

Notre Dame of Maryland University



COMMENCEMENT

TUESDAY, MAY TWENTIETH,
TWO THOUSAND & TWENTY-FIVE

Mission

Notre Dame of Maryland University educates leaders to transform the world.

Embracing the vision of the founders, the School Sisters of Notre Dame, the University promotes the advancement of women and provides a liberal arts education in the Catholic tradition.

Notre Dame challenges women and men to strive for intellectual and professional excellence, to build inclusive communities, to engage in service to others, and to promote social responsibility.



Program

Prelude Music and Processional

Academic Procession

Meaghan Davidson, Ed.D., Associate Vice President for Student Life & Dean of Students

SCHOOL MARSHALS

Paulina Hernandez, Class of 2025
School of Arts, Sciences & Business
Lavorette Preston, Class of 2025
School of Education

Yolanda Muhammad, Class of 2025
School of Nursing
Hannah Mullaney, Class of 2025
School of Pharmacy & Health Professions

FACULTY MARSHAL

Christa De Kleine, Ph.D., Professor,
School of Education

Nicholé C. Gatewood, Esq., President,
Alumni Council

Faculty and Administrators

Sanjay K. Rai, Ph.D., Secretary of Higher Education, Maryland Higher Education Commission

Members of the Board of Trustees

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President

Invocation

John Jegede, Class of 2025

The National Anthem

Presentation of Candidate for Doctor of Humane Letters, honoris causa

PRESENTER

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President

RECIPIENT

Beverly Malone, Ph.D., President & CEO,
National League for Nursing

Commencement Address

INTRODUCTION

Kathleen Wisser, Ph.D., Dean, School of Nursing

SPEAKER

Beverly Malone, Ph.D.

Presentation of Mullan Distinguished Teacher Award

Martha Walker, Ph.D., Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Presentation of Candidates for Degrees

Martha Walker, Ph.D., Provost & Vice President for Academic Affairs

Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Science
Master of Arts & Master of Science
Certificate of Advanced Study in Education
Occupational Therapy Doctorate
Doctor of Pharmacy
Doctor of Philosophy

Conferral of Degrees

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President

Investiture in Academic Hood

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President
Taif Ibrahim, Class of 2025

Bestowal of Degrees

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President
Pam O'Brien, Ph.D., Dean, School of Arts, Sciences & Business
Juliann Dupuis, Ph.D., Dean, School of Education
Kathleen Wisser, Ph.D., Dean, School of Nursing
Matthew Shimoda, Pharm.D., Dean, School of Pharmacy & Health Professions

Student Response

Nwanneka Udolisa, Class of 2025

Closing Remarks

Marylou Yam, Ph.D., President

Benediction

Joseline Cruz-Martinez, Class of 2025

Alma Mater

Jacqueline Johnson, Class of 2028

Recessional

Bachelor of Arts & Bachelor of Science, School of Arts, Sciences, & Business

Enku Assefa	+ Faith Ninsima Kaiza
+ Khadijah Bah	Lauren E. R. Kaufman <i>magna cum laude</i>
Andi S. Bailey <i>summa cum laude</i>	Kritika Kc <i>magna cum laude</i>
Rebecca Michelle Becraft <i>cum laude</i>	Benjamin Levi Kreitman <i>cum laude</i>
+ Angel La Toya Bias	Zoe C. Kumpf <i>summa cum laude</i>
Neha Bisht	Nethaniah H. Lael
Ciarra A. Bockstie	Quentoria Lavonne Leeks
Cassidy Logan Brazier	Delilah L. Litz
+ Chanel M. Britt	Terri Ann Martin <i>cum laude</i>
Va'Nessa Jo Anniece Burrell	+ Keturah J. Massalay
Louisiana Salaver Cagape <i>cum laude</i>	La Maress Maria Mays <i>cum laude</i>
Carmen Elisabeth Canas <i>magna cum laude</i>	Nicole Estefania MedinaLopez
+ Anna Theresa Choudhary <i>summa cum laude</i>	Mary Elisabeth Mitchell
Shayla Imani Clarke	Shiri M. Nchotu
+ Jordan Dean Cranford <i>summa cum laude</i>	Bethani McKenzie Newbold
Joseline Stefanya Cruz-Martinez	Damilola A. Oluwole
Eliza Mary Davis <i>summa cum laude</i>	Damaris J. Palacios
Angela Davis-Sutton	Mackenzie Platt
* Ciairese Guia Marie C. De Torres	Mikayla Lynne Rashaun Plummer
+ Silvia Maritza Dillon-Alvarez <i>cum laude</i>	+ Toby C. Pulliam <i>magna cum laude</i>
Michael A. Duffy	+ Danielle Marie Reynolds <i>magna cum laude</i>
Helena Epps	Renee Juliene A. Rosales <i>cum laude</i>
Candace Rose Forgach-Aguilar	Sophie Karen Rotmark
Kimberly Michele Freeze <i>cum laude</i>	* Cara Nichole Schultz <i>magna cum laude</i>
Rochele Germain <i>cum laude</i>	+ Asmaa Adel Seif-Eldin
Jessica Dianaha Gilliam	Nicole Christine Self <i>magna cum laude</i>
Mirely Joanna Gonzalez <i>summa cum laude</i>	Donna L. Shaw
+ Erika Yeane Gutierrez Rodriguez	Loraye Samera Smith <i>cum laude</i>
Nowrasta Hallimee <i>cum laude</i>	Katelyn Elizabeth Stephenson <i>summa cum laude</i>
Holly Ann Hand	Jade Leigh Stewart <i>cum laude</i>
Lacgratise Hawkins <i>magna cum laude</i>	Marilyn L. Tandy
Collette M. Hayes-Williams	Skyler M. Thomas
+ Yara Maria Henriquez Martinez	Stephanie JoAnn Trach <i>cum laude</i>
Paulina Hernandez	Tam Thien Truong <i>summa cum laude</i>
Taif Osman Ibrahim	Nwanneka Ogechukwukanma
Tylish A. Jenkins	Udolisa <i>magna cum laude</i>
Chandler Victoria Johnson	* Maribel Verduguez-Zurita
Derek Keith Johnson <i>summa cum laude</i>	Mon'Yae La'Saan Walker
Mia R. Johnson	MaKayla LaShon Watson
+ Rebecca A. Johnston <i>magna cum laude</i>	Jalen R. Yates
+ Candace D. Jones <i>magna cum laude</i>	

Bachelor of Arts, School of Education

+ Emily Elizabeth Baker *magna cum laude*
Morgan Victoria Barton
+ Sebiha Basar *summa cum laude*
Megan Lee Brittain
Amya S. Durham
Sydney Leeann Griffin
+ Brooke Higgs *summa cum laude*
* Carli Elizabeth Howard *cum laude*

Kayleigh Faith Lagunas
Malissa Celestine Madison *magna cum laude*
Gabriela Elizabeth Mena Flores
Rosemary I. Odukwu
* Anthi Vassilios Roufas *summa cum laude*
+ Sihem Sadouki *magna cum laude*
Emma Renee Seanor

Bachelor of Science, School of Nursing

* Nathaniel Delali Dzeha Adjabeng
Malaak Saifeddin Ahmad *magna cum laude*
+ Ifeoma Alexis Chito Allen
* Ashley Paige Alleyne Van-De-Cruize
+ Sarah Louise Almony *cum laude*
+ Jessica Taylor Auvil
+ Clayton James Reese Ayers
~Keyerra Latreece Banks
+ Alison Bannon
+ Helina Taye Belachew *cum laude*
* Laureen E. Benjamin
Chukwuka Henry Bosah
+ Shannon R. Bramwell-Dale
Megan Faison Byekwaso
+ Teresa Marie Carpenter
* Tamarrah Cherry
+ Madison Rei Christian
* Kerrigan Victoria Clem
Jodi-Kay Domonique Coleman
* Rochelle Maria Dandridge
Lindsey Marie Daniels
+ Kristin Leigh Darby
Kiannah Sky Davy *magna cum laude*
* Marlie Desire
+ Johanna Ruth Emerson
+ Johanna Jeanmillet Escobar Abarca
Perpetua U. Ezech
Arthurline L. Gbahay
Sarah Miranda B. Generoso *magna cum laude*
* Malik Elijah George

+ Chloe Pauline Goddard
+ Jennifer Lynn Hauprich
Michelle Nathaly Hernandez *cum laude*
+ Daniel Alexander Hershman
* Vanessa Daphnee Jean Baptiste *cum laude*
+ Amber Nicole Johnson
+ Cara Olivia Jones
* James Kaspar Keaton
+ Kristina Marie Keech *cum laude*
Christine J. Kim
* Sandrine Dede Eyram Koudouovoh
* Jessica Layne Leeper
* Kimberley Ebubechi Marthins
+ Alyssa Leanne Martin
Taylor Suzanne Massey
* Regan Alexis McGraw
* Caroline Elizabeth McWherter
* Rakiya Amaara Moore
* Lillian Faith Moses *cum laude*
Emma L. Mullaney
Mary Ngina
+ Samantha Northfield
* Saidat Omolabake Oluwakemi Ogundimu *cum laude*
* Folashade Anthonia Omojuyigbe
Miracle Awele Otuya
* Jessica Marie Perry *cum laude*
Talia Nicole Pettway
Ayanna Love Powell
Jacqueline Ruth Quinn
+ Margaret Elizabeth Robinson *magna cum laude*

Bachelor of Science, School of Nursing (cont.)

Amber Towson Nikki Shelton <i>cum laude</i>	Heather Marie Wieczorek
Yolanda Singletary	* Madison Lorelle Williams
* Malia Breana Smith	* Marin A. Wilson <i>summa cum laude</i>
Kendall I. Snyder	* Olivia Grace Wise
Kaitlyn L. Spiker	+ Cassidy Rae Lee Wittrig
+ Alejandra Nicole Sullivan	Caroline M. Woodring <i>magna cum laude</i>

Master of Arts & Master of Science, School of Arts, Sciences, & Business

* Sara Malone Blankenburg	* Katherine E. Mogollon Cabellos
Monae Janese Butler	Eleni Rojtas
+ Natalie Marie Cross	Jessica Anne Stirling
+ Gersomina M. De Freitas	Dasia C. Wade
+ Hope Elizabeth Hushon	* Monique Ashley Williams
* Sam J. Jesner	

Master of Arts, School of Education

Hope Estelle Nikia Abney-Kimbrow	Gail Marmon Dehn
Kasandria S. Alvarez	Wei Ding
Dominique Nicole Anderson	+ Theresa Ann Doughney
Jennifer Andracchi	Kathryn C. Doxy
+ Christina Nicole August Dowe	Brittany M. Emery
* Heather Bjork Avalos	Kelly Endres
* Cortni Baker	Lisa Ann Feldman
Elizabeth Barna	+ Amy Nicole Feriante
Madeleine Belt	Sarah Grace Fossaceca
Margaret Mary Bitz	+ Ursula Valdiglesias Gensley
Beth Anne Brooks-Mwano	+ Gabrielle Gilliam
* Tiffany Nicole Brown	Samantha H. Haliti
* Maxwell Earl Butschky	Brittany Nicole Hamilton
* Matilde A. Chavez	Emily Williams Harnish
Jie Chen	+ Wendy Hassler
Xiaojing Chen	+ Clara Hart Hayward
Emily Compton	+ Julie Anne Hettel
Suzanne Luers Crawford	+ Terrone Jerel Ray Hill
Maude M. Crevecoeur	
+ Nicole Davenport	

Master of Arts, School of Education (cont.)

Caitlyn Renee Holley	Renatta Newby
* Ilazhia Jordan Hunt	Laura Norman
* Catherine Anne Hyde	+ Michelle Orhan
Rashaad Nathaniel Johnson	Kelly L. Oshinnaiye
Shameeru Q. Johnson-Furlow	Carole Packett
+ Jessica Evon Lyn Jones	* Tara K. Parker-Johnson
Morgan Anne Jones	* Kelly Peraza Klee
Sabreen Kabir	* Kathryn Elizabeth Perrotta
* Kelli Kardell	Leslie Jennifer Pittman
* Margaret V. Kenney	* Brendan Restly
Cassandra Lynn Koplow	* Melissa Revell
+ Kelly Rose Kosa	+ Virginia Ribulotta
* Theresa Lynn Kucevich	Alice Ricci
* Kyle Lacey	Derek T. Ridley
Shuaishuai Li	Dahye Riggs
Xiaoqin Li	Brenda Rivera
Aoxue Liu	Ariella Rodriguez
Xudong Liu	Chasey Lynn Marie Romani
Mackenzie Elise Lookingland	+ Maureen Martin Rossi
Bonna Lopez	Amrita Saxena
John Loreg	+ Madison Scheimreif
+ Wanda Luciano	Andrea Joyce Schneider
+ Betty Kay Lyon	Emma Sciannella
* Kairen Majied	Heather E. Scott
+ Jennifer Anne Manor	Ana Carolina Sears
Ahmadou Maryam Roukayatou	Brenda S. Songy
Tiesha T. Maynor	* Susanne Sontag
+ Scholastique Mbaya	Olivia Alcott Stanonis
Caroline McAndrews	Emily Stasuk
Tezia Amber McKinney	Jessica Eleanor Stone
+ Erin E. McPhillips	Anmei Su
* André Dominic Melvin	+ Johndesha Ann Thompson-Bell
+ Meredith Anne Miller	Sheena Lennah Ruth Trader
Dhara K. Mills	Jamar Allen Turner
Shaobing Mo	Erin Van Dyke
* Krystal Kessie Mora	Julie Ann Wallace-Brookhart
+ William Morris	Mingfang Wang
Toyosi Teslimat Mustapha	Danielle C. Washington
Kelly Minyoung Na	* Julia Ann Weldon
Lekia S. Neal	Kimberlee D. Wyndham
+ Paula Nesmith	* Kelly Dawn Young

Master of Science, School of Nursing

+ Majeedah Ahmad
Zhanae Maileana Bailey-El
+ Tiana Marie Byrd
Allyssa Christina Capitano
Courtney A. Clough
+ Carrie Lynn Davis
+ Aaliyah M. Derry-Ehrler
Lovella Flores Eugenio
Kathleen Ann Friedel
+ Shanze Gamble
Gabrielle Renee Geleta
Rachel E. Gilligan

Kayla James
Toya Keasha Jones
Jennifer Tekippe Lefler
Mary Elizabeth Miller
Katherine Onike Mills
+ Yolanda Maria Muhammad
+ Harriet Bulegani Elizabeth Ngugi
Jenice Clare Diano Olo
Shawntee Lynnette Saulet
+ Shadawn N. Scott Simmons
Natalie Seria Thrweatt

Certificate of Advanced Study in Education, School of Education

* Justin Jimenez

+ Michele L. Schuler

Doctor of Occupational Therapy, School of Pharmacy & Health Professions

~ Kristina Lily Boykin
~ Cortney L. Elick

Nazma J. Khandoker

Doctor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy & Health Professions

Ruaa Zaki Abdulhussein
Honya Atta Ahmed
Rasheed A. Akinsanya
• Alvin Alamba
Shelibette Alvarado Collazo *summa cum laude*
Lyudmila Ashurova-Osipova
• Mariham Beshay
Gabiana Paola Centeno Cruz
Mariam Dar *cum laude*

Angel David Diaz Santana
Philip M. Do *cum laude*
Amina Essaki
Olivia G. Everhart *cum laude*
Farnoosh Farahnakian
Francisco J. Figueroa Santiago *cum laude*
Hazel M. González Vargas *cum laude*
Madison Heyman *magna cum laude*
John O. Jegede *cum laude*

Doctor of Pharmacy, School of Pharmacy & Health Professions (cont.)

Corliss A. Johnson	Keith D. Powell
Iris Noemí López Pérez <i>cum laude</i>	Ghazwan Sarmad Reyad
Sabra Nina Meyer	Maryam Sarmad Reyad
Salah M. Mohamed	Justin Kelly Roberts
Hannah E. Mullaney <i>summa cum laude</i>	Brooke F. Siebert <i>cum laude</i>
Doris Ngwe	Jagpreet Singh Randhawa
+ Marylyn Ijeoma Oche	Seok Ju Song
Onyebuchi Uju Okafor	Tania Toussaint <i>cum laude</i>
Ugonna C. Okafor <i>cum laude</i>	Josephine Nkechi Uwaelue <i>cum laude</i>
Kunjrani Narsingh Pani <i>magna cum laude</i>	Jeffrey Thomas Wargo
Jahanvi Amitkumar Patel <i>magna cum laude</i>	Keishla J. Zaragoza Maldonado

Doctor of Philosophy, School of Education

* ZEINA AL-ZAIM

Real-World Learning: A Formative Program Evaluation of Integrating a Community-Based Service-Learning Program into a Foreign Language Course to Develop Critical Cultural Awareness and Foreign Language Skills

Chair: Dr. Joseph Wieczorek

ALICIA MICHELLE BRANDS

The Impact of the Ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic on Teachers' Feelings of Self-Efficacy and Burnout

Chair: Dr. Angela Snyder

+ LISA BRODJESKI

Investigating How Training and Supervision Impact Professional Competencies for Speech-Language Pathologists

Chair: Dr. Patricia Dwyer

GINA COCCIA DAVENPORT

School Leaders' Perspectives on Student Voice as a Culturally Responsive Practice

Chair: Dr. Stephanie Savick

MARY MICHELE DOYLE-WETZELBERGER

Exploring Teacher Educators' Self-Efficacy to Incorporate Social, Emotional, and Culturally Responsive Instructional Practices Within All Teacher Preparation Coursework

Chair: Dr. Angela Snyder

CRYSTAL IRENE DEITRICH DUNKIN

Teacher Characteristics and the Perceived Value of Peer Observations

Chair: Dr. Lisa Pallett

* ZACHARY MORGAN GANGER

The Association Between Concurrent Student Employment and Student Success, Persistence, and Labor Market Outcomes

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Doherty

* ROXANNE HENDERSHOT

The Impact of Land-Use and Housing Policy on Patterns of School Segregation from 1968-2020 in Anne Arundel County, Maryland

Chair: Dr. Angelo Letizia

+ ANDREA MARIE KENNEDY

The Staff Experience in Higher Education: A Moderated Mediation Study of Burnout, Perceived Flexibility, Perceived Organizational Support, and Turnover

Chair: Dr. Lauren Mauriello

+ VICTORIA C. KREYSAR

Maternity Leave's Impact on Female Educators: A Potential Explanation for Gender Disparity in School Administration

Chair: Dr. Kevin Ensor

* MATTHEW GERALD LE BRASSEUR

With Great Power, So Too Must Come Great Representation: Representation of Higher Education in Spider-Man Comic Books

Chair: Dr. Angelo Letizia

KYLER PAUL LEITER

Let Them Play: A Social-Emotional Free-Play Intervention to Negate Adverse Behaviors Among Kindergarten Students Following the COVID-19 Pandemic

Chair: Dr. Molly Dunn

LAUREN SHUKIE MCHUGH

Digital Text in Primary Grades: Examining Reading Instruction, Usage, and Teacher Perceptions

Chair: Dr. Joanna Newton

ELIZABETH DANIELLE MELLEBY WELCH

From Emergency Remote Teaching to Quality Online Instruction: An Appreciative Inquiry Intervention

Chair: Dr. Laura Foerster-Puglisi

+ DONNA MARIE HURST MURPHY

Handwriting and Typing: Comparison of Note-Taking Method on Recall of Lecture Content

Chair: Dr. Mark Fenster

YVONNE NGALULA MUTSHIPAYI

Global Perspectives: Understanding the Academic Experience of Black African International Graduate Students Attending Historically and Predominantly White U.S. Colleges and Universities

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Doherty

CARLA ISABEL NARANJO

Collaborative Online International Learning (COIL) and its Effect on Global Learning and Intercultural Competencies of U.S. Community College Students Engaging with Universities from El Salvador

Chair: Dr. Joseph Wieczorek

+ MICHELLE PASCUAL

Mary E. McDowell and Her Work with the University of Chicago Settlement House (1854-1936)

Chair: Dr. Evelyn Spratt

LAVORETTE RAYNA PRESTON

A Phenomenological Study Exploring Youth Workforce Readiness

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Doherty

*** JERMAINE E. SKINNER**

Safety Affecting Freshman Education: The Impact on Retention and Finding a Sense of Belonging

Chair: Dr. Kathryn Doherty

+ SUSAN ANNETTE WALKER-CROSS

Private Institutions of Higher Learning in Uganda: A Case Study

Chair: Dr. Angelo Letizia



The World Needs
THE BEST YOU

Honorary Doctorate



Beverly Malone, Ph.D.

President & CEO, National League for Nursing

A leading global voice on the future of healthcare, Dr. Beverly Malone has served as President and CEO of the National League for Nursing since 2007. Her distinguished career blends policy, education, administration, and clinical practice – including the position of federal deputy assistant secretary for health under President Bill Clinton. She is internationally recognized as the first African American General Secretary of the United Kingdom (UK) Royal College of Nursing representing 400,000 nurses. President Clinton appointed her to serve on the U.S. delegation to the World Health Assembly, the governing body of the World Health Organization, and later, UK Prime Minister Tony Blair appointed her to serve on the UK delegation for the same group. In the U.S., she

contributed to the groundbreaking Institute of Medicine report, “The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health,” and served on the Minority Health Federal Advisory Committee.

She is currently vice chair at the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI) Board of Directors, co-leads the National Academy of Medicine (NAM) Health Professional Education and Communication Working Group, and serves on NAM’s Steering Committee. Additionally, she is a member of ecoAmerica’s Leadership Circle Executive Committee.

Dr. Malone has received numerous national and global honors, including the 2024 Hall of Fame Award by the American Nurses Association (ANA) and the 2024 Mary Elizabeth Carnegie Leadership in Equity, Diversity, and Inclusivity (EDI) Award by the American Academy of Nursing. The National Black Nurses Association recognized her as a 2024 inaugural Fellow in the Academy of Diversity Leaders in Nursing (FADLN). Also, in 2024, she was profiled by The Lancet, one of the world’s most prestigious medical journals, a feat that reaffirms her role as a global healthcare leader.

A year earlier, Modern Healthcare, a leading publication in healthcare, named her to the 2023 list of the Top 50 Most Influential Clinical Executives in Health Care, as well as to its 100 Most Influential People in Health Care for the fourth straight year. The American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) presented her with the prestigious 2023 Her Royal Highness Princess Muna Al Hussein Award for her commitment and excellence in advancing the nursing profession internationally.

In addition to being awarded more than 20 honorary degrees, she holds a Bachelor of Science in Nursing and Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology from the University of Cincinnati, as well as a Master of Science in Adult Psychiatric Nursing from Rutgers University.

**FOR HER LEADERSHIP IN PROMOTING HEALTHY COMMUNITIES AROUND THE GLOBE,
ADVANCING PUBLIC POLICIES TO IMPROVE HEALTH OUTCOMES, AND MAKING IMPACTFUL
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE NURSING PROFESSION, NOTRE DAME OF MARYLAND UNIVERSITY
IS PLEASED TO AWARD THE DOCTOR OF HUMANE LETTERS,**

Honoris Causa, to
Beverly Malone, Ph.D.
ON THIS 20TH DAY OF MAY 2025

Congratulations Graduates!

Board of Trustees

Patricia McLaughlin, SSND '66
Chair

Cathryn Curia '69
Vice Chair

Mary Noel Albers, SSND

Kelly Barth '97

Kathleen Beres '70

Christina Bolmarcich, Esq. '97

Lauren Cellucci

Mary D'Ascanio

David Dombrowski

Tom Galloway

Mary Kay Shartle Galotto '64

Herbert Hansen, Jr.

Debra Keller-Greene

Heather Klink, Esq.

Owen Knott

Charmaine Krohe, SSND '75

Mary Lennon, SSND

Debbie Liesen, SSND

George Martin

Thandee Maung '04

Mark Meyers

Dan Miscavige

Patricia Murphy, SSND '69

Anthony O'Brien

Amanda Rumsey-Ballard '10, D'16

Jane Schlegel

Sherita Thomas

Vernon Wright

Alumni Council

The Alumni Council is a leadership board representing the entire alumni community. On behalf of the community, we extend our sincere congratulations to each graduate. You have just joined a family of exceptional local, national, and global leaders. As everyone is engaged in using their degree to the fullest, we also strive to pay it forward. There are many ways in which you will find meaning in your new graduate status: perhaps it is attending Alumni Weekend or a campus program, staying in touch with your professors, or helping out a current student. However you choose to be involved, we look forward to getting to know you.

Stay up to date on all things NDMU by sharing your contact information with the Office of Alumni Engagement. Simply email **ndmalum@ndm.edu**. We are thrilled you have joined our ranks. Welcome to the family!

Notre Dame of Maryland University

Mace

In November 1979, Mary John Bersch, SSND '52, professor of art, designed and carved a mace for Notre Dame of Maryland University.

On the top of the mace, the original seal is carved in sweet gum wood, taken from Fourier Hall. The obverse of the seal is a stylized design of the Caroline Hall tower. The handle of the mace is made of white oak, the Maryland State tree. Inserted in the handle is a brass key from an original door of Caroline Hall.

The base of the holder is an ornamental part of the original marble altar in Marikle Chapel. The brass part of the holder is from a door fixture in Rice Hall.

The University

For 130 years, Notre Dame has educated leaders who make a difference in their professional careers, their communities and the world. Founded by the School Sisters of Notre Dame, Notre Dame of Maryland University has anticipated and met contemporary needs with visionary educational programs since 1895. Rooted in the Catholic tradition, with an emphasis on the liberal arts, a Notre Dame education challenges students to strive for intellectual and professional excellence, build inclusive communities, engage in service to others and promote social responsibility.

September 9, 2011 marked a historic institutional milestone, as the College of Notre Dame of Maryland became Notre Dame of Maryland University. The university designation reflects Notre Dame's growing number of graduate-level degree options and strengthens its long-standing tradition to provide exceptional academic programs that address the goals of contemporary students and the workplace needs of a global economy. The University is organized into four distinct and distinguished schools—Arts, Sciences & Business; Education; Nursing and Pharmacy. In 2025, the School of Pharmacy was expanded to the School of Pharmacy & Health Professions. All of which offer rigorous academic programs and exceptional advising and support. In the Fall of 2023, Notre Dame of Maryland University became gender-inclusive at all academic levels. This transformative step is an extension of Notre Dame's mission to education leaders to transform the world.

Today, Notre Dame's mission is as vital and relevant as it was 130 years ago. Our motto, *Veritatem prosequimur* (We pursue truth), has sustained and strengthened the University, and will continue to inspire us as we educate leaders to transform the world.

Notre Dame of Maryland University

Honors Designations

Degrees with Latin honors are conferred on students who achieve the following grade point average based on at least 60 credit hours completed at Notre Dame:

3.90 for the distinction *summa cum laude*

3.70 for the distinction *magna cum laude*

3.50 for the distinction *cum laude*

Graduate degrees (except for Pharmacy) do not carry Latin honor designations. Latin honors listed are based on credits and grades earned as of Fall 2023. Once degrees are officially certified, Latin honors on the diploma and transcript will be based on all credits and grades earned at Notre Dame of Maryland University.

Academic Dress

The custom of wearing academic dress stems from the Middle Ages, when scholars were also clerics and wore the apparel of their monastic order. The hood was originally a cowl attached to the gown, which could be slipped over the head for warmth. The cap was originally round but has evolved to the varieties that we see today.

The gown varies for the respective degrees. The bachelor's gown can be distinguished by its long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown is designed to be worn with the arms through the slits in the elbows of the sleeves. The doctor's gown has full, bell-shaped sleeves with three horizontal bars stitched across the elbows of the sleeves. There is a velvet panel draped around the neck and stitched down the front edges. This velvet trimming may be either black or the same color as the velvet border of the hood.

The hood also varies for the respective degrees. The bachelor's and master's hoods are of the same design, pointed at the base. The bachelor's hood is three feet long; the master's hood is three and a half feet long. The doctor's hood is four feet long, of fuller shape and rounded at the base.

The silk lining of the hood represents the institution that granted the degree. The hood is bordered with velvet, the color of which indicates the field of study in which the degree was earned.

Senior Class Gift

The Senior Class Gift is an opportunity for graduating seniors to come together and start their legacies as NDMU alumni leaders, with a gift this year of \$20.25. In recognition of their investment in their alma mater, participating students earned the distinction of wearing navy and gold cords at commencement. These cords represent the graduates' support of future generations of NDMU students. Students wearing the Senior Class Gift cords epitomize the NDMU mission through their generosity.

Notre Dame of Maryland University

Hood Color

Administration & Supervision for Changing Populations:	Navy Blue
Analytics in Knowledge Management:	Gold
Bachelor of Art:	White
Business:	Drab
Certificate of Advanced Study in Education (CASE):	Light Blue
Contemporary Communication:	White
Economics:	Copper
English Literature:	White
Gifted & Talented Education:	Light Blue
Instructional Leadership for Changing Populations:	Light Blue
Leadership & Management:	Drab
Leadership in Special Education:	Light Blue
Leadership in Teaching:	Light Blue
Non-Profit Management:	Drab
Nursing:	Apricot
Occupational Therapy:	Blue & White
Pharmacy:	Olive
Radiological Sciences:	Gold
Risk Management:	Drab
Teaching:	Light Blue

Cord Color

Association for Women in Communications:	Gold
Bonner Leaders:	Light Blue & White
Campus Activities Board (CAB) Executive Board:	Gold & Silver
Desk Assistants:	Forest Green & Purple
Exemplary Service to the Academic Community:	Teal & White
Industry Pharmacists Organization (IPhO):	Maroon & Gold
Kappa Gamma Pi:	Brown & Ivory
Kappa Delta Pi, International Honor Society in Education:	Jade Green & Violet
Leadership & Entrepreneurship Certificate in Pharmacy:	Royal Blue & Gold-Pharmacy
Phi Lambda Sigma, Pharmacy Leadership Society:	Gold & Green
Resident Advisors:	Gold, Purple & White
The Rho Chi Society, Academic Honor Society in Pharmacy:	Purple & White
Senior Class Gift:	Navy & Gold
Sigma, Honor Society in Nursing:	Orchid & White
Student Ambassadors:	Light Blue & Gold
Student Association of Nurses at Notre Dame (SANND):	Light Blue, Navy Blue & White
Student Government Association (SGA) Executive Board:	Gold & Silver
Trailblazers Program, First Generation Undergraduate Students:	Gold, Royal Blue & White
Undergraduate Class Council:	Emerald Green, Royal Blue & White



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for accessible format





Alma Mater

We raise our voices proudly,
dear Notre Dame, to your name.
How rich is the heritage
your students claim!
The years have made you glorious
to those who seek after truth,
Answering the challenge
you set for our youth.
Founded in a great tradition,
strong in wisdom's might,
You bear the colors of Our Lady—
her blue and white;
And we who share these college years,
spirited or calm,
Pledge our love forever to you,
Notre Dame.

