

Southern Adventist University
Knowledge Exchange

Commencement Programs

Commencement

12-14-2023

**Southern Adventist University Commencement Program
December 2023**

Southern Adventist University

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U N I V E R S I T Y

COMMENCEMENT EVENTS

DECEMBER 14, 2023



ILES PHYSICAL EDUCATION CENTER
COLLEGEDALE, TENNESSEE



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 the entire Southern Adventist University family, congratulations on this remarkable milestone! As you leave Southern, I encourage you to love life. That means finding joy in the simple moments, in your relationship with God, in your relationships with others, and while pursuing your God-given passions. Loving life requires a positive outlook and a heart filled with gratitude.

Loving life to the fullest sometimes takes courage. It may move you out of your comfort zone and cause you to encounter uncertainty even while you are pursuing your dreams. It will involve taking risks, learning from failures, and always moving forward.

Loving life becomes most meaningful when you embrace God's specific calling for you as you serve those around you. In 1 Peter 4:10 the Bible says, "Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others." Through God's gift, you will experience life's joys most fully when you seize the opportunities to serve others with compassion.

I pray that Southern has set you on a foundation for loving life. As you depart our campus, let the Bible be your guide—love God, love others, love life, live boldly, cherish moments, nurture passions, embrace challenges, and dare to pursue dreams. God has promised to be with you wherever you go. We look forward to watching what He will do in your life!

Blessings,



Ken Shaw, EdD
President

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

Please silence all electronic devices during programs.

Please do not use airhorns or other noisemakers as they can be harmful and painful to our guests with hearing devices.

COMMENCEMENT

Thursday, December 14, 2023, 7 p.m.

Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance Marches Nos. 1 and 4</i>	Sir Edward Elgar
Invocation.....		Railyn Duarte, BA graduate
Welcome		Katelynn Webster, BA graduate
Introduction of Speaker		Shannon Bradshaw, AS graduate
Commencement Address.....	“The Purpose”	John Bradshaw <i>President, It Is Written</i>
Conferring of Degrees		Ken Shaw, President
Presentation of Degree Candidates		Robert Young <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Administration</i>
		Dionne Felix <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Student Success and Retention</i>
		Frances Johnson <i>Associate Vice President for Academic Administration and Dean of Graduate and Professional Studies</i>
		Karon Powell <i>Director of Records and Advisement</i>
Alumni Association Welcome		Kris Eckenroth <i>Alumni Council Senior President, Class of 1999</i>
Benediction.....		Noreen Moise, MSW graduate
Recessional.....	<i>Rondeau</i>	Jean-Joseph Mouret

Brass Ensemble Conductor: Ken Parsons, *School of Music Associate Professor*

Faculty Assistants: Lunelle Bertresse, *School of Social Work Assistant Professor*

Beth Scott, *School of Nursing Professor*

Grand Marshal: Kristie Wilder, *University Senate Chair, School of Social Work Professor*

STUDENT LEARNING GOALS



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.
- **Occupational Development**
exhibit excellence and moral leadership in their chosen fields of study and/or professions.
- **Individual and Social Development**
develop socio-emotional maturity that will enable 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 health-promoting lifestyle.

BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Pauline Adjo Ameletse.....	BSN Nursing
Christopher Tyler Armstrong.....	BS Business Administration
Maiya Desta Banks, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Mass Communication [Photography]
Brandon William Bell.....	BS Mass Communication [Media Production]
Samuel K. Benjamin.....	BA Mathematics
Dylan Charles Blake, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Frank Lazaro Cañizares.....	BS Mass Communication [Writing/Editing]
Ziarah Melissa Carrillo.....	BBA Marketing; BA Film Production
Wendy M. Chacón.....	BS Business Management
Madison Summer Chant, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Psychology [Psychobiology]; AS Biology
Eugene Choi, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Chemistry
Anny Adamaris Cordero.....	BSN Nursing
McCall Amelia Waldrop Crone.....	BSN Nursing
Alana Sue Crosby, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA English [Professional/Writing]
Michael Richard Danese.....	BBA Accounting
Jared Parreno Dangazo.....	BSN Nursing
Ambar de León.....	BS General Psychology
Adam Patrick Brandon DeLisser.....	BS Mass Communication [Photography]
Elise Laurene Deschamps, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BA Journalism
Britney Theresa Dixon, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Business-Public Relations
Matthew Ruel Dizon.....	BSN Nursing
Railyn Duarte, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BA International Development Studies; Political Science
Cy Azriel Durias.....	BSN Nursing
Aidyn Edwards, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BFA Graphic Design
Abel Espinoza.....	BSN Nursing
Anjali Faith Filinovich, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Biophysics
Keanne Bradley Fisher.....	BA Psychology
James Alexander Frood.....	BS Mathematics
Samantha Sulami Fwa.....	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Ashley Caitlyn Gamez.....	BBA Finance
*Nathanael John Graham.....	BA Religious Education
Amanda Suzanne Green, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Stefanie Michelle Green, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BS Public Relations
Lily Nan Young Hamstra, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BS Public Relations and Graphic Design
Alison Brooke Handysides.....	BFA Animation [Character Animation]
Max Andrew Harrison, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Finance
Dulce M. Hernandez.....	BSN Nursing
Timothy Durrell Hess, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BBA Marketing
Jordon Alek Hyde.....	BS Business Administration
Condrasheera Joao.....	BSN Nursing
Christie M. Johnson.....	BS Nursing
Jacob Alan Johnson, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	BT Construction Management; BS Business Administration
Said Alejandro Kas-Danouche Jr., <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BA Art
Justin San Kim, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Biology [Biomedical]
Rachel Lynn Knecht, <i>Cum Laude</i>	BSN Nursing
Rachel Marie Kowski.....	BS Biology [Research]
Josiah Imipono Kumpel, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BBA Finance
John Luke Larson, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
*Leah Marie Lauzon.....	BA Liberal Arts Education

*Teaching Certificate

Jordan Nicholas Lemon, *Magna Cum Laude* BBA Finance; Marketing
 Karina Ye Jean Lim, *Summa Cum Laude*..... BA Chemistry
 Salvatore Daniel Lo Nardo MedinaBS Psychology [Clinical]
 Marco Alejandro Lopez Flores..... BSN Nursing
 Hartley Noel Martin..... BSN Nursing
 Elizabeth Matos..... BBA Computer Information Systems
 Joshua Wesley Miller BBA Finance
 Cheyenne Camille Mixon BS Outdoor Emergency Services; AS Nursing
 Cassia Morgan Mohns, *Cum Laude* BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
 Ellen Elizabeth Morris, *Summa Cum Laude* BSN Nursing
 Joey Yonathan Naibaho BSN Nursing
 Abigail Grace Niemeyer, *Magna Cum Laude* BBA Finance
 Daniel Alan O'Connor, *Cum Laude*..... BS Chemistry [Biochemistry]
 Hannah Ruth O'Connor BA Art
 David C. Oh..... BA Computer Science
 Xander Josevic Ordinola..... BS Mass Communication [Photography]
 Ayinel Morris Roy Patterson, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BBA Accounting
 Richard Alexander Pena..... BBA Marketing
 Brunela Pimentel BS Psychology [Clinical]
 Jasmine Beatrice Ramirez, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BSN Nursing
 Bailey Elizabeth Reams, *Magna Cum Laude* BSN Nursing
 Eduardo Resendez BBA Accounting
 Samuel Edward Rivera..... BS Computer Science [Web Development]
 Madeleine H. Ro, *Summa Cum Laude* BS Biology [Biomedical]
 Ismaly Rodriguez BS Health Science
 Nicole Stephany Rodriguez BA Liberal Arts Education [Non-Licensure]
 Verenize Romero..... BSN Nursing
 Jesse Alan Ross, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BA Film Production
 Evelin Yulisa Sanchez BSN Nursing
 Shirley Johanna Sanchez, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Psychology [Clinical]
 *Brenda Michelle Sandoval, *Magna Cum Laude*..... BA Liberal Arts Education
 Daniel Alexander Schwarzer BS Business Administration
 Calvin Nicholas Serban..... BA Film Production
 Kristina Nicole Shakespeare BSN Nursing
 Jaime Brittany Simulis BSN Nursing
 Carla Timea Sinka BS Business Administration
 Ethan Aaron Smith BBA Finance
 Xavier Andrew Snyder BA History
 Eddie Minwoo Suh, *Cum Laude* BS Health Science
 Daniel Paul Tanksley BS Outdoor Leadership [General]
 Cyanna Renae Toney..... BSN Nursing
 Sierra Marie Ureta BS Public Relations
 Genesis Abigail Ventura..... BS Public Relations
 Stefania Andrada Viar, *Cum Laude* BS Psychology [Clinical]
 Henry David Ware, *Cum Laude*..... BBA Finance
 Katelynn Rose Webster..... BA English [Literature]
 Jason Michael Williams, *Cum Laude* BSN Nursing
 Haley Christine Wolters BSN Nursing
 Alexander Thomas Yaste..... BS Business Administration
 Rebecca Zaldivar..... BA Computer Science
 Runzhe Zhang, *Magna Cum Laude* BS Business Administration

ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Kirsten Taylor Aguirre Antolin	AS Nursing
Kendall James Barry, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AT Construction Management
Shannon Grace Bradshaw, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Garik Justin Brown	AS Nursing
Elias Chavez Lopez	AS Nursing
Ana Mariella Chujutalli, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Jennifer Ellen Cooper	AS Nursing
Rachel Kristina Cooper, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Kezia Elena DeSpirito, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Allied Health [Pre-Dental Hygiene]
Jovanna Diaz Pablo	AS Nursing
Nicole Alexandra Encarnacion	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Julia Marie Ireland Fisher, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Kakue Sam Gininwa Jr.	AS Nursing
Lisbeth Graciela Gomez Roblero, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Artelia Marizette Green	AS Nursing
Jonathan Edward Green, Jr.	AA General Studies
Ellie Irene Hanson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Ethan Brian Jason Hicks	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Anna Lee Hunt, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Chloe Asfoura Issa, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Meng Di Ethan Jiao, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Ceilidh Irene Johnson, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Katelyn Michelle Kelch, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Ciin T.S. Kiim	AS General Studies
Minhyung Kim	AS Nursing
Aimee Kioko Lane, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Lauren Grace Martin	AS Nursing
Sophia Elaine Martin	AS Nursing
Madison Mackenzie McRae	AS Nursing
Aspen Dain Meadows	AS Nursing
Anabella Mejia, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Andie Lynn Nelson	AS Nursing
Josue Ortiz	AS Nursing
Kristene Inah Delas Alas Pagarigan, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Kristen Rachel Page, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Tamara Nakia Penn	AS Nursing
Jennifer Rosa Pheng	AS Nursing
Joshua Shwe Pongsitiphon	AS Nursing
Ellen Danielle Potter, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Mayanne Rae Quion, <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Jade Olivia Reuben	AS Nursing
Shane Niklaus Reynolds	AS General Studies
Natalia Alice Sarrafian, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Physical Therapist Assistant
Xin Shen	AS Nursing
Kelly Anne Sobrepena, <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	AS Nursing
Jose Gustavo Villaverde, <i>Cum Laude</i>	AA Religion [Bible Instructor]

MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

Veronica Andres-Raymundo	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Daniel Garza	MMin Church Leadership and Management
Nelly Graterol	MBA Management
James Matthew Howard.....	MMin Church Leadership and Management
Grace Kim.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Thomas David Kyser.....	MMin Church Leadership and Management
Ellen Christine Lazo	MSEd Outdoor Teacher Education
Yugeily Manriquez.....	MSW Social Work [School]
Noreen Ramilee Moise	MSW Social Work [Crisis/Emergency Management]
Jennifer Elaine O'Dell.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Miranda Kelley O'Dell.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Angela Marie Parrish.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Tajuana Michelle Prater	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Lauretta Rogers	MSW Social Work [Mental Health in Social Work]
Tina Louise Frist Smith.....	MMin Biblical Counseling
Linwood C. Stone.....	MMin Church Leadership and Management
Julia Vladimirovna Warren.....	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Emily Adriana Weaver	MS Clinical Mental Health Counseling
David Jason White.....	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner
Rachel Love Wise	MSN Primary Care-Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner
Imeelyn Paula Zarzuela	MSN Primary Care-Family Nurse Practitioner

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Christopher D. Doneski.....	DNP Acute Care Adult/Gerontology
Natalie R. Miner.....	DNP Lifestyle Medicine

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

GUEST GRADUATES

BEIRUT ARAB UNIVERSITY

Joelle Akiki Barkanian	DBA Finance
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ANDREWS UNIVERSITY

Andrew Korp	MDiv Divinity
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ACADEMIC REGALIA



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

HONOR CORDS



Gold Cord— <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> —3.90+ GPA
Silver Cord— <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> —3.75-3.89 GPA
Green Cord— <i>Cum Laude</i> —3.50-3.74 GPA

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

PHILANTHROPY MEDALLION



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.

S U M M A R Y



UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATES—152

(7 HAVE TWO MAJORS OR DEGREES)

MASTER'S GRADUATES—23

DOCTORAL GRADUATES—2

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH BACCALAUREATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	5	Health and Kinesiology	4
Business	25	History and Political Studies	2
Chemistry.....	4	Interdisciplinary	1
Computing	4	Journalism and Communication.....	11
Education and Psychology		Mathematics	2
Education	4	Nursing.....	25
Psychology	7	Physics.....	1
Health and Kinesiology	4	Religion.....	1
English.....	2	Visual Art and Design.....	7

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS WITH ASSOCIATE DEGREE GRADUATES

Biology and Allied Health.....	2	Physical Therapist Assistant	5
General Studies.....	3	Religion	1
Nursing.....	36		

SCHOOLS WITH MASTER'S DEGREE GRADUATES

Business	1	Nursing.....	11
Education and Psychology		Religion.....	5
Counseling	1	Social Work	4
Education	1		

DOCTORAL DEGREE GRADUATES

Nursing.....	2
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MISSION STATEMENT



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.

THE VISION



Southern Adventist University's vision is to:

- Model the love of Jesus in every interaction.
- Invite each student into a saving relationship with Jesus.
- Inspire each student to engage with God's Church and the world through service and witness.
- Provide each student with an exceptional learning experience that equips them to thrive in a fluid, global job market.

CORE VALUES



As Southern Adventist University employees, we:

- Embrace the Seventh-day Adventist Church's Worldview and Fundamental Beliefs
- Love Others as God Loves Them
- Act with Integrity
- Live Prayerfully
- Serve Others Generously
- Follow God's Calling
- Pursue Excellence
- Exercise Responsible Stewardship
- Offer an Exceptional, Wholistic Learning Experience

THE MACE



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, Kristie Wilder, chair of the University Senate and professor in the School of Social Work. Her regalia is evergreen, the university's traditional color.

SPECIAL THANKS



Academic Administration
Advancement
Alumni Relations
Audio Visual
Blluum Floral and Event Design
(stage decor)
Campus Safety
Collegedale Police Department
College Press
Energy Management

Financial Administration
Food Services
Graduate and Professional Studies
Marketing and University Relations
President's Office
Quick Print
Records and Advisement
School of Music
Service Department

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

SAVE THE DATE FOR HOMECOMING WEEKEND



October 24-27, 2024 - Featuring Pavel Goia, '99

Alumni Honor Classes:

1944, 1954, 1964, 1974, 1984, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2014

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