

2023



*Fall*  
**COMMENCEMENT**

*Friday, December 15*  
*2 p.m.*  
*Dorothy Stickney Auditorium*

## *Platform Party & Speakers*

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**STEPHEN D. EASTON**

President

**HOLLY GRUHLKE**

Vice President

**HUIJIAN DONG**

Provost

**LESLIE WIETSTOCK**

Chief Operating Officer

**KAYLA NOAH**

Dean of Students

**JOHN WARFORD**

North Dakota State Board of Higher Education

### *Department Chairs*

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**JOAN AUS**

School of Education

**STEVEN DOHERTY**

Department of Social Sciences

**MARCUS FRIES**

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science

**NILES HAICH**

Department of Arts and Letters

**LORI HAUF**

School of Business and Entrepreneurship

**THADD O'DONNELL**

School of Kinesiology, Department of Natural Sciences (Interim)

**CHIP POLAND**

Department of Agriculture and Technical Studies

### *Student Speaker*

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**HAYLIE OBERLANDER**

# *Order of Ceremonies*

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## **DICKINSON STATE UNIVERSITY 2023 FALL COMMENCEMENT**

Friday, December 15, 2023 | 2 p.m.  
May Hall, Dorothy Stickney Auditorium  
Dickinson, North Dakota

*Silence your cell phones | Remain seated during the processional and recessional | Stand during the alma mater  
Air horns are not allowed during Commencement proceedings*

<b>PRELUDE</b>	DSU Jazz Ensemble, Jeremy Wohletz - Conductor
<b>PROCESSIONAL</b>	Cheryl Hewson - organ <i>Pomp and Circumstance</i> March No. 1 – Edward Elgar
<b>COMMENCEMENT DECLARED OPEN</b>	Debora Dragseth Senior Faculty Member, Professor of Business Administration
<b>WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS</b>	Huijian Dong
<b>OPENING REMARKS</b>	Stephen Easton
<b>GREETINGS FROM THE STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION</b>	John Warford
<b>COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS</b>	Haylie Oberlander
<b>SPECIAL MUSIC</b>	Mackenzie Hicks, Conductor <i>O Nata Lux</i> - arr. by Tom Porter Accompanist: Mariah Heich
<b>PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES</b>	Holly Gruhlke
<b>CONFIRMATION OF GRADUATES</b>	Stephen Easton
<b>CONGRATULATIONS FROM THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION</b>	Stephen Easton
<b>ALMA MATER</b>	Led by Mackenzie Hicks
<b>COMMENCEMENT DECLARED CLOSED</b>	Debora Dragseth
<b>RECESSIONAL</b>	DSU Jazz Ensemble, Jeremy Wohletz - Conductor



### **HAYLIE OBERLANDER**

Haylie Oberlander grew up in Worden, Montana and graduated from Huntley Project High School in 2019. During her time at Dickinson State, Haylie has been involved in various clubs and organizations on campus including the Theodore Roosevelt Honors Leadership Program, a standout student-athlete for the cross-country and track teams, a member of Student Senate, a student worker for the DSU Heritage Foundation, and a Student Ambassador. Haylie was also named the homecoming queen during the fall of 2021. She is graduating with a Bachelor of Education in Elementary Education and a leadership minor. Her plan after graduation is to obtain her graduate degree in elementary education from DSU and work full-time.

## *Previous Student Speakers*

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### **SPRING 2012**

**Leah Walters** - Gladstone, ND

### **FALL 2012**

**Zachery Keller** - Dickinson, ND

### **SPRING 2013**

**Pierce Brooks** - North Hills, CA

**Jordan Mork** - Dickinson, ND

### **FALL 2013**

**Sarah Poswilko** - Killdeer, ND

### **SPRING 2014**

**Brenda Charles** - St. John's, Antigua

### **FALL 2014**

**Sarah Jennings** - Dickinson, ND

**Joshua Kralicek** - Dickinson, ND

### **SPRING 2015**

**Mardee Clarke** - Stockett, MT

### **FALL 2015**

**Damon Fichter** - Dickinson, ND

**Michael Landblom** - Dickinson, ND

### **SPRING 2016**

**Matthew Perdue** - Ray, ND

### **FALL 2016**

**Jalyn McGill** - Richardton, ND

**Mariam Shittu** - Kaduna, Nigeria

### **SPRING 2017**

**Jessica Schmeichel** - Apple Valley, MN

**Jalyn Klauzer** - Baker, MT

### **FALL 2017**

**Braeton Erhardt** - Hazen, ND

### **SPRING 2018**

**Carlie Bowditch** - Sylvania, SK

**Mackenzie Hicks** - Hettinger, ND

### **FALL 2018**

**Seth Moerkerke** - Gillette, WY

### **SPRING 2019**

**Allisha Dworshak** - Dickinson, ND

**Salena Loveland** - Worland, WY

### **FALL 2019**

**Rachael Solberg** - Belfield, ND

### **SPRING 2020**

**Christopher Gartner** - Sidney, MT

**Suzanna Moberg** - Dickinson, ND

### **SPRING 2021**

**Aspen Lenning** - Plaza, ND

**Abigail Moberg** - Dickinson, ND

### **FALL 2021**

**Isaiah MacDonald** - Mandan, ND

**Mariah McLaughlin** - Beulah, ND

### **SPRING 2022**

**Anya Baranko** - Richardton, ND

**Luisa Popp** - Heidelberg, Germany

### **FALL 2022**

**Laurie Garbel** - Williston, ND

### **SPRING 2023**

**Kirstyn Bohn** - Vermillion, SD

**Alexa Delbridge** - Sturgis, SD

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## *Honor Ushers*

**Carl Askins** – Sheridan, WY

**Parker Buckley** – Glendive, MT

**Kate Enney** – Dickinson, ND

**Natalie Lile** – Ballentine, MT

**Milynn Lucey** – Eureka, MT

**Veronica (Rohnnie) Nacota** - Riverton, WY

**Griffin Obrigewitch** – Dickinson, ND

**Melissa Wells** – DSU Staff

**Stacy Wilkinson** – DSU Staff

# Candidates for Degrees

Latin Honors - gold cord

^ TR Scholar

Honor Societies:  Pi Sigma Alpha  Phi Alpha Theta  Phi Beta Lambda

## MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Kylie Hendrickson	Baker, MT
Noah Huber	Clark, SD
Monica Watson	Sidney, MT
Leon Williams, V	Fairfield, CA

## MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Nels Lund	Horace, ND
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## MASTER OF EDUCATION IN ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Darcy Buerkle	South Heart, ND
Jody Odegaard	Antler, ND

## MASTER OF ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Lin Liu	Anson, Singapore
Nels Lund	Horace, ND

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION - HONORS

Alexander Allan  <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Mandan, ND	Composite Social Science Education
Ashley Blehm <i>Cum Laude</i>	Phoenix, AZ	Elementary Education
Darby Breckheimer <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Luverne, ND	Elementary Education
Stevie Cullinan <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Glendive, MT	Elementary Education
Abigail Herman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bismarck, ND	Elementary Education
Anton Krebs <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Belfield, ND	Music Education
Kennedy Kuntz^ <i>Cum Laude</i>	Dickinson, ND	Elementary Education
Haylie Oberlander^ <i>Cum Laude</i>	Worden, MT	Elementary Education
Abby Osendorf <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bowman, ND	Elementary Education
Lindsay Peterson <i>Cum Laude</i>	Watford City, ND	Elementary Education

## *Candidates for Degrees*

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION**

Amber Frank	Center, ND	Elementary Education
Guy Glanville	Mandan, ND	English Education
Hunter Hampton	Dickinson, ND	English Education
Kenneth Hardy	Miles City, MT	Elementary Education
McKenzie Johnson	Carrington, ND	Elementary Education
Elizabeth Kildahl	Laurel, MT	Elementary Education
Blake Koble	Bismarck, ND	Composite Social Science Education
Tanner Russell	Gillette, WY	Composite Social Science Education
Laekyn Schwab	Hazen, ND	Elementary Education
Joshua Upgren	Bismarck, ND	History Education

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE - HONORS**

Skyler Dressler <i>Cum Laude</i>	Richardton, ND	Agricultural Studies
Mollee Krum <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Worden, MT	Agricultural Studies
Matthew Osendorf <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bowman, ND	Agricultural Studies

### **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

Preston Floberg	Richardton, ND	Exercise Science
Krew Mathern	Dickinson, ND	Exercise Science
Kella Norby	Williston, ND	Criminal Justice
Nathan Schumacher	Grand Forks, ND	Agricultural Studies
Adele Speelmon	Miles City, MT	Agricultural Studies
RaiLeigh Strommen	Columbus, MT	Psychology


### **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION - HONORS**

Victoria Austin <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mandan, ND	Accounting
Trey Bergan <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Finance Administration
Kerry Burman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Glendive, MT	Accounting
Daniel Freeman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Knoxville, PA	Finance
Barbara Hoffman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Mandan, ND	Administration
Brock Jones <sup>^</sup> <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Darby, MT	Administration



## *Candidates for Degrees*

April Kendall <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Mandan, ND	Accounting
Colton Mork <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bismarck, ND	Accounting Finance Administration
Britt Oliver <i>Cum Laude</i>	Lemmon, SD	Administration
Jillian Svihovec <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bowman, ND	Administration
Cale Turner <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bismarck, ND	Administration Finance
Emma Wahl <i>Cum Laude</i>	Dickinson, ND	Administration Finance

### **BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

Seth Anderson	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Trapper Jacobs	Turtle Lake, ND	Administration Finance
Devin Liscomb	Mandan, ND	Administration
Zuzanna Lobos	Pila, Poland	Administration Human Resource Management
Caitlin Magilke 	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Hugues Niyimbona	Dickinson, ND	Accounting
Nicholas Peterson	Bismarck, ND	Accounting
Charles Rebhun	Bismarck, ND	Administration Human Resource Management
Cole Richey	Bismarck, ND	Accounting
Allison Souther	Bismarck, ND	Administration
Jacob Thompson	Dickinson, ND	Human Resource Management
Anthony Vetter	Minot, ND	Administration
Jacob Weiand	Mandan, ND	Administration Human Resource Management
Andrew Werner	Linton, ND	Accounting

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS - HONORS**

Libby Chau <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Gardiner, MT	English
Logan Greef   <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Dickinson, ND	Political Science

### **BACHELOR OF ARTS**

Jayden Holley	Glendive, MT	Communication
Sierra Schneider	Wibaux, MT	History



# Candidates for Degrees

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## BACHELOR OF UNIVERSITY STUDIES

Sara Mitchell	Helena, MT
Ja'Vonte' Oliphant	Trinity, TX
Derek Raber	Scranton, ND
Christina Tavares	New Smyrna Beach, FL

## BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE - HONORS

Cristina Herrera Guzman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bakersfield, CA	Business
Casey Lund <i>Cum Laude</i>	Killdeer, ND	Business

## BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Erica Jaffe-Norris	Bismarck, ND	Business
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## ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE - GPA DISTINCTION

Kale Corley	Newcastle, WY
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## ASSOCIATE IN ARTS - GPA DISTINCTION

Yevalea Zepeda	Coachella, CA
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## ASSOCIATE IN ARTS

Kadence Lockie	Miles City, MT
Nicole Wadsworth	Dickinson, ND

## ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE - GPA DISTINCTION

JennaLee Forster	Dickinson, ND
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## ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Abby Hanel	Laurel, MT	
Seth Hetzel	Stanley, ND	Agricultural Sales & Service
Colt Miller	Froid, MT	Agricultural Sales & Service
Charles Nevins	Sidney, MT	Agricultural Sales & Service
Sophia Timm	Laurel, MT	

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### THIS PROGRAM IS NOT AN OFFICIAL GRADUATION LIST

*While every effort is made to ensure accuracy in this commencement program, printing deadlines may result in omission of some names and use of names of persons not completing graduation requirements as intended. This printed program, therefore, should not be used to determine a student's academic or degree status. The University's official registry for conferral of degrees is the student's permanent academic record kept by the Office of Academic Records at Dickinson State University.*

# Academic Attire

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## HISTORY

Academic regalia generally consist of cap, gown, and hood worn on formal occasions at institutions of higher learning. It originated in the medieval period when the vast majority of scholars were of the clergy.

The gown evolved from what most likely was the cape of the clergy. The gown was originally black, but color was introduced as institutions left ecclesiastical control. The hood originated as the skull cap worn by the clergy to protect their heads from the elements.

The hood served a three-fold purpose: head covering, shoulder cap, and bag for alms. King's College, now known as Columbia University, was established in 1754 and imported many British regulations for academic dress.

The end of the 19th century found widespread use of academic dress in the United States. It is estimated that 95 percent of the colleges and universities abide by the intercollegiate code which oversees academic dress.

## STYLES AND COLORS

The bachelor's gown is worn closed and is distinguished by its pointed sleeves. A master's gown is designed to be worn closed with long, crescent shaped sleeves. The doctoral gown may be worn open or closed with velvet panels down the front and three bars on the round, bell-shaped sleeves. The color of the velvet may be distinctive of the field of study to which the degrees pertain. The Dark Blue of the Doctor of Philosophy degree is predominant but other representative degree colors are distinguished in the following manner:

Arts, Letters, Humanities – White	Business – Drab	Economics – Copper
Education – Light Blue	Fine Arts – Brown	Law – Purple
Library Science – Lemon	Music – Pink	Nursing – Apricot
Physical Education – Sage Green	Public Administration – Peacock Blue	Science – Golden Yellow
Social Work – Citron	Theology – Scarlet	

The most distinguishing feature of the academic attire is the hood. The size and shape of the hood designates not only the college degree of the wearer but also the university he or she attended. The master's hood is three and one-half feet in length, while the doctoral hood is rounded and measures four feet in length. Hoods are lined with the official colors of the institution conferring the degree. The binding around the hood is velvet with the color indicative of the major field of study.

Caps are normally black with the most common the four-point mortarboard. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter after a degree has been conferred. Students graduating with honors from Dickinson State University are distinguished with gold honor cords. Only students earning bachelor degrees may receive honor status.

## The Mace

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In medieval times, the mace was often carried by kings or their sergent-at-arms into battle where it was used as a weapon to protect the king. Centuries later, as armor became stronger, the use of the mace was phased out as a weapon. It was used, instead, during ceremonial occasions to denote authority in governmental, legislative, church, and academic settings. Universities have also used the mace to denote authority, and it is carried in front of the academic procession during each commencement ceremony.

The Dickinson State University mace is carried by Dr. Debora Dragseth, Professor of Business Administration for the School of Business and Entrepreneurship. Dr. Dragseth began her long and distinguished teaching career at DSU in 1989. Dr. Dragseth earned the honor of carrying the mace by virtue of being the senior member of Dickinson State University faculty.

## Photos

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Individual photos of graduates will be available for purchase courtesy of TheGradTeam. Ordering information will be mailed out by TheGradTeam within the next few weeks following commencement.

Additional commencement photos will be available for free at [flickr.com/dickinsonstateuniversity](https://www.flickr.com/photos/dickinsonstateuniversity/). Photos will be labeled under the name "2023 Fall Commencement." If you are having technical difficulties, please email [dsu.communications@dickinsonstate.edu](mailto:dsu.communications@dickinsonstate.edu), and someone will assist you.

Share your pics on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram! #GradDay @dickinsonstate

## *Display of Nations*

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In honor of the rich diversity at Dickinson State University, commencement includes the Display of Nations. The national flag of each student graduating is displayed in a salute to the students who have come together to enrich the university.

### **COUNTRIES**



United States



Singapore



Poland

*Hail to thee! Our Alma Mater,  
Of the Blue and Gray;*

*Fair to us above all others  
Is thy name today!*

*Blue and Gray! Flag we love!  
Float and wave always  
For DSU.*

*May thine own fore'er be loyal  
To thy memory.*

Lyrics by Mary Jane Alguire Middleton, B.A. '42  
Arranged by O.T. Belsheim; Revised in 1987

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