

Winter Commencement Convocation December 15, 2023

NORTH PARK UNIVERSITY

A Brief History of North Park University

North Park University's (NPU) roots began in an Evangelical Covenant Church basement in 1891, where music, religion, language, and business classes gave Swedish immigrants the education and skills to prosper in a new nation. With an offer of free land in Chicago, the school moved from Minneapolis to the North Park neighborhood.

Old Main, the first building on campus, was completed in fall 1894 and housed all departments of the school. In the 1920s, pilots used the cupola atop Old Main as a landmark to find Orchard Field (now O'Hare International Airport) as it was the tallest point on the city's North Side.

North Park has since expanded and adapted its educational mission to the changing times. At various times, it included a seminary, academy, junior college, four-year liberal arts college, and, since 1997, a university.

In recent years, much time and many resources have been invested in renovating campus facilities, including the construction of the Brandel Library in 2001, the Holmgren Athletic Complex in 2004, the Helwig Recreation Center and Sawyer Court student residence in 2006, and the Nancy and G. Timothy Johnson Center for Science and Community Life in 2014; the acquisition of the Park North student residence in 2005; and the renovation of the central campus green in 2003, Burgh Hall in 2008, Ohlson Hall in 2009, Sohlberg Hall in 2011, Anderson Hall in 2012, and Hanson Hall in 2018.

The 2017 adoption of the Chicago-based curricular and co-curricular programs collectively identified as Catalyst advanced the university's distinction for city-centered learning.

Mission

The mission of North Park University, as the university of the Evangelical Covenant Church, is to prepare students for lives of significance and service through education in the liberal arts, professional studies, and theology.

Core Values

- Christian We nurture Christian faith while welcoming students from all faith traditions.
- City-centered We engage Chicago as a dynamic place of learning and service.
- Intercultural We embrace and value all people, educating students for the complex global cultural tapestry.

Educational Ideals

Reflecting the core values that shape our distinctive learning community, students at North Park University experience an education that:

- Affirms learning in all its forms—in the classroom and beyond—as a gift, a joy, and a sacred obligation.
- Encourages dialogue as a means of learning where open inquiry, integrity, and civility guide our life together.
- Seeks to form and transform the whole student (intellectually, socially, and spiritually).
- Values each student for who they are and will become.

North Park University Presidents

David Nyvall, 1891–1905 A. W. Fredrickson, 1905–09 David Nyvall, 1912–23 Algoth Ohlson, 1924–49 Clarence A. Nelson, 1950–59 Karl A. Olsson, 1959–70 Lloyd H. Ahlem, 1970–79 William R. Hausman, 1980–86 David G. Horner, 1987–2004 David L. Parkyn, 2006–17 Mary K. Surridge, 2018–present

Academic Regalia

Today's academic attire is a legacy of the Middle Ages. While defining status, they kept wearers warm in the period's drafty and unheated stone buildings. In modern times, the attire is no longer protective, but is still worn to signify the wearer's degree.

Unadorned bachelor's gowns are the simplest in design, master's gowns have half-sleeves, and doctoral gowns are distinguishable by their velvet facing and three velvet chevrons on the sleeve. The velvet may be black or reflect the color of the wearer's degree.

You will notice some faculty are more colorfully attired. These gowns have traditionally denoted degrees from European universities, where each institution prescribes its regalia. In recent years, however, American institutions have increasingly departed from black and adopted more colorful garb for doctoral degrees.

Academic hoods reflect both the wearer's degree by the hood's size, the velvet trim's color, and the institution from which the degree was earned. At North Park, both graduates and faculty wear hoods. The degree colors commonly found at North Park are:

White	Arts and Letters
Gold	Science
Apricot	Nursing
Pink	Music
Scarlet	Theology or Divinity
Peacock Blue	Community Development
Drab	Business Administration,
	Economics, Management
Light Blue	Education
Dark Blue	Philosophy
Purple	Law
Green	Medicine
Brown	Fine Arts

The hood linings carry the colors of the school at which the degree was earned.

Academic Mace

A common symbol in modern academic processions, the mace symbolizes the institution's academic mission when used in academic processions.

The mace used by North Park University encompasses three symbols representing its educational mission.

- 1. The torch reflects the school motto, "In Thy Light Shall We See Light."
- 2. The growth metaphor calls attention to the holistic intellectual, emotional, and spiritual maturity the university seeks to nurture in students.
- 3. The threefold nature of the mace's composition (the three stand legs, layers, and flames) represents the trinity of the Christian tradition and three components of the university's academic program (liberal arts, professional studies, and theological education).

DECEMBER 2023 COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Mary K. Surridge, President, North Park University, Presiding

Procession of Colors <i>Please stand</i>	Trumpet Tune John W. W. Sherer, University Organist Joseph Lill, Professor of Music	Henry Purcell (1659–95)
	The flags of the United States of America, the city of Chicago, and North Park University lead the procession, followed by flags representing the countries and territories in which graduates were born, are citizens, or have been residents:	
	Afghanistan, Belize, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Mexico, Ne	epal, Peru, Turkmenistan
Academic Procession	March in G Major John W. W. Sherer, University Organist Joseph Lill, Professor of Music	Henry Smart (1813–79)
Welcome and Invocation <i>Remain standing</i>	President Mary K. Surridge	
Musical Selection	Offertory University Choir Julia Davids, Stephen J. Hendrickson Professor of Music John W. W. Sherer, University Organist	John Ness Beck (1930–87)
Scripture Reading	Ephesians 2:4-10 Dennis R. Edwards, Dean of the Seminary and Vice President for Church Relations	
Charge to Graduates	President Mary K. Surridge	
The Ahnfeldt Medallion	Presented by Michael S. Carr, Provost, and Liza Ann Acosta, University Dean The Ahnfeldt Medallion is named in honor of Alfred Nelson Ahnfeldt, North Park's first college professor. Ahnfeldt was also acting president when North Park College joined the North Park Theological Seminary shortly after the turn of the century. At the Winter Commencement ceremony, the Ahnfeldt Medallion is presented to the traditional four-year undergraduate student with the highest grade-point average in their class. The winter 2023 recipient is Jasmine A. Umana.	
Musical Selection <i>Please be seated</i>	Oh Oh Give Thanks Malcoln University Choir Terrance J. Smith, Gospel Choir Director	n Williams and Great Faith
Conferring of Degrees	President Surridge, Provost Michael Carr, and Deans	
	PROVOST CARR Madame President, on behalf of the faculty of North Park pleasure to present the members of the graduating class of have been approved by the faculty of North Park Universit now present them to you for conferral of their degrees.	f 2023. These students

DECEMBER 2023 COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

PRESIDENT SURRIDGE

You have been diligent in your studies and have attained the requirements stipulated for your respective academic degree. You have affirmed the mission and spirit of this university. With the affirmation of the faculty, by authority of the Board of Trustees, and in exercise of the powers granted by the State of Illinois, as President of North Park University it is my privilege to confer on you the academic degree which you have attained, with all the rights, privileges, and honors appertaining to that degree.

College of Arts and Sciences: Humanities and Social Sciences Introduced by Peter K. B. St. Jean, Interim Co-Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Humanities and Social Sciences and Professor of Sociology

College of Arts and Sciences: School of Music, Art, and Theatre Introduced by Chad Eric Bergman, Interim Co-Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, School of Music, Art, and Theatre and Professor of Theatre

College of Arts and Sciences: Science Introduced by Matt Schau, Interim Co-Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Division of Sciences, Professor of Biology

School of Business and Nonprofit Management Introduced by Ann O. Hicks, Dean of the School of Business and Nonprofit Management and Professor of Accounting

School of Education Introduced by Daniel Walsh, Interim Dean of the School of Education and Associate Professor of Education

School of Nursing and Health Sciences Introduced by Peggy Kotowski, Associate Professor of Nursing and Mary Shehan, Associate Professor of Nursing

School of Professional Studies Introduced by Lori Scrementi, Dean of the School of Professional Studies

North Park Theological Seminary Introduced by Dennis Edwards, Vice President for Church Relations and Dean of the Seminary

Aaronic Blessing

Numbers 6:24–26 The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Kaya Hougen, English Fariba Panahi, Farsi Teresa Godinez, Spanish Esther Kemoli, Swahili

DECEMBER 2023 COMMENCEMENT CONVOCATION

Choral Benediction	The Lord Bless You and Keep You University Choir Julia Davids, Stephen J. Hendrickson Professor of Music	Peter Lutkin (1858–1931)
Closing Prayer and Benediction	Terence Gadsden Campus Pastor and Athletic Chaplain	
Recession of Colors		
Recessional	Rigaudon John W. W. Sherer, University Organist Joseph Lill, Professor of Music	André Campra (1660–1744)
Program Notes	Marshals: Mary M. Veeneman, Trevor James, Al Kamienski	
	Peacock Music Company, LLC has provided the digital organ.	
	Immediately following the ceremony, we encourage you friends in Hamming Hall.	to connect with family and

College of Arts and Sciences

Evelyn Aguilar Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Jesus Ivan Baca Bachelor of Arts in Music

Liam R. Bristol Bachelor of Arts in Biomedical Sciences

Joselyn Carrera Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Joseph Guillermo Castañeda Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences

Logan Causgrove Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice *Summa Cum Laude*

Christin M. Daoud Bachelor of Arts in Mathematics and Secondary Education

Ariana Renea Diaz Bachelor of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies and Youth Ministry

Guadalupe Ariana Diaz Bachelor of Arts in Politics and Government

Isabella Rose Diaz Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Hannah Lucille Dickinson Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Amela Duskic Bachelor of Arts in History and Secondary Education *Cum Laude*

Stefanie G. Garcia Bachelor of Arts in Sociology Lara Gabriella Georgekos Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Manuel Guzman Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Nicole Hernandez Bachelor of Arts in Conflict Transformation Studies

Benjamin Graham Holda Bachelor of Arts in Biblical and Theological Studies

Kaya D. Hougen Bachelor of Arts in Christian Ministries Studies *Magna Cum Laude*

Märta Hultgårdh Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering *Magna Cum Laude*

Megan Elizabeth Hunt Bachelor of Science in Psychology *Cum Laude*

Grzegorz T. Kapusciak Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice *Magna Cum Laude*

Edith Kwabena Bachelor of Arts in Criminal Justice

Christian David Lamberty Bachelor of Arts in Constructed Major: Math and Art Design

Moses D. Magardician Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Laura Matias-Gomez Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences and Psychology **Adriana Ivette Medina** Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Brianna Elizabeth Medina Bachelor of Science in Psychology *Cum Laude*

Samantha Marie Mendro Bachelor of Science in Biology *Cum Laude*

Selena Yvelisse Negron Bachelor of Arts in Spanish *Magna Cum Laude*

Angelina Maria Ostalaza Bachelor of Science in Biology

Olivia R. Potash Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Christian Alexander Ramos Bachelor of Arts in History

Isabella Chiara Rodriguez Petrov Bachelor of Arts in Psychology

Hannah C. Roen Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Felicia Rullander Rudenstam Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies Summa Cum Laude

Abigail J. Sawyer Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies and Politics and Government *Cum Laude*

Manisha Singh Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences Magna Cum Laude

Cyan Nicole Torrentt Bachelor of Arts in Music

Monika Wierzba Bachelor of Arts in Biology

Reginald Williams Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering

Mary Suh Yoon Bachelor of Music in Music in Worship *Summa Cum Laude* **Joeffrey David Zano** Bachelor of Arts in English and History

Daisy Zarco Bachelor of Science in Biomedical Sciences *Magna Cum Laude*

School of Business and Nonprofit Management

Wahib Arkoub Bachelor of Science in Business *Summa Cum Laude*

Natallie E. Dahu Bachelor of Science in Business

Jesse James Diaz Bachelor of Science in Business

Joi A. Easterling Bachelor of Arts in Business *Cum Laude*

Gumaro Martinez Bachelor of Science in Business

Adrian Newell Bachelor of Science in Business **Philip Nilsson** Bachelor of Science in Business

Mike G. Oray Bachelor of Arts in Business

Lawrence Blair Pugh Jr Bachelor of Science in Business

Jaydevsinh Vishnuji Rathod Bachelor of Science in Business *Magna Cum Laude*

Davante P. Robinson Bachelor of Arts in Business *Magna Cum Laude*

Oskar Rydberg Bachelor of Science in Business *Summa Cum Laude* **Brian Sanchez** Bachelor of Science in Business

Alfred Gustaf Swärd Bachelor of Science in Business *Magna Cum Laude*

Christian Finnesand Vaaland Bachelor of Science in Business *Magna Cum Laude*

Ajla Vujic Bachelor of Arts in Business *Cum Laude*

Rocco Michael Wallin Bachelor of Arts in Business *Summa Cum Laude*

School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Judy Yang Adame Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Magna Cum Laude*

Emelie Caroline Ahlgren Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science *Magna Cum Laude*

Bill John Argiropoulos Bachelor of Science in Physical Education *Magna Cum Laude* **Clary Jaell Atapuma** Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Priya Bajracharya Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Isabella G. Bryant Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Dominic Francis Delos Reyes Bachelor of Science in Nursing Karina Diaz Bachelor of Science in Nursing Magna Cum Laude

Jakob Christian Dreksler Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Brigid Elizabeth Early Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Marcia Lena Figgs Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Christina Rose Gatta Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science *Cum Laude*

Alfonso Enrique Guzman Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Anthony Harris Jr. Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Nima Hatefadel Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Joseph Rex Kalas Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Scott S. Klaisubhan Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Amy Larrasolo Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Maria Cristina Margarita Mah Maniwan Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Cum Laude*

Maria Munoz Bachelor of Science in Nursing **Shakira Norrmann** Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Fariba Panahi Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Ashley Rebollo Mendiola Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Sofia Reed Maldonado Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Juan Eusebio Reyes Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Natasha Rodriguez Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Brianne Marie Roley Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Cum Laude*

Shanna Sadah Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Cum Laude*

Christian Delfino Alexander Santoyo Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science **Daniel O. Serrano Zelaya** Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science

Sharon M. Simon Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science *Magna Cum Laude*

Ellie Trachtman Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Magna Cum Laude*

Lindon Ujkashi Bachelor of Science in Physical Education

Jasmine A. Umana Bachelor of Science in Nursing *Summa Cum Laude*

Klara Yokhanna Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Isabela Zamora Bachelor of Science in Nursing

School of Professional Studies

Ninete Alvarado Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing *Magna Cum Laude*

Reehan A. Baggia Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Summa Cum Laude*

Danielle Melissa Bieber Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing **Shawn Latrese Young Boothe** Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Derian C. Breitbarth Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Magna Cum Laude*

Rebecca Brincovan Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership **Talia Frances Browdy** Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology

Cecy Jasmine Calderon Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing

Javier Carreno Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership Summa Cum Laude

Tiffany Alicia Yvette Cherry Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Paula Lenise Cleveland Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology *Summa Cum Laude*

Caroline E. Cox Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Summa Cum Laude*

Jake David Dianovsky Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Amanda Mary Diehn Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership

Bianca C. Dorr Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Summa Cum Laude*

Patryk Krzysztof Dziejma Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Cum Laude*

Erica Echevarria Bachelor of Arts in Counseling Psychology *Magna Cum Laude*

Izobella Nicole C. Estano Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Jiana Monique Funteas Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing *Cum Laude* **Jacquelyn Elizabeth Garry** Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Cum Laude*

Teresa Godinez Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing *Summa Cum Laude*

Damian Guerrero Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Nicole J. Hernandez Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing *Cum Laude*

Feda Jarad Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership

Elise Likins Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing Magna Cum Laude

Micah E. Lowe Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership

Juan J. Mata Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Patricio Miranda Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration

Ashlee Peters Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership Summa Cum Laude **Benjamin David Rhine** Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Summa Cum Laude*

Paul Rizzolo Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership *Magna Cum Laude*

Caitlin Marie Sullivan Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership

Suleman Tariq Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Cum Laude*

Eleftheria Tsipi Bachelor of Arts in Business Administration *Summa Cum Laude*

Jocelyn Jade Villalvazo Bachelor of Arts in Digital Marketing Cum Laude

Tom Weisensee Bachelor of Arts in Organizational Management and Leadership *Cum Laude*

GRADUATE DEGREES

North Park Theological Seminary

Daniel Johnsen Master of Arts in Christian Formation *High Honors* Lauren Celeste Thurston Master of Divinity High Honors

Doctoral Degree

Michael Paul Snyder Doctor of Ministry in Urban Ministry Leadership Engaging Across Boundaries: Practicing Embrace and Hospitality

School of Business and Nonprofit Management

Melissa Virginia Coleman Master of Business Administration

Elmira Dabeca Master of Business Administration

Katherine Dillon Master of Business Administration

Gustav Nils Valdemar Ericsson Master of Organizational Leadership

Haneen Hariri Master of Business Administration

Michael Phillip Harwood Master of Organizational Leadership

Kevin S. Kelly Master of Business Administration

Esther Amunga Kemoli Master of Nonprofit Administration *With Distinction* **Lauren Joan Lee** Master of Business Administration

Eamonn Kieran Manion Master of Business Administration *With Distinction*

Lefvia Thamar Marrero Master of Nonprofit Administration *With Distinction*

Luis E. Marroquin Master of Business Administration

Robert Glenn Murdach Master of Business Administration *With Distinction*

Jedediah Xavier Myrchiang Wallang Master of Business Administration

Lucas Christopher Peterson Master of Business Administration *With Distinction* **Anwar J. Robinson** Master of Business Administration

Miranda Rodriguez Master of Organizational Leadership

Hilary Shinnick Master of Business Administration

Smirna Sinanovic Master of Organizational Leadership *With Distinction*

Michelle Kristin Testa Master of Organizational Leadership With Distinction

Traia Katherine Thiel Master of Nonprofit Administration *With Distinction*

Diego Cesar Vargas Buislay Master of Business Administration

GRADUATE DEGREES

School of Education

Kathleen Bourneuf Master of Arts in Educational Leadership With Distinction

Starr Caldwell Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Shirin Chagylova Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Jordan Thomas Doles Master of Arts in Educational Leadership

Kassandra Lisa Dominguez Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Ashley A. Enriquez Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Katina Frericks Master of Arts in Educational Leadership With Distinction

Marta Garcia Master of Arts in Education

Ernesto R. Garza Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction* **Veronica Gomez** Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Norma Gutierrez Castro Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Hudson Abrams Hamilton Master of Arts in Teaching *With Distinction*

Carl Malcolm Johnson Master of Arts in Teaching *With Distinction*

Siobhan Mary Kearney Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Nenad Komljenovic Master of Arts in Teaching

Soraya Fatima Katoozian Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Dana Lebrecht Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Casey Leiby Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

School of Music, Art, and Theatre

Yuda Dong Master of Music in Collaborative Piano **Semajah Lrae Parker** Master of Music in Vocal Performance **Rebecca Lynn Lopez** Master of Arts in Educational Leadership *With Distinction*

Thomas V. Moran Master of Arts in Teaching *With Distinction*

Anna Nikolopoulos Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Lisbeth J. Ocampo Master of Arts in Teaching *With Distinction*

Lamanda Teresa Odutayo Master of Arts in Educational Leadership With Distinction

Andreas Hjelle Råket Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Ankiet Sharad Master of Arts in Education *With Distinction*

Alec Jordan Showers Master of Arts in Education With Distinction

Brian G. Weber Master of Arts in Teaching *With Distinction*

GRADUATE DEGREES

School of Nursing and Health Sciences

Ranjana Adhikari Master of Science in Nursing

Brigette Nicole Atcheson-Demke Master of Science in Nursing *With Distinction*

Shira Adina Etzman Master of Science in Nursing

Nishi N. Gandhi Master of Science in Nursing

Doctoral Degree

Kimberly Cholewa Doctorate of Nursing Practice *Mindfulness-Based Practices to Improve Staff Resiliency*

School of Professional Studies

Audrey Katherine Adams Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling With Distinction

Harvey Rashawn Cameron Master of Arts in Clinical Mental

Health Counseling

Ryan R. Canfield

Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Craig Mercii Coleman Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology **Caitlin J. Melaragni** Master of Science in Nursing

Master of Science in Nursing

Grace Lezon

Isabella J. Pak Master of Science in Nursing With Distinction

Rani Patel Master of Science in Nursing **Daryl Judilla Signe** Master of Science in Nursing

Elizabeth Rose Hanrahan Master of Science in Nursing

Olivia Rosemary Wenstrom Master of Science in Nursing

Katelynn R. Finnegan Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Jill M. Lickteig Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling *With Distinction*

Elinda Michele Magnuson Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling *With Distinction*

Elizabeth E. Mathews Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Hannah Oluwatosin Oyebanji Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

Kate H. Penkethman Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

With Distinction

Kahleen Louise Riojas

Master of Arts in Clinical Mental Health Counseling *With Distinction*