



2024

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# COMMENCEMENT

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SATURDAY THE ELEVENTH OF MAY





# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

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PRELUDE ..... Texas Wesleyan University Wind Ensemble & Ram Band

## PROCESSIONAL

NATIONAL ANTHEM..... Wind Ensemble  
*Sung by Darion Chilton*

## ALMA MATER - WORDS BY J.C. DENNEY

*Hail to thee dear Texas Wesleyan, from the heart I give my praise.  
In the paths of high endeavor, fame and fortune crown your days.  
Streaming forth a line of splendor, sons and daughters all declare,  
Living testimony render, to the worthy name you bear.*

INVOCATION ..... Gladys Childs  
*University Chaplain*

INTRODUCTIONS ..... Vickie Stevens  
*Vice-Chairwoman of the Board*  
  
Emily W. Messer  
*President*

UNITED METHODIST EXEMPLARY ..... Luis Aguirre  
TEACHER AWARD *Associate Professor of Mathematics, Department Chair*

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES ..... Emily W. Messer  
  
Hector Quintanilla  
*Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs  
Interim Dean, School of Health Profession*

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES..... Ricardo Rodriguez  
*Dean, School of Arts and Sciences*  
  
Thomas Nichols  
*Associate Dean, School of Business Administration and  
Professional Programs*  
  
Carlos Martinez  
*Dean, School of Education*  
  
Misti Sparks  
*Professor and Director of Graduate Programs  
in Counseling*

WELCOME FROM ALUMNI..... Karen Surita  
*President of the Alumni Association*

LITANY AND BENEDICTION..... Gladys Childs

## RECESSIONAL

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## ORDER OF THE PROCESSIONAL

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Cross Bearer

Bible Bearer

*Banners are emblazoned with the seals of the six Texas institutions  
of higher education affiliated with the United Methodist Church.*

Huston-Tillotson University

McMurry University

Southern Methodist University

Southwestern University

Texas Wesleyan University

Wiley College

*Banner Bearers are represented by various student organizations  
at Texas Wesleyan University.*

Academic Marshals

May 2024 Graduating Class

Faculty Marshal

Faculty

Grand Marshal

Platform Party

Vice Presidents

Provost

President

*Ushers are members of various student organizations.*

## ACADEMIC REGALIA AND SYMBOLS

American academic regalia originated at European medieval universities, particularly Oxford University, about seven centuries ago. At that time, the teachers were clergymen, the students were studying to become clerics, and the cassock was their usual costume. The tradition has continued through the ages at colleges and universities in the wearing of the academic gown, hood and cap.

The cap, or mortarboard, is the same for all degree. The tassel is worn on the right side of the cap until the bachelor's degree is conferred, at which time it is switched to the left side.

According to the American Council on Education, the gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves and is designed to be worn closed. The gown for the master's degree has an oblong sleeve base that hangs down and opens at the wrist. The gown for the doctor's degree has bell-shaped sleeves. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet and has three velvet bands on each sleeve. These distinguishing marks may be either black or in the appropriate color of the academic degree earned. Though black is a traditional color for gowns, the degree-granting institution may, however, select unique colors for the gown and trim.

The most colorful and significant item of the academic regalia is the hood. The length indicates the degree; the color of the border denotes the academic area of the degree; the colors of the hood lining identify the college or university, which granted the degree. The doctor's hood is four feet long with a five-inch border. The master's hood is three and one-half feet long with a three-inch border and a long, large pocket at the bottom. The bachelor's hood is three-feet long with a two-inch border.

## A TEXAS-SIZED HISTORY

Originally called Polytechnic College — which literally means "many arts and sciences" — the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, founded Texas Wesleyan University in 1890. The school held its first classes in September 1891, with 111 students.

In 1902, H.A. Boaz assumed the presidency and led the university's first period of substantive growth. During his tenure, new residence halls, a fine arts conservatory, a science hall and a gym were built. Enrollment increased each year at the new university, which was located a few miles from the growing city of Fort Worth.

When Dallas was selected by the church leaders as the site for Southern Methodist University, the Polytechnic campus was designated the Woman's College for Southern Methodism, eventually becoming Texas Woman's College in 1914.

During the 1920s, the tradition of robing, which commemorates the relationship between faculty and students through a ceremonial vesting of cap and gown, became a university tradition. The tradition remains to this day. It is an example of Texas Wesleyan's dedication to a small, personal educational atmosphere.

The college was renamed Texas Wesleyan College in 1935 and has remained a co-educational liberal arts institution with an increasingly

The academic colors most frequently associated with the Texas Wesleyan University academic community are:

Arts and Letters.....	White	Mass Communication.....	Crimson
Business.....	Light Brown	Music.....	Pink
Counseling.....	White	Nurse Anesthesia.....	Apricot
Criminal Justice.....	Purple	Paralegal Studies.....	Purple
Education.....	Light Blue	Science.....	Golden Yellow
Exercise Science.....	Sage Green	Sociology.....	Citron
History.....	White	Theatre.....	Brown
Language.....	White	Theology.....	Scarlet
Library Science.....	Lemon		

The green and blue tassels identify members of the Alpha Chi National Honor Society. These graduates are at or near the top two percent of their class.

The gold cord symbolizes membership in an honor society. The purple and teal tassels identify members of Kappa Delta Pi, an international honor society in education.

The mace is a common symbol of the authority and power of a corporate body. Its use as such originated in medieval times in legislative bodies and university faculties. It is carried by the presiding officer of the Faculty Assembly.

The presidential medallion is a symbol of the Office of the President of a chartered institution. It bears the seal of the college and is placed around the neck of the president at investiture to represent the yoke of responsibility for the welfare of the institution.



comprehensive academic and student life program. Law Sone became the President of Texas Wesleyan in 1935, which kicked off a 33-year period of growth and expansion.

Under Sone, athletics thrived, with dominant teams in golf and basketball; new facilities were built on campus, including a new library and residence halls; and new academic programs in business and education became points of pride for the university.



In addition to strong undergraduate programs, the university added graduate programs in education in the 1970s and in nurse anesthesia in the 1980s. Recognizing the growth in programs, Trustees changed the name of the institution to Texas Wesleyan University, effective in January 1989. The Graduate Programs of Nurse Anesthesia has grown into the largest in the nation, delivering courses to students throughout the United States.

President Dr. Emily W. Messer became the 21<sup>st</sup> president of Texas Wesleyan in July 2023. She has an extensive background in higher education, from helping colleges break historic enrollment numbers and securing funding for new programming and expansions of colleges, to putting a focus on the importance of student life. She has goals to continue making the university a higher education leader in the community.



## CANDIDATES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREES

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### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

#### DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

May Mohammed Salman Al-tameemi

*Psychological Energy and Its Relationship To Psychological Variables (Somatic, Anxiety, Worry, Concentration Disruption) And Performance Anxiety For Blind Goalball Players.*

Christina Danielle Kelley

*Transition to Practice: Newly Certified Athletic Trainers' Perceived Readiness in Healthcare Administration.*

Silvia Valencia

*An Investigation into the Experiences of Elementary White Teachers Working with Ethically and Culturally Diverse Students in an Urban School District in North Texas.*

## CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

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### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

#### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Divya Parbhubhai Ahir

Ensah Thomas Alpha

Georgianna Marie Bass

Neil Bertrand

Aljani Bridgewater

Malisone Mathilde Chanthapanya

Allison Dalzell

Ana Erica De La O – Romero

Eliza Espiritu

Keith Anthony Evans

Tatiana Marie Giddings

Ryan Hammel

Nusrat Jahan

Charity Ariana Moore

Bishwa Ratna Rai

Blake Thomas Taylor

Rene Trevino, Jr.

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

#### MASTERS OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Vanessa Anabeth Roque

#### MASTER OF EDUCATION

Daavi Mawufemo Atitso

Lindsey Nicole Baumgartner

Brooke Madison Bussey

Arely Chavez

Jennifer Soledad Gonzalez Arriaga

Kalee Kristine Iles

Kathryn Ann Smith

Rita Mawuena Kpormego

Tiffany Danielle Nolte

James Anthony Thurston, Jr.

### SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

#### MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

Nina Amoah

Karina M. Gonzalez-Rumans

#### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MARRIAGE & FAMILY THERAPY

Leslie R. Autry-Kinsey

Olivia Fellers

Rachel Elizabeth Hardy

James Dean Marr

Cheryl Lynn Daniel Nichols

Claire Schmidt

Sondra Sien

#### MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Mary Cing Muang

# CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

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## SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

### BACHELOR OF ARTS

David H. Bates  
Mya Cherray Cockrell  
Alexa Colvin  
Viloki Dhangar  
Jessica Stacy Espinoza  
Clara Faith Friedlander  
Alexandria R. Garcia

Yaneth Gonzalez  
Matthew Tyler Harvey  
Kathyana Maria Jasso  
Saffron Daisy Maasz  
Lionel Munoz  
Xuan Mai T. Nguyen  
Miranda Reese

Mayerli Alejandra Rivera  
Alyssa Ann Saddler  
Taliyah Janiece Salih  
Collin Scott Temples  
Sutten Garrett Tidwell  
Cynithia Berenice Trujillo Valadez

### BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Lora Nicole Davis  
Abigale K. Hunt

Nicholas R. Keel

Grace C. Philipbar

### BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Darion D. Chilton, Jr.  
Mark Elliott Davis

Anna Kate Lang  
Emily Ann Morris

Sun Park  
Madison Marie Nicole Wooley

### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Andres N. Aguilera  
Sebastian Almaraz  
Ramon Alvarez  
Tom Ammann  
Warren Richard Asire  
Melinda Del Carmen Ayala  
Maya Azam  
Katie E. Barbarick  
Lizette Barcenaz  
Colby Brook Benton  
Alyssa Brinkley  
Kristen Carlini  
Dysleemar Carrillo Merced  
Francisco Alejandro Castillo  
Kelvin Coker  
Gabriel Demetrio Contreras  
Elisha Christian Cooper  
Lizandra Cordero  
Zhen Deng  
Joyce Ann Dukes  
Carmen Alexis Flores  
Keyantae Janelle Frazier  
Carly Grace Fullenwider  
Alexa Gallegos  
Katherine Galvez  
Jose Tomas Garcia

Josue Garnica  
Gabriel H. Gomez  
Samantha Rene Gonzalez  
Yisell Gonzalez Rojo  
Nuriyah Simone Hall  
Daniel Hernandez  
Madelyn Marie Irving Herrera  
Belleange Huertas-Rivera  
Dejion Martell Jefferson  
Maria Rosalinda Ortega Jones  
Kristian Lafayette  
Maryellen G. Lafferty  
Jaylon Deshun Leonard  
Sydnee M. Leonard  
Seth Jesse Evan Leung Woo-Gabriel  
Jiaqi Lin  
Malia Linton  
Baltazar Austin Loza  
Andrea Monic Malek  
Lerato Brianna Mapela  
Kelsea Martin  
Lauren Michael Martinez  
Jaeley C. May  
Javon McInnis  
Micale Bailey Mee  
Alexa Melancon

Zachery Kane Mercer  
Savannah Paige Miller  
Victorena Mims  
Christian Alexander Myhand  
O'Brien Neely  
Mary Nyakundi  
Bailey Grace O'Donnell  
Patrick William Oehler  
Dylan Olvera Rodriguez  
Hisbani Sarahi Padron  
Kunjan Patel  
Jennifer Patricio  
Jakeem Patrick  
Michelle Ramos  
Benjamin Reckart  
Samantha N. Rose  
Elizabeth Ruiz  
Alfonso Mateo Salais  
Laura San Juan  
Damian Adam Sanchez  
Israel Emanuel Sanchez  
Sir Marc Raveo'n Sanders  
Alessia Christine Santillan  
Kindall Marchelle Sayles  
Lauren Scott  
Maniya Danae Server



## CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES (CONT.)

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Jamon Smith  
Victoria Soto  
Theresa Louise Steele  
Deryck Debon Taylor

David Gerard Theriot, Jr.  
Alyssa Gabrielle Tourville  
Noelani Patricia Rodriguez Ramirez  
Ancilla Akinyi Joseph Wasonga

Keisten White  
Krysta F. White  
Jabari P. Wilson

### SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

#### BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Augustas Aldonis  
Sebastian Almaraz  
Seth Aaron Anderson  
Jose Armondo Bonilla  
Tatem Rae Bullard  
Cameron Douglas Chapman  
Alondra Honstein Chavez  
Alejandro Colmenero  
Cristal Ytcel Corona Resendiz  
Brittany Nicole Crouch  
Juan Ricardo Davila Bone  
Ruben Jose Diaz Guzman  
Kien Trung Duong  
Mohamed Hafiz Elbeshir  
Luis Gabriel Flores  
Raquel Galvan  
Josue Garnica  
Shahryar Hasan Hamza  
Isaiah Haynes  
Divandre Hernandez

Brahn Phillipe Howard  
Naizllet Fernandez  
Brandon Irvin  
Ethan Clark Kappler  
Aidan P. Kenney  
Nate Kopetsky  
Jorge Rene Lara Jr.  
Hans Karl Laufer III  
Kennedy E. Lee  
Obediah Lewis  
Tzu Rong Lin  
Asim Ljusio  
Kyle Looper  
Andrew L. Martinez  
Elizabeth Jean Mathis  
Andrew J. McFarland  
John Mendoza  
Jose Pablo Merino Castro  
Ethan T. Miller  
Mea Alayna Mohler

Santiago Montes Solarte  
Pablo Olmedo  
Lazar Pavlovic  
William Alexander Quillin  
Marissa Giselle Reina  
Stephen Roberts  
Rickey Demoin Ross  
Isabel Cristina Ruiz  
Laura Lizeth Ruvalcaba  
Antoine Jordan San Miguel  
Oscar Jesus Saucedo  
Ana Cristina Segura  
Michele Driver Shelton  
Hangyu Shi  
Savanna Rae Smith  
Samantha Dawson Stubbs  
Han Tang  
Katherine Emily Williams  
Michael Williams  
Taryn Wills

### SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

#### BACHELOR OF ARTS

Jeneffer Noemi Escobar

Yasmin Ibarra

#### BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Hailey Bell  
Merabelle Haley Carbajal  
Robin Nicole Dean  
Tabitha Michele Escobar  
Dulce Maria Flores  
Sarays Marie Flores Lebrón  
Camille E. Fournier

Erica Montrice Johnson  
Megan Mary Kim  
Heidi Lafarga  
Alejandra Ledesma  
Yakedriez Magee  
Katelyn Mary Mallett  
Zeno Marcheselli

Chaise Allen Nielsen  
Nicholas Joseph Rothe  
Brooklynn Anne Rowe  
Petr Svoboda  
Canon Thomas  
Shaun Siaka Abijah Tolbert  
Rory Kenneth White

## THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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The Honorable Glenn Lewis '81, Fort Worth  
*Chairman of the Board*

Vickie Stevens '80, Fort Worth  
*Vice-Chairwoman of the Board*

Dr. Gregory Phillips '70, Fort Worth  
*Secretary of the Board*

Timothy Carter, Fort Worth  
*Immediate Past Chairman of the Board*

Larry Anfin, Fort Worth

Richard Barajas '96, Fort Worth

Commissioner Roy Charles Brooks, HON '15, Fort Worth

Dr. Tim Bruster, Fort Worth

Karen Burchfield '84, Southlake

Doug Compton, Sr., Lawrence, KS

Dr. Susan Coultas '83, Burleson

Karen Cramer, Granbury

Kerry Getter '77, Austin

U.S. Congresswoman Kay Granger '65, HON '92, Fort Worth

Tompie Hall '74, Colleyville

Marsha Hilcher '69, Fort Worth

Aslam Khan, Westlake

Tom Locke, Georgetown

Nisha Lunia '93, Dallas

Susan Lyons '84, Colleyville

Mark Ma '04, Parker

Dr. Louella Baker Martin, HON '03, Fort Worth

Rick McWhorter '84, Fort Worth

Barry Moore '82, Fort Worth

Rosa Navejar '78, Fort Worth

Councilmember Christopher Nettles,  
Fort Worth

Terry O'Halloran '78, Plano

David Parker, Fort Worth

Kimberly Persley '89, Dallas

Lowisa Rainwater '04, MS '07, Fort Worth

Richard Roby III, North Richland Hills

Rev. Nick Sholars '74, Hideaway

Claudia Stepp '72, Fort Worth

Ginny Tigue, Colleyville

U.S. Congressman Marc Veasey '95,  
Fort Worth

Max M. Wayman '74, Fort Worth

## CHAIRMAN'S COUNCIL

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Gary Cumbie, Fort Worth

Kenneth Jones, Jr., Fort Worth

John Maddux '59, Fort Worth

Anne Street '78, Graham

## TRUSTEE EMERITUS

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John Maddux '59, Fort Worth

Norma Roby, North Richland Hills

Lamar E. Smith '50, HON '65, Fort Worth

## PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICERS

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Emily W. Messer  
*President*

Alan Liebrecht  
*Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing and Communications*

Donna Nance  
*Vice President, Finance and Administration*

Megan Cooley  
*General Counsel*

Michele Biollotat  
*Vice President for University Advancement*

Dennis Hall  
*Vice President for Student Affairs / Dean of Students*

Hector Quintanilla  
*Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs*  
*Interim Dean, School of Health Professions*

Ricardo Rodriguez  
*Dean, School of Arts & Sciences*

Sameer Vaidya  
*Dean, School of Business Administration and Professional Programs*

Carlos Martinez  
*Dean, School of Education*

## LITANY - "WISDOM"

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Leader: Happy is the one who finds wisdom,  
People: And the one who gets understanding.

Leader: For the gain from it is better than the gain from silver,  
People: And its profit better than gold.

Leader: Wisdom is more precious than jewels,  
People: And nothing you desire can compare with it.

Leader: Long life is in wisdom's right hand,  
People: And in its left hand are riches and honor.

Leader: The ways of wisdom are ways of pleasantness,  
People: And all its paths are peace.

Leader: Wisdom is a tree of life to those who lay hold of it,  
People: Those who hold fast to wisdom are called happy.

Leader: The Lord by wisdom founded the earth,  
People: And the Lord by understanding established the heavens.

# WELCOME

TO THE TEXAS WESLEYAN ALUMNI ASSOCIATION!

You are a vital part of the Texas Wesleyan community.  
Here's how you can stay involved as a TXWES alumni.

## ATTEND EVENTS WITH CLASSMATES

There's always something going on at Texas Wesleyan. Check out our monthly e-newsletter, The Ram's Horn, to find out about events like the Wesleyan Wine Walk, Alumni Reunion and the Wesleyan 5K.

## JOIN SOCIAL RAMS

Want to support your alma mater but don't have much time? Share university news and events with just a click of a button to win prizes. Sign up at [txwes.edu/socialrams](http://txwes.edu/socialrams) today!

## KEEP IN TOUCH

Change of address? Different email? New job? Email us at [alumni@txwes.edu](mailto:alumni@txwes.edu) so we can keep you connected.

## FOLLOW US

Facebook: Texas Wesleyan University Alumni  
Instagram: [@txwesalumni](https://www.instagram.com/txwesalumni)







*A Methodist Institution Since 1890*

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