



MISERICORDIA  
UNIVERSITY.

Spring  
Commencement

May 12, 2018



## Class of 2018

The Misericordia University Spring Commencement ceremonies feature 122 graduate and 330 undergraduate students from 14 states, including Arizona, Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee and Texas.

The 42 students earning Master of Science degrees in occupational therapy represent the largest number of graduates from an academic program at the graduate ceremony. The next two most populous graduate majors are speech-language pathology with 32 students and 18 in nursing.

The University conferred 142 Bachelor of Science in health science degrees during the undergraduate ceremony. Sixty-two graduates received Bachelor of Science in nursing degrees, while 29 earned Bachelor of Science in business administration degrees.

The University has a rich 94-year tradition of preparing students 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 is proud of the Spring Commencement Class of 2018 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!



### Academic Processional

Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

### Invocation

Sr. Catherine McGroarty, RSM '74, *Member, Board of Trustees*

### National Anthem

Jennifer Black, Ph.D.                      Christine Zopf  
Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.                Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

### Welcome

Thomas J. Botzman, Ph.D., *President of Misericordia University*

### Conferring of Honorary Degree

Christopher L. Borton, *Chair, Board of Trustees*

### Doctor of Humane Letters

Mary Jo Leddy, Ph.D.

### Address to Candidates

Mary Jo Leddy, Ph.D.

### Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

### Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association

Mark Oberstaedt, Esq. '89, *Alumni Board President*

### Presentation of Faculty Award

David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

### Alma Mater

Jennifer Black, Ph.D.                      Christine Zopf  
Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.                Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

### Benediction

Msgr. John Bendik, *Member, Board of Trustees*

### 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

Melissa Alunni	Andrea Payne '60
Tabitha Bolinsky	Catherine Payne '88
Amy Caruso '05, '12	Maureen Rinehimer
Matthew Hinton	Thomas Sweetz '01
Jennifer Luksa	Tiffany Wiernusz '04
Melissa McHale '12	



**Mary Jo Leddy, Ph.D.**

Mary Jo Leddy, Ph.D., the founder and director of the Romero House Community for Refugees in Toronto, Canada, and founding editor of the former Catholic New Times, is a scholar, teacher, social activist and journalist, who has traveled the world extensively for human rights, peace and religious concerns.



Numerous American and Canadian universities have awarded her honorary doctoral degrees for her activism, work and teachings in Egypt, El Salvador, Germany, Israel, Lebanon, Poland, the former Soviet Union, and Spain.

As the founder and director of the Romero House Community for Refugees, Dr. Leddy has overseen several waves of refugees from Africa, Columbia, Eastern Europe, Iran, Mexico and the former Soviet Union for almost 25 years.

At the University of Toronto, Dr. Leddy is an adjunct professor at Regis College and a senior fellow in Massey College. In addition to being a columnist for the Toronto Star newspaper and a radio and TV commentator, she is a member of several human rights and peace groups. Dr. Leddy also lectures on various topics nationally and internationally.

Dr. Leddy has written seven books and received numerous awards in recognition of her career. In 1978, the Canadian University President's Award recognized her as an "Outstanding Young Woman" and in 1996 she received the Order of Canada. Through the years, she also has received the Governor General's Bronze Medal, Canada Council Doctoral Fellowship, the Ida Nudel Human Rights Award, the Canadian Council of Christians and Jews Human Relations Award, the Roman Catholic Communicators of Canada Award for Distinguished Contribution, the Ontario Citizenship Award, Gunther Plaut Humanitarian Award, several press awards, and many more.

Dr. Leddy holds Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Education, Master of Arts and doctorate degrees from the University of Toronto. Her doctoral studies focused on philosophy of religion and political thought, with an emphasis on political philosopher Hannah Arendt's approach to the Holocaust.

Misericordia University will present Dr. Leddy with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the graduate commencement ceremony.

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Laurie Bialko, Shickshinny, PA  
 Jordan Broody, Kingston, PA  
 Brittany Ann Burgit, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Derek A. Gregory, Jermyn, PA  
 Ryan Michael Hackett, Howell, NJ  
 Kyle R. Katchur, Fountain Hill, PA  
 Susan L. Lazur, Dallas, PA  
 Joseph Salvatore Marra, South Abington Township, PA  
 Taylor L. Miller, New York, NY  
 Jeffrey S. Molinaro, Danville, PA  
 Leigh Roberts, Forty Fort, PA  
 Griffin Reed Sponaugle, Palmyra, PA  
 Frank Yamrick, Dallas, PA  
 Kristopher Yonushka, Pittston, PA

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

Megan Elizabeth Velehoski, Duryea, PA

**ORGANIZATIONAL MANAGEMENT**

Karen A. Cefalo, Wyoming, PA  
 Maryellen Teresa Cusma, Dallas, PA  
 Ronald Patrick Fitzgerald, Mechanicsburg, PA  
 Nicole Markie Henderson, Edwardsville, PA  
 Wendy Elizabeth Hinton, Forty Fort, PA  
 Lisa Litchkowski, Shavertown, PA  
 Emily Anne O'Donnell, Warminster, PA  
 Judith Ragukas, Plymouth, PA  
 Katherine Elizabeth Sebbane, Frederick, MD  
 Cory Vogeli, Coram, NY

**SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

Samantha Rose Buldo, Dingmans Ferry, PA  
 Sarah Carne, Mountain Top, PA  
 Cornelia Chmil, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Shannon Marie Croasdale, Milford, NJ



Cecelia Maura Cronin, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Lisa Anne Darrup, Mt. Carmel, PA  
 Danielle Nicole Gorski, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Haley Kathryn Heins, Monticello, NY  
 Alexandra Fay Irr, Bethlehem, PA  
 Sarah Jennings, Bridgewater, NJ  
 Lindsey Christine Jordan, Scranton, PA  
 Bethany Mae Killmon, Bridgeville, DE  
 Emily M. Lukasavage, West Pittston, PA  
 Katie Rose McLoughlin, Windsor, CT  
 Kasey Lynn Miller, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Kelsey Michelle O'Donnell, South Abington Twp., PA  
 Anna Kathleen Parsons, Westminster, MD  
 Sarah Olivia Payne, Dallas, PA  
 Ashley Peachey, Dallas, PA  
 Kyle D. Pelkey, Watertown, CT  
 Lindsey Philbin, Throop, PA  
 Nicole Piazza, Hanover Twp., PA  
 Elise K. Reardon, Parker, CO  
 Kylie M. Romeo, Danville, PA  
 Carly Marie Sees, Hughesville, PA  
 Kaitlyn Marie Stochla, Larksville, PA  
 Alexis M. Stoffel, Mullica Hill, NJ  
 Nicole Tagerty, East Brunswick, NJ  
 Maggie Terefenko, Mohnton, PA  
 Allison Elizabeth Trzeskowski, Mountain Top, PA  
 Kelly Williams, Enola, PA  
 Katlyn M. Yackoski, Mountain Top, PA

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Ashley Alexandra Katherine Allen, Milford, PA  
 Zeena Aleeza Bacchus, Reinholds, PA  
 Melanie Catherine Centrelli, Drums, PA  
 Lindsey Marie Gorniak, Scranton, PA  
 Autumn Lee Hillegas, Sugarloaf, PA  
 Laurie J. Kerschner, Benton, PA  
 Sacha Marino, Dallas, PA  
 LeeAnn McCulloch McDermott, Forty Fort, PA  
 Tammy Lee Merrifield, Mountain Top, PA

Kami Leigh Nestler, West Wyoming, PA  
 Lori Ann Piazza, Swoyersville, PA  
 Carrie M. Pientka, Nanticoke, PA  
 Kelly J. Sabaluski, Lehman, PA  
 Sarahjean Seymour, Scranton, PA  
 Tamara J. Snyder, Elysburg, PA  
 Samantha Steinbrenner, Mountain Top, PA  
 Monica Stroz, Swoyersville, PA  
 Renee M. Waligun, Shavertown, PA

## MASTER OF SCIENCE IN OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Jenna Morgan Aimes, Howell, NJ  
 Lauren Apgar, Milford, NJ  
 Heather Bennett, Mountain Top, PA  
 Molly Kathryn Betz, Tamaqua, PA  
 Alexa Lynn Buday, Cochection, NY  
 Kelly Marie Byrne, Hazlet, NJ  
 Caitlin Marie Chappell, Williamsport, PA  
 Maura Ann Chiumento, Yatesville, PA  
 Georgia Marie Cleary, Leola, PA  
 Caroline Elizabeth Clee, Orefield, PA  
 Nicole Emily Cotta, Wall, NJ  
 Allison Emma Cover, Selinsgrove, PA  
 Sarah E. Cremins, Fishkill, NY  
 Kayla Marie Daugherty, Leonardtown, MD  
 James Patrick Duffy, Shavertown, PA  
 Kayleigh Noel Elser, New Ringgold, PA  
 Jessica Tori Gardiner, Mullica Hill, NJ  
 Kaili Marie Higgins, Vestal, NY  
 Rachel Anne Holochuck, Ephrata, PA  
 Ryan Thomas Horne, Warren Center, PA  
 Casey Kearney, Kingston, PA  
 Amy Elisabeth Kingsley-Andujar, Olyphant, PA  
 Alexandra Sarah Kintz, Mountain Top, PA  
 Kassy Ann Kozel, Kelayres, PA  
 Julie Ann Millhouse, Allentown, PA  
 Brittany Michelle Morgan, Danville, PA  
 Samantha Ashley O'Neill, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Mansi R. Patel, Moosic, PA  
 Elizabeth M. Pfisterer, Wellsboro, PA



Samantha Presti, Saddle Brook, NJ  
 Ashley Nicole Redmond, Hunlock Creek, PA  
 Jillian Roshel Eberly Robinson, Quarryville, PA  
 Mollie Lynn Robinson, Sayre, PA  
 Julianne Marie Roth, Orangeburg, NY  
 Kaitlin Rose Sauder, Leola, PA  
 Jacqueline Patricia Sheldon, Milford, PA  
 Kyle Vincent Manuel Soldevilla, Woolwich Twp., NJ  
 Karen Spehalski, East Brunswick, NJ  
 Tyler D. Spires, Candor, NY  
 Brianna Marie Swayser, Zionsville, PA  
 Mariah E. Thomas, Audubon, NJ  
 Melanie Marie Watson, West Chester, PA

## DOCTOR OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY

Michele Bartlett, Timonium, MD  
 Christina Lynn Tucci, Greenville, SC  
 Erica K. Wentzel, Lancaster, PA

## DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Victoria Oluwafunbi Adeyinka, Maplewood, NJ  
 Cael Jon Evans, Nanticoke, PA

**Academic Processional**  
 Ceol Mor, *Pipe and Drum Band*

**Invocation**  
 Sr. Jean Messaros, RSM '73, *Vice President for Mission Integration*

**National Anthem**  
 Jennifer Black, Ph.D.                      Christine Zopf  
 Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.                Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

**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**  
 Sandra L. Kurtinitis, Ph.D.

**Address to Candidates**  
 Sandra L. Kurtinitis, Ph.D.

**Presentation of Candidates for Degrees**  
 David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

**Remarks**  
 Tara Victoria Koskulitz, *Student Speaker*

**Presentation of 2018 Senior Class Gift, Class Officers**  
 Michael Dubinski, *President*                Lisa Stumpp, *Secretary*  
 Murphy Lynch, *Vice President*            Ashley Hobbs, *Activities Coordinator*  
 Stephanie Helsel, *Treasurer*

**Induction of Graduates into the Alumni Association**  
 Mark Oberstaedt, Esq. '89, *Alumni Board President*

**Presentation of the Faculty Awards**  
 David B. Rehm, Ph.D., *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

**Alma Mater**  
 Jennifer Black, Ph.D.                      Christine Zopf  
 Charles LaJeunesse, Ph.D.                Ryan Weber, Ph.D., *Pianist*

**Benediction**  
 Most Reverend Joseph C. Bambera, D.D., J.C.L., *Bishop, Diocese of Scranton*

**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

Tabitha Bolinsky	Jessica Randall
Jennifer Luksa	Aubre Mayorowski Snyder '12, '15
Vanessa Mayorowski '96	Maureen Rinehimer
Elizabeth Murdock	Thomas Sweetz '01
Colleen Newhart '75, '09	Tiffany Wiernusz '04



**Sandra Rossi Kurtinitis, Ph.D.**

Sandra Rossi Kurtinitis, Ph.D., the president of the Community College of Baltimore County (CCBC) and a Wilkes-Barre, Pa., native, is a tireless and dynamic supporter of accessible, affordable and high-quality education that prepares students for career success.



A community college professional for more than 50 years, Dr. Kurtinitis has been the president of CCBC since 2005, while also serving higher education as the current chair-elect of the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors, and as a member of the Maryland Association of Community Colleges and the Community College Humanities Association boards of directors.

A self-described servant-leader, the GAR High School graduate is resolutely committed to inclusive leadership and open communication, affirming her belief that the classroom is a far more important place on campus than the executive office. Under Dr. Kurtinitis' leadership, CCBC has made significant strides in improving service to students while strengthening its operational areas to best support instruction. She supports a lean executive structure, bringing strong central leadership across the college while fostering a collaborative, learning-centered environment throughout the institution.

Educating more than 60,000 students annually, CCBC has received many accolades during Dr. Kurtinitis' tenure. The college received the Kohlberg Prize twice for championing issues related to student veterans. It also is the recipient of the Leah Meyer Austin Leadership Award for Student Success, presented by Achieving the Dream. Community College Week magazine has named CCBC among the "Top 100 Associate Degree Producers" in the United States.

Dr. Kurtinitis has a reputation as a thought-provoking leader and is a trusted resource for local, county and state legislators, and has received several invitations to the White House to participate in discussions regarding higher education and college attainment.

Dr. Kurtinitis earned her undergraduate degree from Misericordia University and a Master of Arts from the University of Maryland. She earned her doctorate from George Washington University, Washington, D.C. Prior to joining CCBC, Dr. Kurtinitis was the president of Quinsigamond Community College in Worcester, Massachusetts, from 1995-2005. In addition, she has published four books, written numerous articles, and been recognized with numerous awards, including her most recent induction into the Chesapeake Gateway Chamber's Hall of Fame in January 2018.

Misericordia University will present Dr. Kurtinitis with an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree during the undergraduate commencement ceremony.

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

Adrian Catherine Langan, Pittston, PA

**CHEMISTRY**

Victoria Isabella Bednar, Honesdale, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Destiny Marie Anderson, Salome, AZ

Sean Stephen Lynch, Monroeville, NJ

Connor Michael William Swagler, Nichols, NY

Anthony Joseph Vega, New Windsor, NY

Lena Simone Williams, Harrisburg, PA

**ENGLISH**

Laura Joann Baut, Exeter, PA

Sierra-Lynn Krohnemann, Roslyn, PA *Cum Laude*

Noah R. Ostrowsky, Dalton, PA *Cum Laude*

**GOVERNMENT, LAW AND NATIONAL SECURITY**

Alex Ryan Bruner, Sunbury, PA

Joshua Cady, Kirkwood, NY

Connor P. Clifford, Lyndhurst, NJ

Richard Comer, Jr., Manasquan, NJ

Michael Joseph Dubinski, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*

Rachel Alexandra Finnegan, Edwardsville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Chiana Symone Fladger, Tobyhanna, PA

Marcus Grudzinski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*

Alec Joseph Iurato, Chappaqua, NY

Cameron John McDowell, Milton, PA *Cum Laude*

Christopher Thomas Rozman, Harrisburg, PA

Wyatt D. Scott, Pottstown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

**HISTORY**

Gina Marie Coticchio, Hazleton, PA

Justin T. Faust, Nazareth, PA

Marcus Grudzinski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Cum Laude*

Amber Briana Kelley, Dallas, PA



**MATHEMATICS**

Thomas Kameron Anderson, Westfield, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Cori Aull, Newton, NJ  
 Michael Anthony Gallo, Hawthorne, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Tara Victoria Koskulitz, Hazleton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Patrick McGinty, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tanner Robert Reyan, Friendsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Blake Edward Smith, Frederick, MD *Cum Laude*

**MEDICAL AND HEALTH HUMANITIES**

Kevin M. Forsyth, Dover, DE *Cum Laude*

**PHILOSOPHY**

Michael Joseph Dubinski, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*  
 Stephanie Lynn Helsel, Woolwich Twp., NJ *Magna Cum Laude*

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

Cori Aull, Newton, NJ  
 Chad David Bell, Townsend, DE  
 William Birmingham, Medford, NJ  
 Cole Alan Bixler, York, PA  
 Elliot James Forde, West Grove, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Anthony J. Gangemi, III, Throop, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Elizabeth Kowalski, Dupont, PA  
 Collin Robert LaWall, Columbia, MD  
 Brandon Leap, Kunkletown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Erik R. Machi, Mooresville, NC  
 Cynthia S. Minet, Plains, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Sara Maria Perez, Harveys Lake, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Kyle Pieczynski, Shavertown, PA  
 Matthew James Quirk, Collegeville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Gerald Reilly, III, Moosic, PA

**APPLIED BEHAVIORAL SCIENCES**

Craig Brindza, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Jill Brown, Trucksville, PA  
 William Thomas Carter, White Haven, PA  
 Sally Verrastro Demeck, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Elizabeth-Renee Fowler, Danville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Maureen Anne Kaufman-Ciavarella, Drums, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Tatiana Michelle Maldonado, McAdoo, PA  
 Nina Poslosky, Barnesville, PA

**BIOCHEMISTRY**

Giovanni Mark Baiamonte, Ashley, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Paul Thomas Collins, Nazareth, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Chabely Espinal, West Hazleton, PA

**BIOLOGY**

Michael Anthony Blazaskie, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*  
 Jamie DeBonis, Montrose, PA  
 Cassandra Rose DiPippa, Shavertown, PA  
 Matthew Thomas Evans, Exeter, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Calvin Elliot Karnes, Harveys Lake, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Charles R. Margelewicz, Stillwater, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Olivia K. McCorkel, Stillwater, PA  
 Ileana Santana, Hazleton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Trinity Nicole Sprague, Bel Air, MD *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jody Lynn Teel, Springville, PA  
 Ashley Marie Williams, Shickshinny, PA  
 Rebecca Lynn Zaneski, Edwardsville, PA *Cum Laude*

**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Kendra Taylor Addy, Port Jervis, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Niko Amity, Taylor, PA  
 John Boylan, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Alison Byra, Ashley, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Earl A. Chang, Jr., Sparta, NJ  
 Tanner Daniel Coleman, Hegins, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Ryan Scott Davis, Gap, PA  
 Kelty Shea Fairchild, Sussex, NJ  
 Alexandria Lynn Gallagher, Middletown, NY



Jennifer A. Gazdick, Farmingville, NY  
 James Joseph Hermsen, Simsbury, CT  
 Michael W. Hughes, Duryea, PA  
 Michael Anthony Iglio, Melville, NY  
 Ryan Maxwell Kaes, Toms River, NJ  
 Ramona T. Kost, Tobyhanna, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kyle A. Melahn, Succasunna, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Jessica Murphy, Mountain Top, PA  
 Candace Maree Opachinski, Mountain Top, PA  
 David Parsnik, Jr., Plains, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 David Michael Pettine, Gilbertsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Bryan Rizzo, Forty Fort, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Rybitski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alfredo Santorelli, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Riley A. Smith, Doylestown, PA  
 Tyler Sokoloski, Kingston, PA  
 Madison Sarah Stebich, West Deptford, NJ  
 Nicolette R. Stine, Archbald, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Nicholas Switzer, Wapwallopen, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Liz Whitaker, Scott Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*

### CHEMISTRY

Christopher Fleming, Hatboro, PA

### COMPUTER SCIENCE

Melissa M. Bostjancic, Poughkeepsie, NY *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kayla Cheyenne Gensel, Shavertown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Nicolas David Lucca, Morrisville, PA  
 James McCrone, Swoyersville, PA *Cum Laude*

### DIAGNOSTIC MEDICAL SONOGRAPHY

Jennifer Christine Carey, Hawley, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jessica Marie Costenbader, Brodheadsville, PA  
 Marianna L. Hughes, High Point, NC

### EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

Alexandra Nicole Anastasi, Duryea, PA  
 Thea Marie Arico, Rockaway, NJ  
 Giovana Marie Augustine, Shavertown, PA

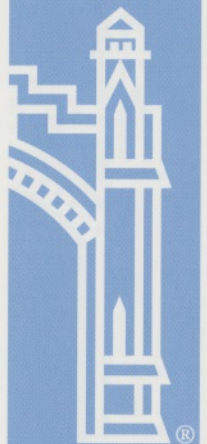
Emily Ann Betterly, Hazleton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Caitlin Leigh Cameron, Dallas, PA  
 Jennifer A. Gazdick, Farmingville, NY  
 Melissa Elizabeth Hackett, Howell, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Sierra Grace Macierowski, Shickshinny, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Amanda McEwen, Mohrsville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kelli Ann Mickowski, Mountain Top, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Erin Marie O'Day, Bear Creek Twp., PA  
 Megan Elizabeth Ostrum, Dallas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Melissa Faye Smith, New Tripoli, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Catherine Wittle, Trucksville, PA *Cum Laude*

### HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

Jennifer Alu, Scranton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jessica Nicole Dinko, White Haven, PA  
 Marissa Wanzie Gombosi, Cogan Station, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Emilee Ann Krasson, Plymouth, PA  
 Mark Whitfield Rainey, II, Newark, DE  
 Frederick Carl Schiel, Hanover Twp., PA

### HEALTH SCIENCE

Jenna Morgan Aimes, Howell, NJ  
 Miranda Rose Amey, Waxhaw, NC *Cum Laude*  
 Alexis Monaco Andriani, Cedar Run, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Lauren Apgar, Milford, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Heather Bennett, Mountain Top, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Molly Kathryn Betz, Tamaqua, PA  
 Mariah Lynn Bostwick, Stroudsburg, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Megan Rachel Brownmiller, Hamburg, PA  
 Alexa Lynn Buday, Cochection, NY  
 Samantha Rose Buldo, Dingmans Ferry, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Rebecca Jane Burgess, Jarrettsville, MD  
 Kelly Marie Byrne, Hazlet, NJ  
 Kathryn Marie Canavan, Athens, PA  
 Julianne Victoria Cariola, Yardley, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Carne, Mountain Top, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kacy Marie Carroll, Sanatoga, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Michael B. Castaldi, Scranton, PA  
 Natasha Chandra, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Caitlin Marie Chappell, Williamsport, PA *Magna Cum Laude*





Anna Mihaylovna Chinikaylo, Shavertown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Maura Ann Chiumento, Yatesville, PA  
 Cornelia Chmil, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Georgia Marie Cleary, Leola, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Caroline Elizabeth Clee, Orefield, PA  
 Ashley Elizabeth Coleman, Kunkletown, PA  
 Hannah Corbacio, Pottsville, PA  
 Nicole Emily Cotta, Wall, NJ  
 Allison Emma Cover, Selinsgrove, PA  
 Sarah E. Cremins, Fishkill, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Nicole Crinella, Archbald, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Rebecca Cristino, Mountainside, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Shannon Marie Croasdale, Milford, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jason J. Curtis, Cape May Court House, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Lisa Anne Darrup, Mt. Carmel, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Taylor Lynn Daton, Jackson, NJ  
 Kayla Marie Daugherty, Leonardtown, MD  
 Emily DiGirolamo, Ottsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Haley Lynn DiMassimo, Sugar Run, PA  
 James Patrick Duffy, Shavertown, PA  
 Colby Theresa Eldridge, Maple Glen, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Kayleigh Noel Elser, New Ringgold, PA  
 Jamie Demorest Fechnay, Hatboro, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Siobhan Ferrara, Hellertown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Caroline Marie Florenzo, Mt. Airy, MD  
 Brianna A. Font, Washington Crossing, PA  
 Olivia Rae Garcia, Oyster Bay, NY  
 Jessica Tori Gardiner, Mullica Hill, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Katrina Elizabeth Giacumbo, Holmdel, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Danielle Nicole Gorski, Wilkes-Barre, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Samantha Anne Gregorowicz, South Abington Twp., PA *Cum Laude*  
 Emily Gurtizen, West Chester, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alisa Janet Guzman, Old Bridge, NJ  
 Amberlynn Leigh Habich, Downingtown, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Haley Kathryn Heins, Monticello, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Kaili Marie Higgins, Vestal, NY  
 Ashley M. Hobbs, Freehold, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Rachel Anne Holochuck, Ephrata, PA  
 Ryan Thomas Horne, Warren Center, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Bailee M. Hymers, East Meredith, NY *Cum Laude*

Alexandra Fay Irr, Bethlehem, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Jennings, Bridgewater, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Lindsey Christine Jordan, Scranton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Abigail Rose Kayes, Shenandoah, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Casey Kearney, Kingston, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Bethany Mae Killmon, Bridgeville, DE *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alexandra Sarah Kintz, Mountain Top, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kassy Ann Kozel, Kelayres, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Brianna Nicole Kubishin, Drums, PA  
 Kaitlynn Rose Kuchta, Avoca, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Murphy Lynch, Northampton, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Meghan Elizabeth Maccarone, Sweet Valley, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Nicole Amber Mayerski, Plains, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kali Ann McCornac, Bethlehem, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Riley M. McKee, Southampton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Katie Rose McLoughlin, Windsor, CT *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Brianna Membrino, Manalapan, NJ  
 Emily Mesaris, Lansdale, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kasey Lynn Miller, Hanover Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Julie Ann Millhouse, Allentown, PA  
 Jenna Lee Mills, Sewell, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Rachel Catherine Moon, Weatherly, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Jacqueline Moore, Sewell, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Brittany Michelle Morgan, Danville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Olivia Katherine Natale, Staten Island, NY *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Molly Frances Noon, Ashland, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Jane Novalsky, Woodbury, NJ  
 Paige Nicole Nowacoski, Columbia Cross Roads, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Maggie Marie O'Day, Honesdale, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kelsey Michelle O'Donnell, South Abington Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Samantha Ashley O'Neill, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Jessica Pachuski, Kulpmont, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Leanne Para, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Alyssa Nicole Parker, Lyon Station, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Allison May Parkes, Cranston, RI  
 Linsey Ellis Parks, Pine Beach, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Anna Kathleen Parsons, Westminster, MD *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Olivia Payne, Dallas, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Elizabeth M. Pfisterer, Wellsboro, PA  
 Lindsey Philbin, Throop, PA *Magna Cum Laude*



Nicole Piazza, Hanover Twp., PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alexa Paige Plitt, Mullica Hill, NJ  
 Jessica Marie Pluta, Dauphin, PA  
 Shayne Michelle Postiglione, Washingtonville, NY *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Olivia Powers, Towanda, PA  
 Samantha Presti, Saddle Brook, NJ  
 D'manda Price, Paterson, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Rebecca Morgan Price, Mountain Top, PA  
 Amanda Lea Rando, Dallas, PA  
 Elise K. Reardon, Parker, CO *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Ashley Nicole Redmond, Hunlock Creek, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Christopher Rehrig, Somerdale, NJ  
 Micaela Renee Rhone, Starrucca, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jillian Roshel Eberly Robinson, Quarryville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Mollie Lynn Robinson, Sayre, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Hope Roettger, Finksburg, MD *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kylie M. Romeo, Danville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Julianne Marie Roth, Orangeburg, NY *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Brianna Nicole Rowe, Halifax, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Jack A. Ryan, Hillsborough, NJ  
 Kaitlin Rose Sauder, Leola, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Carly Marie Sees, Hughesville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jacqueline Patricia Sheldon, Milford, PA  
 Kyle Vincent Manuel Soldevilla, Woolwich Twp., NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Danielle Spagnuolo, Wyoming, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Hope Alexa Spangler, Mechanicsburg, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Karen Spehalski, East Brunswick, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Tyler D. Spires, Candor, NY  
 Kaitlyn Marie Stochla, Larksville, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Alexis M. Stoffel, Mullica Hill, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Lisa Elizabeth Stumpp, New Cumberland, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Brianna Marie Swayser, Zionsville, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Nicole Tagerty, East Brunswick, NJ *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Maggie Terefenko, Mohnton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Mariah E. Thomas, Audubon, NJ  
 Jessica Rae Thomson, Byram Twp., NJ  
 Allison Elizabeth Trzeskowski, Mountain Top, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Emily Walsh, Scranton, PA  
 Melanie Marie Watson, West Chester, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

Kelly Williams, Enola, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Shea Nicole Williams, Milton, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Kaitlin Patricia Wilson, Dorothy, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Megan J. Yeager, Mifflintown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

### INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Jordan Aquino, Lawrenceville, NJ  
 Randolph Rabin Custodio, Stewartsville, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 William James Lesho, Exeter, PA  
 Kevin Loesch, Lincroft, NJ

### MEDICAL IMAGING

Zuhey S. Aguilar, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Hannah Bittlingmeyer, Stroudsburg, PA  
 Brooke Lyn Butler, Spring Brook Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Rachel Marilyn Callahan, Wapwallopen, PA  
 Tyler J. Collins, Olyphant, PA  
 Jaclyn Margaret Hajec, Utica, NY *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Molly Lynn Harris, Trout Run, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Michael Thomas Harth, Pittston Twp., PA  
 Krysten F. Herbert, Callicoon, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Sarah Elizabeth Murray, Moscow, PA  
 Michael Niggli, Conklin, NY  
 Rosita L. Rodriguez Olivencia, East Stroudsburg, PA  
 Michelle Sehested, Kings Park, NY *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Paige M. Shaughnessy, Apalachin, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Mikayla Melissa Skapyak, Mountain Top, PA  
 Adam Thomas Strogis, Harleysville, PA

### MEDICAL SCIENCE

John Tierney, Bethpage, NY *Magna Cum Laude*

### MIDDLE LEVEL EDUCATION

Morgan Leigh Palmer, Lawrenceville, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Christine R. Wickiser, Hanover Twp., PA *Cum Laude*



**PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

Frederick Michael Allenbaugh, Tunkhannock, PA  
 Angela K. Brennan, Old Forge, PA  
 Alexandra Nicole Campbell, Berwick, PA  
 Jeremy R. Fulmer, Catawissa, PA  
 Tiffany Golab, Swoyersville, PA  
 Nicholas Ross Hendry, Cedar Grove, NJ  
 Denise M. Krasucki, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Krista Lee Nice, Swoyersville, PA  
 Candice Marie Pesotini, East Stroudsburg, PA  
 Glenn William Robbins, Clarks Summit, PA *Summa Cum Laude*

**PSYCHOLOGY**

Lauren Apgar, Milford, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Heather Bennett, Mountain Top, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Molly Kathryn Betz, Tamaqua, PA  
 James Patrick Duffy, Shavertown, PA  
 Alec Joshua Gibbons, Elizabethtown, PA  
 Samantha Harden, Shickshinny, PA  
 Kristine Jane Komar, Pleasant Mount, PA  
 Kristen Marie Kondrosky, Shickshinny, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kelly F. Kozlowski, Dunmore, PA  
 Nicholas B. Lynch, Northampton, PA  
 Karlee Melissa Naylor, Sugarloaf, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Michelle Rae Norton, Susquehanna, PA  
 Samantha Ashley O'Neill, Harveys Lake, PA  
 Alivia Alyse Plevyak, Clarks Summit, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Jordyn Renee Powell, Philipsburg, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Chelsie Alexis Ray, Olyphant, PA  
 Cari E. Romano, Forkston Twp., PA  
 Mark William Seewald, West Chester, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 Karen Spehalski, East Brunswick, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Melanie Marie Watson, West Chester, PA *Magna Cum Laude*

**SPORT MANAGEMENT**

Courtney Answini, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Logan Patrick Ferguson, Flourtown, PA  
 Tre'Vonn Fields, Johnson City, TN  
 Dominic John Griffith, Kingston, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Amber Hartranft, Myerstown, PA *Summa Cum Laude*  
 William F. Hughes, Middlesex, NJ  
 Klayton J. Kelly, Cornwall, NY  
 Justin Michael Matzoni, Harrisburg, PA  
 Alyssa Pojero, Neptune, NJ  
 Matthew Joseph Shelter, Blakeslee, PA  
 Matthew Sommers, Bath, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Michael Turton, Westbury, NY  
 Daniel J. Zurowski, Pottstown, PA

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

Kaylin Ahearn, Avoca, PA  
 Giovanna Miciano Allen, Easton, PA  
 Tyler C. Arnold, Springville, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Victoria Hope Avidano, Bloomingburg, NY *Cum Laude*  
 Toni Baran, Sugarloaf, PA  
 Isabella Grace Botak, Telford, PA  
 Lauren Katherine Butruce, Shavertown, PA  
 Alyson Marie Clegg, Roaring Branch, PA  
 Christine Clark Cologie, Larksville, PA  
 Heather Lee Davies, Mountain Top, PA  
 Eric Deignan, Harrisburg, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Tracy Lynn Elick, Shavertown, PA  
 Emma Lynn Federinko, Spring Mills, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Kevin M. Forsyth, Dover, DE *Cum Laude*  
 Philip Fraher, Plainview, NY  
 Diana Denby Freyberger, Seabrook, TX  
 Melissa Ann Galloway, Bath, PA  
 Emily Kate Galluppi, Quakertown, PA  
 Angelica Marie Granahan, Scranton, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Christina Marie Kate Guzinski, Shenandoah, PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Amanda Margaret Halchak, Nanticoke, PA  
 Sarah Elizabeth Harder, Catawissa, PA



Lauren Victoria Hause, Kulpmont, PA  
 Thomas Diggory Hircocock, Chester Springs, PA  
 Christopher A. Hutter, Elmsford, NY  
 Angela Eve Ingrassia, Carbondale, PA  
 Kayla Jean Krishak, Springville, PA  
 Rebecca Kunkel, Reading, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Ann Lewis, Spring Brook Twp., PA *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Nicole Ann Liebeknecht, Audubon, NJ  
 Kelly Martin, Forty-Fort, PA  
 Anastasya Menaker, Kingston, PA  
 Raymond A. Metzo, III, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Mikhayla Elizabeth Michigan, Mullica Hill, NJ  
 Kallie D. Miller, Pittston, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Stacy Ann Miller, Laceyville, PA  
 Zachary Tyler Moody, Gettysburg, PA  
 Tiffany Alison Mukerjee, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Monica Catherine Murray, Hopkinton, MA  
 Patrick Thomas Newins, Levittown, NY  
 Laurette Paciga, Shavertown, PA  
 Valerie Marian Pagano, Folsom, NJ  
 Viktorija Paolucci, Montrose, PA  
 Miranda Pardoe, Milton, PA  
 Kristine Elizabeth Pavlicka, Pocono Lake, PA  
 Melanie Anne Piser, Middletown, DE  
 Lindsey Susanna Poncavage, Nazareth, PA  
 Shannon Marie Post, Branchville, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Emily Grace Power, Jamison, PA *Cum Laude*  
 Michael John-Paul Ryan, West Simsbury, CT  
 Alexis McKenzie Savage, Bloomsburg, PA  
 Samantha Mary Scalzo, West Pittston, PA  
 Ashley Nichole Schrader, Roaring Brook, PA  
 Alyssa Brooke Schwarz, Belle Mead, NJ *Magna Cum Laude*  
 Kylan Alexandra Smith, Hershey, PA  
 Julia Paige Spencer, Manalapan, NJ  
 Felicia Turner, West Pittston, PA  
 Kaitlin Sloan Varallo, Doylestown, PA  
 Caitlin Mary Walsh, Laflin, PA  
 Jessica Corinne Watkins, Elysburg, PA  
 Jessica M. Wood, Dickson City, PA  
 Elyssa Morgan Yanik, West Pittston, PA

## BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Christina Rose DeMeo, Wilkes-Barre, PA  
 Carly Elizabeth Kandel, Newton, NJ *Cum Laude*  
 Olivia Ann Mayorowski, Old Forge, PA  
 Stephanie Santana, Dallas, PA  
 Julianna Gabrielle Stella, West Wyoming, 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. Estimation of honors appears in the program for students who are completing their course work in May.

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. The Spring 2018 Valedictorian will be announced after final grades are submitted.

The student speaker for the 2018 Spring Commencement is the student with the highest grade point average based on grades earned at the start of the spring 2018 semester.

2018 Spring Commencement Student Speaker  
Tara Victoria Koskulitz

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

Lauren Apgar	Samantha Ashley O'Neill
Victoria Isabella Bednar	Anna Kathleen Parsons
Molly Kathryn Betz	Emily Grace Power
Samantha Rose Buldo	Sarah Hope Roettger
Sarah E. Cremins	Mark William Seewald
Michael Joseph Dubinski	Danielle Spagnuolo
Danielle Nicole Gorski	Trinity Nicole Sprague
Kali Ann McCornac	Ashley Marie Williams
Olivia Katherine Natale	

## College of Arts and Sciences

The *Dr. Tatjana Petrychenko Award*, established by the Misericordia University Biological Society in recognition of outstanding achievement in Biology, is awarded to:

Trinity Nicole Sprague

The *American Chemical Society Outstanding Graduating Chemistry or Biochemistry Major Award*, given by the Susquehanna Valley Section of the American Chemical Society and awarded to the graduating student, selected by the Chemistry/Biochemistry faculty, who has shown excellence in scholarship and academics, is presented to:

Rachel A. McCormick (December)

The *Award for Excellence in English* is presented to:

Gabriella LaManna (December)

The *Okla Elliott Award for Creative Literary Achievement* is presented to:

Laura Joann Baut

The *Instress Award for Service and Creative Distinction* is awarded to:

Sierra-Lynn Krohnemann

The *Donald and Mary Ann Hopkins Award for Excellence in Theater Arts*, presented to a graduating senior who has balanced academic excellence while exemplifying passion for theater arts both on and off stage, is presented to:

Melanie Jayne Fry (December)

The *Award for Excellence in Government, Law, and National Security* is presented to:

Michael Joseph Dubinski      Wyatt D. Scott

The *History Department Award for High Achievement* is awarded to:

Amber Briana Kelley

The *Bishop Hafey 4th Degree Knights of Columbus Award for Outstanding Achievement in History* is awarded to:

Marcus Grudzinski

The *Dr. Joseph Tomasovic Memorial Award*, given to the graduating mathematics student who best represents that department's academic standards and displays exceptional commitment to the department and to the University, is awarded to:

Tara Victoria Koskulitz



The *Living Philosophy Aspen Award*, given to a graduating philosophy major who has, like a single aspen tree seedling, grown and reached out to create a forest of living and enduring ideas, changing the landscape forever, and creating footpaths for future generations to walk, is presented to:

Michael Joseph Dubinski

The *Professor Kenneth J. Rockensies Award*, presented to a mathematical or natural sciences graduate in recognition of outstanding achievement in Physics, is awarded to:

Tara Victoria Koskulitz                      Kayla Stephani (December)

The *Psychology Student Achievement Award* for academic excellence is presented to:

Jordyn Renee Powell  
Mark William Seewald  
Rebecca Ann Fiorillo (December)

The *Outstanding Contribution to Psychology Award*, given for exemplary service and leadership, is presented to:

Karlee Melissa Naylon

### College of Business

The *Pennsylvania Institute of Certified Public Accountants Award* for excellence in Accounting Studies, given to a graduating traditional student majoring in Accounting, is awarded to:

Sara Maria Perez  
Alicia Giambra (December)

The *Business Administration Faculty Award* for academic excellence, given to a graduating traditional student majoring in Business Administration, Accounting, Healthcare Management, Information Technology, or Sport Management who has demonstrated excellence in academic studies while at Misericordia University, is presented to:

Amber Hartranft  
Nicolette R. Stine  
Karissa R. Flick (December)

The *Mary Ann Thompson Memorial Student Achievement Award*, presented to a graduating traditional Business Administration, Accounting, Healthcare Management, Information Technology, or Sport Management major for outstanding community service and academic accomplishment as selected by the Business Administration Department faculty, is awarded to:

Matthew Sommers

The *Mass Communications and Design Department Award for Excellence*, given to a graduating Mass Communications and Design major for outstanding professional development, academic achievement, and contribution to the University community, is presented to:

Sean Stephen Lynch

The *Mass Communications and Design Department Academic Achievement Award* for outstanding scholarship, is presented to:

Sean Stephen Lynch

### College of Health Sciences and Education

The *Diagnostic Medical Sonography Academic Excellence Award* is presented to:

Jennifer Christine Carey

The *Medical Imaging Department Award for Academic Excellence* is awarded to:

Jaclyn Margaret Hajec  
Blair Elizabeth Muehlhauser (December)

The *Jane DeMaio Clinical Excellence in the study of Medical Imaging Award* is presented to:

Jaclyn Margaret Hajec

The *Sister Mary Kateri Dorwart Award for Excellence and Leadership in Nursing* is awarded to:

Mikhayla Elizabeth Michigan

The *Clinical Excellence Award*, given 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, is presented to:

Lauren Victoria Hause

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

Emily Grace Power

The *Kaplan Secure Predictor*, presented to a student who has attained the highest score on the comprehensive NCLEX review examination, is awarded to:

Rebecca Kunkel

The *MSN Clinical Excellence Award*, presented annually to a graduating MSN student in good academic standing who demonstrates clinical excellence, is awarded to:

Kelly J. Sabaluski



The *MSN Evidence Based Practice Award*, presented to a graduating MSN student in good academic standing who demonstrates excellence in evidence-based-practice change through the MSN capstone, is awarded to:

Sarahjean Seymour

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, is presented to:

Lauren Apgar

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

Ryan Thomas Horne                      Casey Kearney

The *Dr. Stephen L. Heater Leadership Award*, given to a graduating Occupational Therapy student who exemplifies the qualities of leadership modeled by Dr. Stephen Heater, including creativity, dynamic vision, and exceptional conceptual skills, is presented to:

Mariah E. Thomas

The *Alpha Delta Mu Award* for academic excellence in Social Work is awarded to:

Christina Rose DeMeo

The *Dr. Patricia Lewis Award*, given to a graduating social work student who best exemplifies the Sisters of Mercy values of mercy, service, justice, and hospitality and whose ethical conduct and comportment as a beginning social work practitioner merit recognition beyond the awarding of the BSW degree, is presented to:

Julianna Gabrielle Stella

The *Dr. James Calderone Award*, presented to a graduating Social Work student who has shown outstanding personal and professional growth, is awarded to:

Carly Elizabeth Kandel

The *Speech-Language Pathology Academic Excellence Award*, granted to the student who has demonstrated academic excellence superior to the graduating class, is presented to:

Kylie M. Romeo

The *Speech-Language Pathology Clinical Excellence Award*, granted to the student who has demonstrated exemplary skills in clinical practicum, is presented to:

Alexandra Fay Irr

The *Speech-Language Pathology Outstanding Achievement Award*, granted to the student who is an exemplary leader in the field of Speech-Language Pathology, is presented to:

Samantha Rose Buldo

The *Speech-Language Pathology Outstanding Service Award*, granted to the student who provides volunteer service to the department above and beyond academic and clinical responsibilities, and who exceeds any other student's service, is presented to:

Kyle D. Pelkey

The *Speech-Language Pathology Master's Thesis Honors Award*, granted to the student who has successfully completed all the requirements for a master's thesis in Speech-Language Pathology, is presented to:

Cecelia Maura Cronin                      Kasey Lynn Miller

The *Sister M. Noreen Mulherin, RSM Award* for excellence in student teaching in Elementary Education/Early Childhood is presented to:

Emily Ann Betterly

The *Dr. Louis Maganzin Award* for excellence in Secondary Education is presented to:

Noah R. Ostrowsky

The *Sister Chrysostom Dougherty, RSM Award* for excellence in student teaching in Special Education is awarded to:

Sierra Grace Macierowski

The *Sister Pat McCann, RSM, Ed.D. Award*, given to a student who exemplifies the charism of service in the spirit of Catherine McAuley, is presented to:

Giovana Marie Augustine

The *Joan Krause Award*, given to a student with outstanding academic achievement and excellence in Pre-Service Teaching, is awarded to:

Melissa Faye Smith

The *K. Monica Kruger Award*, presented to an outstanding adult learner in the Teacher Education Department, is awarded to:

Christine R. Wickiser



## University Awards

The *Alumni Outstanding Graduate Award*, established by the Alumni Association to recognize a graduating student who exemplifies the Misericordia spirit of mercy, justice, service, and hospitality, is awarded to:

Stephanie Lynn Helsel                      Trevor James George (December)

The *Grace Andrews Award*, given to the outstanding nontraditional student demonstrating enthusiasm for lifelong learning, is awarded to:

Jill Brown

The *Outstanding Adult Learner Award*, given to a nontraditional student for outstanding academic achievement and involvement in both University and community activities, is presented to:

Marcus Grudzinski

The *Service-Learning Leadership Award*, given to a student who conducts community-based work initiated in a service-learning course and who shows evidence of active community service and the potential for continued service in a leadership role, is presented to:

Emily Gurtizen                                  Bailee M. Hymers

The *Theresa and Frank J. Mehm Prize*, awarded annually to the student who, by vote of the chief academic and student affairs officers of the University, most nearly represents the ideal Misericordia man or woman with respect to moral courage, intellectual vigor and participation, on and off campus, contributing to the advancement of the University, is presented to:

Karlee Melissa Naylon

The *Board of Trustees Award*, established by the Misericordia University Board of Trustees to honor the student exemplifying the University's academic, leadership, and service ideals, is presented to:

Colby Theresa Eldridge

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

Christina Rose DeMeo	Brianna Kay Smith	Deanna Warren
Carly Elizabeth Kandel	Christine Ann Ward	

Students admitted to the Beta Chi Chapter, Alpha Sigma Lambda, the National Honor Society for Continuing Education students:

Beth Cottle	Stacy Ann Miller	Glenn William Robbins
Alyssa Maria Gawlas	Tiffany Alison Mukerjee	Sarah Rybitski
Dominic John Griffith	Krista Lee Nice	Tammy Geraldine Schnable
Kimberly Klick	Sara Maria Perez	Evelyn Sharmini Sirisani
Ann Lewis	Kristy Lee Rice	Toni Zalewski

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

Michael Anthony Blazaskie	Calvin Elliot Karnes	Ashley Marie Williams
Cassandra Rose DiPippa	Ileana Santana	Rebecca Lynn Zaneski
Chabely Espinal	Trinity Nicole Sprague	
Rhiannon Leigh Judge	Jody Lynn Teel	

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

Giovana Marie Augustine	Melissa Elizabeth Hackett	Megan Elizabeth Ostrum
Victoria Isabella Bednar	Sierra Grace Macierowski	Morgan Leigh Palmer
Emily Ann Betterly	Lauren Amanda McEwen	Melissa Faye Smith
Caitlin Leigh Cameron	Kelli Ann Mickowski	Christine R. Wickiser
Jennifer A. Gazdick	Erin Marie O'Day	Sarah Catherine Wittle

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

Brooke Lyn Butler	Jaclyn Margaret Hajec	Michael Niggli
Rachel Marilyn Callahan	Molly Lynn Harris	Michelle Sehested
Jennifer Christine Carey	Krysten F. Herbert	

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

Miranda Rose Amey	Emily Rebecca Gralinski	Olivia Katherine Natale
Mariah Lynn Bostwick	Samantha Anne	Molly Frances Noon
Cara Flynn Brown	Gregorowicz	Micaela Renee Rhone
Kristen Mary Byrne	Julianna Ellen Haar	Sarah Hope Roettger
Julianne Victoria Cariola	Monica Jarog	Brianna Nicole Rowe
Danielle Krista Cawley	Olivia Johnson	Morgan Mary Wheeler
Brenna Lynn Curran	Abigail Rose Kayes	Kaitlin Patricia Wilson
Charlotte Amber Durr	Brianna Marie Kominiak	Theresa Ann Zeares
Madison Nicole Eberlin	Emily Mesaris	





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

Kendra Taylor Addy	Jennifer A. Gazdick	Samantha Alexis Miller
Jennifer Alu	Marissa Wanzie Gombosi	David Parsnik, Jr.
Jeffrey Augustine	Dominic John Griffith	Sara Maria Perez
Evan J. Brown	Haley D. Gruber	David Michael Pettine
Bailey William Brugler	Ryan Michael Hackett	Matthew James Quirk
Jason Burke	Emily Elizabeth Hammond	Sarah Rybitski
Emma Nicole Caldwell	Steven Orlando Hernandez	Matthew Sommers
Rachel Ann Carmody	Wendy Elizabeth Hinton	Kristen Marie Southard
Karen A. Cefalo	Jenna M. Hiryak	Griffin Reed Sponaugle
Tanner Daniel Coleman	Hailey S. Inge	Sarah Elizabeth Stevens
Deirdre Patricia Currie	Louise Keller	Nicolette R. Stine
Maryellen Teresa Cusma	Donovan Jared Klem	Nicholas Switzer
Sabrina M. Di Tucci	Hannah J. Larkin	Jacob John Szczecina
Adam David Ercolani	Philip Lasinski	Kailey Anne Vogl
Ronald Patrick Fitzgerald	Rachel A. Lauck	Emma Lauren Weber
Elliot James Forde	Elizabeth Lipski	Tara Nicole Welliver
Leanne M. Forsyth	Evelyn Sharon Logie	Hayley Nicole Witmer
Anthony J. Gangemi, III	Molly Lorenzen	Kaitlyn Elizabeth Yurenda
Kelli Gargone	Kyle A. Melahn	

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

Tyler C. Arnold	Lauren Victoria Hause	Sarahjean Seymour
Victoria Hope Avidano	Rebecca Kunkel	Kimberly Shaffer
Zeena Aleeza Bacchus	Sacha Marino	Samantha Steinbrenner
Isabella Grace Botak	LeeAnn McCulloch	Monica Stroz
Randi Michelle Bunchalk	McDermott	Taylor Trautwein
Lauren Katherine Butruce	Tammy Lee Merrifield	Kaitlin Sloan Varallo
Melanie Catherine Centrelli	Kallie D. Miller	Caitlin Mary Walsh
Theodore Chernyl	Dianna Murphy	Jessica Corinne Watkins
Dara Clark	Kami Leigh Nestler	Stephanie Wiedlich
Emma Lynn Federinko	Carrie M. Pientka	
Kevin M. Forsyth	Shannon Marie Post	
Christina Marie Kate Guzinski	Emily Grace Power Alyssa Brooke Schwarz	

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

Laura Joann Baut	Gabriella LaManna	Noah R. Ostrowsky
Sierra-Lynn Krohnemann		

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

Marcus Grudzinski	Amber Briana Kelley
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## Students admitted to the Kappa Chapter of Phi Sigma Tau, the International Philosophy Honor Society:

Isabella Grace Botak	Stephanie Lynn Helsel	Noah R. Ostrowsky
Michael Joseph Dubinski	Tara Victoria Koskulitz	Mark William Seewald
Kevin M. Forsyth	Sarah Jane Novalsky	

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

Kristen Marie Kondrosky	Alivia Alyse Plevyak	Mark William Seewald
Karlee Melissa Naylor	Jordyn Renee Powell	

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

Jenna Morgan Aimes	Amber Hartranft	Jillian Roshel Eberly
Thomas Kameron Anderson	Stephanie Lynn Helsel	Robinson
Thea Marie Arico	Alexandra Fay Irr	Cari E. Romano
Laura Joann Baut	Ryan Maxwell Kaes	Julianne Marie Roth
Victoria Isabella Bednar	Amber Briana Kelley	Christopher Thomas
Emily Ann Betterly	Bethany Mae Killmon	Rozman
Melissa M. Bostjancic	Tara Victoria Koskulitz	Kaitlin Rose Sauder
Brooke Lyn Butler	Olivia K. McCorkel	Michelle Sehested
Joshua Cady	Lauren Amanda McEwen	Paige M. Shaughnessy
Caitlin Marie Chappell	Mikhayla Elizabeth	Melissa Faye Smith
Gina Marie Coticchio	Michigan	Blake Edward Smith
Nicole Emily Cotta	Kelli Ann Mickowski	Julia Paige Spencer
Sarah E. Cremins	Julie Ann Millhouse	Trinity Nicole Sprague
Lisa Anne Darrup	Monica Catherine Murray	Kaitlyn Marie Stochla
Logan Patrick Ferguson	Michael Niggli	Adam Thomas Strogis
Christopher Fleming	Erin Marie O'Day	Brianna Marie Swayser
Michael Anthony Gallo	Valerie Marian Pagano	Maggie Terefenko
Christina Marie Kate Guzinski	Anna Kathleen Parsons	Mariah E. Thomas
Jaclyn Margaret Hajec	Elizabeth M. Pfisterer	Kaitlin Sloan Varallo
Molly Lynn Harris	Nicole Piazza	Ashley Marie Williams
	Shannon Marie Post	Rebecca Lynn Zaneski

# 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

HEALTH SCIENCE  
Golden Yellow

HISTORY  
White

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.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
Golden Yellow

INTERDISCIPLINARY STUDIES  
Golden Yellow

MANAGEMENT  
Drab

MARKETING  
Drab

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
Drab

MATHEMATICS  
White

MEDICAL IMAGING  
Golden Yellow

MEDICAL SCIENCE  
Golden Yellow

MEDICAL AND HEALTH HUMANITIES  
White

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

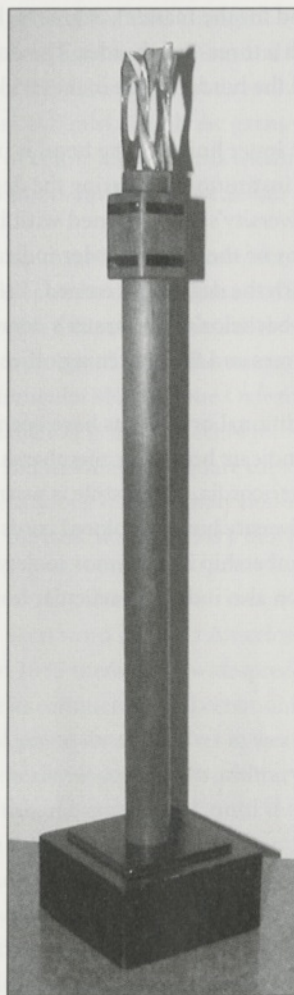
The mace is made of black walnut and bronze. The dark, rich wood symbolizes the woodlands surrounding the University campus referred to in the Alma Mater.

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 Kiel, 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

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Brenna Gorski	Elizabeth Perfetti
Hailey Inge	Madelyn Perrone
Luke Kresge	Callie Rimpfel
Kristen Kuntzman	Jacqueline Strausser
David Mallarkey	Reilly Wagner
Annmarie Narcum	



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Dr. Martha Hanlon, RSM '60

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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





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Share your well wishes and best commencement photos of your favorite graduates on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter by tagging them #MUGrads and/or with @MisericordiaU in your postings. They may be shared on MU social media sites.



**MISERICORDIA  
UNIVERSITY.**

*Founded by the Sisters of Mercy*