



WILKES UNIVERSITY'S

Summer Commencement

FOR THE CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Sunday, September Seventh
Two-thousand and twenty-five • 1 p.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

Order of Exercises

***FANFARE AND PROCESSIONAL**

March No. 4.....*Edward Elgar*
Arrangement, Joel M. Graham

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

***INVOCATION**.....**MARY HESSION MATUNIS**
Former Campus Interfaith Coordinator

***The Star-Spangled Banner**..... *Words by Francis Scott Key*

GREETINGS **BEN TOLL**
Chair, Faculty Affairs Council
Associate Professor, Political Science

BRIAN BOGERT
Member of the Graduating Class

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS **MEGAN YOUMANS**
Associate Professor and Co-chair, Chemistry

THE CONFERRING OF THE DEGREES.....**GREG CANT**
President

ALUMNI INDUCTION.....**NEAL MCHUGH '86**
Vice President, Alumni Association

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE.....**GREG CANT**

***Alma Mater** *Eleanor C. Farley*
Arrangement, Joel M. Graham

***BENEDICTION**.....**MARY HESSION MATUNIS**

***RECESSIONAL**
Folk Songs from Somerset *Ralph Vaughan Williams*
Arrangement, Ed Huckleby

Music provided by the Wilkes University Commencement Quintet
Led by Joel M. Graham
Sammie Gashi, Vocalist

Ceremony interpreted by Interpretek
**The audience is requested to rise.*

BACHELOR'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Arts and Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

HISTORY

Anthony Bendici

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Yaideliz Ramirez Acevedo

The College of Business and Engineering

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Luke Christian Spencer

FINANCIAL INVESTMENTS

Stephen Christian Verosko

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

Colby James Butczynski

Christopher Rodriguez

Anthony DelDuca

Engineering

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING

Blake Matthew Bynon

Dustin William Edsall

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

ACCELERATED BACHELOR'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

Duncan Capron

Ujashkumar J. Patel

Pierce B. Gearhart

Savannah June Reardon

Holly Elizabeth Jones

Faith S. Schaffer

Calista Anne Marzolino

Alexander Schwartz

Katie Elizabeth Nebzydoski

Shandi Lee Singer

MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Arts and Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

MASTER OF ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

Melissa De Jesus Contreras

Lori Coughlin

Dawn Nicole D'Errico

Brie Nicole Friedman

Kimberly Wagner Heiman

Nijaeri K. Henry

S. Talbot Logan, III

Charles Michael Mains

Gina Zanolini Morrison

Anna Rose Naim

David Nicholas Penglase

Zyen Mingo-Smoot

Sarah Elizabeth Yantiss

The College of Business and Engineering

Abel Adekola, *Dean*

The Jay S. Sidhu School of Business and Leadership

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Andrew Glenn Beck

Bushra

Cassandra DiPippa

Emma Michaud

Prachi Patel

Robert K. Timlin

Taylor Lochlann Williams

Engineering

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

FNU Sushma

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Alley School of Education

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Michael Coe

Chyanne N. Mattern

Patrick Nelson

Angel Marie Olmstead

Stephanie Michelene Panny

Alyssa M. Porter

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

John D. Achille, Jr.

Kenneth Alquist

Laurel Kay Amey

Breanna S. Amrhein

Alice Andrews

Jada Lynn Avery

Ellen Claire Barger

Melissa Jean Behler

Wayne Birster

Shannon Margaret Boandl

Nicole Lynn Bogenschutz

Kathleen A. Bonning

Lindsey L. Bower

Lori Ann Bower

Kaitlyn Bradley

Caitlin Anne Brennan

Maria Brody

Allison Brudzinski

Martina L. Bullock

Lindsay Danielle Cocker

Taylor Madison Coleman

Molly Patricia Conner

Kelsey Mae Conroy

Courtney Elizabeth Cook

Tanya Cosgrove

Abigail Cox

Sarah Crissman

Kelly Elizabeth Cropper

Janelle Amelia Dukes

Jessica Joy Duran

¹³ Joshua Philip Eck

Danielle Faust

Trevor Fick

Terry J. Flamm

Joshua Foulds

Morgan Anne Marie Gabel

Alyssa Gallo

Bethany Jane George

Jill Marie Geyer

Jessica A. Glenn

Victoria Gluck

Erin Groody

Madeline Hain

Hanah Hallman

William Hammond

Sheena Haney

Ronald Harris II

Kelly Hartzell

Abigail Sarah Harvey

Julia Haynes

Thalia Himmel

Rebecca Hines

Brenna Holycross

Yvette Marie Husband

Bella Shae Irwin

Kelcey Jennings

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION *(Continued)*

Michael Kane	Abigail L. Ramirez
Robyn Ann Keene	Sarah Reed
Theresa Kingeter	Megan Reilly
Christopher Knarr	Hannah Robinson
Elesa Elizabeth Knowles	Rebecca Rossi
Anthony Gerald Koval	Abigail Rummel
Amy Nicole Kwofie	Ashley R. Sauder
Alexandra Paige Labutis	Kristen Schwenk
Thomas Leeds	Danielle Marie Seaman
Bret Legath	Jessica Lynne Seeton
Samuel Hunter Lopez	Jessica M. Seidel
Jill Lutz	Melissa Sharp
Mary Jo Lyon	Lauren A. Sheffy
Emily Frances Mallon	Sara Alana Silverman
Livia Marga	James Young Simpkins III
Emily Marley	Michelle Elizabeth Souders
Sarah Matthews	Nicole Stauffer
Paige Breyann McGrogan	Elizabeth A. Steinmetz
Kristen Nicole Meixell	Katherine Diane Stone
Emma S. Miller	Dakota Stump
Dara Lynn Montgomery	Alexis Lyn Thomas
Shaundra Davis Moore	Nicole Thomas
Jennifer Marie Morris	David Aaron Toczek
Alexandra Jane Mosher	Melissa Ashley Vaillant
Zachary Myers	Ryan L. Wagner
Kyra Olweiler	Caleb Dylan Wanamaker
Ryan Aslan Onder	Alyssa Warfel
Robby Pantellas	Charissa Lynn Wertz
Megan Parfitt	Emilee Tressa West
Kaitlin S. Pauling	Justice White
Danielle Nicole Perez	Zoe Alexandra Whye
Kristin Perry	Ally Rae Williams
Ashley Nichole Poorman	Lori Woods
Kirstin Lynn Rabenold	Jade M. Zatek
Trisha Nicole Rabenold	Cynthia Ann Ziegler

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

Mercy Chinyere Ahukanna	Vince Gaeta
Ifunanyachukwu Onyinyechukwu	Neva Gallagher
Akanegbu	Sydney Marie Gehring
Miriam C. Anukam	Valerie Gerard
Thelma Arandia Siles	Danielle Christine Gilbert
Charlotte Ashu	Melissa Elaine Gill
Anifat Ololade Bamgbose	Patricia Perales Gocłowski
Christopher J. Bell	Dana Marie Greenwood
Melissa Bock	Michael Haas
Shady Boules	Kristin L. Hall
Eva Bradley	Leah A. Hallam
Maria Lee Brogna	Miriam Stephania Ibeh
Jessica Brown	Tonya Tonique Jackson
Nicole Burns	Snezhana Jakupi
Yumi Choi	Tyneke Charlita Johnson
Raiesha Kapree Dade	Djeny Juliana Elizabeth Joseph
Courtney Dalee	Kess L. Kane
Courtney Daniel	Jennifer Katsuva
Amanda Davis	Tara Jordan Kele
Carli Rose De Angelis	Lonna Beth Kelley
Tammy Sue DeLeo	Emma Brooke Kenec
Annette Dimperio	Racheal Gwokyalaya Kibuka
Carla Ann Dixon	John Killourhy
Jane Drasba	Ini Koffi
Morgan Eisenhower	Jonathan Parker Lang
Mallika Embabi	Jessica Dawn Large
Nichole Richelle Emigh	Vivien Lowe
Ogo Eze	Bhrijal Mandania
Ada Donna Ezendokwere	Thomas Judd Maness
Kristen Fahey	Joshua Bryan Masarof
Gina Marie Feletar	Stephanie Marie McCool
Margaret Elizabeth Ferraro	Kendall McGraw
April Frank	Jessica McLeod

MASTER’S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING *(Continued)*

Yesenia Melendez Sotomayor	Jaime Gillette Shaw
Heather Nicole Miller Epler	Princesse C. Sidjie
Melonie C. Mitchell	Dre'a Simone
Renee Dionne Morris	Alexis Slaughter
Megan Nusbaum	Kymoni Smith
Seamus O'Reilly	Paige Stanley
Lemechi Christiana Obidike	Stormy Start
Christopher J. Octave	Kegeena Sunny
Irene Izuchukwu Offiah	Sarah Swiderski
Edith Rametu Okotie	Maia Szarek
Dharti Patel	Lauren Ashley Tamburino
Ewelina Pazmino	Virginia M. Thompson
Luke Thomas Peterson	Ann-Marie Turay
Mari Alisza Phares	Maria Caridad Veiguela
Brent Pointer	Rebecca Margaret Vitkauskas
Jerri-Janelle Stephanie Rayburg	Olimpia A. Welsh
Brittany Lynn Rezendes	Alaina Claire Williams
Jana Elise Rich	Prisca Williams
Sarah Rivera	Sheng Yang
Madison Ruane	Christopher John Zacherl
Amy Carol Salanty	Angela Rosemary Zuraw
Corey Sayson	

POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

Chidiebere Anselem Ajaere	Richard Gaethe
Cristin Nicole Allio	Lucie Gedeum-Hippolyte
Afua Ampiaaw	Yacha Genfi
Cori Lynn Anderson	Dorsey Gradis
Jackeline Judith Arias	Brianna Rochelle Graves
Khristine Tadina Avendanio	Ana Christina Gunn
Rita Ayoub	Patrice Nicole Harris
Ngozi Azode	Cherisha Marie Hill
Nene Binta Barry	Kelly Ryan Holbert
Shlomo Tzvi Bauman	Ashley Hollins Pearson
Ablan Hope Berko	Latoya C. Howell
Tamara Blanton	Victoria Mullins Hunt
Ompiga Boal	Oriaku Barbara Ijoma
Kirkwood Bodden	Shanika Israel
Jonathan Bowker	Mordechai Izsak
David Brandt	Lori A. Jenkins
Kimberly Brinckerhoff	Shanda Johnson
Gladys Brown	Dorine Tatyana Joseph
Brianna Hope Caceres	Bintou Kaba-Henderson
Krys Elan Alivio Cagas	Kamilla K. Kaweck
Dimas Giovanni Calvachi	Sabrina Lynn Kibby
Jahnyra J. Cambran	Polina Krasik
Matthew Carroll	Nic'Cole Ashley Lambert
Arnelle J. Castro	Nicole S. Lee
Xinzhi Chen	Debra Denise Leonard
Joseph Michael Crane	Shalom Lichtenstein
Dominyse Davis	Gabrielle T. Longo
Brit Morgan Day	Summer Louis
Maureen Eddy	Steffy Mathew
Jordan Fierro	DaVida Nicole Miller Morris
Thomas Babajide Bolanle Ayodele	Tammi Patricia Morgan
Olumide Olurotimi Fiki	Natalia Mysh
Barbara Fleuraguste	Ameen F. Nasser
Christine Jennifer Foreman	Viji Nathan

POST GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN NURSING

The College of Health and Education *(Continued)*

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

Peterson Nguyen	Daphney Souverain
Caroline M. Nyakundi	Ijeoma Stephen
Ogechukwu Chinwe Okereke	Suzette Stoddart
Maame Ekua Osei	Alexis Sweeney
Olubukola Osinowo	Mary Szymanski
Odaro Owen	Yisroel Shlomo Taub
Megha Patel	Suze H. Tessier
Urjaben Patel	Amanda Dora Torrez
Clyde William Renfroe	Karen Marie Trask
Jessica Reynolds	Charity Ukwuoma
Courtney Michelle Roberts	Elizabeth A. Venice
Reginale Robin	Alexandra Vilmenay
Mary Jean Sanchez	Biaisha Yutrina Washington
Andria Leigh Satero	Sharee O. Watkins
Caroline Rosaire Severe	Latricia Williams
Jayde Marie Shaw	Marissa Williams
Shine Villanueva Simon	Heiddy U. Young
Tierra J. Smith	

MASTER'S DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Arts and Sciences

Paul T. Riggs, *Dean*

MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

Jillian Schock Benedict	Justin Paul Oglie
Cherise Nicole Benton	Jonathan Simonds Pyatt
Gregory E. Dutcher	John C. Roberts
Terrence P. Dwyer	Brian Alan Schroeder
Trevor Gitlin	Hess La'Trese Stinson
Susan Mannix	Thomas E. Strunk
Angela Rose Neil	

DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES

The College of Health and Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

The Passan School of Nursing

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Olayinka Tawakalit Durojaiye

Ijeoma Catherine Nnadozie

Joanna Gonzalez

Alexander Ayonbo Oboro

Candace A. Jones

Luz Charielle Quezada Mejia

Anita Anderson Komninakis

Sharon Reid

Krystle N. Mills

Adaeze Ukeh

The Alley School of Education

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Heather Marie Aardewijn

Maria Samir Nemat

Heather Theresa Bednarz

Lori Marie Nolte-Oostenbrink

Brian Bogert

Malikah Noordin Sheriff

Allison Fleet

James Nicholas Ralston

Paula Horton

Joseph R. Rasmus

Tiffany Arianna Huff

Christopher Talon Ross

James Patrick Laurie

Jennifer Lee Sciacca

Jennifer L. McLaughlin

Jill Marie Spence

Robert F. Mehalick

George Thomas Wood

The Passan School of Nursing

Deborah A. Zbegner, *Dean*

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN NURSING

Preston Akwasi Addae

Kyle Ryan Marshall

Susan Kay Enfield

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*

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.