

# PIEDMONT UNIVERSITY

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## UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE COMMENCEMENT

Friday, May 8, 2026 | 9:00 a.m. | 1:00 p.m.  
Johnny Mize Athletic Center



# PROGRAM

**Presiding**

Marshall M. Criser III  
*President of the University*

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**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” ..... Ananda Muñoz Salas (9 am Service)  
*Piedmont University Undergraduate Student, BA in Music: Performance*

..... Kassie Robinson (1 pm Service)  
*Piedmont University Undergraduate Student, BA in Music: Performance*

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 through 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** ..... Mary Beth Horton  
*Director of Community Relations, Habersham EMC*

**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 the college and Mr. Bob Glass, Dean of Libraries and College Librarian will read the names of the candidates. Chairman Arrendale and President Criser will award diplomas to recipients of the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Science, Master of Science, Master of Arts in Teaching, Master of Arts, 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><b>Verse 1</b>  Where the Georgian hills grow purple  In the sunset glow,  Proudly stands our Alma Mater  In the vale below.</p>	<p><b>Verse 2</b>  As around the mighty oak tree  Clings the ivy vine,  So around thee, dear old Piedmont  Loyal hearts entwine.  (Refrain)</p>
<p><b>Refrain</b>  Green and Gold float on for aye,  Old Piedmont for thee,  We, thy loyal sons and daughters  Bless thy memory.</p>	<p><b>Verse 3</b>  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** Carlos Camp, *Professor of Biology*

**Registrar** Melissa Fortner

**Student Marshals** Sheena Patrick, *Associate Registrar*  
Lily Simpson, *Registrar's Specialist*  
Yareli Vazquez, *Registrar's Specialist*  
Ellawyn Ketch, *Registrar's Specialist*

**Gonfalon Bearer** Emma Forester

**COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER**

Mary Beth Horton is the Director of Community Relations at Habersham EMC, where she draws on her northeast Georgia roots and background in community development. Before joining HEMC in 2022, she served as President of the Habersham County Chamber of Commerce and led downtown revitalization as Clarkesville's Main Street/Downtown Development Director.

A University of Georgia graduate in Public Relations & Marketing, Mary Beth is also a graduate of Leadership Georgia, Leadership Habersham, and the Georgia Academy for Economic Development. She's a recognized Downtown Development Professional and has served on the Georgia Downtown Association Board. Currently, she volunteers as Public Image Chair for the Habersham Rotary Club and serves on the Advisory Council of the Northeast Georgia Health System. Her leadership has earned her the 2022 Habersham County Professional Woman of the Year and the Northeast Georgia Council of Boy Scouts Distinguished Citizen Award.

Mary Beth lives in Clarkesville with her husband, Brian, their four children, two dogs, and a cat.

## 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 ARTS AND SCIENCES

Steve Jacobs, Dean

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### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Deana Lou Adams  
*Art Education*

Madi F. Allen  
*Psychology*

Angel Daniel Alvarez Garcia  
*Music*

Zachary Avila  
*Sports Communications*

Hayden James Bassett  
*Criminal Justice*

Christopher Belin  
*Film & Documentary Production and  
Mass Communications*

Margaret Ann Bishop  
*Film & Documentary Production,  
Mass Communications, and Sports  
Communications*

Ava Jolie Brookshire  
*Psychology*

Zane Christian Brookshire  
*Sports Communications*

Janya Mona Brown  
*Psychology*

Sarah Duffield Bunker  
*Psychology*

Aubrie Elizabeth Burrell  
*Theatre Arts*

Mackenzie Cain  
*Interdisciplinary Studies*

Abigail Grace Carver  
*Art Education*

Lauren Michelle Cates  
*Film & Documentary Production and  
Mass Communications*

Isabella Maya Chapman  
*Criminal Justice*

Dakota Rose Chen  
*Musical Theatre*

Ralee Amanda Davidson  
*Psychology*

Maria Davis  
*Art Therapy*

Trinity Grace Deetz  
*Psychology*

Erin Donovan  
*Mass Communications and Sports  
Communications*

Abigail Sophie Earl  
*Sociology*

Erin Chauntel Ervin  
*Criminal Justice*

Joshua Farmer  
*Theatre Arts*

Carley Jennille Fitzpatrick  
*Art Education*

Aria Noelle Foerst  
*Criminal Justice*

Cody Emmett Funk  
*Criminal Justice*

Kolton Gant  
*Art Education*

Jailyn Symone Green  
*Sports Communications*

Breanna H. Holub  
*Human Services Administration*

Abby Noel Hutchinson  
*Sociology*

Jassel Lara Suarez  
*Art*

Heather Ann Lewis  
*Criminal Justice*

Angelica Lucille Lux  
*Sports Communications*

Suzet Martinez  
*Criminal Justice*

Erika Nicole Mascheck  
*English Education*

Kerrigan Patrick McClain  
*History & Government*

Jasmine Marie Mote  
*Theatre Arts*

Ananda Maria Muñoz Salas  
*Music*

Bailee N. Nolan  
*Mass Communications and Sports  
Communications*

Kassie Nicole Robinson  
*Music*

Valerie Ann Romero  
*Criminal Justice and Sociology*

Sarah Rose Row  
*Criminal Justice*

Pedro Luis Ruiz  
*Philosophy & Religion*

Chesney H. Seagraves  
*Psychology*

Kattie Smith  
*Theatre Arts*

Ethan Z. Spinks  
*Theatre Arts*

Merveille Renaissance Waller  
*Psychology*

Ta'Niya Shynise Williams  
*Criminal Justice*

Mackenzie Adanna Williams  
*Criminal Justice*

Jia Yi Yao  
*Psychology*

Megan Victoria Zimmerman  
*English*

## BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Arly Lerma  
*Art*

Jessica Erin Ruiz  
*Art*

Pedro Luis Ruiz  
*Art*

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Madi F. Allen  
*Neuroscience*

Waylin Michael Boyd  
*Environmental Science*

Aleigha Bree Carter  
*Neuroscience*

Brandon Casement  
*Forensic Science*

Isabella Maya Chapman  
*Forensic Science*

Abigail Sophie Earl  
*Computer Science*

Melissa Elaine Eller  
*Interdisciplinary Studies*

Jonathan Mathew Garver  
*Computer Science*

Peyton Reese Gates  
*Forensic Science*

Erin Marie Hood  
*Forensic Science*

Kyleigh Grace Hulsey  
*Interdisciplinary Studies*

Madeline Hope Irvin  
*Forensic Science*

Keagan Dale Kelter  
*Neuroscience*

Savannah LaFay Ledbetter  
*Biology and Environmental Science*

Lanie Elizabeth McCarty  
*Mathematics Education*

Alexander Gregory Pangelinan  
*Computer Science*

Ansley Duckworth Phillips  
*Physics*

Mary Tressie Lynell Polk  
*Forensic Science*

Katherine Elizabeth Prowell  
*Mathematics and Neuroscience*

Isabella Francesca Reulbach  
*Biology, Chemistry, and Forensic  
Science*

Emma Kate Scroggs  
*Biology*

Alexia Vaca-Nava  
*Biology*

Clara Giselle Welch  
*Biology*

Edward Leonard Wilson, III  
*Chemistry and Computer Science*

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION Octavius Mulligan, Dean

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## BACHELOR OF ARTS

Annabelle Lea Anderson  
*Elementary Education*

Daisy Clayre Bucknell  
*Elementary Education*

Shaundrea BreAnna Daniel  
*Elementary Education*

Chantilly Delast Davenport  
*Elementary Education*

Diana Gauthier  
*Elementary Education*

Mackenzie Elizabeth Hanley  
*Elementary Education*

Ashley Maria Martin  
*Elementary Education*

Caroline Elizabeth Massaro  
*Elementary Education*

Lisbeth Irai Mejia  
*Educational Studies*

Brittney N. Moon  
*Elementary Education*

Caroline Elizabeth Odom  
*Elementary Education*

Coralie Victoria Ramey  
*Middle Grades Education*

Mayo Elaine Ray  
*Elementary Education*

Chelsey Jaleah Sanders  
*Elementary Education*

Stephanie Ann Skelton  
*Elementary Education*

Amber Claire Thomason  
*Elementary Education*

Payton Rose Wells  
*Elementary Education*

Peggy LeAnn White  
*Elementary Education*

## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Alissa Carr  
*Elementary Education*

Lydia Baker Collins  
*Special Education*

Natalie Fincher Fuson  
*Elementary Education*

Diana Garcia  
*Elementary Education*

Alexandria J. Gilbert  
*Special Education*

Pamela Gonzalez  
*Elementary Education*

Zanthia Hampton  
*English Education*

Joshua Hans  
*Special Education*

Keith Demont Harison, Jr.  
*Special Education*

Gillian Jones  
*Special Education*

Karissa Jones  
*Elementary Education*

Sonya Kilgore  
*Special Education*

Taylor Kincaid  
*Elementary Education*

Jalisa Kiera Huff Knotts  
*Special Education*

Allie Marchman  
*Elementary Education*

Patrick McCartney  
*History Education*

Sydney Holbrooks Moore  
*Elementary Education*

Jennifer Noell  
*Special Education*

Cyprus O'Neal  
*History Education*

Samantha Lynn Pass  
*Elementary Education*

Mackenzie Pitts  
*Elementary Education*

Anna Caitlyn Rodgers  
*Elementary Education*

Stewart Spence  
*Mathematics Education*

Hailey Stein  
*Elementary Education*

Chester Lee Stone, Jr.  
*Secondary Education*

Tina Carter Surrency  
*Elementary Education*

Rashad Autuan Thomas  
*Special Education*

Shaquia Thomas  
*Elementary Education*

Tatum Greer Torres  
*Elementary Education*

Joshua Stephen Wagner  
*History Education*

Finn Williams  
*History Education*

Scottie Renee Williams  
*Middle Grades Education*

Audrey Young  
*Elementary Education*

Victoria Young  
*Special Education*

## **MASTER OF ARTS**

Bayly Barton  
*Elementary Education*

Kimberly Carzan Crawford  
*Elementary Education*

Chaz Alexander Ferdinand, Sr.  
*History Education*

Stefani Glover  
*Elementary Education*

Taylor Thomas Hill  
*Educational Studies*

Trish Souliere Lower  
*Middle Grades Education*

Matthew McNeese  
*Middle Grades Education*

Jason Resetar  
*Middle Grades Education*

Ashley Marie Wilson  
*Educational Studies*

## **EDUCATION SPECIALIST**

Tristian Barronton

Samantha L. Bart-Addison

Alexis Morgan Biggs

Katherine Bonner Branch

Keshia Brown

Rebecca Caldwell

Rebecca Dobson

Tesneem Galgal

Amber Gibson

Lynette Gonzalez

Sarah Grace Hall

Shannon R. Harrison

Angela Hayes

Erica R. Hill

Jillian Angel Hopson

Susan Miranda Kight

Heather Watson Lamb

Angela Martin

Sadie Johns McIntosh

Emily McNeese

Ymanu Medhin

Kiauna Nelson

Madison Brooke Rizer

David Samuel Rodgers

Mary Beth Sherrod

Martina LaCatherine Smith

Charlotte Aston Turman

Jada Pollett White

Mariela Gudalupe Zavala

## DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

### **Kyle Mariel Singco Granato**

B.S. – Piedmont University

M.A. – Piedmont University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

**Dissertation:** *Enhancing Productive Struggle in Elementary Math: Exploring Teacher Perceptions and the Impact of Read-Draw-Write on Independent Problem-Solving*

Dr. Sarah Sumners, Committee Chair

### **Jessica LeighAnne House**

B.S. – Shorter University

M.Ed. – Piedmont University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

**Dissertation:** *Growing Through the Cracks: A Mixed-Methods Phenomenological-Narrative Approach to Understanding Social Mobility of Former "At-Risk" Students from Alternative Curricular Models*

Dr. Katrina Short, Committee Chair

### **Leah Cope McConnell**

B.S. – Western Carolina University

M.S.A. – Western Carolina University

Ed.S. – Piedmont University

**Dissertation:** *Voices from the Classroom: Exploring Teacher Resistance to Productive Struggle through Participatory Narrative Inquiry*

Dr. Sarah Sumners, Committee Chair

## COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

J. Kerry Waller, Dean

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### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Sean Bailey  
*Business Administration*

Melanie M. Beavers  
*Accounting*

Samantha Black  
*Business Administration*

Luke James Borgmann  
*Business Administration*

Hayley Marie Borino  
*Business Administration*

Abbigail Elizabeth Bradshaw  
*Business Administration*

Dexter Luís Cahill  
*Business Administration*

Halle Caltrider  
*Business Administration*

Rubi Camargo  
*Business Administration*

Nash Fredrick Chelcun  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Alexander Winean Coker  
*Business Administration*

James Lyle Cooper  
*Business Administration*

Brandon Daley  
*Business Administration*

Fisher Darden  
*Business Administration*

Matthew Philip Dupuis  
*Business Administration*

Michael R. Eisele  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Amelia Grace Esther  
*Business Administration*

Olivia James Fletcher  
*Business Administration*

Rebecca L. Fox  
*Business Administration*

Jennifer Paige Gibbs  
*Business Administration*

Chase Howard Goddard  
*Business Administration*

Natalie P. Hanson  
*Business Administration*

William L. Isley  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Caleb Hunter Kirk  
*Business Administration*

Caleb Lesch  
*Business Administration*

Clemente Mesian Nseme Ada  
*Business Administration*

Silas Kobe Mulligan  
*Business Administration*

Cruz Dustin Mullinix  
*Business Administration*

Philip Nowak  
*Business Administration*

Luis Ortega Duran  
*Business Administration*

Dylan Patrick  
*Business Administration*

Noelle Maria Poteete  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Brandy Lee Roe  
*Business Administration*

Adam Lee Rogers  
*Business Administration*

Remo Scholl  
*Business Administration*

Collin Mikel Sheeler  
*Business Administration*

Jackson M. Shirley  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Tamar Renee Tompkins  
*Accounting and Business Administration*

Lucas Blake Tritt  
*Business Administration*

### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MANAGEMENT

Kennedi Eve Henson

Debra D. Huff

Stewart Darrin Johnston

Paige Marie Kluba

## COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES

Jaime Johnson-Huff, Dean

---

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Selene Alva-Arroyo  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Amanda Paige Barrett  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Carson McKenna Bezold  
*Communication Sciences and Disorders*

Ileynaret Michelle Brooks  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Patience Brown  
*Applied Health Science*

Riley Grace Bryan  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Garrett Owen Burton  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Bella Marie Caccamo  
*Sport & Fitness Administration*

Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Aleigha Bree Carter  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Kayleigh Chappell  
*Applied Health Science*

Mya Eelysia Collins  
*Applied Health Science*

Savannah Mae Culley  
*Health Care Administration*

Tynajiah Eades  
*Applied Health Science*

Jonathan Rubert Ferdinand  
*Applied Health Science*

Ansley Kate Hunter  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Ava Raye Hunter  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Sierra Morgan Judson  
*Applied Health Science*

Charles Jackson Leverette  
*Applied Health Science*

Chelsea Meghan McIntosh  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Rylee Shaw Moore  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Lyndzi Helena-Starr Partlow  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Julia Katherine Pitts  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Jackson Tyler Randolph  
*Exercise & Sport Science*

Sebastian Alexander Rojas  
*Sport & Fitness Administration*

Kendall Rutherford  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Ashley Alexandra Schwartz  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Christina Sierra  
*Applied Health Science*

Jesse Thomas Smedley  
*Communication Sciences & Disorders*

Madisyn Shae Spieks  
*Sport & Fitness Administration*

Reagan McKenzie York  
*Applied Health Science*

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

Ally Marie Alewine

Christodiah Akua Amoah

Aisha Anderson

Makayla Anajae Anglin

Marla Mary Arroyo-Rosado

Madison Taylor Bailey

Kelsey Grace Banks

Brooklyn Nicole Begley

Camille Bissainthe

Ashley Nicole Bonds

Payton Canaday

Chloe Faith Chandler

Zoe Ann Coelho

Katlyn Marie Crampton

Clarina Davis

Vivian Foster Earnhart

Rylie Ellen Erickson

Ashanti Shy'Cara Faust

Hannah Franks

Aubrey Frances Garrett

Cynetria Keyantta Taylor Givens

Kristin Abigail Greenway

Nicholas Joel Griffin

Emma Kay Hargrove

Akira Haynes

Lindi Rebecca Hoersten

Emily Anne Hyman

Kimberly Kesler

Annalee Grace Keys

Sha'Quoia De'Chelle Lockett

Elijah R'eih Loux

Eric Scott Newell McBurney

Margaret Ann Michael

Joselline Molina-Chavez

Haley Ashton Moss

Ana Evelyn Narvaez

Ann Njeri Njoroge

Diana Patricia Ortega Nunez

Helen Gloria Ortiz

Keren H. Palma

Eva Morgan Phillips

Katie Grace Randall

Malina Nicole Rawlins

Lauren Olivia Roberts

Guadalupe Rodriguez

Skyler Noelle Seeber

Nikeria Quientela Lashay Sims

Jada Ti'una Smith

Aniya Renee Stewart

Skylar Swann

Ti'Yonda Sakerria Turner

Amy Elizabeth White

Kasey Mae White

Esperanza Zinnen

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE**

Madison Louise Adams  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Luz Agreda  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Chloe Rose Alexander  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Phillip Bell  
*Athletic Training*

Lindsey Booth  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Ileynaret Michelle Brooks  
*Athletic Training*

Patience Brown  
*Athletic Training*

Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
*Athletic Training*

Alyssa Chester  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Aubrey Leigh Dowdy  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Tynajiah Eades  
*Athletic Training*

Lauren English  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Caroline Griffeth Heard  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Ashley Howe  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Madison Rogers Jameson  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Chelsea Renee Jordan  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Jenny Juarez-Francisco  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Caroline Glenda Lewallen  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Sara Catelyn Lucas  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Meredith Allese Lynn  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Jocelyn Kayla Maseda  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Taylor Nichole Neely  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Austin Olivia Norris  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Lyndzi Helena-Starr Partlow  
*Athletic Training*

Kinsey Abigail Quick  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Jackson Tyler Randolph  
*Athletic Training*

Lindsey Ellen Tavenier  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Kailyn Thomas  
*Athletic Training*

Kennedy Jean Votava  
*Speech Language Pathology*

Kasey Nicole Westmoreland  
*Athletic Training*

# HONOR SOCIETIES, ORGANIZATIONS, & GROUPS

## ALPHA ALPHA ALPHA (TRI ALPHA)

Brooklyn Nicole Begley  
Camille Bissainthe  
Samantha Black  
Clarina Davis  
Erin Chauntel Ervin  
Suzet Martinez  
Ana Evelyn Narvaez  
Ann Njeri Njoroge  
Mayo Elaine Ray  
Kassie Nicole Robinson  
Valerie Ann Romero  
Nikeria Quientela Lashay Sims  
Stephanie Ann Skelton  
Peggy LeAnn White

## ALPHA CHI

Carson McKenna Bezold  
Ava Jolie Brookshire  
Mackenzie Cain  
Erin Chauntel Ervin  
Amelia Grace Esther  
Ashanti Shy'Cara Faust  
Annalee Grace Keys  
Erika Nicole Mascheck  
Haley Ashton Moss  
Helen Gloria Ortiz  
Noelle Maria Poteete  
Isabella Francesca Reulbach  
Kassie Nicole Robinson  
Valerie A. Romero  
Nikeria Quientela Lashay Sims  
Reagan McKenzie York  
Megan Victoria Zimmerman  
Alpha Lambda Delta  
Rylie Ellen Erickson  
Erin Chauntel Ervin  
Annalee Grace Keys  
Erika Nicole Mascheck  
Coralie Victoria Ramey  
Kassie Nicole Robinson  
Sarah Rose Row  
Emma Kate Scroggs

## ALPHA PSI OMEGA

Aubrie Elizabeth Burrell  
Mackenzie Cain  
Dakota Rose Chen  
Joshua Farmer  
Jasmine Marie Mote  
Laura Katherine Smith  
Ethan Z. Spinks

## AMERICAN MARKETING ASSOCIATION

Mackenzie Cain  
Caleb Lesch  
Luis Ortega Duran  
Noelle Maria Poteete  
Remo Scholl  
Collin Mikel Sheeler

## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES BOARD

Bella Marie Caccamo  
Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
Amelia Grace Esther  
Hannah Franks  
Natalie P. Hanson  
Lisbeth Irai Mejia  
Collin Mikel Sheeler

## CHI ALPHA SIGMA

Annabelle Lea Anderson  
Sean Bailey  
Kelsey Grace Banks  
Hayden James Bassett  
Christopher Belin  
Carson McKenna Bezold  
Margaret Ann Bishop  
Hayley Marie Borino  
Riley Grace Bryan  
Garrett Owen Burton  
Aleigha Bree Carter  
Nash Fredrick Chelcun  
Trinity Grace Deetz  
Erin Donovan  
Matthew Philip Dupuis

Michael R. Eisele  
Rylie Ellen Erickson  
Cody Emmett Funk  
Peyton Reese Gates  
Chase Howard Goddard  
William L. Isley  
Sierra Morgan Judson  
Caroline Elizabeth Massaro  
Lanie Elizabeth McCarty  
Alexander Gregory Pangelinan  
Dylan Patrick  
Mary Tressie Lynell Polk  
Noelle Maria Poteete  
Katherine Elizabeth Prowell  
Sebastian Alexander Rojas  
Sarah Rose Row  
Chelsey Jaleah Sanders  
Remo Scholl  
Skyler Noelle Seeber  
Madisyn Shae Spieks  
Lucas Blake Tritt

### **DELTA MU DELTA**

Sean Bailey  
Halle Caltrider  
Rubi Camargo  
Chase Howard Goddard  
Dylan Patrick

### **FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ATHLETES (FCA)**

Zane Christian Brookshire  
Aleigha Bree Carter  
Rylie Ellen Erickson  
Chase Howard Goddard  
Keagan Dale Kelter  
Jocelyn Kayla Maseda  
Lanie Elizabeth McCarty  
Reagan Mckenzie York

### **HEALTH SCIENCES LEADERSHIP ACADEMY**

Garrett Owen Burton  
Bella Marie Caccamo  
Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
Aleigha Bree Carter  
Ava Raye Hunter  
Sierra Morgan Judson  
Lyndzi Helena-Starr Partlow  
Jackson Tyler Randolph  
Christina Sierra  
Kailyn Thomas  
Kasey Nicole Westmoreland  
Reagan McKenzie York

### **KAPPA MU EPSILON**

Lanie Elizabeth McCarty  
Alexander Gregory Pangelinan  
Katherine Elizabeth Prowell  
Kassie Nicole Robinson

### **M.A.N.E.**

Aubie Elizabeth Burrell  
Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
Lauren Michelle Cates  
Dakota Rose Chen  
Rebecca L. Fox  
Hannah Franks  
Suzet Martinez  
Caroline Elizabeth Massaro  
Kerrigan Patrick McClain  
Lisbeth Irai Mejia  
Mary Tressie Lynell Polk  
Valerie Ann Romero  
Chelsey Jaleah Sanders

### **NATIONAL STUDENT SPEECH LANGUAGE HEARING ASSOCIATION (NSSLHA)**

Madison Louise Adams  
Alyssa Chester  
Aubrey Leigh Dowdy  
Lauren English

Ashley Howe  
Madison Rogers Jameson  
Chelsea Renee Jordan  
Caroline Glenda Lewallen  
Jocelyn Kayla Maseda  
Austin Olivia Norris  
Kinsey Abigail Quick  
Lindsey Ellen Tavenier

### **NATURAL SCIENCE HONORS PROGRAM**

Waylin Michael Boyd  
Savannah LaFay Ledbetter  
Isabella Francesca Reulbach  
Emma Kate Scroggs  
Alexia Vaca-Nava  
Clara Giselle Welch

### **PIEDMONT PEER TUTORS**

Aisha Anderson  
Kristin Abigail Greenway  
Sha'Quoia De'Chelle Lockett  
Ananda Maria Muñoz Salas  
Noelle Maria Poteete  
Isabella Francesca Reulbach  
Alexia Vaca-Nava

### **R.H. DANIEL COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH SCIENCES HONOR SOCIETY**

Chloe Faith Chandler  
Kristin Abigail Greenway  
Emma Kay Hargrove  
Kimberly Kesler  
Sha'Quoia De'Chelle Lockett  
Haley Ashton Moss  
Ann Njeri Njoroge  
Keren H. Palma  
Jackson Tyler Randolph  
Skyler Noelle Seeber  
Nikeria Quientela Lashay Sims  
Madisyn Shae Spieks

### **ROAR STUDENT MEDIA**

Lauren Michelle Cates  
Erin Donovan  
Jailyn Symone Green  
Paige Marie Kluba  
Angelica Lucille Lux  
Bailee N. Nolan  
Jesse Thomas Smedley

### **SIGMA TAU DELTA**

Erika Nicole Mascheck  
Kassie Nicole Robinson

### **STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (SGA)**

Aisha Anderson  
Erin Chauntel Ervin

### **TEAM PIEDMONT AMBASSADORS**

Aubrie Elizabeth Burrell  
Mackenzie Cain  
Charles Hadden Carswell, IV  
Dakota Rose Chen  
Michael R. Eisele  
Caroline Elizabeth Massaro  
Kerrigan Patrick McClain  
Mary Tressie Lynell Polk  
Chelsey Jaleah Sanders  
Lucas Blake Tritt

# 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

Dark Green, Gold, Navy cord

M.A.N.E.

Forest Green, Silver cord

National Student Speech Language Hearing Assoc, NSSLHA

Orange, White cord

Piedmont University Student Nurses Assoc, NSNA

Silver, Light Blue, Purple cord

Piedmont Peer Tutors

Service Pin

Resident Assistants

Service Pin

Roar Student Media Group

Green, White, Black cord

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 Chi

Sapphire Blue, Emerald Green cord

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

Old Gold, White cord

Delta Mu Delta

Purple, Gold cord

Kappa Mu Epsilon

Rose Pink, Silver 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 tradition 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).

