

2024 COMMENCEMENT

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY





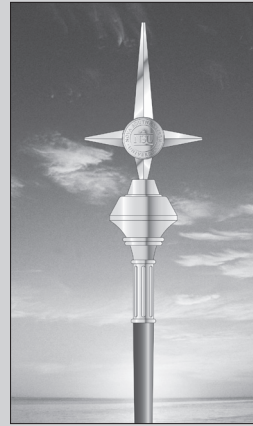
Dear Graduates,

Nova Southeastern University takes enormous pride in your success. On behalf of NSU's faculty, staff, and Board of Trustees, I salute your academic and personal achievement. You have reached this milestone through hard work and intellectual effort, and we are pleased to recognize your dedication with today's commencement ceremony.

Reflect on the gifts of knowledge and support you have received. Celebrate the friendships, skills, and strengths you have forged. Embrace the opportunity to apply these treasures as you start a new chapter in your life, hopefully, following your passion, not your fortune, and keep your aim above your reach.

Our best wishes are with you today and in the future.
Congratulations!

George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D.
NSU President and CEO



THE NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY MACE

HISTORY OF THE MACE

During the Middle Ages, the mace was an effective weapon in battle and also was displayed as a symbol to command order during royal gatherings, religious ceremonies, and university classes. As newer and more powerful military arms were created, however, the mace progressed into a symbol of authority and today is frequently used to lead religious and academic processions.

The mace was originally a wooden staff carried by royal messengers as a symbol to preserve order and usher royal functions. The early wooden staff of such royal messengers or lead ushers of ceremonial processions was transformed in the 14th century into an elaborate sterling silver mace. Eventually, in the 15th century, it evolved into a symbol of academic excellence and dignity.

NSU'S MACE

Before its merger in 1994 with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences, Nova University's mace bore a sterling silver "nova star" symbolizing the university's name and mission. Symbolically, Nova University's "nova star" burned brightly, providing educational enlightenment to the world. Today, a new sterling silver mace highlights the past, present, and future through the inclusion of the original "nova star" representing the university's past, surrounding the NSU seal. When not in official use, the mace is displayed in the rotunda of the William and Norma Horvitz Administration Building.

In Latin, "nova" means new or innovative. Nova Southeastern University was created to be an innovative educational institution—to take the best of traditional education from the past and mold it to fit the needs of students for today and tomorrow.

VISION 2025 STATEMENT

By 2025, NSU will be recognized as a preeminent, professional-dominant, doctoral-research university that provides competitive career advantages to its students and produces alumni who serve and lead with integrity.

MISSION STATEMENT 2025

The mission of NSU—a selective, doctoral-research university—is to deliver innovative academic programs in a dynamic, lifelong learning and research environment fostering integrity, academic excellence, leadership, and community service through engaged students, faculty, and staff.

The Vision 2025 Statement, Mission Statement, and Core Values were adopted by the NSU Board of Trustees on March 29, 2021.

CORE VALUES

Integrity
Academic Excellence
Community
Diversity
Innovation
Opportunity
Scholarship/Research
Student Centered

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Charles L. Palmer, *Chair*

Barry J. Silverman, M.D., *Vice Chair*

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Rita Case

Suzi Cordish

R. Douglas Donn

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Steven J. Halmos

Carol Harrison Kalagher

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Barbara Trebbi Landry

Alan B. Levan

Nell McMillan Lewis, Ed.D.

Albert J. Miniaci

Anthony N. Ottaviani, D.O., M.P.H.,

MACOI, FCCP

Kiran C. Patel, M.D.

George I. Platt, J.D.

Martin R. Press, J.D.

Paul M. Sallarulo

J. Kenneth Tate

Zachariah P. Zachariah, M.D.

Michael J. Zager

Trustee Emeriti

H. Wayne Huizenga

Mike Jackson

UNIVERSITY SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS

George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., *President and Chief Executive Officer*

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Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., *Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Daniel J. Alfonso, M.Fin., *Vice President for Facilities Management and Public Safety*

Bonnie Clearwater, M.A., *Director and Chief Curator of NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale*

Marc Crocquet, M.B.A., *Vice President for Business Services*

Ken Dawson-Scully, Ph.D., *Associate Provost and Senior Vice President for Research and Economic Development*

Kyle Fisher, B.A., *Vice President for Public Relations, Marketing, and Creative Services*

James Hutchens, M.L.S., *Vice President for Information Services and University Librarian*

Richard E. James, B.S., *Chief Strategy and Operations Officer, NSU Health*

Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D., *Associate Provost and Vice President for Academic Assessment and Accreditation*

Gary S. Margules, Sc.D., *Vice President for Research and Technology Transfer*

Ronald Midei, M.B.A., CPA, *Executive Director of Internal Auditing*

Michael Mominey, M.S., *Associate Vice President for University Advancement and Director of Athletics*

Terry J. Mularkey, M.A.S., CFRE, *Vice President for University Advancement and Chief of Staff*

Thomas Panza, J.D., *Interim General Counsel and Vice President for Legal Affairs*

Stacy Pena-Villalobos, Ed.D., *Vice President for Financial Aid and Academic Records*

Robert Pietrykowski, J.D., M.B.A., M.A., *Vice President for Human Resources*

Leonard J. Pounds, Ph.D., M.S., *Vice President for NSU Health Administration*

Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., Ed.D., M.P.A., *Vice President for Operations, Health Professions Division*

Don Rudawsky, Ph.D., *Vice President for Institutional Effectiveness*

Shari Saperstein, Ed.D., *Vice President for Student Affairs*

Alyson K. Silva, M.AC., CPA, *Vice President for Finance and Chief Financial Officer*

Robin Supler, J.D., *Vice President for Compliance and Chief Integrity Officer*

John Wensveen, Ph.D., *Chief Innovation Officer, NSU, and Executive Director, the Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation*

Thomas West, M.B.A., *Vice President for Information Technologies and Chief Information Officer*

Brad Williams, Ed.D., *Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs*

Jeff Williams, CCM, CCE, *Manager, Grande Oaks Golf Course*

Ray Ferrero, Jr., J.D., *University Chancellor*

Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., *Chancellor Emeritus, Health Professions Division*

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Undergraduate Degrees

May 1, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. 4
 Halmos College of Arts and Sciences..... 5

May 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m. 8
 Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and
 School of Criminal Justice..... 9
 College of Computing and Engineering..... 9
 College of Psychology..... 10
 H. Wayne Huizenga College of
 Business and Entrepreneurship 10
 Shepard Broad College of Law 11

May 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m..... 12
 Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine 13
 Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences..... 13
 Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing..... 14

OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

THE JAMES FARQUHAR AWARD..... Lorena Mesquita Ragonesi, Neuroscience

May 1, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

**Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and
 Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center**
 Bella Christine Giaquinto, Communication
 Courtney White, Marine Biology

May 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

**Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and
 the School of Criminal Justice**
 Sean Ward Stanton, Education
 Shannon Hetzel, Criminal Justice

College of Computing and Engineering

Kyle Gomez, Computer Science
 Lavan Nevah, Computer Science

College of Psychology

Nha-Truc Rosemary Phan, Psychology
 Roberto Leonard Fileni, Behavioral Neuroscience

Farquhar Honors College

Janaki Chandra, Biology
 Nina Lozovnoy, Public Health

H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship

Madison Morrow Fine, Marketing
 Millie Langaas, Finance

Shepard Broad College of Law

Alexandra Pri-Hadash, Law
 Robert Milman, Law

May 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
 Manas Peddiboyina, Public Health
 Molly Bergin Tirrell Sullivan, Health and Wellness Coaching

Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences

Robert Roicanelli, Exercise and Sport Science
 Melissa Melendez, Medical Sonography

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

Natalie Lopez, Nursing
 Catherine Fuentes, Nursing

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center

May 1, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal
Degree Candidates
Members of the Faculty
Members of the Board of Trustees
Distinguished Guests
University Officials

Processional.....	Pomp and Circumstance
Presiding Officer.....	George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith.....	Sydney Sturza, ROTC Cadet
Convening the Commencement.....	Grand Marshal Tamara Frank, Ph.D. <i>Professor, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and The Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D. <i>Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., M.F.A., <i>Dean</i>
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences.....	Holly Lynn Baumgartner, Ph.D., <i>Dean</i>
Opening Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Presentation of The James Farquhar Award.....	Brad Williams, Ed.D. <i>Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs</i>
Presentation of Outstanding Student Awards.....	Brad Williams
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins
Student Speaker.....	Alexis I. Lass, Class of '24
Conferring of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree.....	George L. Hanbury II
Commencement Address.....	John Paul, J.D. <i>Senior Assistant Statewide Prosecutor</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail
Conferral of Degrees.....	George L. Hanbury II
Closing Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Dismissal of the Commencement.....	Tamara Frank
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
 O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
 Bright sun shining new;
 Radiant star of our morning,
 Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
 and thy love a beacon strong,
 as throughout the world we praise thy name
 joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
 By thy light imbue,
 Service, honor, loyalty,
 'til our days are through.
 Love thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

HALMOS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE GUY HARVEY OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CENTER

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Art and Design

Jonathan O. Akagbosu
 Charlotte Carter
 Rebecca Rose Fazio
 Luciana Marie Fernandez Ortega
 Sofia A. Guerra Cardona
 Gabriel Alejandro Hidalgo
 Benjamin N. Jennette
 Jacqueline M. Matos
 Margeaux L. Miller
 Julianna R. Patalano
 Samantha Sigler
 Juliana Kai Vallone
 Marilyn Yanes Perez

Communication

Danna M. Bertel
 Olivia Marilyn Blankenship
 Ester Costa Lucas Ferreira
 Lauren P. Do Nascimento
 Bella Giaquinto
 Yasmeen D. Hughes
 Madison J. Hurtado
 Arianna A. Morel
 Valeria Olano
 Graciela Quezada

Veronica R. Richard
 Stefano Oliver Saintil
 Gerianne Lucia Salamanca Gamez
 Nicole Mary Shaker
 Alexis E. Steinman

Dance

Madison W. Ring
 Bianka C. Texidor

English

Kaiya Marie Drake
 Karla Encarnacion
 Christina T. Hall
 Dexter Mitchell

History

Emily C. Eggleton
 Steven Stabile

International Studies

Jenny Davila
 Charlotte G. Opris
 Zyon Slue
 Else B. Snoonian

Music

Alexander Michael Manganello

Philosophy

Melanie Lisbet Urena

Political Science

Camellia Baki
 Julia Belle Batchker
 Kiara Colman
 Alexis Cuomo

Jenny Davila
 Savannah Vito Delano
 Jared Parker DeRosa
 Amenia Farraj
 Amber Marie Hockaday
 Colby J. Joiner
 Olivia A. Jones
 Kayla K. Kidd
 Alexis Ilene Lass
 David Mahnke
 Valeska Ribeiro Antunes
 Arianna Andrea Sankar

Theatre

Spencer S. Carlisle
 Caroline Grace Cespedes
 Antonella X. Lalande
 Julia L. Marn
 Sierra M. Rivera

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Applied Professional Studies

Grace Bonitz
 Florencia Bossero
 Jorge Braceras
 Kela Burrows
 Austin Chatoori
 Christian J. Colvin
 Victoria F. Constantine
 Jada Cook
 Lady M. David
 Bartow Christian Duhart
 Krystal Lynn Eischen Olsen
 Karim Samy Rafaat Nazmy Faltas
 Olivia Franchi-Alfaro
 Jamiatul Fahema

Michael J. Gonzalez
 Ailohi T. Ikefan
 Storm B. Jacobs
 Edwynn K. Jean-Pierre
 Makaela R. King
 Ishaan Melwani
 Cade Patrick Osman
 Elijah Ring
 Ayanna M. Royal
 Rachel E. Smith
 Tania Stephen
 Blanche L. Tamiya

Biology

Ashley Abad
 David Abad
 Diego Abad
 Mariam Idris Abdulkader
 Bryan B. Abraham
 Kaitlynn K. Abraham
 Humza Ahmed
 Folasade Vilma Aiyelabowo
 Mridul Akasapu
 Rishad R. Alam
 Phillip Benjamin Alexeev
 Paige L. Altaffer
 Emily L. Andersen
 Cassandra Elizabeth Androsac
 Samuel Samir Angel
 Daniela Arevalo Ramos
 Karam H. Asad
 Shreya Lakshmi Averineni
 Simra Azhar
 Randy Purnavasulu Azore
 Catherine Balderas-Espinel
 Ankit Baral
 Tiffany M. Blair

Tanner Blank
Nada Bleibel
Kyle Steven Bonnardel
Isabel K. Boren
Alesiana Braca
Sade Brown
Alden Brutus
Makayla M. Buenafe
Leia Rae Busk
Carolina Cabassa
Heydy Alexandra Caceres
Jiselle Caminero
Jordan N. Carreras
Katelynn A. Catedral
Janaki Chandra
Elaine Y. Chen
Varsha Chigurupati
Bhuwattie D. Chinkoo
Matthew L. Christie
Chelsea Rae Clamens
Jheanelle A. Clarke
Marqus R. Colon
Mia F. Conza
Cheyanne C. Crisafulli
Alexandria N. Cummings
Juhi Prashant Dalal
Adithya Daniel Mathews
Priya Darbhanga
Daniela Delgado
Nishtha T. Desai
Isabella Di Salvo
Duong B. Dinh
Robert Duplessy
Quadre O'Brien Wayne Emery
Stephanie Reina Encaoua Bengio
Melany Estrada
Marie F. Excellent
Kaitlyn Elizabeth Fairchild
Mohammed R. Faruque
Ashley M. Fernandez
Nickillia Courtney Forrester
Isabella Funicello
Giuliana Carolina Gadea
Naga R. Ganti
Liz A. Garcia
Nabila P. Garcia
Emma Caroline Gardner
James Dean Geier
Michaela Anne Gentile
Kathryn J. Germond
David J. Giordano
Dev Manish Gohel
Gabriela N. Goldvekht
Rishabh Nitin Golechha
Melissa Suria Gonzalez
Angel Jose Gonzalez Saez
Luis Javier Gonzalez Saez
Anirudh Gopalam
Delrecia D. Grant
Rachel Maya Gruboy
Genesis Jayda Grullon
Jenna M. Handal
Jontaye Z. Hankerson
Tashfia Hasan
Thabet E. Hasan
Maria F. Hernandez
Adriana Hernandez Acosta
Nhi Quynh Ho Van

Frances Holmstadt
Joah Mitchivah Inelus
Briana Ivackovic
Philvin Jaimon
Ananya Jain
Sejal Jain
Ashley M. Janke
Sanna Javadian
Abigail Christine Johnston
Aleena Jose
Lavena Jose
Shana Jose
Tulsi Kantu
Raghav Ramesh Kare
Meghana S. Kavarthapu
Petra Kemp
Som Kumar Keshav
Abdullah Basir Khan
Wania Khan
Rhea B. Khatiwala
Alana Rae Kleiner
Ilana E. Kolomiyets
Vamsi Korisapati
Vallabh Korivi
Harshita S. Kumar
Dhivyan K. Kurani
Mihir Kurup
Amabel Gabriela Lajeunesse
Stephan Lattiboudeair
Danielle L. Leal
Leane Mireille Jeannine Leclerc
Ju Hyun Lee
Rose Lenore Xiaokai Leeger
Dayana S. Leiva
Tatiana Leon
Joan Gianna Linfante
Gabriella Llorente
Carlos A. Lombardero
Ryan Mitchell Luib
Paul Lup
Joseph H. Maalouf
Elyse O. Macatol
Jan J. Maceo
Jessica D. Mangila
Esha Kaur Manku
Cynthia M. Mathew
Joshua Alexander McFarlane
Odianna Mckenzie
John Melika
Vanessa Mesa
Anthony C. Modaffari
Jash B. Modi
Zaria I. Montanez
Anshika H. Motiani
Jasmin E. Morales
Sruthi R. Mortala
Cristian S. Mosquera
Riya A. Murali
James S. Murray
Sabrina Narain
Nicole Navarro
Pranav R. Neravetla
Abigail M. Nguyen
Tyler Nguyen
Vivian Hoanh Phuong Nguyen
Tamar B. Nijhove
Iftikharun Nissa
Saahil G. Noupada

Kaya Leone Olszewski
Chantalle M. Ortega
Michelle N. Ortiz
Juan A. Osuna
Daniela Otero-Wincher
Nyah A. Pacely
Aileen R. Pacheco
Saaketh Palli
Jacey T. Paoli
Anthony Joseph Parafati
Supratik N. Pasupuleti
Surili H. Patani
Achal H. Patani
Anjali Trivedi Patel
Arianna Patel
Disha P. Patel
Kena Piyush Patel
Priya A. Patel
Priya D. Patel
Rahi S. Patel
Raj C. Patel
Rajvi Patel
Richa Chetan Patel
Riya D. Patel
Seema Patel
Shivani K. Patel
Shivani S. Patel
Vickesh P. Patel
Nita V. Pedavalli
Isabella Perez
Laura Maria Perez
Valentina C. Perez
Gabriella Faith Pertab
Joshua Philips
Alexis M. Pino
Keerthi Polam
Alexander Peter Pope
Janani Prasanna
Phaedra Immacul Preval
Mia Prodanovic
Jennifer Pulido Luis
Michelle Elizabeth Rabin
Tiffany Rakela
Chelsea V. Rambally
Bianca S. Ramos
Amber Kelly Rampersaud
Emelie H. Ramsundar
Sonia Rao
Logan Rattana
Shriya Reddy
Lauren O. Reinfeld
Bernhard Michael Riegl
Grace I. Ringo
Felipe Rivas-Morales
Lauren A. Robledo
Anneliese Rodriguez
Madisen Rohr
Sunniva Ruiz
Maria B. Sanabria
Ashley L. Sandoval
Thalia Sarmiento
Abby Thuy Nguyen Schamber
Parth Shah
Simrun Shah
Nadia Natalee Shuriah
Deepika S. Sirivolu
Aniah M. Smith

Harsh Nilesh Soni
Sandy Soto
Mark R. Sourial
Lea T. Stephen
Adhit Subramani Sundaram
Sonia P. Suratkal
Vaishnavi Tetali
Varun D. Toot
Michael A. Toro
Chemenda Toussaint
Kathiana Toussaint
Aya Tracey
Sadhika Uppalapati
Andrew James Utinans
Matthew Kamon Valentine
Maya Vanunu
Sharel Vasquez Guerra
Valeria Vega
Mariapaz Velez
Edxael Velez Rodriguez
Gianna M. Vitucci
Ritika Reddy Vonguru
Raghavi Vuppala
Ashley Lynn Wall
Kaitlin M. Walsh
Gabrielle K. Williams
Kameron Trevor Williams
Mary A. Wilson
Eleanor J. Wind
Madison A. Wolfe
Dylan G. Wood
Adarsh R. Yerramreddy
Alia Yiskis
Cassidy Evelyn Zangwill
Sebastian Heriberto Zaragoza

Chemistry

Austin T. Biddix
Francisco Antonio
Castro Wetzstein
Nicholas Alberto Ferreiro
Amelia L. Figueroa
Jack Havranek
Tatum Marcus Hedrick
Dana Marie Kraska
Mei Langlongstit
Cameron A. Martinez
Chase Aaron Pagley
Shirley Tao Ouyang
Sara A. Thomas
Isabella M. Zagami

Environmental Sciences

Ann M. Birmingham
Tava N. Boeckel
Kylie Bosket
Kirsten Libby Coleman
Tatyanna Fuentes
Hosanna Gattle
Sarah A. Gerega
Benjalene Betty Hanna
Colby A. Holbrook
Andrew C. Kuntz
Adam A. LaPorte
Lili Mei Jing McElhill
Giovanna Nieves Rodriguez

Arnold L. Perez
Vlad M. Radu
Victoria R. Remaley
Keever R. Rood
Paige Baylee Ruhlman
Claire Scobie

Interdisciplinary Studies

Alicia Baik An
Jerome Phoenix Benoit
Maria Fernanda Estevez
Adam Frank
Jamie Jomon Jacob
Jordyn Pitter
Adam V. Sewnarine
Amar Singh

Legal Studies

Tiana A. Adams
Joory Alamoudi
Bruna Yara R. Azevedo
Alvaro E. Castillo
Kelly E. Celestre
Destiny Amber Clarke
Linda Louise Collins
Pamela Johanna Delgado
Jennifer M. Fanea
Fraitzline C. Gustave
Eryka Gusztyn
Amber Marie Hockaday
Jamila Hughes
Sydney Anne Morris
Susana V. Ocando
Amber R. Paquette
Kyriakos Peridteridis
Abril Guadalupe Romo
Skyler G. Santa Maria
Isabella Serna
Aubrey Leanne Shearin
Jocelyn Vega

Marine Biology

Kristina Agee
Wendy N. Arteaga
Zachary E. Bhe
Brianna Josephine Buckley
Breanna Rose Calle
Kaylee Jordan Czachorowski
Rebekah A. Detwiler
Gabriel Droz
Logan P. Exton
Sydney K. Francis
Megan Gomes
Lauren J. Groves
Theophilus J. Hebert
Heidi S. Hellenbrand
Rodolfo A. Heredia
Jessica R. Jagoda
Alianna M. Jones
Kayla Desiree Jones
Tyler M. Jurain
Amanda Kopas
Farah Nicole Kuchcicki
Vincenzo M. Ledonne
Victoria B. Martinez Bruno
Kiah N. Matthews

Grace Elizabeth Mikus
Alison G. Novara
Diana N. Phillips
Manuel Ploner
Sierra P. Potts
Caroline Ravizzoni Giroto
Federico Joway Rodriguez Chang
Jason Erick Rosales
Jessica R. Rutenis
Preston Bradley Sawicki
Dylan J. Seiffert
Fiona Marie Smith
Aysia Stephens
Victoria Velez
Ariel Rose Velligan
Lesley M. Wallace
Courtney Madison White
Liam L. Wilcox
Maura Paige Wondra
Joseph Wright
Kylee M. Wright

Mathematics

Sonia Ahmaripour
Megan E. Bennett
Julie Bruggner
Diana Elizabeth Dancea
Delia Medovoy

Sociology

Safiye Gonzalez
Kaylee A. Hilyer
Delanie Lugo
Kaleb S. Myers
Janelle Trasancos

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the
**Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and
School of Criminal Justice**
College of Computing and Engineering
College of Psychology
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship
Shepard Broad College of Law

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal
Degree Candidates
Members of the Faculty
Members of the Board of Trustees
Distinguished Guests
University Officials

May 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Processional.....	Pomp and Circumstance
Presiding Officer.....	George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith.....	Sydney Sturza, ROTC Cadet
Convening the Commencement.....	Grand Marshall Gina Peyton, Ed.D., <i>Professor, Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice</i> ; Ling Wang, Ph.D., <i>Professor, College of Computing and Engineering</i> ; Suri Weisfeld-Spotler, Ph.D., <i>Professor, H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice.....	Kimberly Durham, Psy. D., <i>Dean</i>
College of Computing and Engineering	Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D., <i>Associate Provost, Dean, and Professor</i>
College of Psychology	Karen Grosby, Ed.D., <i>Dean</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., M.F.A., <i>Dean</i>
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship	Andrew J. Rosman, Ph.D., <i>Dean and Professor</i>
Shepard Broad College of Law	José R. (Beto) Juárez, Jr., J.D., <i>Dean and Professor</i>
Opening Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Presentation of James Farquhar Award.....	Brad Williams, Ed.D., <i>Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs</i>
Presentation of Outstanding Student Awards.....	Brad Williams
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins
Student Speaker	Sean Ward Stanton, Class of '24
Commencement Address.....	John Paul, J.D., <i>Senior Assistant Statewide Attorney</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail
Conferral of Degrees	George L. Hanbury II
Closing Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Dismissal of the Commencement.....	Grand Marshal Gina Peyton, Ling Wang, Suri Weisfeld-Spotler
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
Bright sun shining new;
Radiant star of our morning,
Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
and thy love a beacon strong,
as throughout the world we praise thy name
joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
By thy light imbue,
Service, honor, loyalty,
'til our days are through.
Love thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

ABRAHAM S. FISCHLER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

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Child Development

Viergelyn Cimeus
Taija Simonya Daniel
Stephanie Ashley-Ann
Drummond-Lee
Dekeisha L. Duncan
Brianna A. Fernandez
Rebecca Forgosh
Mia J. Gaita
Dominique M. Grant
Hailey House
Janelle Kristina Nelson
Phoebe Mia Suarez

Criminal Justice

Aliza R. Campbell
Justin J. Campbell
Jasmine N. Canto
Sabrina Frances Dombek
Ameen Farraj
Nicolas Lawrence Festa
Sara Yasmeen Fraser
Olivia M. Grant
Muireann N. Griffin
Matthew L. Guidice
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Florian P. Huck
Aleena John
Shelcey Latortue
Abigail A. Leep
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Angela Lopez
Giulia Nicolae
Jasmine Saldana
Roxana Serra
India Shepherd
Shmuel Tomosiss
Tomas Vilanova
Aaliyahna Imani Washington
Samantha Marie Wylie

Education

Carlos David Acacio Gordon
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Kaitlyn Alexandra Bernal
Audra Sloan Bloch
Taaron Branch
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Mitchell Rachel Monroe

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Brooke E. Vandermay
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Brianna D. Williams
Rachel L. Winslow

Elementary Education with ESOL/ Reading Endorsements

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Valentina Contreras Merida
Alicia M. Cronin
Ashley Diaz
Leah Rose Froehlich
Isabelle Gonzalez
Caelin Nicole Holt
Logan C. King
Ariel P. Lam
Julia A. McGinnis
Karissa Cathryn Sanford
Madison G. Torres
Morgan C. Wallace
Maggie Lyn Weidner

Exceptional Student Education with ESOL Endorsement

Melanie R. Hedrick
Briana C. McMahon
Amelia Teresa Medina
Christina Rose Pascento
Bailey Shanahan

Human Services Administration

Patricia Maria Justo
Kishantis A. Ragins

Secondary Biology Education

Ajani Kymani Saldaña
Alyssa J. Trausch
Soraya Aletheia Xaviera Woods

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Raymond Adrian Cuervo
Alexis Jewel Walters

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Carlos A. Rivera-Vasquez

Secondary Social Studies Education

Danielle Elizabeth Gross

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING

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Leonardo Jesus Cabrera
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Isell Guevara
Izza A. Khan
Chelsa B. Louis
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Briana Valenzuela
Santiago Vargas Serra

Information Technology

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Shati Ayinde-Passmore
Jason Mitchell Bell
Jonahya J. Daniel
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Moutarr T. Jallow
Rejoice Kumah
Nicole Amanda Moya
Yulieth Ochoa Suarez
Adrienne Noelle Pallett
Armand A. Parker
Kyarra I. Plunkett
Ilona S. Reiner
Odell J. Thompson
Marissa Tobon
Mingyang Xi
Aaliyah Nedelca Young

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Annabella M. Cano
Angela M. Cruz
Marlee L. Dauphin
Stacey Doret
Greiz Garcia
Myles N. Goliger
Lauren Elizabeth Gray
Isaac Hai
Noorine Hasan
Jacquelyn Rose Hilber
Raha Islam
Dharaneeshwar Jayavelu
Moha Gowda Jayram
Angelina M. John
Aashna Kalwani
Christopher Myles Kidwell
Julia Langman
Sanjana Nimish Mody
Sabrina Narain
Nikhila Paleati
Paul James Paronich
Bhakti D. Patel
Nita V. Pedavalli
Sreelakshmi Praveen
Lakshmi Srikari Ravulaparthi
Thalia Sarmiento

Neuroscience

Kaitlynn K. Abraham
Saba F. Ahmad
Humza Ahmed
Carolina F. Albuquerque
Mikayla Leann Apicella
Simra Azhar
Isata M. Bangura
Mythili Sri Batchu
Vedika Chiduruppa
Alexa A. Deusenberry
Chaimae El Mouden
Naga R. Ganti
Ariana Gonzalez
Esther Hong
Shalet James
Dhareneeshwar Jayavelu
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Justin M. Le
Jessica D. Mangila
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Zaria I. Montanez
Anshika H. Motiani
Karla V. Munoz
Aishwarya Muppoor
Myriam V. Pape
Shreeji M. Patel
Yachi H. Patel
Debora M. Pereira Mcmenamin
Gabiella Faith Pertab

Jayson Phan
Bibiana M. Quinones
Shriya Reddy
Grace I. Ringo
Melissa Rodriguez
Anthony Alexander Romero
Leilani Romero
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Kathryn Schmick
Isaac Yves Senat
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Drew J. Smith
Prudence Stewart
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Peter Stringer
Esha Sultana
Ori Tayar
Jadasia Thomas
Sharel Vasquez Guerra
Eleanor J. Wind

Psychology

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Carrie S. Alcinord
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Alexis Mia Alvarez
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Maham Khan

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Maya Selena Leshaw
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 Jocelyn P. Taylor
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 Amanda P. Wilhelm

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 Ryan M. Bradarich
 Maria Jose Contreras Munoz
 Henry Cubides Olarte
 Taylor De Jesus Dunn
 Alec Vincent Frohn
 Christopher Simon Gomperts
 Isaiah Douglas Gutierrez
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 Destini Alexis Jacques
 Amanda H. Levy
 Daelan Christopher Mangiafico
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 Taylor Nichole Martinez
 Hannah Sophia Mitterberger

Simbarashe Tatenda Mtasa
 Emmanuella Owusu
 Gino A. Pena
 Alberto Gabriel Pia
 Caitlin Alyssa Seymour
 Kerstyn K. Shaw
 Megan Danielle Thompson
 Jorge Eduardo Valadez
 Christian M. Vendetti
 Nathaniel Luigi Villegas

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 Gabriel Alfonso
 Lauren Elizabeth Cerullo
 Valentina Chala
 Massimo Colizza
 Mila Noel Dallas
 Sebastien Emmanuel
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 Alexa Greenwald
 Renny Haines
 Jacquelyn Rose Hilber
 Shane Trupin Hunter
 Lindsey Donna Johnstone
 Julia Lages Martinelli
 Kristin K. Mak
 Anton Willi Mueller
 Charles W. Nichols
 Luca G. Parlato
 Nicole Arantza Perez
 Maria Celeste Pernia
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 Valeria Rodriguez
 Monica Rosa-Velasquez
 Maria D. Salcedo
 Anna Schmeltzer
 Cayla M. Semeraro
 Aria N. Tan
 Jennifer Tapia
 George A. Tarke
 Matthew M. Vazquez
 Kassidy D. Wells

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 Real Estate**

Lexie Egan
 Yves P. Parris
 Jake Ryan
 Emily Trieschmann
 Sela Mae Wagner

**Sport and
 Recreation Management**

Marcus Acosta
 Ellen Karin Maria Andersson
 Emma Brown
 Kristopher M. Cimino
 Cynthia A. Fonseca
 Luana Karoline Grabias
 Joseph Johnson
 Alexander Kaplan
 Grace Anna Lo Stuto
 Taylor L. Marino
 Gabriel Jose Martinez

John B. Michie
 Reggie Morales
 Stefane Pereira Rosa
 Manuel Schwarz
 Nicolas L. Vilar

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Professional Management

Richard A. Bailey

**SHEPARD BROAD
 COLLEGE OF LAW**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Paralegal Studies

Amirah A. Hussain
 Kayla K. Kidd
 Ali S. Mirza
 Elizabeth A. Pino
 Melissa Serrano Cid
 Jennifer Sherman

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal
Degree Candidates
Members of the Faculty
Members of the Board of Trustees
Distinguished Guests
University Officials

May 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

Processional.....	Pomp and Circumstance
Presiding Officer.....	George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D. <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith.....	Sydney Sturza, ROTC Cadet
Convening the Commencement.....	Grand Marshals Stephanie Petrosky, D.C.N., M.H.A., RDN, LDN, FAND, <i>Director, Chair, and Associate Professor, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine</i> Jose Antonio, Ph.D., <i>Professor, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D. <i>Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs</i>
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine.....	Elaine M. Wallace, D.O., M.S. ⁴ , <i>Dean</i>
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences.....	Stanley Wilson, Ed.D., PT, CEAS, FASAHP <i>Acting Dean, Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences, and Associate Provost, Health Professions Division</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., M.F.A., <i>Dean</i>
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing.....	Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., M.P.H., A.P.R.N., AGACNP-BC, FNP-C <i>Dean and Associate Professor</i>
Opening Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Presentation of Outstanding Student Awards.....	Brad Williams, Ed.D. <i>Senior Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs</i>
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins
Student Speaker.....	Shawnie Allen, Class of '24
Introduction to Commencement Speaker.....	George L. Hanbury II
Commencement Address.....	John Paul, J.D. <i>Senior Assistant Statewide Attorney</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail
Conferral of Degrees.....	George L. Hanbury II
Closing Remarks.....	George L. Hanbury II
Dismissal of the Commencement.....	Grand Marshals Stephanie Petrosky Jose Antonio
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
 What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
 Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
 O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
 And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
 Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
 O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
 O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
 Bright sun shining new;
 Radiant star of our morning,
 Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
 and thy love a beacon strong,
 as throughout the world we praise thy name
 joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
 By thy light imbue,
 Service, honor, loyalty,
 'til our days are through.
 Love thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL
COLLEGE OF
OSTEOPATHIC
MEDICINE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Health and Wellness Coaching

Blake A. Barrios
 Deziree A. Marjama
 Alexandra E. Mull
 Ariel Portnoy
 Molly Bergin Tirrell Sullivan

Health Informatics

Leilani Martin
 Jayde Nichole Wong

Human Nutrition

Camila Arrieta
 Madison Rose Benjamin
 Julia L. Birman
 Sofia Celis
 Beanna A. Cumella
 Stephanie Reina Encaoua Bengio
 Taylor Marie Folwark
 Sophia M. Franco
 Maria Victoria Gil
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 Andrew Laidlaw
 Alyssa A. Lietz
 Sarai A. Logan
 Mosengwe Beatrice Maila
 Christine Taylor Marti-Millward
 Maria A. Martinez
 Amanda M. Miller
 Julia Alyssa Muir
 Adrienne Newberry
 Shreya Patel

Tiffany A. Quiros
 Janisa C. Tineo
 Andrea F. Villalba Torres

Public Health

Yiset Abreu
 Anthony Arango
 Aliya Deona Baldwin
 Emily Grace Berkebile
 Palak Bhargav
 Aarush S. Bhasin
 Aliesha J. Boodram
 Alhmad Carlos Brantley
 Emma K. Bryant
 Nicole Anne Budka
 Andrea I. Concepcion
 Rehan A. Contractor
 Zach D. Defabbo
 Manoushe Jeslyne Dolce
 Morgan Kristy Fala
 Kamren R. Farzam
 Aline M. Fede
 Victoria A. Foresta
 Jade M. Forsyth
 Melanie Gomez
 Eliezer J. Gurovich
 Lydia Lea Hanson
 Mary Rose Hayes
 Lauren Herrera
 Leandra Hersh
 Farrah M. Islam
 Pranav Iyer
 Monicha B. Jean
 Mia Nicole Jones
 Saipranavi Reddy Kethireddy
 Priyansi P. Khara
 Jaden Kwakye
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 Angel Tien-Xiao Ly
 Leona Sarah Markose
 Calah Martin

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 Annabella Marie Matus
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 Om D. Patel
 Manas Peddiboyina
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 Ian Evan Raynshteyn
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 Darbie R. Tullier
 Ninelle Aaliyah Uran
 Nicole Velasquez
 Pooja Anita Yarlagadda

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 Autumn Christine Frost
 Brianna Ajah Hepburn
 Myriah C. Kosko
 Aruzhan Kussainova
 Anna L. Maddalena
 Jessica Maria Malave Arce
 Nehemie Noel
 Erik Osman
 Erin C. Wilkie
 Christine L. Woody

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Cardiovascular Sonography

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 Kaheila Edwards Brown
 Susana L. Huaman Coronel
 Kristin T. Jones
 Jennifer Jordan
 Pragna Panchal
 Vanessa Thanh Pham
 Sydney Rogowski
 Abigail Shvorin
 Kristen A. Szczepanek

Exercise and Sport Science

Shawnie D. Allen
 Kendall A. Andries
 Alexis M. Arena
 Alla A. Avsyuk
 Marissa Olina Bonsangue
 Dylan Tucker Buxbaum
 Madison N. Canales
 Dawson J. Carmack
 Brian Lamar Chisolm
 Dekayla Laushaun Duncan
 Amanda Victoria Edmonds
 Fernando A. El-Baroudi
 Jalen K. Franklyn

DR. PALLAVI PATEL
COLLEGE OF HEALTH
CARE SCIENCES

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 Allison Marie Aiken
 Janus S. Aурpy

Ariana A. Gilmore
 Angelina L. Gomez
 Kevin Jaycey Brandon Greaves
 Michael Arthur Hay
 Aiden P. Hichkad
 Abigail Noelle Johnson
 Nicole Lanzi
 Kevin Leung
 William Christopher Loging
 Quincy Jalen Lonnie-Maloney
 Christopher Edward Lys
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 Jykira T. Mccracken
 Madeline A. McGowan
 Harmony S. Micacchione
 Victoria C. Ortiz
 Haley C. Parekh
 Augustus W. Pastos
 Milan Patel
 Joseph Rocco Petruzzelli
 Jessica Jasmine Piedra
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 Elizabeth Price
 Jasmine Ramirez
 Rahim A. Rana
 Russel Robert Almazan Reside
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 Robert Leonard Rocanelli
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 Cesar L. Santos
 Jordan E. Scandizzo
 Riley Schemel
 Taylor A. Sherman
 Morgan D. Siegel
 Cole Daniel Smeester
 Austin Staedel-Gray
 Nicole K. Stanchfield
 Bianka C. Texidor
 Isabella M. Vargas-Blanchard
 Jaloni Nickole Velvett
 Bethany Sue Weber
 Tashara T. White

Medical Sonography

Danielle De La Torre
 Rachel Diaz
 Nour Farhan
 Janelle M. Fertil
 Fabienne Filsaime
 Derartu Francis
 Marisa Nicole Gaete
 Verline Gomez
 Grecia Hatzis
 Savannah Heatherly
 Melissa Olivia Melendez
 Ivette Z. Munoz
 Hannah Nair
 Elizabeth Ortiz
 Grethel Perez
 Charlene Quainoo
 Khelee Skerritt
 Tamiah Tatum
 Grayson Lee Wiegel
 Amaiya Wilson

Speech-Language and Communications Disorders

Nadine Ariana Acevedo
 Amaya Elise Allen
 Kiara S. Barahona
 Alexis Lorelle Barnes
 Jazmin Calle
 Ashley Cimentada
 Krista Joyce Cline
 Lucia Dall'Orso
 Preye J. Ford
 Brooke Anne Gallo
 Kimberly Gomez
 Katheline Hernandez
 Katherin Hernandez
 Anna M. Kaplan
 Lindsay G. Lacroix
 D'Shante Breann Lightbourne
 Hanan A. Lodhi
 Dianne Morales
 Elenie Gabrielle Ortiz
 Ivanna Ortiz
 Sara J. Paslowsky
 Angela Razo
 Tomomi Sawaguchi-Souza
 Rachel J. Seganti
 Jessica Lazara Caridad Semino
 Kylie J. Thompson
 Paige Elizabeth Wayner
 Rachel L. Winslow

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Respiratory Therapy

Amani Adel A. Alali
 Daniela Alceme
 Faisal Abdullah M. Alkathiri
 Turki Adel M. Alzahrani
 Winston C. Bethune
 Aldene Briscoe
 Christina Campo
 Atia Shonique Culmer
 Alexis Charlese Murray
 Amarilis Nunez
 Roger Plummer
 Gabriel Rodriguez Ponce De Leon
 Madison Rene Rowlee

RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Nursing

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 Alexandra Grace Aceti
 Victoria Adcock
 Vanessa Elizabeth Aguado
 Jessica Agudelo
 Iman Muhamad Ahmed
 Sophia Albert-Maute
 Jessica Alix

Christopher Faizul Alladin
 Alejandro Nicolas Alonso
 Brittney Alpizar
 Maria Fabiola Alvarado Yepez
 Katherine Alvarez
 Olivia N. Amor
 Zoe Andarsio
 Dorothy Ante
 Inessa Aranovskiy
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 Solangel Arguello
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 Anthony Thomas Arnold
 Rose Emily Aveta
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 Zachary Bailey
 Elsa L. Barahona
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 Cassidy Taylor Barker
 Savannah Barney
 Esteban De Jesus Barrera Garcia
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 Amanda Bilkis
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 Alexa Wells Desaulniers
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 Rivka Donin
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 Yvette M. Enriquez
 Grace Ericson
 Melissa Espinosa
 Rolando Estevez
 Karen Eustache
 Beatriz Victoria Fernandez
 Sabrina Finno
 Rebecca Fischer
 Amanda Rae Flores
 Ashley M. Fraga
 Evelyn Fragoso
 Colleen Ann Francioli
 Madison L. Franco
 Tiffany Franco
 Jennifer Francois
 Julian Christopher Freyre
 Catherine Fuentes
 Madeline Fuentes
 Briana Angela Gabriel
 Shassa Galety
 Karlenys Galiano
 Alejandro Gallo-Monsalve
 Alejandro Garcia
 Annette Garcia
 Teresa Garduno
 Olivia Laine Garfinkel
 Sinead Mitre Garnica
 Julia Abigail Gelber
 Adriel Ghansah
 Marina Girguis
 Heather Gold
 Diego Andres Gomes
 Skye Gomez
 Selina Gomez-Sanitbanez
 Anjali Gonzalez
 Giovanna J. Gonzalez
 Liliana Gonzalez
 Natalie Gonzalez
 Karina Gonzalez Alech

2024

COMMENCEMENT

UNDERGRADUATE

Camila Maria Gonzalez Garcia
Daniela Gonzalez Salazar
Deanna Kaleen Gordon
Mary Gould
Nicole Granata
Victoria Andrea Granda
Lucy B. Gravitt
Jessica Grinberg
Adam Dennis Grotbo
Osirys Guerra
Sophia Nikole Guidi
Afnan Gul
Nicole Genesis Gutierrez
Brianna Lynn Guzman
Caleigh Rebecca Hadley
Jayley R. Halpern-Drock
Christine Louise Hamer
Anerria Hampton
Ana Tenay Hechavarria
Kay Melody Hendricks
Ailen J. Hernandez
Brandon J. Hernandez
Brenda Hernandez
Dariel Hernandez
Emilio Hernandez
Jessica Hernandez
Matthew Hernandez
Sabrina Hernandez
Patricia Hernandez Garcia
Kelley Elizabeth Heron
Claudia Alexandra Hidalgo
Amanda Hill
Maria Karla Huici
Farizah Ibrahim
Romny Jory Imbert
Ivana Maria Iser
Rocio Iturrez
Alma Quisshae Jackson
Joy Alejandra James
Ludelyne Abigaelle Jean Louis
Slaina Jeanty
Leiann Jistine
Aaliyah Z. Johnson
Jassica Joseph
Melchisedek Josma
Marianthi Karadakis
Elizabeth G. Karagiannis
Ayodeji O. Kayode
Andrew Kelly
Alecia Tamika Kent
Sara Kiuhan
Synthia Y. Kontorovsky
Sofia Maddalena Koumoutsos
Luke Kramer
Eliya Krantz
Naftali Kranz
Nicole Kruger
Madison Mary Kuhns
Rani Jeanette Kumar
Sarah Lacombe
Carolina Landa Perez
Tabitha Landry
Gabriel James Layne
Tien Van Le
Ryan A. Ledesma
Alyssa E. Leon
Isabella J. Lesperance
Riley Lewis-Jones

Luzmia Ligonde
Janelle S. Lingad
Rose Lipkind
John Tanner Liu
Sarah Logan
Alyssa Christine Longo
Jennifer Lopez
Jocelynn Lopez
Miriam M. Lopez
Natalie Marie Lopez
Guerna Lormejuste
Ernesta Louis
Shelly Tirthkumari Luckhoo
Kayla Luis
Lauren Nieves Machado Ruiz
Elina Machin Diaz
Timothy E. MacPeck
Amy Elizabeth Magsig
Lyba Mahenti
Adamaris Maldonado
Brianna Mantrana
Espelando Marc
Sarah A. Marcus
Meaghan Tyler Markwell
Nyah M. Martin
Javier Adrian Martinez-Cruz
Gillesby Matute
Rianna Mayorga
Michaela Bryn McCardel
Anne Katherine McCusker
Ashley T. McEnroe
Madison McGee
Sammantha McLeod
Jonathan McNally
Jeffrey Melendez
Ashley Mena
Israel Menendez Rodriguez
Adriana F. Mercado
Jamie Mesidor
Patricia Mighion
Heather Marie Monachello
Jessica Agler Monteiro
Jahnnie Montes
Gerusa Montes da Luz
Daphne Morejon
Angeles Morillo
Kelsey Mary Elise Morrow
Emily E. Morton
Lily Muzzey
Sarah Nally
Alyssa Navarro
Megan M. Nelson
Stephanie Melissa Nino
Natalia Nili Novitski
Elianys Nunez Camargo
Patricia Oliva Herrero
Daniella S. Olmos De Aguilera
Nathalie R. Orelus
Johanna N. Orescar
Seanie Ortega
Edixis Oscariz
Kevin Osorio
Jennifer Pacheco
Gabriela Padilla
Chantel Palomino
Cecilia Massiel Pantaleón
Alex Parages
Erika Faria Paraiso

Shanika Pascal
Sasha Patel
Ashley Pawelski
Miranda Rose Pawlak
Emily Paz
Savaira Peerani
Marissa Perdomo
Eileen N. Perez
Jacqueline Perez
Jessica Caridad Perez
Kendall Marie Perez
Laura Gisselle Perez
Ma Sophia Anne Perez
Myrlande Petion
Cassandra G. Petit Clair
Makayla Phillip
Natalia Marie Pineiro
Catherin Melissa Pinto
Katherine D. Pizarro
Samantha A. Plotnick
David Magdiel Ponce
Jennifer Guadalupe Ponce
Gabriela I. Prieto
Nataly Prieto
Nicholas Andrew Pro
Carlos Quintero
Kathy Quispe
Ariel Raanan
Brian Anthony Ramirez
Jessica Isabel Ramirez
Maria Ramos Rey
Sussette Rangel
Radlie Raphael
Michelle Ray
Laura D. Reina
Ashley Rey
Jessica Reyes
Suylen Reyes
Valentina Rincon
Samantha Rios
Reanna Nicole Rivas
Emily Rose Rivero
Katherine Rivero
Alexis J. Rodriguez
Ana Laura Rodriguez
Cindy Melissa Rodriguez
Iris Rodriguez
Maria Isabela Rodriguez
Pauline Victoria Roger
Stephanie Del mar Roiz
Roxsy Gislayne Roiz Ochoa
Paola Roldan
Enzo Roman
Steffhany Romero
Emily Lauren Ross
Jennifer Ruiz
Nicholas Alexander Ruiz
Paola Thais Ruiz
Shanaya Ruiz San Juan
Manaika Saintyl
Alisha A. Saij
Savanna N. Sakhleh
Carolina M. Salermo
Erik Salinas
Isabella Salles de Souza Santos
Karrie Salt
Natalia San Marty
Lisett Sanchez

Roxana Sanchez
Samantha Marie Sanchez
Troy Joseph Santamaria
Beatriz Santiago
Frank Sanz
Aleksandra Saraidarov
Maria Theresa Saroha
Jonelle Saunders
Alexis Schiller
Maeve Malley Schlichting
Courtney Lauren Schmitz
Abigail Jane Schwartz
Samorah Senatus
Sofia Chantal Settineri
Chelsea Soberats
Katherine Socarras
Carolina M. Solari
Indira Soler
Carolina Solis
Earline St. Louis
Yoldina St. Germain
Tatum Lee Steinberg
Joanna Stewart
Rodney Suarez
Chelsea Subrayan
Kaylah Sugg
Emaan Muhammad Sulaiman
Sumaiya Sultana
Gabrielle Rachel Suss
Rachel Tallale
Keitha K. Thermilus
Isabella Thompson
Samantha N. Torres
Victoria Torres
Semira Toudjani
Annie Liu Tran
Isaiah F. Trillo
Caroline Troya
Samikshya Uprety
Sabrina Usinov Parra
Alexis Vaglivielo
Alejandra Valencia Castex
Daniela Maria Valle
Natalia Valle
Elianny Vasallo
Alberto O. Vazquez
Daniela Villavicencio Bardelas
Janelle Walker
Ashley Wallace
Alana C. Weaver
Molly A. Weidner
Yen Weiner
Gabrielle Nicole Wetherington
Evelyn Wilcoxson
Thara Williams
Madelyn Wilson
McKinzie K. Winget
Yuen Chi Wong
Lian Denisse Yahia
Sara Yaso
Daniela Yerena
Kaili Yeung
Kenteria Young
Alejandro Zapata Rendon
Maria Teresa Zulueta

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

James Farquhar Award

Lorena Mesquita Ragonesi, an international student from Belo Horizonte, Brazil, is majoring in neuroscience and receiving minors in research studies, data analytics, and honors transdisciplinary studies. While at NSU, Ragonesi was a presidential scholar, Razor's Edge Research scholar, and Farquhar Honors College scholar. She served as president of the Nu Rho Psi Honors Society (2023–2024), executive board member of the Razor's Edge Research Scholars Program, and was recognized as a Dean's List recipient every semester throughout her undergraduate career.

At NSU, Ragonesi was very active on campus and within the community. She was a research assistant during her sophomore year, studying the effects of a nutritional supplement on teenager cognition under the guidance of Jaime Tartar, Ph.D., M.A., and Jonathan Banks, Ph.D., M.S. In her junior and senior years, she completed and successfully defended her honors thesis, titled "Strength in a Pinch: Sex Differences in Detection of and Responses to Threats," under the guidance of Allie Holschbach, Ph.D. She worked on campus as a first-year experience peer leader (2021), research methods in neuroscience laboratory assistant (2022–2023), and course-based tutor (2022–2024). She volunteered as a team leader for Science Alive, developing and conducting science activities with Nova Blanche Forman Elementary School students (2023).

Outside of NSU, Ragonesi was selected for the Summer Neuroscience Internship Program at the University of Florida. She conducted full-time research in the lab of Karina Alviña, Ph.D., and presented her findings on the "Neurobehavioral effects of overexpressing the myokine Irisin in the hippocampus of an Alzheimer's disease mouse model" (2023). She also volunteers as director of research and outreach for Science Clubs Brazil, an organization that aims to democratize access to scientific literacy for high school students in Brazil.

After graduation, Ragonesi will pursue her Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience at the University of Cincinnati, in Ohio. Her goals are to continue giving back to her community and to travel the world, sharing her research and passion for science with others.

MORNING CEREMONY

May 1, 2024

Student Commencement Speaker

Alexis I. Lass, a political science major with minors in philosophy and psychology, is from Sunrise, Florida. She is a member of the Farquhar Honors College, a Dean's Scholarship recipient, and has been recognized on the Dean's List multiple times throughout her accelerated, three-year undergraduate career.

Lass served as a cocaptain on the mock trial team while also having an active attorney role for three years. She was position paper chief editor on the NSU Model United Nations Team: the Nova International Relations Association (NIRA)—an academic simulation of the world's only international organization dedicated to international peace, security, and development—while also competing at numerous conferences. She served as public relations chair for both the Phi Alpha Delta Pre-Law fraternity and Pi Sigma Alpha, The National Political Science Honor Society. She was also a member of Psi Chi, The International Honor Society in Psychology.

Lass began working as a research assistant in the Reasoning, Perception, and Morality Lab, in the winter term of her freshman year, with her now research mentor and honors thesis adviser Justin Landy, Ph.D., M.A. After identifying her interdisciplinary research interest in the morality of war, they created a research project designed to evaluate the role aggressor nations play in laypeople's categorization of war crimes. Additionally, she worked closely with

Landy to create a new political psychology class in the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, which began in winter 2024, and, under the guidance of Ransford Edwards, Ph.D., M.S., she spent her second year at NSU researching the role public opinion has in shaping Supreme Court decisions. This research was presented at the Pi Sigma Alpha 2023 National Student Research Conference, the Florida Political Science Association 2023 Annual Meeting, and the 2023 NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium.

Outside the classroom, Lass was selected as one of four fellows for the Center for Applied Humanities' IN-SIGHT Student Think Tank, working with her peers to research a solution to beach pollution through humanities-based approaches. Lass has also worked closely with the center as the creator of a banned book series, "Out of Sight, Not Out of Mind," fostering monthly discussions with the community on how to fight for free education, as well as the content of various banned books. She has also worked as a legal assistant at a local law firm for two years.

After graduating, Lass plans to take a gap year before pursuing a Juris Doctor degree in fall 2025. During this time, she intends to focus on research publication and law school applications and will seek work in the nonprofit sector.

Outstanding Students

HALMOS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE GUY HARVEY OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CENTER

Bella Christine Giaquinto, a communications major, is from Ocala, Florida. While at NSU, Giaquinto has been a journalist and sports editor for *The Current*, NSU's student newspaper and served as public relations chair for NSU's Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) chapter. Giaquinto's undergraduate work has landed her some incredible opportunities outside of NSU, as she is also the public relations intern at the mayor's office in Fort Lauderdale. Giaquinto received the Dean's Scholarship, was

a 2024 James Farquhar Award Nominee, and made the Dean's List several semesters throughout her undergraduate career.

Giaquinto has reshaped the sports desk for *The Current* while working closely with her peers to produce compelling stories for the newspaper, including excellent pieces on name, image, and likeness at NSU and the use of analytics in our athletics department. Furthermore, she broke the story of the United Soccer League (USL) Super League, bringing a women's professional soccer team to NSU before the *Sun Sentinel* or the *Miami Herald*.

Giaquinto's leadership at *The Current*; her involvement in professional organizations, such as the Public Relations Student Society of America; and her community-based work, such as the mayor's office, have all contributed to her scholarly excellence in journalism. Additionally, her work in building relationships with NSU's athletics department and athletes has uplifted the university's sports community. Working with integrity and discipline, she now mentors and oversees others wishing to learn those standards.

After graduation, Giaquinto will start her master's degree in the fall of 2024 but is undecided about the university. Her goal is to build a career in the sports public relations field before pursuing her Doctor of Philosophy degree.

Courtney White, a double major in chemistry and marine biology, with minors in marine ecology and honors transdisciplinary studies, comes to NSU from Canton, Michigan. She has been involved in research throughout her undergraduate studies. As a member of the Farquhar Honors College, she completed an honors thesis with Dimitri Giarikos, Ph.D. (Department of Chemistry and Physics), and Amy C. Hirons, Ph.D. (Department of Marine and Environmental Sciences), on persistent organic pollutants in northern fur seals. She hopes to apply her findings to future long-term monitoring efforts of both legacy and emerging contaminants in marine mammal populations. In addition to

presenting this research at NSU's Undergraduate Student Symposium, White presented data at the American Chemical Society's Spring 2024 Meeting in New Orleans.

White is a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Educational Partnership Program with Minority Serving Institutions (EPP/MSI) Undergraduate Scholar. Through this program, she researched nutrient biogeochemistry, in Florida Bay, and studied persistent organic pollutants in humpback and North Atlantic right whales, and presented her findings at the Alaska Marine Science Symposium in February 2024. In 2023, she was awarded the Barry Goldwater Scholarship, a prestigious recognition granted to the nation's next generation of research leaders in the natural sciences, engineering, and mathematics.

During her time at NSU, White served as a member of the Honors Student Advisory Board, where she worked with a select group of her honors peers and Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., M.F.A., dean of the Farquhar Honors College, to enhance the college. She helped coordinate the Honor Your Mental Health Initiative and began the process of establishing a mentorship program that pairs honors students with high school mentees. White is a multiyear recipient of the Honors Highly Engaged Award and was recognized with the Distinguished Student Scholarship, in 2022, and the Honors Living the Values Award: Research and Scholarship, in 2023. She is a member of the Phi Kappa Phi and Alpha Chi National Honor Societies and will graduate with Bachelor of Science degrees in Chemistry and in Marine Biology, both with Honors, as well as an Honors Research Citation. She earned the Dean's List distinction for all eight of her semesters at NSU.

White was the treasurer of both the Chemistry Club and the NSU Marine Biology Club and served as co-vice president of the undergraduate chapter of the American Association of University Women. She is employed as a research assistant for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection under a grant

for NSU researchers Amy Hirons, Ph.D., and Dimitrios Giarikos, Ph.D. This research investigates the potential environmental impacts of heavy metal contamination on the sediment and associated coral reef communities near Port Everglades, in Florida. She is also a tutor with Learn to Be, a nonprofit organization that connects kids from underserved communities with volunteer tutors. After graduation, White will pursue her Doctor of Philosophy in Environmental Chemistry.

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

May 1, 2024

Student Commencement Speaker

Sean Ward Stanton, an education major with a minor in social innovation and sustainability, is from Standish, Maine. He has exemplified outstanding dedication and achievement throughout his time at NSU, as he is a member of the prestigious Razor's Edge Shark Teach Scholars Program and the Fischler Academy, where he chose the 3+1 track to graduate with a master's degree in just four years. Under the mentorship of Luke Williams, Ph.D., Stanton began as a student employee within the Fischler Academy, and swiftly established himself as a catalyst for positive change within NSU's academic community. His leadership roles, including chair of the Social and Pre-Professional Committees, saw him orchestrating more than 80 successful events, enriching the student experience and fostering collaboration among his peers. He is also proud to have worked across the university, promoting events for the Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center; student volunteers; and the Belonging, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (BEDI) Advisory Council.

Collaborating closely with cofounder and adviser Jennifer Berne, Ed.D., Stanton founded and coordinated the highly successful NSU Teachers of Tomorrow Conference, which was created to provide

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

preservice student-teachers and current educators with a chance to collaborate and engage in meaningful discussions and workshops to ignite and inspire positive change in education. Stanton has transformed this event into a cornerstone of educational innovation, attracting national speakers, representatives across NSU colleges and multiple universities, and educators and students from numerous local high schools.

Additionally, Stanton has been honored to be a member of the President's 64 for two years. He proudly represented his college and the university as the Student of the Year for the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice and the Overall Student of the Year for NSU in 2023.

Stanton is set to pursue his master's and doctoral degrees in organizational leadership with NSU, and is excited to begin his career working for NSU while he completes his next degree. His long-term goal is to become a university president, following in President George L. Hanbury's footsteps.

Outstanding Students

ABRAHAM S. FISCHLER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Shannon Hetzel, a criminal justice major with minors in psychology and paralegal studies, is originally from Levittown, New York, but now resides in Wesley Chapel, Florida. Hetzel was a law student in NSU's Dual Admission Program, but will continue her education and receive her Juris Doctor in Law at Stetson University College of Law in St. Petersburg, Florida. After receiving her degree, she plans to practice criminal and family/juvenile law.

Hetzel is an Alpha Chi National College Honor Society member, and has received the Dean's List award for every semester of her undergraduate career. During her time at NSU, she has been an active and contributing student. She was instrumental in the achievement of numerous projects in the School of Criminal Justice, including the developing of summer field

excursions for the Introduction to Criminal Justice course. These excursions included trips to the Broward Sheriff's Office Main Jail, the 17th Judicial Circuit Courthouse, and the Town of Davie Police Department. As a result of Hetzel's hard work, these field excursions will be part of an ongoing special topics course in the future.

Hetzel assisted in recruiting candidates for the School of Criminal Justice project manager role and members for the sociodrama ensemble, Stage for Change. She was elected Interorganization Council (IOC) chair in her sophomore and junior years and president in her senior year. As IOC chair and president, Hetzel has demonstrated extraordinary leadership, as she was responsible for the organization's effectiveness in earning a finalist position for the Student Life Achievement Awards (STUEYs).

Some of the organization's audiences and presentations include Elder Abuse, at the Lifelong Learning Institute; Addict Man, at the Legacy Healing Substance Abuse Treatment Facility; What's Eating Alex?, an antibullying training at United Way of Broward County; NSU Public Safety Officer Cultural Competence and Conflict Resolution Training; Challenging Student Behavior, a faculty retreat at the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice; Red Flags, a presentation on early immersion on intimate partner abuse and bullying at the NSU University School Upper School; and Behind the Mask, a keynote presentation on child predator prevention at the Treasure Coast Child Summit.

Hetzel was also the assistant director and production assistant for the Town of Davie Police Department recruitment video. While being very active within the university and excelling academically, she has also balanced working multiple part-time jobs outside of school.

Hetzel is a hardworking, dedicated, and passionate student whose accomplishments have brought the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice to a higher level. She is honored to receive this award and will always be a proud NSU Shark!

Sean Ward Stanton, an education major with a minor in social innovation and sustainability, is from Standish, Maine. He has exemplified outstanding dedication and achievement throughout his time at NSU, as he is a member of the prestigious Razor's Edge Shark Teach Scholars Program and the Fischler Academy, where he chose the 3+1 track to graduate with a master's degree in just four years. Under the mentorship of Luke Williams, Ph.D., Stanton began as a student employee within the Fischler Academy, and swiftly established himself as a catalyst for positive change within NSU's academic community. His leadership roles, including chair of the Social and Pre-Professional Committees, saw him orchestrating more than 80 successful events, enriching the student experience and fostering collaboration among his peers. He is also proud to have worked across the university, promoting events for the Alvin Sherman Library, Research, and Information Technology Center; student volunteers; and the Belonging, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion (BEDI) Advisory Council.

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to begin his career working for NSU while he completes his next degree. His long-term goal is to become a university president, following in President George L. Hanbury's footsteps.

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING

Kyle Gomez, a computer science major with minors in cybersecurity, data analytics, mathematics, and applied statistics, is from Miramar, Florida. Gomez has been involved on NSU's campus throughout his time at the university, holding membership and executive board positions for the NSU e-Sports Club, of which he was a founding board member in 2020 and a member from 2021–2022. Gomez was also a member of the NSU e-HACKERS Club from 2023, serving as the organization's vice president from 2023–2024. He also served as a content tutor for the Tutoring and Testing Center in 2024, working with computer science students, helping them better understand the world of programming and software development. Gomez received a Dean's Scholarship (2020) and was on the Dean's List for several semesters. He plans on obtaining his College Reading and Learning Association (CRLA) Level One Certification by the end of the semester.

Gomez plans to pursue further technical and cybersecurity experience through sources such as NSU or government employment. He is looking forward to advancing his skill set and eventually attaining his dream position as a cybersecurity network analyst.

Lavan Naveh, a computer science major, is originally from Israel, but his current hometown is Fair Lawn, New Jersey. While at NSU, Naveh received the Dean's Scholarship and the Veterans Affairs Yellow Ribbon Scholarship, and made the Dean's List several semesters throughout his undergraduate career. He was a member of the Association of Computing and Machinery, as well as a drummer for the Mako Band.

Naveh also served as the president of the e-Sports Organization for two years,

beginning in the fall semester of his junior year, with the support of his advisers Kate Gittleman, M.S., and Luke Bettencourt, M.S. He transformed the club from what it was at the time into the organization it is today, with an atmospheric gaming lab worth more than \$60,000, and teams competing at the national level. Naveh would like to thank Carlos Acacio for being a great lifting partner, a brother, and an indispensable right-hand man in accomplishing these great achievements for NSU e-Sports.

Along with his academic achievements, Naveh has recently completed six years of military service with the U.S. Army (December 2023). After graduation, Naveh will continue his education at NSU by pursuing a Master of Computer Science with a concentration in artificial intelligence. He plans on pursuing a career in software engineering and product management. Upon completion, Naveh aims to travel and backpack the world, learning from every culture.

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Nha-Truc Rosemary Pham, a psychology major with a minor in applied behavior analysis, was born and raised in Long Island, New York. Pham has been involved in multiple clubs, such as the Asian Student Association and the OK Club, and served on the board for clubs like Med-Ed (2022–2023) and Psychology Club (2023–2024), helping to restructure the clubs for students on campus. Throughout her undergraduate career, Pham has been recognized as a Dean's List recipient across multiple semesters and was also awarded membership in the Psi Chi Honors Society.

As an undergraduate student, Pham has completed service trips with Sharks and Service to Missouri to help discuss topics like mental health. For the last three semesters, she has been part of a community practicum, becoming a lead facilitator under the advisement of Timothy Razza, Psy.D., M.S. Through this practicum, she has presented on Life Skills and Wellness at Pembroke Pines Charter High School (January 2023–April 2024) and presented on the benefits of these

programs (April 2023). Continuing with the program, she has been a driving force in helping build resiliency among incoming students at NSU (August 2023–April 2024). Additionally, she has helped cocreate and present Building a Resilience Burger, emphasizing the importance of incorporating resiliency and research-backed practices into daily activities. Through the continual support of the college's faculty, the presentation has also been exhibited at wellness programs implemented for undergraduate psychology majors (April 2024). Additionally, she has completed a practicum at Baudhuin Preschool under the advisement of Michael Voltaire, Ph.D., M.S. (August 2023–December 2023). Pham also worked on research with Justin Landy, Ph.D., M.A., for his lab studies on different social and cognitive psychological approaches and their relation to moral judgment (August 2023–April 2024).

Outside of academics, Pham has worked as a front office staff member (August 2021–December 2021) and a student assistant (since January 2022) at the College of Psychology. She has assisted with events, such as NSU Brain Bowl and Day of Children, that have helped the community engage in encouraging psychology and neuroscience for young minds. When home for her summers, she worked as a teacher's assistant with children on the autism spectrum disorder (ASD), helping them maintain and improve their goals.

After graduation, Pham will continue her education at NSU, seeking a Doctor of Psychology in Clinical Psychology. Once she has earned her doctorate, she hopes to work with children with ASD, as well as families who experience having loved ones diagnosed with ASD.

Roberto Fileni, a neuroscience major, is from Hollywood, Florida. At NSU, Fileni received the Dean's List award every year he attended, and completed coursework for a variety of minors, including chemistry, applied statistics, philosophy, and pre-health. In 2021, Fileni was selected as a content tutor by the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience to tutor

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

neuroscience classes. Since then, he has been approved by the College Reading and Learning Association as a level two tutor, and has tutored 12-14 hours per week for a variety of classes, including General Chemistry, Introduction to Neuroscience, Calculus, Applied Statistics, Organic Chemistry, and Cellular and Molecular Biology. Fileni was also vice president of NSU's chapter of the Nu Rho Psi Neuroscience Honor Society.

Interested in a career in scientific research, Fileni began working in the lab with Allie Holschbach, Ph.D., who trained him in various in vivo behavioral neuroscience techniques in 2022. Fileni presented his research on modeling chronic fatigue syndrome/myalgic encephalomyelitis in rats during the 2024 NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium and during the 2024 Farquhar Honors College minisymposium, as part of the Honors in Major Program. In the summer of 2023, Fileni also worked in the lab of James Munoz, Ph.D., and gained experience working with cell culture while investigating the effect of enzyme replacement therapy on a model of CLN2 disease. Additionally, he was selected as a Florida fellow to attend The Max Planck Symposium in 2023, an annual international conference held in Palm Beach featuring cutting-edge neuroscience research from the world's best neuroscientists.

Outside of classes, Fileni participated in neuroscience-related community outreach programs. In the summer of 2023, he volunteered at NSU's Neuroscience Training Summer Camp, hosted by the Department of Psychology and Neuroscience, assisting with interactive lab activities intended to teach local high schoolers about neuroscience. Fileni also volunteered to help facilitate the neuroscience portion of NSU's AIM-High Program, a day camp for local high schoolers interested in pursuing medicine as a career. For leisure, he was the team manager of the Super Smash Bros. team for the NSU e-Sports Team during 2021 and 2022. As manager, he planned and hosted monthly Super Smash Bros. tournaments, and as a member, he competed in the National Association of Collegiate e-Sports Starleague for the Varsity Premier Division.

After graduation, Fileni will pursue a Doctor of Philosophy in Neuroscience at the University of Florida. He is committed to research and investigating the neurobiological mechanisms of psychiatric disorders.

FARQUHAR HONORS COLLEGE

Janaki Chandra, a biology major, was born and raised in Edison, New Jersey. While attending NSU, Chandra was extremely involved in extracurricular activities and academics. Throughout pursuing four minors, including global engagement, pre-health, business, and honors transdisciplinary studies, Chandra has sought educational and learning opportunities aligning with her goals and values of becoming a dentist and dental educator. She is a premier student, enrolled in the Dual Admission Program, and a global scholar in the Razor's Edge Global Scholars Program, an academic program for students passionate about international issues and diversity.

Since her freshman year, Chandra has been a proud member of the Farquhar Honors College, where she completed her honors thesis with her research mentors, Shin Nakamura, D.D.S., and Toshihisa Kawai, Ph.D., D.D.S. During this thesis, they identified Chandra's keen interest in dental research and its direct correlation to clinical dentistry. Her research focused on the role of the dental filler, surface pre-reacted glass-ionomer (S-PRG), in osteoclast generation. Due to the fascinating conclusions collected from the two-year study, Chandra was one of the youngest students selected to present at the 52nd Annual Meeting & Exhibition of the American Association for Dental, Oral, and Craniofacial Research (AADOCR) in 2023. She went on to present at the 2023 NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium and the 2023 Board of Trustees Retreat. Since these conferences, Chandra has successfully defended her honors thesis and worked collaboratively to write a scientific paper that is now in the process of publication.

As an aspiring dental educator, Chandra broadened her research experience by working with the Department of Pediatric

Dentistry on a study aimed at oral care activities for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD). During her time at NSU, Chandra has also worked in research focused on X-ray crystallography with Russel Driver, Ph.D., studied the role of stem cell therapy on craniofacial deformities with Carolina Duarte, D.D.S., Ph.D., analyzed the impact culture and the environment have on the human microbiome with Andrew Ozga, Ph.D., M.A., and explored dental epidemiology with Sajish Kuriakose, D.M.D.

With her involvement in the Razor's Edge Global Scholars Program and her goal of working with a diverse patient population, Chandra is passionate about gaining a greater world perspective through study abroad opportunities. During her time at NSU, Chandra has studied in Costa Rica, Guatemala, Greece, and Argentina. While abroad, she took courses focused on health psychology, gained experience learning about dental and educational disparities, and furthered her understanding of immigration policies.

Chandra is involved in several clubs and organizations, on campus, and has served as event coordinator and dance instructor for NSU's Down to Dance (2021-2024), as treasurer for Alpha Phi Omega (2022-2024), and is part of the Culture Marketing Committee in the Razor's Edge Global Scholars Program (2022-2024). She has also been shadowing at the Department of Pediatric Dentistry at NSU for the past two years, and has worked as a lab assistant for organic and general chemistry. Due to her exceptional involvement, Chandra has been granted several awards, including Dean's List for eight semesters (2020-2024), the Farquhar Honors Living the Values Community Award (2023), Razor's Edge Global Scholarship (2020-2024), Phi Kappa Phi Grant (2022), CIS Abroad Scholarship (2022), and the Dr. Anthony J. DeNapoli Global Engagement Scholarship (2022).

Following graduation, Chandra will attend dental school at Harvard School of Dental Medicine, where she will pursue her Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) degree. Alongside her D.D.S., she plans to pursue a Master of Public Health, after

which she will begin both her clinical and academic careers. Chandra is excited to start this new chapter, and is grateful for her time at NSU.

Nina Lozovnoy, a public health major within the Razor's Edge Leadership Scholars Program and Farquhar Honors College at NSU, is originally from Buffalo Grove, Illinois. Complementing her major, she has also pursued minors in business, experiential leadership, pre-health, and honors transdisciplinary studies, all of which have earned her multiple Dean's List recognitions. Throughout her academic journey at NSU, Lozovnoy has engaged deeply in research, notably coauthoring a paper with Bahaudin Mujtaba, D.B.A., M.S., M.B.A., on the impacts of gender and racial discrimination in the workplace, and partaking in an independent study with the American Dental Association's Community Dental Health Coordinator curriculum under the mentorship of Claudia Serna, Ph.D., D.D.S., M.P.H., M.B.A.

Lozovnoy also had the incredible privilege of studying abroad in Florence, Italy, through Academic Programs International. This experience allowed her to delve deeper into public health and nutrition around the world, challenging her academically and personally as she navigated a new cultural environment.

Beyond her academic pursuits, Lozovnoy has been an active and influential member of the NSU community. She has showcased her leadership skills as the team captain of the NSU Sharkettes Dance Team and one of NSU's President's 64 student representatives. She has also played a pivotal role in the Razor's Edge Leadership Scholars Program as cohort representative and judiciary chairman. In addition, Lozovnoy has proudly served as a student success mentor to six undergraduate students, and as both a senior shark preview leader to prospective students and orientation leader to first-year students. Her dedication to service is evident through her involvement in numerous community-service initiatives, including the Area Health Education Center Student Tobacco Use

Education and Prevention Initiative and various charitable drives and events throughout Broward County.

During her academic career at NSU, Lozovnoy has been honored with accolades, such as Distinguished Student Leader (2021–2024), Sharkettes Captain of the Year (2022–2024), and becoming an NSU Wonder Woman finalist for two consecutive years (2023 and 2024), among others. Her future aspirations reflect her unwavering commitment to dentistry, a career she has fervently pursued since middle school. Following graduation, she is set to attend Midwestern University—Illinois, where she will pursue a dual Doctor of Dental Medicine and Master of Public Health degree.

H. WAYNE HUIZENGA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Madison Morrow Fine, a marketing major with minors in finance and sport and recreation management, is from St. Petersburg, Florida. While at NSU, Fine was a member of the NSU softball team (2020–2024) and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes Club (2020–2021). She served as chief of staff and vice president for the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (2020–2024). She received the Dean's Scholarship, an athletic scholarship, and the Florida Academic Scholars scholarship. She has also made the Dean's List every semester throughout her undergraduate career.

Fine has participated in many service opportunities and started some new ones at NSU. As a part of the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, she helped organize canned food and toiletry supply drives for local homeless and women's shelters. She was a part of bringing the Be The Match initiative on campus, which helped add people to the Be The Match national registry, which allows people to become blood or bone marrow donors to those in need. She has also helped donate and deliver gifts to the Rick & Rita Case Boys & Girls Club every year she has been here. Fine was even involved with the first-ever Sharks Sports Clinic for Girls and Women in Sports day.

Outside of the classroom and softball field, Fine works part time with the Department of Athletics as a field operations assistant. She also gives hitting and catching lessons to younger girls. On the field, during her first two seasons as a Shark, Fine was named to the First Team All-Sunshine State Conference. She was also inducted into NSU's Chi Alpha Sigma honor society in 2023.

After graduation, Fine plans to pursue a Master of Business Administration in Marketing here at NSU.

Mille Langaas, a finance major and economics minor, grew up in Oslo, Norway, but spent her high school years in Spain, attending the Rafa Nadal International School in Mallorca. Langaas became an Alpha Mu Gamma National Honor Society member—the only freshman inducted in May 2022. Her academic commitment is evident as she made the Dean's List every semester of her undergraduate studies and earned the Dean's Scholarship.

While an undergraduate, Langaas, in collaboration with Bahaudin Mujtaba, D.B.A., M.S., M.B.A., published research in the *Open Journal of Social Sciences* titled "Communication across Cultures in the Workplace: Swimming in Scandinavian Waters" (April 2023). Furthermore, during the fall of 2023, Langaas interned as a portfolio manager at the Student Managed Investment Fund, under the mentorship of Antonio Figueiredo, Ph.D., M.B.A., where she analyzed the basic materials and energy sectors, resulting in her investment pitches being accepted by the board of directors and incorporated into the fund's portfolio. Furthermore, she earned a Python for Everybody specialization from the University of Michigan in November 2023.

Beyond academia, Langaas has demonstrated a commitment to community service through philanthropic fundraising efforts for notable causes, including Relay for Life, the National Association of Anorexia Nervosa and Associated Disorders, and the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation. She actively participated in

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

student organizations, such as the Accounting and Business Student Association and the Personal Finance and Investment Association, further enriching her collegiate experience.

Outside of NSU, Langaas has been working as an investment analyst at Panorama Aero and Panvest since January 2024. Working alongside seasoned investment banker Pari Parchi, Langaas leverages her knowledge to structure deals within the private equity and aerospace industries, bringing an international outlook and a fresh perspective. She also works part time at Greenpool, a Norwegian start-up, and advises TempusFugit, a family-owned company focused on early-stage investments, real estate, property development, various securities, and other related areas.

After graduation, Langaas will start the One-Year M.B.A. program at the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship. She also plans to continue her role as an investment analyst.

SHEPARD BROAD COLLEGE OF LAW

Robert Milman, a law major, who is also completing an American Bar Association-approved paralegal certificate, is from Staten Island, New York, where he initially pursued premed studies, became an emergency medical technician (certified in the state of New York), and volunteered for numerous organizations. Milman transferred to NSU upon falling in love with the legal profession through internships and mentorships, landing at the Shepard Broad College of Law. In fall 2024, he will pursue his Juris Doctor degree as a full-time candidate at New York Law School.

While at NSU, Milman founded, and served as the first president of, the NSU Iron Sharks, a fitness and weight lifting club with 250+ members assisting in enriching the mental and physical well-being of the community at NSU's RecPlex. Through the Shepard Broad College of Law, he aided in the outreach of the unique NSU Bachelor of Science in Law program, traveling to different events and serving as a panelist alongside faculty members. Furthermore, Milman

was the captain of, and an attorney on, the undergraduate mock trial team, competing for the past two years at the American Mock Trial Association Regional Tournament in Tallahassee, Florida.

Outside of campus, Milman was a judicial intern for the Honorable County Judge Florence Taylor Barner of the 17th Judicial Circuit, where he sat in on small claims-related matters and participated in complex legal research and judicial drafting. Barner is one of the founders of the Broward County Community Court, which handles alternative justice routes for municipal ordinance violations marginally committed by the homeless and substance-abuse community. While assisting Barner in development proceedings and event planning, Milman was awarded an Award of Recognition from the City of Pompano Beach and the 17th Judicial Circuit.

Alexandra Pri-Hadash, a law major and dedicated Dual Admission student from the vibrant City of Miami, Florida, is poised to embark on a journey toward legal excellence at NSU's Shepard Broad College of Law. As a first-generation college student, her aspirations in law are deeply rooted in the unwavering dedication and sacrifices of her parents, who instilled in her the importance of education and the pursuit of the American dream. Throughout her academic journey, Pri-Hadash has earned a coveted place on the Dean's List for several consecutive semesters. She was also a recipient of the Presidential Scholarship.

With a passion for real estate law ignited by her upbringing in South Florida, Pri-Hadash envisions herself at the forefront of legal advocacy in the dynamic field of real estate. Drawing upon her understanding of the socioeconomic landscape of the region and bolstered by invaluable internships within various real estate companies, she is now looking toward the future. Pri-Hadash is driven by a steadfast commitment to effect positive change within the South Florida community through her legal expertise. Her long-term professional goals include pioneering innovative approaches to real estate law and advocating for equitable and sustainable

development that fosters both economic prosperity and community well-being.

In addition to her academic endeavors, Pri-Hadash has shared her knowledge and insights as a participant in an NSU-hosted Law School Admission Test (LSAT) student panel, offering guidance and advice to fellow students preparing for the LSAT. She is also a member of the National Society of Leadership and Success and a National Society of Legal Technology certificate holder.

Beyond all these academic pursuits, Pri-Hadash is deeply connected to her Jewish and Israeli heritage. She finds fulfillment in volunteering to aid those affected by recent events in Israel.

As she embarks on the next chapter of her academic and professional journey, Pri-Hadash remains resolute in her pursuit of legal excellence. She is determined to make a lasting impact as a compassionate advocate and trailblazer in the field of real estate law.

MORNING CEREMONY

May 2, 2024

Student Commencement Speaker

Shawnie Allen, an exercise and sport science major with a minor in pre-health, is a dedicated individual hailing from Fort Polk, Louisiana, but raised in Baltimore, Maryland. Allen has been an integral part of the NSU community throughout her undergraduate journey.

During her time at NSU, Allen's involvement was extensive. Over a span of three years, she actively contributed to the Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA), holding various positions, including cabinet member, health care science senator, interorganizational senator, and, eventually, serving as the external affairs director on the executive board. Allen poured her heart and soul into the USGA, notably organizing events, such as the Fin Festival, and introducing the Homecoming Tailgate.

Beyond her involvement with the USGA, Allen was a proud member of the President's 64, was an ambassador for the Student Success Scholars Program, showcased her talents as a dancer on the Pressure Dance Team, and took on responsibilities within the Office of Campus Life and Student Engagement. She held leadership roles in the Black Student Union, serving as vice president and president, and spearheaded initiatives like the Black Excellence Showcase to celebrate minority students' talents and promote cultural awareness. Her contributions were recognized campuswide when she was crowned homecoming queen in 2023. She also hosted the 26th annual Student Life Achievement Awards (STUEYs), further solidifying her standing as a respected and influential member of the NSU community.

Off campus, Allen dedicated her time to community service, volunteering at Rock Island Elementary School in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. She initiated a leadership symposium aimed at empowering children between third and fifth grades with essential leadership skills. Additionally, Allen organized an Adopt-A-Family program through the USGA, ensuring that several families in Palm Beach County received gifts during the 2023 holiday season.

Looking ahead, Allen's commitment to public service will continue as she pursues a Master of Public Health with a concentration in maternal and child health at the University of South Florida. She hopes to eventually go to physician assistant school to specialize in obstetrics and gynecology.

Outstanding Students

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Manas Peddiboyina, a public health major with minors in pre-health and health and wellness coaching, is from Novi, Michigan. At NSU, Peddiboyina has been an active member of several clubs and organizations. He is currently on the executive board of the Indian Student Association

and previously served for two years on the executive board of the Phi Delta Theta Fraternity.

In addition, he is a member of the President's 64, where he represents President Hanbury and the university by attending high-profile events. Notably, he is the 36th student body president of the Undergraduate Student Government Association (USGA). In December 2023, he attended a president's conference for university student government presidents held in Charleston, South Carolina, which gathered more than 300 participants from the United States, representing NSU for the first time in such conference. Additionally, Peddiboyina has taught leadership to elementary school kids using skills he developed at NSU, helping them work on their campaigns for student government, and was awarded the President's Award in 2023 in USGA.

In addition to campus involvement, Peddiboyina excels in his academics at the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM). Active in his role as a public health student, he served on the Public Health Curriculum Committee, collaborating with professors to improve the quality of public health education. He is also a student at the Farquhar Honors College, has been on the Dean's List for six semesters, and was awarded the Presidential Scholarship for full tuition.

Most recently, Peddiboyina was the KPCOM nominee for the prestigious James Farquar Award of 2024. He is passionate about advancing science and is conducting research under Aarti Raja, Ph.D., in search of novel antibiotics. For this work, he has presented posters at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium in 2023 and 2024 and at the Tiny Earth Research Conference, in Wisconsin, in December 2023.

Outside of the university, Peddiboyina volunteers at a local hospice center, providing comfort care to the aging population of Davie, going beyond his role with the development of a partnership with a Veterans Resource Center and ProMedica Hospice, in which healthy veterans are paired up with veterans under hospice care, providing relief to

veterans in their final days. Additionally, and with recognition from We Honor Veterans, he leads a project that delivers educational programs related to addressing veteran needs to staff members, nursing homes, and churches. In 2022, Peddiboyina was a part of the Youth Rebuilding New Orleans initiative, in which he developed a curriculum for at-risk youth with topics in financial literacy, mental health, sexual education, and social justice. During the same trip to New Orleans, he was also part of the Covenant House Maternal Health Fair, where he provided health education to expectant mothers.

After graduation, Peddiboyina will be attending the Central Michigan University Medical School Program to pursue his goal of becoming a physician. In the future, he aims to get involved with health policy, aligning his aspirations with a commitment to making health-care affordable.

Molly Bergin Tirrell Sullivan, a health and wellness coaching major and theatre minor, is from Somerset, Massachusetts. While at NSU, Sullivan received the Razor's Edge Shark Talent Scholarship, earned her Six Sigma White Belt Certification, and was recognized as a Dean's List recipient several times throughout her undergraduate career.

Sullivan was very active on campus, performing or participating in the technical aspects of multiple productions in the Department of Communication, Media, and the Arts, which included the Musical Theatre Project (2021), The Wolves (2021), The Tempest (2021), The Dolls of New Albion (2022), Now. Here. This. (2023), Gruesome Playground Injuries (2024), and SpellBound (2024). Additionally, she has had the opportunity to sing at some of NSU's key events, such as the Celebration of Excellence, Convocation, The Big Thank You, and the Student Life Achievement Awards (STUEYs). During her time at NSU, Sullivan was given a variety of leadership positions thanks to Daniel Gelbmann, M.F.A., and Brad Williams, Ed.D. One of these positions consists of taking on the

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

role of student manager of Shark Gold (2022–present)—an elite on-campus performing group.

A few other leadership opportunities include chairing the Recruitment and Retainment Committee (2023–2024), becoming an admissions ambassador who gave tours to prospective students and their families (2022), and being president and founder of the Health and Wellness Coaching Club thanks to Shazia Akhtarullah, Ph.D., M.S. (2021–2022).

Sullivan has always enjoyed aiding those in need, and aspires to become an occupational therapist. She discovered her passion for helping the geriatric population while completing occupational therapy observation hours. She continued pursuing this passion by coleading a tobacco cessation support group as a health and wellness coaching student. After completing her undergraduate degree, she will further her education at NSU in the Doctor of Occupational Therapy program, starting in May 2024.

DR. PALLAVI PATEL COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES

Melissa Melendez, a medical sonography major who is now pursuing the Master of Health Sciences option within her major, is from Miami, Florida. While at NSU, Melendez made the Dean's List for most of her undergraduate career while maintaining a 3.98 GPA. She has been a Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society member since 2019, and participated in the Student Government Association (SGA) as the service chair since 2022. While in the medical sonography program, she also worked weekends as a patient flow coordinator at Baptist Health South Florida.

Melendez has participated in many community service events, most notably the Miami Beach Christmas Toy Drive. While she and her U.S. Army husband were stationed in North Carolina, Melendez would serve her community by making care packages for the troops deployed overseas—and pet sit or babysit for those families as needed.

From August 2023–April 2024, Melendez participated in clinical rotations at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center in Baltimore, Maryland. Currently, she is working on publishing a case study on purpura fulminans in the *Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Journal*.

After graduation, Melendez plans on working as an ultrasound technician at nearby hospitals while getting registered in abdominal, vascular, and obstetrics and gynecological ultrasound. Eventually, she wishes to gain her musculoskeletal registry for ultrasound.

Robert Leonard Rocanelli, an exercise and sport science major, is from Port St. Lucie, Florida. Throughout his time at NSU, Rocanelli's dedication to his field was evident in his multifaceted involvement.

As a member of the Exercise Science Student Organization and the Iron Sharks, Rocanelli showcased his passion for physical fitness and athletic development, and earned scholarships such as the Aaron Project Scholarship, Dean's Scholarship, and the Shark Legacy Scholarship. He also made the Dean's List several times throughout his academic career at NSU.

Rocanelli's introduction to research began in early 2023 under the advisement and mentorship of Monique Mokha, Ph.D., who worked with Bommarito Performance Systems facilities to delve into the training and preparation of college athletes for the NFL Combine. Through his data collection and analysis, Rocanelli gained insights into the influence of variable loadings on power output across multiple exercise sets. His research culminated in a poster presentation at the 2023 Society for Sports Neuroscience Conference, where he earned second place in the poster competition. His findings were later published in a peer-reviewed research article in the *Journal for Sports Neuroscience*.

In addition to his academic pursuits, Rocanelli actively participated in the 2023 NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium with an oral presentation comparing

postactivation performance enhancement methods in elite American football players. In 2024, he worked as an intern for Shark Athletics, serving as a strength and conditioning coach under the mentorship of Steve Orris, Ed.D., and Andrew Labosky, M.S. This hands-on experience provided insights into the intricacies of strength and conditioning training and further fortified Rocanelli's resolve to pursue his chosen vocation.

In 2022, Rocanelli volunteered alongside Corey Peacock, Ph.D., and Tobin Silver, Ph.D., CSCS, during the preseason physical therapy evaluations of the Florida Panthers hockey team to gain on-site experience with athletes. Moreover, his involvement in the 2022 Day for Children event revealed his ability to educate children and adults about equipment and inform them of the possibilities of the exercise science program at NSU. Rocanelli actively assisted Pradeep Vanguri, Ph.D., with initial functional movement screen assessments of the NSU baseball team in 2022. Complementing his academic endeavors, he served as a 2023–2024 anatomy and physiology lab assistant for Veronica Fortino, Ph.D., guaranteeing him a firm grasp on foundational principles vital to his field.

Looking toward the horizon, Rocanelli's aspirations remain steadfast. His immediate postgraduation goal entails earning his Certified Strength and Conditioning Specialist certification in May. While the path forward may present obstacles, he remains resolute in his commitment to continued education and personal growth, whether through employment or the pursuit of a master's degree in exercise science or an adjacent field. He is eager to embrace the challenges that lie ahead.

**RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE
 OF NURSING**

Catherine Fuentes, currently pursuing an accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing at NSU, is a native of Miami, Florida, and a proud Cuban American. Before her current academic endeavors, Fuentes earned a Bachelor of Arts in Applied Sciences from Florida International University.

Fuentes’ dedication to nursing excellence is evident through her participation in the Baptist Health Nurse Scholars Program and her receipt of the Changing Lives Scholarship for Nursing Students in fall 2023. As a nurse extern at Jackson Memorial Hospital, Fuentes gained invaluable hands-on experience, working alongside health care professionals in various clinical settings. This immersive externship allowed her to apply theoretical knowledge to real-world patient-care scenarios, further enhancing her clinical skills and fostering her passion for nursing.

In recognition of her outstanding academic achievements and contributions to the nursing profession, Fuentes was inducted into the prestigious Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing—Upsilon Chapter. This prominent honor society recognizes individuals who have shown exceptional scholarship, leadership, and dedication to nursing.

Upon graduation, Fuentes will begin her nursing career as a registered nurse at the Baptist Hospital of Miami, specializing in oncology care. Her dedication to her field and her commitment to patient well-being exemplify her professionalism and passion for nursing.

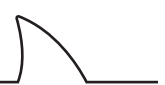
Natalie Lopez, a nursing major, will graduate from the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing. Her lifelong desire to care compassionately and advocate for others has led her to her nursing career. Lopez’s open mind, thirst for knowledge, and quest to learn something new every day facilitated her successes while studying at NSU. Some of her accolades include making the Dean’s List and

receiving the Dean’s Scholarship, Shark Legacy Scholarship, Florida Bright Futures Scholarship, Florida Nurses Foundation Scholarship, and the Police Benevolent Association Scholarship.

Lopez conducted research alongside her professor, Caroline Smikle, Ph.D., R.N., with her most significant contribution being research on self-management of type 2 diabetes.

Beyond the classroom, Lopez has devoted more than 60 hours volunteering at Chapel Trail Elementary School, where she assisted teachers in hands-on classroom activities, extracurricular events, and schoolwide gatherings such as book fairs and family nights. In her spare time, she is an assistant manager at Cali Coffee, a local coffee shop focusing on customer experience and building a genuine connection with every customer while serving high-quality beverages. These past four years have taught her the importance of customer service excellence and leadership skills, which she will carry into her nursing career.

In addition to her 1,225 clinical program hours, Lopez’s enthusiasm for an ever-deeper understanding of nursing drove her to more clinical experiences. She spent any extra time she had at a surgical center, gaining more direct patient-care skills from circulating operating room and postanesthesia care unit nurses. She sees endless possibilities for her lifelong nursing career in critical care with an emphasis on trauma. In the future, she plans on furthering her education to become a certified registered nurse anesthetist, a role in which she will be responsible for administering anesthesia for all types of surgeries.



DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

Commencement Speaker

UNDERGRADUATE

May 1, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

May 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

May 2, 2024, at 9:30 a.m.

JOHN PAUL, J.D., has distinguished himself as a fighter for over a decade, focusing on achieving justice for victims and public safety for the citizens of the state of Florida. His career in public service began as a prosecutor in the 17th Circuit, and later in the 9th Circuit, where he handled thousands of cases, recovering millions of dollars in restitution for victims. Through his tireless commitments, Paul has prevented crime by educating the citizens of Florida on the latest tactics of scammers. He has also instructed hundreds of law enforcement officers on financial crime issues and best practices. Paul has been a law enforcement adviser to the Department of Financial Services in the Office of General Counsel. Due to his dedicated efforts, he now serves in the Florida Office of the Attorney General as the senior assistant state-wide prosecutor assigned to the General Cyber Fraud Enforcement Unit. His focus is prosecuting major cyber fraud cases, including the emerging issues related to the use of complex computer,

cryptocurrency, or other technological trends as a means to commit theft.

Paul is a double Shark, having earned his Bachelor of Science degree in Legal Studies with a citation in general honors in 2006 and a Juris Doctor degree in 2009 from NSU. At the Shepard Broad College of Law, he was a Goodwin Scholar and a note and comments editor for the *Nova Law Review*. Throughout his academic life at NSU, Paul was involved in the student community. He was the founding president of the Criminal Law Society and the vice president of the student organization in 2006. His dedication to the NSU community did not end once he received his degrees. He has served as an adjunct professor in the Division of Humanities for many years, helping to educate generations of NSU Sharks. He has also participated as a founding member of the Honors College Alumni Council.



ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Ceremonial garments worn at academic functions take their meaning from the original centers of learning of the western world in the church of the Middle Ages. Caps, hoods, and gowns of the early students and monks have been held through the centuries to be traditionally symbolic of the scholarly devotion so basic to education and to the deliberate and orderly evolution of knowledge.

The introduction of classical studies, the gradual rise of the great universities across Europe, and the ever-increasing awareness of the decisive role of education in the entire development of civilization influenced leaders among academicians in their desire for a singular identity. In the attempt to create this differentiation, educators fell upon the medieval system of classic heraldry, whereby the coat of arms, assorted ornamental trappings, and patterns of colorful design had been adopted to denote the distinctive character of designated chivalric orders. The function of a pedagogical heraldry became, then, simply identification. As such, measures were taken to signify through distinctive markings on the academicians' attire the institution that had granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree had been earned, and the level of the degree, e.g., bachelor's, master's, or doctorate.

Of the three pieces of academic attire—the cap, the gown, and the hood—it is the hood that offers the most abundant and most readily discernible information about its owner. The inner lining of the hood identifies the institution at which the individual earned the degree. Some schools have adopted two-color patterns and introduced chevrons and bars in various designs to set themselves apart from other institutions. The velvet trim bordering the hood indicates the major field of learning, or faculty, in which the degree has been earned. The list at the conclusion of this section will explain this relationship. A final feature of the hood concerns its length and width and distinguishes further between holders of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. The length of the hood for the bachelor's degree is three feet, closed at the bottom, and with a velvet border of two inches. At Nova Southeastern University, however, individuals receiving a bachelor's degree do not wear a hood. A master's degree holder has a hood three and one-half feet in length with a three-inch wide border, and the hood is slit at the bottom. Those individuals with a doctoral degree wear a hood four feet in length, open at the bottom with a five-inch border.

The cut of the gown aids in differentiating between the three levels of degrees. The bachelor's gown is relatively simple and falls in straight lines from an elaborate yoke. It may be recognized most readily by the long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown is somewhat fuller and bears no adornment. The sleeves are oblong in shape and open at the wrist, with the rear part of the oblong square cut, while the front edge has a cutaway arc. The doctor's gown is more elaborate, with velvet panels down the front and around the neck of the garment. The sleeves are bell-shaped at the end and have three bars of the same material as the front panels at the upper portion of the arm. It is cut rather fully and may be ornamental in color.

The mortarboard or Oxford-type cap has been adopted throughout most universities in the United States, although tams have become increasingly fashionable to denote holders of the doctoral degree. Colored tassels are usually worn by holders of the bachelor's and master's degrees. These denote the field of learning.

The color, indeed, the flamboyance, of academic dress undoubtedly adds to the sense of occasion at academic ceremonies. But as its historical roots show, it has a much deeper significance. It is an outward sign of the universal-

ity of universities, and of their responsibility for certain timeless values essential to the freedom of inquiry: tolerance of alternative views and courage in maintaining one's own tirelessness in the pursuit of truth and the free exchange of knowledge. Its wearing also marks the responsibility of the new graduate to maintain and uphold these ideals. These fundamentals of academic freedom have not been threatened in this country for more than 200 years, but the importance attached to the donning of traditional academic dress was underlined in recent years by scholars from Central and Eastern Europe. During the Cold War, the scholars' use of academic robes became a symbol of their refusal to be dominated completely by political forces and the state and symbolized their persistent links to the worldwide community of scholars. Thus, the wearing of academic dress should be seen not simply as a sign of achievement, but as a symbol of the responsibility that falls on all members of universities.

HONORS

Students wear cords, pins, sashes, and medallions that reflect institutional and national academic honors, as well as campus leadership, service, and engagement.

COLOR OF HOODS

The colors found on the hoods worn in the academic procession represent the candidate's discipline of study.

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Accounting, Business	Drab
Biomedical Science.....	Gold
Clinical Vision Research.....	Aqua
Dentistry	Lilac
Developmental Disabilities.....	Citron
Education.....	Light Blue
Law	Purple
Medicine.....	Kelly Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Occupational Therapy.....	Rhodes Blue
Optometry	Mint Green
Oratory (Speech).....	Silver Gray
Pharmacy.....	Olive Green
Philosophy, Political Science	Dark Blue
Public Administration, Human Services, Physical Therapy, and Criminal Justice	Peacock
Public Health.....	Salmon
Science	Bright Yellow
Sport Science.....	Sage Green

