Blood (C.P.P.S.). The mission of the College is to cultivate the academic, spiritual, and ethical development of our students by affirming the inherent dignity of all people, promoting social justice and an ethic of service, and providing opportunity and empowerment.

# COMMENCEMENT ETTIQUETTE

## PRESENTATION:

During the presentation of graduates, each graduate will have his or her name announced and receive a diploma cover from the President of Calumet College of St. Joseph. Graduate Students will also be hooded by their department representative. Graduates should return to their seats and remain for the rest of the ceremony and the recessional, as a courtesy to their fellow graduates.

## PHOTOGRAPHS:

Each graduate will have his or her picture taken during the presentation. If you are interested in purchasing your official commencement photo, they will be available on **gradimages.com**.

Family and friends who want to take pictures of the ceremony are asked to do so from their seats.

Share your photos on Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn using the hashtag **#CCSJGrad25**. Be sure to tag Calumet College of St. Joseph!

## SPECIAL THANKS TO:

### Commencement Chair:

**Dionne Jones-Malone**, *Vice President of Student Engagement & Retention*

### Commencement Committee Members:

**Marlena Avalos**, *Assistant Vice President of Advising & Registration*

**Jacqueline Cruz**, *Director of Enrollment & Advising for Public Service Institute*

**Ashley Davis**, *Welcome & Information Center Receptionist*

**Elizabeth Guzman-Arredondo**, *Director, of Human Services Program; Associate Faculty*

**John Mackowicz**, *Director of Academic Accommodations*

**Jenn Gunter Peddycord**, *Director of Communications and Special Assistant to the President*

**Monica Puente**, *Community & Event Services Coordinator*

**Jessica Wynn**, *Athletic Retention & Administrative Coordinator*

## **DO IT ANYWAY**

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;

**Forgive them anyway.**

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;

**Be kind anyway.**

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;

**Succeed anyway.**

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;

**Be honest and frank anyway.**

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;

**Build anyway.**

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;

**Be happy anyway.**

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;

**Do good anyway.**

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;

**Give the world the best you've got anyway.**

You see, in the final analysis, **it is between you and your God;**

It was never between you and them anyway.

—MOTHER TERESA—

*\*A quote referenced in President McCormack's commencement remarks.*



**CONGRATULATIONS  
CLASS OF 2025!**

