



PROVIDENCE COLLEGE

ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTH COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

**GRADUATE PROGRAMS AND
SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION**

MAY THE FOURTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX



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ORDER OF EXERCISES

GRADUATE PROGRAM AND SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION CEREMONY MAY THE FOURTEENTH, TWO THOUSAND TWENTY SIX PETERSON RECREATION CENTER

PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance No. 1
by Sir Edward Elgar

A Festival Prelude
by Alfred Reed

“The Earle of Oxford’s March” from *William Byrd Suite*
by Gordon Jacob

March and Procession of Bacchus
by Léo Delibes

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM

The Star-Spangled Banner
Lyrics by Francis Scott Key
Music by John Stafford Smith
Vocals by Maya E. Rezendes '28

O say, can you see, by the dawn’s early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight’s last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, through the perilous fight
O’er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets’ red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there,
O say, does that star-spangled banner yet wave
O’er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

Performed by the Providence College Symphonic Winds
Eric C. Melley, DMA
Director of Instrumental Activities

WELCOME

Reverend Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P., Ph.D. '78, '82G
President

INVOCATION

The Most Reverend Robert C. Evans, D.D., JCL
Auxiliary Bishop Emeritus of Providence

GREETINGS

Reverend Kenneth R. Sicard, O.P., Ph.D. '78, '82G
President

Kathleen McGinley '82
President of the Providence College National Alumni
Association

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE AND ASSOCIATE DEGREES

Thomas W. Smith, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Candidates for the School of Continuing Education,
Bachelor of Arts*

Madeleine A. Metzler, M.A.
Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

*Candidates for the School of Continuing Education,
Associate of Arts*

Madeleine A. Metzler, M.A.
Associate Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

**PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR
GRADUATE DEGREES**

Thomas W. Smith, Ph.D.
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

*Candidates for Degree, Master of Arts and Master of
Theological Studies*

Margaret A. Watkins, Ph.D.
Dean of the School of Arts and Sciences

*Candidates for Degree, Master of Business Administration
and Master of Science*

Christine E. Earley, Ph.D.
Interim Dean of the School of Business

Candidates for Degree, Master of Education and Master of Arts
Yune K. Tran, Ph.D.

Dean of the School of Education and Social Work

ADDRESS TO THE GRADUATES

Donna Cupelo '78
Vice President for Verizon, Retired

**BENEDICTION AND BLESSING
OF THE GRADUATES**

Reverend Christopher Justin Brophy, O.P., Ph.D.
Senior Vice President for Mission and Ministry

THE ALMA MATER

From *Finlandia*
by Jean Sibelius
Vocals by Giana G. Ribeiro '28

Mother of Truth, we proudly pledge to thee
Undying love and steadfast loyalty.
From thee we learned the wondrous work of God,
His goodness, grace, and holy power;
Clear hast thou shown what pathways must be trod;
All fearless now we brave life's hour!

Though failure frown, though kindly fortune smile,
Firm our advance; naught can us e'er beguile.
To honor bound, to love and virtue sworn,
Lift we our voice in full acclaim;
Our lives shall thee with noble deeds adorn;
Hail Providence! We praise thy name!

RECESSIONAL

Sine Nomine
by Ralph Vaughan Williams

"March — Folk Songs from Somerset"
from *English Folk Song Suite*
by Ralph Vaughan Williams

Performed by the Providence College Symphonic Winds
Eric C. Melley, DMA
Director of Instrumental Activities

HONORARY DEGREE RECIPIENT

DONNA CUPELO '78



VICE PRESIDENT FOR VERIZON, RETIRED HONORARY DOCTOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Donna Chevalier Cupelo '78, who retired in 2021 after 42 years in the telecommunications industry, including 24 years in executive roles with Verizon, is a highly accomplished senior executive and board member. During her career, she spearheaded multiple initiatives that grounded Verizon as an industry leader in advanced telecommunications technologies and corporate social responsibility. She earned a reputation as a dedicated business partner to community, municipal, and government organizations, a highly respected corporate executive, and a passionate advocate for workforce development.

As the vice president of public policy – Central-New England Regions from 2019–2021, she was selected to lead state government affairs in a strategic, first-of-its-kind community engagement initiative in key central and regional cities, including Denver, Chicago, Providence, Boston, Detroit, Cleveland, Columbus, Cincinnati, and Minneapolis, covering 22 states. She worked with internal partners to roll out innovative campaigns to build mutually beneficial relationships between Verizon and the communities and to educate constituents on wireless technology solutions. Her efforts were acclaimed by C-level peers as a best practices template for national adoption.

From 1997–2018, Mrs. Cupelo was region vice president of Verizon New England, where she led major initiatives, including a two-year project, One Fiber City, in Boston. She developed innovative agreements to enable flexibility and cost-effective deployment of advanced and wireless technology, including 5G. This culminated in her co-developing a national playbook for 5G and One Fiber that established guidelines for Verizon and municipalities in the United States for the deployment of those technologies.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Cupelo was recognized as a thought leader who championed leadership programs for women in technology and STEM initiatives and was an advocate for corporate philanthropy. She has served on multiple boards throughout Greater Boston and Rhode Island.

Mrs. Cupelo was a member of the Providence College Board of Trustees from 2000–2008. She and her husband, William F. Cupelo '78, have maintained close ties with the college since their commencement and have been generous benefactors. Mrs. Cupelo received the Personal Achievement Award from the National Alumni Association in 2004 and has served on class reunion committees and the Providence President's Council. She has a master of business administration degree from Babson College.

The Cupelos reside in Franklin, Massachusetts, and are the parents of two, including Elizabeth Ann Cupelo '12.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE

SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

Latin Honors

Summa Cum Laude - Gold Cord

Magna Cum Laude - Silver Cord

Cum Laude - White Cord

* December 2025 graduate

° January 2026 graduate

† Summer 2026 graduate

For a list of academic honors based on eight semesters, go to commencement.providence.edu/latin-honors-2026/



BACHELOR OF ARTS

Wayne Beebe †

Benjamin Bentil †

Linda Cookson †

Michaela Rose Deuse

Magna Cum Laude

Rachel Graves †

Cum Laude

Tammy-Rae Kennedy

Summa Cum Laude

Jessica Polanco *

Ani Rafaelian †

Summa Cum Laude

Thni Silvia †

Cum Laude

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Brenda Elaine Cocuzzo †

Rachel Graves *

Paul Morse †

Ani Rafaelian *

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Margarita Conley *

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREE

ADVANCED DEGREES

MASTER OF ARTS IN BIBLICAL STUDIES

Courtney B. Hester †

MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGY

Sister Maximilian Marie Garretson, O.P. *

MASTER OF ARTS IN HISTORY

Seth Brodnick †
Diana M. Dwane †
Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Jeffrey Lessard
Ashley Nicole Mariani

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING MATHEMATICS

Lisa Marie Canole
Kyle Bryant Peterson

MASTER OF THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Sister Maria Frassati Jakupcak, O.P. †
Nguyen Huu Quoc Huy †

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Ryan Anthony †
Cynthia Ball †
Hope Barry †
Olivia Blair †
Kevin Bongiorno †
Margaret Carlin †
Brigid Eileen Carroll †
Ryan Carroll †
Catherine Tess Carty †
Daniel Charapp †
Kayla Grace Colbert †
Linsey Amelia Conca †
William Joseph Cossart †
Riley Elizabeth Costello

Nicholas Crofts †
Bailey Wade Cummisky †
Kieran M. Daly †
Katie Marie Davenport *
Marissa Nicole DeMartino †
Allan Gregg Dennison †
Sierra Grace Devine †
Scott Michael Dickson
Adam DiNapoli †
Maura Elizabeth Dorr †
Catherine Mary Earle †
Eva Rebecca Elger †
Zackary Joseph Espat
Gianina Fellini †
Odalis Flores
Philip Joseph Gelso †
Ian James Geraghty †
James J. Grady IV
Maeve Elizabeth Grandpre †
Victoria L. Grifone
Bridget Josephine Guiendon
Robbie Hamlin †
Aidan J. Higley †
Ryan Hughes †
Logan Orion Jaeger †
Nicholas Anthony Jonny †
Declan T. Kavanagh †
Kate Frances Kelly †
Kaleigh Keogh †
Declan Kilduff †
Kevin Legnard †
Madeline Grace Lehoullier
Elise Maria Leik
Declan John Markey †
Carly Martin †
Kale McCallum †
Connor Christoffel McGrath †
James Patrick McKiernan
Whitney Ann Medeiros °
Richard Francis Orendorf Mele
Erik J. Meyers
Andrew Mitchell †
Jonathan DaCunha Montalvan
Aidan Moynihan
Luke Mulcahy †
Caitlin Susan Nee †
Marta Neira Martinez †
Quang Minh Nguyen †
Samantha Oliveira †
Jayson Dana Onanian †

Brendan O'Neill †
Ryan O'Reilly
David Thomas Orique, O.P. *
Andrew Thomas Ouellet †
Daniel Joseph Paiva *
John Gregory Park †
Michael Isaac Pulgar-Cabrera †
Colin Gregory Quint †
Andrea Quiroz Ñaupari
Faith Dakota Reis †
Emma Rose Ricciardelli †
Chase Rogers †
Samuel Rojas †
Tate Roll †
Stacy Marie Saporita
Richard Kenneth Scott †
Shaun Michael Scully †
Samuel Gazell Shaker †
Adam Sienkiewicz †
Ellis Zachary Neuman Spar
Zachery Alan Srader
Sara Taborda
Ava Michele Talanian †
Ellie Thallman
Ben Thomson †
Mark Dante Tramontozzi
Thomas Vincent Ursino †
Owen Porter Vahey †
Mia Cunning Valente †
Meredith Sullivan Valentine †
Caden Weis †
Mariel Rose Wellinghorst †
Austin Taylor Whitaker
Cameron Yriondo †

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ANALYTICS

Daelynn Casavant †
Margaret Marcy Constantino †
Jackson Tyler Domingo †
Julia Edith Evans †
Timothy Francis Gagliano †
Mary Aislinn Gifford †
Cameron James Kasbarian †
Andrew Layman †
Jacob M. Lebeuf †
Joseph Costantino Livolsi †
Elizabeth Loverdi †

Tyler Anthony Luzzo †
Lucy Brenda Meekings †
Margaret Duffy Mitchell †
Kathryn Anna Nardella †
Grace Carrington Prucher †
Celia Catherine Reddington †
Morgan Lynn Smith †
Noah Smith †
Andrew Straut †
Haley Elise Waiksnis †

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPORTS ADMINISTRATION

Russell Thomas Bonacchi †
Colby Campos †
Ashley Elizabeth Clark †
Skyler Delgado †
Aline Flores †
Andrew Ryan Gavitt †
Aidan Lawler †
Audrey Ashia Magnusen †

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOL LEADERSHIP

Karen L. Barbosa
Jennifer R. Biafore
Kevin C. Conway
Katelyn Elizabeth Coyle
Jessica Anne Drinkwater
Amanda Egan
Catherine Alice Foltz
Aaron John Gathen
Ashley Megan Gwiazdzinski *
Kevin Holden
Joseph D. Macioce
Marissa Nardelli
Michelle Neri
Christopher Ritacco
Jill C. Royer
Cheri Joan Skurka
Jeffrey D. Stevens *
Tracy L. Turner
Vivian N. Vargas †
Nicole Westcott *

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Kayleigh Actis
Elizabeth A. Berke
Jake J. Burns
Shane Paul Coffey
Grace Cormier
Justine S. Currie
Jessica De LaCruz
Margaret Grace
Christine E. Griffin
Mariah Jane Hunt
Mason Kendall Lavache
Haley Jean Marchetti

David A. Mello
Taylor Odell
Elias Pereira †
James Petrella †
Micol Le Striuli
Kristin K. Vadeboncoeur †
Olivia Weltin
China Yang

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN HIGHER EDUCATION

Afua Boatemaah Adutwum
Jemmy Alonzo *
Liam Thomas Back
Jack Benevides
Jennifer Carrera Llamas
Claire Sullivan Casey
Alyssa E. Cohen †
Alexandra Renae Collins
Mackenzie Paige Drew
Mohammad Tariq Jamal *
Geneva S. Kpangbai †
Tracy C. Goncalves Mendes †
Connor Meyer
Gregory Augusto Monteiro
Alexa Morales †
Aliya-Gabrielle Neptune
Kevin Matthew Niranjan
Alycia J. Pessoa
Gwendora Hadley Pride †
Elizabeth Tramonti
Jake Raymond Turcotte

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN LITERACY

Gabrielle Marguerite DaCunha
Kirby Alicia Dalton †
Anne Ward Hlady †
Abigail Hoye
Abigail Mary Lochiatto †

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN READING

Amy Patricia Larson

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN URBAN TEACHING

Emilie Rose Bazzinotti
Graham Maione *
Jeremy Ryan Zupan

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN URBAN TEACHING- TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Shannon Kennedy †
Jessica Olarte

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN SECONDARY EDUCATION

Megan Elizabeth Clavell
Sydney Margaret Davis
Margaret Devitt
Anthony M. Dryden
Margaret Anne Frawley
Camille Kathleen Gallagher
Moriah Rose Griffin
Anita Claire Gulia
Ella Jolie Korte
Patrick Bernard McNamara
John Anthony Risso

MASTER OF EDUCATION IN MATHEMATICS-TEACHER CERTIFICATION

Cianna Marie Lynch *

* December 2025 graduate

° January 2026 graduate

† Summer 2026 graduate

HONOR SOCIETIES

ALPHA SIGMA LAMBDA - SCHOOL OF CONTINUING EDUCATION

*National Honor Society for Adults in
Continuing Education*

Wayne Beebe
Brenda Elaine Cocuzzo †
Michaela Rose Deuse
Tammy-Rae Kennedy
Ani Rafaelian †
Thni M. Silvia †

BETA GAMMA SIGMA - GRADUATE

*National Business Administration
Honor Society*

Colby Campos †
Catherine Tess Carty †
Linsey Amelia Conca †
Margaret Marcy Constantino †
Marissa Nicole DeMartino †
Eva Rebecca Elger †
Zackary Joseph Espat
Philip Joseph Gelso †
Mary Aislinn Gifford †

Nicholas Anthony Jonny †
Cameron James Kasbarian †
Kate Frances Kelly †
Elise Maria Leik
Connor Christoffel McGrath
James Patrick McKiernan
Whitney Ann Medeiros °
Lucy Brenda Meekings †
Margaret Duffy Mitchell †
Jonathan DaCunha Montalvan
Luke Mulcahy †
Kathryn Anna Nardella †
Quang Minh Nguyen †
Jayson Dana Onanian †
Colin Gregory Quint †
Richard Kenneth Scott †
Sara Taborda
Ben Thomson †
Mark Dante Tramontozzi
Haley Elise Waiksniis †

PHI ALPHA THETA - GRADUATE

National Honor Society in History

Mary Elizabeth Fitzgerald
Ashley Nicole Mariani

* December 2025 graduate
° January 2026 graduate
† Summer 2026 graduate

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Academic regalia, rooted in traditions that began at 12th century European universities, conveys historical significance and specific meaning to contemporary academic ceremony. Often lacking buildings of their own, those universities would undertake teaching and learning in churches, with academic activities involving both clerics and laypeople. Historians suggest that scholars of the day wore hoods and long robes as a means for staying warm in unheated church buildings. From those origins has evolved a colorful tradition rife with symbolism and meaning.

According to standards adopted by American universities, the cut of the gown signifies whether the wearer has a bachelor's, master's, or doctoral degree, with the doctoral robe adorned with three bars on each sleeve and front panels. The hood represents both the wearer's field of study and the institution that awarded his or her degree. Headwear, both the mortarboard cap and tam, and the tassel itself, may be assigned to represent a specific field of study.

Information sources: The American Council on Education and Herff Jones



