

CHADRON STATE COLLEGE

Celebration

20

23

Winter Commencement



Chadron State College

Winter Commencement

Friday, December 15, 2023 | 2 p.m. | Chicoine Center

*Processional

Opening Remarks Dr. Ron K. Patterson
President of Chadron State College

Moment of Reflection TJ Chadwick
Bachelor of Science in Education Degree Candidate

Welcome Dr. Ron K. Patterson
Dr. James Powell
Vice President for Academic Affairs

Greetings Ms. Marjean Terrell,
*Academic and Personnel Chair, Nebraska State College System
Board of Trustees*

Introduction of Speaker Dr. Ron K. Patterson

Message to the Graduating Class Mr. Jovan Mays
Student Engagement Advocate and 2010 CSC Graduate

Presentation of Graduate Class of 2023 Dr. James Powell

Conferral of Degrees Dr. Ron K. Patterson

Hooding Faculty Advisors
Assisted by:
Dr. Jim Margetts,
Dean of Essential Studies and the School of Liberal Arts
Dr. Grant Sasse,
*Interim Dean of Curriculum, Accreditation, and
the School of Professional Studies and Applied Sciences*
Dr. Ryan Morgan,
*Dean of Graduate Studies and the School of Business,
Mathematics and Science*

Recognition of Honor Graduates Dr. James Powell

Presentation of the Undergraduate Class of 2023 Dr. James Powell

Conferral of Degrees Dr. Ron K. Patterson

Moment of Reflection David Omondi
Master of Education Degree Recipient

Closing Remarks Dr. Ron K. Patterson

*Recessional

**Please stand during the Processional and Recessional.
President's Reception following commencement on the mezzanine.*

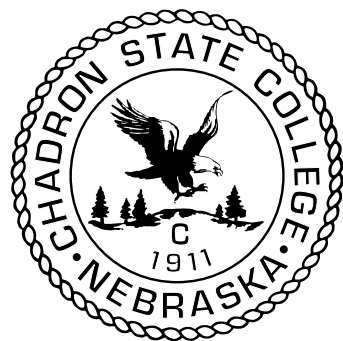
Academic Regalia

The history of academic dress goes back to the early days of the oldest universities. In England, in the second half of the 14th Century, statutes of certain colleges prohibited "excess in apparel" and prescribed the wearing of a long gown. Originally gowns may have been worn for warmth in the unheated buildings frequented by medieval scholars.

The gown is usually of black material. Bachelors' gowns have long pointed sleeves; Masters' gowns have full-length square sleeves, crescent-shaped at the bottom; and the Doctors' gowns have full, round, open sleeves. The Doctors' gown is closed and faced with panels of velvet down the front. Three velvet bars decorate each sleeve.

The cap, generally the square mortar-board, but sometimes for Doctors, a round, soft, flat velvet hat (a style borrowed from foreign universities), bears a tassel which may be black for all ranks and degrees, or may be of gold thread for Doctors and the color of the degree for Bachelors and Masters. Only the Doctors' cap may be of velvet.

The hood is the principal indicator of the nature and source of the degree. Bachelors' hoods are three feet long with two-inch wide velvet side-panels; Masters', three-and-one-half with three-inch panels, and Doctors', four feet with five-inch panels. The silk lining bears the colors of the institution that conferred the degree and the color of the velvet panels indicates the field of study. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.



Commencement Speaker



Today's Commencement speaker is Jovan Mays, a 2010 graduate of Chadron State College. Mays is the Emeritus Poet Laureate of Aurora, Colorado, a Distinguished Young Alumni Award recipient, a Chadron State Foundation Trustee, and the author of four books.

Since 2009, he has spoken at more than 120 events

including performing commissioned pieces, tributes to veterans, and multiple appearances at the Sterling, Colorado, Correctional Facility where he judges the poetry slam. He has also presented at the Colorado Language Arts Society conference.

At Smoky Hill High School, his alma mater, Mays is a specialist coach for the wrestling program along with providing educational presentations about healthy masculinity and social-emotional learning.

Mays believes everyone has their own voice and he curates Your Writing Counts, a youth poetry program in Denver, that engages more than 100,000 students annually through creative writing, storytelling, workshops, and youth poetry slams. He has been a guest instructor with the Denver Writing Project since 2011 teaching sessions for elementary and secondary educators, as well as youth campers. Since 2019, he has been a volunteer facilitator with Project Pave-True Man Program that encourages high school-aged males to make healthy choices and cultivate healthy relationships.

His poem, Borealis, has been interpreted and preserved in a mural in Aurora created by Like Minded Productions. In 2018, he was a presenter, panelist, and instructor at the world's largest literature festival in Jaipur, India.

A Student Engagement Advocate with the Aurora Public Schools (APS) since August 2020, he assists students with leadership development and creative writing. Before his current position, he was a Youth Voice Coordinator with APS for three years. He created the first district-wide youth voice platform which engaged more than 500,000 audience members and 30,000 students with journalistic stories with a focus on mental health, resilience, and self-investigation.

From 2016 to 2017, Mays was the Community Engagement Coordinator with Lighthouse Writers Workshop in Denver. In that position, he raised \$8,000 for community outreach and creative programming and won awards from the Art Tank, Viewers Choice, and Denver Foundation.

Mays serves as a member services representative on the YMCA of Metropolitan Denver, a role he has had since 2010. He opens the facility, which serves 3,000 people daily, at 4:30 a.m. on weekdays, gives tours, and tends to other front desk duties.

In November 2019, Mays memorialized the late Zack Muma with a poem, The Constellation Zacharias, in a TEDx talk. As a CSC sophomore in 2007, Mays helped monitor Muma's Type I diabetes. Unfortunately, Muma died in August 2013 before his second year at CSC.

While a student, Mays was the organizer of an annual CSC talent showcase called Release for several years. In 2009, he presented a Graves Lecture about slam poetry and spoken-word poetry.

In 2011, Mays and three other team members won the national slam poetry title. In 2008, Mays participated in a panel during the second annual Diversity Forum attended by more than 225 Chadron Middle School students. Mays quoted Martin Luther King about the dangers of "sincere ignorance and conscious stupidity." He also recited Impossible, a nearly four-minute poem he wrote about conquering issues of race.

"Being diverse is not just being a friend of someone who is of a different race or embracing people because of those differences," Mays said. "Every time you read a book, every time you go to class, every time you learn something new, you are constantly making yourself more diverse."

In 2016 and 2017, Mays was invited to speak at CSC's MLK Day.

Mays said when he overheard racist comments during his underclassmen years at CSC, he often remained silent. As a CSC upperclassman, however, he found his voice and spoke up in similar situations. He encouraged the audience to do the same.

"Don't default to silence. Speak up for yourself or others when you hear racist remarks. Start those difficult conversations at the dinner table. Speak up a little bit. You can learn how to confront others without being argumentative," Mays said. "You can start in small ways in your own area of influence."

Candidates for Graduate Degrees

Master of Arts in Education

* Clara Kathleen Baldwin Oakland, CA
 # * Ryan John Barron Fort Collins, CO
 * Jennifer L. Birtz Eagle River, AK
 * Michelle Lee Blake Casper, WY
 David Arthur Burrill Cheyenne, WY
 # * Jessica V. Butler Idaho Falls, ID
 # * Jessica R. Cale Gillette, WY
 Amy Lynn Carnahan Chadron, NE
 # * Michelle Eyvonne Carton Palmer, AK
 * Nichole Renee Cheshier Anchorage, AK
 Amanda Kaye Christensen Truth or Consequences, NM
 # * Dorthea Anne Clark Cheyenne, WY
 Kara Lea Connealy Mullen, NE
 Demetria Christine Dame (posthumous) Cheyenne, WY
 * Ashley D. Dillman Scottsbluff, NE
 * Brian Dunham Scott AFB, IL
 * Divine Eyong Eyong Mbi Mamfe, Cameroon
 Angelica Charlene Marie Gonzalez Scottsbluff, NE
 # * Erin Kathleen Hall Eagle River, AK
 # * Brennan Michael Hallock Gilbert, AZ
 Lindsay Marie Hansen Moorcroft, WY
 * Michelle Haslam Pavillion, WY
 # Michelle Lee Haynes Whitney, NE
 * Skylar Rae Hogan Cheyenne, WY
 * Brooke Isherwood Fort Myers, FL
 # * Jessica Maria Jones Cheyenne, WY
 # * Amber Rae Kaplan Hulett, WY
 Letizia B. Kosman Gold Coast, Australia
 * Jessica Christine Manion Ashland, NE
 # Brett Ryan Mauler Sargent, NE
 * Beau Kane McConnell Lewellen, NE
 * Miranda Leigh McKay Sidney, NE
 # * Kyla Grace Monie Arapahoe, NE
 Paul Anthony North Scottsbluff, NE
 * Brian Alec Porn Norfolk, NE
 * Emily S. Robertson Casper, WY
 * Ashley Shultz Grand Island, NE
 * Emily A. Smith Eagle River, AK
 # Sharon Kay Stultz Bothell, WA
 # * Stacia Nicole Swanson Scottsbluff, NE
 * Julie C. Taylor-Costello Bellevue, NE
 * Shawnee Delilah Vanderpool Anchorage, AK
 # * Cameron Vincent-Lang Anchorage, AK
 * Hannah Williams Saratoga, WY
 # * Daniel R. Wolken West Point, NE

Master of Business Administration

* Joy Apollon Fort Myers, FL
 * Heath Michel Beemiller Chandler, AZ
 # * Tayle Kay Brink Reva, SD
 Joshua Matthew Calvert Wheatland, WY
 Janessa Kay Carley Dalton, NE
 # * Arielle Queira Clifford Porcupine, SD
 # * Miles Erich Eakins Shakopee, MN
 Viraj Faria Mumbai, India
 Chanelle Dionne Hanger Ogallala, NE
 Alec Alexander Douglas Johnson Davis, IL
 * Kalee Lipska Sidney, NE
 Angela Marie Little Elk Wanblee, SD
 Jonas M. Lujan Gillette, WY
 * Cintia Moncion Decatur, GA
 Jason A. Morell Lisle, IL
 * Andrew Pateyuk West Orange, NJ
 # * Jason Carl Petersen Stanton, NE
 Coy James Sasse Pine Ridge, SD
 Ashley Michelle Wegner North Bend, NE

Master of Education

* Trey C. Allison Gordon, NE
 # * Rebecca S. Elliott Casper, WY
 # * Michelle Lee Johnson Alliance, NE
 # * Robert Kent McKee Douglas, WY
 # * Shelby Ann Noel Casper, WY
 David Onyango Omondi Kisumu, Kenya
 * Cherie A. Wallace McCook, NE
 * Pandora Worthey Humboldt, NE

Master of Science in Organizational Management

* Amelia Berg Fort Collins, CO
 * Jason Daniel Clark Papillion, NE
 Eric Matthew Holmes Chadron, NE
 Taylor E. Rempp Harrison, NE
 * Amaris Sanchez Portland, ME
 * Absentia # Summer 2023 graduate

Summa Cum Laude

Lily Anna Alexander
 Lindsay N. Anderson
 Coleton S. Bevins
 Kadra Marie Clark
 Shane Robert Collins
 Katelynn Gomez
 Parker Gonser
 Corey J. Haberkorn
 Logan Katherine Hamik
 Sage Mae McGinnis
 Braden R. Mechem
 Milleanne Grace Mullinix
 Seth Bryan Norris
 Aubrie Nicole Parde
 Emma Loren Pendleton
 Nicholas John Quinn
 Hannah J. Reimnitz
 Daniel Rolland Reynolds Jr.
 Tukker Rae Romey
 Elisa M. Smith
 Hayley Stein
 Saysha Woeste

Honor Graduates

Magna Cum Laude

KayLynn Deloris Miller
 Cale Michael Schafer
 Creighton Walker Trembly

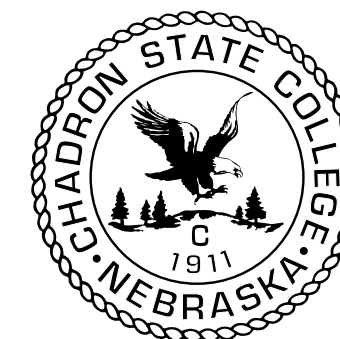
Cum Laude

Concey J. Bader
 Casey Marie Black
 Cameron Zachariah Cox
 Abigail Joy Goosey
 Mason Douglas Hamilton
 Samuel Jesse
 Jeslyn Jindra
 Elizabeth D. Myers
 Jarret Travis Pieper
 Andrew Ryan Smith
 Erin K. Wnuk

Those attaining high grade point averages will be cited as follows:

3.90 - 4.00: Summa Cum Laude | 3.75 - 3.89: Magna Cum Laude | 3.60 - 3.74: Cum Laude

Graduate students and students receiving a second Bachelor's Degree are not eligible for honors recognition.



Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees

Bachelor of Arts

Lindsay N. Anderson	Sioux City, IA	# * Javen Ancer Palmer	Casper, WY
# Concey J. Bader	Palmer, NE	# * Aubrie Nicole Parde	Adams, NE
Justin Arthur Bale	Folsom, SD	Sydney Kristian Pedersen	Buffalo, SD
* Casey Marie Black	Silver City, IA	Hannah Ann Pfeifly	Stromsburg, NE
# * Rachel Heather Bramblett	Arvada, CO	* Jarret Travis Pieper	Hay Springs, NE
Hugo Castillo	Greeley, CO	Nicholas John Quinn	Hot Springs, SD
* Jessica Chairez	Fort Morgan, CO	* Whitley A. Reder	Belle Fourche, SD
Kadra Marie Clark	Yoder, WY	Harvey Dequan Reynolds	West Palm Beach, FL
Nathaniel Maximus Cooper	Bridgeport, NE	Brodie M. Roden	Riverton, WY
* Cameron Zachariah Cox	North Platte, NE	* Romaldo Roldan	Scottsbluff, NE
Keishaun Cordell Creel	Decatur, AL	Cale Michael Schafer	LaSalle, CO
* Emily Grace Dixon	Harrold, SD	Giussepe Shunaula	Quito, Ecuador
Morgan Jacob Fawver	McCook, NE	* Bailey Shurigar	North Platte, NE
# * Candace J. Fisher	Scottsbluff, NE	* Morgan Johan Mathew Simpson	Scottsbluff, NE
Katie Dawn Fornstrom	Pine Bluffs, WY	* Andrew Ryan Smith	Rapid City, SD
Parker Gonser	Windsor, CO	Courtney Allen Lynn Smith	Rock Springs, WY
Jonathan Heberto Gonzalez	Hollister, CA	Kelly Jae Smith	Rapid City, SD
Abigail Joy Goosey	Tryon, NE	Trevon Edward Smith	Casper, WY
* Corey J. Haberkorn	Falcon, CO	Hayley Stein	Gering, NE
Carstyn Jade Hageman	Chadron, NE	Garrett Jae Swantek	Genoa, NE
* Ahlonte Q. Hair	Live Oak, FL	Nataly Martinez Torres	Roma, TX
Mason Douglas Hamilton	Gillette, WY	* Creighton Walker Trembly	Longmont, CO
Elizabeth Marie Hunt	Murdo, SD	Erin K. Wnuk	Casper, WY
* Kiana Rae Jensen	Papillion, NE	Saysha Woeste	Tillamook, OR
Samuel Jesse	Chambers, NE		
* Haven D. Jessen	Big Piney, WY	Bachelor of Science	
* Earl Ramon Johnson Jr.	Prosper, TX	Jakob Russell Andreasen	West Point, NE
Katrina Keller	Scottsbluff, NE	Shelby Anne Bewley	Gering, NE
* Delaney Ryan Klosterman	Rapid City, SD	Caelum Skye Hubl	Lincoln, NE
# * Kimberly Ann Larsen	Sidney, NE	# * Telsey DeAnn Kaup	Wagner, SD
Heamasi Latu	Concord, CA	Cole Andrew Madsen	Chadron, NE
Abigail Faye Madden	Gering, NE	Thomas Sloan Mason	Loveland, CO
# * Natalie Kay Marquardt	Wallace, NE	Sage Mae McGinnis	Buena Vista, CO
Whitney Lynn Martin	Guernsey, WY	KayLynn Deloris Miller	Valentine, NE
Braden R. Mechem	Torrington, WY	Emma Loren Pendleton	Monument, CO
* Erin F. Moore	Dalton, NE	Daniel Rolland Reynolds Jr.	Granby, CO
# * Zane David Musgrave	Hyannis, NE	Tukker Rae Romey	Gering, NE
# * Yusef Lawrence Nelson	Auburn, WA	# * Kristina Lynn Walker	Gering, NE
Kaitlynn Nadine Norman	Bethune, CO		
Seth Bryan Norris	Torrington, WY		

Candidates for Undergraduate Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Education

Lily Anna Alexander	Martin, SD	Jackie Lynn LeMunyan	Harvard, NE
Coleton S. Bevins	Gering, NE	* Caleb J. Moore	Torrington, WY
* Brittni Ann Bradley	Mullen, NE	Milleanne Grace Mullinix	Union Bridge, MD
* Mackenzie R. Broderick	Alliance, NE	* Elizabeth D. Myers	Nevada City, CA
Noah K. Burtis	Berthoud, CO	* Wendi Lee Nelson	Louisville, NE
Sarah Ann Cardona	Mitchell, NE	JoAnn Olson	Neligh, NE
TJ Chadwick	Akron, CO	Mayra Elizabeth Pelayo	Sheridan, WY
Shane Robert Collins	Prairie City, SD	Hannah J. Reimnitz	Corsica, SD
* Colby Jo Cox	Wauneta, NE	Holly R. Ricketts	Wright, WY
Desiree Jeanette Fornander	North Platte, NE	* Bailey Nicole Rominger	Vail, AZ
Katelynn Gomez	Alliance, NE	* Shauna Schneider	Wauconda, IL
Julissa K. Gomez	Alliance, NE	Jodell R. Schulte	Kimball, NE
# * Alexandria N. Gragg	Central City, NE	Elisa M. Smith	Wheatland, WY
Logan Katherine Hamik	Grand Island, NE	* Lawnett "Susie" Stevenson	Wheatland, WY
* Gavin Andrew Harold	Sutherland, NE	* Gregg M. Waters	Morrill, NE
Jeslyn Jindra	Box Elder, SD	* Absentia # Summer 2023 graduate	

A student's name listed in the commencement program does not equate to degree completion. All outstanding academic requirements must be fulfilled and confirmed by the Records Office before a student's degree will be complete and posted to the transcript.

Special Thank You

To all the students who helped with commencement including:

Student Marshals

Cooper Reichman, *President of Blue Key Honorary Fraternity, CSC Chapter*

Aubree Quast, *Member of Cardinal Key Honorary Sorority, CSC Chapter*

Ushers

Harrison Gocke, Carter Rohrich, Scott O'Dell, and Ethan Tussing

Members of Blue Key Honorary Fraternity, CSC Chapter

Brianna Smith, Morgan Jagers, and Alexis Kramer

Members of Cardinal Key Honorary Sorority, CSC Chapter

To our Faculty Marshal

Dr. Kim Madsen, *Professor of Family and Consumer Sciences*

To all the administration, staff, and faculty for dedicating their time and talents to our students and helping with this day

To all the families and friends for your support and celebrating our students

Congratulations, Graduate!



We're proud of your achievement and welcome you to the Chadron State Alumni Association. The Alumni Association and office is your lifelong connection to CSC.

Be sure to join ConnectCSC, Chadron State's exclusive platform to keep you connected to campus and fellow CSC Alumni as you advance your career and personal life. With ConnectCSC, you'll have access to mentors, exclusive job offers, career advice, and networking – all provided by other CSC alumni.

You can join ConnectCSC at csc.edu/connect. For information about alumni events, reunions and campus news about your alma mater, visit csc.edu/alumni.



“Heart and Soul,” an outdoor sculpture by Karen Yank of Albuquerque, New Mexico, was dedicated in October 2019 at the Chicoine Center Plaza. The 12-foot high, 14-foot wide sculpture weighs about 2,000 pounds. It is made of steel, stainless steel, and a metal with a high copper content. Yank said she uses sandblasting and acid to accelerate the rusting process and its associated colors.



Nebraska State
College System