



MAY COMMENCEMENT

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024
TWICHELL AUDITORIUM
ZIMMERLI PERFORMANCE CENTER

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.... THE FOUNDER'S IDEAL

"It is my conviction that the well-being of any country depends much upon the culture of her women, and I have done what I could to found a college that would provide for women thorough and liberal education, so that for them the highest motives may become clear purposes and fixed habits of life; and I desire that the instruction and influence of Converse College be always such that the students may be enabled to see clearly, decide wisely, and to act justly; and that they may learn to love God and humanity, and be faithful to truth and duty, so that their influence may be characterized by purity and power.

It is also my desire and hope that Converse College be always truly religious, but never denominational. I believe that religion is essential to all that is purest and best in life, here and hereafter. I wish the College to be really, but liberally and tolerantly, Christian; for I believe that the revelation of God in Christ is for salvation; and I commend and commit the College to the love and guidance of God, and to the care, sympathy, and fidelity of my fellow men."

—Dexter Edgar Converse

.... CORE VALUES

The Converse University commitment to creativity and the development of adaptable individuals with clear vision, wise decision and just action is guided by seven core values. These enduring beliefs serve as the compass for the University. They transcend time, extend across the institution and guide our actions and decisions.

EXCELLENCE drives us to achieve the best in all that we pursue; to develop competence, confidence and courage to realize full potential in mind, body and spirit.

INTEGRITY calls us to cultivate and exercise honor, character and vision in daily decisions and actions; to act honestly and justly when confronted with ethical dilemmas and life's challenges.

EXPLORATION compels us to think critically and creatively in the acquisition of knowledge and skills; to discover and enrich scholarship and research, disciplines, methods and vocations through hands-on learning and leadership and through discovery, discourse and debate.

DIVERSITY inspires us to embrace the different perspectives, experiences, cultures, backgrounds, talents and contributions that comprise a global society; to enhance and expand inclusivity as we build a stronger multidimensional community.

RESPECT leads us to value self and others, recognizing the legitimacy of individuality in belief, expression and perspective; to exercise civility, mindfulness and responsibility in words and actions.

COMMUNITY motivates us to develop a dynamic network of relationships through a balance of work and play that nurtures the abilities of each member in order to establish a better whole; to mentor, collaborate and communicate as engaged citizens who effect positive change.

PROGRESS challenges us to think strategically toward the future by employing creativity, adaptability, ingenuity and innovation; to advance and transform the world around us.

... COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES ...

UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 • 9:30 AM

Processional: "Pomp and Circumstance," March No. 1 Edward Elgar (1857-1934)
arr. Edwin H. Lemare

Brennan Szafron, DM
University Organist

*Invocation.....**Anna Patterson '24**
President, Religious Life Council
Candidate for Bachelor of Arts

*Pledge of Allegiance

Welcome **Boone J. Hopkins, PhD**
President

Welcome from the Board of Trustees..... **Wallace Davison Prestwood '89**
Chair, Board of Trustees

Introduction of Speaker **Joe Wilferth, PhD**
Provost, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Conferring of Honorary Degree.....**President Hopkins**

Commencement Address **Russell W. Booker, PhD, CDE**
Chief Executive Officer, Spartanburg Academic Movement

Class of 2024 Remarks..... **Jasmyn Williams '24**
President, Student Government Association
Candidate for Bachelor of Arts

Special Distinctions

Pi Kappa Lambda Award **Christopher Vaneman, DMA**
Dean, School of the Arts

Elford C. Morgan Award **Erin Templeton, PhD**
Dean, School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Mary Mildred Sullivan Award - Community Recipient.....**President Hopkins**

Air on the G String, *from Orchestral Suite no. 3* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Performed by:

Ivana Carlson '24, violin

Candidate for Bachelor of Music Performance, Strings

Rita Dunn '24, harp

Candidate for Bachelor of Music Performance, Strings

Presentation of the Degree Candidates **Provost Wilferth**

Conferring of Degrees **President Hopkins**

Welcome to the Alumni Association **Libby Cuttino Tilson '79**
President, Alumni Association Board

Farewell to the Graduates **Provost Wilferth**

*Benediction..... **Rev. Eliza Smith DeBevoise, MDiv, MAPT**
University Chaplain

*The Alma Mater arr. by Alice Skaar
Dr. Szafron, organ

*++Recessional: *Ride of the Valkyries* Richard Wagner (1813-1883)
arr. Edwin H. Lemare
Dr. Szafron, organ

Commencement is a joyous and memorable event for students and their families.
We request that the audience respect this special moment for each graduate by
refraining from applause until all graduates have received their degrees.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

++ Please remain in the auditorium until the graduates have recessed.

*Please note the location of all exits in case of an emergency. In the unlikely event of
power failure, a generator will begin within ten seconds to provide lighting.*

.....
Guests are invited to join the Converse community for refreshments on Johnson Plaza,
located in front of Wilson Hall, immediately following Commencement.

.... COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

UNDERGRADUATE CEREMONY

Dr. Russell W. Booker

Chief Executive Officer, Spartanburg Academic Movement

Dr. Russell W. Booker, CEO of Spartanburg Academic Movement in Spartanburg, South Carolina, is a dedicated advocate for education and community service, boasting over 30 years of diverse experience in the field. His unwavering commitment revolves around empowering students to lead lives of distinction and service.



As the leader of the Spartanburg Academic Movement, Dr. Booker is supporting an ambitious integrated economic mobility plan, Movement 2030, with the goal of providing thousands of children in Spartanburg a clear path to upward mobility. Retired as the Superintendent of Spartanburg County School District Seven, Dr. Booker has significantly influenced the local education landscape.

Beyond his role in Spartanburg, he currently serves as the Chair of the StriveTogether Board of Directors and sits on the board of directors for Purpose Built Communities. Additionally, he holds trustee positions at Wingate University, the Mary Black Foundation, Strategic Spartanburg, and the Spartanburg Regional Hospital Foundation.

Dr. Booker's contributions have garnered him numerous accolades, including the Whitney M. Young, Jr. Humanitarian Award, recognition as South Carolina Superintendent of the Year, and induction into the South Atlantic Conference Hall of Fame as a Distinguished Athlete Alumni. In 2020, he received the Order of the Palmetto, South Carolina's highest civilian honor, in recognition of his dedicated service to education.

Most recently, he was honored with OneSpartanburg Inc.'s 2023 Neville Holcombe Distinguished Citizen Award. A proud member of the Spartanburg Alumni Chapter of Kappa Alpha Psi, Fraternity Inc., and the South Carolina Liberty Fellowship, Dr. Booker's roots run deep in his community.

He earned his B.S. degree in Education from Wingate University and holds a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership from the University of South Carolina, Columbia. Presently, he serves as a By All Means Senior Fellow at Harvard University's EdRedesign Lab in the Graduate School of Education.

Dr. Booker and his wife Sheryl reside in Spartanburg, and count their sons to be among their greatest blessings. Grant, a graduate of the US Naval Academy, was commissioned as a US Marine Corps officer in 2023, while Maxwell is a member of the Harvard College Class of '26. The Booker family is actively involved in the Mt. Moriah Baptist Church, where they find solace and inspiration in their faith community.

.... PLATFORM PARTY

Boone J. Hopkins, PhD
President

Wallace Davison Prestwood '89
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Joe Wilferth, PhD
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Russell W. Booker, PhD
Commencement Speaker

Rev. Eliza Smith DeBevoise, MDiv, MAPT
University Chaplain

Libby Cuttino Tilson '79
President of the Alumni Association Board

Erin Templeton, PhD
Dean of the School of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Christopher Vaneman, DMA
Dean of the School of the Arts

William S. Case, PhD
Associate Provost for Student Success

Jessica Sorrells, PhD
Dean of the School of Business and Data Science

.....

Grand Marshal
Rafael Hernández, PhD
Reeves Brothers Professor of Hispanic Studies

Faculty Marshals
Madelyn V. Young, PhD
*Anne Morrison Chapman Distinguished Professor of International Study,
Associate Professor of Economics*

Kevin DeLapp, PhD
Harold E. Fleming Professor of Philosophy

Head Student Marshals
Tessa Kramer '25
Abecha Sajid '25

... COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES ...

GRADUATE

SATURDAY, MAY 18, 2024 • 2:00 PM

Processional:

Crown Imperial..... William Walton (1902-1983)

Brennan Szafron, DM

University Organist

*Invocation..... **Rev. Eliza Smith DeBevoise , MDiv, MAPT**

University Chaplain

*Pledge of Allegiance

Greetings and Introductions **Boone J. Hopkins, PhD**

President

Welcome from the Board of Trustees **Wallace Davison Prestwood '89**

Chair, Board of Trustees

Keynote Speech **Joe Wilferth, PhD**

Provost, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Special Distinctions..... **Lienne F. Medford, EdD**

Dean of the Graduate School

Lovett Promising School Leader Award

Nancy Breard Graduate Faculty Award

"Hello" by Lionel Richie

arr. Catherine Black

Performed by:

Catherine Black, piano

Candidate for Master of Music

Presentation of the Degree Candidates **Provost Wilferth**

Conferring of Degrees.....**President Hopkins**

Welcome to the Alumni Association.....**Libby Cuttino Tilson '79**
President, Alumni Association Board

Farewell to the Graduates.....**Dean Medford**

*Benediction **Rev. Smith DeBevoise**

*The Alma Mater arr. by Alice Skaar
Dr. Szafron, organ

*++Recessional:
March in A-flat major.....Theodore Salome (1824-1896)
Dr. Szafron, organ

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.... PLATFORM PARTY

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Chair of the Board of Trustees

Joe Wilferth, PhD
Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Lienne F. Medford, EdD
Dean of the Graduate School

Rev. Eliza Smith DeBevoise, MDiv, MAPT
University Chaplain

Libby Cuttino Tilson '79
President of the Alumni Association Board

Kelly Harrison Maguire, PhD
Associate Dean of Education

Lee Givins, PhD
Director of the Professional Leadership Program

.....

Grand Marshal
Rafael Hernández, PhD
Reeves Brothers Professor of Hispanic Studies

Faculty Marshals
Madelyn V. Young, PhD
Anne Morrison Chapman Distinguished Professor of International Study
Associate Professor of Economics

Kevin DeLapp, PhD
Harold E. Fleming Professor of Philosophy

... FOUNDERS & ORIGINAL TRUSTEES ...

Mr. Wilbur E. Burnett
Mr. Charles H. Carlisle
Mr. John B. Cleveland
Mr. George Cofield
Mr. Dexter Edgar Converse
Dr. George R. Dean

The Reverend W.T. Derieux
Major David R. Duncan
Bishop William W. Duncan
Dr. Charles E. Fleming
Dr. Henry E. Heinitsh
Mr. William S. Manning

Capt. John H. Montgomery
Mr. Henry E. Ravenel
Rev. A. Coke Smith
Col. Joseph Walker
Mr. Newton F. Walker
Rev. Benjamin F. Wilson

... THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ...

TRUSTEES

B. Brant Bynum
Christopher L. Cannon
Rhonda T. Coker '84
Paul J. Côté
Dawn Davis Deck '99
Stinson Woodward Ferguson '07
Katherine Colburn Fulmer '96
Sandra "Sandy" Hartnett '75
Padrica Hopkins '85
Stephen Johnson
Karla Jones '85
Kimberly Varnadoe Kent '97
Fain Langdale McDaniel '92
Brelan Riddle Montgomery '06
Amy Tibbals Morales '86
Sandra Shearouse Morelli '78
Wallace Davison Prestwood '89
Linda Layman Redding '88
Tina Rohner '07
Emily Jones Rushing '73
David N. Smart
Allen Coleman Smith
Louis Smith
Christy Davis Stoner '87
Dwight Van Inwegen

BOARD OFFICERS

Wallace Davison Prestwood '89, *Chair*
Linda Layman Redding '88, *Vice Chair*
Sandra "Sandy" Hartnett '75, *Secretary*

EX-OFFICIO TRUSTEES

Libby Cuttino Tilson '79
President, Alumni Association
Palmer Davison Ball '84, *Chair, Board of Visitors*

ADVISORS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Boone J. Hopkins, *President*
Jasmyn Williams '24,
Student Government Association President
Pamela Greenway, *Secretary*
to the Board of Trustees
Margaret Moore, *Faculty Senate President*
Beverly Lowrance, *Staff Council President*

LIFE TRUSTEES

William Barnet, III
Julia Jones Daniels '53
Kenneth B. Howard
Susan Phifer Johnson '65
Lucy Simpson Kuhne '66
Walter S. Montgomery, Jr.
Kurt Zimmerli

... HONOR SOCIETIES ...

Alpha Lambda Delta

Alpha Lambda Delta is an honor society for students who have achieved a 3.5 GPA or higher and are in the top 20% of their class during their first year of college.

Alpha Psi Omega

Alpha Psi Omega is a National Theatre Honor Society for participants in collegiate theatre.

Alpha Sigma Lambda

Alpha Sigma Lambda is an honor society which celebrates the scholarship and leadership of adult students.

Athletic Medallions

Athletic Medallions recognize student-athletes who were members of a Converse University Valkyries sports team.

Beta Beta Beta

Beta Beta Beta is a collegiate honor society and academic fraternity for students of the biological sciences.

Delta Kappa

Delta Kappa recognizes achievements in scholarship and service.

Delta Omicron

Delta Omicron is a co-ed international professional music honors fraternity to promote and support excellence in music and musicianship.

Gamma Sigma Society

The Gamma Sigma Society is the honorary scholarship society of the traditional arts and sciences.

Evelyn Fitz
Sierra Godfrey
Abigail Ledford

Marleen Prinz
Samantha White
Sydney Wilson

International Students

Converse recognizes its international students with a stole representing the student's country of origin.

Kappa Delta Pi

Kappa Delta Pi is an international honor society for education.

Nisbet Honors Program

The Nisbet Honors Program began in 2000 when Converse alumna Marian McGowan Nisbet '62 and her husband, Olin, established an endowment to support a full Honors Program. The Nisbet Honors program provides a community and scholarly challenge that promotes the full potential of the academically gifted student.

Neely Vander Ploeg Adams	Kristyn Pantin
Sylvia Dejouris	Anna Patterson
Erin Durlinger	Anna Scott
Sierra Godfrey	Samantha White
Ryleigh Henderson	Jennings Whitt
Emily Ingle	Jasmyn Williams
Abigail Grace Ledford	Shelisa Williams
Lisbon L. Lopes	
Francesca Malafronte	

Omicron Delta Kappa

Omicron Delta Kappa is the national leadership honor society that recognizes and encourages superior leadership and exemplary character.

Pi Kappa Lambda

Pi Kappa Lambda is an American honor society for undergraduate students, graduate students, and professors of music.

Ivana Carlson	Simon Mishler
Lydia Carver	Madeleine Owens

SGA Medallions

SGA Medallions recognize officers of the Student Government Association.

.... SPECIAL DISTINCTIONS

Pi Kappa Lambda Award

The Pi Kappa Lambda Award recognizes the graduating senior with the highest grade point average in the Petrie School of Music Chapter of this national music honor society.

Elford C. Morgan Award

Named for Elford C. Morgan, who served Converse from 1932 to 1959 as a professor of English and dean of administration, the award is given to the senior with the highest GPA for a student majoring in the traditional arts and sciences.

Sullivan Community Award

Each year, Converse presents the Sullivan Community Award to a member of the greater Spartanburg community, recognizing unselfish service, dedication to sharing with others, and humane participation in the life of their community. The service of the Algernon Sydney or Mary Mildred Sullivan Community Award recipient makes them an example to all of us at Converse, one to whom we look for inspiration.

Kathryne Amelia Brown Award

The Kathryne Amelia Brown Award was established at Converse by the late Mr. and Mrs. James Douglas Brown of Ozark, Alabama, in memory of their daughter, a member of the class of 1970, to recognize faculty members who have excelled in the classroom.

Lovett Promising School Leader Award

The Lovett Promising School Leader Award was established in 2014 with the financial support of former Dean of the School of Education and Graduate Studies, Dr. Martha T. Lovett, who served Converse from 1986 to 2002. This award is given annually to a graduate student completing a degree in school administration.

Nancy Breard Award

Named in honor of Dr. Nancy Breard, who was a faculty member at Converse from 1989 to 2012, this award was established in 2023 to recognize outstanding teaching and service to Graduate Education at Converse University.

Doctoral Hoods

The doctoral hood signifies a student's success in completing the graduate program. Converse University hosts a Hooding Ceremony each year prior to commencement as special recognition for doctoral degree candidates.

.... TRADITIONS AND SYMBOLS

The Converse Mace

The Converse Mace represents the governing authority of Converse and the link between the president and the faculty. The mace precedes the faculty in the procession and is carried by a senior faculty member. Crafted of bronze and purple heart wood, the mace includes 12 spiral elements that bear the names of the academic departments. While not in procession, the mace rests on a stand adorned with the Converse seal and the Founder's Ideal to "See Clearly, Decide Wisely, Act Justly." The stand and spiral elements of the mace are made of reclaimed architectural millwork from Wilson Hall's original construction.

The President's Medallion

Adorning the academic regalia of the Converse president is a medallion and chain designed and handmade by Mary Helen Garrison Dalton '46 in 2004. President Boone J. Hopkins is the fourth president to wear the medallion, which incorporates cabochon amethyst and cabochon citrine with gold and silver links that bear the engraved names of each Converse president. Each presidential link within the chain symbolizes the strength of leadership that has sustained Converse throughout history and will continue to propel us forward.

The Converse Way

Inspired by the Founder's Ideal, The Converse Way is a pathway and tradition grounded in the core values of our beloved institution. The Converse Way is the walk made from Twichell Auditorium to the front academic quad on Opening Convocation, Founders' Day and Commencement. Weaving through The Johnson Plaza, it is symbolic of the path taken by our Founders to establish this distinctive college experience – calling for those who believe in Converse to contribute, always, to its well-being.

The Converse Legacy Club

The Converse Legacy Club is an esteemed group of graduates with a family Converse legacy. Graduates whose parent, grandparent or great-grandparent, aunt or uncle, or sibling attended Converse are considered a Converse legacy. The Legacy Club plays a part in the University's rich history and we honor these legacies recognizing this special bond.

••• ACADEMIC REGALIA •••

The pageantry and color of academic costume dates back to medieval university practices. Originally adapted from ecclesiastical vestments and later influenced by the guilds of craftsmen, caps, gowns, and hoods were standard items of men's clothing in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, practical in the warmth they provided in cold, drafty halls. Today, academic apparel in America is regulated by the United States Intercollegiate Code of Academic Dress, a system first adopted in 1885.

Each piece of the formal ensemble is symbolic of the wearer's academic achievements and rank. From the beginning, most academic robes were black to symbolize the democracy of scholarship, as they cover any dress or other earmark of social standing. The style and cut of the gown indicate the wearer's highest degree. Bachelors' plain gowns are cut with long, pointed sleeves, while masters' robes feature closed slit sleeves. Doctors' full-cut gowns are distinguished by double-belled sleeves and velvet bar trimmings. Some universities commission doctoral gowns in a representative color other than black to match their institution's colors.

Hoods, initially designed to be close-fitting around the face, are now elongated and lined with the official color or colors of the college or university which granted the degree. Converse University's hood is lined in purple with gold chevrons. The bordering color, as well as other gown trimmings and cap tassels, indicates the subject in which the degree was earned. The black mortar board cap with tassel is standard wear for all ranks, although soft square topped caps are permissible for women. Gold tassels indicate doctoral degree holders.

Faculties represented in today's processional include:

Arts, Letters, Humanities | White

Commerce, Accountancy, Business | Drab

Economics | Copper

Education | Light Blue

Fine Arts, including Architecture | Brown

Journalism | Crimson

Law | Purple

Library Science | Lemon

Music | Pink

Philosophy | Dark Blue

Physical Education | Sage Green

Science | Yellow

Social Science | Cream

Theology | Scarlet

As traditions surrounding regalia are changing, degree granting institutions now have the option to hood candidates using school colors. Converse doctoral students voted to have purple hoods.

CANDIDATES FOR BACHELOR'S DEGREES BACHELOR OF ARTS

John Ackerly
Business Administration

Courtney Rayne Arp
Musical Theatre

Morgan Mitchell Ayers
Elementary Education

Serrah Roxann Kingston Ballard
Elementary Education

Joan Bauza Sureda
Business Administration

**†Jessica Besu
Child and Family Studies

Isabella Boccia Gomes de Moraes
Business Administration

Ophelia June Borders
Studio Art

*Graecyn Boyd
Business Administration

Dorothy M. Brogden
Child and Family Studies

Lily Maud Cairns
Psychology

Reagan Elise Chafin
Art Therapy

Mackenzie Paige Cooley
Child and Family Studies

Virginia Grace Crocker
Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Kaylee Shaye Couder
Child and Family Studies

Uzziah Dawkins
Child and Family Studies

†Anna Mackenzie Day
Business Administration

†Sylvia Marie Dejoris
Psychology

Bridget Olivia Dennehy
Biology

Sha'Deashia O'Vasia Durant
Child and Family Studies

Erin Elizabeth Durlinger
English: Concentration in Creative Writing

Isabella Felicia Ylanan Eraula
Art Therapy
Psychology

Yolanda Magnolia Escudero
Business Administration

†Olivia Joy Eshenbaugh
English

Anabel Alexis Evans
Early Childhood Education

Evelyn Julia Fitz
Biology

Iriana Corael Foster
Art Education

Matthew Daniel Fowler
Business Administration

Kelly Michelle Fox
Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Danielle Monique Fuller
Child and Family Studies

Lauren Ashley Garaux
Child and Family Studies

Emily Morgan Garner
History

Angelica Gonzalez
Biology

Madison Grace Gregory
Business Administration

Leah Alexis Hall
Theatre

Jasmine N. Hamilton
Biology

Nathaly Intheda Hansana
Business Administration

*Libby Erin Harvey
Psychology

Ryleigh Grace Henderson
Biology

**Makenna Ryan Hill
Business Administration

Loretta Ann Holloway
Studio Art

Aliscia Jade Hope
Musical Theatre

Joel Christian Houston
Studio Art

Dana Lanford Hudgins
Business Administration

*Leah Hurley
Child and Family Studies

Caryn Jamia Hudson
Child and Family Studies
Early Childhood Education

Ashley Leeanne Jeffcoat
Child and Family Studies

**Breosha Z. Jeter
Business Administration

†Terri La'Sha Jones
English: Concentration in Creative Writing

James Bradford Kennedy, Jr.
Studio Art

Jillian Dawn Kennedy
Special Education, Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Sinan Kilincarslan
Psychology

†Carson Elauine Kneisley
Business Administration

Mercedes Cheyenne Laster
Psychology

MacKenzie Lynne Leary
Psychology

Abigail Grace Ledford
English

Cristina I. Leon
Accounting

Lisbon L. Lopes
Business Administration

Angela Paola Lopez
Art Therapy

Laura Jessie Lumetta
Theatre

Xion McKenzie Makupson
Child and Family Studies

Francesca Lynn Malafronte
Individualized Major

BACHELOR OF ARTS (CONT.)

Enzo Tavares Marcheschi
Business

Luci Arexalin Martinez-Olivares
Hispanic Studies

Allison G. Mason
Art History

Julia Indra Marije Matthijssen
Business Administration

Leslie Michelle McCoy
Early Childhood Education

Shelby M. McCutchen
Special Education: Multicategorical

Cameron Elizabeth McGahee
Psychology

Tyler John McKinney
Biology

†Anna J. Micklatcher-Peterson
Studio Art

**Sarah Mintern
Child and Family Studies

*Sara Allen Morden
Studio Art

Eva Knox Morin
Psychology

Asa Sena Murphy-Caldwell
Psychology

**Phoebe Joyce Myers
Child and Family Studies

Jonathan Nguyen
Economics

Logan Kate Nichols
Individualized Major

Virginia Ann Norris
History

†Julianne Elise Outlaw
Business

†Madeline G. Owens, *Distinction in Performance Music*

Kristyn Ann Pantin
Special Education: Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Amaia Nicole Parkins
Child and Family Studies

Anna Catherine Patterson
Individualized Major

**Makailah Arreyona Patterson
Studio Art

†Elizabeth Kennedy Poole
Theatre
Early Childhood Education

Mary Beth Allison Poole
Psychology

Cassidy Lyn Price
Art Education

Abbey Caroline Ray
Special Education: Learning Disabilities

Madelyn Zeta Robinson
Special Education: Learning Disabilities

Kayla Mae Rocha
Business Administration
Psychology

Alexandra Gabrielle Romero
Business Administration

Isabella L. Roper
Early Childhood Education
History

Jordyn Taylor Rose
Mathematics

**Emilia J. Ruiz
Business Administration

Arianna Natalia Saldi
Business

Emily G. Sark
Art Therapy

Jonathan David Schrader
Biology

Anna Elizabeth Scott
History
Politics

*Maximilian Seiwald
Business Administration

Zoe Spearman
History

Chance Alexander Spicuzza
Child and Family Studies

Jackson Weaver Stokes
Politics

Caroline Jameson Stubbs
History

Quiana Michelle Suber
Business Administration

Neyhla Blu Tep
Psychology

Ellory Kate Tingle
Art Therapy

Jillian Tippie
Music

Jemma Van Jaarsveldt
Musical Theatre
Dance

Elizabeth Noel Vega
Elementary Education

Marinelly Vega
Business Administration

Robert Ryan Vinson
History

**Anabella Rose Walker
Psychology
Music

Rhianna Grace Warner
Elementary Education
Business Administration

**Katie Bryant Watts
Psychology
Child and Family Studies

Mackenzie Brooke Weatherford
Business Administration

Daven Poag West
Business Administration

Kasey L. White
Biology

Natalie White
Biology

Samantha Katlyn White
Hispanic Studies
Politics

Adailya Dominique Wilkins
Studio Art

Jasmyn Saia Williams
Politics
Hispanic Studies

Mackenzie Grace Williams
Early Childhood Education

Shelisa Ann Williams
Philosophy

BACHELOR OF ARTS (CONT.)

**Krystal Alexandria Wilson
Child and Family Studies

Elizabeth Mae Wypych
Child and Family Studies

Ella Grace Ziel
English
Theatre

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Neely Grace Adams
Accounting

Hallie Lexine Amrhein
Accounting

Jennifer Yeboaa Damoah
Accounting

Mary-Grace Elizabeth Durham
Accounting

Brooklyn Raye Galler
Biochemistry

Sierra Roxanne Godfrey
Mathematics
Economics

**Jennifer D. Hardy
Computer Science

Ryleigh Grace Henderson
Mathematics
Biology

Sarah Elizabeth Hitchens
Accounting

Emily Rose Ingle
Chemistry

**Helena Nicole Noel
Business Administration

Cailey Adeline Owens
Business Administration

Marleen Prinz
Business Administration
Mathematics

Jordyn Taylor Rose
Biochemistry

Ladajah Watson
Biology

Breanna M. Willimon
Accounting

Sydney Lynn Wilson
Mathematics
Computer Science

Erin Summer Young
Biochemistry

Robin Zeman
Chemistry

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Isabella Renee Avant
Art Interior Design

Kayla Grace Bailey
Art Interior Design

Kathleen G. Beardsley
Art Interior Design

Hailey C. Ellis
Art Interior Design

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS (CONT.)

Ava E. Jerolaman
Art Interior Design

Breanna Elizabeth Weber
Art Interior Design

Brianna Nicole Lee
Art Interior Design

Jennings Elizabeth Whitt
Studio Art

Mable Ni
Studio Art

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Ivana Joy Carlson, *Distinction in Performance*
Music Performance - Strings

Julia Victoria Gergley
Music Performance - Piano

**An Mei Li Campbell
Music Therapy

Nicolas Simon Mishler
Music Performance - Voice

**Lydia Marie Carver
Music Therapy

Lauren E. Sellars
Music Performance - Winds

**Victoria DeAnn Conner
Music Therapy

Mallory Tanner Smith
Music Education - Choral

Rita Taylor Kaiulanipomaikai Dunn
Music Performance - Strings

Ethan Joseph Watkins
Music Education - Instrumental

†Mary Ashton Garrett
Music Education - Choral

Joshua C. Wood, *Distinction in Composition*
Music Composition

BACHELOR OF MUSICAL ARTS

Augustine Philip Tyler Donguines
Contemporary Music (Music Media)

The list of degree candidates and academic honors was compiled from applications for degrees before final grades were recorded. The listing of a name in this program does not necessarily mean the degree will be awarded.

*In Absentia

**Early Commencement participants

†Participants who are direct descendants of Converse alumni and are hooded today
by family representatives

CANDIDATES FOR
... GRADUATE DEGREES ...
DOCTORATE IN PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP

Emily Faye Brashier
BA, Marshall University
MEd, Liberty University

Satteria Williams Broomfield
BA, Wofford College
MEd, Converse University
MEd, Southern Wesleyan University

Teresa Goins Curvin
BS, University of Tennessee
MEd, Lee University
AAS, Paducah Community College

Victoria Lynn Garrett
BA, Converse College
MAT, Converse College

Megan Rains Georgion
BA, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
MEd, Northeastern University

Meirav Ly Goldhour-Shvorin
BDes, The College of Management Academic Studies
MFA, University of Georgia

Matthew Kermit Hammett
BA, Lander University
MEd, Clemson University

Gary Lee Hazelwood
BA, University of North Carolina at Wilmington
MEd, University of Texas at Tyler

Betsy Van Jura Hollar
BA, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
MAT, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill

Stacie Leigh Howell
BS, Western Carolina University
MAT, Converse College

Kala Marie Hudson
BA, North Greenville University
MLIS, University of South Carolina

Glenn Zenny McGinnis Jr.
BS, Western Carolina University
MA, Appalachian State University

Dione V. Morris
BM, Converse College
MBA, Webster University
EdS, Converse College

Shakara Denise Morrison-Shuford
BA, Wofford College
MEd, Elon University
MSA, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Lawan Nicole Neely
BS, Anderson University
MA, Webster University
MAT, Clemson University

Zachary Len Nicks
BS, Clemson University
MAT, Clemson University

Jessica Linneth Lozada
BS, Temple University
MEd, Eastern University

Yesenia Ruiz
BBA-HCM, Anderson University
MOL, Anderson University

Dotan Israel Shvorin
BSc, Ruppin Academy
MS, Clemson University
PhD, Clemson University

EDUCATION SPECIALIST

*Kayla Elizabeth Finn
BA, Coker College
MT, University of South Carolina

Sydney Roe Ford
BS, Clemson University
MAT, Clemson University

*Casey Denise Hill
BA, Coker College
MED, Grand Canyon University

Mandie Lea Minton
BA, University of South Carolina
MAT, Converse College

Stacey Petty Pianella
BA, Converse College
MED, Southern Wesleyan

Kelly Queen Waters
BS, Limestone University
MEd, Converse College

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

Marilyn Baughan
BFA, Clemson University

Lindanette Draughn
BS, St. Augustine's University

Chauntelle Bennett Hardin
BA, University of Alaska Fairbanks
MA, University of Tennessee - Knoxville

Alexis Jimenez
BS, College of Charleston

Maggie Lowery
BA, Gardner-Webb University

Elizabeth Cash Ozmint
BA, University of Alabama

Lynne Milford Skinner
BS, Appalachian State University

Melissa Marie Spurlin
BS, Winthrop University
MS, Arizona State University

Emma Madison Yerger
BA, Wofford College

MASTER OF EDUCATION

*Caroline Harrell Baum
BA, Anderson University

**Makayla Rae Beam
BA, Shepherd University

Kathleen Marie Newell Duncan
BA, University of South Carolina Upstate

Jake Jacobs
BA, Wofford College

**Ashley Nicole Murff
BS, Francis Marion University

**Brittney K. Meyer
BFA, Bob Jones University

**Marjorie Pruitt
BA, Grand Canyon University

Kayla Suddeth Vinson
BA, Converse University

MASTER OF EDUCATION (CONT.)

**Jennifer Weinland
BFA, Eastern Connecticut State University

Samantha Nicole Willis
BA, Converse College

MASTER OF FINE ARTS

*Marlanda Dekine
BA, Furman University
MSW, University of South Carolina

Chris Paulino
BA, University of South Carolina Upstate

Laurel J. Eshelman
BS, Wheaton College

*Harris Buchanan Quinn
BA, University of South Carolina

*Michael D. Hull
BSIM, Purdue University
MBA, Indiana University

*Bobbie J. Shepard
BA, Wofford College
MED, LaGrange College

Crystal Tennille Irby
BS, Florida State University

**Kelsey Stancliffe
BA, West Virginia Wesleyan College
MSW, Tulane University

**Kenzie Rylee McGregor
BA, Bob Jones University

MASTER IN MANAGEMENT

Adara Joy Aho
BA, Converse University

Pamela Lancaster Greenway
BA, Queens University

Bosko Bojovic
BA, Belmont Abbey

Hayli Michele Keith
BS, Francis Marion University

Eva Carballo
AA, Marshalltown Community College
BS, Converse University

Karen J. Mims
BA, Converse College

Matthew J. Cash
BA, University of South Carolina Upstate

Jimmie Sanders
BA, Converse University

Allison Jean Dunlap
BA, University of South Carolina

María Belén Vendrell
BA, BS Converse University

†Taylor Ann Goldfuss
BA, Converse University

MASTER OF LIBERAL ARTS

Ansley Victoria Hodge
BA, Converse College

MASTER OF MARRIAGE AND FAMILY THERAPY

**Julie Bjorndahl
BA, Kristiania University College

**Mary Pitts Keel
BS, Converse University

**Caitlin Fountain Brown
BA, Converse College

**Hunter Roderick McLeod
BS, University of South Carolina Upstate

**Alyssa BreAnne Bryant
BS, University of South Carolina Upstate

**Kayla Turner Meirelles
BA, Arizona State University

**Kelsey Carithers
BA, Gardner-Webb University

**Laquinta Meredith
BS, University of South Carolina Upstate

**Abigale Chavarria
BA, Cottey College

**Caitlyn Crocker Orders
BS, Wofford College

†**Lara E. Dym
BA, Wofford College

Daylee Jeane Alon Pruitt
BMA, Converse University

**Jamie Ann Guay
BS, Bridgewater State University

**Tabitha Dawn Scheffler
BS, University of Central Florida

**Katherine Manley Halstensgard
BA, Winthrop University

**Olivia Victoria Shanton
BS, Grand Canyon University

**Jaime Truth Hammer
BA, Furman University

Hunter Draco Shock
BA, University of South Carolina Beaufort

**Lauren Hawk
BS, Northeast Missouri State

**Katherine Grace Spurling
BA, Converse University

**Ashlyn Benfield Hawkins
BS, Southern New Hampshire University

**Sherretta Thomas
BS, South Carolina State University

**Elizabeth Anne Howerton
BA, Mary Baldwin College

†**Katelyn Grace White
BS, Presbyterian College

**Amanda Isler
BA, Converse College

**Abigail Elena Wilhelm
BS, Utah State University

MASTER OF MUSIC

†**Lanna Hope Belue
BM, Converse University

Matthew Thomas Latzka
BA, North Greenville University

Catherine Sarah Black, *Distinction in Performance*
BM, University of South Carolina

Jonah Brandon Losh
BA, North Greenville University

Mark Wayne Eisenbrey
BM, East Tennessee State University

†Sommerset Sadie Sewell
BA, Converse University

Julie Tran Keeling
BM, Converse College

Caroline Spearman Starling
BS, Francis Marion University

*The list of degree candidates was compiled from applications for degrees before final grades were recorded.
The listing of a name in this program does not necessarily mean the degree will be awarded.*

* In Absentia

** Early Commencement participants

†Participants who are direct descendants of Converse alumni

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ALMA MATER

Standing with open arms

Standing alone

Watching her children down through the years,

Watching and keeping them safe from harm,

Hearing their laughter and seeing their tears.

Converse! Converse!

We pledge our love to thee.

We'll hail the purple and the gold

With love and loyalty.

Alma Mater, dear to everyone,

We love you now, we'll love you when

Our college days are done.
