



*One Hundred Twenty-Second Commencement*

*Saturday, December 7, 2024*  
*Sawyer Center*

**SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY**

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*One Hundred Twenty-Second Commencement*



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## *One Hundred Twenty-Second Commencement*

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Two O'Clock P.M. | Sawyer Center

### **\*PROCESSIONAL**

*“Rigaudon” - Andrew Campra - Arr. by Michael Allen*  
*“Pomp and Circumstance” - Edward Elgar - Arr. Warren Wernick*

Organ and Brass

Prof. Tim Marek

*Adjunct Professor, School of Music*

Prof. Logan Fish

*Adjunct Professor, School of Music*

Southern Brass

*SNU Brass Quintet*

### **FLAG BEARERS**

University of Central Oklahoma Army ROTC Detachment Color Guard

### **MACE BEARER**

Dr. Cathy Hutchings-Wedel

*Professor and Director, Organizational Leadership and Business Administration*  
*School of Professional Studies*

### **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Chuck Fountain

*Chair, Board of Trustees*

### **\*INVOCATION**

Angela Hamilton

*Family friend of graduate Hannah Torres*

### **HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

Dr. Jim Graves

*Associate Professor, School of Music / Director*

### **GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Dr. Keith Newman

*University President*

### **COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Chancellor Allison Garrett

### **HONORS AND RECOGNITIONS**

Dr. Mark Winslow

*Senior Vice President / Chief Academic Officer*

### **PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES**

Dr. Mark Winslow

### **AWARDING OF DEGREES**

Dr. Keith Newman

### **INTRODUCTION OF GRADUATES**

Dr. Melissa Lewis

*Vice President of Academic Affairs*

*Professional and Graduate Studies*

## ALUMNI INDUCTION

Rev. Larry Morris  
*Vice President for University Relations*

### \*SNU ALMA MATER

Dr. Jim Graves

### \*BENEDICTION

Dr. Les Wright  
*Class of 1966, Grandfather of graduate Esther Sanderson*

### RECESSIONAL

*“Rigaudon” - Andrew Campra - Arr. by Michael Allen*

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

### GUEST DISMISSAL

Dr. Melissa Lewis

*\*Audience please stand as you are able.*

### JOY TO THE WORLD

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

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

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

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

### ALMA MATER

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

#### VERSE 1

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

#### VERSE 2

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

#### VERSE 3

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

### CHORUS

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

# DEGREE CANDIDATES

## *Associate of Arts*

Tramaine Rashod Allen  
Nichole Angela Morris

Robert E. Scott, Jr. \*\*  
Charles Shelburn

## *Associate of Science*

Jonah Anderson \*\*  
Andreaia Marie Friemel  
Thomas Cashen Graham \*  
Britney Jarvis \*\*

Katelyn McCord \*\*\*  
Caitlin B. McGregor  
Micah Moutinho \*  
Talea Powell

Veronica Quintana  
Chelsea Leeann Shreffler \*\*  
Brooke M. Terry \*

## *Bachelor of Arts*

Jordan Grant Dela Paz Bridges    Jazmin Ponce \*\*\*    Maria Abigail Vazquez \*\*

## *Bachelor of Music Education*

Keller Matlock

## *Bachelor of Science*

Alexandria Nicole Andrade  
Melody Kristin Barber \*\*\*^  
Shayla Danette Barrick  
Hannah Bates  
Tamekia A. Bennett  
Amylee Berk  
Michael Blanton  
Alyssa Renee Bologna \*  
Sierra Morgan Boyd  
Dayton Bradford  
Pamela J. Brooks ^  
Carissa Burns  
Kaydie G. Brown  
Carson Everett Caballero  
Tadeo Cano III  
Carolina Carrera \*\*\*^  
D'Angelo Morris Cartwright  
Byron Castaneda  
Sheila Cavett \*\*\*^  
Mason Wesley Conway  
Nadia Dawn Cook  
Joshua D. Cothran  
Nemanja Djurisc  
Chance Du  
Sheabron Ellis \*\*  
Yesenia Estrada  
Bryson Evans \*\*  
Julie Ann Farley ^  
Brittany Farris  
William J. Feehan  
Suzanne Martha Rafaela Fernandez  
Sammantha T. Flint  
Donald Frailey  
Antinette Friday  
Marlena Frye \*\*  
Jamie A. Fuller  
Jason Galloway ^  
Jordan Perry Gillispie  
Brittany Goodnight ^

Benjamin Graham \*\*  
Ditisha Lasha Green  
Elise Hancock \*  
Sahmayiah Zhane' Harris  
Justin Daniel Hayden  
Liv Annika Helgason \*  
Nathan Quinn Hormell  
Nathan Mitchell Hughes  
Chrystilinn Johnson \*\*\*^  
Jamauri Duane Johnson  
Traci Johnson  
Cintya V. Juarez \*  
Pinky Pacha Kuan  
Tristain Jaidan Lewis  
Gabriell Lopez  
Dayami Lopez \*\*  
Clayton Scott Lynch  
James Daxton Maroney  
Austin Robert Martin  
Austin Lee Mason \*\*  
Donald Mayes  
Mattison Miles Harris  
Tyler Bernard Miller  
David Alberto Morales  
Kenedi Morelock \*  
Tracie M. Mullendore  
Schneider Njifunuh  
Crystal A. Noel  
Matthew Norris  
Dakota Norvell  
Natalie Ellen Nychay  
Kristy Outhier  
Tasha Kay Overall  
Samantha Pecosky  
Johnna Perez  
Brittany Lynne Phillips  
Lashell Phillips  
Aaron Plumb  
Wilnisha Price \*

LaTisha Nicole Pruitt  
Chell Pumala \*  
Lemuel Nii Ahene Quarcoo  
Monica Lee Quinonez  
Hunter Michael Reed  
Brian S. Reeves  
Cynthia Nicole Roberts  
Yomaira Saenz  
Jennifer Sale \*\*  
Valerie Nicole Sanchez  
Esther Sanderson \*\*\*  
Kamryn Nicole Seale  
Joshua L. Shelton  
Miriam Perez Silva  
Josiah J. Smith  
Tatum Anne Smith  
Lola M.K. Sowards  
Shacreea Stevenson  
Michael A. Stokes  
Nathan Summerlin  
Jesse Sutton \*\*\*  
Brayden Daniel Taylor  
Edward Charles Thomas  
Jennifer Ruth Thrall-Gunia  
Matthew B. Torres \*  
Josie Christina Van Pelt  
Scott W. Walsh  
Allison Ward \*\*\*  
Aryion Jordee Welch  
Madeleine Joy Westenhaver  
Lani Westmoreland \*\*\*  
Torey Widener  
Alyssa Williamson  
Haydn Scott Wood  
Katelyn G. Woodard  
Dylan Woods  
Tyler Joe Wythe  
Travais Young \*^  
Brent William Sydney Zweifel ^

## *Master of Arts*

Jesse Adams  
Tricia Addison  
Geneva Suzanna Ailey  
Sergio Omar Arandas  
Aaron Bacewicz  
Reagan McCaul Ballard  
Gabrielle Elizabeth Behrens  
Collin M. Berkman  
Harvey Leo Bethany  
Jeffery Beuchaw  
Allison Susanne Blankenship  
Penelope A. Brickell  
Jamilia Broiles  
Natalie Vaughan Bross  
JoLinda Brown  
Tyler Broyles  
Anthony Bryant  
Ky Leanne Butler  
Cassidy Elizabeth Canady  
Jarrett Lee Cannon  
Sara Beatriz Cayalo Serrudo  
Hillary Renee Clark  
Christina Clark-Powell  
Kyrie Dawn Coon  
William David Corbett  
Latasha Marie Cruikshank  
Brooke Nicole Cullen  
Marla Joy Cullison  
Angelica Dancy  
Bernard Bruce Davis II  
Stephanie Davis  
Dannie Leigh Deason  
Jerrame De'Rel Dockery

Dana Dee-Ann Dornan  
Johnine Banks Elliott  
Brandi LaVae Elwood  
Nathan Alexander Farrow  
Julissa H. Garcia  
Jolian George  
Michele Green  
Mikayla Hansen  
Rebecca Lynn Hay  
Donnell Hayes, Jr.  
Alex Denise Hazel  
Kelsey Henry  
Hunter Herron  
Brian Lee Hopgood, Sr.  
Shawntae Jenkins-Ballard  
Hollye Jernigen  
Sheila Jones  
Brenda Jo McCracken  
Allison Corbin McLemore  
Nikki Ivette Montes-Cintron  
Amber Muse  
Jessica Nelson  
Kyra LaShae Nolan  
David Matthew Ogden  
Kaylee Bryce Overton  
Amanda Sue Perdue  
Kristie Daylene Peterson  
Curtis A. Piper  
Paul Michael Poole  
Trenton Pratt  
Marhya Price  
Crystal Lee Prince  
Macey Jean Pritchard

Morgan Pritchett  
Brian Daniel Richards  
William Hirzel Richardson  
Brade F. Robertson  
Kristen Michele Rosanelli  
Lara J'Nae Ross  
Katrina Dawn Ruff  
Lauren Ferne Runner  
Natasha Sanie  
Kathryn Scruggs  
Shannamay D. Shattuck  
Renee Adell Shoaf  
Tonya Skaggs-Richards  
Morgan Slagell  
Chivon Monique Smith  
Dylan Michael Smith  
Kit Stephenson  
Arriann Marie Sweat  
Steven Bradley Szopinski  
E.J. Taylor  
Angela Ann Timmons  
Tina Louise Burruss Townley  
McKenzie Waddell  
Jeremy P. Walker  
Kaylyn Janae Washington  
Karsten C. Wells  
Joseph Buck West  
Loise Wilson  
Patricia Wilson  
Shannon R. Wilson  
Rebecca Witthuhn  
Dennis James Wright

## *Master of Business Administration*

Antonio Gerson De Jesus Alves  
Andrew E. Dillion  
Cameron Dean Flowers  
Elainna Harris  
Kayli Lynn Harris  
Michael S. Hatfield, Jr.  
Callum David Edward Hubble

Corey A. Jones  
Keysha Nichelle McGary  
Emma Nightengale  
Armannwah Chanell Sao  
Lindsey Denise Scott  
Kerry Josephine Swalley  
Ellen Kaye Thomas

Johnathon Scott Thronesberry  
Hannah Torres  
Peyton Bryan Vinyard  
Priscila Serra West  
Ariel Wilkerson

## *Master of Business Administration - Healthcare*

Adam S. Edwards III  
Holly Corine Granzen

Madeline Rose Lynch  
Abigail Mason

Seana Scoggin Sutterfield

## *Master of Leadership*

Lindsey Elise Eubanks  
Kevin Daniel Fullingim  
Natalie Jones

Sophie Preston  
James C. Rock  
Stephen Ray Tidmore

Emily Rose Wyon

## *Master of Science*

Chandra Antionette Allen  
Kitwana James Bailey  
Adrian Edward Colbert

Tavita Crisp  
Jesus Alberto Garcia Rojas  
Alma Mangel

Sydney Monkres Wilkens  
Fatima Zayn Rashad

# *Doctor of Education*

Dr. Angela Ann Avila

*Title: Providing Support and Managing Change During the Implementation of School-Based Instructional Professional Development*

Committee Chair: Dr. Jack Green

Dr. Barbara June Bishop

*Title: Exploring Perceptions of the Unified Champion School Program's Impact on School Connections and Academic Commitment: A Case Study*

Committee Chair: Dr. Stephoni Case

Dr. Jon Chad Clanton

*Title: A Comparison of Grit, Technology Implementation, and Secondary Math Teacher Demographics*

Committee Chair: Dr. Lois Cox

Dr. Elizabeth Jo Foreman

*Title: The Effects of Agenda Setting Theory on Social Movement Organizations*

Committee Chair: Dr. Christiana Horn-Milla

Dr. Brent Hagen

*Title: Motivations for Parental Engagement in a Middle School Football Program: A Case Study*

Committee Chair: Dr. Shawn Pendley

Dr. Shelly Ralene Maxey

*Title: A Quantitative Analysis of Parent Attitudes and Perceptions on Caregiver-Child Relationships Before and After Parent Education*

Committee Chair: Dr. Annora Gilliss

Dr. Donald Lowell Morris

*Title: Retaining New Registered Nurses: A Quantitative Analysis of Structural Empowerment and the Intent to Stay*

Committee Chair: Dr. Brittany Cummings

Dr. VaRhea Dionne Owens-Hopkins

*Title: An Exploratory Study on School-Community Partnerships and Factors That Influence Successful Implementation*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ysheka Gooden

Dr. Ronald Christopher Paddley

*Title: Culture of Native American Graduate Students: Improving Perseverance, Success, and Sense of Belonging*

Committee Chair: Dr. Shawn Pendley

Dr. Andrea Ne'cole Thompson

*Title: Motivator and Hygiene Factors that Impact the Job Satisfaction of Nursing Faculty: A Narrative Inquiry*

Committee Chair: Dr. Ysheka Gooden

Dr. Katie Marie Vaughan

*Title: The Effects of Servant Leadership on Teacher Burnout in Elementary Schools*

Committee Chair: Dr. Robbyn Glinsman

*Degrees are conferred upon completion of all dissertation and program requirements.*

## *Speaker*

### CHANCELLOR ALLISON D. GARRETT

Chancellor Allison D. Garrett recently retired from her position as the chief executive officer for the Oklahoma State System of Higher Education. Garrett led a state system comprised of 25 state colleges and universities.

Chancellor Garrett has also served as a university president and as the Vice Chair of the NCAA Board of Governors. Garrett worked for more than a decade at the Walmart Inc. corporate offices, holding the positions of vice president and general counsel for the corporate division and vice president of benefits compliance and planning. Upon graduation from law school, she went into private practice before taking a position with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

She has been named one of Oklahoma's Most Admired CEOs. The Oklahoma National Guard recently gave her the Thunderbird Award, their highest civilian honor.

A native of Neosho, Missouri, Garrett holds a bachelor's degree in English from Oklahoma Christian University, a juris doctorate from The University of Tulsa College of Law and a Master of Laws in securities regulation from Georgetown University. She and her husband, Chip, have three adult children and two grandchildren.

## *Commencement Information*

### ACADEMIC MACE

The honor of Academic Mace Bearer is awarded by a faculty vote to a senior member of the SNU faculty in recognition of dedicated service and outstanding qualities that exemplify the SNU motto "Character / Culture / Christ." Today the mace is carried by Dr. Cathy Hutchings-Wedel, Professional Studies and Business Administration Professor and Program Director for the Organizational Leadership program. Dr. Hutchings-Wedel has served full-time as an SNU faculty member since 1989.

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

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

### HONORS AND REGALIA

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

\*Cum laude - cumulative GPA of 3.50 through 3.74

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

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

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

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

### DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

The Distinguished Achievement Award is an honor granted to students from each cohort in the School of Professional Studies. Selection is based on outstanding scholarship and exceptional leadership within the program and on recommendations by program directors, faculty and classmates. Recipients are identified with the ^ symbol in the degree candidates list. This marks the 39th year for the presentation of these awards.



# *Commencement Information* (Continued)

## COMMENCEMENT PERSONNEL

Faculty Marshals and the Office of Academic Affairs, in conjunction with other Commencement Planning Committee members, are primarily responsible for the planning and coordination of Commencement ceremonies. The Faculty Marshals serving today are Dr. Sylvia Goodman, Professor and Director, School of Rehabilitation and Sport Sciences, Graduate Programs; Dr. Cathy Hutchings-Wedel, Professor and Director, Organizational Leadership and Business Administration, School of Professional Studies; Dr. Melany Kyzer, Professor and Chair, Division of Cultural and Communications Studies; Dr. Loren Martin, Professor and Director, Physical Therapist Assistant program; Dr. Tim Taylor, Emeritus Professor, School of Education; and Dr. Keith Toles, Associate Professor and Director, Business, Graduate Programs.

**University Junior Marshals** are among the highest academic ranking students in the Junior class. Junior Marshal is the highest collegiate honor attainable by a student from each academic area in the traditional undergraduate program. These students are selected by the faculty in the academic areas they represent. The following Junior Marshals assist Faculty Marshals in all official academic proceedings:

**Katherine Baker**

*Division of Cultural & Communication Studies*

**Kaley Brubaker**

*School of Nursing*

**Wendy Diaz**

*TRIO McNair Scholars*

*Department of Psychology & Counseling*

**Sarah Dodd**

*Department of History, Politics, & Law*

**Elijah Estes**

*School of Kinesiology*

**Carley Gasaway**

*School of Business*

**Haley Good**

*School of Education*

**Keziah Grant**

*School of Music*

**Matt Spiegel**

*Departments of Math, Physics, & Computer Science*

**Rakae Sibley**

*School of Theology & Ministry*

**Eli Reutlinger**

*Departments of Chemistry, Biology, & Environmental Science*

## IN EVENT OF EMERGENCY

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



Our mission is to make Christlike disciples  
through higher education.