



*One Hundred Fifty Sixth*

# **COMMENCEMENT**

The Seventeenth Day of May  
Two Thousand and Twenty Five  
at Half Past Ten O'Clock in the Morning

Blackburn College Campus

***WHERE LEADERS RISE***

# BLACKBURN COLLEGE

## TRUSTEES OF BLACKBURN COLLEGE

Dan Anderson '74	Fran Goodman '93	George E. Malo '66	Paul Tepikian '77
Lisa Black-Gomez '81	Jennifer Hamilton '70	George Preckwinkle	Madonna Reed Tideman '78
Salina Brown '03	Thomas Heinz '70	Sarah Robison '84	
Kenneth R. Deihl '78	Raymond R. Kennelly '82	James D. Sandfort	
David Dorris '69	Michael Kokal	Jennifer Shelby	
James Faust '64	Cynthia LaMar '73	Don Taylor	

## EMERITI TRUSTEES OF BLACKBURN COLLEGE

Charles J. Beetz '62	William Jewell '57	Bryan Meyers	Richard Wier '61
Lois Byerly '51	Lonnie Lee	David Olsen '77	Steven V. Wilkinson
Lois DeFleur '58	Cress Maddox	Stanley M. Pillman	Edward Young '62
Paul DeLano '92	Robert Marovich	John F. Schmidt	

## PRESIDENT

Larry K. Lee, B.A., M.S.

## MARSHALS

James Bray, B.A., Ph.D., College Marshal  
Alexia Mosby '25, B.A., Student Marshal

## SPEAKERS/PRESENTERS/CONDUCTOR

Jared Jones '16, B.A., M.S., Keynote Speaker  
Laura Wiedlocher, Ph.D., Provost  
Noah Daum '18, B.A., Alumni Board President  
Leslie Johnson, B.A., M.A., Dean of Work  
Marcella Cloud '16, B.A., Chaplain, Spiritual Life  
Joseph Welch, B.A., Ph.D., Professor of Music

\* Special Thank you to AMB Interpreting Services

## BEGINNINGS

Blackburn College was founded in 1837 by the Reverend Gideon Blackburn, D.D. (1772-1838), a Presbyterian minister. Chartered in 1857 as Blackburn Theological Seminary, the institution was incorporated in 1869 as The Blackburn University. Blackburn College enjoys covenant relationships with the Presbytery of Great Rivers, the Synod of Lincoln Trails of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), and the Carlinville Federated Church. The first commencement was held in June 1870 for a class of one woman and six men.

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## ORDER OF PROCESSION

The Mace  
The Colors  
The Banner  
The Student Marshal  
The Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts  
The Choir  
The Faculty  
Administrative Officers and Dignitaries  
The Trustees  
The President

## THE STANDARDS

The chief device of the Banner is the College Seal, hand embroidered. The seven squares that pierce the strap band of the fanon recall the Liberal Arts of university education in the Middle Ages—The Trivium: Grammar, Rhetoric, and Dialectic, and the more advanced Quadrivium: Arithmetic, Geometry, Astronomy, and Music—broad studies that are the piers for much of what is taught in universities and colleges today. The three bands that complete the Banner stand for the fundamental virtues: Faith, Hope, and Charity.

## THE MACE

In keeping with the general custom, the authority of the President of Blackburn College, the service of former Presidents, Acting Presidents, and Principals, and the allegiance of the College to the cause of liberty in scholarship and learning are represented by a Mace. Here the Emblem is a shaft of black walnut wood fitted with bronze cast in the College Foundry. The head of the Mace carries engraved on its facets the Seal, and the names and the tenures of those who have governed the College since 1859, the first year of instruction. The foot bears the names and familiar badge of the College, The Beaver, *Castor canadensis*. The Mace is borne by the College Marshal at the head of College processions.

## ABOUT OUR SPECIAL GUEST



Jared Jones, a 2016 Blackburn College graduate, serves as the Director of Team Travel & Logistics for the Cleveland Guardians of Major League Baseball (MLB). In this role, he oversees all aspects of team travel, logistics, and operations, ensuring seamless coordination for players and staff throughout the season.

Jones' career in professional and collegiate sports began as a student worker in Blackburn's Athletics department, where he gained hands-on experience in game-day operations and even served as the de facto athletic director for several months. After graduating, he built a diverse resume, including event and game-day operations roles with the Tennessee Titans and Vanderbilt University. With the Titans, he was key in planning large-scale events at Nissan Stadium, from NFL games and major concerts to international soccer matches.

In 2019, Jones was named Facility Manager for the Guardians' spring training complex in Goodyear, Arizona, where he oversaw the team's year-round player development operations. He later transitioned into his current role in 2022, managing the Guardians' extensive travel schedules and logistical needs.

Jones earned a Master of Sport Administration from Belmont University in 2018. A native of Mitchell, Indiana, he now resides in North Ridgeville, Ohio, with his wife, Haley (Haynes) '16, and their two daughters, Leighton and Jane.

# BLACKBURN COLLEGE

## *The 156th Commencement of Blackburn College* **ORDER OF COMMENCEMENT**

Mr. Larry K. Lee  
President of the College  
Presiding

Dr. James Bray  
College Marshal

### **\*PROCESSIONAL MARCH**

*Pomp and Circumstance*  
The Metropolitan Brass Quintet

arr. Sir Edward Elgar

### **\*NATIONAL ANTHEM**

*Star Spangled Banner*  
Blackburn College Choir  
(audience participation)

Francis Scott Key

### **INVOCATION**

Ms. Marcella Cloud '16

### **\*HYMN**

*The Blackburn College Hymn*  
(words on back page)

Lowe-Forbes

### **WELCOME**

Mr. Larry K. Lee

### **STUDENT MARSHAL ADDRESS**

Ms. Alexia Mosby '25

### **THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS**

Mr. Jared Jones '16

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

## PRESENTATIONS

## PRESENTER

### ACADEMIC AWARDS

Dr. Laura Wiedlocher

Academic Departmental Awards

Senators Vince and Deanna Demuzio Education and Leadership Awards

Hudson Prize for Scholarly or Creative Accomplishment

Hudson Prize for Contributions to College Community

### ALUMNI ASSOCIATION AWARDS

Mr. Noah Daum '18  
Alumni Board President

Outstanding Graduate Award

### SENIOR STUDENT LEADERSHIP RECOGNITION

Ms. Leslie Johnson

### COLLEGE CHOIR

"Ready to Soar"  
Blackburn College Choir

Mr. Tim Osiek

### PRAYER FOR THE GRADUATES

Ms. Marcella Cloud '16

### CONFERRING OF BACHELOR OF ARTS DEGREES

Mr. Larry K. Lee  
Dr. Laura Wiedlocher

### MOVING OF TASSELS AND CHARGE TO THE CLASS OF 2025

Mr. Larry K. Lee

### \*RETIRING PROCESSION

The Metropolitan Brass Quintet

\* Members of the audience standing

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

**Robert L. Arredondo, Jr. \***

*Justice Administration*

**Justin Atkinson**

*Physical Education with K-12 Certification*

**Blake Barley**

*Justice Administration*

**Brody Robert Barr**

*Biology - Environmental Track*

**Peyton Blackburn**

*Justice Administration*

**Alana Gabrielle Boggs**

*Art*

**Sydney Marie Bray**

*Graphic Design*

**Alyssa J. Brown**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Lexy Nicole Cameron**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Jessie Ann Cirrincione \***

*Biology - General Track*

**Alex Coffman**

*Accounting*

**Molly L. Davie**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Ryan Jeffery DeWitte \***

*Business Administration*

**Alexis Leeann Drury ^**

*Graphic Design*

**Emily Ann Eitzenhefer**

*Special Education*

**Erika Fortner**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Hannah Garde**

*Business Management*

**Haylee R. Geninatti \***

*Organizational Leadership*

**Abrial Jade Grigsby**

*Physical Education with K-12 Certification*

**Jaylon Handley**

*Computer Science-Game Design Track/*

*Creative Writing*

**Jasmine Heise**

*Graphic Design*

**Aubrie Suzanne Hobson**

*Elementary Education*

**Cody Housman**

*Computer Science-General Track*

**Rachel Christine Huddleston**

*Elementary Education*

**Emilie Grace King \* ^**

*Business Management*

**Zachary Knox**

*Graphic Design*

**Miley Eleace Kwiatkowski ^**

*Sport Management/Physical  
Education with K-12 Certification*

**Logan Brant Lawson**

*Secondary Social Science Education:  
History*

**Miranda L. Lieber**

*Educational Studies-Education  
Paraprofessional Track*

**Andrew Ali Lozano**

*Sport Management*

**Grace Elizabeth Mackey \* ^**

*Elementary Education*

**Amber M. Mezo**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Yolanda Moreno**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Alexia Marie Mosby \***

*Biology - General Track*

**Jessica Nicole Muckensturm ^**

*Biology - Environmental Track*

**Olivia Oswald**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Erika Christine Pfitzner**

*Accounting*

**Keeleigh Pilcher**

*Biology - Environmental Track*

**Alivia Ann Reed**

*Sport Management*

**Preston Levi Reynolds**

*Computer Science-General Track*

**McKenzie Faith Smith \***

*Psychology*

**Sheena Danielle Steinacher**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Megan Danielle Van Deusen**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Diana K. Varble**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Dalton White**

*Biology - General Track*

**Krista Whited**

*Business with Accounting Emphasis*

**Brooke Willeford**

*Early Childhood Education*

**Bryce James Wrightsman ^**

*Marketing*

*Inclusion of name in this program does not constitute evidence of graduation.  
Degree conferral and honors are verified by an official transcript.*

**CLASS OF 2025**

## **CERTIFICATE OF ACCOMPLISHMENT**

Daniel Ronald Olsen  
*Communications*

## **TEACHER LICENSURE PROGRAM**

Julie Aguilar  
Nazma Akter  
Donna Anderson  
Lindsay Arnold  
Gina Babinec  
Melissa Baker  
Antalisha Barker  
Katie Billings  
Jasmine Brooks  
Vince Brown  
Monique Burey  
Marquez Canery  
Ericka Carroll  
Cindy Cary  
Kayla Cecil  
Stephen Chorba  
Bryan Chrisos  
John Clark  
Nichole Clowers  
Joshua Cowans  
Angela Cross-Pittman  
Amanda Cunningham  
Kenyatta DuBose  
Logan Emendorfer  
Bethel Ezezew  
Carlye Fatum  
Latoya Fields  
Frank Florez  
Tayler Francis  
Tim Gallion  
Maria Garcia-Avalos  
Brittany Gill

Carly Goebel  
Tiffany Hall  
Sonya Hansel  
Amory Hitt  
Amy Horner  
Taylor Hughes  
Mallory Kimpler  
Seoung Koh  
Emily Maisenbacher  
Nystasia Manuel  
Laura Marley  
Alexandra Martin  
Monica Maxwell  
Shatara McDonald  
Tsureyah McKee  
Zak Merchant  
Taryn Millender  
Stan Edwin Samuel Morrow II  
Cory Nance  
Shazea Nathan-Robertson  
Jose Nava  
Kevin Nixon  
Dudley Owens  
Jennifer Pfleger  
Melody Ratliff  
Mylan Reeves  
Heather Reyes  
Ashley Richardson  
Enas Sallam  
Ashley Schardan  
Melissa Schilling  
Jorge Segovia

Justin Sheppard  
Melissa Shippy  
Emalee Shubert  
Nicko Sims  
Sonja Sims  
Ashley Smith  
Elizabeth Spaulding  
Anthony Stoecklin  
Daqwon Taylor  
Corrie Tellefsen  
Kourtnee Thompson  
Terri Tilmon  
Moir Touhy  
Ryan Tures  
Keyanna Turner  
Martha Tyson  
Luz Verdin-Perez  
Ryan Voyda  
Jennifer Waddell  
Marcell Wade  
Justin Washington  
Michael Waters  
Michelle Watkins  
Brittany Weaver  
Perla Weinmann  
Samuel White  
Daisy Williams  
Don'Nesha Williams  
Larry Williams  
Tressa Williams  
Timothy Wilson  
Bryanna Zimmerman

# BLACKBURN COLLEGE

## CLASS OF 2025

### LATIN HONORS

#### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Rachel Christine Huddleston - Valedictorian  
Grace Elizabeth Mackey - Salutatorian  
Jessica Nicole Muckensturm - Salutatorian

Alyssa J. Brown  
Molly L. Davie  
Erika Fortner  
Abrial Jade Grigsby

Miley Eleace Kwiatkowski  
Yolanda Moreno  
Olivia Oswald  
Sheena Danielle Steinacher

Megan Danielle Van Deusen  
Diana K. Varble  
Brooke Willeford

#### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Alexis Leeann Drury

Lexy Nicole Cameron

Cody Housman

#### CUM LAUDE

Justin Atkinson  
Hannah Garde  
Emilie Grace King

Miranda L. Lieber  
Amber Mezo  
Alexia Marie Mosby

Preston Levi Reynolds  
Krista Whited

### DEPARTMENTAL HONORS

Alyssa J. Brown  
Molly L. Davie  
Alexis Leeann Drury  
Erika Fortner  
Abrial Jade Grigsby

Rachel Christine Huddleston  
Miley Eleace Kwiatkowski  
Grace Elizabeth Mackey  
Yolanda Moreno  
Jessica Nicole Muckensturm

Olivia Oswald  
Sheena Danielle Steinacher  
Megan Danielle Van Deusen  
Diana K. Varble  
Brooke Willeford

COLLEGE  
**Blackburn**  
**WHERE LEADERS RISE**

*Department Honors—Awarded to students who have earned a grade point average of 3.8 or above on a 4.0 scale in their major field of study and 3.5 in all courses.*

*Eligibility for Latin honors is based solely on the grade point average earned in Blackburn coursework and a minimum of 61 Blackburn credit hours.*

# THE BLACKBURN COLLEGE HYMN

*Lowe-Forbes*

*Blackburn, Blackburn, Alma Mater*

*Unify these years of youth:*

*Fix on us thy three-fold blessing –*

*Friendship, work, and will to Truth.*

*Blackburn, now thy sons and daughters,*

*Pledging heart and hand and mind,*

*Join themselves to thy first calling,*

*One For Christ and all Mankind.*

## ACADEMIC DRESS

Academic dress is the formal dress of the brotherhood of learning, a community begun a thousand years ago. The attire makes known a degree held by the wearer, the field of that degree, and the institution which granted the degree. These particulars are simply stated by the shape of the sleeve of the gown and by the colors of the hood.

The Bachelor sleeve is pointed. The Master sleeve is oblong. The Doctor sleeve, sometimes gathered at the wrist, is bell-shaped, and is barred. Another badge of the Doctorate is the cap with the tassel of gold.

The field of the degree is stated by the color of the neck cloth of the hood. In every land the neck cloth that is scarlet signifies Theology, the premier study, but the color signs of other fields vary from one academic jurisdiction to another.

Throughout the United States a degree in Agriculture is always represented by a neck cloth of the color maize, Architecture or Fine Arts by the color brown, Business or Commerce or Accountancy drab, Dentistry lilac, Economics copper, Education light blue, Engineering orange, Forestry russet, Home Economics maroon, Journalism crimson, Law purple, Liberal Arts white, Music pink, Pharmacy olive green, Philosophy and any field it embraces blue, Physical Education sage green, Public Administration or Foreign Service peacock blue, Public Health salmon pink, Science golden yellow, Social Work citron, Speech or Oratory silver gray, Veterinary Science gray.

In America the most frequently awarded honorary doctorates are Doctor of Divinity (D.D.) – Doctor of Fine Arts (D.F.A.) – Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) – Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) – Doctor of Letters (Litt.D.) – Doctor of Music (D.Mus.) – and Doctor of Science (D.Sc.).

The degree of Master of Arts (M.A.), commonly an earned one, is given as an honor occasionally.

The institution which granted the degree, earned or *honoris causa*, is made known by the hue or hues of the lining of the hood; and in academic processions it is this heraldry which is the major brightness against the medieval black still used for the gown by most institutions in this country.

Abroad, much of the academic dress abides by earlier, more diverse and vivid forms.

## PRESIDENTIAL GARB

The responsibility of the President is represented by a collar of office. The collar links are silver discs in silver oblongs and the pendant is an image of the College seal. The gown of scarlet is worn by the President on ceremonial occasions. The color, emblematic of theology, reminds us that the College had its beginning as a Theological Seminary.

COLLEGE  
**Blackburn**

**WHERE LEADERS RISE**