

PIEDMONT UNIVERSITY

UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 9, 2025 | 9:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m.
Johnny Mize Athletic Center



PROGRAM

Presiding

Marshall M. Criser III

President of the University

PROCESSIONAL “The Liberty Bell March” *United States Army Field Band*
The audience will rise as the academic procession begins and remain standing until after the first hymn.

INVOCATION The Reverend Joyce Acree

HYMN “The Star Spangled Banner” Natalie Edith Gonzalez
Undergraduate, Piedmont University

Oh, 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 thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched were so gallantly streaming
And the rocket's red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER President Criser

ADDRESS Honorable Doug Collins
United States Secretary of Veterans Affairs

CONFERRING OF DEGREES Vickie Turner
Vice President for Academic Affairs

The conferring of degrees is authorized by the Board of Trustees upon the recommendation of the President and Faculty. Vice President for Academic Affairs Vickie Turner, will introduce the dean of colleges, and Dr. Bob Glass, Dean of Libraries and College Librarian, will read the names of the candidates. Chairman Gus Arrendale and President Criser will award diplomas to recipients of the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Arts, Master of Science, Master of Business Administration, Education Specialist, and Doctor of Education.

HYMN TO THE ALMA MATER.....Piedmont University Singers

Please rise as Piedmont University Singers perform the Hymn to the Alma Mater. Remain standing until the conclusion of the recessional.

<p>Verse 1</p> <p>Where the Georgian hills grow purple In the sunset glow, Proudly stands our Alma Mater In the vale below.</p>	<p>Verse 2</p> <p>As around the mighty oak tree Clings the ivy vine, So around thee, dear old Piedmont Loyal hearts entwine. (Refrain)</p>
<p>Refrain</p> <p>Green and Gold float on for aye, Old Piedmont for thee, We, thy loyal sons and daughters Bless thy memory.</p>	<p>Verse 3</p> <p>Here's to thee, then dear old Piedmont May you ever stand As an emblem of the noblest In our fair Southland. (Refrain)</p>

BENEDICTION..... The Reverend Joyce Acree

RECESSIONAL "Radetzky March"Johann Strauss Sr.

- Faculty Marshal** Albert Pleysier, *Professor of History*
- Registrar** Melissa Fortner
- Student Marshals** Sheena Patrick, *Associate Registrar*
 Natalie Hale, *Student Services Specialist*
 Lily Cranford, *Student Services Specialist*
 Yareli Vazquez, *Student Services Specialist*
- Gonfalon Bearer** Nicole Robinson

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

The Honorable Douglas A. Collins was sworn in as the 12th secretary of Veterans Affairs on Feb. 5, 2025.

A native of Gainesville, Georgia, Mr. Collins saw public service modeled by his father, a Georgia State Trooper, and mother, who provided care to local senior citizens. He earned a degree in 1988, in political science and criminal justice from the University of North Georgia. Secretary Collins earned his master's degree in divinity from New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in 1996, and his community roots deepened in the eleven years he pastored Chicopee Baptist Church. In 2006, the people of Georgia's 27th State House District elected Mr. Collins to represent them. During his first term in the state legislature, Collins graduated in 2007 from Atlanta's John Marshall Law School and established his own legal practice.

As a U.S. Air Force Reserve chaplain, Mr. Collins has ministered to our country's military since 2002. He completed a 2008-2009 deployment to Iraq while stationed at Balad Air Base. He remains a colonel in the Air Force Reserve. Secretary Collins served as a U.S. Representative for Georgia's Ninth Congressional District from 2013-2021. While he is a public servant, attorney, and practicing military chaplain, he remains foremost a husband to Lisa and father to daughter Jordan and sons Copelan and Cameron. Lisa was a lifelong educator in Georgia's public schools, and together she and Doug are actively involved at Lakewood Baptist Church.

DESCRIPTION OF AWARDS

H.M. STEWART, SR. AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

The H.M. Stewart, Sr. Award of Excellence is presented annually to the top honor graduate of Piedmont University, identified as the senior with the highest grade-point average. H.M. Stewart was a groundbreaking leader in communications in Georgia and a long-time friend of Piedmont University. The H.M. Stewart Award celebrates the recipient's academic achievement in two ways: the honoree's name is inscribed on a large trophy that is displayed in the Arrendale Library's honors corner, and the honoree receives a miniature of the trophy as a commemoration of his or her achievement.

THE MICHAEL AND EMILY ROBERTSON KINDNESS AWARD

The Michael and Emily Robertson Kindness Award is established by Michael S. and Emily K. Robertson to encourage and recognize kindness within the student body of Piedmont University. The donors' sincere desire is to acknowledge the words of the prophet in Micah 6:8, "...what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God." (ESVUK) By recognizing kindness as an important personal characteristic, the donors hope that this award will, in some small way, encourage kind behavior. The award is given annually to the student who has demonstrated kindness to others through his or her actions within the Piedmont University community. The recipient is determined by a committee of students and employees. This award is for any undergraduate student who attends either the Demorest or Athens campus.

OUTSTANDING UNDERGRADUATE ADVISOR AWARD

The Piedmont University Outstanding Undergraduate Advisor Award is presented annually to an undergraduate academic advisor who has demonstrated in an exceptional manner the qualities essential for sound advising.

VULCAN MATERIALS COMPANY TEACHING EXCELLENCE AWARD

Established in 1991, the Vulcan Teaching Excellence Award is awarded annually to honor an outstanding professor on selected member campuses of the Georgia Independent College Association. The award recognizes an outstanding faculty member who demonstrates strong academic skills in the classroom and who provides leadership and support in other areas of campus life. The recipients are faculty who assist the institutions in nurturing an academic climate which fosters teaching and who provide leadership to enhance the campus community.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

J. Kerry Waller, Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Tania Iveth Almendarez Calderón
Business Administration

Jason Joseph Aussin
Accounting & Business Administration

Noah McGill Barton
Business Administration

Blake Simon Bolen
Business Administration

Prestin Cole Boyd
Accounting & Business Administration

Abbey Michelle Brock
Accounting

James Cash
Accounting & Business Administration

Michael Mayfield Cate III
Accounting

Ryan James Colwell
Business Administration

Bodie Maxwell Eilertson
Business Administration

Cole Alexander Ellis
Accounting & Business Administration

Jordyn Leeanne Green
Accounting

Elizabeth Anne Harden
Business Administration

Carson Phillip Huber
Business Administration

Cateia Demyra Jones
Business Administration

Maxwell D Kaufman
Business Administration

Briana Elizabeth Laidman
Accounting & Business Administration

Connor Joe Lane
Business Administration

Isaiah Richard Lopez
Business Administration

Cameron Jon Lucas
Business Administration

Jackson Blaze Mason
Accounting & Business Administration

Adam David Metivier
Business Administration

Tyler Nelson
Business Administration

Mallory Lyn O'Brien
Accounting & Business Administration

Rachel O'Neal
Business Administration

Kylar Allen James Potter
Business Administration

Kyle Jeffrey Rutberg
Business Administration

Draylon Tysean Starks
Business Administration

Megan L Steinmeyer
Business Administration

Ezekiel Von Swartz
Business Administration

Josiah Tillett
Accounting & Business Administration

Rachel Michelle Verner
Accounting

Carson Gregston Vikos
Business Administration

Kayden R White
Business Administration

Kennlie Jamison Wright
Accounting & Business Administration

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Peyton Skip Irvin

Suzanne Jones

Dylan Michael Lindsey

Griffin Tanner Neville

Christine Elizabeth Sledge

Randall Jared Worley

Valeriya Vadimovna Zhurakovskaya

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Erica Peyton Etheridge
Management

Anna Carol Joerschke
Management

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

Octavius Mulligan, Dean

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Tiffani Noel Arriaga
Middle Grades Education

Ashlyn Breigh Boswell
Elementary Education

Mackenzie Michelle Bratton
Elementary Education

Kimberly Carzan Crawford
Middle Grades Education

Chloey Marie Davis
Elementary Education

Tiffany Dispain
Elementary Education

Emma Elizabeth Frost
Elementary Education

Patricia Lynn Goodman
Elementary Education

Lauren Paige Hambrick
Elementary Education

Sydney Faith Horne
Elementary Education

Kiarra Howard
Elementary Education

Rosalinda Jimenez
Elementary Education

Chantel Johnson
Elementary Education

Chelsey Faith Lewis
Elementary Education

Mariajose Montoya Talavera
Middle Grades Education

Lashonda Tierra Nash
Elementary Education

Amy Nieves
Elementary Education

Nina Palomino
Elementary Education

Bailey Mackenzie Parham
Elementary Education

Zoe Patton
Elementary Education

Catherine Rose Payne
Elementary Education

Julie D. Power
Elementary Education

Bailey Elizabeth Rayner
Middle Grades Education

Jordan Leigh Reichert
Elementary Education

Theresa Shumake
Middle Grades Education

Diana Carpenter Williams
Middle Grades Education

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Katrina Ann Adams
Elementary Education

Octavia Ammons
Elementary Education

Deidra Lavonne Bulger
Elementary Education

Alexis Michelle Carson
History Education

Cecelia Coke
Secondary Education

Jennifer Downs
Special Education

Leigh Dawn Evans
Elementary Education

Angle Fulks
Middle Grades Education

Tierra Gilchrist
Middle Grades Education

Joseph Greene
Special Education

Jessica Danielle Hawkins
Art Education

Kristen Brooke Henson
Elementary Education

Ciera Hickman
Special Education

Jaquavius Hunt
Art Education

Ansley Kiplinger
Elementary Education

Kelly Lissimore
Elementary Education

Amanda Lowe
Special Education

Vintravious Bernard Martin
Special Education

Nicholas Miller
Special Education

Katrina Mitchell
English Education

Shrutika Nagarkar
Elementary Education

Jada W Osborne
Special Education

Faran Pacheco-Marban
Elementary Education

Carolyn Poling
Middle Grades Education

Melanie Elizabeth Ponchot
Art Education

Katelyn Breanne Poole
Special Education

Jacqueline Ocon Ramirez
Elementary Education

Sammantra Randolph
Elementary Education

Jacob Reece
Special Education

DeeJay Sexton
Special Education

Heather Kristin Stewart
Secondary Education

Tazjuana Thompson
Special Education

Wesley Echols Walker
English Education

Whitney Kenita Waller
Middle Grades Education

MASTER OF ARTS

Eliana Suzette Burkhalter
Elementary Education

Britney Henderson
Elementary Education

Holly Ruf Jones
Elementary Education

Nicholas Thomas Knox
Educational Studies

Melanie Faye Ledford
Middle Grades Education

Ashley Powers
Elementary Education

Ashley Roberts
Elementary Education

Tailor Scotland
Middle Grades Education

Emma Thompson
Elementary Education

Jada Pollett White
Elementary Education

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

Georgia Lynn Allen
Curriculum and Instruction

Jimrekis Howard Allen
Curriculum and Instruction

Linden Kelsey Napier Allen
Curriculum and Instruction

Tammara Lekisha Allen
Curriculum and Instruction

Brittany Anderson
Curriculum and Instruction

Anslyn Ballstadt
Curriculum and Instruction

Brittany Deleia Benton
Curriculum and Instruction

Perry Bess
Curriculum and Instruction

Rebecca Herring Blackmon
Curriculum and Instruction

Rebekah O'Rourke Bowen
Curriculum and Instruction

Angela Harrell Brand
Curriculum and Instruction

Mary Shannon McGowan Breier
Art Education

Nicole Brookshire
Curriculum and Instruction

Laura Katherine Brown
Curriculum and Instruction

Chandler Burnell
Curriculum and Instruction

Phillip Aaron Campbell
Curriculum and Instruction

Amy Cartledge
Music Education

Amanda Rae Chack
Curriculum and Instruction

Louise Chapman
Curriculum and Instruction

Kendsey Bliss Chappellear
Curriculum and Instruction

Marsha Latrelle Dantes
Curriculum and Instruction

Stephanie Duke
Curriculum and Instruction

Jessica Dundore
Curriculum and Instruction

Mary Lloyd Dunfee
Curriculum and Instruction

Rex Erwin Jr
Curriculum and Instruction

Jamie Evans
Curriculum and Instruction

Lindsey Farmer
Curriculum and Instruction

Kristine L. Fincher
Curriculum and Instruction

Briana Fitzgerald
Curriculum and Instruction

Monica Lynn Gilbert
Curriculum and Instruction

Xavier P. Glenn
Curriculum and Instruction

LaDaphne Hall
Curriculum and Instruction

Misty Harrison
Curriculum and Instruction

Marshall Hayes
Curriculum and Instruction

Joshua Herring
Curriculum and Instruction

Philip Hilton
Curriculum and Instruction

Stephen Howard
Curriculum and Instruction

Kristen Hubbard
Curriculum and Instruction

Ashlyn Ivey
Curriculum and Instruction

Karen Michelle Jarvis
Curriculum and Instruction

Rakim Malik Johnson
Curriculum and Instruction

Brenda Jones
Curriculum and Instruction

Morgan Kingsley
Curriculum and Instruction

Leigh Anne Krueger
Curriculum and Instruction

Alexis Laughunn
Curriculum and Instruction

Kwanzaa Lawrence
Curriculum and Instruction

Erica Leikvoll
Curriculum and Instruction

Sandra Lisset Lemus
Curriculum and Instruction

Christy Lueke
Curriculum and Instruction

Rebecca Malcom
Curriculum and Instruction

Robert F. Martin
Curriculum and Instruction

Karen Johnson Massey
Curriculum and Instruction

Jamie McArthur
Curriculum and Instruction

Charnita Maria McIntosh
Curriculum and Instruction

Jennifer Mellina
Curriculum and Instruction

Samuel Jamal Mike
Curriculum and Instruction

Samantha Marie Milhorn
Curriculum and Instruction

Casey Woods Mitchell
Curriculum and Instruction

Brittania Morris
Curriculum and Instruction

Jacqlyn Mabelle Moses
Curriculum and Instruction

Karen Nichols Mullins
Curriculum and Instruction

Patrice Jones Darby Neal
Curriculum and Instruction

Jennifer Orage
Curriculum and Instruction

Julianna Rose Payne
Curriculum and Instruction

Karsyn Lee Pearson
Curriculum and Instruction

Meghann Lee Pruett
Curriculum and Instruction

Shirley Ann Raines
Curriculum and Instruction

Otansia Ramsay
Curriculum and Instruction

Morgan Redmond
Curriculum and Instruction

Destiny Shanae Reynolds
Curriculum and Instruction

Meagan Rice
Curriculum and Instruction

Shambreka Ross
Curriculum and Instruction

Ashley Brooke Carson Samples
Curriculum and Instruction

Shedra Greene Searcy
Curriculum and Instruction

Colby Shaw
Curriculum and Instruction

Courtney Ketner Sholl
Curriculum and Instruction

Karoline Jean Sholl
Curriculum and Instruction

Kile Sholl
Curriculum and Instruction

Cameron Shannon Shuler
Curriculum and Instruction

Jerica Shuntel Simmons
Curriculum and Instruction

Mischele Stafford
Curriculum and Instruction

Gina Suckow
Curriculum and Instruction

Claudia Tankersley
Curriculum and Instruction

Thomas Traficante
Curriculum and Instruction

Cristina Vargas
Curriculum and Instruction

Allison Wagner
Curriculum and Instruction

Summer Elizabeth Ward
Curriculum and Instruction

Zuri West
Curriculum and Instruction

Lasondra S. Wooding
Curriculum and Instruction

Karley Wright
Curriculum and Instruction

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Julie Ann Alderson

B.S. – Brenau University

M.Ed. – Brenau University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

Dissertation: *Rapid Automatic Naming as a Sight Word Fluency Intervention*

Dr. Sarah Sumners, Committee Chair

Matthew Richard Bonk

B.A. – The University of Pittsburgh

B.S. – Slippery Rock University

M.A. – Piedmont University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

Dissertation: *A Case Study: Parent Perceptions on Play and Kindergarten Readiness*

Dr. Sarah Sumners, Committee Chair

Carla Alicia Jordan

B.A. – Florida A&M University

M.Ed. – Piedmont University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

Dissertation: *The Emerging Lotus: Cultivating Intellectual Autonomy within English Language Arts Classrooms in an Urban Academy School. A Qualitative Action Research Study*

Dr. Toni Bailey, Committee Chair

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

Steve Jacobs, Dean

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Alexis Nicole Baumgardner
Mass Communications

Emerson Gianna Coccoziello
Art Therapy

Morgan Grace Cooper
Psychology

Haylee Meredith Lehr Dornan
History & Sociology

Nicolas C Eberhart
Art

Jonathon Eric Edmonson
Sports Communications

Abigail Joyce Evans
Criminal Justice

Jadeyn Cherisse Fields
Art

Leandro Forero
*Mass Communications &
Sports Communications*

Noah Lee Glenzinski
Criminal Justice

Natalie Edith Gonzalez
Music

Sophie Carissa Haines
*Film and Documentary Production &
Mass Communications*

Jacob Everett Hasbrouck
Psychology

Simon Haras Johnstone
Sports Communications

Danielle Nichole Justus
Psychology

Paige Marie Kluba
*Mass Communications &
Sports Communications*

Jameson Elizabeth Keiley Listermann
Art

Clayton Clyde Maddox
Theatre Arts

Vanessa Sanchez Manzo
Psychology & Sports Communications

Olivia Grace Martin
English & Philosophy and Religion

Rachel Elaine McClellon
Leadership Studies

Haley Morgan McKay
Art

Alyssa Kate McSpadden
Art Education

Iman Kareen Ollie
Human Services Administration

Ian Gage Parr
Psychology

Tyler Lee Pellegrino
Theatre Arts

Carolaine Elizabeth Pettit
Mass Communications

Hunter J Reum
Interdisciplinary Studies

Genie Christina Robbins
Art

Sandra Camila Ruiz-Lopez
History and Government

Kelbi C Sceau
Political Science

Jessica Noel Sconyers
*Mass Communications &
Sports Communications*

Eden Rebecca Shepherd
Art Therapy

Georgia Rose Smith
Art

Nahomi Itzel Solorzano Centeno
*Film and Documentary Production &
Mass Communications*

Denasia Styles
Criminal Justice

Amy Jo Tavernier
Sociology

Gracie Mae Tipton
Drama Education

Bryn Kayrin White
History and Government & Psychology

Emerson Davis Wilkes
History Education

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Lauren Elizabeth York
Art

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Hannah Jean Anderson
Forensic Science

Carson Amador Becerra
Environmental Science

Addison May Bowen
Chemistry & Forensic Science

Shannon Yuri Brown
Biology

Merryn Lea Bumpass
Biology

Bailey T Davis
Forensic Science

Allie Claire Feltus
Forensic Science

Erick Matthews Fortner
Biology

Sarah Fox
Environmental Science

Jadon Gonzales
Biology & Environmental Science

Marinda Annette Grubb
Biology

Logan Marie Hawkins
Interdisciplinary Studies

Avonlea Delaney Kirby
Environmental Science

Alexander Thomas Long
Mathematics

Nicholas Lawrence McHan
Biology

Glynn Ray Morgan
Biology

Meredith Jean Pollette
Mathematics

Victoria Sierra
Mathematics

Garrett William Stadler
Applied Physics

Lucas Aaron Stoffle
Biology

Ava Nicole Trankina
Forensic Science

Miracle Ann Turner
Neuroscience

COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Jaime Johnson-Huff, Dean

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Madison Louise Adams
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Chloe Rose Alexander
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Savannah Alexis Barefoot
Applied Health Science

Aubrey Dowdy
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Lauren English
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Brynne Olivia Gillilan
Applied Health Science

Ashley Howe
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Chelsea R Jordan
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Jocelyn K. Maseda
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Keshawn Marquis Maxwell
Applied Health Science

Kaylee Grace Moreland
Exercise and Sport Science

Heartly Lily Nepveux
Applied Health Science

Andrew Thomas Nolt
Health Care Administration

Austin Olivia Norris
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Kinsey Abigail Quick
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Hollan Grace Rabensdorf
Applied Health Science

Jaiden Brynn Ramatowski
Applied Health Science

Alyssa Reece
Sport and Fitness Administration

Madison Paige Rogers
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Ashley Renee Scott
Athletic Training

Lindsey Ellen Tavenier
Communication Sciences and Disorders

Kennedy Jean Votava
Communication Sciences and Disorders

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Arianna Jazmine Adams

Jeannie Whitfield Ausburn

Jennifer Barajas

Addison Barrett

Grace Nicole Beasley

Lacey Danielle Beauchamp

Olivia Kadee Bechtel

Samantha T. Bridges

Destiny Kiarra Brown

Danielle Grace Canup

Tiffany Denise Cooper

Tucker Cox

Ethan Ryan Cummings

Tommy Do

Kaely Grace Duckworth

To'Yonnah Chantal Edmond

Amanda Smith Foy
Zayda H Gonzalez
Lauren Lowe Hammond
Emmaleigh Nicole Harris
Molly Dian Head
Harley Paige Helms
Trinesha Quenterra Henderson
Kimberly Hernandez-Cabrera
Destiny Michelle Higginbotham
Jenna Kathryn Hood
Amy Beth Houston
Rebekah Ann Jennings
Annamarie Johnson
Hannah Johnson
Frances Irene Kalin
Ziya Onassiss Amanda Killings
Athena Quinn Lovelace
Gracie Elizabeth Martin
Ashlyn McEntyre
Ansley Brooke McLean
Courtney Leigh Miller
Mitzi Gallego Natera
Ola Princess Teresa Otis
Taylor Nicole Patterson
Autumn S Redd
Amy Remely
Samuel Risse
McNeely Esther-Daisy Rockwell

Jennifer A Rowell
Jaime Adrian Rugerio
Lindsay Jonelle Brown Sealey
Marlene Ramick Seeber
Ashley Veronica Simmons
Caitlin Hannah Simmons
Rachel Kathleen Smith
Breanna Jace Sosebee
Katherine Elizabeth Stigall
Georgia Robinson Torbert
Helen Carina Ulloa
Samara lia Valencia
Ayndi McKenna Wimmer
Autumn Celeste Woodard
MASTER OF SCIENCE
Reaghan Elizabeth Anderson
Athletic Training
Ariel Berry
Athletic Training
Courtney Alison Cates
Athletic Training
Rylie Jade Dingfelder
Athletic Training
Sarah Catherine Duggan
Speech Language Pathology
Kaitlyn King
Speech Language Pathology
Ansley Grace Konkle
Speech Language Pathology
Avery Elizabeth McAllister
Athletic Training

Sarah Elyzabeth Moore
Speech Language Pathology
Jaycie Taylor Ponce
Speech Language Pathology
Molly Claire Presley
Speech Language Pathology
Allye Madison Rogers
Speech Language Pathology
Ashley Renee Scott
Athletic Training
Baylor Grace Simpson
Speech Language Pathology
Trinity Weese
Speech Language Pathology
Emma Caroline Whitfield
Speech Language Pathology
Carsyn Riley Wilker
Speech Language Pathology
Andrea Williams
Athletic Training
Aubrey James Woodruff
Speech Language Pathology

HONOR SOCIETIES, ORGANIZATIONS, & GROUPS

ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA

Alexis Nicole Baumgardner
Addison May Bowen
Haylee Meredith Lehr Dornan
Chelsey Faith Lewis
Meredith Jean Pollette
Ashley Veronica Simmons
Josiah Tillett

ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Clayton Clyde Maddox
Tyler Lee Pellegrino
Hunter J Reum

AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Elizabeth Anne Harden
Connor Joe Lane
Megan L Steinmeyer
Ezekiel Von Swartz

CHI ALPHA SIGMA

Olivia Kadee Bechtel
Merryn Lea Bumpass
Tucker Cox
Bailey T Davis
Haylee Meredith Lehr Dornan
Cole Alexander Ellis
Abigail Joyce Evans
Allie Claire Feltus
Leandro Forero
Erick Matthews Fortner
Emma Elizabeth Frost
Jordyn Leeanne Green
Kiarra Howard
Simon Haras Johnstone
Paige Marie Kluba
Briana Elizabeth Laidman
Vanessa Sanchez Manzo
Jocelyn K. Maseda

Alyssa Kate McSpadden
Mariajose Montoya Talavera
Kaylee Grace Moreland
Tyler Nelson
Mallory Lyn O'Brien
Alyssa Reece
Jessica Noel Sconyers
Josiah Tillett
Ava Nicole Trankina
Rachel Michelle Verner
Kennedy Jean Votava
Bryn Kayrin White

DELTA MU DELTA

Blake Simon Bolen
Prestin Cole Boyd
Jordyn Leeanne Green
Carson Phillip Huber
Jackson Blaze Mason
Mallory Lyn O'Brien
Rachel O'Neal
Josiah Tillett

LILLIAN E. SMITH SCHOLARS

Haylee Meredith Lehr Dornan

NATURAL SCIENCE HONORS PROGRAM

Addison May Bowen
Merryn Lea Bumpass
Erick Matthews Fortner
Jadon Gonzales
Marinda Annette Grubb
Avonlea Delaney Kirby



PIEDMONT PEER TUTORS

Blake Simon Bolen
Addison May Bowen
Shannon Yuri Brown
Marinda Annette Grubb
Frances Irene Kalin
Avonlea Delaney Kirby
Alexander Thomas Long
Olivia Grace Martin
Gracie Elizabeth Martin
Hollan Grace Rabensdorf
Jaime Adrian Rugerio
Victoria Sierra

PSI CHI

Morgan Grace Cooper

SOCIETY OF COLLEGIATE JOURNALISTS

Alexis Nicole Baumgardner
Jonathon Eric Edmonson
Leandro Forero
Sophie Carissa Haines
Paige Marie Kluba
Vanessa Sanchez Manzo
Caroline Elizabeth Pettit
Jessica Noel Sconyers
Nahomi Itzel Solorzano Centeno

TRI ALPHA

Kimberly Carzan Crawford
Rosalind Jimenez
Frances Irene Kalin

PIEDMONT STOLES & CORDS

Graduation stoles and cords represent achievement, success, or membership at Piedmont University.

R.H. Daniel School of Nursing

Apricot stole

Athletics

Green stole

Criminalists Club

Blue stole

Organization:

American Marketing Association

Navy Blue, White cord

Campus Activities Board (CAB)

Light Yellow cord

Fellowship of Christian Athletics (FCA)

Royal Blue, Red, Gold cord

Health Science Leadership Academy

Old Gold, White cord

M.A.N.E.

Forest Green, Silver cord

Piedmont University Student Nurses Assoc, NSNA

Silver, Light Blue, Purple cord

Piedmont Peer Tutors

Service Pin

Resident Assistants

Service Pin

SAIL

Service Pin

Student Government Association

Green, Gold cord

Team Piedmont Ambassadors

Forest Green, Black cord

Zeta Tau Alpha

Teal, Gray cord

Society:

Alpha Alpha Alpha (Tri-Alpha)

Navy Blue, Gray/Silver cord, and Service Pin

Alpha Lambda Delta

Red, Gold, White cord

Alpha Psi Omega

Light Blue, Gold cord

Chi Alpha Sigma

Gold, Black cord, and Gold medallion

College of Nursing and Health Science Honor Society

Green, White cord

Delta Mu Delta

Purple, Gold cord

Lillian E. Smith Scholars

White cord

Natural Science Honors Program

White, Gold cord

National Society Leadership and Success

Silver, Black cord

Psi Chi

Blue, Silver cord

Sigma Tau Delta

Cardinal Red, Black cord

Society for Collegiate Journalists

Scarlet, Gray cord

The list of degree candidates was compiled prior to commencement, and the status of some candidates may have changed since that time.

The listing of the names in this program in no way implies an obligation on the part of Piedmont University to award a given degree.

COMMENCEMENT

COMMENCEMENT

When Piedmont was founded in 1897, commencement was a five-day affair filled with speeches, sermons, academic and debating competition, dinners, and—finally—the conferral of degrees. Over the years, the time allotted for commencement was shortened, a reflection of the quickened pace of the modern era. Piedmont University still retains many commencement customs and traditions that date back to the 12th century, including the use of the mace, gonfalon, and academic garb.

MACE

The Piedmont mace was handcrafted by Dr. Patrick Taylor, former chair of the Department of Art. The staff is carved from American cherry wood, and the handle is leather. The base is cast in bronze. The pommel, located at the bottom of the staff, symbolically represents the foundation of the University and is inscribed with the date 1897.

The crown on top of the mace is a globe representing the University's commitment to the preparation of students for global work and service. The mace and attached seals represent the authority of Piedmont University to award academic degrees as prescribed by the institution's charter from the State of Georgia.

The flame of learning, cast in an alloy of bronze, sterling silver, and gold and mounted on the top of the mace, symbolizes student acquisition of knowledge from an academically accomplished and talented Piedmont University faculty. The tip of the flame forms an open hand representing the quest for spiritual and intellectual development in service to humankind.

GONFALON

Another Medieval trapping still used in modern commencement traditions at Piedmont University is the gonfalon, a banner hung from a crossbar instead of from a pole as commonly used for flags. A gonfalon is known as a standard, and in Italian tradition the "gonfalonier" is the standard bearer. Piedmont uses a ceremonial gonfalon that bears the University seal and is displayed at the head of the processional column.

ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress originates with the founding of European universities in the 12th century. All Medieval students were clerks (clerici) and wore the dress of the secular clergy. The oldest article of academic dress worn was the robe (roba), a loose gown, over which hung the habit (cappa), usually a kind of tunic with short, wide sleeves. The Medieval hood (caputium) could be gathered around the neck or pulled up on the head as a turban. There were three kinds of caps: the round pileus, reserved for doctoral dignity; the tena, a round cap with strings that were tied under the chin and worn by jurists; and the square birretium.

The basic design of academic costumes in the U.S. was established in 1895 and was first used at Piedmont by the class of 1902. There are three types of gowns, three styles of hoods, and two kinds of cap tassels used for the American academic garb. The bachelor's gown has long, pointed, open sleeves. The master's gown is similar but has longer sleeves that are closed at the bottom. The doctoral gown has full-length lapels of velvet and bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal velvet bars. The color of gowns is usually black, although some colleges have specified that doctoral students may wear gowns showing distinctive colors.

The hood varies according to respective academic degrees, with the doctoral hood being longer and fuller in shape than the others. The academic field of study can be determined by the color of the velvet facing sewn on the hood. The color represents the academic field of study as follows: white for the arts; gold-yellow for science; drab for business administration; lemon for librarianship; scarlet for theology; brown for fine arts; light blue for education; pink for music; and dark blue for philosophy. The hood is lined in silk displaying the colors of the degree-granting institution. Tassels for bachelor's and master's are black. The doctoral tassels are gold.

Piedmont faculty have earned degrees at a number of post-baccalaureate institutions, and most wear the doctoral hood. The hood colors worn by some Piedmont faculty represent the following academic institutions: purple and gold (Louisiana State University); red and black (University of Georgia); crimson and white (Indiana University); silver and red (Georgia State University); blue and gold (West Virginia University); gold and white (Georgia Institute of Technology); white and light blue (Pennsylvania State University); orange and white (University of Tennessee); crimson and white (University of Alabama); blue and white (University of Kentucky); and blue and buff (The George Washington University).

