

12-2021

Southern Adventist University Commencement Program December 16 and December 17

Southern Adventist University

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S O U T H E R N

A D V E N T I S T

U N I V E R S I T Y

C O M M E N C E M E N T E V E N T S
D E C E M B E R 1 6 A N D 1 7 , 2 0 2 1



I L E S P H Y S I C A L E D U C A T I O N C E N T E R
C O L L E G E D A L E , T E N N E S S E E



SOUTHERN
ADVENTIST UNIVERSITY

Power for Mind & Soul

P R E S I D E N T ' S M E S S A G E T O G R A D U A T E S

Dear Graduates,

On behalf of every Southern Adventist University employee, I congratulate you on completing your courses of study and receiving your well-deserved degrees! Graduates, we are proud of you. You are now joining an elite group; after Commencement, you will be part of the Alumni Association of Southern. This group of individuals share rich and similar experiences and wonderful memories of their time in this special valley called Collegedale.

We pray that as Southern alumni, you will continue to hold dear the Christian values you have experienced here, that you will excel in your occupations, and that you will continue to listen to and be part of God's calling in your lives, resulting in meaningful service in your churches and communities.

To your loved ones who have provided financial, emotional, and spiritual support, we thank them. The renowned scientist Isaac Newton once wrote that he was able to accomplish so much because he was "standing upon the shoulders of giants." I join you in acknowledging the giants in your lives, the ones who love, care about, and support you.

You have put in the hard work and completed a job well done. You are now equipped to go and lead. May God continue to bless you and keep you as you serve Him.

Blessings,


Ken Shaw, EdD
President

M I S S I O N S T A T E M E N T



Grounded in Jesus Christ and dedicated to the beliefs of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, we equip students to embrace biblical truth, embody academic and professional excellence, and pursue Spirit-filled lives of service.

S T U D E N T L E A R N I N G G O A L S



Students of Southern Adventist University will

- **Spiritual Development**
grow in a vibrant relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ, while integrating into their lives Bible-based beliefs and values as understood by the Seventh-day Adventist church.
- **Intellectual Development**
develop a commitment to lifelong learning and demonstrate a mastery of the cognitive skills of critical reasoning, independent thinking, reflective judgment, communication, and creativity needed to confront the issues, ideas, and values of historical and contemporary civilization.
- **Individual and Social Development**
develop socio-emotional maturity that enables them to be effective leaders and contributing members of their churches, families, groups, and communities in a global society.
- **Physical Development**
take responsibility for their own well-being through a healthy lifestyle.

S E R V I C E S O N T H E W E B



Commencement services can be viewed live online by visiting southern.edu/streaming.

Doors will open one hour before all services.
Please silence all electronic devices during programs.

C O M M E N C E M E N T

Thursday, December 16, 2021, 7 p.m.

Fanfare.....	<i>Fanfare for a Dignified Occasion</i>	Sir Arthur Bliss
Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1</i>	Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation.....	.....	Andrew Fox, MBA graduate
Welcome .....	.....	Carmen Alvarez, MSED graduate
Introduction of Speaker .....	.....	Marisa Lynell Negrón, senior
Commencement Address.....	“Mister, Are You Jesus?”	Dennis Negrón <i>Student Development vice president</i>
Presentation of Degree Candidates .....	.....	Robert Young <i>Academic Administration senior vice president</i>
		Dionne Felix <i>Academic Administration associate vice president</i>
		Tyson Hall <i>graduate dean</i>
Conferring of Degrees .....	.....	Ken Shaw, president Karon Powell, <i>Records and Advisement director</i>
Alumni Association Welcome .....	.....	Eric Dunkel <i>Alumni Association senior president, class of 1999</i>
Benediction.....	.....	Jaziel Lopez, senior
Recessional.....	<i>A Western Fanfare</i>	Eric Ewazen

Faculty Assistants: Candy Dolcy, *School of Social Work assistant professor*

Faith Laughlin, *School of Education and Psychology professor*

Grand Marshal: Keith Snyder, *University Senate chair, Biology and Allied Health chair and professor*

C O M M E N C E M E N T

Friday, December 17, 2021, 10 a.m.

Fanfare..... *Fanfare for a Dignified Occasion* Sir Arthur Bliss

Processional.....*Pomp and Circumstance March, No.1* Sir Edward Elgar

Invocation.....Ruth Boyd, *MSN graduate*

WelcomeMaddy Thomas, *senior*

Introduction of SpeakerMarisa Lynell Negrón, *senior*

Commencement Address..... “Mister, Are You Jesus?”Dennis Negrón
Student Development vice president

Presentation of Degree Candidates Robert Young
Academic Administration senior vice president

Dionne Felix
Academic Administration associate vice president

Tyson Hall
graduate dean

Conferring of Degrees Ken Shaw, *president*
Karon Powell, *Records and Advisement director*

Alumni Association Welcome Raymond Liu
Alumni Council vice president for Alumni Engagement Initiatives, class of 2013 and 2016

Benediction.....Isabelle Yeaton, *senior*

Recessional.....*A Western Fanfare* Eric Ewazen

Faculty Assistants: Doug Brown, *School of Health and Kinesiology associate professor*

Faith Laughlin, *School of Education and Psychology professor*

Grand Marshal: Keith Snyder, *University Senate chair, Biology and Allied Health chair and professor*

S O U T H E R N S C H O L A R S



In addition to maintaining a 3.50 GPA and meeting normal degree requirements, *Southern Scholars* complete a special honors curriculum involving interdisciplinary studies, honors courses, and independent study. This semester, two graduates earned that distinction. The titles of their senior research projects are listed below:

Trisney Bocala “*Social Media as a Tool for Evangelism Among Youth and Young Adults*”
Kiana Oliver “*The Impact of Political Beliefs on Ethical Positions in Adults*”

P H I L A N T H R O P Y M E D A L L I O N



Graduates are wearing a gold zipper-pull medallion in honor of the alumni, family, and friends who have donated to the class gift this year.

A C A D E M I C R E G A L I A



The color of velvet trim on the hoods represents the area of study. The color of the silk lining represents the university that conferred the degree. The color of the tassel represents the degree of the undergraduate.

Arts, Letters, Humanities, Interdisciplinary..... White
Business..... Drab
Communication..... Crimson
Education..... Light Blue
Fine Arts..... Brown
Law..... Purple
Music..... Pink
Nursing..... Apricot
Outdoor Leadership..... Russet
Physical Education..... Sage Green
Public Admin./Foreign Service..... Peacock
Science..... Golden Yellow
Social Work..... Citron
Software Engineering..... Orange
Theology..... Scarlet

HONOR CORDS



Gold Cord—*Summa Cum Laude*—3.90+ GPA
Silver Cord—*Magna Cum Laude*—3.75-3.89 GPA
Green Cord—*Cum Laude*—3.50-3.74 GPA

All other colors represent honors societies in the various academic areas.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Jasmaine Karol Lorisa Adams	BS Business Administration
Averie Macinnis Alexander.....	BA Film Production
Sabrina Elyse Alward, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
Dylan James Anderson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BBA Management [Entrepreneurship]
Brielle Ashlyn Bange	BA Computer Science
Allison Mae Barnett, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Music
Soneya Jhana Pauline Marie Bean	BSW Social Work
Leslie Amber Beavers	BSN Nursing
Dawsyn Amber Bemis.....	BSN Nursing
Michael Charles Black, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Theology [Non-Seminary]
Trisney Janine Bocala, <i>Magna Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BS Mass Communication [Advertising]
Ashley Victoria Boehner, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Danny William Bonilla.....	BA Religious Studies
John Todd Boone	BS Business Administration; Public Relations
Lucas Campos	BS Business Administration
Kevin David Gozo Carty, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
Harold Mauricio Carvajal, II	BS Business Administration
Joanna Jihyun Choi	BSN Nursing
Jason David Hyunjoon Chung, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Chemistry
Esteban David Covarrubias.....	BSN Nursing
Seth Michael Creason	BS Business Administration
Vincent Dan.....	BS Business Administration
Aubri Elysse Dancek, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Advertising]
*Michaela Noelle Davis, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Domonique Dejah Dawkins.....	BSN Nursing
Sâmella Lianny de Oliveira, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Journalism [Digital Broadcast]
Laura Christine DeLillo, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
Albert Diaz.....	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non Licensure]
Janelle Lyn Dobson	BS Music
Bethany Leslie Edwards	BS Health Science
Marsha Gabriell Eman.....	BSN Nursing
Marco Alexander Estrada	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Tjana Saiuri Diogé Felix.....	BIS Integrative Studies
Luke Edward Fogg.....	BS Kinesiology
Midrene Saint Eroi Francois, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Julymar Garcia Ciprian.....	BSN Nursing
Edy Urbano Garrido	BSN Nursing
Brianna Kathleen Gimbel.....	BS Nursing
*Ananda Morgan Glover, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Hayley JoAnn Greer, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Psychology
Patricia A. Griffith.....	BSN Nursing
Jonathan David Hausted, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Science
Brendan Gregory Hayes.....	BFA Animation [Character Animation]

*Teaching Certificate

Lesieli Sisilia Heimuli	BA Communication
Elizabeth Lizet Hernandez	BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational]
Karlie Kaye Heslop	BS Nursing
Lauren Nicole Yoke Fong Ho	BA Liberal Arts Education [Non Licensure]
Aime Michel Irumva, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Medical Lab Science
Dewell O'Connor Jimenez	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Shelly Summer Jones, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Lauren S. Kim, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Business Administration
*Hannah Klingbeil, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA History
Hannah N. Knowles, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Psychology [Family Systems]
Alexandra Anne Krishinger	BS Health Science
Gilmer Latorre, Jr.	BS Corporate/Community Wellness Management
Bethany Jean Laws, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Zhuoyue Li	BS Music
Jaziel Lopez	BS Business Administration
Jared Daniel Manasco	BS Nursing
Nathan Duane Martin	BSN Nursing
Andres Enrique Merino	BFA Animation [Character Animation]
Michaela Ferreira Mihaescu, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Psychology [Industrial/Organizational]; BA International Studies [Spanish]
Miles Emanuel Mitchell, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Finance
*Kevin Reed Mote, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Religious Education
Elizabeth Neacsu, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Marketing
*Jessica Ann Nephew	BA Liberal Arts Education
Kiana Grace Oliver, <i>Summa Cum Laude, Southern Scholar</i>	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Julie Jane Manhaes Pereira, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Health Science; AS Allied Health [Pre-Physical Therapy]
Lauren Rebecca Pimek	BS Nursing
Jordan Kaleiali'ihiwahiwa Quijano	BS Business Administration
Wyndham David Reams	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Cameron Wyman Reel, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Media Production]
*Madeline Belle Ringering, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Raisy Lenny Sanchez Ramirez	BA Chemistry
Estefania Sanchez-Mayorquin	BA Journalism [Digital Broadcast]
Neena Sansonetti, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BFA Animation [Character Animation]
Christopher Daniel Schurch	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Abigail M. Scoggins, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Music
Jonathan Patrick Scriven, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA Journalism; Political Science
Patrick Kwon Seo	BS Psychology [Clinical]
Rachel Frances Slocum	BS Nursing
Gabriela Elena Smart, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
*Victoria Elizabeth Soto, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Liberal Arts Education
Alexander Eugene Staton	BA Mathematics
Isabel Jolene Staton, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
Melissa Rose Syvertson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA International Studies [Spanish]; Religious Studies
Andre Timothy Tablang	BSN Nursing
Emily Kathleen Tant, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Accounting
Madeline Lindsey Thomas	BA History
Kristopher Martin Thompson	BSN Nursing
Stephanie Marie Salak Trinidad	BSN Nursing
Jomy Varghese, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Nursing
Sergio Alexander Vasquez Mejia	BA Theology [Ministerial]
Devin Alec Vaudreuil, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Outdoor Leadership [Adventure Therapy]
Joshua Maxwell Vollberg	BS Music
Benjamin Conrad Wallace	BSN Nursing

*Teaching Certificate

Georgii Dmitrievich Zaitsev, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BS Music [Performance, Piano]
 Jessica Zamora..... BS Health Science

A S S O C I A T E D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

David Alberto Alvarez..... AS Nursing
 Marissa Kate Angarita, *Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Rachel Lauren Berry, *Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Joelle Grace Sunna Chung, *Summa Cum Laude* AS Nursing
 Myranda Jean Codd..... AS Nursing
 Hannah Kathryn Cook..... AS Nursing
 Jared Parreno Dangazo..... AS Nursing
 Michael Joshua DeRose, *Cum Laude*AT Technology [Auto Service]
 Caleb Anthony DeWind.....AT Technology [Auto Service]
 Candice Camaya Gonzales AS Nursing
 Benjamin Lewis Greeson..... AS Vegetarian Culinary Arts
 Giselle Marie Echevarria Helton..... AS Nursing
 Ricardo Ezequiel Hernandez Garcia..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Kailin Makenzie Higgins, *Magna Cum Laude*..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Cherryfer Irizarry..... AS Nursing
 Cindy Ugmad Jumoad..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Sharon William Kazi, *Summa Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Chloe Nataliya Khan..... AS General Studies
 Nadezhda Kichuk, *Magna Cum Laude* AS Nursing
 Jorge Daniel Landivar-Reinoso..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Leticia Mata, *Cum Laude*..... AS Nursing
 Stephanie Elise McElheney-Lee..... AS Nursing
 Robert Brandon Melgar, *Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Sheila Marie Monrobert AS Nursing
 Tess Marie Musselman AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Marisa Lynell Negron, *Summa Cum Laude*..... AS Nursing
 Armando Daniel Nieves, *Magna Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Daniel August Park, *Cum Laude*..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Jessie Park..... AS Nursing
 Joanna Ruth Phillips, *Cum Laude*..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Quinn Sunarjo PikkertAT Technology [Auto Service]
 Anne Awene Pondi, *Cum Laude* AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Keelie Lauren Puckett..... AS Nursing
 Ashley Summer Roxas-Barber..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Cheruto Shiow..... AS Nursing
 Sarah Elizabeth Smith AS Nursing
 Steven Lee Sukow, II AS Nursing
 Sofie Helene Svendsen AS Nursing
 Taylor Leann Temple..... AS Nursing
 Holienne Dalmax Trasporte AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Cameron Elizabeth Alicefay Trotter..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Branyely Vega AS Nursing
 Eli James Wash..... AS Physical Therapist Assistant
 Paul Anthony Wear..... AS Outdoor Leadership
 Kimberly Rachelle Weaver..... AS Nursing
 Ashley Hope Welch, *Cum Laude*..... AS Nursing
 Isabelle Joy Yeaton, *Summa Cum Laude* AS Nursing
 Daniel MaGuire Yonkers..... AS Nursing

M A S T E R ' S D E G R E E G R A D U A T E S

Carmen D. Alvarez	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Dominique Meaghan Channelle Anson	MSW Social Work [School Social Work]
Danica Antoine	MSW Social Work [Trauma/Emergency Management]
Timothy Alan Balisky	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Clara Tatiana Benavides Ochoa	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Tiffany Lucinda Benson	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Ruth Boyd	MSN Nursing-Nurse Educator
Crystal Marie Carney	MSEd Literacy Education
Jordan Cooper	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling; School Counseling
Victoria Caroline Cowley	MBA Accounting
Cheryl Ann Craven	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Ashton James Crone	MBA Healthcare Administration
Jonathan A. Daniel	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Ruth Anne Davis	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Craig Alan Dockery	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Taylor Grant Eldridge	MSN Acute Care-Adult Gerontology Nurse Practitioner; Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Nathan Leslie Follett	MBA Finance
Roxanne Force	MSEd Instructional Leadership
David John Fournier	MBA Management
Andrew Byron Fox	MBA Management
Kellye Lowe Fryar	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Michael D. Fryar	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Gabriela Angelica Garland	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Elisa Annette Gault	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Tekia Katrice Grayson	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Corey Lewis Grimm	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Marissa LeAnn Hensley	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Sonya Denise Hermon	MSW Social Work
Keisha Marie Hernandez	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
Abigail Elizabeth King Ackerman	MBA Management
LaKhyia Lynn Lee	MSEd Instructional Leadership
John Leon Locke	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Madison Rose Lundby	MBA Management
Amanda Herod Mason	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Jennifer A. McCary	MSEd Instructional Leadership
Cicely Shanea Miller	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Holly Marie Newton	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Mark Niemeyer	MBA Healthcare Administration
Shelley Amanda Olson	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Nathaniel Orquia	MBA Management
Melody K. Pacer	MBA Management
Justin Brily Perez	MBA Healthcare Administration
Jennifer Jolo Phillips	MSN/MBA Healthcare Administration
Jessica Brooke Scott	MSN Primary Care-Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Pamela P. Jones-Singleton	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner; Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Miranda Laine Starr	MSEd Literacy Education
Joel Curtis Sutherland	MMin Church Leadership and Management
Christie Beatrice Tankersley	MSN Acute Care-Adult/Gerontology Nurse Practitioner
Katlyn Alexandria Thomas	MSW Social Work [Trauma/Emergency Management]
Carlyle Verne	MMin Evangelism and Ministry
Sorina Andreea Voicu	MSEd Instructional Leadership

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Donita Blanken-Little	DNP Acute Care Nurse Practitioner
Sori Jung.....	DNP Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Beverly Jean Mayfield	DNP Nurse Educator
Xiaoyang Mei	DNP Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Elizabeth Perry	DNP Lifestyle Medicine; Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner

The Commencement program does not constitute an official list of graduates.

S U M M A R Y



UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATES—147

(5 HAVE TWO MAJORS OR DEGREES)

MASTER'S GRADUATES—51

(3 HAVE TWO EMPHASES OR DEGREES)

DOCTORAL GRADUATES—5

(1 HAS TWO EMPHASES)

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	4	Integrative Studies	1
Business	14	Journalism and Communication.....	8
Chemistry.....	1	Mathematics	2
Computing	1	Modern Languages	2
Education and Psychology		Music.....	6
Education	6	Nursing.....	28
Psychology	6	Religion.....	7
Health and Kinesiology	7	Social Work	1
History and Political Studies	3	Visual Art and Design.....	4

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Business and Technology	3	Nursing	27
General Studies.....	1	Physical Therapist Assistant	17
Health and Kinesiology	2		

SCHOOLS WITH MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

Business	11	Nursing.....	17
Education and Psychology		Religion.....	2
Counseling	5	Social Work	6
Education	13		

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Nursing.....	6
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T H E M A C E



The mace is a traditional symbol used to communicate and designate authority. The Southern Adventist University mace was crafted in 1986 by John Durichek, a Southern alum. Southern's mace represents its heritage and *raison d'être* (reason for existence). The base is of pine from Jones Hall, built in 1917 and razed in 1985. The main staff is walnut. The seven rings represent completeness. The four-sided ebony segment is seen as Southern's underlying educational philosophy—balanced mental, spiritual, physical, and social development for each student. The brass flames represent the Holy Spirit.

Bearing the mace is the grand marshal, Keith Snyder, chair of the University Senate and chair and professor in the Biology and Allied Health Department. His regalia is evergreen, the university's traditional color.

S P E C I A L T H A N K S



Academic Administration	Landscape Services
Advancement	Marketing and University Relations
Alumni Relations	President's Office
Audio Visual	Quick Print
Blluum Floral and Event Design (stage centerpiece)	Records and Advisement
Campus Safety	School of Journalism and Communication
College Press	School of Music
Energy Management	Service Department
Financial Administration	Student Services
Food Services	Village Market
Graduate Studies	

We extend our gratitude especially to parents, fellow students, and guests.

H O M E C O M I N G W E E K E N D



October 27-30, 2022

Alumni Honor Classes:

1942, 1952, 1962, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2012

Visit southern.edu/homecoming for updated information throughout the year.