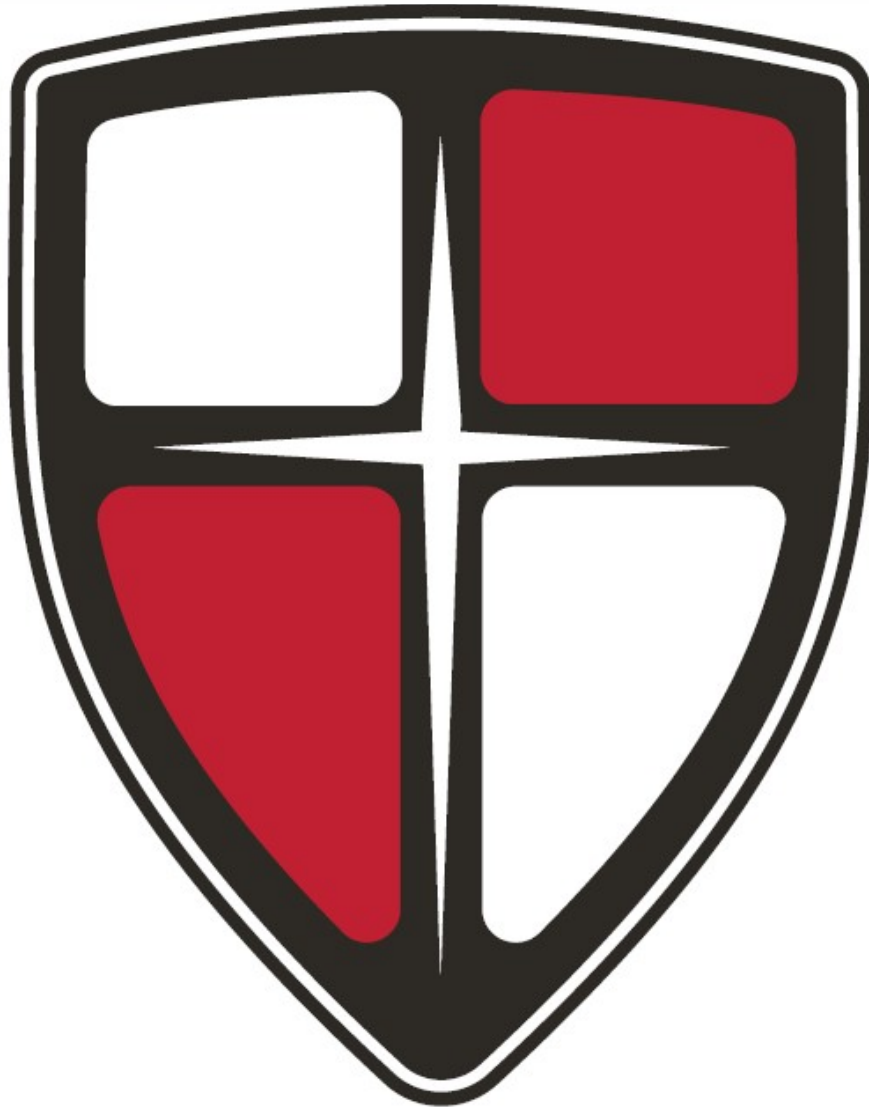


WILLIAM CAREY

UNIVERSITY



2025
Fall Commencement

December 12



December 12, 2025
Thomas Fine Arts Auditorium
William Carey University



Dear Graduates,

First, and foremost, **CONGRATULATIONS** on making it to this point of your educational career! Whether you are receiving your first undergraduate degree or your doctoral degree today, you are to be commended for making it to the finish line. Please make sure that at some point today you stop and thank those who helped you get here. You all have family, friends, teachers and others who supported you along your journey. Don't forget to say thanks!

I also want to **thank YOU** for choosing WCU for your education. In today's changing higher education market, you had a ton of choices and delivery methods you could have chosen. Please know that we don't take it for granted that you chose us for your education. We are here to support you in your future endeavors, and we want to serve you in any way possible in your future career.

We are very excited to see what you will all do with the education you received at Carey. Our namesake, Dr. William Carey, served as the first true missionary over 200 years ago. We aren't just merely named after him. WCU wants to prepare graduates to serve, as he did, in their chosen field. Our hope is that we have prepared you in a way that you can answer God's call in your life and serve others around you.

Finally, we hope you will stay connected to us. We have now been in the higher education business for 132 years and have an alumni family of over 40,000 graduates. Your alumni association here at Carey is a way you can stay connected but also a way you can let us know how we can better serve you in your future.

Again, congratulations on your achievement. Our thoughts and prayers go with you and your family as you take the next step in your life. God bless you and as always,

IT'S A GREAT DAY TO BE A CRUSADER!

Ben Burnett, President, William Carey University

"EXPECT GREAT THINGS FROM GOD; ATTEMPT GREAT THINGS FOR GOD"

WCU Box 1, 710 William Carey Parkway, Hattiesburg, MS 39401 601-318-6495 pres@wmcarey.edu



Mission Statement

As a Christian university which embraces its Baptist heritage and namesake, William Carey University provides quality educational programs, within a caring Christian academic community, which challenge the individual student to excel in scholarship, leadership, and service in a diverse global society.

Vision

William Carey University is a community of learners which seeks to blend faith and learning with living. Within this unique nurturing and challenging environment, students prepare to fulfill their diverse callings in the larger global community.

The Carey Motto

“Expect great things from God;
attempt great things for God.”

Verse of the Year

“The greatest among you will be your servant.”

Matthew 23:11

THE MEDALLION

Since the Middle Ages, the pectoral medallion has been a sign and symbol of power and authority and often worn by episcopal abbots, lords, and royal chancellors. These medallions identified their bearers as men entrusted with the privileges and duties of government. As part of current academic regalia, the medallion is the ceremonial mark of a college president's high position as the leader of a community of learning.

The William Carey University medallion was cast in 1990. In the center of the seal is a stylized rendering of the classical portico at the north entrance of the original Tatum Court, the university's administration building, which housed the office of the president. Circling the portico is the university's motto taken from the writings of the missionary William Carey: "Expect Great Things From God; Attempt Great Things For God." The outer circle bears "William Carey University" and the founding date, 1892.

THE MACE

The university ceremonial mace, an ancient insignia, was commissioned in 2004, and it is carried by the grand marshal who heads the academic procession. The top ellipse with the official university medallion and the staff are made of black walnut. The six-inch rectangle block between the ellipse and the staff is made from wood salvaged from the original columns of Tatum Court.

Wood carvings and labels depicting the life of the university namesake, William Carey, appear on the four sides. The carved icons are a globe with India in prominent relief, an open book, a pair of eighteenth-century shoes, and a vine to represent Carey as a missionary, linguist, cobbler, and botanist, respectively.



ACADEMIC ROBES AND REGALIA

The pageantry and color of an academic convocation come from medieval times when academic robes and regalia were adapted from ecclesiastical garb. Most robes were black to symbolize the democracy of scholarship, since they cover any dress or rank of social standing worn beneath.

In 2023, William Carey University adopted customized university regalia. Bachelors' gowns are cut with long pointed sleeves and have lapels that read "William Carey University" with the school's shield. Masters' gowns feature closed slit sleeves with lapels that proudly display the university's seal. These degree candidates don the square cap, or mortarboard, which originated in the 13th century at the University of Paris and came to England in Tudor times. The colored tassels worn by bachelors candidates and the masters' hoods correlate to the field of learning, listed below.

Doctors' gowns are full-cut with double-belled sleeves and bars of velvet trim, also adorned with the university seal. The hood, originally a simple cowl attached to the gown, bears the heaviest symbolism of academic apparel. Its lining displays the colors of the institution which granted the degree, and the bordering color indicates the field of learning in which the degree was earned. Round caps (tams) are reserved for doctoral degree holders.

Doctor of Philosophy	Dark Blue
Doctor of Education	Light Blue
Doctor of Arts	Pink
Education	Light Blue
Music	Pink
Arts and Letters	White
Missions and Ministry Studies	Scarlet
Business	Drab
Natural and Behavioral Sciences	Bright Gold
Criminal Justice	Midnight Blue
Nursing	Apricot
Health Science	Salmon
Biomedical Science	Gold



Order of Ceremony

The Processional

“Pomp and Circumstance,” Sir Edward Elgar
Ms. Dewana Raulson- Instructor of Music

Presentation of Colors

Camp Shelby Honor Guard

The National Anthem

“The Star– Spangled Banner,” John Stafford Smith
Vocals– Mrs. Jessica Bryan, Assistant Professor of Music

The Invocation

Mr. Tim Matheny, Interim Dean, Ralph and Naomi Noonkester School
of Arts and Letters

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Ben Burnett, University President

Hymn

"In Christ Alone" Words & Music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty
Vocals—Kylie Pitts, Student, Music Education
Accompanied by Ms. Dewana Raulson

Presentation of Candidates

Dr. Noal Cochran, Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Closing Remarks

Dr. Ben Burnett

The Alma Mater

Dr. Brandon Hardin, Dean, Winters School of Music

The Benediction

Dr. Robert Thompson, Dean, School of Business

The Recessional

“Processional for a Joyful Day,” Dale Wood
Ms. Dewana Raulson

Marshalls

Dr. David Lowery, Faculty Marshall
Dr. Tim Glaze, Student Marshall

Platform Party

Dr. Ben Burnett

University President

Dr. Noal Cochran

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Jalynn Roberts

Associate Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies

Dr. Frank Baugh

Dean, School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Joseph Bird

*Dean, Owen and Elizabeth Cooper School of
Missions and Ministry Studies*

Dr. Brandon Hardin

Dean, Donald and Frances Winters School of Music

Mr. Tim Matheny

*Interim Dean, Ralph and Naomi Noonkester School
of Arts and Letters*

Dr. Alicia Purvis

*Interim Dean, William K. Ray
College of Health Sciences*

Dr. Robert Thompson

Dean, School of Business

Dr. Kelly Williamson

Dean, Joseph and Nancy Fail School of Nursing

Doctoral Graduates

***Dr. Jalynn Roberts, Dean,
Graduate Studies***

Doctor of Philosophy

Health Administration and Education

Dakota Cheyenne Creppel

A Phenomenological Study Exploring Healthcare Provider Perceptions of Providing Home-Based Care Via Telemedicine

Terry Macon

Exploring the Perceptions of Parents or Guardians on the Behavioral Health of Military Dependents During a Parent's Deployment

Nursing Education and Administration

Amy Elizabeth Dykman

The Influence of the Orientation Process on the Intent of Novice Nurse Faculty to Remain in Academia

Roselyn Ophelia Gilbert

Exploring Undergraduate Nursing Students' Perceptions of Implicit Bias after Attending an Implicit Bias Training Session

Renee Christine Jenkins

Exploring Generation Z Nursing Students' Perceptions of Nearpod Learning Modules on Communication

Grace Mitchko

Exploring Male Registered Nurses' Perceptions of Role Cynicism Burnout Related to the Influences of School and Practice Experiences During Role Transition



Doctor of Arts

Music Education

Sophia-Karis Harlan

Exploring the History of Blackface Minstrel Songs in the United States via Personal Interviews

Tae-Young Hong

Music Students' Perception and Receptivity Towards a Music Learning System Based on Artificial Intelligence

Edward Jerell Horton

The Influence of Pre-Service Large Group Rehearsal Opportunities on In-Service Band Directors: Three Narratives

Worship Ministry

Andrew James Craig

Investigating the Need for Multi-cultural Piano Methodology: A Case Study of Grace Baptist Church in Bowie, Maryland

John Stewart Strickland

An Investigation of Hymnal Use in Contemporary Evangelicalism

Donald and Frances Winters School of Music

Dr. Brandon Hardin, Dean

Master of Music Education

Kyra Elyse De Oliveira
Rachel Dawn Gordon
Kevin Mullen
Adam Daniel Park
Rebekah C. Robinson
Kolyn Wentzell

Bachelor of Music

Darcy Erin Beech
summa cum laude
Kendrick Samuel Davis
magna cum laude
Josie Dove Deaton
magna cum laude
Sofia Fortin
cum laude
Jayden Jones
William McRaney
Kara Leigh Simon
summa cum laude

Bachelor of Science

Garrett Briley

Bachelor of General Studies

Jimmy Atkins
Bailey Marie Griffin

Owen and Elizabeth Cooper School of Missions and Ministry Studies

Dr. Joseph Bird, Dean

Master of Arts

Jacob Nathaniel Brown
Rachel Charpie
Nathaniel James Davis
Joseph Andrew Estes

Zachary Foster Hodges
Daniel Panzica
Maegan Kelley Putnam
Christopher Spence

Bachelor of Arts

James Ford
cum laude
Kamren Prince

Bachelor of Science

Anna Claire Easley

Bachelor of General Studies

Nathan Ryan Vance

School of Business

Dr. Robert Thompson, Dean

Bachelor of Applied Science

Kristen Williams

Bachelor of Science in Business

Chase Bosarge
Manuel Lopez-Wolff
Matthew Frank Shearer
Michael Talib Stewart
Jack Donald Varnado III

Bachelor of General Studies

Sharae Draughn

School of Natural and Behavioral Sciences

Dr. Frank Baugh, Dean

Master of Science

Haden Felsher
Morgan N. Graham
Necaccia Z. Phifer
Olivia Russell
Christopher Dale Sims

Bachelor of Science

Lewis Ahlwardt
Caleb T. Barlow
Alyssa Nicole Bodine
summa cum laude

Jordan Butler
magna cum laude

Magen Caro
Jon Christian Carter
Maybri Eldridge
summa cum laude

Sarah Funk
summa cum laude

Abby Grace Harper
Chanel Marie
Howard Julia Knight
summa cum laude

Anna-Rachel Krebs
magna cum laude

Julie Ann Young
Sydnee Mabe
Destinee Nguyen
Mary-Katherine Parish
Paige Ramond
summa cum laude
Marie Reinwald
Lemetria Le'Andra June Roberts
Daniel Eli Ross
cum laude

Kalyn Slade
magna cum laude
Destiney Taylor
Hannah Wright
magna cum laude

Bachelor of General Studies

Cory Austin Cook



Ralph and Naomi Noonkester School of Arts and Letters

Mr. Tim Matheny, Associate Dean

Bachelor of Arts

Ashlyn Paige Henderson
summa cum laude

Bachelor of Science

Hattie Grace Ashmore
magna cum laude

Logan Brady

Kate Sinclair Fletcher
summa cum laude

Olivia Norwood
magna cum laude

Zaccheus O'Neal Wilson

ASBURY
ACADEMIC BUILDING

William K. Ray
College of Health Sciences
Dr. Alicia Purvis, Interim Dean

Master of Science

Temeka Waters

Bachelor of Science

Brittany Nicole Byers
Carrie Ann Champion
summa cum laude
Amanda Joyce Davis
Keeli Douglas
cum laude
Brittani Dozier
cum laude
Vendoria Greer
magna cum laude
Samantha Nicole Hicks
Lydia Hoodless

Holly Kay Duhe
TiAndre Kevenecia Lanus
Casey McGee
Tiffany A. McWilliams
Olivia Russell
Suzanna Grace Smith
magna cum laude
Miranda Stringer
cum laude
Keshunia Mechelle Williams
magna cum laude

Joseph and Nancy Fail School of Nursing

Dr. Kelly Williamson, Dean

Master of Science in Nursing

Ann Blackwell
Kimberly A. Brown
Kaylan Trotter Mallette
Lydia Tice Carnell

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Taylor Adair
Daffany Brenna Ardoin Jose
R. Arroyo-Gomez Kayla
Barker

magna cum laude

Antionette Monique Beckley

cum laude

Kamiya Simone Berry

Zykira Betts

T'Kia Andranette Bevily

Ashley Michelle Blackmon

Shakayjah Nakaysha Bradley

Lois Exie Branch

Alexandra Fields Brown

Megan Elizabeth Buford

Breyanna Anastasia Burks

Ashlea Odom Carlton

Ariel Carter

Rachel Rogers Chauvin

Baleigh Cothron

Isabella Crawley

magna cum laude

Kady Cuevas

Olivia L. Cullen

Chelsi David

Sherica Renee Davis

Torie Devaughn

Richelle Dobronich Lakita

P. Donaldson Ronneyeka

Duncan

Rylee Brie Easterling

Reagan Eaves

Madison Edwards Amanda

Michelle Fairley Shannon

Kelly Farmer

cum laude

Tara Alexis Freeman

Darlene Michelle

Goodman Nyah Tre'Yanna

Govan

cum laude

Lindsey Lafferty Elizabeth

Griffin-Harrell Kendra

Harris

Taelyr Elizabeth Harris

Sharonda L. Head Lauren

Hebert

Gabrielle Marie Herring

Tammy Thuy Ho

Terrica Holland

Kaitlin Jarrell

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Mollie Elizabeth Johnson
cum laude
Marsha Keys
Kelsey LaFontaine
Sheridan Lewis
Chrystiona LaNya Jakeria Magee
Jana Manning
Melanie Mannion
Chelsea Monique Mays
Chole' Oliver McDonald
Tamara McGillivray
Te'Onna LeNay McKnight
Haley McSwain
Ashley Chantell Miller
Nina Millet
Neosha S. Mosley
Alexia LaDrea Murphy
Madison McKenzi Netterville
Francine Lashawn Nicholson
Breanna Odie
Rachel Etinosa Ogiugo
Lanie Dyess
Dallas Smith Penny
Koltlyn Phillips
Iman Reed
Rosa Denise Reedy
Johnna Roberts

Jordan Avery Roberts
Hunter Lee Robinson
Hannah Joan Rowell
Anne Katherine Sartor
Luke Nathaniel Sauls
Jillian Ellen Scheeler
Aubree Seymour
Deanna Monique Sharkey
LaRhonda Sibley
Leslie Raegan Simmons
Shannon M. Smith
Amelia Claire Standridge
Amy R. Stanfield
Kyle Anthony Stringer
Bailey Lauren Tate
Kaia Olivia Taylor
cum laude
Karla Marie Verardo
Jerica Waller-LeBlanc
summa cum laude
Daija Taneshia Warner
Alexus Shantara Weekley
John David Weeks
Kiersten Wirth
Timothy Wooten
Chanteria Wrenn
Charisma Young

Order of Ceremony

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Ms. Dewana Raulson- Instructor of Music

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Camp Shelby Honor Guard

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“The Star– Spangled Banner,” John Stafford Smith
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Dr. Brandon Hardin- Dean, Donald and Frances Winters School of Music

The Benediction

Dr. Jason Ross- Assistant Professor of Higher Education Administration

The Recessional

“Processional for a Joyful Day,” Dale Wood
Ms. Dewana Raulson

Platform Party

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University President

Dr. Noal Cochran

Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs

Dr. Jalynn Roberts

Associate Provost and Dean, Graduate Studies

Dr. Teresa Poole

Dean, School of Education

Dr. Jason Ross

Assistant Professor of Higher Education Administration

Dr. Felicia McCardle

Assistant Professor of Educational Leadership

Doctoral Graduates

***Dr. Jalyynn Roberts, Dean,
Graduate Studies***

**Doctor of Philosophy
Higher Education Administration**

Jenifer Freridge

Alumni Giving and Engagement at Mississippi Community Colleges

**Doctor of Education
Educational Leadership**

Christine Beeker

Teacher Perceptions' of Kindergarten Readiness and Student Achievement as Related to the Four Different Early Childhood Models

Kelleigh Reynolds Broussard

Teacher Job Satisfaction as a Retention Strategy

Sheree L. Conley-Donaldson

Educators' Perceptions of Implementing Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Curricula in PK-12 Settings

Dustin Everett Hazlett

The Influence and Teachers' Perceptions of the Implementation of Block Scheduling on Middle School Achievement and Learning

Amber Jackson

The Relationship Between High School End of Course Algebra I and English II State Tests in Grades 8-10 and Their ACT Math and English Sub-scores and Teacher Perceptions of This Relationship

Slade Jones

Perceptions of K-12 Teachers on Principal Leadership Styles: Impact on Job Satisfaction and Retention

Erma La'Del Lewis

Special Education and General Education Teachers' Perceptions of Their Knowledge, Efficacy, and Usage of Co-teaching in Kindergarten Through 12 Grade Inclusion Classrooms

Julie Cecile Lee

After School Tutoring's Influence on the English Language Arts Academic Growth of Middle School Students With Disabilities.

Charles Middleton

Mississippi Educators' Perceptions Regarding a Four-day School Week as an Incentive to Retain Teachers in the Classroom

Michelle Lyndsey Searle

An Investigation Into the Influence of Wellness Interventions During Wellness Day on Secondary Educators' Perceptions of Their Resilience in Rural Public Schools

Malisha Turk Siders

The Influence of a Modified School Calendar on Student Absenteeism

Sheryl Sullivant

The Perceptions of Secondary Principals of the Effectiveness of Mississippi Alternative Schools

Kalea A. Thigpen

Influence of Integrating the Arts on Students' Academic Achievement in an Elementary School

Maggie Walters

The Influence of Intensive Interventions on High School Students' Achievement in Biology I

Victor Derrell White

An Examination of the Influence of Boys and Girls Club on 3rd-5th Grade Students' Holistic Development

School of Education

Dr. Teresa Poole, Dean

Specialist in Education

Tajarian Arrington
Natalie Brand
Kenneth Burns
Aaron Clay
James McArthur Cone
Alexander Daniel
Clinton Andre Davis IV
Andrea Beck Davis
Brandi Nicole Dement
Tamesha Danielle Gray
Sandra Danielle Hall
Dinah Jennings Haralson
Alexus Holt
Shantavis Nicole Hughes
Kimberly Husband
Vincent S. Hutton

Tierra Lynn Jenkins
Casey Joann Johnsey
Meghan Elizabeth Jones
Michael King
Temera ShaTara Maxwell
Joshua Milton
Martha Pulido
Kayla-Elizabeth Robichaux Graham
Lori A. Rolison
Dalisay Louise Smith
Shannon Ivey Staton
Starlett De'von Stover
Timothy Tanner
Shanna D. Thompson
Lauren Tillman
Vivianne Renee Woods

Master of Education

Stephen Brown
Jerry Burkett
LaShontay Danielle Burkett
Haven Johnson Busbin
Jennifer June Callahan
Rebecca Allison Carr
Daniella C. Carson
Carol Wolfe Chatman
Kamesha B. Coleman
Angela Shea Crosby
Whitney Davenport
Shaniqua Bo'nae Davis
Rachel Duggan
Ashton Celets Estis

LaSondra Everett
Kristen Forrester
Alexis Renee Gamester
Alicia Mia Bonner Gavin
Brandy Graham
Megan Maria Green
Roshanda Westerfield Nash
Jace Gwynn
JaMiya Dasia Nicole Hargrove
Tanasha Holder
Robert Kimble Hudson
Airene P. Huffman
Keandra Hutton
Tina Louise Jones

Thamitha Ladner
Dameron Lindsey
Kaylin Lynn
Faith Major
Jessica Massengale
Alexis McMullen
Beau Miller
Anita Moffett
Felicia Dawn Moore
Maggie Anne Moore
Christina Moorehead

Jamie Mullings
Allyssa Rachelle Powell
Brittany Necole Besancon
Schmidt Anna Caroline Smith
Kimberly Smith
Satoria Smith
Carla Tatum
Shaylynn M. Uyeshiro
Kalyn Young
Keona Wilkens
Stephen Wolff

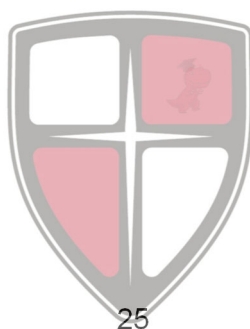
Bachelor of Science

Grace Breedlove
Alissa Butler
Alicia Capps
Chandler Childress
Clayton Covey
Hannah Craig
Ashley Corr Crawford
Jamie Robertson Dailey
summa cum laude
Quamon Davis
Yasmine Davis
Megan Doughty
Jon-Mikal Hunter Dykes
Cordilia Erickson
cum laude
Lora Foreman
cum laude
Lindsey Fortenberry
Sommer Franklin
summa cum laude
Asher Ganey
Steven Glad
Malorie Hannaford
summa cum laude
Brynn Haworth
Riley Johnson
cum laude

Jonathan Dale Jones
Courtney Knight
Devin Ladner
Kadence Ladner
summa cum laude
Samantha Lawrence
Austin Scott Lee
Leah Livings
summa cum laude
Kyle Luke
Ashton Lyles
Jenni McGee
Janiya Mouton
Nelson Olivo
Kristlyn Parker
Makenzie Paul
Melissa Rubie Perdomo
Julia Reon
Makeem Roberts
Noah Robinson
Nanako Seki
Andrea Seymour
Michelle Siegle
Anniston Smith
Lacy Smith
Laken Smith
cum laude

Kriseana Southerland
Faith Speed
Nicole Swilley
Blair Tew
cum laude
Gregory Thedford
Emanuel Thurman
Jamesia-Joy Trammell
summa cum laude
Alec Ulizio

Baileigh Vaughan
Kamrie Walters
Conner West
Tiquan White
Ashlyn Williamson
cum laude
Jamison Wilson
Hailey Windom
Carson Zuber



Academic Honors

William Carey University awards degrees with honors to undergraduate students in all schools and colleges who throughout their academic careers consistently achieved meritorious scholastic standing. These designations are summa cum laude, magna cum laude and cum laude. These honors* are designated by colored cords: tri-color (red, black, and white) for summa cum laude; double cords of red and silver for magna cum laude; double cord of white for cum laude. Summa cum laude is the highest academic distinction awarded. The students who have earned a 4.000 GPA throughout the entirety of their undergraduate degree are designated with a medallion on their gowns.

Doctoral (DPT, PhD, EdD, DA level students are actual degree recipients at the time of the ceremony. All other students are candidates until final grades have been verified.

**The announced honors are calculated based on the previous term's final grade point average. This could change after final grades are included in the final GPA.*

This program is not an official list of conferred students.

Alumni Association

Congratulations, Graduate!

You have reached a major milestone by earning your William Carey University degree. We in the alumni office want to stay in touch with you as you begin or continue your career. Please scan the QR code below and enter your information. You will receive a 10% discount at our online store and have a chance to become a lifetime member of the alumni association at half the regular fee (*offer good for a limited time*).

Please reach out to us if we can help you in some way.

Congratulations,

Ethan Bumgarner

Alumni Engagement Coordinator
alumni@wmcarev.edu



Photographs

William Carey University has partnered with GradImages to take photographs of the students throughout the commencement ceremony. Students who completed the photographer card will be contacted by GradImages when the photo proofs are available for purchase.

To Order: Visit [GradImages.com](https://www.gradimages.com)

Questions: Visit [GradImages.com/ContactUs](https://www.gradimages.com/ContactUs)
Or call 800-261-2576.



GRADIMAGES

a Balfour Company

Alma Mater

Lyrics Written by Joan Geiger, 1962

Music Composed by Robert L. Gauldin, 1962

William Carey, we will love thee, loyal we will be
And we will ever sing thy praises;
Hail, all hail to thee.

Lifting high the light of knowledge,
Answering the clarion call,
Thou hast made thy sons and daughters
Staunch crusaders all.

Thou hast taught us love and honor,
Taught us truth and right,
While fitting ev'ry new crusader
With thine armor bright.

May the God, who made thee worthy,
Keep thee ever truly free;
May His spirit, Alma Mater, ever dwell with thee.