



*Commencement
2021*

May 2021



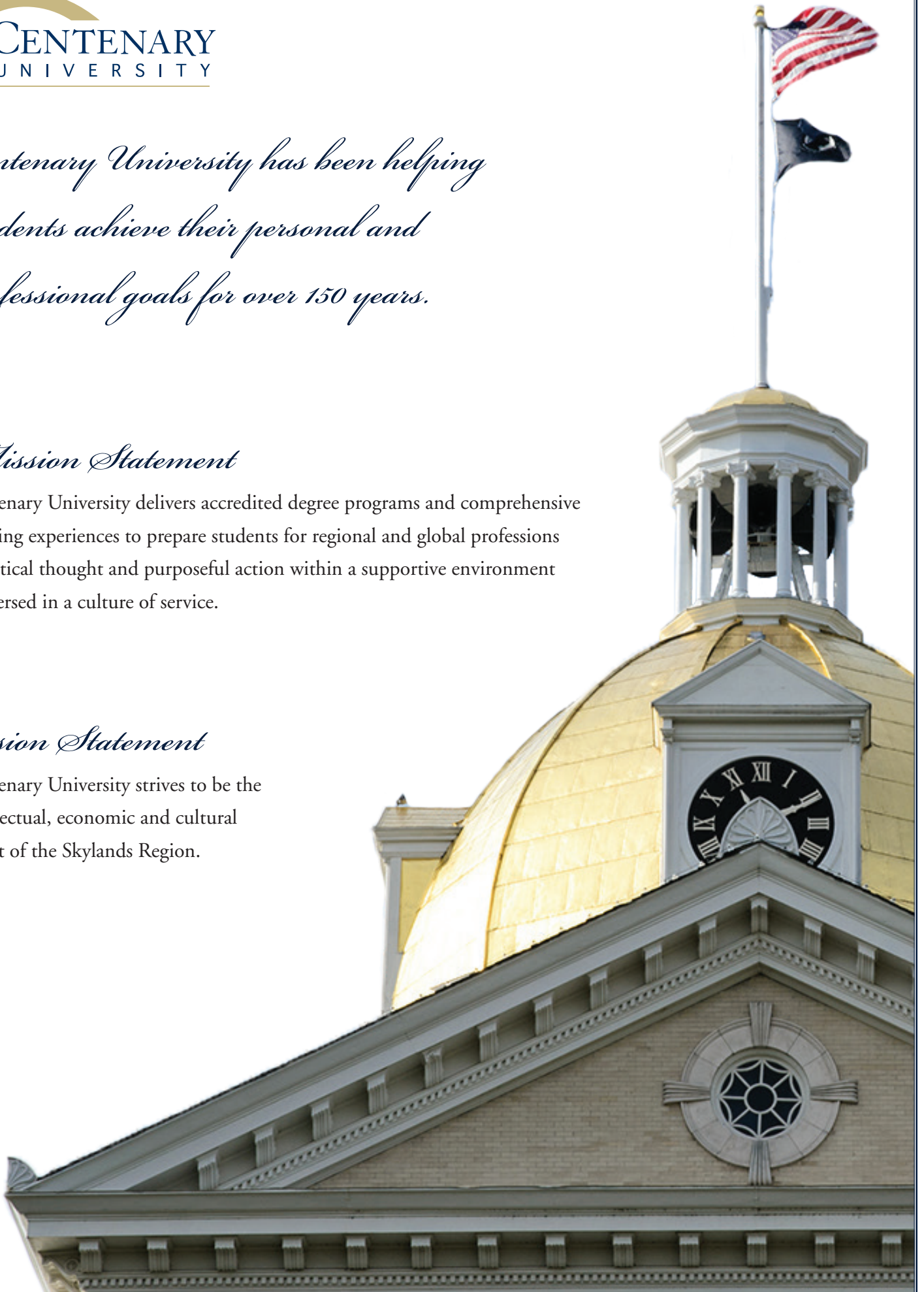
Centenary University has been helping students achieve their personal and professional goals for over 150 years.

Mission Statement

Centenary University delivers accredited degree programs and comprehensive learning experiences to prepare students for regional and global professions of critical thought and purposeful action within a supportive environment immersed in a culture of service.

Vision Statement

Centenary University strives to be the intellectual, economic and cultural Heart of the Skylands Region.



Commencement 2021

Presentation of Colors

National Anthem

Invocation

Welcome from the President

Valedictorian Address

Presentation of Honorary Degree

Commencement Address

Presentation of Honors and Awards

Conferral of Degrees

Charge to the Graduates

Alma Mater

Benediction

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

*Presentation of Colors	Hackettstown American Legion Blue Ridge Post #164
+National Anthem.	Emily Bennett '21
+Invocation	Rev. Dr. Timothy Nicinski '03 <i>Chaplain/Director of Campus Ministry</i>
Welcome from the President.	Dr. Bruce T. Murphy <i>President</i>
Valedictorian Address	Kevin Chrobak
Presentation of Honorary Degree.	President Murphy Dr. Amy D'Olivo <i>Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Honorary Degree Recipient	Dr. Aakash Shah <i>Emergency Room and Addiction Doctor at Hackensack Meridian Health; Director of Addiction Medicine and Medical Director of Project HEAL, a hospital-based violence intervention program, at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC); Medical Director of New Jersey Reentry Corporation (NJRC)</i>
Commencement Address	Dr. Aakash Shah
Presentation of Honors and Awards	
Conferral of Degrees.	President Murphy and Vice President D'Olivo
Presentation of Graduates.	Vice President D'Olivo
Presentation of Diplomas	President Murphy
Charge to the Graduates.	President Murphy
Alma Mater	Emily Bennett '21
*Benediction	Rev. Dr. Timothy Nicinski '03 <i>Chaplain/Director of Campus Ministry</i>

*The audience stands as individuals are able.

+The audience remains standing.

HONORARY DOCTOR OF SCIENCE



Dr. Aakash Shah
Emergency Room and Addiction Doctor at Hackensack Meridian Health; Director of Addiction Medicine and Medical Director of Project HEAL, a hospital-based violence intervention program, at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC); Medical Director of New Jersey Reentry Corporation (NJRC)

Aakash Shah is a practicing addiction and emergency medicine doctor at Hackensack Meridian Health (HMH) who works at the intersection of criminal justice and healthcare reform. His focus is on building programs predicated on the understanding that, for far too many caught in the maw of our criminal justice system, the ultimate manifestation of justice is treatment not punishment.

He currently serves as the Director of Addiction Medicine and the Medical Director of Project HEAL (a hospital-based violence intervention program) at Jersey Shore University Medical Center (JSUMC). He also serves as the Medical Director of New Jersey Reentry Corporation (NJRC) where he provides guidance on initiatives to better meet the healthcare needs of the justice-involved population. His work has resulted in several statewide policy and programmatic reforms (including the elimination of prior authorization requirements for medications for addiction treatment) as well as received the bipartisan endorsement of five former New Jersey Governors, several local editorial boards, and major healthcare systems.

Prior to his work with HMH and NJRC, Aakash was the Founder and Executive Director of Be Jersey Strong, which trained students to serve as community health workers. During the third open enrollment period, Be Jersey Strong recruited over 500 students – two-thirds of whom spoke a second language with over 50 languages represented – from over 20 campuses to help inform New Jerseyans of their options for coverage. The initiative represented one of the largest and most diverse efforts to connect the insured to coverage in the nation and was honored by then President Barack Obama at the White House for its impact.

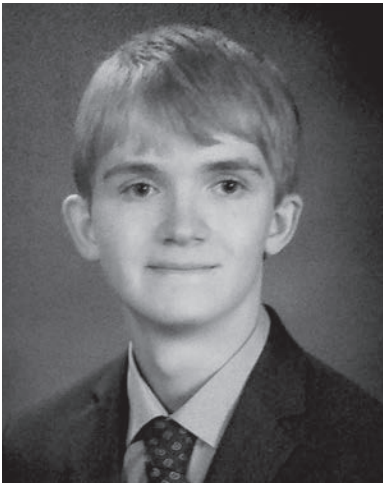
Aakash has assisted the Biden-Sanders Unity Task Force on Healthcare, staffed the health policy transition committee for Governor Phil Murphy of New Jersey, served on the health policy councils of three gubernatorial campaigns, and advised the New Jersey Senate Majority Leader and members of the United States House of Representatives. In these roles, his portfolio has included initiatives to respond to the coronavirus pandemic, combat the opioid crisis, determine the health impact of burn pit exposure during military service, expand paid family leave, secure financing for women’s health, establish Medicaid Accountable Care Organizations (ACOs), and implement the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

He has conducted original research in these areas at Rutgers University, Boston Children’s Hospital, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Massachusetts General Hospital, Harvard Medical School, and Oxford University. He is the author of several peer-reviewed publications, op-eds, and policy reports as well as the anthology “The Soul of a Patient.” He has secured over \$3.5 million dollars in federal, state, and philanthropic funding to date.

Dr. Shah obtained his MD from Harvard Medical School. He completed his MBA and MSc in Comparative Social Policy from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar. He received his BA and BS from Ursinus College. Dr. Shah currently serves on the board of trustees for Integrity House, the New Jersey Harm Reduction Coalition, and Ursinus College, and previously served on the executive board of New Leaders Council – New Jersey.



VALEDICTORIAN



Kevin Chrobak '21
Bachelor of Science

Kevin Chrobak is the valedictorian of the Centenary University Class of 2021, graduating today with a perfect 4.0 grade point average. The Dean's List student earned a Bachelor of Science in Biology with a minor in chemistry and is a member of TriBeta, the biology honor society. As an undergraduate, Kevin participated in an independent research project that involved 3-D computer modeling of a protein and was invited to present his findings at a virtual symposium sponsored by the American Chemical Society. After graduation, Kevin plans to work in a pharmaceutical laboratory before earning a master's degree.



CO-VALEDICTORIAN



Lauren Makarevich '21
Bachelor of Arts

Lauren Makarevich is the co-valedictorian of the Centenary University Class of 2021. A transfer student, she graduates today with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education/Liberal Arts, with certifications in early childhood education and New Jersey students with disabilities. Throughout her college career, Lauren has earned a perfect 4.0 grade point average. The Dean's List student served as a student-teacher this year with the Allamuchy Township school district and plans to pursue a teaching career. Lauren's future plans also include someday earning a master's degree.

GRADUATE REFLECTION



Takisha McCrae-Knight '21
Master of Business Administration

Takisha McCrae-Knight delivers the graduate reflection at the Centenary University hooding/commencement ceremony for master's and doctoral degree candidates. She earned a Master's in Business Administration, with a concentration in health administration, from Centenary, beginning her classes months before the pandemic began. As she pursued her MBA, the mother of two juggled virtual schooling for herself and her children, as well as the demands of career and family. A graduate of Syracuse University, Takisha has had a successful career in the biotech and pharmaceutical industries, currently holding a full-time position at Sanofi, a global leader in healthcare.

THE CLASS OF
2021

Order of Degree Conferral

Wednesday, May 5, 2021 • 6 p.m.

Doctor of Education in Educational Leadership

Master of Business Administration

Master of Education

Master of Arts

Saturday, May 8, 2021 • 9 a.m.

Bachelor of Science

Associate of Science

Saturday, May 8, 2021 • 1 p.m.

Bachelor of Arts

Bachelor of Fine Arts

Bachelor of Social Work

Associate of Arts

Please note: The program listing was printed prior to Commencement. Centenary University reserves the right to make any changes required. Listing in the Commencement Program is not official confirmation of completion of degree requirements. Honors to be listed on diploma depend on the student's complete Centenary University record. Honors listed in this program represent degree completion as of January 2021.

THE CLASS OF 2021

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN EDUCATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Brad Davis
Michelle Venera Gadaleta
Coleen Gallagher-Butler
Brian James
Roger A. Jinks, Jr.
Brian Kitchin
William John Kochis, III
Matthew B. Lavery
Peter Morris
Michael A. Nicosia
Briana Panetta
Denise A. Scairpon
Brittany A. Schiano
Robert A. Verry
Devon Vialva

MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Brittany Bradley
Grace Burgin
Christine M. Centrella
Emily Rose Conway
Alexis K. D'Antuono
Priscilla Adelle Drager
Kyle Ebeling
Kristen L. Fritz
Jamyra Hansford
Jaryd Hartzell
Paul Calan Jones
Jennilee Elizabeth Joost
Takisha McCrae-Knight
Fred Koenig
Mary K. Kolbusch
Roman Kovbasniuk
See Hung Rosita Lau-Hsu
Sarah Elizabeth Loughran
Carly A. Michel

Aleksandra Miloseska
Heather Rae Montrose
Elizabeth J. Mulholland
Matthew T. Nagel
Sarah Noyd
Ginna Oksienik
Latanya Pierce
Alejandra Pineda
Andrew Matthew Polcaro
Kyle J. Ravaioli
Bijal Shah
Tricia Squitieri
Jordan R. Sullivan
Stefanie L. Taggart
Faith Torkildsen
Oscar Trujillo
Nicole Van Saders

MASTER OF EDUCATION

Educational Practice

Eileen Black
Joseph Bolen
Christopher J. Bosch
Lauren Burdick
Helen Hollenbeck
Joshua A. Hontz
Kaitlyn G. Oster
Heather Raquet

Literacy Instruction with ESL

Kelly Linn Blessing

Literacy Instruction

Dina Lorraine Carmelengo
Nathali Faisca
Marisa E. Galfo
Kelly A. Gallo
Michelle Goodman
Christina Marie Harding

Courtney MacDonald
Reed McMurray
Tracy Marmorato
Rose Shine
Jeanna Walsh
Christine Wendel

Reading

Carley Marookian

MASTER OF ARTS

Clinical Counseling

Clara P. Crayne
Nicole Marie Cummins
Danielle D'Antuono
Virginia Anne Durnin
Stacie Ann Hill
Monica L. Leitner
Sarah A. Mackie
Jean M. Pecheur
Melanie M. Trillo
Katherine E. Weber

Educational Leadership

Eileen M. Bancalari
Matthew M. Bisco
Kristin L. Comerford
Meghan Lynne Dagostino
Tristen Defazio
Constance Fortunato
Jason Graf
Derek J. Hall
Elizabeth Marie Hedden
Emmalee Cogle Hedlund
Tina Anne Johnson
Ana Maria Maniago
Megan O'Mara
Jillian Mary Plushanski
Maria Radus

THE CLASS OF 2021

Charles Roberto
Carl Robinson
Sam Scocozza
Auriela Viola Selimi
Adam D. Slack
Natalie Ann Steckel
Michael Vellucci
Raymond A. Vikete, Jr.

Instructional Leadership

Carly O'Reilly

Leadership: Public Administration

Marangely De Jesus Cotto
Rich E. Dixon, III
Raphael Dante Franchi
Roger Garrison
Jason Geleski
Michael Arthur Hade
Lauren B. Morra
Tracey M. Semcer
Emily J. Swanson
Devon A. Warne

School Counseling

Eryn Clare Ammiano
Brian R. Boulineau, Jr.
Leah Charles
Amy Elizabeth Grimm
Renee Lopez
Amanda Madonna

Special Education

Casey Kucinski
Christeen L. Matuszewicz
Marlee Alexandra Province

Special Education with Certification

Rachel M. Fugger

Joseph J. Kelly
Lynn M. Manney
Samantha K. Newton
Brienne A. Stevenson
Elizabeth M. Thompson
Stephen Walker
Dustin Walters

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Accounting

Courtney B. Ammons
Kyle Kindlin Benvenuto
Suzanna Collis
Katie Lynn Encke
Kerri L. Hendershot
James R. McHugh, II
Corey O'Connor
Samuel A. Verdin

Biology

Brittany Adams
Kevin F. Chroback, *valedictorian*
Hannah Cocurullo
Michael Cordero
April M. Cucciniello
Rayna Diane Harrison
Tasha Sierra Jackson
Jefferson Jean-Paul
Allison L. Marquez
Ondra Mayfield
Kaleigh A. Miller
Julie Rose Pankowski
Bradley S. Papp
Nikolina L. Perrelli
Alexa Georgiana Perricone
Jessica Caitlin Reilly
Pier La'ren Semanchik
Sarah A. Sturges
Victoria Viersma

Christopher Woelkers
Clerson Xavier

Business Administration

Kristen R. Ali
Christian Ammiano
Courtney B. Ammons
Ashley N. Anastasio
Taylor J. Bailey
Raymond L. Baum, Jr.
Andrew Charles Beach
Kyle Kindlin Benvenuto
Jerome Beyer, Jr.
Vesna Blagojevic, *magna cum laude*.
Alexander Ryan Bott
Ricardo Castro
Bryant Cordova
Sotirios Cortes
Lori Costanzo
Colgan J. Crane
Ian Daly, Jr
Christopher T. Danberry
Denise A. Davis
Derrick Distaso
Amy Dundee
Katie Lynn Encke
Boris Fabre
Bryce Falk
Christina Florida, *cum laude*
Bridget Folts
Samantha Gabriele
Isaiah Gaines
Leandra Garcia
Brianna Geiger
Frances Gesek
Gabriella Fatima Hadzovic
Cassidy N. Haller, *cum laude*
Kaitlyn Holst
Paisley H. Hunt

THE CLASS OF 2021

Deborah A. Ivany
Suzanne Jackson, *summa cum laude*
Bailey A. Jacquier
Stephanie Jeter
Janie D. Johnson, *cum laude*
Zaib Khawaja
Jaqueline Kowalski
Christopher Labelle
Barbara Lockley
Kenneth C. Long
Maria I. Lopez, *cum laude*
Adam MacDonald
Ana Itzel Martino
Daniel E. McGuire
Mark Melendez
Manuel Miqueo
Maria Moore, *cum laude*
Kyle Mott
Cailin O'Hara
Sandra Y. Otero
Lori Otto
Jonathan H. Pezzato
Mara Carolyn Purnel
Madelyne Julissa Quijivix
Gabrielle Rose Rabuano
Ellie Roberts
Steven Ruiz
Joseph A. Saffioti
Robert Scarpone
Sara Anne Schaarschmidt
Noah Schramm
Laura Serpico
Mary Megan Shanahan
Michael Strazza
Katherine E. Thompson
Heather Tolan
Mathew Ughulu
Michael Vallario
Eric Van Houten

Dante Vartolone
Tevis Watson
Paul M. Yarosz
Michael Tyler Young
Brandon Yu

Environmental Science
Dominick J. Russo

Equine Science
Brianna Marie Delmar
Emma Selma Kerr
Abigail Laureti
Audrey Schwab
Pier La'ren Semanchik

Equine Studies
Hana Lynn Aksterowicz
Jamie D. Besaw
Amelia Biebel
Kyleigh Bracken
Kimberly Cooper, *magna cum laude*
Taylor Crews
Sydney Marie D'Ortone
Tazmyn Jessica Geere
Samantha Lynne Hanson
Bailey A. Jacquier
Natalie E. Krawec
Cameron Margaret Mohr
Mara Picciochi, *summa cum laude*
Kate E. Pizzini
Tanner Donovan Poplawski
Mara Carolyn Purnel
Zara Pyzowski
Meghan Quinlan
Sean Rafferty
Anna V. Robinson
Abigail L. Stanton
Liana R. Sunderlin

Kayla Thau
Mindla Padilha Viana
Lena Wanio
Lisamarie Weiss
Brittany Marie Wellington

Forensic Science

Kelly Badillo
Janell S. Chuddley

Medical Laboratory Science

Evonne Scott

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

Equine Studies

Kaitlyn Lowery

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Communication

Alexis Courtney Alston
Justin T. Bundy
Kathleen Mary Eichvalds
Gabriel Luke Falcon
Helen L. Giannandrea, *magna cum laude*
Lechelle J. McNair
Cailin O'Hara
Clara C. Punla
Grace Tyler
Shuxian Zhang

Criminal Justice

Amanda Baker
Devon Elizabeth Joan Blatt
Brandon Kyle Bundy
Robert Depasquale
Jose Duarte
Tessa J. Ferentinos
Travis D. Finan
Meghan Hughes

THE CLASS OF 2021

Adrian Jones-Michaelson

Daniel Fredric Marsillo

Kaliyah Mitchell

Madelyn E. Mitchell

Karleigh Rose Noll, *summa cum laude*

Brian Stanton

Morgan J. Vance, *cum laude*

Justin Dionisio Velez

Daniel Richard Watson

Education

Julia Nicole Anthony

Krista Marie Aversa

Ashley A. Ayers, *magna cum laude*

Taylor N. Barbagallo, *cum laude*

Lily Marie Battell

Kimberly J. Ervey

Sean Graham

Jessica Hewitt

Lauren Makarevich, *co-valedictorian*

Shannon Doyle May

Jeremy Nurnberger

Katie O'Shea

Kaitlyn Scripko

Michael Miles Thompson

English

Adrianna M. Alongi

Courtney L. Butrymowicz, *cum laude*

Meadhbh Eibhlin Carroll

Andrea A. Doychak

Victoria Grace Manzi

Brendan McDonnell

Caroline Mae Rabuano

Rebecca Anne Weisman

History

Alec Donovan

Kyle Hrebenak

Jordan Kracht, *summa cum laude*

Brandon Soden

Allison Brigitte Strout

Matthew J. Vankirk

Individualized Studies

Gavin Ciccia

Armen A. Ewing

Vincent P. Garatino

Analise D. Gianoulis

McKenna W. Heymann

Liahnna S. Lockett

Miranda Matos

Chris Miller

Erica Leigh Savioli

Jenny Slass

Samantha T. Steinman, *summa cum laude*

Nicholas Benjamin Sweeney

James Patrick Wilder

Deanna Lynne Zuber

Liberal Arts:

Elementary Education

Laura Fu Mao Allen, *summa cum laude*

James Edward Battell IV

Kaylee Noel Bennett

Liza Cruz

Devon Emerick, *summa cum laude*

Samantha M. Hess

Bethaney V. Mantineo, *summa cum laude*

Brian Schiffman, *magna cum laude*

Political and Governmental Affairs

Amanda Baker

Anna Osadtsia

Psychology

Nancy M. Cannon

Shauna Nicole Casciano

Amanda L. Cohen

Keanna Cruz

Courtney Ann Deloughery, *cum laude*

Jamie Figarelli

Mary Jacqueline Gallagher

Assatta Glaspie

David S. Hanna

Rylie Morgan Howey

Benjamin Thomas LaChac

Katherine Judith Lyman

Dora N. Negrete

Jordan T. Noll, *summa cum laude*

Morgan Pierson

Jennifer Schwind

Marissa Sinacore

Autumn J. Stansky

Cheyenne Unangst

Sociology

Denisha L. Griffin

Lawrence Joseph

Joshua Xavier Laboy

Michael Meistrell

Emmanuel Osei

Sergio Panunzio

David Michael Patterson

Jouliissa Richard

Faith Lucy Rodriguez

Theatre Arts

Emily Elizabeth Bennett

Malachi Bobien

Kelly Leigh Fitzgerald

Helen L. Giannandrea, *magna cum laude*

Gabriel Phillip Landes

Maxinne Jane Spann

Lindsay J. Vanas

Benjamin J. Weaver

THE CLASS OF 2021

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Fashion

Immani Bermingham
Nakiya Michelle Black
Elizabeth Brouse
Helen L. Giannandrea, *magna cum laude*
Brooke Elizabeth Hartgers
Gina Marie Infante
Ivryohna A. King
Najirah Marshall
Anastasia Miranda
Valentina Rizzi
Alexa Taylor Scicchitano
Jasmine Monea Tuttle

Visual Arts

Angelica Elizabeth Aponte
Richard Charles Bruton
Carson J. Fazekas
Daniel Joseph Mattie

BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK

Dylan Charles Bishop
Adrienne Lynn Buchanan
Stephen Michael Eastwood
Sarah Goncalves
Amanda Nicole Hando
Nicole Jones
Nicholas Anthony Marcantuono
Christina May

Jamie Rae Spagnuolo
Carlie Suckiel
Maria Perrone von Suppiny
Allison Lynn Wiggins

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

Liberal Arts

Paige Christine Bischoff
Anthony Vincent Cecere
Emily P. Goodyear
Skyle Verry



THE ORIGIN OF THE ACADEMIC COSTUME

Wearing the academic gown is one of the oldest traditions still practiced. The origins of academic dress date back to the origins of universities themselves in the 12th and 13th centuries. At this time, the ordinary dress of the scholar, whether student or teacher, was the dress of a cleric. In 1222, Stephen Langton, one of England's greatest medieval archbishops, decreed that all clergy within his jurisdiction should wear *cappa clausa*, a closed, flowing gown then in lay fashion. Because Cambridge and Oxford were within Langton's province, the clerks at both universities complied with the decree. Over the years, English clergy turned to other styles of dress, but the clerks, compelled by stringent standards, held to the *cappa clausa*, and it eventually became exclusively academic.

The most colorful and distinctive element to academic garb is the hood. Another medieval relic, it descends from cowls worn by monks to ward off cold drafts in English monasteries and universities. The cowl, worn over a short cape or scarf (tippet) had a "tail" or *liripipe*. One pulled the hood over the head and then wrapped the tail around the neck to secure the hood. At some point, the tippet and hood merged into a single unit, while the *liripipe* evolved into a funnel-shaped ending of the hood.

Honor Medallions

Centenary University is continuing the tradition of recognizing our students who have earned high academic honors of *summa cum laude*, *magna cum laude* and *cum laude*. These students will be wearing large bronze medals on ribbons of blue and gold. Centenary congratulates these students for the dedication and hard work they have exhibited throughout their college career to achieve and maintain this consistent level of academic excellence.



THE MACE

The mace in medieval times was a weapon, a heavy staff or club made wholly or partially from metal, and was used to break armor. From the 13th century, the king's bodyguards carried the mace as a symbol of secular authority. At colleges and universities around the country, the mace is carried by the marshal as a symbol of the power and authority of education.

Centenary University's mace was designed by the late Theodore Sizer, Professor of the History of Art and Pursuivant of Arms at Yale University. It was executed under his direction by Otto Hoepfner, an outstanding wood-carver. The shaft, collar and head of the mace are made of mahogany. The color includes a wreath painted in the University colors of black and blue against a background of gold leaf. The head of the mace represents the tower of the Edward W. Seay Administration Building. The dome on the mace is finished in gold leaf.



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Alma Mater

*'Mid the silent hills surrounded,
Ripened by the flight of time,
And with honors still unbounded,
In her strong and lusty prime,
Alma Mater proudly raises
Halls and tower tall and strong,
And her children sing her praises,
Sing them loud and sing them long.*

