



2016  
Winter Commencement





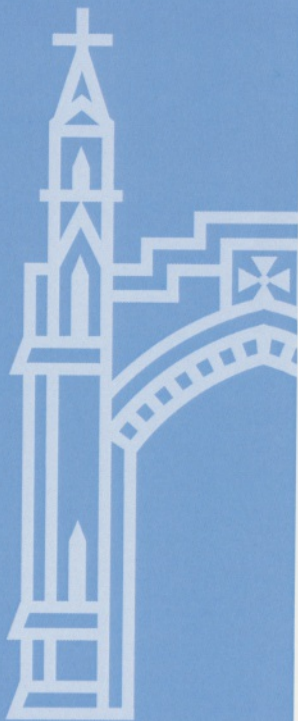
## Winter Commencement Class of 2016

The sixth annual Misericordia University Winter Commencement Ceremony features 340 graduates who hail from 11 states, including Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Montana, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Texas and Virginia.

In the College of Health Sciences and Education, 44 students are graduating from the entry-level Doctor of Physical Therapy program. Among the academic programs with the most graduates, the College of Health Sciences and Education also is awarding 41 Bachelor of Science degrees in nursing. The College of Business is presenting 44 Bachelor of Science degrees in business administration.

The University has a rich 92-year tradition of preparing graduates to succeed in life and in their chosen field of study by providing them with individualized attention, challenging academics and superb career preparation, while also imbuing in each student a passion to serve others.

Misericordia University is proud of the Winter Commencement Class of 2016 as the graduates prepare to enter the next important phase of their lives. Misericordia's newest alumni understand and embrace the Religious Sisters of Mercy's charisms of Mercy, Service, Justice and Hospitality—and will always be Misericordia Proud!



Sister Donna Markham, O.P., Ph.D., President and CEO of Catholic Charities USA

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**MISERICORDIA  
UNIVERSITY.**

**Winter Commencement Convocation**

**Class of 2016**

**Anderson Sports and Health Center**

**Sunday, December 18, 2016**





**Academic Processional**Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band***Invocation**Mary Helen Nugent, RSM, D.Min., *Trustee***National Anthem**

Justina Brown

Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.

Jennifer Black, Ph.D.

Wilton Remigio, Ph.D., *Violin*Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Piano***Welcome**Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., *President of Misericordia University***Conferring of Honorary Degree**Deborah Smith-Mileski '75, D.Ed., *Vice Chair, Board of Trustees***Doctor of Humane Letters**

Donna Markham, OP, Ph.D.

**Address to Candidates**

Donna Markham, OP, Ph.D.

**Presentation of Candidates for Degrees**Charles J. Brody, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs***Remarks**Terrence Murgallis '16, *Class Valedictorian***Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association**Adam Grzech '13, *Alumni Association Board***Alma Mater**

Justina Brown

Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.

Jennifer Black, Ph.D.

Wilton Remigio, Ph.D., *Violin*Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Piano***Benediction**Ruth A. Connolly, Ed.D., *Trustee***Academic Recessional**Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

American Sign Language (ASL) by Cherish Francik  
*Certified Interpreter for the Deaf*

The audience will please remain seated until the graduates have filed out.

**Marshals**

Amy Caruso '05

Audrey Cunfer '89

Marilyn Dehaven '06

Heather Fritz '97

Jack Goble

Adam Grzech '13

Erin Grzech '14

Matthew Hinton

Helene Reed '66

Ann Reichert '06

Maureen Rinehimer

Nancy Stepanski '80

**Sister Donna Markham, O.P., Ph.D., A.B.P.P.**

Sister Donna Markham, O.P., Ph.D., A.B.P.P., president and CEO of Catholic Charities USA, has been a change agent throughout her career as a champion of global peace initiatives, and has dedicated her career to improving behavioral health services and developing transformational leaders.



In 2015, Sister Donna became the first female president to lead Catholic Charities USA since its inception in 1910. An Adrian Dominican sister, she served on the organization's Board of Trustees for eight years, including two as chair. She also has served in leadership positions in behavioral health care in the United States and Canada, and is an internationally-recognized author and speaker in areas pertaining to transformational leadership, organizational change management, and the effective treatment of the mentally ill.

Throughout her career, Sister Donna has been involved in executive leadership development, organizational transformation, and community formation. She is engaged in global peace initiatives directed toward building bridges of understanding and collaboration across conflict zones.

In 1999, she wrote the book, "Spiritlinking Leadership: Working Through Resistance to Organizational Change." She serves as adjunct faculty at the Center for Nonprofit Management at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management.

Prior to being named president of Catholic Charities USA, Sister Donna served as president of the Behavioral Health Institute at Mercy Health System, where she led the transformation of the delivery of behavioral health services across the seven geographic regions of the health system.

Sister Donna earned her doctorate degree at the University of Detroit, and was named a fellow in the American Academy of Clinical Psychologists. She is also a board certified clinical psychologist. During the commencement ceremony, Misericordia University will present Sister Donna with an honorary doctorate of humane letters degree.



**BACHELOR OF ARTS****BIOLOGY**

John Glenn Bankus, Wyoming, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Bridget Boyle, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Anne Madsen, Matamoras, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Samantha Ann Weissberg, Warwick, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Carly Jo Young, Sturges, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Erin E. Dougherty, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Christa Porasky, Falls, PA

**ENGLISH**

Michael George Baloga, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Taylor Nicole Rupp, Mountain Top, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

**GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY**

Juan Baizan, Scranton, PA  
 Courtney Marie Bittenbender, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Ryan Duddy, Dallas, PA  
 Connor Duffy, Swedesboro, NJ  
 Zachary Johnson, Towanda, PA *Cum Laude*  
 John Andrew Kasheta, Carbondale, PA  
 Kurt Kowalski, Westfield, NJ  
 Daniel J. Navoczynski, Scranton, PA  
 Joshua Andrew Obermeyer, Port Jervis, NY  
 Moriah Rennah Strenfel, Hunlock Creek, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Liam Edward Sweeney, Nanticoke, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Christopher Charles Szabo, Leonia, NJ  
 Nataliya Volynets, Kingston, PA

**HISTORY**

Kyle J. Coslett, Kingston, PA  
 Ray "Hoss" Edward Ellis, Harveys Lake, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Margeurite Nafus, Dallas, PA  
 Zachary Johnson, Towanda, PA *Cum Laude*  
 David John Williams, Harrisburg, PA *Cum Laude*

**MATHEMATICS**

Austin Scott Galiardo, Clark, NJ  
 Craig Martin Siekierka, Moosic, PA *Cum Laude*

**PHILOSOPHY**

Jacob Schweiger, Barton, NY *Magna Cum Laude*

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE****ACCOUNTING**

Denise M. Chorey, Shavertown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Yvonne Denise Clark, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Corey Jay Honabach, Catawissa, PA  
 Kelly Elizabeth Hopkins, Hanover Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 David John Migliori, Sr., Middletown, NY *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lawrence Elliot Pellegrini, Exeter, PA  
 Rachel Anne Sawka, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Lori Ann White, Duryea, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

**APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE**

Earnestine Benton, Kingston, PA  
 Courtney Ann Bishop, Jermyn, PA  
 Jeffrey Charles Calaide, Forty Fort, PA  
 Shannon Guinard, Hawley, PA  
 Katelyn A. Matthews, Bloomsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Michele D. Mikkelsen, Exeter, PA  
 Courtney A. Mooney, Swoyersville, PA  
 Ashley Nicole Murtha, Nanticoke, PA  
 Stacey Romanczuk, Avoca, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Vanesa Alexander Sarazua, Buford, GA  
 Darlene Williams-Magdalinski, Trucksville, PA

**BIOCHEMISTRY**

Devin Arrigo Crevani, Milford, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Michael James Truscott, Tunkhannock, PA





**BIOLOGY**John A. Barcelon, West Pittston, PA *Cum Laude***BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Daniele Biskaduros, S. Abington Twp., PA

Timothy Burek, Valatie, NY

Benito Camacho, III, Branchburg, NJ

Ashley Catherine Casem, Mountain Top, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

Bartholomew Joseph Chupka, Jr., Exeter, PA

Rebecca Ciancitto, Milford, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Megan Elizabeth Collins, Binghamton, NY *Summa Cum Laude*

Joe Consorti, Jr., Newburgh, NY

Theresa M. Doty, Nanticoke, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Kristian Luke Dyrli, Dallas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Tyler G. Hannon, Delran, NJ

Robert Franklin Hart, III, Voorhees, NJ

Kelsey L. Hollenbach, Lancaster, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

Ronda Hugaboom, Pleasant Mount, PA

Alyssa Nicole Kehm, Macungie, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Patrick M. Kellish, Clark, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*Arielle Lee Kneller, New Albany, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Sydney Leah Kotch, Nanticoke, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Kelsey Rae Little, Delancey, NY

Irwin Maldonado, Taylor, PA

Melissa J. Mercado, Dunmore, PA

Megan A. Meyers, Lancaster, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Andrea Molitoris, Scranton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

Steven Michael Monka, Gilbertsville, PA

Matthew Thomas Morris, Cinnaminson, NJ *Cum Laude*Trisha N. Morton, Wellsboro, PA *Cum Laude*

Matthew Norcini, Levittown, NY

Molly Jane O'Hara, Sayre, PA *Cum Laude*Amy Elizabeth Paddock, Hanover Twp., PA *Summa Cum Laude*Jeffrey Thomas Peters, Bethlehem, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

Janice Preston, Sweet Valley, PA

Dylan Francis Reedy, Falls, PA

Mitchell Raymond Rock, Kingston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*Savannah Marie Schools, Wyalusing, PA *Cum Laude*

Elizabeth Maria Skorski, Mt Carmel, PA

Michael Trygar, Lake Ariel, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Joshua Robert Turner, Mountain Top, PA

Katlin C. Vack, Weatherly, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Timothy Wallenburg, Marlton, NJ

Steven A. Ware, Jr., Kingston, PA

Carrie A. Yatsko, Plains, PA

Mackenzie P. Yurko, Orangeville, PA *Cum Laude*

Hayley Nicole Zelinka, Wilkes-Barre, PA

Jennifer Michele Zlobik, Berwick, PA *Cum Laude***CLINICAL LAB SCIENCE**

Jasmine Mae B. Busi, Saylorsburg, PA

**COMPUTER SCIENCE**Ilyas Abdullah Boyce, Kingston, PA *Cum Laude***DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY**

Rachel Ann Mackie, Hanahan, SC

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION**

Miranda Lynn Bellas, Old Forge, PA

Shelby Taylor Bodnar, Milford, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Whitney Leigh Ellenberg, Rockaway, NJ

Kristin Jill Stuffick, Harveys Lake, PA *Summa Cum Laude***HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT**Kyle Joseph Berlinski, Dupont, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Kanesha Gene Bonner, Monroe Twp., PA

Eugene F. Cannon, III, Drums, PA *Magna Cum Laude*Trudi L. Dempsey, Shavertown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*Christopher Edkins, Hunlock Creek, PA *Cum Laude*

Robert Hunter Ide, Dallas, PA

Harrison Parker Kerch, Allentown, PA

Jeffrey G. Li, Syosset, NY

James Leonard Lizza, Yatesville, PA

Tyler Patrick Nolan, Olyphant, PA *Cum Laude*



Thomas Radic, Belle Vernon, PA  
 Erica Ann Sadowski, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Lindsay Cassandra Standlick, Bath, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Travis J. Tobin, Dunmore, PA  
 Samantha M. Wise, Montgomery, PA

### HEALTH SCIENCE

Danielle Joyce Harding, Trucksville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Danielle N. Makadon-Malone, Forty Fort, PA  
 Terrence Luke Murgallis, II, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jamie Lee Opela, Binghamton, NY

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Christopher Bogdanovich, Nanticoke, PA  
 Gregory H. Burgett, Ellittsburg, PA  
 Jessica Caprilozzi, Forty Forty, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Eric Alan Guirin, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Neil C. Klinges, Kingston, PA  
 David F. Koziel, Jr., Pittston, PA  
 Ian J. Mondelice, Kingston, PA

### MANAGEMENT

Dawn Gilliland, Pittston, PA

### MEDICAL IMAGING

Brianna K. Boyle, New Ringgold, PA  
 Marissa Theresa Conti, Shenandoah, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Stephanie Elyse Jugus, Laflin, PA  
 Kristen Ann Kabacinski, Duryea, PA  
 Christina Regina Ocasio, Effort, PA  
 Stephanie Taylor Piser, Middletown, DE  
 Samantha Rock, Stroudsburg, PA  
 Leigha Brooke Sahagian, Selden, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Kara Wild, Bartonsville, PA  
 Schyler Elizabeth Yatsko, Harveys Lake, PA

### MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

Amielia V. Barhold, Melbourne, FL

### PROFESSIONAL STUDIES

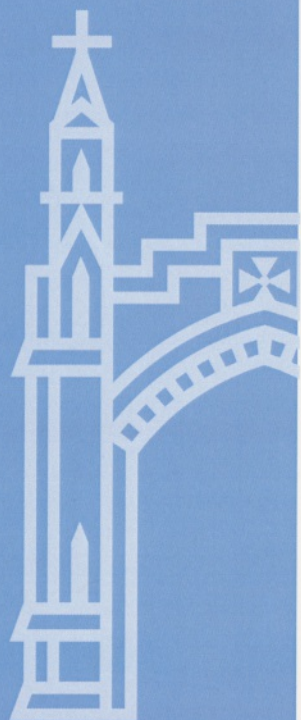
Amy M. Drezek, Shavertown, PA  
 Ryan Andrew Evans, Noxen, PA  
 Leonela Fabian, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Mary Fairchild, Sussex, NJ  
 Diana Kestenbaum, Hampton, NJ  
 Katherine Ann McGinty, Inkerman, PA  
 Madeline Therese Mulhern, Dallas, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Garry Ray Musselman, Jr., Dallas, PA  
 Jennifer Taylor O'Brien, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Ann Marie Pointon, Courtdale, PA  
 Tiffany A. Thorpe, Middletown, NY  
 Vincent Tristan, II, Bethlehem, PA

### PSYCHOLOGY

Jacquelyn Rose Bamberski, Feasterville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kevin Naquil Collins, Utica, NY  
 Aubrey Lynne Connolley, Dallas, PA  
 Megan Curry, Pottsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kaitlin Mary Fulton, Larksville, PA  
 Nicole Taylor Giampietro, Dallas, PA  
 Michael John Iannuzzi, Bloomingdale, NJ  
 Claire Lepkowski, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Danielle N. Makadon-Malone, Forty Fort, PA  
 Carlyn Joy Sy, Shavertown, PA

### SPORT MANAGEMENT

Brandon Nathaniel Kelley, Dallas, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Matthew Muller, Woodhaven, NY





**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

Kelcee Deborah Ashby, Duncannon, PA  
 Megan Ann Bartuska, Dupont, PA  
 Mary Frances Buckley Bosek, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Janel Leona Campbell Boyer, Plymouth, PA  
 Randi Michelle Bunchalk, Drums, PA  
 Michelle Marie Burke, Kingston, PA  
 Kelsey Louise Burkett, Andreas, PA  
 Tina M. Chapman, Scranton, PA  
 Tracy Cusatis, Nescopeck, PA  
 Karen Kristine Fulmer, Hawley, PA  
 Maura Geraghty-Miscavage, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Zachary Getz, Mountain Top, PA  
 Dana M. Greenwood, Scranton, PA  
 Stephanie Jo Heinz, Scranton, PA  
 Suzanne Kathleen Hernandez, Lehman, PA  
 Carol S. Hughes, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Lindsey Jacobs, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Melissa A. Jones, Kingston, PA  
 Maria Maja Kratz, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Tomislav Kucuk, Mountain Top, PA  
 Megan Lask, Milford, PA  
 LeeAnn Loss, Mifflinburg, PA  
 Helene T. Luchetti, Plains, PA  
 Angela Lynn Moser, Swoyersville, PA  
 Meghan R. Norris, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Stephanie Lynn Pollock, Mountain Top, PA  
 Ryan Reade Rigdon, Olyphant, PA  
 Robert J. Rodgers, East Brunswick, NJ  
 Carmella A. Ruby, Lattimer Mines, PA  
 Rachael Elizabeth Rush, Plains, PA  
 Kristal Leigh Smith, Falls, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Heidi Ann Stredny, Forty Fort, PA  
 Karen Szwest, Exeter, PA  
 Lisa Tondora, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Holly J. Valvano, Clarks Summit, PA  
 Colin R. Weale, Dallas, PA

Bryan David Weaver, Shavertown, PA  
 Ann Eileen Webster, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Ashley M. Welsh, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Christine Rita Wysocky, Drums, PA  
 Stacy L. Yarina, Avoca, PA

**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

Casey C. Saylor, Littlestown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Elizabeth A. Barry, Midlothian, VA  
 Brenda Lee Berkheiser, Paxinos, PA  
 Darci Lynn Brown, Allentown, PA  
 John R. Carden, Avoca, PA  
 Scott Thomas Corrigan, Peckville, PA  
 Phillip M. Cumbo, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Hannah C. Fulton, Cliffwood, NJ  
 Stephanie L. Gronchick, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Tenna M. Kubasti, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 David Charles Lance, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Lauren Luongo, Roaring Brook, PA  
 Melissa L. Maley, Hazleton, PA  
 Melie Solomon, Freeland, PA  
 James Matthew Tunison, Bath, NY  
 Jeffrey A. Zeoli, Endicott, NY

**MASTER OF SCIENCE****EDUCATION**

Nicole Daniels, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Brianna DePierro, Kingston, PA  
 Taylor Marie Lawler, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Jack Thomas Port, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Morgan Sadowski, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Kristen Mitchell Samuels, Forty Fort, PA  
 Joseph Ryan Scanlon, New Milford, PA





Jennifer Lynn Sedor, Harleigh, PA  
 Suzanne Marie Sikora, Sweet Valley, PA  
 Erica L. Slocum, Dallas, PA  
 Jessica Nicole Stephens, Dallas, PA  
 Michael J. Weaver, Hanover Twp., PA

### HEALTH CARE INFORMATICS

Valerie Koshinski Aiello, Shavertown, PA  
 Sean J. Apanovich, Plains, PA  
 Ann Marie Fetchko-Daniels, Edwardsville, PA  
 Lisa Henninger, Exeter, PA  
 Elizabeth Berilla Kavanaugh, Swoyersville, PA  
 Nicole Ann Lipinski, Throop, PA  
 Carol J. Newell, Sweet Valley, PA  
 Tara Lynn Ritts, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Karen Ann Young, Mifflinville, PA

### ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT

Walter Karl Barron, Scranton, PA  
 Catherine E. Becker, Dallas, PA  
 James A. Brogna, Mountain Top, PA  
 Brandon Matthew Coletti, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Jarrod Daniel Harleman, Ashland, PA  
 Brenda M. Heck, Nanticoke, PA  
 Megan Amy Hurley, Wyoming, PA  
 John O. Kennedy, Plymouth, PA  
 Kimberly Lynn Kilheoney, Swoyersville, PA  
 Robert S. McGinnity, Dunmore, PA  
 Lauren Michelle Smicherko, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Christopher Undersinger, Florida, NY  
 Cheyne Ku'iikaikakahekili Hajime Wago, Scranton, PA  
 Joan Yamrick, Dallas, PA

### SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY

Ryan J. Burdick, Madison, NY  
 Danielle Joyce Harding, Trucksville, PA  
 Terrence Luke Murgallis, II, Wilkes-Barre, PA

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Neetu Bector, East Stroudsburg, PA  
 Katarzyna Ewa Bialek, Stroudsburg, PA  
 Diane E. Brett, Pennsauken, NJ  
 Melinda Lee Clarke, S. Abington Twp., PA  
 Danielle Joy Iozzia, Long Valley, NJ  
 Jessica Jansson, Cumbola, PA  
 Sarah Ann Kirkpatrick, S. Williamsport, PA  
 Kyle Robert Kurtek, Pottsville, PA  
 Colleen Magacs, Binghamton, NY  
 Danielle N. Makadon-Malone, Forty Fort, PA  
 Kevin Michael McDonald, Ashley, PA  
 Leigh Anne Murphy, Mount Laurel, NJ  
 Jamie Lee Opela, Binghamton, NY  
 Rebecca Mae Peterman, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Alyssa Joy Pomerico, New Castle, PA  
 Lauren Amanda Rauch, Montoursville, PA  
 Amanda Elizabeth Ann Salak, Kingston, PA  
 Michael Anthony Sparich, West Deptford, NJ  
 Theresa Shanley Stoecker, Babylon, NY  
 Noelle Marie Welch, Charlotte Hall, MD

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT STUDIES

Sabrina A. Alles, Dallas, PA  
 Jacqueline Karl Edwards, Schnecksville, PA  
 Matthew Farnsworth, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Mallory Ann Getts, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Daniel Herrera, Ormand Beach, FL  
 Robbie Suzanne Hicks, Germansville, PA  
 Kristopher David Krawchuk, Slatington, PA  
 Craig Daniel Landzinski, Wayne, NJ  
 Ying Shan Li, Dallas, PA  
 Robert Dillon Linhart, Missoula, MT  
 Maura Ellen Pellegrini, Pittston Twp., PA





Arianne Carissa Schott, Dallas, PA  
 Bethany Smith, Kingston, PA  
 Rachel Nicole Solomon, Milton, PA  
 Caitlynn June Watkins, Philadelphia, PA  
 Cassandra J. Williams, Lake Winola, PA  
 Ethan Cole Yoder, Kingston, PA

## DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Carla Maria Flynn, North Caldwell, NJ  
 Jenna M. Kinzinger, Honesdale, PA  
 Carrienne G. Matthews, Cypress, TX  
 Lindsey Rose McLaughlin, Nesquehoning, PA  
 Allison F. Ortman, Cape May Court House, NJ

## DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Jessica Lynn Armillay, Old Forge, PA  
 Emily Clare Barnable, E. Rockaway, NY  
 Bryant David Barnhart, Apalachin, NY  
 Marielle Elise Bertram, Dubois, PA  
 Rebekah Bisset, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Julia Catherine Blaskiewicz, Honesdale, PA  
 Chelsea Nicole Bonetti, Massapequa, NY  
 Zachary Bottone, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Rachel Michelle Brooks, Shillington, PA  
 Jessica Marie Campbell, Benton, PA  
 Bridget A. Comiskey, Carmel, NY  
 Melissa Ann Cummiskey, Marlton, NJ  
 Levi Tyler Erb, Mertztown, PA  
 Jomar Casingal Farrales, Jenkins Twp., PA  
 Kyle Dean Freeman, Massapequa Park, NY  
 Kimberly Anne Gottshall, Palmyra, PA  
 Thomas Martin Gottstein, Drums, PA  
 Anthony J. Grasso, Jr., Old Forge, PA  
 Dennis Halpin, New Hartford, NY  
 Emily May Hullings, Sandyston, NJ  
 Daniel John Kelleher, Sayre, PA

Jacqueline Elizabeth Kochmer, Clifford Twp., PA  
 Nicole Marie Korgeski, Dunmore, PA  
 Cheyne Michael Alamo Kulesa, Toms River, NJ  
 Katie Kuzminski, Nanticoke, PA  
 Joseph Patrick Layman, Binghamton, NY  
 Amanda Nicole Lee, Turnersville, NJ  
 Nicholas Michael Lombard, Shavertown, PA  
 Mallory Elise Loughman, Tamaqua, PA  
 Brittany Rae Luzik, Halifax, PA  
 Lindsey Macheimer, Robesonia, PA  
 Amanda Machey, McAdoo, PA  
 Kasey L. Mastellar, Benton, PA  
 Victoria Marie Mihal, Wyoming, PA  
 Breanne Nicole Phillips, Muncy, PA  
 Alyssa Rodzewich, Freeland, PA  
 Morgan Lorie Romesberg, York, PA  
 Nicolette Ruffler, Manalapan, NJ  
 Frank Santarsiero, Dunmore, PA  
 Sarah Frances Starzec, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Rachel E. Stitt, Nescopeck, PA  
 Brandon Louis Stone, Thompson, PA  
 Jeffrey M. Taylor, Jr., Dallas, PA  
 Andrew E. Tucker, Lansford, PA





Undergraduate students are awarded baccalaureate degrees with distinction for exceptional academic achievement. A student must have completed at least 60 credits at Misericordia University to qualify for academic honors. Honors listed are accurate as of the print date of the program. Actual honors for August graduates will be announced at the ceremony. Estimation of honors appears in the program for students who are completing their course work in December.

Distinction	Grade Point Average at Graduation
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	3.90 and above
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	3.70–3.89
<i>Cum Laude</i>	3.50–3.69

The class valedictorian is the full-time matriculated student with the highest cumulative undergraduate average who has completed all course work at Misericordia University with the exception of the 12 credits allowed through off campus requests or advanced placement credits.

#### 2016 Valedictorian

Terrence Luke Murgallis, II

Students who have completed the University Honors curriculum while achieving a grade point average of 3.25 or better are awarded an Honors Degree. Students awarded University Honors include:

Alyssa Nicole Kehm      Casey C. Saylor      Jacob Schweiger

The Winter 2016 Outstanding Biology Student Award, presented to a graduating senior student who has demonstrated outstanding academic achievement in Biology by earning the highest cumulative GPA in the major, was presented to:

John Glenn Bankus      Bridget Boyle

The Academic Excellence Award in nursing, conferred annually to a PTENP student who has attained the highest academic standing overall, was presented to:

Kristal Leigh Smith

The Clinical Excellence Award, presented to a student whose GPA is greater than 3.0 and who is judged by the faculty to administer superior nursing skills in clinical practice, was awarded to:

Dana M. Greenwood

The Kaplan Readiness Award, presented to a student that has attained the highest score on the comprehensive NCLEX review examination, was awarded to:

Karen Szwast

The Daisy in Training Award, presented to the student who meets the criteria of the Daisy Foundation for providing compassionate care to patients, was awarded to:

Heidi Ann Stredny

The Occupational Therapy Curricular Award, presented to a graduating Occupational Therapy student who has demonstrated exemplary academic performance and leadership potential in the profession, was presented to:

Kyle Robert Kurtek      Rebecca Mae Peterman

The Excellence in Fieldwork Award, presented to an Occupational Therapy student who consistently has above average performance in fieldwork, displays outstanding interpersonal skills and contributes to fieldwork sites by applying and integrating classroom learning, was presented to:

Katarzyna Ewa Bialek

The Catherine Perry Wilkinson Leadership Award, given to a graduating student who demonstrates exemplary potential for leadership in the profession of physical therapy, was presented to:

Julia Catherine Blaskiewicz

The Outstanding Physical Therapy Student Award, given to a graduating student who has demonstrated excellence in academic achievement, clinical performance, leadership skills and service to the University, community and profession, was presented to:

Nicolette Ruffler

The Physical Therapy Student Achievement Award, given to a graduating student who has demonstrated outstanding abilities to successfully complete the physical therapy curriculum in the face of unique life experiences, was presented to:

Mallory Elise Loughman

The Academic Excellence Award in the physician assistant studies program, given to a graduating student who achieved the top GPA throughout the program, was presented to:

Kassandra J. Williams

The Top Clinical Year Student Award, presented to a graduating student who achieved top GPA throughout the clinical year of the physician assistant studies program, was awarded to:

Mallory Ann Getts

The Spirit Award, given to a student who demonstrated the true spirit of the Misericordia physician assistant studies program by going above and beyond to help support the program, was presented to:

Craig Daniel Landzinski

The Perseverance Award, given to a graduating student who demonstrated steady persistence and excelled throughout the physician assistant studies program in spite of difficulties or obstacles, was presented to:

Caitlynn June Watkins

The Psychology Student Achievement Award for academic excellence was presented to:

Jacquelyn Rose Bamberski



Students admitted to the Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education:

Shelby Taylor Bodnar Kristin Jill Stuffick

Students admitted to the Psi Chi Honor Society for the recognition of scholarship and achievement in Psychology:

Kaitlin Mary Fulton Danielle N. Makadon-Malone

Students admitted to the Psi Chapter of Pi Theta Epsilon, National Occupational Therapy Honor Society:

Diane E. Brett Rebecca Mae Peterman

Students inducted into the Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Delta Mu, Honor Society in Social Work:

Casey C. Saylor

Students admitted to the Beta Beta Beta Biological Honor Society, an honor and professional society for students of the biological sciences:

John Glenn Bankus Lauren Anne Madsen Carly Jo Young  
Bridget Boyle Samantha Ann Weissberg

Students admitted to the Lambda Nu Radiologic and Imaging Sciences Honor Society, Pennsylvania Alpha Chapter:

Stephanie Elyse Jugus Leigha Brooke Sahagian  
Kristen Ann Kabacinski Schyler Elizabeth Yatsko

Students admitted to Phi Alpha Theta, National Historical Honor Society:

Ray "Hoss" Edward Ellis Zachary Johnson

Students admitted to the Theta Phi Chapter, Sigma Theta Tau, International Honor Society for Nursing:

Michelle Marie Burke Robert J. Rodgers Ashley M. Welsh  
Megan Lask Kristal Leigh Smith

Students admitted to Sigma Beta Delta, International Business Honor Society:

Darci Lynn Brown Kristian Luke Dyrli Arielle Lee Kneller  
John R. Carden Jarrod Daniel Harleman Lauren Luongo  
Ashley Catherine Casem Brenda M. Heck Megan A. Meyers  
Rebecca Ciancitto Kelly Elizabeth Hopkins Andrea Molitoris  
Megan Elizabeth Collins Ronda Hugaboom Lori Ann White  
Scott Thomas Corrigan Patrick M. Kellish Carrie A. Yatsko  
Trudi L. Dempsey John O. Kennedy

Students admitted to Alpha Sigma Epsilon Chapter of Sigma Tau Delta, International English Honor Society:

Michael George Baloga Taylor Nicole Rupp

Students admitted to Phi Sigma Tau, Kappa Chapter, International Philosophy Honor Society:

Devin Arrigo Crevani Jacob Schweiger

The Guaranteed Placement Program (GPP) integrates classroom instruction, experiential education, service leadership on- and off-campus, and career focused activity experiences. The following represents traditional GPP and GPP Gold and Blue Level students who have successfully completed the program:

Jaime Lee Opela Stephanie Taylor Piser



# ACADEMIC COSTUME IN AMERICA

Colors Indicating Fields of Learning

Worn as a border on the hood

ACCOUNTING  
Drab

APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCE  
Gold

BIOCHEMISTRY  
Golden Yellow

BIOLOGY  
Golden Yellow

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
Drab

CHEMISTRY  
Golden Yellow

CLINICAL LABORATORY SCIENCE  
Golden Yellow

COMMUNICATIONS  
Crimson

COMPUTER SCIENCE  
Golden Yellow

DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY  
Golden Yellow

EDUCATION  
Light Blue

ENGLISH  
White

GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY  
White

HEALTH CARE INFORMATICS  
Gold

HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT  
Golden Yellow

American academic dress has its origins in the garments worn at medieval British universities, particularly at Oxford, which was founded in the 12th century. At the time, academic institutions were similar to guilds or associations, called universitates. The academic organization was a guild of Masters of Arts, with the bachelor an apprentice.

Gowns and hoods were common clothing in medieval times, with quality and design decreed according to the wearer's social status and wealth. While general fashions changed, academic attire remained the same, both as a tradition and as a means of identifying members of the university. Hoods evolved from a simple head covering or cowl into a symbolic garment with a strictly assigned system of colors and patterns which identified each graduate's institution, rank, and discipline.

The Oxford or "mortar board" cap came into use during the 16th century, but authorities differ on its origin. Some say the cap is square like a scholar's books; others that it was derived from the master workman's mortar board; still others suggest it was patterned after the quadrangular shape of the Oxford campus. A more plausible explanation is that the scholars wore skull caps while they worked indoors and square caps called birettas when they went outdoors; if they simply donned the biretta over their skull cap, the look would be very much like the mortarboard.

Although caps and gowns had been worn in many American schools since Colonial times, in 1885 there was a widespread student movement for their use at commencement ceremonies. The faculties adopted the use of gowns for themselves to wear at academic ceremonies. Each college developed its own arbitrary design and standards, as the British universities had, until the Intercollegiate Commission met to develop a code for academic costume in 1895. The new code regulated design of gowns, hoods, and colors in a way that would signify each scholar's achievements and institution. It was approved by 95 percent of American universities and colleges, and is still in use today.

The official code provides for three types of gowns. Those worn by the bachelors are black and have long, pointed sleeves. Masters may wear either black silk or woolen gowns, made with a long closed sleeve with an arc appearing near the bottom and a slit for the arm. The doctors' gowns are usually of black silk with full, round, open sleeves. The color of the velvet trim may be black or the same color as the velvet which edges the hood. Although the color is normally black, some institutions have authorized doctoral gowns in their school colors.

The hood is worn at the back, suspended near the shoulders. The length of the hood and the width of its velvet border indicate the level of the degree held. Bachelors wear a hood which is three feet long, with a two-inch velvet border. The hood for the master's degree is three and one-half feet long, with a three-inch border. The doctor's hood is four feet long and the border is five inches wide.

The inner lining of the hood is in the official color or colors of the institution conferring the degree; therefore, Misericordia University's hood is lined with blue and golden yellow. The color of the velvet border indicates the field of learning in which the degree was earned. Tassels are traditionally black for the bachelor's and master's degrees, and gold for doctor's degrees and the governing officers of educational institutions.

Additional ornaments have been added in some institutions to indicate honors or memberships in honor societies. At Misericordia, a gold stole is worn by graduates receiving University honors; colored cords draped over the robe indicate membership in an honor society; distinctive pins worn on the gown also indicate particular honors.



HISTORY  
White

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
Drab

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
Golden Yellow

MANAGEMENT  
Drab

MARKETING  
Drab

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
Drab

MATHEMATICS  
White

MEDICAL IMAGING  
Golden Yellow

MEDICAL SCIENCE  
Golden Yellow

NURSING  
Apricot

OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY  
Golden Yellow

ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT  
Golden Yellow

PHILOSOPHY  
White

PHYSICAL THERAPY (DPT)  
Teal

PHYSICIAN ASSISTANT  
Kelly Green

PROFESSIONAL STUDIES  
Golden Yellow

PSYCHOLOGY  
Golden Yellow

SOCIAL WORK  
Citron

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY  
Silver

SPORT MANAGEMENT  
Sage Green



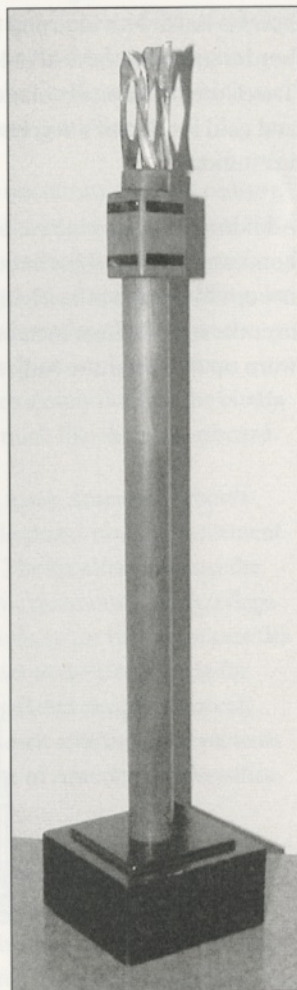
The mace is made of black walnut and bronze. The dark, rich wood symbolizes the woodlands surrounding the University campus referred to in the Alma Mater.

The unusual shaft works its way from rough cast, difficult beginnings into the textured, polished finish of a double base—angled, yet harmoniously fitted. The form represents the structured ideals of the Sisters of Mercy liberal arts education and the individual struggles for acquisition of knowledge.

Open, free forms of brass represent the open, free spirit, which is the basis of Compassionate Service, while the rich beauty and strength of walnut depict the fullness, value, and strength of Judeo-Christian education.

Highlighting the head of the mace is gleaming, textured bronze in the shape of an open flame. The fire represents two events in the history of the University: the burning of St. Mary's Convent in Wilkes-Barre, which necessitated the Sisters' move to Dallas, and the first night on campus when fires almost prevented the University from ever opening its doors. A flame open to searching for truth, and open to new ideas is symbolic of the light of learning: always striving for, never reaching, the fullness of finish.

The University Mace was designed and executed by Regina Keil, RSM, goldsmith and silversmith. It is a gift of the Sisters of Mercy of the Americas, Dallas Regional Community.



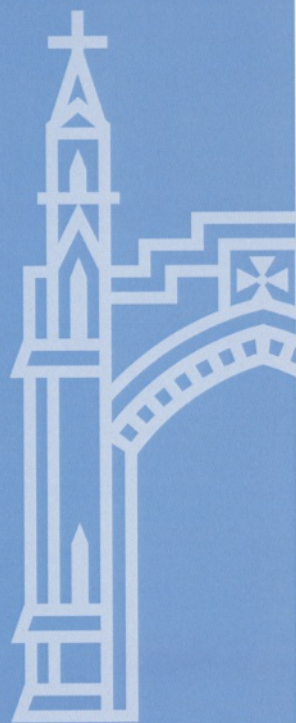
Misericordia University was founded by the Sisters of Mercy.

The flags on display today represent the countries where the Sisters of Mercy, faculty and students from Misericordia University have ministered. Also included are the flags of our graduates who are from foreign countries. The United Nations flag represents the Sisters of Mercy's NGO (Non-Governmental Organization) status.

- |         |                      |
|---------|----------------------|
| Brazil  | Palestine            |
| China   | Peru                 |
| Guyana  | Rwanda               |
| Jamaica | Turkey               |
| Kenya   | United Arab Emirates |
| Liberia | United Nations       |

## Ushers

- |                   |                  |
|-------------------|------------------|
| Annmarie Narcum   | Emily Digirolamo |
| Theresa Thomas    | Kaili Higgins    |
| Doreen Fronzoni   | Ashley Anderson  |
| Tiffany Wiernusz  | Kathy Zawatski   |
| Tara Koskulitz    | Haley DiMassimo  |
| Alivia Womelsdorf | Alison Machey    |
| Rebecca Zaneski   | Alyssa Machey    |





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## MISERICORDIA ALMA MATER

Woodland home on Dallas heights,  
Majestic, grand in view  
Your loyal students far and near,  
Proclaim their love for you.  
Your banner bright of truth and light  
Shall proudly o'er us wave  
Its shining gold and azure blue  
Denote your spirit brave.

### Refrain

Misericordia! We're proud of you.  
We love your murm'ring pine trees,  
Your groves and grotto, too.  
You are our Alma Mater,  
And to you we will e'er be true  
Misericordia we hail! Dear Misericordia!

When from you we must depart  
Our spirit shall remain  
We'll ne'er forget your rolling hills  
Whose beauty all acclaim.  
Your classic halls are our delight, Your campus is our pride;  
Your shield of honor, strength and might  
Shall ever be our guide.

### Refrain

Misericordia! We're proud of you.  
We love your murm'ring pine trees,  
Your groves and grotto, too.  
You are our Alma Mater,  
And to you we will e'er be true  
Misericordia we hail! Dear Misericordia!

—Sister Teresa Mary Moyles, RSM







@MisericordiaU



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**MISERICORDIA  
UNIVERSITY.**

*Founded by the Sisters of Mercy*