



# DOCTORAL & MASTER'S CEREMONY

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Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Celebrating my first commencement as Stockton's president fills me with pride and gratitude. I'm grateful to be leading the very institution where my mother earned her degree as an adult student. Though I've only been able to spend this past year with you, you have all made an impact on me.

In just this year, you've proven to be resilient, entrepreneurial, trailblazing, inclusive and outspoken. Your commitment to community engagement and social justice, and your willingness to speak your mind and stand up for what's right have impressed me. I know these qualities will carry you far as you prepare for what's next.

You've triumphed over obstacles, persevered through 'unprecedented' times and kept pushing to meet your goals. Along the way, you've made new friends, connected with faculty and staff and forged relationships that will serve you for years to come.

As you walk away with your diploma, remember what you've learned here at Stockton. Not just the formulas, research and clinical skills, but how to problem solve, communicate effectively and listen to your conscience. Continue to build the relationships that strengthen our community of opportunity.

While your degree may be complete, your time at Stockton is just beginning. As the newest members of our alumni community, you have the opportunity to give back, mentor current students, and share your Stockton experiences. Visit often and let us know what you're up to – you never know how your story may inspire or help another Osprey.

I can't wait to see where you soar next, and I know you'll continue to make us all proud.

Go Ospreys!

**Joe Bertolino**  
President

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Musical Selections

Pianist

Dr. Beverly J. Vaughn, Professor of Music

Christopher DiSanto, Associate Professor of Music

Guests and Graduates are requested to stand during the processional, if able.  
They will remain standing until completion of the National Anthem.



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## COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY PROGRAM

Dr. Marissa Levy, '00, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

Dr. Joe Bertolino, President

Academic Deans

Dr. Marissa Levy, '00, Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs

**Ospreys on Parade**  
Meghan Baldwin, vocalist

**Trumpet Voluntary in D**  
Jeremy Clark

Guests are requested to stand during the recessional.

Following the Commencement Ceremony, graduates and guests are invited to celebrate with faculty in the Campus Center Event Room.



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## COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY PARTICIPANTS

Dr. Lois Spitzer, Associate Professor Emerita of Teacher Education

Dr. Tracy Stuart, '22

Dr. Erin Sappio, Assistant Professor of Counseling

Dana Grasso, Teaching Specialist Education

Dr. Robert Marsico, Assistant Professor of Physical Therapy

Dr. Kimoni Yaw Ajani, Assistant Professor of Africana Studies

Dr. Keith Diener, Associate Professor of Business Studies, Public Law

Dr. Amy Ackerman, Associate Professor of Instructional Technology

Dr. John O'Hara, Professor of Critical Thinking & First Year Studies

Dr. Kimberly Furphy, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy

Dr. Shah Khan, Assistant Professor of Coastal Zone Management

Dr. Loretta Mooney, Assistant Professor of Social Work, MSW

Dr. Lois Spitzer, Associate Professor Emerita of Teacher Education

Dr. Ian Marshall, Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities

Dr. Warren Kleinsmith, Dean of the School of Business

Dr. Kimberly Dickerson, Interim Dean of the School of Education

Dr. Robert Gregg, Dean of the William T. Daly School of General Studies

Dr. Brent Arnold, Dean of the School of Health Sciences

Dr. Amanda Norvell, Dean of the School of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Dr. Marissa Levy, '00, Dean of the School of Social and Behavioral Sciences

Faculty representatives from each graduate program

Dr. Amy Hadley, Associate Professor Emerita of Communication Disorders

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Casey Berchtold is graduating today with a Master of Arts in Criminal Justice. During her graduate college career, she was President of the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice Club and Graduate Student Council. In addition, she worked as a graduate assistant examining the aftermath of officer-involved shootings; interned with the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security and Preparedness; served as a Graduate Assistant with the Office of Graduate Admissions; and as a Graduate Coordinator with the Office of Student Development.

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Peter Baratta  
Mary Bell  
Stephen Davis  
Constance Days-Chapman  
Kristin Dura  
Jovin Fernandez

Darvis Holley  
Richard Jankowski Jr.  
Sherri Richardson  
Matthew Romen  
Destiny Talley  
Sarah Tayi



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Chelsea Dubois  
Taylor Ketcham

Heather McCarty  
Alexa Novo  
Rosemary Reidy  
Jennifer Rios

Daniel Tidcombe  
Heather Watkins

Benjamin Bibeault  
Brandon Biegan  
Laura Brackeen  
Piradara Chitrbhandh  
Kieran Connolly  
Jarrod Conti  
Savian Cruz  
Emily Deibert  
Peter DeStefano  
Linh Do  
Tamara Farrow  
Daniel Fechter  
Gabriella Figueroa  
Megan Flanagan  
Benjamin Goddard  
Maxwell Goldman  
Alexander Grogan  
Michael Kemp  
Alexis Kozlak  
Nicole Lampariello  
Cole Laughlin

Nicholas Loggi  
Taylor McDonald  
Kaitlin McGrotty  
Kelly Mollahan  
Katia Morales Zavaleta  
Andrew Mulhearn  
Jacob Nevarez  
Daniel O'Donnell  
Rebecca O'Kane  
Nicholas Paco  
Anh Phan  
Caleb Poag  
Symphony Pomaes  
Alexa Raparelli  
Brian Rinaldi  
Ali Rivkind  
Ruby Rodrigues  
Hailey Sadowski  
Anna Serra  
Tyler Sevean  
Victoria Shapiro  
Kevin Simpson  
Clarens Sterlin

Mohammad Tabish  
Lindley Thacker  
Sydney Theriault  
Derek Timpanaro  
Paulina Tyszka  
Brenden Wishard  
Philip Young

Alyssa Caputo  
Jessica Higbee  
Nicholas Kafkalas Jr.  
Jason Pagano  
Savannah Thompson

Kimberly Albrecht  
Christopher Ale  
Amy Amezquita  
Madalyn Anagnou  
Shannon Asta  
Marlem Basurco-Montes  
Christina Bernhardt  
Taylor Brady  
Jessica Byrnes  
Ashley Clegg

Victoria Collins  
Morgan Cydis  
Heather Davidson  
Eleana Dey  
Taylor DiVirgilio  
Brianna Ferguson  
Daisey Ferraiuolo  
Keesha Fuqua  
Christopher Godfrey  
Theresa Guido  
Alay'ziah Haraksin  
Macie Hawthorne

Ashley Huesken  
Christina Improta  
Erin Jamison  
Cassia Jones  
Robert Kertz  
Minsun Kim  
Courtney King  
Audrey Koering  
Kristen Lumachi  
Melissa Luna  
Deidre Lyons  
Gianna Miranda

Devon Murtagh  
Monica Musto  
Theresa Nolan  
Michelle Orlowski  
JiannaMarie Padilla  
Tracy Panza  
Brianna Paulowsky  
Anna Pells  
Dylan Perry  
Erin Ringer  
Madelyn Rodriguez  
Ashleigh Ruscitto

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Diana Sabella  
Emma Seals  
Christine Sundstrom  
Luc Swedlund  
Jennifer Valleau  
Heewon Yoon

Nicholas Brennan  
Erin Cotoni  
Tiffany Gipson  
Diandra Laielli  
Alissa Petrella  
Elizabeth Rivera  
David Ward

Isabel Blanco  
Brianna Doherty

Lizbeth Arce  
Sarah DeNigris  
Victoria DiCicco  
Anna Maria DiPhillipo  
Nature Elmore  
Ryenne Fetzer  
Joshua Garner  
Graycee Garron  
Savannah Giese  
Megan Glenn  
Rachel Hannagan  
Lauren Hoarle  
Taylor Hobbs  
Margaret Hyde  
Sabrina Irvolino  
Kristina Jogno  
Elisabeth Martin  
Julia Nerz  
Angela Nyhuis  
Miranda Paine  
Jacqueline Policari

Victoria Santos  
Nicole Scacco  
Robert Schafer  
Victoria Sheeran  
Erin Shober  
Hannah Wescoat

Amanda Dupras  
Katharine Flournoy  
Krystal Goula  
Tammy Heinrich  
Vincent Loglisci  
Marissa Ognibene  
Miguel Perez-Gonzalez  
Kristen Wadams

Megan Amerman  
Julia Barr  
Nicole Barsocchi  
Ashley Berenato

Megan Brutko  
Jessica Cacosso  
Kedia-Kaye Davis  
Alexis Fagotti  
Anna Filoramo  
Laurn Flynn  
Madison Gerencser  
Lara Goodwin  
Alissa Levance  
Megan Lord  
Cailey McGloin  
Kathleen McLaney  
Addison Meeker  
Justin Jude Monisit  
Trevor Noon  
Brianna Pagnani  
Joanna Pitera  
Gabrielle Pressley  
Summer Roche  
Jane Ryzhik  
Jessica Sievers  
Skyler Simon  
Danyelle Waller  
Alexander Weiler

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Emil Bobev  
Udoy Chowdhury  
Ariana Cuba  
Lauren Fonseca  
Krishna Ghanghar  
Colin Glory  
Jennifer Hubert  
Hamza Khan

Jenna Kobular  
Alyssia Marshall  
Jamie Nevin  
Ryan Nguyen  
Stefan Panic  
Poorva Patel  
Louise Ramos Almonte  
Shianne Stradford  
Dominic Verrichia  
Kahlyll Wilson  
Hssaine Zahiri

Rory Hogan

Diana Choucair  
Kelly Glenn  
Sara Lapsley

Nicole Miller  
Charles Renner  
Brooke Sapanaro  
James Wernega

Carla Buglione  
Zabrina Clement  
Kayla Cruzado  
Travis Diller  
Devon Dorso  
Demi Emmons  
Keria Euba-Ruiz  
Van Nhi Ho  
Konstantine Karatzas  
Lauren Last  
Ariana Maggio  
Veronica Morano  
Bryon Russell  
Matherin Toth-Nahm  
Gianna Williams  
Hanna Wilson

Justin Spusta  
Valerie Troisi

Shannon Adams  
Traiana Battle  
Ethan Bauer  
Kate Benedetti  
Sophia Beyer  
Kara Brown  
Christine Conaghy  
Ashli Crandall  
Rose Crawley  
Tara Curtin-Clarke  
Kieyanah Dokyi  
Melissa Dreby  
Grazel Dusauzay  
Lisbeth Espinal  
Riley Finnegan  
Alyssa Frencer  
Brianna Gorneau  
Gladys Green  
Tyisha Gunter-Jones  
Mohammed Jaradat  
Deonna Joyner  
Jared Lombardi  
Harlie Lutz  
Rashod Martin  
Natalie Mora  
Jennifer Nguyen  
Katelynn Nieves  
Sheila Osoria  
Maria Palma-Lopez

Chloe Parent  
Sof a Puerto  
Nichole Rosado  
James Ruppert Jr.  
Isabelle Sanger-Johnson  
Miranda Silva  
Qulique Simms  
Gina Smaniotto  
Stephanie Ward  
Evan Zurawski

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Graduate programs may convey recognition of remarkable performance in the program based on criteria printed in the respective Program Handbooks. Program Distinction for graduate students will be noted on the student's transcript.

Lizbeth Arce  
Casey Berchtold  
Benjamin Bibeault  
Peter DeStefano  
Victoria DiCicco  
Anna Maria DiPhillipo  
Amanda Dupras  
Katharine Flournoy  
Megan Glenn  
Maxwell Goldman  
Krystal Goula  
Morgan Hand  
Tammy Heinrich  
Kelly Herman  
Cassidy Hogan  
Margaret Hyde  
Mohammed Jaradat  
Kristina Jogno  
Jared Lombardi  
Elizabeth Martin  
Kathleen McLaney  
Maryellen Miraglilo  
Julia Nerz  
Maria Pagan-Felice  
Brianna Pagnani  
Caleb Poag  
Sophia Rullo  
Victoria Santos  
Victoria Sheeran  
Corinne Shustyk  
Jamie Sosa  
Valerie Troisi  
Paulina Tyszka

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Stockton University was founded in 1969 as Richard Stockton State College, a public four-year college within the New Jersey system of higher education. A residential institution with students drawn from across the state, Stockton is located at the edge of the New Jersey Pinelands, 12 miles northwest of Atlantic City and 50 miles southeast of Philadelphia. The largest campus in New Jersey, Stockton's award-winning buildings are set within 1,600+ acres of forest, streams, and lakes.

The University first offered instruction in 1971 and currently offers distinctive baccalaureate programs in liberal arts, professional studies, and general education as well as master's and doctoral degree programs designed to stimulate and challenge students intellectually. Stockton is strongly committed to preparing graduates for careers and advanced education, a commitment that encompasses helping students acquire interest in lifelong learning and in contributing to society.

Stockton's faculty members have gained a national reputation for their teaching, accessibility, and scholarship. In addition, faculty members actively mentor students, involving them in original research, hands-on learning, and community engagement. Through academic and co-curricular programming, faculty members guide undergraduate and graduate students to develop their independent and critical thinking skills both inside and outside the classroom.

The Stockton University Foundation, a non-profit organization founded to support innovative University programs, provides the means for individuals, organizations, and corporations to make gifts, grants, and bequests to the University. This private support enables the University to finance programs not typically funded through State appropriations.

Gifts donated to the Foundation support student scholarships, faculty and student research fellowships, improvements to equipment and facilities, and enrichment of student services and cultural programs. These offerings enhance the University's excellent record recruiting dedicated faculty, retaining students, and engaging friends.

The Chair of the Foundation's Board of Directors is Dr. Brigid Callahan Harrison '88. For further information on the Stockton University Foundation, contact Daniel Nugent, Vice President for University Advancement and Executive Director of the University Foundation, at [Daniel.Nugent@stockton.edu](mailto:Daniel.Nugent@stockton.edu).

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Academic garb dates back to medieval times, when heavy gowns, hoods, and caps were worn by students to protect them against the cold, dank, and drafty corridors of their universities. In the Middle Ages, Europeans wore clothing of distinctive colors to indicate their status or profession. It was only natural, therefore, that when monks and students began to don distinctive costume for bachelor's (apprentices), master's (teachers), and doctor's (teachers who completed postgraduate study) degrees, the most conspicuous distinctions appeared on the hood.

The academic gowns of the past have been replaced by gowns made of lighter fabric, as students no longer wear them to keep warm and since most commencement ceremonies today take place in the late spring and early summer. Typically, commencement gowns are black, although some institutions have adopted gowns in school colors.

The bachelor's gown, comparatively simple in design, usually has no adornment other than its characteristic long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown has oblong sleeves, which are open at the wrist. The doctor's gown differs from the bachelor's and master's gowns because it sports velvet panels down the front and around the neck and three velvet bands across round, open sleeves.

The bachelor's and master's caps are traditional mortarboard while some doctor's degree caps are a soft, large beret. The tassel, which is usually black for bachelor's and master's degrees, occasionally comes in a color representing the

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The origins of the ceremonial mace can be traced to the Middle Ages when knights wielded maces as weapons. As knighthood became obsolete, the mace became symbolic of power. It is now a traditional symbol of authority in churches, government, and universities.

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The original official logo of Richard Stockton State College as approved by the first Board of Trustees. The ribbon highlights the year in which the College was established.



Adopted from the Richard Stockton family crest, this symbol represents courage and strength.



This symbol indicates the enlightenment acquired through lifelong learning



This image refers to Stockton's location in the New Jersey Pinelands.



Stockton's official mascot, native to the southern New Jersey region and saved from extinction through the efforts of Stockton faculty members, now names Stockton's renowned athletic teams.



In keeping with the motto "An Environment for Excellence," blue represents the sky. Gold (ink or foil) complements the blue, adds an element of elegance, and emphasizes the value of educational enlightenment.

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Nelida Valentin, '86, Chair

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