

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY



COMMENCEMENT

MAY 4, 2024

10:00 A.M.

CIMPL ARENA, YANKTON, SD

2024 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

PROCESSIONAL

“Pomp and Circumstance”

Marches, Op. 39, No. 1

by Sir Edward Elgar

Led by Dr. Krystal Diedrichsen

Associate Professor of Nursing and 2023

Distinguished Teaching Award Recipient

NATIONAL ANTHEM

“The Star Spangled Banner”

by Francis Scott Key

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

INVOCATION

Kenneth Gay II '24

**“The Mount Marty
University Prayer”**

by Anthony Maglione

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

WELCOME

Dr. Marcus Long

President

STUDENT AWARDS AND RIBBON CEREMONY

Dr. Katie Harrell

Vice President for Student Success

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Dr. Ronald Place

Regional President & CEO,

Avera McKennan Hospital and

University Health Center

PRESENTATION OF

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. William Miller

Executive Vice President and

Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Marcus Long

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

WELCOME

Johanna Jablonoski '14

Director of Alumni & Family

Relations

“Come to the Water”

by Lynda Hasseler

Mount Marty University Chamber Choir

BENEDICTION

Father Grant Lacey

Chaplain and Director of Campus

Ministry

RECESSIONAL

“Procession of the Nobles”

from Mlada

by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Led by Dr. Krystal Diedrichsen

It is customary for the audience to stand during the Processional, National Anthem, Invocation, Benediction and Recessional.

MOUNT MARTY PRAYER

O God,

Creator of all things and source of wisdom and knowledge, send your Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, words, and actions so that everything we do will begin with your inspiration and continue with your guidance and blessing. Help us to speak and act with integrity so that we may uphold the values of Mount Marty University. May we use our talents and abilities in the best ways possible so that You may be glorified and our neighbor served.

We pray these things through Jesus, your Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

*The Mount Marty Prayer was written by
Father Thomas Wordekemper, OSB, '79.*

CLASS RIBBON CEREMONY

In 2020, we embarked on a new phase of our history as Mount Marty University. To commemorate the moment, our students and administration created a new tradition to be conducted during the commencement ceremony to honor and celebrate the graduation of the senior class and the introduction of the next: the Class Ribbon Ceremony.

During this ceremony, the graduating president of the Student Government Association will be joined on stage by the president-elect. Together, they will tie a ribbon representing the new senior class to the shield. The ribbon, selected by members of the incoming senior class, may contain a bible verse, quote or other meaningful representation intended to forever mark their impact on the Mount Marty community.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

by Ronald Place, MD

Dr. Ron Place hails from South Dakota and graduated from the University of South Dakota with a bachelor's degree in Chemistry. He was also a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society and earned an ROTC commission in the U.S. Army. He then graduated from Creighton University School of Medicine as a member of Alpha Omega Alpha honor medical society. Dr. Place completed his General Surgery internship and residency training at Madigan Army Medical Center, Ft. Lewis, WA, and fellowship training in Colon and Rectal Surgery at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center in Dallas.

Dr. Place was a full-time surgeon for the first half of his military career, including combat deployments to Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) twice, Operation Iraqi Freedom, and Operation Joint Guardian (Kosovo). He gradually transitioned to full time executive leadership, leading at every level with the military medical system; including surgical department chief, Chief Medical Officer, Chief Operating Officer, CEO of two community hospitals, and CEO of two regions. He completed his nearly 37 years of military service as a lieutenant general and the 3rd Director of the Defense Health Agency.

Dr. Place is board certified in both General Surgery and Colorectal Surgery. He is the author of over 40 peer reviewed articles and book chapters. He is a clinical professor of surgery at both the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences and the University of South Dakota Sanford School of Medicine. He is also an Adjunct Professor of Natural Sciences at Mount Marty University.

Dr. Place is now the Regional President and CEO of Avera McKennan Hospital and University Health Center in Sioux Falls. He also serves on the Board of Directors for The Link Community Triage Center, the Avera Heart Hospital, and the Greater Sioux Falls Chamber of Commerce.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

ALEXIS ARENS

Elementary Education

Special Education

Crofton, NE

Summa Cum Laude

JOSHUA ARLT

Biology

Secondary Education

Lennox, SD

Cum Laude

TASHLYNNE BADGER*

Mathematics Education

Brandon, SD

Magna Cum Laude

BROOKLYN BERNATOW*

Business Administration

Yankton, SD

MADISON HALEY BILLER

Criminal Justice

Psychology

Kiowa, CO

Alpha Phi Sigma

WESLEY J. BRANDT^

Business Administration

Tabor, SD

MYLES EDWARD BROWN

Exercise Science

Hollywood, FL

Cum Laude

TIANNA BUMBACA-KUEHL

Human Service

Criminal Justice

Santa Cruz, CA

Cum Laude, Alpha Phi Sigma

NOAH JOSEPH CAGLE

History

Secondary Education

Grand Rapids, MN

Phi Alpha Theta

CONNER WILLIAM CAPPS*

Recreation Management and Tourism

Discovery Bay, CA

DYLAN ROBERT CAPPS

Interdisciplinary Studies

Discovery Bay, CA

CADEN D. CASEY^

Business Administration

Rapid City, SD

GABRIELE CAVALLARI

Physical Education

Secondary Education

Budoia, Italy

Summa Cum Laude

BRANDON CERVANTES

Business Administration

Magna, UT

JASON CHAVEZ*

Exercise Science

West Valley City, UT

KATELYN MARIE CHYTKA*

Pre-Professional Studies

Elk Point, SD

Magna Cum Laude

BRANDON BRADLEY CRAFT^

Business Administration

Helendale, CA

CALLI DAVIS

Exercise Science

Elk Point, SD

Summa Cum Laude

SAVAS DI LASCIO

Exercise Science

Milan, Italy

BRYNN DILLY

Exercise Science

Neligh, NE

Summa Cum Laude

DOMINIC EAGER^

Recreation Management and Tourism

Sioux Falls, SD

BREE KATHLEEN EISENHAUER

Physical Education

Secondary Education

Bloomfield, NE

Cum Laude

BROOKLYN J. EISENHAUER

Accounting

Bloomfield, NE

Summa Cum Laude

CADEN TYLER EYMANN

Exercise Science

Byers, CO

Magna Cum Laude

QUINN ANDREW WILLIAM FARGO

Performing Arts

Mathematics Education

Gayville, SD

Magna Cum Laude

JAYCEE REBEKKA FISCHER

Exercise Science

Beresford, SD

TRISTAN FURGESON

Exercise Science

Whittemore, IA

Magna Cum Laude

ANDREA GARCIA

Criminal Justice

Sheldon, IA

Cum Laude, Alpha Phi Sigma

EMILIANA L. GARZA

Interdisciplinary Studies

Corpus Christi, TX

KENNETH WAYNE GAY II

Business Administration

Plain Dealing, LA

GABRIELLE ELAINE GOODRICH

Recreation Management and Tourism

Peoria, AZ

Cum Laude

MCKENZIE GRAY

Exercise Science

Imperial, CA

NILS GUENTHER*

Business Administration

Bessenbach Bavaria, Germany

Cum Laude

MELISSA HAGEDORN

Elementary Education

West Point, NE

JETT TATSUKI HASEGAWA

Exercise Science

Brisbane, Australia

Magna Cum Laude

KAITLYNN HOVE

Exercise Science

Trenton, ND

Cum Laude

DEONTAE TRAYSHAWN HOWARD

Exercise Science
Titusville, FL

ARION HUNTLEY*

Business Administration
Yankton, SD

BRIONA JENSEN

Exercise Science
Scribner, NE

ISRAEL JIMENEZ^

Criminal Justice
Lamont, CA

ABIGAIL JOHNSON

Interdisciplinary Studies
Hamilton, MT

TAYA MARIE JOHNSON*

Elementary Education
Battle Creek, NE
Cum Laude

CIRBY LANCE DUMAN JORDAN*

History
Lufkin, TX
Phi Alpha Theta

LOGAN TYRE KAUTZMAN

Exercise Science
Capitol, MT
Summa Cum Laude

BRADY KLASSEN

English
Secondary Education
Winnipeg, Canada
Summa Cum Laude, Sigma Tau Delta

HUNTER B. KOTROUS

Business Administration
Yankton, SD

MADISON E. KOVAR

Pre-Professional Studies
Needville, TX

NATHANIEL JAY KROPUENSKE

Accounting
Beresford, SD

DOMINIK LANG

Accounting
Business Administration
Gerstetten, Germany
Summa Cum Laude

NICHOLAS VITO MACCHIO

Business Administration
Recreation Management and Tourism
Marshall, MN

AARON T. MADDEN

Biology
Pre-Professional Studies
Papillion, NE
Cum Laude

CADE MANZANARES

Interdisciplinary Studies
Roswell, NM

KYLEE MCDANIEL

Pre-Professional Studies
Cheyenne, OK

ELISABETH LANAE MCGILL

Pre-Professional Studies
Thornton, CO
Cum Laude, Honors Program

JARED MILLER

Accounting
Business Administration
Mitchell, SD

SHANE KELLY MILLER

Exercise Science
Pagosa Springs, CO

JONAH K. MIYAZAWA*

Business Administration
Honolulu, HI

MAIDI TSHEGOFATSO MODIBA^

Business Administration
Polokwane, South Africa

TYREE DIMITRI MORRISON

Exercise Science
Mission Hills, CA

HANNAH JEAN MUTH

Exercise Science
Yankton, SD

KYLI KAYE NELSON

Elementary Education
Special Education
Red Wing, MN
Magna Cum Laude

LILINOE NIHI

Exercise Science
Honolulu, HI

SAMANTHA GRACE NOBLE

Exercise Science
Corona, CA

EVARISTO NUÑEZ III

Exercise Science
Dickinson, TX

CHESNEY OLSON*

Mathematics Education
Langford, SD
Summa Cum Laude

RACHEL MARIE PAVELKA

Elementary Education
Verdigre, NE
Summa Cum Laude

JONTE PENDLETON*

Exercise Science
Los Angeles, CA

LUCA PEREIRA DE MELLO^

Business Administration
Roma, Italy

MICHEAL PLUMMER^

Accounting
Midland, MI

AUTUMN SAGE PORTER

Recreation Management and Tourism
Miles City, MT
Cum Laude

DAVID JARRETT PROVENCHER

Business Administration
Chula Vista, CA

JOSÉ QUIÑONES

Exercise Science
San Juan, Puerto Rico

KALUB RAMIREZ

Recreation Management and Tourism
Lompoc, CA

MASON SCHLEIS

Accounting
Business Administration
Shelby, NE

SAMUEL SCHOMBERG

Accounting
Lone Tree, CO

RACHEL STEENHOLDT

Elementary Education
Gayville, SD

LAURA STEHLIK
Elementary Education
Special Education
Nebraska City, NE
Summa Cum Laude

SKYLAR SULLIVAN
Psychology
Rapid City, SD
Cum Laude

KELSEY TABBERT
Business Administration
Elkhorn, NE

ALEXANDER C. TENNANT*
Biology
Aberdeen, SD
Cum Laude

ANIYA LORINE-JEAN TEPP0
Exercise Science
Farson, WY

LAKE TERVEER^
Exercise Science
Brandon, SD

KIAH TRAINOR
English
Secondary Education
Rapid City, SD
Cum Laude, Sigma Tau Delta

BAREK ANTONIO VAUGHN
Exercise Science
Marin City, CA
Magna Cum Laude

LIAM KEEGAN VIDAS
Criminal Justice
Rapid City, SD

AIMEE WARREN
Exercise Science
Dublin, Ireland

MAXWELL WELCH*
Psychology
Highlands Ranch, CO

ALLY WHITMIRE
English
Monument, CO
Magna Cum Laude

GRIFFEN WIENEKE
Recreation Management and Tourism
Norfolk, NE

JACOB WIESELER*
English
Secondary Education
Wynot, NE
Cum Laude

ANDREA MARIE WILLIAMS
Elementary Education
Special Education
Winside, NE
Summa Cum Laude

HESTON GAROLD WILLIAMS
Physical Education
Secondary Education
Cody, WY

ETHAN WISHON
Biology
Pre-Professional Studies
Yankton, SD
Magna Cum Laude

TAYLOR WOOLLEY
Business Administration
Post Falls, ID

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

KIARA BERNDT^
Radiologic Technology
Harrisburg, SD

LOGAN V. NGUYEN^
Radiologic Technology
Yankton, SD

JUSTIN MCCLURG^
Radiologic Technology
Busselton, Australia

TAYLER R. WADDINGTON^
Radiologic Technology
Custer, SD

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

KARLEE MCKENZIE ARNOLD
Parker, CO
Summa Cum Laude

KAREN KNOX
Weston, MO

BROOK BAUMAN-STAAB
Canby, MN

ERIKA RAE LANGLOSS
Crooks, SD

REVEILLE BORA
San Diego, CA

TANNA LEHFELDT
Brandon, SD

BETSY ANN CRUMLY
Page, NE
Magna Cum Laude

CLAIRE MARTINSON
Marshall, MN
Cum Laude

ALEYDA DEL CARMEN DE GRACIA
Hayward, CA
Summa Cum Laude, Sigma Theta Tau

IVY LEE MINES
Yankton, SD
Magna Cum Laude

SARAH MARIE EICKHOFF
Menifee, CA

PAIGE RAKER
Scotland, SD

RAEGAN HARPER
Billings, MT
Summa Cum Laude

NATALIE REEVES
Creston, NE
Cum Laude

SAMARAH DANIELLE HENDRICKS
Vacaville, CA
Magna Cum Laude

KAYLEE ROGERS
McKinney, TX

BROOKE MARIE SKUTNIK
Omaha, NE

GRACE SMITH

Whitewood, SD
Sigma Theta Tau

ALISSA RAE STEPHENS

Rapid City, SD
Magna Cum Laude

DAIN J. WHITMIRE

Fordyce, NE

BRADEN WILLS

Brandon, SD

MELLANI RENAE WRAGGE

Pierce, NE

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

CHARLES W. CLEARWATER[^]

Accounting
Business Administration
Topeka, KS

ERNEST J. MARTINEZ JR.[^]

Accounting
Denver, CO

GRADUATION HONORS AND NOTES

Graduation honors are awarded to students earning bachelor degrees in recognition of superior scholarship.

Summa Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.9 and is recognized by navy/gold honor cords.

Magna Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 and is recognized by gold/white honor cords.

Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 and is recognized by navy/white honor cords.

Alpha Phi Sigma is the honor society for criminal justice and is recognized by blue/gold cords and gold sash.

Phi Alpha Theta is an American history honor society and is recognized by a white cord and red sash.

Sigma Tau Delta is the national English honor society and is recognized by a pin.

Sigma Theta Tau is the international honor society of nurses and is recognized by a purple and white cord.

Honors Program is Mount Marty University's program to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional academic skill and who explore areas above and beyond the standard classroom requirements and is recognized by a gold cord.

*** INDICATES DECEMBER 2023 GRADUATE**

^ INDICATES AUGUST 2024 CANDIDATE

Names listed in this publication and participation in the commencement exercises may not be construed as documentation of completion of degree requirements. Certification of the conferral of a degree is by official transcript noting degree completion.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The tradition of academic costume has a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townsmen wore long flowing robes or gowns. The materials and colors varied greatly, according to wealth and rank of the individual and were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. This tradition survives today in gowns of religious orders, the judiciary and the academic regalia.

The gowns worn by the recipients of the various degrees vary somewhat in design. The sleeves of the gown worn by recipients of the baccalaureate degree are long and pointed, while the sleeves of the gown worn by the master's degree recipients are square at one end with a slit at the elbow. The doctor's gown has flowing sleeves with three bars of velvet and a facing of velvet down the front of the gown.

Most distinctive of the academic regalia is the hood, which identifies the graduate degree and the institution where the degree was awarded. The hood is lined with silk in the official colors of the institution. The velvet edging indicates the degree as follows:

Arts, Letters, Humanities: White

Commerce, Accountancy, Business: Drab

Education: Light Blue

Fine Arts: Brown

Music: Pink

Nursing: Apricot

Philosophy: Dark Blue

Physical Education: Sage Green

Science: Golden Yellow

Theology: Scarlet

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY

Mount Marty University is a Catholic, Benedictine institution of higher learning founded in 1936 by the Sisters of Saint Benedict of Yankton, South Dakota. The institution is named in memory of Martin Marty, a Swiss monk, who came to the Dakota Territory in 1876 and became the territory's first Catholic bishop. As bishop, he invited the Benedictine Sisters to establish a religious community in Yankton.

The university functioned as a junior college for women for 15 years; in 1951 it awarded its first Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. In 1969, the college became coeducational. Associate of Arts degree programs were introduced in 1975 in areas compatible with already existing programs. Graduate study came to the institution with the first Master of Science degree being awarded in 1983, followed by the first Master of Art degree in 1999. The first doctorate in Nurse Anesthesia Practice was approved in 2016. Mount Marty University is the first private university in South Dakota to offer doctoral degrees.

Mount Marty University's main campus is located in Yankton, SD. There are two additional locations in Watertown, SD, and Sioux Falls, SD.

Mount Marty University-Watertown has been serving northeast South Dakota since 1972 and offers numerous undergraduate degrees in non-traditional formats. This non-residential learning environment offers flexible options that cater to all students and working professionals looking to enhance their lives and further their careers through higher education.

Sioux Falls is home to the Mount Marty Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice graduate program, a program that has been producing successful nurse anesthetists for over 75 years. This 36-month program prepares the next generation of advanced practice nursing professionals for commitment to excellence in clinical care, advancing the profession and service to the human community. The Sioux Falls location is also home to Mount Marty University's new Master of Science in Biotechnology degree, the first such degree in the state.

In keeping with the Benedictine tradition, the university exists as a community of learners. Primary emphasis is placed on the development of each person as a complete human being with intellectual competence; professional and personal skills; and a composite of moral, spiritual and social values.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The Presidential Medallion represents the authority granted to the President of the institution by the Board of Trustees. It carries the seal of the university as well as four banners with the core values: awareness of God, community, hospitality and lifelong learning. They serve as a constant reminder that these values are believed in and carried out from the leader of the institution on to the various internal and external publics that Mount Marty University serves. On the bottom of the medallion are the words; scientia (knowledge), veritas (truth) and sapientia (wisdom). It is a symbol that will inspire the quest for knowledge by the faculty and our students. It is a symbol that will inspire the pursuit of spiritual wholeness for all the members of our community.

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Mount Marty University, an academic community in the Catholic Benedictine liberal arts tradition, prepares students for a contemporary world of work, service to the human community and personal growth.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023 - 2024

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VICE CHAIR, MR. ROB STEPHENSON
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Mr. Daryl Thuringer
Sr. Patricia Ann Toscano '71
Sr. Carol Jean VanDenHemel
Dr. Rachel Vannatta '87
Dr. Marcus Long, President**