



2023

COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY THE SIXTEENTH OF DECEMBER



COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

PROCESSIONAL

NATIONAL ANTHEM..... Wind Ensemble
Sung by Abraham Hernandez

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 Glenn Lewis
Chairman of the Board

Emily W. Messer
President

EARL BROWN DISTINGUISHED FACULTY AWARD .. Patsy Robles-Goodwin
Professor of Education

CONFERRING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES Emily W. Messer

Hector Quintanilla
Provost & Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

AWARDING OF ACADEMIC DEGREES..... Ricardo Rodriguez
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Sameer Vaidya
*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

ORDER OF THE PROCESSIONAL

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 College

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

December 2023 Graduating Class

Faculty Marshal

Faculty

Grand Marshal

Platform Party

Provost

President

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 degrees with the exception of the tassel, which denotes the academic area of the 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.

The gown is usually black. Some institutions have designated other colors to be worn by their doctoral graduates. 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. The master's gown has no ornamentation, is always black and is distinguished by the shape and length of the sleeves. The sleeves are long and shaped with a square-cut corner at the back and an arc-cut from the front. The gown for the baccalaureate graduate has long pointed sleeves.

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.

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.

A TEXAS-SIZED HISTORY

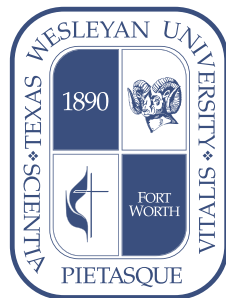
Originally called Polytechnic College — which literally means "many arts and sciences" — the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, founded Texas Wesleyan University in 1890. The school held its first classes in September 1891, with 111 students.

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. And, 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



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 21st 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

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION

Leticia Bertalott

An Investigation into What Motivates Educators to Teach at Title 1 Schools in a West Texas School District

Dekisha Browning

A Qualitative Study of the Educational Experiences of Pregnant Teens in High School

Whitney Clark

A Study of Teacher Perceptions on Principal Instructional Experience

Amy Cunningham

The Effect of Early College High School Participation on Hispanic and Economically Disadvantaged Students in Texas

Priscila Dilley

The Impact of Teacher Residency in Urban Schools

Paul Duckworth

Effects of Path Dependency on Career Trajectories of Minority Head Football Coaches and Administrators in Texas

Desha Green

A Case Study on Teacher Perceptions of Effective Reading Literacy Teachers

Rachel Madison

An Exploration of the Lived Experiences of Texas Elementary Educators Regarding the COVID 19 Pandemic and the Academic Growth of Economically Disadvantaged Students

Carol Miles

An Examination of the Influence of Years of Experience and Advanced Degrees on Teacher Retention in Texas Public Schools

Karen Molinar

Principal Supervisor Impact On Instructional Leadership and Principal Retention

Steven Moss

A Grounded Theory Approach to Exploring the Essential Knowledge, Skills, and Capacities of the Texas Public-School Fine Arts Administration: Perceptions of Members of Texas Fine Arts Administrators (TFAA)

Robert Pacleb

Bilingual Funding and Accountability Alignment

Valencia Rhines

Prekindergarten Teacher Perceptions of the Texas Teacher Evaluation and Support System (T-TESS)

Karen Leigh Schroeder

Identifying Educational Strategies to Engage Middle School Students in Math Class

Nadia Thompson

Leading at the Intersection: The Impact of Microaggressions on Black Women in Educational Leadership Roles

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

DOCTOR OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Tanya Elise Alexander

Use of Narrative Therapy and Art Therapy in Participatory Action Research to Address Bullying and Foster Hope for School Communities

Alzada L. Benton

A Narrative Approach to Culturally Sensitive Supervision

Artaya Evette Brown

An Exploration of the Impact of a Solution Focused Narrative Group Intervention on the Experience of Family Achievement Guilt of First-Generation College Students

Jamie Gail English

Exploration of the Experiences of Re-Authoring Body Image Narratives of Sexually Active Women

Natasha Comae Jones

The Impact Attachment Styles Have on Intimate Partner Connections: Using Cognitive Behavioral Family Therapy to Reduce Unhealthy Conflicts in Couples with Insecure Attachment Styles

Francesca Marissa Zephora Patrick

A Phenomenological Exploration of How the Miracle Question Influences Vicarious Post-Traumatic Growth Amongst Therapists Treating Trauma Survivors

Mia-Tiara Shonjae Hall

Using Solution-Focused Support Groups with Christian African American Church Members Addressing Mental Health Service Utilization

Dione M. Simmons

Caregiver Burnout: What are the experiences of burnout and quality of life of caregivers taking care of adults with ASD?

Ebony Skinner

Solution Focused Narrative Therapy: An Intervention to Improve the Emotional Wellbeing of Single Mothers

CANDIDATES FOR MASTER'S DEGREES

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Jeffrey Abraham
Lino Agüero Rodriguez
Naushad Ali
Alison Janelle Bueton
Matthew Everett Easley
Cynthia C. Gonzalez
Brigitte Franziska Green
William Kevin Hymes
Emily R. Isaacson
ShaKore Shavon Jackson-Lewis

Andriy Kandzyuba
Jenna Korbut
Marcus Maldonado
David Markines
Cristal Martin
Isabel Molinar
Shana Sharae Moore
Dat Nguyen
Utkrista Pandey
Naomi Lisa Petion Hitoto

Megan Price
Elvin John Rosa Jr.
Elijah Apolonio Ruiz
Kyle Russell
Brittany N. Smith
Jaymya Joi Vaughn
Tiffanie Watson
Hunter Wilkes Wilson
Xiaoling Zhou

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

A'Keisha L. Burke
Enriqueta Hernandez

Carolyn Jean Langston-Mathis
Erika M. Rivera

Diamond Latrice Tate

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Abiodun Adegoke
Nathaniel Bernie
DaMia Breathett
Desiray Bunch
Courtney L. Calixto-Cervantes
Tonya Lynn Cole
Christy Elaine Collard
Wendy Denning
Jeremiah Harrison Din
Salo Donoso
Talha Farooq

Ericka DeLane Friend
Guadalupe Garcia
Monica Rose Glass
Artavia Guyton
Crystal Nischell Kelso
Latreasha Leonard
Linsley Liburd II
Yolanda Denise McFarland
Aminah A. Moore
Mary J. Mosley
Yolanda Navin

Pamela Nelson
Rosalind Hopes Reece
Jose Riesco
Amy Thakham
Cesely Sierra Thompson
Lindsey Thorpe
Jatarvis Dontral VanDyke
Loraiza Velez Quevedo
Carla Walker
Summer Dawn Weber Rauch

SCHOOL OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

MASTER OF ARTS IN PROFESSIONAL COUNSELING

Mekayla Barnett
Kailyn Brooke Beauchamp

Shadai Brinchfield
Kara Elaine Clayton

McCartney James Paul

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

Amy Julia Battles
Lakayla Briann Brown

Chelsea R. Jaubert
Kimberly Neufeld

Jennifer My-Hang Nguyen
Kandace L. Williamson

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SCHOOL COUNSELING

Hedibaldo Flores Jimenez

Lilia V. Ramirez

CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES

SCHOOL OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Paula Aguilar
Kayla Cruz
Victoria Monteiro M. Da Silva
Viloki Dipakbhai Dhangar
Kimani Nycole Ferguson
Arletth Aracely Fraga

Juan S. Galvan
Caterina Garcia
Daniela Gonzalez
Oshiona C. Hart
Abraham G. Hernandez
Selina F. Humphrey

Madison N Lemming
Amyah Jordan Martin
Chelsea Miranda
Patricia Orduno
Ann Cortez Ruiz
Joyce Watterson

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Lora Nicole Davis
Chase Alan Di Iulio

Sharon-Marie Elyzabeth Fron
Abigale K. Hunt
Nathan R. Tobey

Madison Cheyenne Whitney
Raymundo Zafra

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Sapida Abbasi
Kobe Makel Adams
Sara Nicole Allen
Ramon Pedro Alvarez
Daniel Roberto Amaya
Maya Azam
Jennifer Leeann Bashir
Rusty Bowman
Ileena Jazmine Breed
Mariela Jazmin Cancino
Gysell Castro
Sydney Charlton
Debany Crescency Chavez
Andrea Coble
Odalys Covarrubias-Chavez
Alissa Nichole Cruz
Nathaniel J. Davis
Linda Marie Diaz
Cory Didier
Cynthia Dutra
Elijah Elliot
Monica Yvonne Escamilla
Saeya Lajo Esparza
Patrice Renee Fields

Maegen Fuselier-Raley
Erika V. Garcia
Ariadna Michell Garza
Cayden J. Glasgow
Marcy Renae Gonzalez
Selena Marie Guzman
Gage Christian Harmon
Briley Jade Hays
Gabriela Jacobo
Casie Theresa James
Dylann Kaderka
Lamine Komara
Maryellen Grace Lafferty
Vondrice LaFrance
Manuel Luna
Jenin Abdel Mahdi
Kelsea Martin
Guadalupe Odalys Martinez
Chloe Brynne Mefford
Eric Angel Mendoza
Victorena Leigh Mims
Monserrath Montes
Christian Alexander Myhand
Claudine Myles

L. Manuel Ortega
Alisa Palacios
Julia Pham
Allie MaKay Prewitt
Sydney Alison Randles
Eric Francisco Reyna
Anaiah Delores Rodriguez
Cynthia Rodriguez
Kevin Saldivar
Sir Marc Raveo'n Sanders
Alessia Christine Santillan
Kindall Marchelle Sayles
Keyari Shields
Reese Garrett Simonak
Reyna Kathleen Soltero
Sabina Rose Spinelli
Jeremy Tarr
Jackson T. Wagner
April Rose Welshhons
Jabari P. Wilson
Loryn Jenipher Wooden
Zeying Wu

CANDIDATES FOR BACCALAUREATE DEGREES (CONT.)

SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION AND PROFESSIONAL PROGRAMS

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Lashella Vaynette Artis
Madison Paige Bailey
Garrett Reid Ball
Alondra Marquez Bustos
Daniel J. Dalzell
Michael Brefo Darko
Tameka Dear
Cindy Vanessa Flores
Yesenia Flores
Kendall Grace Freeman
Jorge Humberto Garza
Tache Kyler Hanna

Jorge L. Hernandez
Victor Daniel Hernandez
Jaxon Quin Ingram
Robbie Jackson
Vanessa Elizabeth Jimenez
Kamryn Elise Johnston
Dulce Alma Gomez Langston
Andrew L. Martinez
Joel Mbayi
Emily Castleman
Neel H. Patel
Zeelkumar Dipakbhai Patel

Lazar Pavlovic
Princeton Edward Pennington
Ali Reza Rahmatellahi
Erick Yared Ramirez
Sierra June Reich
Vanessa Rodriguez
Jennifer Marie Sanchez
Christopher Scott
Rock Antony Torres
Brandon Shea Whitehead
Yanqing Zhou

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Leslie Ann Garcia
Ruth Rodriguez

Kimberly Soria
Alejandra Lizeth Villasana

Elsy Zaragoza

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Celeste Aguilar
Cindy Gabriela Flores
Alan Trenton Greene

Wan Huang
Carley Loren Long
Mattison Belle Parker

Carly Graham Unruh
Dara Carolina Valdez

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Karen Cramer, Granbury

H. Paul Dorman, Fort Worth

Kerry Getter '76, Austin

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W. Tompie Hall '74, Colleyville

Marsha McCarty Hilcher '69, Fort Worth

Aslam M. Khan, Southlake

Thomas R. Locke, Georgetown

Nisha (Desai) Lunia '93, Dallas

Susan Lyons '84, Colleyville

Mark Ma '04, Parker

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

Rick McWhorter '84, Fort Worth

Rosa Navejar, Fort Worth

Councilman Chris Nettles, Fort Worth

John "Terry" O'Halloran, Plano

David D. Parker, Fort Worth

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Lowisa Rainwater '04, MS '07, Fort Worth

Richard Roby, North Richland Hills

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Claudia Stepp '72, Fort Worth

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

Max M. Wayman '74, Fort Worth

Dr. Michael Williams '77, Fort Worth

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Kenneth H. Jones, Jr., Fort Worth

John Maddux '59, Fort Worth

Former Texas State Senator Beverly Powell '92, MBA '99, Burleson

Anne Street '78, Graham

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Norma Roby, Fort Worth

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

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Vice President for Enrollment, Marketing and Communications

Donna Nance
Vice President, Finance and Administration

Megan Cooley
General Counsel

Brian K. Builta
Interim Vice President for University Advancement

Dennis Hall
Vice President for Student Affairs / Dean of Students

Hector Quintanilla
Provost & Vice President

Ricardo Rodriguez
Dean, School of Arts and Sciences

Sameer Vaidya
Dean, School of Business Administration and Professional Programs

Carlos Martinez
Dean, School of Education

LITANY - "PREPARING FOR THE LIGHT"

Leader: O, God, we who have waited so long in the darkness seek the light of your coming.

People: Send the light of your advent to shatter our darkness and to scatter the shadows that surround us.

Leader: When we are slow to watch for your coming, when we are slow to wait for your wisdom, when we are slow to learn the wonders you would teach us ...

People: Send the light of your advent to make us watchful and wise.

Leader: Enlighten those who teach, that teaching give way to knowledge, and knowledge bring forth truth.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us truthful and strong.

Leader: Enlighten those who learn, that learning give way to insight and insight give birth to joy and wonder.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us joyful and glad.

Leader: Grant each of us the discipline of the teacher and the imagination of the student, that we may walk in ways renewed by the spirit of learning.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us creative and hopeful.

Leader: May our learning move us to caring; our caring move us to action; our action move us to be strong witnesses to your presence in our world.

People: Send the light of your advent to make us caring and brave.

All: And now, O God, we wait with still hearts and open minds for love, joy and peace to be born among us again. Come to us, Emmanuel!

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 Homecoming.

EXPAND YOUR NETWORK

Staying active as an alumni provides opportunities for career networking, meeting new people and gaining skills and experience as a volunteer. Watch for ways to give back – and grow in return.

KEEP IN TOUCH

Change of address? Different email? New job? Email us at alumni@txwes.edu so we can keep you connected.

FOLLOW US

Facebook: Texas Wesleyan University Alumni
Instagram: @txwesalumni





A Methodist Institution Since 1890

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