

COMMENCEMENT

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY





Dear Graduates,

My heartiest congratulations on your graduation from Nova Southeastern University.

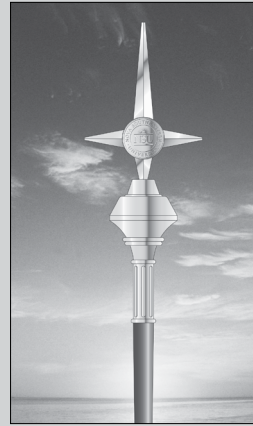
You can feel proud, as we do, that you walk this stage to receive your degree from a world-class university recognized with three Carnegie designations. NSU is an R1 research institution, a Community Engaged Institution, and an Opportunity College and University. These distinctions reflect our commitment to innovation, academic excellence, access, and meaningful impact.

Personally, I believe the pursuit and successful achievement of higher education is one of life's most transformative journeys.

Today, you stand at an important moment of transition, ready to step forward into your next chapter and toward new horizons. We celebrate you, your family, and all that you have accomplished, and we look forward to following all that you will achieve.

You are what excellence looks like.

Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
President and Chief Executive Officer
Nova Southeastern University



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.

NSU'S VISION

To be recognized as a leading professional-dominant, doctoral research university providing competitive career advantages to its students and fostering alumni and partnership connections.

NSU'S MISSION

The mission of Nova Southeastern University—a selective, doctoral research university—is to deliver academic programs in a dynamic, innovative environment. We foster academic excellence, leadership, integrity, and scientific, economic, and community contributions through engaging and empowering our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and partners.

CORE VALUES

Student-Centered
Academic Excellence
Scholarship and Research
Innovation
Opportunity
Community
Diversity
Integrity

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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Paul M. Sallarulo
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J. Kenneth Tate
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Michael J. Zager

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Ronald G. Assaf
H. Wayne Huizenga*
Mike Jackson
Nell McMillan Lewis, Ed.D.
George I. Platt, Esq.

* in memoriam

UNIVERSITY SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS

Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
President and Chief Executive Officer

Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
*Executive Vice President, Provost,
Chief Academic Officer, and Interim
Senior Vice President for Research*

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*Executive Vice President and Chief
Medical Officer; Executive Medical
Director for NSU Health*

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*Executive Vice President for Facilities,
Safety, and Campus Services*

Michael Burtov, M.S.
*Chief Innovation Officer and Executive
Director, Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward
Center of Innovation*

Marc Crocquet, MBA
Vice President for Business Services

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

Alissa Hechter, M.I.A.
*Vice President for Advancement
and Community Relations*

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*Executive Vice President for Strategy
and Operational Excellence*

Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D.
*Senior Vice President for Academic
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Sonya A. Miller, J.D., CCEP
*Vice President for Compliance and
Chief Integrity Officer*

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

Leonard Pounds, Ph.D.
*Senior Vice President for Data Strategy
and Operational Excellence*

Ryan Romero, M.S.
Interim Athletics Director

Kelley Shanley, MBA
*Vice President for Institutional
Foresight and Government Relations*

Alyson Silva, M.AC., CPA
*Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer*

Barry E. Somerstein, J.D.
*Vice President for Legal Affairs and
General Counsel*

Renee Venezia, Ed.D., SPHR
*Vice President for
Human Resources*

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Undergraduate Degrees

May 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice	5
College of Psychology.....	5
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship.....	5

May 4, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

College of Computing, AI, and Cybersecurity	9
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center	9
Shepard Broad College of Law	9

May 5, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Rehabilitative Sciences	13
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Health Sciences.....	13
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing	13

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

May 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m

Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice

Natalie Ann Bostic, *Elementary Education*
 Rylee Roe-Lipsky, *Exceptional Student Education with ESOL Endorsement*

College of Psychology

Kyle Casey Fleming, *Psychology*
 Japji Madan, *Neuroscience*

H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship

Alisa Hannah Johanna van Deijck, *Accounting*

May 4, 2026, at 3:00 p.m

College of Computing, AI, and Cybersecurity

Brandon Ryan DeCelle, *Computer Science*
 Arman Gasparyan, *Computer Science*

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

Maximus Alexis Klein, *Mathematics*
 Olivia L. Knerr, *Dance*

Shepard Broad College of Law

Ari D. Allon, *Law*
 Montinique Van Staden, *Law*

May 5, 2026, at 9:30 a.m

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Rehabilitative Sciences

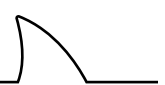
Emily Maria Cabral, *Exercise and Sport Science*
 Alexandra Emilia Jakubiak, *Human Nutrition*

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Health Sciences

Jamia Robinson, *Medical Sonography*

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

Donesha Miller, *Nursing*
 Chantal Jenna Khodarkovsky, *Nursing*



ORDER OF EXERCISES

May 4, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

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

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

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

Processional:

Entry of the Guests, from *Tannhäuser*, by Richard Wagner
Pomp and Circumstance No. 1 by Edward Elgar

Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
Presentation of the Colors.....	Nova Southeastern University ARMY ROTC
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i>	William J. Adams, D.M.A., <i>Vocalist, Professor,</i> <i>Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the</i> <i>Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshal	Jamie Tartar, Ph.D., <i>Department Chair and Professor,</i> <i>College of Psychology</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President,</i> <i>Provost, Chief Academic Officer, and</i> <i>Interim Senior Vice President for Research</i>
Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice	Marcelo Castro, Ph.D., <i>Associate Dean</i>
College of Psychology	Karen Grosby, Ed.D., <i>Dean</i>
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Interim Dean</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Aileen Miyuki Farrar, Ph.D., <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Program Director, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences</i> <i>and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Student Speaker	Carleah Felecia Patricia Culmer, <i>Class of '26</i>
Conferring of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Commencement Address.....	Leland C. (Lee) Pillsbury, <i>Entrepreneur,</i> <i>Hospitality Innovator, and Venture Capital Leader</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshal Jamie Tartar, Ph.D.

Recessional:

Triumphal March, from *Aida*, by Giuseppe Verdi

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 ANTHEM

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

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Child Development

Ashley Cipolla
 Aviva Cousley
 Gabriella Chiara D'Addio
 Brandy Dorce
 Lara Dubrow
 Daniela Merino
 Samentha Lucy Metayer
 Sarahlee Orphe
 Paige Eloise Platt
 Michelle Dawn Ramson
 Nicolas Rodriguez
 Jordan E. Romano
 Emani Smith
 Brittney Stearns

Criminal Justice

Carson Allen
 Angelee E. Aquino
 Gladis Beatriz
 Ardon Vanegas, Sr.
 Elizabeth Marie Avila
 Mikayla Ben-Haim
 Shana Benneddeb
 Paul Boos-Patton
 Harmani Kaur Brar
 Alexa Lee Brockhausen

Hannah Elizabeth Burton
 Hannah Abigail Chval
 Ann-Chloe Alexis Daniel
 Ashantae Alicia Davis
 Gisella Del Mar
 Gil Garcia
 Robert Alexander Fercano
 Liana Madisyn Ferreira
 Khali Alliyah Forman
 Katelin T. Gambale
 Aceem Easton Henry
 Karelys Hernandez-Ramos
 Kaylee Madison Holder †
 Julia Y. Ibrahim
 Jasmine Johnson
 Elizabeth Anne Kennedy
 Megan Larocque
 Gillian A. Leon
 Christina Rene Lochard
 Ally Luanglath
 Jarin Maccarone
 Victoria Marte
 Barbara F. Massardo Oliva
 Kiandra Willona Miller
 Bailey North
 Carisha Edith Pacheco
 Gabriel Pares II
 Ashely C. Perez
 Estrella Georgina
 Romero Barriola
 Niresh Santu
 Nathan K. Tibert †
 Melanie Treto
 Godwin Jayson
 Christopher Trim
 Sarah E. Walker

Education

Lily M. Adams
 Yamilet Alvarado
 Taylor Dawn Beacham
 Femi Capiro

Evan P Crisp
 Amber Rose Esposito
 Isabella G. Gonzalez
 Nashalie Gonzalez
 Olivia M. Imbriani
 Lena Chantal Joubi
 Gia Walato Kakkar
 Cassandra S. Newton
 Destiny Xochilan Pantoja
 Keyandra J. Pierre
 Sydney Mary Rebar
 Aryeh Richter
 Sage T. Rossetti
 Ayana Aisha Ashanti Scott
 Matthew Russell Struble II †
 Karlyn Domonique Thayer
 Sherley Angelica Tobar
 Megan Reeves Winterbottom
 Morgan Alexis Zaitschek

Elementary Education with ESOL/Reading Endorsements

Olivia Huiling Abram
 Kevyn Matthew Arce
 Natalia Elaine Atchisson
 Natalie Ann Bostic
 Shovanda Casas
 Celeste Bianca
 Delos Santos
 Jade Gonzalez
 Cassidy Lauren Grove
 Morgan Halstead
 Bianca Rose Iacullo
 Kathryn Elizabeth Johnson
 Sofia Quinteros
 Reagan Singer
 Madeline Clare Turano
 Luciana Vidal

Exceptional Student Education with ESOL Endorsement

Kira Lynn Cook
 Jessica Furman
 Rylee Mae Roe-Lipsky
 Emma N. Vignona
 Nixie R. Wyckoff

Human Services Administration

Aniya M. Otway
 Jada Kareshma Singh
 Clarisse Sibylle Thelisma

Secondary Social Studies Education

Dylan Yechezkel Levy
 Gabriella Elizabeth Rahaley

Secondary English Education with ESOL/Reading Endorsements

Simran Bhardwaj
 Rocshell Hall
 Cassandra Anne Stevens

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Neuroscience

Emily T. Abraham
 Sanya Adlakha
 Anushka Agrawal
 Alyssa R. Agrippa
 Valentin Aleandri
 Isabella Amaya

Gabrielle S. Andrews
Ananya Lakshmi Annamraju
Mark Jacob Apterman
Alex Michelle Arshavsky
Janelle Bachman Rodriguez
Esperanza Barrios
Sankalp Bejagam
Sushanth Bethi
Shaina Binu
Erika Caraballo
Alexa Catalina Cardona
Yusuf A. Chaudhary
Michelle K. Cho
Amy Joan Crowley
Robert A. Di Nino
Ariana C. Fein
Sathvi Gandra
Alyssa S. Go
Vanya Gupta
Emma Hickey
Megan R. Hilliard
Jeremy T. Ignatius
Joann Jaison
Samira A. Joseph
Ryan Kanungo
Kirpa Kaur
Sai Puneeth Kothuru
Sricharan Lankalapalli
Francesca Sophia Leone †
Lois Loor
Japji Madan
Rachel N. Mandeville
Caitlyn B. Marinaccio
Chandralekha Sai Mekala
Payal Modi
Isabella Newman
Kelsey Grace Newton
Sharvani Nune
Maya Grace O'Neal
Preya S. Pandya
Dillen-Preetesh
Jayanti Patel
Esha S. Patel
Het S. Patel
Isha Patel
Jaivish Patel
Shreeji M. Patel
Matthew Thomas Patinella
Carina V. Pavlov
Amanda Perez Romero
Laury Santhiale Pierre
Luis S. Quinto
Xarely Restrepo Montes
Cameron Joseph Reynolds
Emma-Rose Rogers
Lauren Elizabeth Rosenberg
Anna Elizabeth Roy
Sahil Sheth
Ali Shigri
Jeeven Srivastava
Harshitha S. Surisetty
Ashianna Alok Trivedi
Kathryn Alexandria Walcott
Anna Maria Weber
Emma Claire Weinstein †

Olivia Kassandra Wirtz
Grace Kimlyn Wong
Sierra Wynne
Sylvia Shenodh Yousef
Riley Elizabeth Zolk

Psychology

Fedya Blaisina Alezi
Olivia Aniol
Elizabeth Marie Avila
Tristan Barenburg
Colin W. Begley
Kaylee Marie Blanchard
Daniella Eve Bou-Nahra
Vanity E. Bradshaw
Letezghi Brown
Isabelle Cadet
Soraya F. Cajuste
Gabriel Enrique Caraballo
Danielle R. Castillo
Valentina Castro
Valentina M. Cevallos
Cameron Channing
Alicia Clermont
Yvonne Michelle Collins
Angel B. Cooper
Kaleigh Cassandra Cummings
Sanaa Dehye
Ashley J. Denis
Mahi Desai
Belinda Shirley Dice
Treyanna Tamoi Ennis
Emilio J. Erazo
Sahara Ethridge
Andrea A. Fajardo Aguilar
Kyle Casey Fleming
Thomas Erik Flower
Jaydon Michael Foster
Isabel R. Fratta
Jayleen L. Garcia
Gissele Pellecier
Garcia-Ayala
Hailey Gerritsen
Emily Gil
Preetham Reddy Gopu
Osbeidy Granela
Rose Gutshall
Sydney S. Gwilliam
Ita Habekovic
Jumann Hai
Nida Haider
Alyssa Janay Harris
Ny'Ashia Samira Heath
Ava K. Hilgner
Maelin Y. Ho
Ysabella M.
Houellemont Tejada
Madeline Simone
Wang Hsu
Juliana M. Imbuzeiro
Layla A. Isnady
Ekaterina Ivakhnenko
Matthew Jaramillo
Myah Elaine Jenkins
Freya Jennifer Elizabeth Jones

Taylen D. Jones
Claire R. Joseph
Andres S. Joyel
Michelle Rebecca Kats
Vincent T. Langnecker
Nicole Llubes Severino
Alexandra Rose Lopes
Yingzi Luo
Rishubh Madaboosi
Andrea Celeste Malo
Elizabeth Marante
Meylin Martinez
Christine Mayard
Bria McIntyre
Catherine Medina
Yvana S. Medina
Gianna Mendoza
Mayah Mondesir
Melanie Montoya
Bella Maria Morales
Grace Elizabeth Mundell
Emilia Noninyan
Francisco Jose Ortiz, Jr.
Stefani Ortiz
Kaylin M. Ortueta
Shahd Oufi
Kristiana Voula Oureilidis
Bala Sivani Padala
Emily Pando
Sia Kumar Patel
Danielle Perez
Kimberly Perlik
Marina Nicole Perri
Kishandi Peters
Avery Piatt
Bryanna Eve Pirozzi
Italia N. Plummer
Ava Pollac
Danielle Pollard
Deepthi Prince
Dylan Ramos
Yone Rees
Julia Zaini Ribeiro
Lakeisha C. Richardson
Shajaidy V. Robinson
Ashley Rodriguez
Breana Ruiz
Adam Sacchetti
Kiran S. Sajnani
Jade Guetten Sanchez
Kristian J. Sandoval
Sanaa Rose Seghrouchni
Eejung Ann Shin
Sofia Shing
Sheron A. Shippy
Veronica M. Sierra
Gavin Steel
Avrohom Stuart
Brianna Tambolini
Cassidy Tarajos
Yuval Teren
Charvi Thumati
Kaveena Vedika Tilak
Nathan C. Tinu
Adriana Torres

Noah Vincent Tracey
Riya Malay Vadalia †
Bianca Eileen Valle
Zachary Vasquez
Emma Velardo
Alyssa G. Ventura
Morgan Vile
Andrew Viet Luong Vo
Aaliyah Andrea Washington
Hailey A. Williams
Machaela Dawn Wommack
Davide Joel Wouters
Elizabeth Rose Yakirevich
Grace Victoria Young
Irina Letizia
Zavaleta Alencastre

H. WAYNE HUIZENGA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Accounting

John Arred
Emily F. Biggs
Debora E. Chavez
Tanner Justin Gibson
Samuel Alejandro Gross
Barbara Deisy Hernandez
Dorina Hernandez
Mychela Valerie Jones
James Letkovsky II
Nazli Rejepova
Alisa Hannah
Johanna van Deijck
Michael David Volfman

Business

Deanna Marie Wallace

Business of Health

Adam Elmahdi Housni
Chanasya L. Prabhu
Caige A. Raup
Francesca Eleni Rimbos
Samantha Ann Salvatore
Kalix J. Timo

Entrepreneurship

Nicolas E. Amaya
Mustafa Amdani
Allison A. Bailey
Martiniano Banegas, Jr.
Andres Miguel Calderon
Frank Thomas Christopher
Owen Dabb
Thaylanis Zoharis Davila
Kai Stephen

Phillips Dear
 Logan Jacob Fernandez
 Dillan H. Hadeed, Sr.
 Wolfgang Joseph Hemberger
 Robert Evan Lamb
 Josiah James McClary
 Emma Taylor Nelson
 Diana D. Rivas Ramos
 Julia Rocha de Macedo Moraes
 Jason Brandon Schwartz
 Peter Schwarz
 Tierani Teslow
 Kara Caeley Tomasulo
 Jose L. Varona VI
 Marcela Maria Del Valle
 Walters Echenagucia
 Ayanna S'daja Williams

Finance

Ali Fuad Almaawi
 Jose Eduardo
 Bautista Ogando
 Ryan Cainzos
 Zander Kiamy
 Neto De Castro
 Kevin Renaldo Chin
 Tadiwanashe Chirume
 David Colizza
 Joseph A. Cordi
 Carleah Felecia
 Patricia Culmer
 Samuel Charles Cybulski
 Jonathan Joel
 Duarte Urbina
 Alon Eylon
 Gabriella Rose Fiore
 Stafford Florcius
 Sophia Florez
 Jared Matthew Francois
 Justin Rene Gonzalez
 Dasianae Tiamoy Griffiths
 Pranav Gupta
 Tina Hassid
 Manuel Alejandro
 Henriquez Abreu
 Sebastian Iglesias
 Tomas Enzo Isoardi, Sr.
 Alicia Young Ivey
 Julia Monira Koeberl
 Ioannis Konstantinos Koutoumanos
 Marc-allen Marc Lerebours
 Valentina Marcone
 Daeon Matthews
 Klaus Michuletz Emden
 Hemaanya Sreesai Asleesha
 Mondraty
 Sebastian Joshua Mora, Jr.
 Lorenzo F. Moreno
 Massimo Francis Natoli
 Arturo R. Nunez
 Kareena Patel
 Nickolas Efthimios Peristeridis
 Yann Philipps Galindo
 Juan Potasman, Sr.
 Rakeem Michael

Sebastien Richards †
 Thierry Gabriel Robinson
 Nicolas Rojas Menendez
 Richard Romanychev
 Stina Thora
 Ludvigsdotter Roswall
 Pascal Valentin
 Saizar Olivera, Sr.
 Victoria A. Sandino-Marquez
 Jacob Cline Schmitt
 Aaron R. Shaffer
 Jordany Kerven Similien
 Elaine Genese Smith
 Isabella Torres
 Chris Truong
 Michelle Roxana
 Tumbaco Teran
 Derrek Vera, Sr.
 Seth Avery Walcott
 Eliot Weizman
 Khijani Kaheim Williams
 Mohamed Amine Yazza

Management

Khani A. Alleyne
 Bianca A. Andres
 Prince-David Keith
 DaCosta Archer
 Joshua Bayer
 Juan Ignacio
 Bordoli Andujar
 Madeleine Brown
 Samuel Kawung Chan
 Lauren Alex Colahar
 Ariana Carolina
 Davis Camboa
 AuJavae Dixon-Whitfield
 Audrianna Eleanor Donastorg
 Gretchen Duttonhofer
 Alexander S. Ferraro
 Charlize Soleil Ferreira
 Kianga Kayla Frith
 Alexis Jade Garcia
 Noah Gjervik
 Ezekiel Goldstein
 Abigail Grizzle
 Kelly Alexandra Helo
 Gustav Johan
 Valdemar Henriksen, Sr.
 Alba Virginia Hernandez
 Maria D. Ibañez Salas
 Matteo Innocenti
 Veronica L. Johnson
 William Johnson
 Aya Kabboud
 Breyanna Kemp
 Frank Strongford Knowles
 Ryan Marrero
 William John McGhie
 Kevin Sidney Menezes
 Nilo Mingrone Neto
 Samantha Mocerino
 Mollie Josefina
 Eleonora Morfelt
 Kilee Shae Morgan

Charles Tim Nicole
 Facundo Ariel Pafunti, Jr.
 Joshua James Parry
 Cecelia Pattenaude
 Juan Pena
 Myriella Philosthene
 James Pinto
 Peter Joseph Pinto
 Nicolas Potasman, Sr.
 Isabella Nicole Pozos
 Sean Alessandro
 Robalino Miele
 Kaitlyn M. Rodriguez
 Pablo Isabelino
 Rodriguez Blum, Sr.
 Gianna Russo
 Anoop Singh Sahansra
 Valentina Schraiber
 Sarah Isabel Sheldon
 Katie Smith
 Akash Sookdeo
 Heather M. Staudt
 Sujey Trejo Marquez
 Gabriel Valente Lobianco
 Noelia Veronica Valle Valle
 Victoria Varona
 Emilio Vasquez
 Ria Verma †
 Julianna Helen Vining
 Sierra Reese Walker
 Rylee Michele West †
 Tyler Dean Wooldridge
 Bradley Lloyd Errol Wright
 Adam Joseph Wynne
 Sunao Yamamoto

Marketing

Emily Rose Acosta
 Morella Alarcon
 Giselle Aliancin
 Simone A. Austin
 Jonathan Azuelos
 Devin Beverly
 Ismail Jad Boudda
 Dominique Simone
 Oluwa-Tobi Bridgeforth
 Brendan M. Burke
 Imani Alicia Christian
 Paula Corrales Marco
 Ethan Anthony Courtney
 Isabel Davis
 Christopher Charles Dlugokecki
 Isabelle Dubois
 Camila Duran Barajas
 Dillon James Eawaz
 Molly Cleus Fahey
 Angelica Marie Giraldez
 Payton Graber
 Jordan-Louis
 Alexander Hampstead
 Maria Herrera
 Madison R. Kasper †
 Olga Kharchenko
 Eve Jessica Kul
 Rose Marie Lydon

Elizabeth Marrero
 Jaclyn Danielle Matheos
 Brooke Nicole McNamara
 Nahia Montenegro
 Ashley Noar
 Dalia Lucia Ortiz-Perez
 Sarah Lucia
 Paternina Barrios
 Arianna Perez
 Nino Pernias
 Vlada Igorevna Petrushenko
 Isabel Phillips
 Yureni Reyna Gomez
 Clare Bailey Rhode
 Faleesha Rolle
 Victoria Elizabeth Sagasti
 Jada Brittny Schneider
 Sarah Monica Selaya
 Thomas John Steckman
 Sierra Lauren Stirnkorb
 Ivana Maria Thelwell
 Lailanie Toro
 Justin D. Tran
 Macie Rose Troncone
 Amedeo Tufano
 Reagan Cassidy
 Gabriella Wallace
 Kayla Paula Watler
 Mackenzie Denise Wommack

Property Management and Real Estate

Tamia S. Bailey
 Owen Michael Couto
 Polina Demidova
 Ryan Wingle Mangano
 Aaliyah Shanell Nunes

Sport and Recreation Management

Fabian Aguayo Aguirre
 Lucas Ethan Blank
 Saoirse Reed Burke
 Sydney H. Delcontivo
 Maya Glen Esparza
 Elijah-Zane Z Fernandez
 Emma P. Goldfine
 Albert Hernandez
 Noah Holtschoppen
 Shen Jia
 Elvis Lejlic
 Jonathan M. Marfia
 Santino Scerbo
 Gabriel Michael Scotto
 Sydni Sheri Smaller
 Ryan Peter Smith, Jr.
 Carlos Emilio
 Villacorta Escobar
 Matthew Christopher Zak
 Federico Zapata

† Member of President's 64

ORDER OF EXERCISES

May 4, 2026, at 3:00 p.m.

Undergraduate Degrees from the
College of Computing, AI, and Cybersecurity
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the
Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center
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

Processional:

Entry of the Guests, from Tannhäuser, by Richard Wagner
Pomp and Circumstance No. 1 by Edward Elgar

Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
Presentation of the Colors.....	Nova Southeastern University ARMY ROTC
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i>	William J. Adams, D.M.A., <i>Vocalist, Professor,</i> <i>Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the</i> <i>Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshals	Jose Victor Lopez, Ph.D., <i>Professor, Halmos College of Arts and</i> <i>Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i> Catherine Arcabascio, J.D., <i>Professor,</i> <i>Shepard Broad College of Law</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President,</i> <i>Provost, Chief Academic Officer, and</i> <i>Interim Senior Vice President for Research</i>
College of Computing, AI, and Cybersecurity.....	Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D., <i>Dean, Senior Vice President for</i> <i>Academic Affairs, and Associate Provost</i>
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center	Robin Cooper, Ph.D., <i>Dean</i>
Shepard Broad College of Law	Olympia Ross Duhart, J.D., <i>Dean</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Aileen Miyuki Farrar, Ph.D., <i>Associate Professor,</i> <i>Program Director, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences</i> <i>and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Student Speaker	Ayush P. Desai, <i>Class of '26</i>
Commencement Address.....	Guy Harvey, Ph.D., <i>Marine Scientist, Conservationist,</i> <i>and Renowned Ocean Artist</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshals Jose Victor Lopez, Ph.D. Catherine Arcabascio, J.D.

Recessional:

Triumphal March, from Aida, by Giuseppe Verdi

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 ANTHEM

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

**COLLEGE OF
 COMPUTING, AI, AND
 CYBERSECURITY**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Computer Science

Faris Mansour Allaf
 Christopher Antonio Betancourt
 Yaire A. Castro
 Brandon Ryan DeCelle
 Arman Gasparyan
 Alejandro Ochoa Pupo
 Naitik K. Patel †
 Paul Roger Roos

Cybersecurity Management

Janay Nana Opokua Badoe
 Anthony Bonaccorsy
 Aaron L. Caceres
 Diego A. Colon
 Orian Hailey Demarco
 Jodi Ellen Hayes
 Jose Glenford Matos
 Yvette Pierre
 Juan Prieto

Information Technology

Mohammed Makhir S. Alsubhi
 Hannah L. Calamari
 Peter C. Cruz
 Aaron Jordan Daniel Alexander
 D'Aguilar-Walters
 Nabeel I. Dar
 Sanaa Dehye

Marion E. Harper
 Chris Ivanovski
 Pinyaphat Jantarakongkul
 David Seth Madhavan
 Ammar A. Malik
 Matthew McManus
 Jada Brittany McPherson
 Luke Zachery Quiroz
 Brent Rosen
 Jacob A. Singer
 Saniesh Tanesha Strachan
 Kadiya Vedna Tilak
 Gregory Toussaint
 Saumit Kumar Tumbalam
 Jaime R. Valdez
 Harry Yoders
 Nina Lin Zheng

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

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Art and Design

Maria V. Adriani
 Melani Cusicanqui
 Sophia Dakkuri
 Nicholas Matthew DeYulus
 Isaiah Duckie
 Isaiah Findlay
 Helena Michel Easton

Anastacia Irina Gold
 Nicole Marie Gomez †
 Carissa Angelica Harnarrine
 Alyssa N. Lindo
 Bria Shae Manning-Floyd
 Sofia Isabella Menco Arenas
 Sofia Ossola
 Raul E. Perez
 Mikael J. Phoenix
 Jessica L. Rodriguez
 Madisen Romero
 Maria Victoria Ruiz O'Reilly
 Lara Tobolski
 Jordan D. Weisensee
 Tyriana T. White

Communication

Gabriela Maday Alvarado
 Kaitlyn Berg
 Marlee J. Card
 Ryan J. Davis
 Lara Farinella
 Isabella M. Fernandez de Cueto
 Ashley Marie Goehmann
 Jennifer C. Griggs
 Joshua Leatherman
 Daniel Lopez
 Nathalie Marin
 Matthew Humburi McCall
 Sara Lucia Menco Arenas
 Maria Emilia Rodriguez Rosario
 Jocelyn C. Saccucci
 Alejandra Silva
 Martina Valdovinos
 Abraham D. Velasquez
 Olivia Ryan Zolk

Dance

Olivia L. Knerr

English

Bayla Andrea Greenstein
 Crystal Alia Jolin Jobe
 Chetana Movva †

International Studies

Olivia Elisabeth Donnellan †
 Drekarria Deanna Miller †
 Paula Recio Rey

Music

Kiana Marye Romero

Philosophy

Avilyn G. Crosson †

Political Science

Mahir Abrar
 Sarah Abushi
 Ahmad Alkabouni
 Mia Anastasia Alvarez
 Bradley Beemon
 Zashawn Marcus Christopher †
 Isabella N. Elias
 Monet Edward Elrod
 Jeannelle Jonca
 Farhan Labib
 Linda Montenegro
 Isabelle Moreno
 Sallette Cristalina
 Neto DA Silva
 Alexander Trofimov
 Lorance E. White
 Diogo Andres Zapata
 Justin Zisk
 Imadeddine Zmarou

Theatre

Alexa Morgan Frank
 Noelia Michelle Olivero
 Hadynn C. Schultz
 Luca V. Zayas

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Applied Professional Studies

Naveen Edwin Albert
Jabari J. Burgess
Christina M. Campbell
Anniela Carracedo Altuve
Daniella Jasmine Corry
Jonathan Paul Covert
Jack Cue
Jorge De Goti
Adriana Leila Dino
Jacob A. Elalouf
Samantha Fong Wu
Ana Paula Franco
Emily K. Garcia
Kyrstin Green
Rosanna Hannah
Victoria Halls
Chloe Henderson
Alexia P. Holt
Anuoluwapo Jikoji
Dakota MacAllister Jones
Evan Kosheff
Polina Kotliar
Kassidy Rose Laflamme
Destiny Lewis
Gabriella Ligotti
Ronald S. Martinez
Dayrelis C. Milian Diaz
Jaxon Nap
Nancy A. Parrilla
Dominic Yanko Peric
Sarah Faith Popan
Mackenzie Pryor
Emilia Maja
Karin Ronningdal
Gabriel Rzezwicki
Catherine Salazar
Daulton J. Scharf
Lisette Serrano
Jaylon Jerome Sharpe
Peter Magdy Mounir
Maurice Sidhom
Taydra Simpson
Sydney R. Stearns
Anthony D. Stinson
Janiqua Tyronique Stubbs
Amaya I. Suarez
Shanice Christina Thompson
Maria Torres Lobato
Ty Torti
Erik Tovar
Despina Varghese
Lilyanna Vazquez
Blaise Vespe
Myah M. Williams

Biology

Zafreen Abdullah
Emily T. Abraham
Tejaswi Achanta
Ariana Adzemovic
Genesis A. Aguilar
Luna Samantha
Aguilar Chevez

Eimaan Ahmad
Ammar Ahmed
Tyler Oshin Aidie
Valentin Aleandri
Rosa Elizabeth Amador
Sanjana Ananthula
Ashley Rose Andrixon
Katrina Q. Arndt
Harani R. Athwale
Courtney Atkins
Srija Atluri
Johnathan Atwell
Rochelle L. Avezki
Megan Elayne Bailey
Ava Barrasso
Cooper Russell Barton
Fiorella Maria Bayo
Suchita S. Balaga
Dahliah R. Bernstein
Alec Bielat
Maxwell Bitton
Jackeline Gusmao Bohn
Chelsea Borja
Brianna C. Bourke
Alyson P. Brown
Senia Bu
Samantha M. Cardoso
Regine A. Carreon
Roland Anthony Carreon
Maria Jose Castaneda
Valerie Castellanos
Airan Castro Diaz
Isabel C. Ceydeli
Varshini Chaganti
Stebin Chanasseril
Neha Chanda
Kaitlin Nguyen Chao
Jayda Chanelle Chapman
Anna Chen
Andersen Cheong
Chris Eapen Cherian
Sophia D. Chertog
Andrea Chinae
Enide S. Clerizier
Alessandra Alvarez Coke
Isabella Lily
Cortes Greene
Yanely N. De La Torriente
Kabir Singh Deol
Ayush P. Desai
Tulsi Uday Desai
Daniel A. Diaz
Ishrat M. Diya
Anvita Sravani Dogiparthi
Arlin Dominguez
Sandeep Dronavalli
Sara P. Dupkin
Kareem El-Abed
Mossimo Elboulkili
Mounira A. Elchurafa
Fabiha T. Faruque
Molly Elizabeth Feldman
Isabella Grace Fiore
Ruthie Danielle Fogel
Zariya Keri Forbes
Jaelyn G. Freeston

Sathvi Gandra
Allan Ganzman
Stylianos V. Gelis
Wanjiru Gicheru
Ryela Gill
Bianca Alicia Gonzalez
Nathalia Gonzalez
Emily Samantha Goodkin
Nitya Gourishetty
Jovonne D. Grant
Benjamin Grushkovskiy
Emily Hany Guirguis
Emily R. Guirguis
Avni Gupta
Evan Xingjian Han
Chyna S. Henry
Alexandra Hernandez Dieguez
Andrea Isabella
Hernandez Valente
Christina Alexis Herrera
Talan M. Herrmann
Nicki E. Hirad
Katherine Lee Hirt
Michael John Hirt
Natalia Christina Hommel
Mishkat Mohammed Hossain
Christopher Huang
Karla Antonella
Hurtado Caro
Donna Huynh
Trinity Huynh
Imaad Ul Islam
Joyce A. James
Rithvik Jarugula
Anshu S. Jasani
Neha C. Jasti
Wayne Jean-Baptiste
Christopher Matthew Joseph
Yazin Fuad Kahook
Sophia Marie Karas
Adhiraj Singh Katoch
Ethan Mathew Khotylev
Alexander Nickolas Klinov
Jacob V. Kora
Inchara Kumar
Aerik T. Kunju
Riya Kuntamukkala
Eric Kuttner
Annabelle Lagredel
Allen Christopher Lee
Jaylen C. Lee
Kristen Jia Lee
Tatiana Gladys Leon
Marian M. Leon-Santana
Briannah Imani Linton
Nicole M. Llanes
Katherine Loayza
Reynel Lopez
Sammantha Lopez-Guarin
Elisabeth Ann Loranger
Whitney Lorio
Victor Aixuan Lu
Praneetha Maddike
Jacob Aidan Magnanao
Melissa S. Maldonado
Valerie G. Managadze

Rohan R. Mandadi
Rachel N. Mandeville
Isabella M. Manint
Samantha Manzi
Jordan Alma Marriott
Jonesia Shauntis
Leigh Martimbor
Anthony Kyrillos Marzouk
Dylan Reid Mavlyanov
Daliya S. McClendon
Dan Thomas McCloud
Melissa Medinilla
Isabella Andrea Mejia
Melanie Alexis Merritt
Melissa Mikhail
Verena A. Mikhail
Carleigh M. Miller
Srujan Miryala
Tulsi A. Modi
Jordan C. Monteiro
Antonella Montenegro Paredes
Taryll Leon Moore †
Yahir Morales
Abby Mae Morrill
Arjun Prashanth Mote †
Vivek Muddana
Fatima Muhammad
Dante A. Murillo
Ariana Muschett
Shavinda Nagapen
Ledianys Nazala
Camila Nogueira Camejo
Safwan Noor
Sharon Nunez
Julian Oliver Bozek
Larissa Oren
Nandini S. Pandrangi
Alma Marie Partenza
Aansi Patel
Dhruv Patel
Lillen-Preetesh
Jayanti Patel
Mahi K. Patel
Malini Nitalbhai Patel
Om Patel †
Pritha Patel
Rutvi Patel
Gabriella Pena
Adrian D. Perez
Sophia E. Perez
Kylie Peyton
Tien Pham
Jordan M. Pilyavsky
Jonathan Isaac Pinzon
Zariah K. Ponder
Matei Popescu
Nitya Suma Punjal
Jonathan Quiroz
Jahizarys A. Ramirez
Marcel Ramirez
Kristy R. Rasmly Basily
Anamaria Rey
Dylan Y. Reyes
Kayllee Reyes Lazo
Kurt Michael Richer

Sara Kay Roberts
 Aliesia A. Robinson
 Caroline Siu Yen
 Rodriguez Chang
 Jeannie Romain
 Jianne Romain
 Merlin Romero
 Jacob William Rudy
 Francesca A. Ruju Alvarez
 Kevin Sade
 Kazi R. Samin
 Sreekari Adhi Samudrala
 Adhvik Saravanan
 Dhruvi R. Sarkar
 Maximiliano Emmanuel Segovia
 Sanjith Senthil Kumaran
 Sadhna Seth
 Riley Marie Sevigny
 Harris I. Shaikh
 Alisa Isabel Shapsis
 Sahil Sheth
 Armaan Sinha
 Michael Ayman Soliman
 Ajitesh Sompalli
 Kaelah Elizabeth Sorokin
 Akshara Sriram
 Julia Lorena St.Clair
 Paige A. Sterud
 Peyton Elizabeth Strand
 Bethany Sullivan
 Harshitha S. Surisetty
 Mark Cameron Tam
 Nicolas Tapia Stoll
 Khalid Theeb
 Mitchell Andre Thenor
 Keith Thompson
 Emily Torres
 Maya Toni Totev
 Tori Rose Trachtenberg
 Jonathan Hoang Tran
 Lina Nhung Tran
 Neha Tumati
 Amala G. Vadukumcherry
 Wenderline Valcourt
 Anu R. Valiaveedu
 Chanakya Prasad Valmiki
 Ciera Mae Vanleer
 Jennifer Adalgiza Vargas
 Anika Varma
 Antonio De Jesus
 Velazquez Perez
 Laasya Vemparala †
 Gia A. Vitolo
 Chana Vogel
 John Dean Voudouris
 Aditya S. Vuppapapati
 Carol Wadeie
 Samuel Brady Warm
 Anna Maria Weber
 Ella Beck Weinlick
 Noah J. Wellington
 Kaitlin Noel Whalen
 Melanie Wiener
 Grace Kimlyn Wong
 Rohan Yalamanchili
 Alexander Yaremenko

Nadya Kristine Young
 Nadine Khaled Youssef
 Estelle Yushvah
 Rana Zarour
 Laurent Fautina Zayas Diaz
 Lior R. Zeitoun
 YingYing Zhu

Chemistry
 Annmarie Denise Berson-Devol
 Cynthia G. Chamoun
 Samarth Goyal
 Natalie Ruthanne Haas
 Jalena A. Jarvis
 Matias Malinverni
 Kayla Loan Chau Mang
 Jonathan Andrew Rosati
 Braedan Sheil
 Andrew M. Siedlecki
 Michael Vaynman
 Elana S. Winston

Engineering
 Tiffany Eva Calbo
 Dustin D. Castro
 Zayd El Imane
 Roxana Graveran De Armas
 Ohm Patel
 Madisyn Paige Pedersen
 Victoria Rodriguez
 Sage Danae Study

Environmental Science
 Briana Badowski
 Nicolas A. Borca
 James Parker Chalmers
 Gianna Alena Dib
 Delicia Fermaint
 Allison Marie Fitzgerald
 Rileigh Gonzalez
 Arianna Dianthe Charlie
 Goulbourne
 Eryn C. Heath
 Madelyn Hooper
 Coral J. Kovac
 Layla Marie LaCelle
 Josephine Angela Larson
 Heidi Gabrielle Martz
 Kayla Maria Nazario
 Nicholas Paradise
 Triumph Promise Perry
 Isabelle Brianna
 Rose Petty
 Victor Gabriel
 Pomales Pinto
 Madison M. Smith
 Kylie S. Taber

General Studies
 Shaw Bailey Marcus

Interdisciplinary Studies
 Benelda J. Edouard
 Aaliyah Henriquez
 Caylee Ann Lott
 Rhett Thomas Moore †

Legal Studies
 Jeraldine Saint Gilles
 Kristen Smith
 Adrian Mark Anthony Thorpe

Marine Biology
 Victoria Elyse Acosta
 Daniella Michelle
 Acosta Reyes
 Lacey Nicole Adamik
 Tyler Ian Anderson
 Taylor Aufdencamp
 Holly Johnson Bartlett
 Michelle Elizabeth Bassali
 Sophia Grace Bost
 Liat Nicolle Castillo Landman
 Owen M. Duerbeck
 David Ferreira
 Allan Garcia
 Matthew D. Gassmann
 Raymond Hernandez
 Emily S. LaBuda
 Megan Elizabeth Martiello
 Monica Maurer
 Jade Mells
 Morgan M. Michalek
 Naya Mondrosch
 Daisy Louise Muddimer
 Sophia Rose Oliveira
 Esmeralda Orozco
 Aidan Matthew Pflieger
 Erica Piercey
 Lianna Helen Rasimowicz
 Jayden Jo Ross
 Evan Schatz
 Mason James Schleicher
 Brandon M. Sheetz
 Luisa Maria Torres Arango
 Grace Kayli Triplett
 Sophia R. Welch
 Katherine Monica Whitehouse

Mathematics
 Frederick J. Fisler
 Arman Gasparyan
 Maximus Alexis Klein
 Italia Paris Lewis

Sociology
 Tamiia Hare
 Emilie Nicole Schroeder
 Tiffany Shvets
 Attalie L. Updegrove

**SHEPARD BROAD
 COLLEGE OF LAW**

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Law
 Ari D. Allon †
 Varanasi Buscher
 Yvette Castillant
 Ryan Anthony Christie-Muller
 Kamari Kyle Downer
 Chassidy Edwards
 Gabriella H. Gouliak
 Zoe Gubacsi
 Joshua T. Guyton
 Amanda Marie Infante
 Aleena M. Jabi
 Brinei Jones
 Tia Kobakhidze
 Justin Brandon Kravets
 Amanda Lastra
 Mikaela Magloire
 Giselle Rose Marcellino
 Alejandro Nemer
 Vivianna Marie Onofrietti
 Kara A. Pack
 Samantha F Pierre
 Tasharia A'Laysha Rivera
 Ellie Royce
 Laeila Scott
 Chrysta Leigh Snair
 Nicholas Stabile
 Montunique Van Staden
 Zaniyah J. Ware
 Ryan Kyle Webber
 Joseph J. Yancey

† Member of President's 64

ORDER OF EXERCISES

May 5, 2026, at 9:30 a.m.

Undergraduate Degrees from the

**Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine and
Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Rehabilitative Sciences**

**Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine and
Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Health Sciences**

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

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

Processional:

Entry of the Guests, from *Tannhäuser*, by Richard Wagner
Pomp and Circumstance No. 1 by Edward Elgar

Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
Presentation of the Colors.....	Nova Southeastern University ARMY ROTC
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i>	William J. Adams, D.M.A., <i>Vocalist, Professor, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshal	Kristi Messer, D.H.Sc., M.P.H., M.S.W., LCSW, <i>Assistant Dean/Associate Professor, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President, Provost, Chief Academic Officer, and Interim Senior Vice President for Research</i>
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Rehabilitative Sciences	Phyllis Joy Filker, D.M.D., M.P.H., <i>Executive Associate Dean</i>
Dr. Kiran Patel College of Allopathic Medicine and Dr. Pallavi Patel School of Health Sciences	Chad Perlyn, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., <i>Dean</i>
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing	Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., M.P.H., A.P.R.N., FNP-C, AGACNP-BC, <i>Dean and Associate Professor</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Aileen Miyuki Farrar, Ph.D., <i>Associate Professor, Program Director, Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Student Speaker	Tasfia Tazri Howlader, <i>Class of '26</i>
Introduction to Commencement Speaker.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Commencement Address.....	Daniel Coyle, <i>New York Times-Bestselling Author and Expert on High Performance and Culture</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshal Kristi Messer, D.H.Sc., M.P.H., M.S.W., LCSW

Recessional:

Triumphal March, from *Aida*, by Giuseppe Verdi

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 ANTHEM

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 AND
DR. PALLAVI PATEL
SCHOOL OF
REHABILITATIVE
SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Exercise and Sport Science

Kazandra Aleman
 Cassandra E. Alvarez
 Alyana Louise Andal
 Julianna Marie Bassano
 Bjorn Bathulia
 Leilani Venise Batista
 Jaime Blazquez De Dios
 Paris E. Braden
 Lauren Emma Brooks
 Emily Maria Cabral
 Harman Singh Cambow
 Natalie Tammy Cochran
 D'Andre Cole
 James Czuk
 Majd Sameh Dubeik
 Leah I. Dubreuzé
 Miah P. Duncan
 Isabella Estrada Hernandez †
 Camille Araujo Fonseca
 Alexa Fraga
 Hailey M. Fuentes

Gabriel Abraham
 Gratzner Cohen
 Omer Alp Hamzacebi
 Isabella Estefania Hernandez
 Barrera
 Ryan Honeycutt
 Ethan R. Keller
 Olivia L. Knerr
 Kailie Korczynski
 Angela J. Leon
 Hannah Light
 Jeffrey O. Lopez
 Alexis Lugo
 Karina Manrique
 James Manuel Moonnumackal
 Harleigh Moore
 Christianna Morgan Needham
 Callie Hope Ott
 Pavan P. Patel
 Sivan Perets
 Rielly A. Perez
 Victoria Lynn Potvin
 Gavin Poulshock
 Soleil Ramos
 Nathanael John Rende
 Andres F. Reynoso
 Cesar Romano
 Eric A. Samai-Bousignac
 Rachel M. Shaw
 Mackenzie E. Smallwood
 Laurie Jeanne St. Onge
 Franceska Stakaj
 Emma Lily Sterne
 Taylor M. Stockman
 Taylor J. Stordahl
 Sofia Suarez
 Mia Tesker
 Hena N. Thakkar
 Lena Belle Tillman
 Rae Velez
 Sophia White

Health and Wellness Coaching

Allison Bui
 Kacie Derosa
 Leyla Cahide Kayan
 Alexandra Vanya Weir

Health Informatics

Sway M. Abelard †
 Leelakrishna Angadala
 Bhumika Bhushan Balani
 Varun Bolla
 Meliyah Angeleah Boyd
 Katherine E. Dookhan
 Dhruv S. Edamadaka
 Mansi Nitin Gandhi
 Aubrey Hutzler
 Joshua Izhaky
 Mathan M. Kannayan
 Krish Khurana
 Sriya Laxman
 Joshua Alexander Lindwall
 Machla Methelus
 Madison Nelson
 Varshini Panuganti
 Rishika Roy
 Dhruvi R. Sarkar
 Noah Vincent

Human Nutrition

Imani Allen
 Camaryn Faith Barbanel
 Samia M. Baugh
 Hannah R. Baumer
 Alyssa S. Cunningham
 Hadley Day
 Eliana Gitelman
 Valentina Guzman Cortes
 Noor Al Zahraa
 Abbas Hachem
 Alexandra Emilia Jakubiak †
 Lauren Latimer

Kayla H. Le
 Rebecca Sara Lyons
 Meghan J. Mcnabb
 Trinity Moye
 Salena Patra
 Meagan E. Seraydar
 Diya Sodha
 Carly Traynor
 Kyra A. Triepke
 Delaney G. Wolfe

Public Health

Banan Y. Adam
 Ayanna Richelle Adams
 Aaron A. Akasala
 Omar Muhammad Amhan
 Nabhan Wahid Atiquzzaman
 Riddhi Banerjee
 Ricara Julia Beneby
 Presly T. Berman
 Delayna Trinity Bernard
 Natalia Jocelyn Calderon
 Trenise G. Campbell
 Tyra M. Campbell
 Pierce Anthony Canavan
 Elizabeth Castillo
 Aashi Chhabra
 Kimberly Yicel
 Corea-Gavarrete
 Isabella Cruz
 Joshua J. Dantes
 Lindsey Daris
 Giovanna De Souza Marques
 Kiarra Devito
 Keana Dominguez
 Rojlee Sithhara Ekanayake
 Andrea Lucia Farinas
 Rohith Ganjam
 Sonia Mukaram Gazi
 Kailen Jade Godfrey

Alia Ain Gonzalez
Luz-Sofia Greenwood
Nicole E. Grillo
Dancy E. Guzman
Rhea Hede-Sakhardande
Rosalie H. Holderith
Tasfia Tazri Howlader
Sreenitya Kode
Nimisha G. Kumar
Jacob Aidan Magnanao
Bianca Marquez
Ivanna Mathew
Anthony Matin
Connor McCarville
Divya Mullapudi
Vanessa Norona
Ethan J. Oliveros
Adriana M. Ortez
Anjalee Y. Patel
Dev J. Patel
Emma N. Patel
Jiya Divyesh Patel
Rhia Sanjay Patel
Rosselyn A. Perez
Pranav Rasesh Police
Kamalika R. Pothapu
Callia Cleopatra Pusey
Emma Delynn-Kintanar Rattana
Mohit Ravula
Maleeka Zehra Raza
Laura Restrepo-Cucunane
Elizabeth Russo
Gianna Saint-Jean
Isabella Santiago
Rishi R. Shah
Shweta Shah
Sarah Ann Shibu
Taruni Singanamala
Darla Ellen Sparacio
Isabel Sucre
Umme Sulaim
Fatima Syeda
Anthony Tanourji
Bianca A. Terlizze
Aleena Thomas
Nemo Thomas
Avisha Thota
Nikole Valladares
Samhitha R. Vangala
Amrutha Venkat
Isaiah Darrell Walker
Brintia Lambria Wright
Abhinav Yerra

Speech-Language and Communication Disorders

Fiorella Cecilia Baddour
Aurelie Noah Bien-Aime
Arrisa Brown
Riley Cannon
Emily J. Cook
Thalia Dorta
Angelika Eisenberg
Madison Diana Ferry
Linore Greenberg

Kelly T. Kasold
Zahira La Ragione Mateos
Yarleen Marino
Juliana Isabella Mineros
Samantha B. Nieves
Callie Ashlyn Poeta
Mirelisse Rivera-Alvarez
Yara Abedalaziz
Saed Aldamagh
Summer Sandford
Callie Madison Sharkey
Jamie N. Vanderkley
Nadine Miguel Vazquez
Mikayla Kelly Walas
Elizabeth Yarmolitsky

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF ALLOPATHIC MEDICINE AND DR. PALLAVI PATEL SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE

Health Science

Emely Pineda
Trey Alexander Richarz
Krystal Lynn Tamewitz

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Cardiovascular Sonography

Anne Claiborne Ayo
Paige Dalbke
Samuel Joseph Darza
Kaitlyn Gee
Elise Kisch
Ainhua Karolina K. Martinez
Orellana
Anshu Sanjaykumar Mehta
Sarah Meyers
Skylar Offerman
Angelina Quintana
Lauren Ruybal
Carlos Scott

Medical Sonography

Aniyah Jade Abraham
Yailin Armendariz
Madison Reese Bettencourt
Samantha Campos
Marisol Luisa Coto
Leilani Leigh Davila
Christell R. Escarment
Ziyan Han
Daznielle Jones

Shaunelle T. Jones
Paige McCullen
Savana Chanel
Robynn Moree
Samiya Nadeem
Mackenzie Nofzinger
Kayla Jailene Obando
Kiana Perez
Amelia J. Perkins
Kori Pomaski
Giovana Ramos
Sophia Reis
Jamia Robinson
Samantha Saba
Ashlie Lynn Schasel
Karina Schmidt
Jamaica A. Tift
Hailey Christina Wilcox

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RESPIRATORY THERAPY

Loobens Alincy
Allison Canedy
Jonivia Cenatus
Alexandra C. Colmenares
Paola Cruz Figueroa
Maria V. Ingellis
Woodgyna Yoldie Jean Marie
Kishan Jugmohan
Francesca M. Mastrando
Kate Osullivan
Ruchit U Patel
Johanna Getchena Sael
Elienne Jean
Charles Saintilus
Ricky Sandoval
Judeline Volmar

RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Sarah Marie Abella
Kamaria Y. Abernathy
Krissana Abolafia
Desiree M. Abreu
Yiset Abreu
Keshia Accius
Aida M. Acosta Zamora
Tyauna Adderly
Oluwafunmiyi Sarah Adigun
Carmen Aguero
Natalia Ahmad
Bissan Khaled Abdel Al Uoisi
Jessie Alpizar
Marilena Alvarez
Rafael A. Alvarez
Jewel Priscilla Amberpeta

Sefora R. Ambrocio-Vazquez
Athena Ambrose
Maika H. Andreus
Isabella Angelini
Michelle M. Angulo
Nicole Arencibia
Angelina M. Arismendi
Samantha Avellan
Alison Ann Bailey
Tatyana Bascom
Kayla Bazile
Kailey Kimone Benloss
Amanda Beolet
Jusbine Bernard
Maria Rose Blanchard
Olivia Blaszczyński
Krista Nicole Bonge
Angelina Giselle Bongiorno
Martin Dimitrov Borisov
Yael Bosquet
Eire Bradley
Dominick Brandauer
Samantha Bresier
Carolina Brito
Marquese Brown
Rickayla Margrette Brown
Jacqueline Bryer
Madison Buckmaster
Favio Buendia
Melanie Buendia
Reese J. Burke
Yaminah Cadet
Roman A. Camerlingo
Callie Campeggio
Leanys Capote
Christina Carson
Catherine Castellanos
Samantha Castillo
Daphne Castin
Stephany Cerisier
Samantha Elizabeth Cervera
Kristen Leigh Chambless
Yardine Chocetene
Danielle D. Christie
Aliah Cifuentes
Cindy Cifuentes
Maria A. Cisnero
Madison S. Colavecchio
Valentina Costa
Cassandra Cotin Simplicio
Amanda I. Cruz
Sophia Cuervo
Yunaisy Cuevas
Jennifer Viana Curvelo
Salime Dabien
Alexis Dagenais
Vanessa Danzy
Lillian May Dawes
Ana Maria De Lamar
Deja Q. Dean
Emely Del Campo
Bianella Delahoz
Daniela B. Delgado
Emily Delgado
Karen Delphonse

2026

COMMENCEMENT

UNDERGRADUATE

Ann-Esther Delva
 Daphney Deshommes
 Jaynia Chelese Devalon
 Fiorella Diaz
 Isabella L. Diaz
 Savannah Dixon
 Ayleen Dodge
 Jasmine A. Donestevez
 Liam Dor
 Chelsea Dos Santos
 Shameka Dozilma
 Duna Dumas
 Samya Carmen Duperval
 Karen Echevarria - Fernandez
 Sofia E. Echezabal
 Kodi Eowyn Edmondson
 Christopher W. Ellison
 Tiahi S. Estama
 Melanie Estrada
 Michekalie Etienne
 Franceska P. Eustache
 Rochama Exume
 Ethan Ryan Fairchild
 Marlyn S. Fanfan
 Angela R. Ferguson
 Alessandra Fernandez
 Isabella Jolie Fernandez
 Katerina Fernandez
 Leana Fesdekjian
 Franca Figallo
 Janeen S. Flores
 Jade Forte
 Isabella Fay Fox
 Elena Freire
 Alexander E. Garcia
 Giana M. Garcia
 Karime M. Garduno
 Andrea Gonzalez
 Annette Gonzalez
 Isabella Gonzalez
 Keancy Lizvelle Gonzalez
 Lianna Goulet
 Alexis Grams
 Alexa Green
 Jordyn Griffith
 Macy Grimsrud
 Stephanie J. Gualtieri
 Leslie Guananche Cepero
 Asia Y. Guerrier
 Greta Guglielmoni
 Alexa Guifarro
 Brittana Hamilton
 Kristen Nicole Hanna
 Ta'nya A. Hanna
 Lily May Hauge
 Nicole Henao
 Adrian Hernandez
 Alexandra C. Hernandez
 Angelica Hernandez
 Sabrina Hernandez
 Stephanie Vera Hernandez
 Yelena Hernandez
 Kaylee M. Hood
 Tierra L. Hudson
 Eliannet Infante

Kaja Arriane Jackson
 Kedeline Jacquet
 Jodi-Ann James
 Rose Dania Jean
 Ayennie Jean-Francois
 Nehemie Jean-francois
 Kristen Jimenez
 Richelle Altagracia Jimenez
 Brightson Yves Joachim
 Tamika Jones
 Julina B. Joseph
 Rianna Gabrielle Kaplan
 Sophia Kata
 Madison Katz
 Logen Mae Kennedy
 Chantal Jenna Khodarkovsky
 Tiffany Khorutsky
 Leah Ashley Kiliszek
 Krystal King
 Jamie Koshy
 Kaelyn J. Krum
 Karina Kumar
 Zachary Kyle
 Amanda Lacerda
 Valentina June Laflamme
 Julissa Y. Lara
 Madison Lavin
 Xiomara Lazo Lescaille
 Sarah Amoy Lee
 Maria Leon
 Simone A. Leslie
 Jordan Kylee Linders
 Bianca Llerena
 Julio Llerena
 Priscilla Llerena
 Gabriela Lopez
 Jessica Lopez
 Perla Loreda
 Sachaelle Alischa Louissaint
 Milena Lucena Barros
 Kathy Thuy Luong
 Kerryn Magee
 Zainab Mahenti
 Rhobi Manamba
 Gaidanjal K. Mansaram
 Beijette M. Marinelli
 Todahelle Marius
 Hanna Lizzie Markman
 Kaydence Marshall
 Sebastian P. Martin
 Diana Martinez
 Gabriela Martinez
 Gabrielle Carolina Martinez
 Nathalie Martinez
 Miguel Martinez-Cortes
 Olivia M. Mata
 Militza Jacquelyn Mc Kissick
 Chiara A. Mccarthy
 Tamia J. McEwen
 Hannah McGonigle
 Tajmalie Philomena Mehu
 Jonathan Jeff Mejia
 Erin Dorothy Mello
 Jenna Sandra Mello
 Zaira Sascha Mendoza

Ivette M. Meneses
 Jenny Michel
 Emelda Anne Mikesh
 Maria Micaela Mikulic
 Stephanie Miles
 Donesha Miller
 Changana Charles Moise
 Nicole Montenegro
 Amanda Nicole Morales
 Nicole Morejon
 Victoria Danielle Moreno
 Aylen Morera
 Cianni Angelina Mosco
 Allison Munoz
 Christopher Nappi
 Chelsea Dennisa Lee Nathan
 Brittanna Nesbitt
 Sophia Nicolini
 Emely Noceda
 Brianna Noda
 Karen Noel
 Tal Noiman
 Alisha Anjum Noor
 Isabella Nunez
 Jetlyane Jerly Nunez-Perez
 Sofia Objio
 Melanie Orpi
 Madison Orruel
 Jeanica Ossiny
 Carla Palacios
 Mariana Parra
 Diana Patin
 Kadaija C. Paul
 Gabrielle Pena
 Alexia Nicole Peralta
 Sophia Nicole Perea-Acevedo
 Marcos J. Pereira
 Noelia Pereira
 Analaura Perera
 Joslynn Perera
 Annaleah Perez
 Jennifer B. Perez
 Luis Perez
 Anisbel Perez Cruz
 Keilyn Perez Zarate
 Leyana Petittisse
 Saphara Pierre
 Jessica Pierre-Louis
 Jori Pineda
 Bradley Placide
 Nina Gabriela Planchart
 Jade Alexa Gloria Plange
 Isabella T. Ponikowski
 Victoria Powlis
 Wyatt Johnny Pressey
 Sahyli Prieto
 Christopher Quiceno
 Natalie Amy Ramirez
 Paolo Geovanni Ramirez
 Sophia De La Caridad Ramos
 Enmaidee A. Reyes
 Ja'Day Ashley Rhymer
 Jasimee M. Rice
 Zachary Riegle
 Roxana Riesgo

Lyanna I. Rivas
 Sergio Rivas Pineda
 Sofia Rivas-Morales
 Aida I. Rivera
 Mathew Rivera
 Raiza Rivero Valdes
 Anthony Rodriguez
 Jacqueline Renee Rodriguez
 Lisandra Rodriguez
 Maykel Rodriguez
 Michelle Rodriguez
 Lianed Rodriguez Garcia
 Stephanie Roig
 Kailanie Roman Alvarez
 Alessandra Ros
 Samantha Gisselle Rousseau
 Brianna Emily Rubarkh
 Anna Rubin
 Sydney S. Ruddy
 Erik Ruz
 Valeria Isabella Salgado
 Kylie Sambeli
 Aiden Isaiah Sanchez
 Alyssa M. Sanchez
 Jordan Joel Sanchez
 Vanessa Sanchez
 Melanie Santos
 Janessa Savage
 Emily Schleifer
 Charlotte Frances Schumer
 Lauren Lee Schurek
 Lidia Secara
 Meredith Ann Seibold
 Sophia Alexandra Seidenthal
 Summer Skye Sepulveda
 Jeremiah I. Siffraim
 Natalie Sabine Simeus
 Briana Jenay Smith
 Tai'Lyn Nikhel Smith
 Zoe Smith
 Aleksandra Snover
 Allison E. Solis
 Gianna P. Solis
 Erika Sosa
 Sadia Tasneem Sruti
 Jill St. Hilaire
 Stefani Stanic
 Caeleigh Stone
 Kaziah-Mae Nicole Streisel
 Bryce Strzelczyk ++
 Maya Rose-Anne Summiel
 Romely Sylvain
 Nikki Tashof
 Yael Tchirprut
 Destiny Alize Tejera
 Taylor Thomasos
 Madison Thrasher
 Caroline Tipton
 Jaklynn I. Torres
 Jonathan M. Torres
 Ludnie Lun Toussaint
 Virginia M. Trewin
 Maria Trujillo
 Nicole K. Turner
 Precious Ulaeto Ukot

Grace Theresa Vadakkel
Mia Alexandra Valler
Allison Van Olst
Amanda Maria Vasquez
Hailee Velazquez
Katherine Anne Velez
Nicolas Ignacio Vera Mora
Stefania Verastegui
McKenna Noel Vessels
Gabriella Vetter
Malik J. Vilamar
Amanda Villalba
Christina Villamizar
Emily Vought
Chad A. Walker
Alexander Webster ††
Sydney Weinstein
Nya Wellington
India Poem Zsa-zsa
 Zinn Wickrath
Erianna Williams
Brielle Wittenkeller
Haley E. Wright
Cameron Hunter Yeckel
Julia Ann Yost
Iris G. Young
Rose Youte
Arnella Nicole Zaichik
Samantha Zamora
Savannah Ziadie

† Member of President's 64

†† Member of the Pan Student
Government Association (Pan SGA)

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

MORNING CEREMONY

May 4, 2026

Student Commencement Speaker

Carleah Felecia Patricia Culmer is a senior at Nova Southeastern University. As a member of the Huizenga Business Innovation Academy, she majors in finance with double minors in economics and venture creation. Originally from Eleuthera, she began her college journey with a strong sense of determination to grow both academically and personally. At 19 years old, Carleah represents resilience and a commitment to making the most of every opportunity.

During her time at NSU, Carleah became actively involved on campus, taking leadership roles in organizations such as the Caribbean Student Association, the Financial Management Association, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, the American Marketing Association, and eventually the Bahamian Student Association, which she founded this past year. Through these experiences, she developed strong skills in leadership, teamwork, and, most importantly, community building.

These values have defined her college experience and dedication to excellence both inside and outside the classroom. Being selected as a commencement speaker reflects her contributions and impact within the university community. As she prepares to graduate, Carleah hopes to inspire her fellow graduates to embrace their journey, stay confident in their purpose, and step forward with courage into the next chapter of their lives.

Outstanding Students

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

Natalie Ann Bostic is from Miami, Florida, and is graduating from Nova Southeastern University with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education, along with ESOL and Reading endorsements. Throughout her time at NSU, Natalie has demonstrated a strong

commitment to academic excellence, earning recognition as a Dean's Scholar multiple times, receiving the Top Gun Award twice, and being selected as a Razor's Edge Scholarship recipient.

As a member of the Fischler Academy and Shark Teach program, Natalie actively engaged in leadership and service. She served in executive board roles on both the Social and Pre-Professional Committees, where she collaborated with peers to plan events and enhance the student experience. Over the course of three years, she also brought multiple volunteer opportunities to the Fischler Academy through her involvement with the nonprofit organization Prestige Club Broward. Additionally, she was a member of the planning team for the 2024 and 2025 Teachers for Tomorrow Conference held at NSU.

Natalie completed a 12-week, full-time teaching internship in a third-grade classroom, where she designed and implemented differentiated, data-driven instruction to meet the needs of a diverse group of learners. During her internship, she successfully adapted to changes such as the addition of new students mid-semester while maintaining a structured and engaging learning environment. She also gained over 100 hours of practicum experience across grades one through five and worked as a substitute teacher, strengthening her instructional flexibility and classroom management skills.

Beyond the classroom, Natalie worked at the NSU Military Affairs and Veterans Resource Center, where she supported student services and event coordination. She also participated in a study abroad experience in France through her program and completed an international teaching internship in Taiwan through Ivy Collegiate Academy. These experiences expanded her global perspective and strengthened her ability to support diverse learners.

Following graduation, Natalie plans to begin her career as an elementary educator, where she hopes to create an inclusive, structured, and engaging classroom environment that supports both academic growth and student confidence.

Rylee Roe-Lipsky is majoring in Exceptional Student Education with an ESOL endorsement. Originally from Newtown, Pennsylvania, she has developed a strong foundation in

her academics, leadership, and hands-on experience while preparing to support students with diverse learning and behavioral needs. Her work reflects a deep commitment to supporting neurodivergent students.

During her time at NSU, Rylee has been actively involved in several academic and leadership programs, including the Razor's Edge Leadership Scholars Program, Razor's Edge Shark Teach, and the Fischler Academy. These experiences have strengthened her instructional practices and deepened her ability to meet the needs of a wide range of learners. She further broadened her perspective through a study abroad experience in Sweden, where she taught in an elementary school and gained valuable insight into international education systems. Additionally, she completed three practicums totaling over 100 hours across elementary, middle, and high school settings, building a better understanding of student development across grade levels.

Rylee has demonstrated strong leadership through her involvement in student organizations. She served as president and social media chair of Pawsitivity, served as the member-at-large chair and 5K chair within Phi Sigma Sigma sorority, and held a leadership role as a Panhellenic Council Rho Gamma. She has also been an active member and treasurer of Best Buddies, supporting inclusive opportunities for individuals of all ages with disabilities. In addition, she participated in Campus Cup volleyball and flag football, Dive Club, Tennis and Run Club, and earned her open-water scuba diving certification.

Professionally, Rylee worked as a videographer and editor for Mako Media, where she strengthened her communication and creative skills. She completed her 12-week student teaching placement at Sheridan Technical High School, supporting 18- to 22-year-old neurodivergent students in a life skills and career placement program.

Following graduation, Rylee plans to teach in an Extended School Year program supporting students with intellectual, physical, behavioral, speech, and emotional needs. Her long-term goal is to teach special education on a military base in Europe or Japan through the Department of Defense Education Activity, where she hopes to make a lasting impact on students and their families.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Kyle Casey Fleming is a student at Nova Southeastern University, majoring in psychology with minors in behavioral neuroscience and honors transdisciplinary studies. Born and raised in Hollywood, Kyle has taken full advantage of the resources at NSU to build the foundation for his future career as a psychologist. Throughout his undergraduate career, Kyle has remained engaged, inquisitive, and passionate both in and out of the classroom.

Serving a dual role as a lab coordinator and research assistant under Dr. Justin Landy, Kyle has had the opportunity to lead others in the pursuit of scholarly growth while gaining intimate experience with psychological research. This year, he presented his research on the cognitive processes involved in moral reasoning at academic conferences in New Orleans and Jacksonville, for which he was awarded two departmental grants. He presented the same work at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium, where his presentation was awarded second place in its category.

Additionally, Kyle has gained invaluable exposure to clinical work through his undergraduate practicum at the NSU Neuropsychology Assessment Center. While there, Kyle developed a love for neuropsychological assessment and a keen interest in understanding the mind-brain connection, while continuing to build practical clinical skills. This insight has deepened his appreciation for the impact psychologists have on his broader community.

Kyle has maintained a spot on the dean's list since 2024, and this year he was inducted into Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology. He was also a member of the inaugural cohort of a program called PsychLink, where he learned about various specialty areas in clinical psychology through interactive sessions led by experts in their respective fields. In his time at NSU, Kyle has learned to seek opportunities outside of the classroom that strengthen his academic and professional confidence.

After graduating, Kyle plans to pursue a Ph.D. in clinical psychology to build a career that bridges compassion with scientific inquiry. In the meantime, he will be taking a year to gain more research experience and refine his scholarly interests in preparation for rigorous graduate studies.

Japji Madan is a student at Nova Southeastern University pursuing a degree in neuroscience on the pre-medical track, with a strong interest in clinical medicine, behavioral research, and community health. Originally from Toronto, Japji has taken full advantage of the opportunities at NSU to grow both academically and professionally.

During her time at NSU, Japji has been actively involved in student leadership and academic support roles. She serves as a peer leader, where she supports students in navigating course material and fosters a collaborative learning environment. In addition, she works as a writing fellow at the university's Writing Center, assisting peers in developing strong academic writing skills. She has also served as vice president of multiple student organizations, where she worked to increase engagement and build a sense of community on campus. In addition to academics and leadership, Japji is committed to community service, reflecting her dedication to making a meaningful impact both locally and globally.

Japji has been involved in two different research labs, including work in neuropharmacology and psychology. Through these faculty-mentored experiences, she has gained hands-on exposure to research and strengthened her analytical and critical thinking skills. Japji has been recognized for academic excellence through multiple semesters on the dean's list and other university honors. Balancing academics, leadership, and service, she has demonstrated a strong work ethic and passion for helping others.

Following graduation, Japji plans to attend medical school and pursue a career as a physician, with the goal of integrating medicine, wellness, and compassionate patient care.

H. WAYNE HUIZENGA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Alisa Hannah Johanna van Deijck, a proud Dutch citizen, graduates with two degrees in Accounting and Marketing. A consistent dean's list honoree, she transferred into NSU carrying experience across a breadth of disciplines—from the arts to the sciences—with the belief that the most magical ideas emerge when people and fields come together. Driven by a desire to learn as much from her community as from any textbook, she immediately immersed herself in every dimension of university life, both academically and professionally.

Alisa was a charter member of Beta Alpha Psi, the international honor society for accounting, finance, and information students, serving as Inter-Organizational Council Chair during its founding period in 2023, before becoming president of the Omicron Gamma Chapter upon its official establishment in 2024. She organized professional development events, cultivated relationships with faculty and industry partners, and built a community where students could grow beyond the classroom. Concurrently, she also helped revive the American Marketing Association chapter on campus as a charter member and vice president.

Equally committed to the broader student experience, she served as Public Relations Chair for S.E.A. Board from January 2024 to June 2025—NSU's primary event programming body—designing marketing campaigns, spearheading new initiatives, and helping execute large-scale campus events. Consistently contributing far beyond her formal hours, she was recognized in 2025 as Chair of the Year for her contributions. When she wasn't on campus bringing ideas to life, she was tutoring peers in accounting coursework, driven by a genuine passion for the field and a desire to help all.

An advocate for interdisciplinary learning, Alisa was invited to participate in NSU's Honors in Major Program as an honorary member in her final year, in recognition of the depth and rigor she brought to her studies. This cross-disciplinary curiosity defines how she approaches every problem: with openness, precision, and a desire to be a lifelong learner.

Professionally, Alisa was selected to attend Deloitte University in 2024, a distinction reserved for top-performing students in the field, and completed an internship with BDO in 2025. After graduation, she will pursue a Master of Accounting degree at Stetson University, with plans to sit for the CPA exam and build a career in forensic accounting or internal audit—specialties where her drive to keep learning meets a deep commitment to serving the public good.

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

May 4, 2026

Student Commencement Speaker

Ayush P. Desai, from Edison, is graduating from Nova Southeastern University with a major in biology and minors in psychology, pre-health, and honors transdisciplinary studies. A student in NSU's dual admission Doctor of Dental Medicine program and the Farquhar Honors College, Ayush has earned dean's list recognition every semester, along with the Dean's Scholarship, Shark Success Scholarship, Weil Charitable Foundation Scholarship, and Honors College Scholarship.

Throughout his undergraduate career, Ayush has been deeply involved in research, service, and leadership. He conducted porphyrin chemistry research under Maria Ballester, Ph.D., presenting his work at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium and the American Chemical Society Conference in New Orleans. He also led an honors thesis under Jayson Forbes, Ph.D., titled "Developing and Validating a Dental Patient Experience Survey," focused on improving how dental clinics assess patient care, communication, and overall patient experience.

On campus, Ayush founded and serves as president of NSU's American Red Cross Chapter, served as co-president of AAHANA Dental Club, vice president of the Gujarati Student Union, a member of Delta Epsilon Mu Pre-Health Fraternity, and a member of the Honors Student Advisory Board. He also worked as a physics lab assistant and academic tutor at NSU's Tutoring and Testing Center.

After graduation, Ayush will attend The University of Pennsylvania School of Dental Medicine, where he hopes to continue pursuing his passion for compassionate patient care, service, and improving experiences in dentistry.

Outstanding Students

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING, AI, AND CYBERSECURITY

Brandon Ryan DeCelle is a student at Nova Southeastern University majoring in computer science with a minor in artificial intelligence

applications. Born and raised in South Florida, he has taken full advantage of opportunities at NSU to grow academically, professionally, and as a contributor to the university community.

During his time at NSU, Brandon has been actively involved in academic support and student success initiatives. For seven semesters, he has served as a senior supplemental instructor and course tutor, leading structured learning sessions and providing individualized support to students across a range of computing courses. Through these experiences, he has developed strong communication and mentorship skills while helping students strengthen their problem-solving abilities and confidence in technical subjects. In these roles, he has also worked alongside faculty to support student success in computer science courses.

Brandon has also been involved in campus life through participation in student organizations, including esports and computing-related clubs. His involvement has allowed him to collaborate with peers, contribute to team initiatives, and support a strong and engaging campus community.

In addition to his academic and campus involvement, Brandon has pursued hands-on professional experience through multiple internships across organizations with diverse technical focuses. These roles have provided exposure to real-world development environments, strengthened his ability to approach complex problems, and reinforced the importance of adaptability and continuous learning.

Brandon has been recognized for academic excellence through consistent placement on the dean's list and other university honors. Throughout his undergraduate career, he has demonstrated a strong commitment to growth, reliability, and meaningful contribution across academic, professional, and collaborative settings.

Following graduation, he plans to pursue a career in software engineering, with a focus on developing efficient, high-performance systems that solve complex problems.

Arman Gasparyan is a graduating student at Nova Southeastern University, earning a dual bachelor of science in computer science, with honors, and mathematics. Originally from Armenia, Arman has been an active and committed member of the NSU community since his very first year on campus.

That commitment showed early through his work as a Shark Preview Leader, where he helped prospective students and their families discover what NSU had to offer. Inspired by that experience, he went on to serve as an Orientation Coordinator and later as a Student Engagement Coordinator, a role he held for three years, supporting campus programming and fostering a strong sense of belonging. His dedication to both his community and his academics earned him the Student of the Year award for the College of Computing, AI, and Cybersecurity.

Equally driven in his professional development, Arman completed two software engineering internships that gave him the hands-on experience and technical foundation needed to launch a career in the field. That same desire to make an impact brought him to Dillard Elementary School, where he volunteers and leads the school's robotics team, introducing young students to engineering and creative problem-solving.

Throughout his time at NSU, Arman has earned numerous academic honors, including consistent recognition on the dean's list and the distinction of completing his computer science degree with honors. As he prepares to move to California to pursue his dream in tech, he takes with him the experiences, friendships, and values that made these four years so meaningful.

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

Maximus Alexis Klein is a mathematics major at Nova Southeastern University, with minors in applied statistics, data analytics, and business. Originally from Denver, he has built an undergraduate career defined by research, leadership, and a genuine commitment to his community.

As a Presidential Scholar, Maximus has served as a mentor for underclassmen and contributed to the Environmental Awareness and Community Garden Committee, demonstrating a commitment to his campus community that extends well beyond the classroom.

Maximus's research has been a defining part of his undergraduate experience. Working under the mentorship of Dr. Lei Cao, he conducted research on soccer tournament matrices, applying advanced combinatorial methods

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

to competitive sports structures. His work was selected for presentation at ASPIRE 2025 at Florida Gulf Coast University, where he shared his findings with a regional audience of scholars and faculty.

Beyond research, Maximus has been a prominent leader in fraternity and sorority life at NSU. He served as a founding father in the reestablishment of Kappa Sigma in 2024, helping rebuild the chapter from the ground up. He went on to serve as vice president in Spring 2025 and was elected chapter president for Fall 2025, a testament to the trust and respect he has earned from his peers.

Taking full advantage of NSU's location on the water, Maximus earned his Advanced Open Water and Rescue Diver certifications through the university, along with four additional specialty certifications.

Throughout his undergraduate career, Maximus has been recognized on the dean's list for consistent academic excellence.

Following graduation, he plans to continue his work in sports analytics and data science, building on his experience at Pickle Pro Labs, where he has applied his quantitative skills to equipment testing and performance data. He has a long-term goal of developing innovative analytical tools at the intersection of mathematics and athletics.

SHEPARD BROAD COLLEGE OF LAW

Ari D. Allon is a highly motivated student at Nova Southeastern University pursuing a degree in law with a minor in philosophy. Hailing from Pittsburgh, Ari had the honor of being accepted to NSU as both a Presidential Scholar and a dual admission student for Nova's Shepard Broad College of Law. Ari has taken the opportunities offered to him by Nova to greatly enhance his leadership, public speaking, and research skills.

Ari is most proud of his extensive extracurricular work at Nova's law school. His most active role was being an award-winning competitor on Nova's Undergraduate Moot Court Team, which participates in national competitions where students argue mock Supreme Court cases before a panel of legal professionals. Ari also was able to serve on the boards of both undergraduate legal organizations on campus: he was the IOC chair for Phi Alpha Delta and the philanthropy chair of Pre-Law Society.

Many of Ari's other legal extracurriculars surrounded his interest in enhancing his research skills. The aforementioned moot court role involved him fully researching case law and devising presentable legal arguments. Ari also served as a legal research assistant on multiple law review articles published by Nova faculty, which he was able to do through the two legal research certifications he received while at NSU. Finally, Ari wrote his own soon-to-be-published law review article analyzing and critiquing a recent Supreme Court decision.

Outside of the legal realm, Ari has contributed to the vibrant college experience that Nova provides. He has performed in the annual Improv Jam for each of his three years on campus. Ari has also been the enthusiastic co-host for the STUEYs three times running alongside his colleagues. Finally, Ari can reveal that he served as Nova's own Razor the Shark for one year.

These listed experiences, alongside many others that remain unlisted, have demonstrated Ari's enthusiasm and work ethic during his college journey. He is honored to receive the Outstanding Student Award.

Following graduation, he is attending Shepard Broad College of Law in the fall to continue his journey toward becoming an attorney.

Montunique Van Staden is a student at Nova Southeastern University pursuing a degree in law with a minor in criminal justice, along with honors in transdisciplinary studies. Originally from Key West, Montunique has embraced opportunities at NSU to grow as a leader, scholar, and advocate.

As a member of the dual admission program, Montunique is on an accelerated path to earning a Juris Doctor, reflecting her strong commitment to a future in the legal profession. Throughout her undergraduate career, she has remained dedicated to academic excellence, leadership, and professional development.

Montunique has been highly active in student organizations, most notably through her involvement in Phi Alpha Delta Law Fraternity, where she served as recruitment chair and later as president for two years. In these roles, she led organizational growth, strengthened member engagement, and fostered a supportive environment for students pursuing legal careers. She was also a member of Phi Sigma Sigma Sorority, where she served as sister development chair, focusing on member development and internal leadership.

In addition to her organizational involvement, Montunique dedicated four years to the Mock Trial Team, serving as team captain during her final year. This experience allowed her to develop strong advocacy, public speaking, and analytical skills while mentoring younger members. She has also served as a peer leader for three years, supporting first-year students in their transition to college and helping build a strong campus community.

Montunique further expanded her professional experience through a summer internship with the State Attorney's Office, where she gained firsthand insight into the legal system and courtroom processes. In addition, she maintained consistent on-campus employment throughout all four years of her undergraduate career, demonstrating strong time management, responsibility, and work ethic while balancing academic and extracurricular commitments.

Following graduation, Montunique plans to attend the NSU Shepard Broad College of Law to earn her Juris Doctor, with the goal of becoming a criminal defense attorney and advocating for justice within the legal system.

MORNING CEREMONY

May 5, 2026

Student Commencement Speaker

Tasfia Tazri Howlader is a first-generation Bangladeshi American who graduated with her associate's degree in business management at 17 and will be graduating today with her bachelor of science in public health with minors in honors research and pre-health at 20 years old. On campus, she held positions with Medical Volunteers, the Muslim Student Association, and PERIOD.NSU. She served as honors advocate for the Farquhar Honors Program and vice president of the Boyd & Rambo Junior Society for the past two years.

Tasfia has also been part of Dr. Regina Graham's research team at the Center for Collaborative Research since 2024, conducting experiments on carbon dots. She is a certified nursing assistant, certified Mental Health First Aider, and certified in Lean Six Sigma White Belt. Tasfia plans to pursue a degree in the medical field, expanding her passion for helping the community and bridging the gaps present in healthcare.

Outstanding Students

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE AND DR. PALLAVI PATEL SCHOOL OF REHABILITATIVE SCIENCES

Emily Maria Cabral is a well-rounded student who has demonstrated dedication, discipline, and excellence both in and out of the classroom, as well as on the field. Graduating from Nova Southeastern University with a bachelor of science in exercise science and a minor in global engagement, she has fully embraced opportunities for academic, professional, and personal growth. Originally from Southampton Parish, Emily is a member of the Farquhar Honors Society, reflecting her strong commitment to academic excellence.

During her time at NSU, Emily developed a passion for research. Under the mentorship of Dr. Pradeep Vanguri, she conducted a study examining brain function, personality types, and soccer penalty kick performance in female collegiate athletes. She presented her research at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium (2025) and at the Southeast American College of Sports Medicine Regional Conference (2026), where she earned second place among undergraduate researchers.

Beyond research, Emily contributed to her academic community as an undergraduate writing consultant and an anatomy and physiology laboratory assistant, supporting fellow students in strengthening their communication skills and understanding of complex concepts. Her commitment to service is further demonstrated through her involvement in community outreach and global engagement initiatives focused on education, health, and empowerment.

Emily has also been a dedicated campus leader. She served as senior co-captain of the NSU women's Division II soccer team, exemplifying leadership, discipline, and teamwork. In addition, she was president of the Exercise Science Student Organization and a member of the Razor's Edge Global Scholars program, promoting diversity and community engagement.

Throughout her collegiate career as a student-athlete, Emily demonstrated resilience and determination by overcoming significant injuries that required multiple surgeries. These experiences deepened her interest in rehabilitation and inspired her pursuit of a career in physical therapy.

Following graduation, Emily plans to pursue a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree at the University of Florida, with the goal of giving back to her community through patient care and rehabilitation.

Alexandra (Ally) Emilia Jakubiak is a high-achieving student at Nova Southeastern University pursuing a degree in human nutrition, with minors in health and wellness coaching and public health. Originally from Cumberland, she has demonstrated a strong commitment to academic excellence, leadership, and professional development.

During her time at NSU, Ally has been actively involved in numerous student organizations and leadership initiatives that support campus engagement. Her roles include serving as a student ambassador in the President's 64, a student success mentor, a Presidential Scholar, and a peer advocate in the KPCOM Boyd & Rambo Junior Academic Society. Through these experiences, she has developed strong leadership and communication skills while contributing to initiatives that enhance the student experience.

Ally has also pursued valuable experiential learning opportunities, including an independent study project through the Farquhar Honors Program. During her undergraduate Honors in Major project, she explored the profession of a sports dietitian under the mentorship of Dr. Marilyn Gordon. Additionally, she has volunteered within the strength and conditioning department, assisting with the operations of the NSU nutrition room and supporting student-athletes' performance. These experiences have provided practical insight into her field and helped shape her professional goals.

In addition to her academic and leadership pursuits, Ally has been a dedicated student-athlete, competing in NCAA women's cross country and outdoor track for four years. She has served as team captain for the past three seasons and played a key role in leading the program to its first Sunshine State Conference Championship title during the 2024 cross country season. She also served on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee, acting as a liaison between student-athletes and administrators while promoting community engagement and service.

Throughout her time at NSU, Ally has earned numerous academic honors, including consistent dean's list recognition, the Fall

Commissioner's Honor Roll, and the Dean's Award (2026). She has also achieved athletic distinction with All-SSC First-Team honors in 2023 and second-team honors in 2024.

Following graduation, Ally plans to pursue the M.S.-RDN program at NSU and work toward becoming a registered sports dietitian, combining her passions for nutrition and athletics to make a lasting impact in her field.

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF ALLOPATHIC MEDICINE AND DR. PALLAVI PATEL SCHOOL OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Jamia Robinson is a 24-year-old dual-degree student at Nova Southeastern University, pursuing a bachelor of science in diagnostic medical sonography and a master of health science. In 2021, she earned a bachelor of science in microbiology from University of South Florida, establishing a strong academic foundation rooted in scientific rigor and compassionate, patient-centered care.

Her journey in healthcare has been shaped by diverse clinical experiences in high-acuity settings, including roles as a medical assistant in radiation oncology and a patient unit coordinator in a cardiopulmonary intensive care unit. In these environments, she developed a reputation for composure under pressure, strong clinical judgment, and meaningful patient interaction. As a graduate assistant within the College of Allopathic Medicine, she further demonstrated leadership by co-facilitating multi-college initiatives and supporting administrative operations.

At NSU, Jamia has distinguished herself as a student leader and advocate for service. As secretary of the Diagnostic Medical Sonography Student Government Association, she has supported organizational growth, student engagement, and community outreach initiatives. Her leadership and commitment to the profession were further recognized through her selection into the highly competitive 2026 cohort of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography Emerging Leaders Program.

Her passion for service extends deeply into her community through involvement with organizations such as the National Council of Negro Women and Big Sister Little Sister, Inc., where she has contributed to mentorship, outreach, and empowerment initiatives. Above

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

all, she attributes her strength, purpose, and perseverance to her faith in God, which has been the guiding foundation of her journey. Through over a decade of service at her church as youth department president and Sunday school instructor, she has mentored and inspired the next generation with a message rooted in faith, discipline, and service.

In addition to her academic and professional commitments, Jamia is a devoted wife and mother. Balancing family life while pursuing dual degrees reflects her resilience, intentionality, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Following graduation, she plans to continue advancing within the field of diagnostic medical sonography while striving to make a meaningful impact in healthcare and the communities she serves.

RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE OF NURSING

Donesha Miller is a nursing graduate from Nova Southeastern University, recognized for her academic excellence, leadership, and commitment to service. Her journey into nursing is rooted in a long-standing passion for healthcare and a deep desire to make a meaningful impact on the lives of others.

Before entering nursing, Donesha began her career in health education, where she developed a strong foundation in community outreach and patient advocacy. While that work was fulfilling, she felt called to expand her impact through direct patient care. As a wife and mother, she faced the challenge of balancing family responsibilities with the demands of returning to school. Through perseverance, discipline, and a clear sense of purpose, she created the time and space to pursue her goal of becoming a nurse.

Throughout her program, Donesha maintained strong academic performance while gaining hands-on clinical experience as a nurse extern on a progressive care/telemetry unit. There, she supported the care of high-acuity patients, strengthened her clinical judgment, and learned to remain steady and focused in fast-paced, high-pressure environments. Her dedication earned her recognition as an outstanding student, graduation with honors, and induction into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing.

Service has remained central to her journey. Throughout her program, Donesha completed more than 120 hours with the American Red

Cross, supporting and training in emergency preparedness, community outreach, and veteran-focused initiatives. She also volunteered at a Veterans Affairs outpatient clinic and nursing home, where she provided hands-on support, companionship, and meaningful connections to those she served. She engaged with professional organizations, including the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses, the National Student Nurses Association, the National Society of Leadership and Success, and the National Black Nurses Association.

As she graduates, Donesha carries forward not only the knowledge and skills she has gained but also the resilience, sacrifice, and purpose that shaped her journey. She is committed to providing compassionate, patient-centered care and to showing up for every patient and family with the same dedication that brought her to this moment.

Chantal Jenna Khodarkovsky is a nursing student at Nova Southeastern University, where she is pursuing a bachelor of science in nursing. Originally from Brooklyn, she has long been motivated by a desire to help underserved and vulnerable populations, a value that continues to guide her path in healthcare.

During her time at NSU, Chantal has earned recognition on the dean's list multiple times and has received several academic awards and scholarships. As a first-generation college graduate, she takes pride in the resilience and determination that have helped her navigate the challenges of a rigorous nursing program.

Chantal's background in competitive ballroom dancing helped shape her discipline, focus, and ability to stay composed under pressure, qualities that have supported her growth both academically and in clinical settings. Through her hospital experiences, she has developed an interest in critical care and values the opportunity to support patients during some of their most vulnerable moments. The critical thinking and problem-solving skills she learned throughout nursing school help her excel in both clinical and professional settings.

After graduation, Chantal plans to begin her career as a registered nurse in a critical care environment. She hopes to later return to school to pursue a Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) degree, with the goal of contributing to the education and mentorship of future nurses in hopes of giving them the confidence to be great health care professionals.

She remains grounded in her commitment to compassionate care and is grateful for the continued support of her professors and family, who have played an important role in her journey.

DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

Commencement Speakers

UNDERGRADUATE

MAY 4, 2026—MORNING CEREMONY

LELAND C. PILLSBURY is an entrepreneur and investor whose work has helped shape the modern global hospitality and travel industry. A Cornell University graduate and former Marriott executive, he built one of the industry’s most successful hotel real estate investment platforms before launching a leading venture capital firm focused on travel and technology.

During his nearly 20 year career at Marriott International, Pillsbury became the company’s youngest executive vice president, pioneering innovations including the first hotel revenue management system and the industry’s first large-scale guest loyalty program. Pillsbury left Marriott to cofound Thayer Lodging Group and Thayer Ventures and helped launch 15 companies. In these roles, he oversaw multibillion dollar hotel real estate portfolios, served as chairman or director of major hospitality companies, and supported ventures that have influenced how organizations understand and serve their customers.

Pillsbury has said that the heart of strong entrepreneurial education “provides individuals with the concepts and skills to recognize opportunities that others have overlooked and to act where others have hesitated.” This philosophy guides his work with students and founders. He believes leadership is built on a strong team mindset, practical collaborative skills, and high emotional intelligence. Pillsbury has been a university trustee, visiting professor, and mentor. Additionally, he was honored as Cornell Entrepreneur of the Year in 2016 and was inducted into Nova Southeastern University’s Entrepreneur and Business Hall of Fame in 2025.

MAY 4, 2026—AFTERNOON CEREMONY

GUY HARVEY, PH.D., is a world renowned marine artist and conservationist whose life’s work has expanded scientific understanding and inspired global stewardship of our oceans. Since his childhood spent fishing and diving with his parents along the coast of Jamaica, he has pursued a passion for the sea that spans visual storytelling, research, and advocacy, helping protect the blue planet we all depend on.

Harvey’s artwork—known for its vivid and scientifically accurate depictions of marine life—has become an iconic expression of ocean conservation. In parallel, he has played a significant role in advancing marine research through his longstanding partnership with Nova Southeastern University, including the establishment of the Guy Harvey Research Institute and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center. These centers advance knowledge that informs conservation policy worldwide and provide NSU students with access to advanced labs, fieldwork, and mentorship, preparing them to become the next generation of marine scientists and conservation leaders. Through the Guy Harvey Foundation, he extends his impact by supporting research, education, and conservation initiatives worldwide. His work reflects a commitment to ensuring future generations understand, value, and protect ocean ecosystems.

Dr. Harvey holds degrees in marine biology from the University of Aberdeen and a Ph.D. in fisheries science from the University of the West Indies. He is a member of NSU’s Entrepreneur and Business Hall of Fame and the creator of the iconic marine murals at the Don Taft University Center and the NSU-operated Marine Environmental Education Center at the Carpenter House. He also has been inducted into the IFGA Fishing Hall of Fame, the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and the International Scuba Diving Hall of Fame.

DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

Commencement Speakers

UNDERGRADUATE

MAY 5, 2026—MORNING CEREMONY

DANIEL COYLE is a leading voice on human potential whose work reveals how individuals and teams learn, grow, and flourish. A New York Times–bestselling author, he translates complex science into practical insights that shape leadership, culture, and performance across industries. For those entering healthcare or law, his work emphasizes that flourishing is not a luxury but a foundation for sound judgment, effective decision-making, and sustained success.

Coyle's influential books include “The Culture Code”; “The Talent Code”; “The Little Book of Talent”; “The Culture Playbook,” and, most recently, “Flourish: The Art of Building Meaning, Joy, and Fulfillment.” His books have been recognized by outlets such as Bloomberg and Business Insider and have been translated into numerous languages. Through his writing, he distills neuroscience, psychology, and case studies into clear, actionable principles that help individuals and organizations build stronger, more effective habits.

Drawing on research across a wide range of demanding environments—from elite athletes to complex situations that challenge military units, crisis response teams, and corporate executives—Coyle has identified the consistent role of connection, trust, and disciplined practice in driving success. His work highlights how everyday behaviors, such as deep listening, psychological safety, and accountability, can transform both professional performance and personal well-being.

Beyond the page, Coyle serves as an adviser to such organizations as Microsoft and Google, as well as leading schools, firms, and healthcare systems. His behind-the-scenes view of what helps groups perform under pressure also helps leaders build cultures where teams can thrive and people can flourish.

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, for example, 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 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. The gown 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 universality 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 marks also 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, their 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
Sports Science.....	Sage Green

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