



**UNIVERSITY OF
NORTHWESTERN**
— ST. PAUL —

UNWAVERING

SPRING 2025 COMMENCEMENT

Saturday, May 17, 2025 | 10 a.m. & 2 p.m.

COMMENCEMENT VERSE

“And the Lord, He is the One who goes before you.
He will be with you, He will not leave you nor
forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed.”

DEUTERONOMY 31:8 (NKJV)

ORDER OF SERVICE

Prelude Dr. Leonard P. Danek, organ
Professor Emeritus of Music

Processional* Dr. Leonard P. Danek
Pomp and Circumstance
Edward Elgar
*Audience: Please stand during the processional.

Welcome Dr. Corbin Hoornbeek
President

Invocation. Mrs. Ginger R. Ewing
Member, Board of Trustees

Choral Selections. Northwestern Choir
Prof. Timothy K. Sawyer
Professor of Music, conductor

I Sing Because I'm Happy arr. Rollo A. Dilworth
Words and Music by Civilla D. Martin Dr. Heather A. Hood, piano
and Charles H. Gabriel Adjunct Instructor

Jesus, I Adore Thee Thirteenth-century Gregorian Chant
arr. Stephen Caracciolo

Jesus, I adore Thee, Word of truth and grace,
Who in glory shineth light upon our race.
Christ, to Thee surrendered, my whole heart is bowed.
Alpha and Omega, Thou true Son of God.

Taste and touch and vision to discern Thee fail;
Faith that comes by hearing pierces through the veil.
I believe whate'er the Son of God hath told.
What the Truth hath spoken, that for truth I hold.

Word of God incarnate, Lord of life and light,
Teach me how to love and worship Thee aright.
Holy Spirit, ever bide within my heart,
Speaking Thy commandments, telling all Thou art.

Wondrous revelation, verity and grace.
Lo, in heaven's glory I see Thee face to face.
Light of endless light Whom heaven and earth adore,
Fill me with Thy radiance, now and evermore.

Scripture.Dr. Kirk D. Moss
Vice Provost for Faculty & Academic Programs

Hymn: *May the Mind of Christ My Savior* Audience
Lyrics: Kate B. Wilkinson, 1925 Led by Prof. Timothy K. Sawyer
Music: A. Cyril Barham–Gould, 1925

May the mind of Christ my Savior live in me from day to day,
By His love and power controlling all I do and say.

May the Word of God dwell richly in my heart from hour to hour,
So that all may see I triumph only through His power.

May the peace of God my Father rule my life in everything,
That I may be calm to comfort sick and sorrowing.

May the love of Jesus fill me as the waters fill the sea,
Him exalting, self abasing — this is victory.

May I run the race before me, strong and brave to face the foe,
Looking only unto Jesus as I onward go.

May His beauty rest upon me as I seek the lost to win,
And may they forget the channel, seeing only Him.

Graduating Class Speakers
10 a.m.Mr. David S. Cairns
College of Arts & Humanities

Miss Micah Ngafua
College of Professional Studies

2 p.m.Ms. Sage M. Bjornrud
College of Graduate, Online, & Adult Learning

Ms. Ellie B. Youngquist
College of Behavioral & Natural Sciences

Introduction of Speaker.Dr. Corbin Hoornbeek

Address.Mrs. Sabrina Williams
Founder and Executive Director of Excell Academy

Presentation of the Class.Dr. Janet B. Sommers
Provost | Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Conferring of Degrees and CertificatesDr. Corbin Hoornbeek

Presentation of CandidatesMr. Andrew L. Simpson
Registrar

Hooding of Graduate Candidates (2 p.m.)Dr. Kirk D. Moss

Presentation of Degrees and Certificates *Mrs. Ginger R. Ewing
Dr. Corbin Hoornbeek
Dr. Janet B. Sommers

Welcome to the Northwestern Alumni FamilyMr. Monte W. Abeler
Ceremony of the Tassel Director of Alumni & Parent Engagement



Charge to the Class of 2025 Dr. Corbin Hoornbeek

Benediction ♦

10 a.m. Mr. John M. Sommerville
Vice President for Finance and Operations | CFO

2 p.m. Dr. Mathew B. Hill
Director of Athletics

Recessional and Postlude Dr. Leonard P. Danek


*Graduates and guests are invited to join President Corbin and Mrs.
Heather Hoornbeek on the campus green for an outdoor reception.*


** The Registrar confirms that degrees and certificates are conferred by the
Board of Trustees only upon successful completion of all degree and certificate
requirements. Listing of student’s name does not guarantee degree or
certificate completion.*

♦ *Please be seated following the benediction until the entire line of march has recessed.*

Note: Monitor viewing in the lobby is available for guests.

CANDIDATES

10 a.m. Ceremony

COLLEGE OF ARTS & HUMANITIES

DEPARTMENT OF ART & DESIGN

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

ANIMATION AND ILLUSTRATION

Madeline Joy Deckert
Summa Cum Laude

Isabella Gretchen Grewe
Magna Cum Laude
Hannah J. Nasby

ART

Carrena Joye Falls
Summa Cum Laude
Alexander Folz

Maya Evelyn Kordatzky
Magna Cum Laude
Faith S. Paul

GRAPHIC DESIGN

Mya Hoy-Yi Chan
Summa Cum Laude
Mitike Hannah Collins ✱
Magna Cum Laude
Carrena Joye Falls
Summa Cum Laude
Emily Grace Hayton
Ava Analiese Jaenchen
Summa Cum Laude

Leah Hope Tsetsenbileg Kaefer
Courtney Rose Lessard
Magna Cum Laude
Olivia Paige Madson
Emmalee D. Oberg
Magna Cum Laude
Faith S. Paul

DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNICATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREES

COMMUNICATION STUDIES

Olivia Faith Dodge ☆
Magna Cum Laude
Sara A. Gaines ☆ ✱
Magna Cum Laude

Mikayla Amber Gee ☆
Summa Cum Laude

MEDIA PRODUCTION

Micah John Clark
Magna Cum Laude

Connor Alan Goodnough ☆ ✚
Cum Laude

Riles Lamar Hinson

Isaiah James Lyell Johnson ☆

Gilbert Andrew Kisamore

Alina S. Kosovan

Summa Cum Laude

Tiffany Amber Manning

Magna Cum Laude

Rachel Leeann Sandifer ☆

Cum Laude

Caitlyn Fayth Swigart

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jessica Nicole Gale ☆

Summa Cum Laude

Sophia Leona Wahl ☆

Magna Cum Laude

Naomi Woo ☆

Magna Cum Laude

DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH & LITERATURE

BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREES

COMMUNICATION ARTS/LITERATURE EDUCATION

Cassidy Joy Chellin ✚

ENGLISH

Angela Faith Kipp ✚ †

Summa Cum Laude

Bennett Kidd Selfridge ✚

Summa Cum Laude

Hanna Lee Sterling

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY & RELATED FIELDS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

HISTORY

David Shen Lin Cairns

Hayden Richard Kuiper ✚

Lillian E. Smith

Summa Cum Laude

POLITICS, HISTORY, AND ECONOMICS

Mark Michael Akert

Zachary Daniel Kloek

Summa Cum Laude

Jenny Nuo Liang ✚ ☀

Summa Cum Laude

Tyson Dean Misegades

Caleb Luke Phillips

Hanna Lee Sterling

Christian Stephen Watkins ✚

Summa Cum Laude

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC & THEATRE

BACHELOR OF ARTS, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE,
BACHELOR OF MUSIC, AND BACHELOR OF MUSIC EDUCATION DEGREES

COMPOSITION

Jordan Jacob Michael Olson

MUSIC

Claire Noel Carlson ❖
Summa Cum Laude

Sarah Katherine Gullickson ✚
Summa Cum Laude

MUSIC EDUCATION

Elaina M. Carsten ❖
Summa Cum Laude

Nehemiah David Harrington ✚
Summa Cum Laude
Allison K. Weber

MUSIC PERFORMANCE

Grace Elizabeth Abt
Summa Cum Laude
Elaina M. Carsten ❖
Summa Cum Laude

Joshua Cooper Hunt
Summa Cum Laude
Jannet Valentinovna Kot ✚
Jiechen Liu
Magna Cum Laude

THEATRE

Joylee Karen Christensen
Magna Cum Laude
Lindsey Fields

Sarah Katherine Gullickson ✚
Summa Cum Laude
Simon Philip Luckow
Andrew Michael Stutz

DEPARTMENT OF WORLD LANGUAGES

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

SPANISH

Ella Rosenthal

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL & NATURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Brynn Renae Carmichael

Lillian Regina Kraft
Summa Cum Laude

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

ACCOUNTING

Abigail Nicole Buff

Summa Cum Laude

Talitha Hannah Buuck

Magna Cum Laude

Nathan A. Christianson

Cum Laude

Timothy John DeLoye

Summa Cum Laude

Reganne Elise Henning

Summa Cum Laude

Sage M. Hoekstra ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Blake Hawkins Karst

Summa Cum Laude

Xila Li

Cum Laude

Brooke Lauren Maida

Naomi Oren

Summa Cum Laude

Judah Evander Stumbo ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Kailun Zhao

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Drew Walker Albrecht

Magna Cum Laude

Mark Nicholas Bligh

Cum Laude

Kalyn Rose Bluhm ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Caroline Amelia Davis

David Michael DeLoye

Summa Cum Laude

Jake Andrew Henthorne

Harmonie Faith Nicholson Good

Hokanson

Isaac Matthew Johnson

Cum Laude

David Binnington Son Jones

Cum Laude

Luke A. Malamisuro

Garrett Paul Miers

Elizabeth Aleson Renee Miller ❖

Joshua M. O'Hara

Cum Laude

Kaylyn Sue Otteson

Cum Laude

Savannah V. Rosenthal

Kyra Anastajia Swedenburg

Lillianna N. Vang ❖

Caden Jacob Wendt ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Jose Emanuel Xicotencatl Meza ❖ ❖

FINANCE

Benjamin David Bruce ❖

Stephan Nikolay Burtsev

Tyler Joshua Dueber

Summa Cum Laude

Grace Rebecca Landvik

Madeleine Grace Leenstra

Magna Cum Laude

Jack Thomas Marquardt

Joseph Christopher McMillin

Nathaniel Isaiah Moser

Jack Robert Roberge

Kelton Craig Vincent

Magna Cum Laude

GLOBAL BUSINESS

Noah Michael Brown

Deborah T. Sida

MARKETING

Lily LeMire Adams

Walker Christopher Bakken

Anna Lynn Dwyer

Summa Cum Laude

Charlie Robert Gess ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Brooke Gabrielle Greenberg

Summa Cum Laude

Micah Hena Ngafua

Magna Cum Laude

Josiah Thomas Olson

Magna Cum Laude

Kyle D. Rankin

Peter Lawrence Strand

Magna Cum Laude

Hunter Keith Tjepkes

Kira Vilhauer ❖

Summa Cum Laude

Joy Gao Shoua Yang ✨

Magna Cum Laude

Aaron J. Zuspahn

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Ella Marie Harrington

Summa Cum Laude

Marisa Jean Streeter

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Mallory Nicole Jones ✨

Summa Cum Laude

Jasmine Rae Sondrol

Magna Cum Laude

Allison Irene Terry

Summa Cum Laude

SOCIAL STUDIES EDUCATION

Julia Suzanne Minikus

Cum Laude

Anna Marie Severin

Magna Cum Laude

SCHOOL OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING DEGREE

Grace Kay Balster
Lydia Anne Christenson
Winnie Kenyatta Dadzie
Natalie Wendee Davitch
Cum Laude
Josephine Mercy Donaldson
Magna Cum Laude
Kasey J. Frantzick
Ashlyn Getschel
Brooklyn Jennifer Gould
Cum Laude
Esther Omonaruni Isagua †
Isabella Jane Johnson
Shiloh LeeAnn Johnson †
Sierra Paige Kreidermacher
Natalie Marie Larson
Annalise Marie Libbon
Cum Laude
Alayna LaRae Lindquist ❖
Magna Cum Laude
Felicia Joan Luther

Kathryn Florence MacPherson
Timothy Abaya Maranga †
Emmanuelle Marie Martin
Jordan Lee McGowan
Kiana Rayne Monson
Summa Cum Laude
Aliyah Grace Peterson
Cum Laude
Mitchell John Pfeifer
Olivia Faith Rangel
Summa Cum Laude
Catherine Hennesy Riodique
Sara Danell Shah †
Grace Isabel Shull
Julia Alexis Sysa †
Magna Cum Laude
Tessa Lorraine TerHaar
Cum Laude
Alec Tokarev
Catherine Elizabeth Williamson
Magna Cum Laude

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY & MINISTRY

DEPARTMENT OF BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREE

BIBLICAL & THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Skylar B. Drinka † †
With Distinction
Angela Faith Kipp ❖ †
Summa Cum Laude
John Michael Pedro †
Magna Cum Laude

Bennett Kidd Selfridge ❖
Summa Cum Laude
Owen Paul Seltz †
Cum Laude
Andrew James Stevenson †

PHILOSOPHY

Skylar B. Drinka † †
With Distinction

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS & BIBLE

David M. Tuttle

DEPARTMENT OF CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
BACHELOR OF ARTS AND BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREES

INTERCULTURAL STUDIES

Mitike Hannah Collins ✱
Magna Cum Laude

Sarah Grace Matchette
Summa Cum Laude
Lillianna N. Vang ✱

MINISTRY

Jayna YanJing Pittman ✱
Summa Cum Laude

Sophia Renee Prigge
Cum Laude

NONPROFIT LEADERSHIP

Ruth Martinez Martinez
Anna Isabel Olson
Summa Cum Laude

Lillianna N. Vang ✱

PASTORAL MINISTRY

Matthew Alexander Chew

Beau Jeffrey Rabey



2 p.m. Ceremony

**COLLEGE OF
GRADUATE, ONLINE, & ADULT LEARNING**

GRADUATE STUDIES

MASTER OF ARTS IN MINISTRY LEADERSHIP

Chue Chee Herr
Jordyn Darcy Kenward

Dennis Rabushka
Lauren Marie Ridley

MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Gordon Timothy Skaar

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Clarissa Joy Martin

Sabrina Kathryn Rageth

MASTER OF DIVINITY

Sage M. Bjornrud

Anders Johannes Choate

MASTER OF ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Jennifer Lynn Fritel

Melissa Marie Tumbleson

ADULT UNDERGRADUATE
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Timothy Joshua Pickering
Cum Laude

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

Robert Michael Shea
With Distinction

MINISTRY

Daniel Joseph Knitt
Cum Laude

Alexandra Lee Lenz
Magna Cum Laude
Caleb Tade Olson

PSYCHOLOGY

Amber Joy Connelly
With Distinction

Kristen Young Lopez
Magna Cum Laude
Katherine Elizabeth Porter

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE

GENERAL STUDIES

Alicia Susan Anderson
Obadiah Tobias Pearlstein

Danielle Marie Reuter

PSYCHOLOGY

Gabriella Rose Dorney
Alexandra Lee Lenz

Khushi Patel

COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL & NATURAL SCIENCES

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

BIOCHEMISTRY

Kaleb Thomas Dube
Andrew Jay Fisher
Summa Cum Laude

Blake Scott Gabrielson ♦
Magna Cum Laude

BIOLOGY

Kalista Grace Andersen
Brittany Jacqueline Clark
Blake Scott Gabrielson ♦
Magna Cum Laude
Mason David Heidgerken †
Malachi Vernon Seeling

Ari Michael Sullivan
Summa Cum Laude
Colton James Toutant
Elaina Christine Yerks
Magna Cum Laude

HEALTH SCIENCES

Ariel E. Aguilón-Paez †
Kevin M. Connery
Caleb Peter Franzen †
Hannah Gadiant
Alexis Brooke Garcia

Lauren Rose Paar †
Ella Rosenthal
Noemi Sanchez
Noah Alexander Corrigan Schwartzrock

DEPARTMENT OF COMPUTING, ANALYTICS, & MATHEMATICS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

ANALYTICS

Peter Davis Gerdin ♦
Summa Cum Laude

Theodore Melvin Louis Hall
Magna Cum Laude

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Andrew Jay Fisher
Summa Cum Laude

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Peter Davis Gerdin ❖
Summa Cum Laude
Breyon Tayler Gunn
Summa Cum Laude
Carter Sean Leitch
Summa Cum Laude

Jieyi Luo
Cum Laude
Michael Christopher Vall
Enze Ye
Magna Cum Laude

CYBERSECURITY AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

Simon Theisen

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES - MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

Aaron Jeffrey Severson

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Annalis Margaret Bahrke

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

ENGINEERING

Luke Aaron Bartle
Payton William Christenson
Isabella Farrera ✚
James Finelli
Magna Cum Laude
Alexia Noelle Hagen ✚
Magna Cum Laude
Brandon R. Hinderks
Victor Andres Martinez ✚

Daniel M. Moseley
Magna Cum Laude
Evan Michael Olstad
Molly Grace Reynolds
Summa Cum Laude
Seth Alan Scarfpin
Samuel Weston Schlabach
Isabelle Ruth Waller ❖
Magna Cum Laude

DEPARTMENT OF INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES

Megan Grace Ellefson

Summa Cum Laude

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS DEGREE

LIBERAL STUDIES

Layne Ann Anderson
Sofie Marie Arenz
Amelia Margaret Balk
Cohen Matthew Baumgardner
Ainsley Mae Bellamy
Isabella Kristann Bliss
Rachel E. Brenne
Bryten Pryce Buelow
Lucia Kate Buttram
Mary Janice Clark
Sidney Claire Corley
Cady Rebekah Doberenz
Samuel John Foss
Maely Lu Hall
Levi Garrett Hewett
Anja Isabelle Hjelle
Kenna B. Hoyez
Hannah Grace Johnson
Kianna B. Kidder
Julian Van Klein
Elise Marie Krieg
Zion Richard Lamb
Bella Rose Lang
Carter James Larson
Shiloh Rayne Loucks
Abigail Ann Louie
Noah Rebekah Markasich
Autumn M. McCall

Claire Marie Mettler
Jeremiah Michael Newton
Kiahna Chafame Oetken
Elizabeth Joy Olstad
Eva Heather Ostlie
Heidi Otis
Carrie Ann Owens
Hannah Ellen Pfeifer
Carmela Martine Pullis
Jemima Era Quickert
Madison Bella Riley
Alissa Grace Runke
Abigail Megan Schommer
Emily Marie Schuett
Madelyn Ruth Smit
Danielle Grace Spoden
Samuel David Swenson
Austin Patrick Tobin
Rachael Jean Shadong Toews
Jocelyn Kathleen Vig
Elaina Lee Waggoner
Ariana Watschke
Samara Justina Marie Rosemary
Wilhelmy
Abigail Elizabeth Winn
Brielle E. Yerks
Alexandra Grace Zuehlke

**DEPARTMENT OF KINESIOLOGY,
SPORTS MANAGEMENT, & PHYSICAL EDUCATION**
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

KINESIOLOGY

Deanna Marie Ammermann
Trinity Lyn Atherton
Katie Lynn Beaulieu ✚
Joseph Daniel Carter ✚
Benjamin Jeremias Clara ✚
Briana Lynn Eckhoff
Cum Laude
Madelyn Jean Hauer
Summa Cum Laude
Jadyn Taylor Iverson
Elise McKenna Jarchow ✚
Magna Cum Laude
Cal Robert Johnson
Cody James Johnson ✚

Stella Grace Johnson
Summa Cum Laude
Jaikub A. Jones
River Faith Landers
Jakob Trygve Montesi
Jackson Davis Moore
Nicholas Steven Felipe Ortiz
Jackson Joshua Pettit
Kellen Henry Sonquist
Madeline Grace Storts
Summa Cum Laude
Travis Nicholas Thill
Colton James Toutant

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH

Breanna Marie Brooks
Summa Cum Laude
Alorah Dawn Gabrielson
Summa Cum Laude

Jeffrey Damian Markvicka II
Ellie Beth Youngquist
Cum Laude

SPORTS MANAGEMENT

Alejandro Alfaro ✚
Madeline Mae Bottineau
Beau Halvor Burk
Elijah Ray Burns ✚
Aaron Matthew Hill
Thomas C. Hoffmann
Teyghan Glen Leo Hovland

Charles William Huml
Abigail Elizabeth Johnson
Gabriel J. Kennedy
Jacob J. Nemo
Magna Cum Laude
Caitlyn Fayth Swigart

EDUCATIONAL STUDIES – PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND HEALTH
Simon Gregory Kamin

Ava Grace Whitcomb
Summa Cum Laude

DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY, CRIMINAL JUSTICE, & LAW ENFORCEMENT

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Kate Adel Beer	Savanna Lynn Kroll
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>
David Andrew Bushnell	Rebecca Suzanne Redman
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Emma Wessel Schleicher
Evan Reed Dobitz	Scott Raymond Skog †
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Victory Spencer Trent George *	

PSYCHOLOGY

Alisa A. Aish †	Kiera Noelle Kautz
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Alina S. Kosovan
Eva Encarnacion Alvarado †	<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>
Kate Adel Beer	Savanna Lynn Kroll
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	<i>Cum Laude</i>
Rediet Ayele Damiyo *	Raelynn Alexis Kruger
Evan Reed Dobitz	Sydney E. Lane
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Gabrielle Dru Milroy
Aimee Lin Gess	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Amelia Key Prokop †
Emma Heffron	Rebecca Suzanne Redman
<i>Cum Laude</i>	Emma Wessel Schleicher
Sierra Marie Imsland	Aaron Jeffrey Severson
Tressa Hope Ives ♦	Noah Michael Skarda †
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Sophia Leona Wahl ☆
Sophia Rose Jideofor	<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>
Elise Genevieve Kasa	
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	

COLLEGE OF PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DEGREE

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Maisy Rose Bjornrud

Magna Cum Laude



✧ ActSix Scholar

⚡ First Generation Graduate

◆ Member of Beta Beta Beta, National Biological Honor Society

❖ Member of Eagle Scholars Honors Program

☆ Member of Lambda Pi Eta, National Communication Association Honor Society

❖ Member of Pi Lambda Theta, International Honor Society in Education

† Member of Theta Alpha Kappa, National Honor Society for Religious Studies and Theology

⦿ Mosaic Scholar

White & Gold Cord: Student Leader with the Office of Student Experience

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We are pleased to introduce our commencement speaker, Mrs. Sabrina Williams. Mrs. Williams '90, M.A., is a dedicated leader in both ministry and education. As a trailblazing educator and advocate for equity in education, Mrs. Williams serves as the founding Executive Director of Excell Academy for Higher Learning, a charter school designed for college-aspiring, underserved students in Brooklyn Park, Minnesota.

Mrs. Williams' passion for educational equity was sparked by her own experiences in under-resourced public schools and deepened through her work as a licensed elementary teacher. In the late 1990s, she set out to create an institution that would provide low-income students of color with the same high-quality opportunities as their more privileged peers, leading to the launch of Excell Academy in 1999. Under Mrs. Williams' leadership, what began with 65 students in grades K-4 in 2001, Excell has grown to serve over 550 students from pre-K to eighth grade and is recognized as an official High-Quality Charter School by the Minnesota Department of Education. Mrs. Williams' contributions have also been recognized with multiple honors, including recognition in the National Who's Who in Education Administration, the Minnesota Association of Charter Schools Leadership Award, and the Marquis Who's Who International Humanitarian Award.

With a steadfast commitment to faith in God, education equity, and community empowerment, Sabrina continues to be a driving force for positive change, inspiring future generations of leaders, educators, and disciples of Christ. She holds bachelor's degrees in Elementary Education and Biblical Studies from Northwestern, and a M.A. in Curriculum, Instruction, and Gifted Education from the University of St. Thomas.

In addition to her role as an educator and school administrator, Mrs. Williams remains deeply committed to faith and family. For over 32 years, Sabrina has partnered and served with her husband Tom in pastoral ministry. She is the proud mother of three devoted followers of Christ—Jordan Luke, Jaccob Thomas, and Joshuyan Nicole.



BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Paul O. Bierhaus, MBA	George R. Kenworthy, D.Min.
Margaret A. Diddams, Ph.D.	Cade M. Lambert, M.Ed.
Megan A. Doyle	Lauren D. Libby, MBA
Mary C. Edwards, MPH	Ramón A. Pastrano IV, D.Min.
Stan K. Erickson, B.S.	Neal J. Rich, D.C.
Ginger R. Ewing, J.D.	Robert L. Richert, J.D.
John P. Fuller, M.A.	Grover C. Sayre III, J.D.
Leigh P. Harrison, B.S.	Thomas A. Thompson, M.S.
Deborah Hedlund, J.D.	Stewart S. Van Duzer, B.A.
Dalynn J. Hoch, B.A.	Philip Vierling, MBA
Corbin Hoornbeek, Ph.D.	Teresa C. Williams, B.S.
Mark L. Johnson, B.S.	Susan R. Wilson, B.S., CPA

PRESIDENT'S CABINET

Corbin Hoornbeek, Ph.D.
President

Janet B. Sommers, Ph.D.
Provost | Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Jason R. Sharp, MOL
Senior Vice President for Media

Dale R. Engskov, ChFC
Vice President for University Advancement

Bret M. Hyder, M.Ed.
Vice President for Student Experience

Gregory L. Johnson, Ph.D.
Vice President for Strategy | Chief of Staff

Erick P. Klein, MBA
Vice President for Enrollment Management and Marketing

John M. Sommerville, MBA
Vice President for Finance and Operations | CFO

Mathew B. Hill, Ed.D.
Director of Athletics

COMMENCEMENT ORGANIZERS

Lisa M. Abeler Theresa A. Henderson
Jacquelyn Cortez, MSW Kristen M. Higgins
Carol B. Cummings Heidi A. Hoefs, Ed.S.
Rachel O. Estinvil, M.A. Timothy J. Miller
Brad D. Fenske, M.S. Mark M. Seignious, M.A.
Liz A. Franze Andrew L. Simpson, M.A.
Jaqueline J. Glenney, Ed.D. Ann E. Sorenson, MFA
Jane E. Geodeke Laura J. Watkins, M.A.
Brandee J. Gransee Cindy L. Youngdahl

EAGLE SCHOLARS HONORS PROGRAM

Eagle Scholars graduates have completed all requirements for the Northwestern Honors Program, including taking honors courses, completing honors papers and projects, and attending various honors seminars. We consider these Eagle Scholars to be a testimony to the Christian call to excellence in scholarly achievement.

UNDERGRADUATE GRADUATION HONORS

Honors registration for graduates is based on cumulative grade point average (GPA) and University of Northwestern credits earned (minimum of 60). Honors recognition is given according to the following scale:

Summa Cum Laude	3.900–4.000
Magna Cum Laude	3.750–3.899
Cum Laude.	3.650–3.749

The cumulative GPA used in the graduation honors scale is based on all letter-graded University of Northwestern credits earned at the time of degree completion. This includes work taken in all academic programs of the university.

Bachelor's degree students with a minimum of 60 Northwestern credits will be eligible for Latin honors recognition as listed above. Bachelor's degree students with between 30–59 Northwestern credits with a Northwestern cumulative grade point average of at least 3.900 will be recognized as graduating "with distinction."

Final graduation honors listed on the transcript depend on the cumulative GPA at the end of the semester when degree requirements are satisfied.

ACADEMIC APPAREL

The wearing of bright, colorful hoods and somber gowns at academic functions of colleges and universities likely began in the twelfth century when universities were taking form under the jurisdiction of the church. Most of those studying were clerks in holy orders, monks, or priests. They wore a cloak or habit to which was attached a cowl or hood, which was used to warm their tonsured heads or thrown back in mild weather. Sometimes it served the purpose of holding food or the alms that were dropped in by passersby. As the years passed it came to be the symbolic garb of the college and university world. Styles and colors varied greatly in Europe, but by the late 1800s colleges and universities in the United States adopted a uniform code of academic garb that is still in use today.

Bachelor 2-inch border
Sleeves long and pointed, hoods pointed, 3 feet long.

Master 3-inch border
Sleeves long and very oblong, slit halfway up for arms, hoods pointed, 3½ feet long.

Doctor 5-inch border
Very full sleeves with 3 velvet bands, hoods 4 feet long, rounded at bottom.

The color of the hood indicates the department or field in which the degree was given.

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Business Administration	Drab
Economics	Copper
Education	Light Blue
Engineering	Orange
Fine Arts, Architecture	Brown
Journalism	Crimson
Laws	Purple
Library Science	Lemon
Medicine	Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Oratory (Speech)	Silver Grey
Philosophy	Dark Blue
Physical Education	Sage Green
Psychology	Royal Blue
Public Administration	Peacock Blue
Science	Golden Yellow
Social Science	Citron
Theology, Ministry	Scarlet

The inside colors of the hoods represent the colors of the university or college granting the degree.

DEPARTMENT/SCHOOL BANNERS

During the ceremony, department/school banners will be electronically displayed featuring a variety of colors and symbols. These banners were created by Mr. John Printy, Assistant Professor of Art & Design, along with some of his design students.

Each department's/school's mission is interpreted in symbolic logos, which may be used in other Northwestern promotional literature.

DEPARTMENTS/SCHOOLS

Adult Undergraduate	Graduate Studies
Art & Design	History & Related Fields
Biblical & Theological Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies
Biology & Biochemistry	Kinesiology, Sports Management, & Physical Education
Business	Music & Theatre
Christian Ministries	Nursing
Communication	Psychology, Criminal Justice, & Law Enforcement
Computing, Analytics, & Mathematics	World Languages
Education	
Engineering	
English & Literature	

THE FLAGS

In addition to the United States and Christian flags, there are flags on display representing the home country of students who are members of the May 2025 graduating class. This year we are featuring the flags of Australia and the People's Republic of China.

PHOTOGRAPHS

Amateur photographers are asked to be aware of and respect others in the audience who are taking pictures, including the university's contracted photographer. Photographs may also be viewed and purchased online.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms are available on two levels in Totino-Knight Hall and in other campus buildings.

SAFETY

Members of Public Safety staff are in uniform and available throughout the ceremony. If you have questions or need assistance, please feel free to seek them out. You may reach a member of the Public Safety staff at 651-631-5310.

