

GHC

University System of Georgia

GEORGIA
HIGHLANDS
COLLEGE

20

25

COMMENCEMENT

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Bachelor of Business Administration, Healthcare Management

Bachelor of Business Administration, Logistics & Supply Chain Management

Bachelor of Science, Building Information Modeling Management

Bachelor of Science, Criminal Justice

Bachelor of Science, Dental Hygiene

Bachelor of Science, Environmental & Natural Resources

Bachelor of Science, Health Science

Bachelor of Science, Nursing RN-BSN

Associate of Arts

Associate of Science

Associate of Science, Dental Hygiene

Associate of Science, Human Services

Associate of Science, Nursing

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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear Georgia Highlands College Graduate,

Even after the celebration ends, even after your cap soars into the air, even after your diploma is framed and displayed with pride—your achievement, your hard work, and the journey that led you here will endure. This moment is more than a milestone—it is the foundation for everything that comes next.

A college degree represents resilience, ambition, and an unshakable commitment to growth. It opens doors, expands horizons, and—most importantly—proves that you have the power to shape your future. No one can take this from you. And do you know who made this happen? You did.

You are the heart of Georgia Highlands College. Everything we do is to empower leaders, innovators, and change-makers—those who take bold steps toward their dreams and inspire others to do the same. Today, you stand as a testament to that mission, and for that, we thank you!

But our gratitude extends beyond what you've already accomplished. We thank you for all that we know you will achieve next.

As you step forward into new careers, as you give back to your communities, as you carry the spirit of a Charger into every endeavor—you represent Georgia Highlands College. Whether you're leading, mentoring, or simply proving through your actions that education transforms lives, you are shaping the world around you.

We can't wait to see all that you will accomplish beyond today. We are proud to call you a Georgia Highlands College graduate, and we are honored to have you join the ranks of our incredible alumni.

Go Chargers!

Dr. Mike Hobbs

President, Georgia Highlands College





EXERCISES OF COMMENCEMENT

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

10:30AM | 6:30PM

Georgia Highlands College, Floyd Campus
3175 Cedartown Highway, Rome, Georgia

PROCESSIONAL

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Sarah Coakley, Provost & Chief Academic Officer

WELCOME

Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

GREETINGS

Andy Garner, Incoming Chair, Board of Trustees (10:30)
Bryan Holland, Trustee, Board of Trustees (6:30)

REMARKS

Josie Tolsma (10:30)
Cheyenne Bailey (6:30)

PRESENTATION OF WESLEY C. WALRAVEN FACULTY AWARD - 10:30AM CEREMONY

Presented by Dr. Sarah Coakley, Provost & Chief
Academic Officer
Accepted by Andy Kight, in honor of his late wife,
Tracy Kight, Assistant Professor of Mathematics

INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS 10:30AM CEREMONY

Anat Sultan-Dadon, Consul General of Israel

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS 6:30PM CEREMONY

Guy Taff, Executive Vice President, Tilley Properties

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. Sarah Coakley, Provost & Chief Academic
Officer
Assisted by Travice Obas, Professor of
Communication

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

CONFERRING OF ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP & CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

ALMA MATER LYRICS ON BACK

AJ Thomas

RECESSIONAL

THURSDAY, MAY 15, 2025

2:30PM PINNING & COMMENCEMENT

Georgia Highlands College, Floyd Campus
3175 Cedartown Highway, Rome, Georgia

PROCESSIONAL

OPENING PRAYER Daniel Curtis

INTRODUCTION Dr. Sarah Coakley, Provost & Chief Academic Officer

WELCOME Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

GREETINGS D. Randall Quick, Chairman, Board of Trustees

**CLASS WELCOME &
STUDENT CLASS SPEECH** Sara Seefeldt
Kathlien Moore

NURSING ADDRESS Dr. Shawn M. Little, Associate Vice Chancellor of
Healthcare Education, University System of Georgia

SPECIAL PRESENTATION Dr. Sheila Bennett, DNP, RN, NEA-BC, CPPS,
Atrium Health Floyd Senior Vice President & Chief
of Patient Services

INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS Dr. Craig McDaniel, Mayor of Rome
2:30PM CEREMONY

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES Dr. Sarah Coakley, Provost & Chief
Academic Officer

CONFERRING OF DEGREES Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

BSN PINNING Shea Walker DNP,
RN Interim Director of Nursing

ASN PINNING Shea Walker DNP,
RN Interim Director of Nursing

NURSING PLEDGE Jessica Sandoval

CLOSING PRAYER Samantha Martinez

**CONFERRING OF ALUMNI MEMBERSHIP
& CLOSING REMARKS** Dr. Mike Hobbs, President

**ALMA MATER
LYRICS ON BACK** AJ Thomas

RECESSIONAL

THE PINNING CEREMONY

Nursing education is rigorous and intense and can challenge a student's mental, emotional, spiritual, and physical endurance. The Pinning Ceremony celebrates successful academic achievement and is a traditional welcome into the world of professional nursing. The event is solemn and joyful, highlighting victories and failures, joys and sadness, deeply human interactions and humor, and potent learning moments that student nurses experience during their journey into professional nursing. A short history follows:

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 1099 | Knights of the Order of the Hospital of St. John the Baptist who tended the ill and wounded during the Crusades were given a Maltese cross medal to signify their vow to become the serf and slave of their masters – the sick. |
| 1500S | Guilds and schools adopted the wearing of the coat of arms to identify themselves. Religious orders incorporated the design of the cross into their insignia. |
| 1856 | Queen Victoria awarded Florence Nightingale the Red Cross of Saint George for her service in the Crimean War. |
| 1860 | Miss Nightingale used a similar medal to reward outstanding students in her first nursing school at Saint Thomas' Hospital in London. |
| 1870S | The Wolverton Royal Hospital in England is credited with being the first school to award a pin to all graduates. |
| 1873 | The first three American schools of nursing based on the Nightingale model opened in New York, New York, Boston, Massachusetts, and New Haven, Connecticut. |
| 1880 | Bellevue Hospital School of Nursing in New York became the first school in the United States to award pins to graduates. |
| 1900S | Pinning became a common ceremony in schools of nursing. Each new school that opened chose a unique design for its pin and awarded it to graduates as a symbol of academic work well done, entry into the profession of nursing, and a reminder of nursing's historical mission to serve the sick. |

The lighting of the Nightingale Lamp honors Florence Nightingale's contribution as the founder of modern nursing. She was known as the "Lady with the Lamp" while making night nursing rounds for wounded soldiers. Nightingale was a social reformer who founded the first professional nursing school.

INTERNATIONAL NURSING PLEDGE

In the full knowledge of the obligations I am undertaking, I promise to care for the sick with all the skill and understanding I possess, without regard to race, creed, color, politics, or social status, sparing no effort to conserve life, to alleviate suffering, and to promote health.

I will respect at all times the dignity and religious beliefs of the patients under my care, holding in confidence all personal information entrusted to me, and refraining from any action which might endanger life or health. I will endeavor to keep my professional knowledge and skill at the highest level and to give loyal support and cooperation to all members of the health team.

I will do my utmost to honor the international code of ethics applied to nursing and to uphold the integrity of the nurse.

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS



ANAT SULTAN-DADON
Consul General of Israel

Anat Sultan-Dadon has served as Consul General of Israel to the Southeastern U.S. since 2019. A diplomat since 2004, she has held roles in Israel's embassies in Cameroon, Germany, the Netherlands, and Australia, as well as in Jerusalem's Foreign Ministry. She holds a B.A. in Psychology and Education and a master's in Criminology, both from The Hebrew University. In 2020, she was inducted into Morehouse College's Martin Luther King Jr. International College of Ministers and Laity. Based in Atlanta, she oversees relations with seven southeastern states. Sultan-Dadon is married to Yaron and they have three daughters.



DR. CRAIG MCDANIEL
Mayor of Rome

Dr. Craig McDaniel, a Rome native and West Rome High graduate, is a commercial real estate agent with Toles, Temple, and Wright and the current Mayor of Rome. He spent 35 years in technical education, including 15 as president of Georgia Northwestern Technical College, and was later named President Emeritus. He also served as Assistant Commissioner for the Technical College System of Georgia.

McDaniel holds degrees from Carson Newman, Georgia State, and the University of Georgia. He has held leadership roles with the Greater Rome Chamber of Commerce, Redmond Regional Medical Center, Rome Rotary, and United Way of Rome and Floyd County. Earlier in his career, he worked in manufacturing and served as a Basic EMT. He is a member of several local and national realtor associations.



GUY TAFF

Executive Vice President, Tilley Properties, Inc.

Guy Taff was born in Athens, Georgia. He was raised in Northern Italy where he completed grade school and began high school. Guy moved back to the United States his junior year to his family's farm in Stilesboro and graduated from Cartersville High School. The following fall he enrolled in Floyd Junior College and graduated with an associate degree in business. At the age of 21, he purchased his first piece of investment property while still a student at Floyd Junior College.

Guy Taff is a seasoned executive who has served in various roles within Tilley Properties, Inc., a commercial and industrial real estate investment company. He started at the Company in maintenance and operating heavy equipment. Over the years, he has served in different capacities and was promoted along the way; he currently is Executive Vice President of the Company.

With three decades of experience with the company, Mr. Taff has extensive real estate experience and knowledge in all facets of the business, including leadership and finance, solid waste management, environmental/regulatory compliance, zoning and land use, and organizational development. Guy is a graduate of Leadership Bartow and currently serves on the Cartersville-Bartow County Airport Authority and the Cartersville-Bartow County Joint Development Authority Design Control Committee.

Guy and his wife, Carrie, have three sons: Gage, Carter, and Owen. They reside in Cartersville and are active members of Sam Jones Methodist Church.

FACULTY HONORS & CEREMONY ROLES

MACE BEARER



The mace, a grand staff and symbolic weapon, originated as a club used by medieval scholars for defense, as swords were deemed inappropriate. Today, it represents the academy's authority and its commitment to truth, order, and academic freedom.

Alan Nichols earned his Ph.D. and master's in philosophy from the University of Missouri and a bachelor's from UAB. Since joining Georgia Highlands College in 2004, he has become a Professor of Philosophy and has served as Dean of Social Sciences and Education since 2013. Among his proudest roles are Dean, Campus Mediator, and Governor's Teaching Fellow. Returning to faculty in Fall 2025, he looks forward to continuing his teaching and service. He lives in Cartersville with his wife, Crystal, and thanks the GHC faculty for the honor of serving as Mace Bearer.

DR. ALAN NICHOLS

Dean of Social Sciences & Education

STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION LEADERSHIP



JOSIE TOLSMA

*SGA President,
Digital Media & Communication*



Cheyenne Bailey

*Former SGA President,
Environmental and Natural Resources*

WESLEY C. WALRAVEN FACULTY AWARD



TRACY KIGHT

*Assistant Professor
of Mathematics*

The Walraven Award honors Dr. Wesley C. Walraven, Floyd Junior College's (now GHC) academic dean (1970–1993). He was known for his dedication to students, quiet leadership, and sharp intellect.

Tracy Kight's impact on GHC was profound, both as a student in the early '90s and later as a beloved faculty member. After earning her Master of Science in Mathematics Education from Nova Southeastern University in 2006, she returned to the college in the Fall 2016, this time as an educator whose passion and dedication inspired her students. Tracy embodied the college's mission, creating a welcoming and supportive learning environment where students knew they could count on her, whether in the classroom or during late-night study sessions where she stayed until every question was answered. Her unwavering commitment to student success made her a cherished mentor, colleague, and friend.

Tracy's legacy lives on in the lives she touched. Though her passing on June 1, 2024, was an immeasurable loss, her influence remains through the knowledge she imparted and the encouragement she gave so freely. She is survived by her husband, Andy Kight, and their two sons, Steven Gregory Kight and Joseph Andy Kight, who carry forward the spirit of her kindness and dedication.

HONORARY FACULTY MARSHALS

The Honorary Faculty Marshals are the longest-serving faculty members in each commencement ceremony



BILLY MORRIS

*Professor of Geology
29 Years of Service*

10:30AM CEREMONY



DR. SUSAN CLAXTON

*Professor of Human Services
29 Years of Service*

2:30PM CEREMONY



FRANK MINOR

*Professor of English
33 Years of Service*

6:30PM CEREMONY

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Stylized and distinctive academic regalia is a notable feature of formal ceremonies at colleges and universities worldwide. The tradition of wearing specific academic attire to distinguish university scholars dates back to the earliest European institutions. Since these universities had close ties to the church, many scholars were preparing for the priesthood, and faculty members were often clergymen. As a result, early academic dress closely resembled clerical robes while maintaining distinct elements to differentiate scholars from church officials.

American academic regalia includes three types of gowns, three styles of hoods, and two types of cap tassels. The bachelor's gown is unadorned with long, pointed, open sleeves. The master's gown has longer sleeves that are closed at the bottom, with openings midway for the hands. The doctor's gown features full-length velvet lapels and bell-shaped sleeves adorned with three horizontal velvet bars. The master's gown may be worn open or closed.

Academic hoods are lined with the colors of the institution awarding the degree and are faced with a color representing the recipient's primary field of study. The bachelor's hood is three feet long, the master's hood measures three and a half feet, and the doctor's hood is four feet long with wider panels. The field of study is indicated by the hood's facing color as follows:

-  Arts – White
-  Science – Gold/Yellow
-  Nursing – Apricot
-  Physical Education – Green
-  Business Administration – Drab
-  Librarianship – Lemon
-  Education – Blue

At Georgia Highlands College, bachelor's degree recipients wear orange stoles trimmed in blue. The graduates' tassel color corresponds to their field of study.

HONORS DISTINCTION & RECOGNIZED AFFILIATIONS

LATIN HONORS

Georgia Highlands College undergraduate students who achieve a high level of academic excellence, as reflected in their grade point average, earn the following distinctions:

- **Summa Cum Laude** (GPA 3.9–4.0)***
- **Magna Cum Laude** (GPA 3.7–3.89)**
- **Cum Laude** (GPA 3.5–3.69)*

Students earning these honors will have their distinction denoted by an asterisk (*) for Cum Laude, two asterisks (**) for Magna Cum Laude, and three asterisks (***) for Summa Cum Laude in the graduation program. Honors graduates wear a gold tassel with their commencement regalia.

RECOGNIZED AFFILIATIONS

BROTHER 2 BROTHER (B2B)

B2B supports African-American and Latino male students at GHC through education, leadership, and service. B2B graduates wear a red stole with their commencement regalia.

HONORS PROGRAM

Students in the Honors Program complete optional additional research projects to earn honors credit. Students with 15 honors credits earn a Honors Diploma and wear a purple cord with commencement regalia.

MILITARY VETERANS

Military veterans will wear a white stole with blue trim, labeled armed forces and including a logo for all armed forces.

PHI THETA KAPPA (PTK)

PTK, the international honor society for two-year colleges, invites GHC students with a 3.5 GPA and 12 credit hours, requiring a 3.25 GPA to maintain membership. GHC's Alpha Psi Omicron Chapter was chartered in 1994. Graduates wear gold stoles and blue and gold cords.

PSI BETA

Psi Beta, the national psychology honor society for two-year colleges, requires a 3.25 GPA or top 35% ranking. Graduates wear gold stoles and gold and blue cords.

SIGMA PHI ALPHA

Sigma Phi Alpha is the national dental hygiene honor society. GHC inducts one senior student each year into Sigma Phi Alpha. That graduate wears a special stole and cords to designate membership as well as a gold lapel pin.

SIGMA THETA TAU

Sigma Theta Tau, an international honor society for nurses, honors exceptional nursing students and leaders worldwide. Graduates wear a purple cord with their commencement regalia.

STUDENT AMERICAN DENTAL HYGIENISTS' ASSOCIATION (SADHA)

SADHA, part of the American Dental Hygienists' Association, is a nationally recognized pre-professional organization that transitions members into the ADHA. Graduates wear a lilac cord.

STUDENT VETERANS OF AMERICA

Student Veterans of America (SVA) is the premier national organization leading service, research, programs, and advocacy for veterans in higher education. SVA graduates wear red, white, and blue cords with commencement regalia.



CANDIDATES for GRADUATION

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION HEALTHCARE MANAGEMENT

Olivia C Adams**
Dedra L Alford**
Jami Lynn Beeler
Caroline M Blum*
Chloe Brownlee*
La'jay Davie
Iveryana K English
Hannah Erwin**

Benjamin J Gilbert
Cherlynek D Hogan
Cynthia HOUNGBLAME
Alexis H Jones
Troy Jones Jr
Kamya Kelly
Kara Brooke King**
Shakita S Mays**

Ashley R Morgan
Nephtari Kennie Joelle Nelson**
Angelica Y Real Ruiz***
Julia G Rodriguez
Morgan Smith**
Cayce Amiah Tatum
Grayson Wilkerson**
Victoria LaVonne Worley

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION LOGISTICS & SUPPLY CHAIN MANAGEMENT

Jean V Altidor
Lionel A Amayi
Jeremiah J Auguste**
Alison Renee Barnett***
Alexander Howell Blake*
Seth Bouldin
Jacob Boyd
James C Brackett
Emily L Brown
Jackson D Davenport
Dante J Delira-Ramirez**
Katelyn Dutton
Caleb M Erickson*
Jessica Danielle Farmer**
Hannah L Ferrante
Xael Fontanez Navedo
K'Son F Ford
Jennyfer Jamie Gudino

Kaitlin D Guess
Justin Alexander Guy***
McCamey G Hannah
Alexis Morgan Hardin*
Alyssa R Hargrove*
Jeremy L Harris***
Tiffani N Hitchcock
Christopher Johnson
Nicholas R Lane**
Evan C Lee
Anthony Long
Samantha L Longacre*
Jennifer Tibbitts Maddox*
Abby Rae Manis**
Katie Caroline Mccoy
Alexander C McDermont
Jamie Moon
Bryn R Morgan

Charles A Morgan
Alec S Morris
Sydney E Morris*
Caroline M Murray
Hayden Brent Murray***
William J Overby
William J Parker*
Varun Patel
Benjamin Michael Ritchey*
William D Roach
Abigail L Serviss*
Nathanael J Seymour*
Corey A Shaw
Ryan M Slater
Kylee N Stanton
Caleb S Talley**
Erica Weatherspoon
Mekel Lashea Weaver*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE BUILDING INFORMATION MODELING MANAGEMENT

Naima Marie Atalla
Jonathan Garcia
Robert J Gittens Jr
John Hicks*

Carson Noel Lagos**
Lucas Merritt
Addison Douglas Molden*
Patrick Rowe

Peach Shi Santiago
Armani T Skrine

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Sharlotte Baine
Kaitlin N Ball
Suada Barlov
Christopher J Baumgart
Michael E Bettikofer
Thomas J Boylan
Generrow Demonte Bradley
Rebekah C Cates**
Dylan Courson
Logan Everett Dudley Gepfert

Lisa Nicole Hallmark**
Scarlet Hayes***
Ashlee Brooke Horne
Haddy Jallow
Eric Stephen Kilgore
Stella Lai
Katlyn E McBrayer**
Jesse Thomas Medlock Jr
Morgan M Morrison*
John J Murphy***

Connor R Oguin
Elisa Yasmin Ortiz
Emely Paz*
Christian S Rodriguez
Trevor M Sands
Miguel Adrian Santiago Ortiz
Jacob S Smith**
Daniel S Soldavini*
John Tetsworth***
Logan C Yarborough

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE DENTAL HYGIENE

Carlee Jane Banks***
Bryan Boyzo***
Shannon Cofield*
Kelly LeeAnne Dickerson***
Cassie E Dunagan***
Sarah Corrine Hardy
Alisa Hana Hasanovic**
Lacinda J Kujawa***
Natasha A Lajara*

Erica Lovett Landstrom*
Angelica Michelle Looper***
Emily Primavera Lozada***
Lesli L Mccullough**
Amanda Obrien**
Kyler Billie Paris*
Jada Reynolds*
Ansley Marie Shoemaker**
Isabella Marie Simpson***

Elyssa Smith
Heidi Lynn Taylor**
Adrian Vazquez-Reynoso
Jameshia Lashaze Washington**
Hannah Williams**
Katelyn Alligood Wood***
Brooke Woodall***

***Summa Cum Laude

**Magna Cum Laude

*Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE ENVIRONMENTAL & NATURAL RESOURCES

Cheyenne Lanessa Bailey
Jorge E Castillo
William Thomas Hodges**

Dylan Lee McLaughlin
Ansleigh Irene Peshel
Disney B Smith

Lauren E Young**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HEALTH SCIENCE

Amilcar Ahilon-Mendoza*
Ashlee C Bailey**
Jared Bowers*
Ayana Brown
Katherine Brown
Talin M Campbell
Katelyn E Chandler
Maggie Collum
Rylie Grace Dasher
Camille N Deas*
Kellisha A Durand
Tara L Earle**
Courtney Jamison Fricks***
Desmarie Ebonie Gadsden
Daniella J Heming*

Danielle Hobbs**
Karriana Holsey
Ashleigh Houseright
Madison Johnson**
Keandra Jones
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Kiyra Keiger***
Morgan Brook Kessinger
Jessica Ann Long
Kayla N McKnight
Ashley Nicole Mory
Kristin Nemechek
Hannah L New
Elijah M Ngolemasango
Bailey Noonan

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Miltona J Robinson
Amber Elaine Ross
Ella R Rueffer
Dasia Thomas
Teresa D Torres-Orantes
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Lydgi Elieth Arauz Waldrep***
Victoria Webb*
Paige N White
Brandi N Woodall
Sang T Xa*
Alejandra Zavala

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Maria Angeliz Crespo
Kala Elaine Dismuke
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Eniye Georgia Eboka*
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Natalie Jane Hegwood Fletcher*
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Cailin Mckenzie Hughes
Caitlin Cheyenne Hutcheson*
Ashley N Jackle
Ashley Jackson
Autumn Lamont*
Sadie Lyn LeBeouf
Rebecca R Long*
Kenley Leann Marshall*
Raven Symone McDonald*
Jenna R Mckey
Flora M Mwirigi*
Jessica Lani Norris*
Julian Brent Novinger**
Amanda Opdycke*

Tanya Lee Patton
Jessica Pearson
Sarah Halie Pennymon
Sarai Perez-Gonzalez
Lisa Powell*
Grace Richard-Ramadan
Bailey M Rowlls
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Brian James Seaton Sr*
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Keyla A Sontay Gonzalez
Terea Stewart*
Teneeshia Taylor
Scarlett Rose Wardrop
Mackenzie Brooke Wilson
Jorge L Yanez

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Sylvia Luster
Angelic Mack***
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Temidire Daniel Makinde
Marissa Danielle Mann
Avery Martin
Angelica Martinez
Emily Naomi Martinez**
Ariana Matias***
Hannah E Maxwell
Jade Mcdowell
Abraham Joel Mercado**
Joshua B Mooney
Andre Moore
Stanley Nderitu
Corinne Neal***
Jason H Nicholson**
Karson Norris**
Elizabeth Nouhou
Cody Levi Oakley
Charlotte A O'brien
Riham Jaysam Odeh
Brenda D Olvera Cornejo
Oksana Victoria Elizabeth Perry
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Haden G Pierce
Jennifer Pizano
Nicole Podolak
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Jessica Urbanski**
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NOTICE

The list of degree candidates was finalized several weeks before commencement to meet the Registrar's Office deadline for inclusion in this program. Since that time, some candidates' statuses may have changed. Some may not have completed all degree requirements, while others may have gained or lost honors status. Inclusion in this program does not guarantee the awarding of a degree or honors designation.

For official records, a final and accurate list of graduates will be maintained by the Georgia Highlands College Registrar's Office.

PHOTOGRAPHY & VIDEOGRAPHY

- Only handheld video cameras are allowed during the ceremony and must be used from the guest seating area.
- Still photos may be taken only from behind the graduate seating area or from the bleacher seating.
- Professional photos will be taken of each graduate receiving a diploma.
- To view and purchase photos of graduates, visit creativeprophoto.com/online-store. Professional photos available for a limited time only.
- The commencement is available to view on [GHC's YouTube @GHCgeorgiahighlandscollege](https://www.youtube.com/@GHCgeorgiahighlandscollege)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

- Greenery and flowers provided Bussey's Florist.
- Bagpipe music provided by Laurie Bailey.
- Sign language interpretation provided by Rebecca Cowan-Story.
- The HOPE Scholarship program in Georgia has provided financial assistance to many Georgia Highlands College students each year since its inception in 1993. Georgia Highlands College thanks our legislative representatives for continuing this program to deserving students.

GHC FOUNDATION

Georgia Highlands College Foundation, Inc., has been committed to supporting the college since 1973 and serves as a vital link between the institution and the communities the college serves. Foundation trustees work closely with the institution to support advancement activities including development of a comprehensive campaign strategy with major gifts, annual fund, and planned giving programs. Through these efforts, donations received provide much needed scholarships and support special funding initiatives and services.

The leadership provided by the foundation trustees is essential to the success of the college and the students who attend. As a regional, multi-campus institution serving Northwest Georgia, Georgia Highlands is indebted to the community leaders who serve as foundation trustees and to the many donors who support the mission of GHC and embrace its vision.

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The Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia was created in 1931 as part of a reorganization of Georgia’s state government. With this act, public higher education in Georgia was unified for the first time under a single governing and management authority. The governor appoints members of the Board to a seven-year term, and regents may be reappointed to subsequent terms by a sitting governor. Regents donate their time and expertise to serve the state through their governance of the University System of Georgia; the position is a voluntary one without financial remuneration. Today the Board of Regents is composed of 19 members, five of whom are appointed from the state at-large, and one from each of the state’s 14 congressional districts. The Board elects a chancellor who serves as its chief executive officer and the chief administrative officer of the University System. The Board oversees the public colleges and universities that comprise the University System of Georgia and has oversight of the Georgia Archives and the Georgia Public Library System.

The Chancellor provides leadership in higher education and stewardship of state and University System resources by promoting a statewide perspective on higher education that attends to the current and developing needs of the State, its citizens and students, and relates them effectively to the University System and its institutions. The Chancellor supports the Board of Regents in furthering and achieving its vision for the University System by providing leadership in analyzing, monitoring, and anticipating higher education trends and developments, and by planning strategically for the future of the University System. The Chancellor also serves on the Georgia-based Alliance of Education Agency Heads, a collaborative partnership with the Governor’s office and Georgia’s education agency heads.

THE ALMA MATER

My heart's at the Highlands,
the school I hold dear,
Where good friends and
mentors are always so near

One college united
in perfect harmony,
My Alma Mater, dear GHC

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