

# TRINITY INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

127th Annual Commencement

# CLASS OF 2024 COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

A Message from the President of Trinity International University
About Trinity International University4
Executive Officers
The Commencement Speaker
The Valedictorian Speeches
Order of Service
Academic Regalia
GRADUANDS Trinity Evangelical Divinity School
Master of Arts in Theological Studies
Trinity Graduate School
Master of Arts in Leadership14
Master of Arts in Mental Health Counseling 14–15
Trinity College
Bachelor of Arts
A Message from the Alumni Office 18
Congregational Hymn



### A Message from the President

Welcome to Trinity's 2024 Commencement! On behalf of the Board of Regents, the faculty, and the staff of Trinity International University, I want to express our sincere congratulations to each one of this year's graduates. Your commitment, hard work, and persistent dedication have led you to this point, where today, you will receive the degree you

have earned. From the day you first started your journey at Trinity, there may have been times when you wondered if you would get to this point. Yet, with the encouragement, support, and prayers of family, friends, and faculty members, along with your determination and sacrifice, you have completed the journey.

For many of you, the sacrifice was shared by those closest to you. Your family and friends stood beside you, prayed for you, and, in so many other ways, helped make your education possible. To each family member and friend, I want to express a heartfelt word of appreciation for everything you did to make your graduate's dream a reality.

I also want to acknowledge and express my personal thanks to the exceptional faculty and staff of Trinity for the multiple investments you have made in the lives of our graduates. I deeply appreciate your heart for all that Trinity stands for and for your commitment to preparing our students well to make an impact for Jesus with their lives as they faithfully serve him. You not only shared information with our students but also shared yourselves with them. Thank you.

Trinity graduates, as you cross the stage today and receive your diploma, you will embark on the next leg of the journey of faith and service the Lord has for you. I pray you will know the clear direction from our heavenly Father, the encouragement from our Lord Jesus, and the empowerment and protection of the Holy Spirit. Keep your focus on walking with the Lord, serving him faithfully in the days ahead, and stewarding well the gift that has been entrusted to you through your Trinity education.

As you depart Trinity today, know that we are praying for you, and we ask that you also remember to pray for us as we continue to invest in the lives of men and women to prepare them well for God's redemptive work in the world.

"The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace."

(Numbers 6:24-26)

Serving our Savior Together,

Kevin Kompelieh

President, Trinity International University

— 5 -

#### - 6

# TRINITY INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY HISTORY AND HERITAGE

#### **DEEP ROOTS, STRONG FOUNDATION**

Trinity International University traces its roots back 125 years to 1897, when the Swedish Evangelical Free Church began a ten-week Bible course in the basement of a Chicago church. This soon developed into the Bible Institute of the Swedish Evangelical Free Church of America, which merged with the Norwegian-Danish Bible Institute and Academy in the 1940s to form Trinity Seminary and Bible College, located in Chicago. The school moved to its present Deerfield campus during the 1960s, renamed as Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS) and Trinity College.

#### MAKING A MARK IN SOUTH FLORIDA

In the 1990s, Trinity established a regional center in Miami, Florida, and the former Miami Christian College eventually became Trinity International University—Florida. Other schools joined the family in the next few years, including Trinity Graduate School and Trinity Law School. Over the decades, TIU-Florida has delivered programs that included the wide range of offerings at Trinity—from undergraduate and graduate to seminary courses of study.

#### **EFCA AFFILIATION**

Trinity International University is affiliated with the Evangelical Free Church of America (EFCA), an association of about 1,500 churches in more than 50 countries of the world. The EFCA regards Trinity as its gift to the wider evangelical community, making its educational offerings accessible to students from a wide variety of denominations. The nature of the university allows breadth for Christians from many different backgrounds to study, worship, and serve together.

### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS**

Kevin Kompelien (MDiv '83) President

Trinity International University

Susie M. Cohen, PhD

Associate Dean & Assistant Professor
Trinity International University-Florida
Broward/Miami-Dade, Florida

Marsha P. Wilson, LMHC
Director of the Mental Health Counseling Program
Clinical Professor of Counseling Psychology
Trinity International University-Florida
Broward/Miami-Dade, Florida



# The Commencement Speaker BRADLEY BOYETTE

Dr. Brad Boyette and his wife Stacey have been married for forty years. They are the parents of four sons and one daughter, and grandparents of twelve. He was born in Rockford, Illinois, and moved to Erie, Illinois, while in high school. After he married Stacey, he moved to Cape Girardeau, Missouri and was eventually transferred to South Florida. In 2000 he entered full-time pastoral ministry.

Boyette has served as a Family and Administration pastor for twenty-four years and has been on staff at Parkridge Church for twenty-one years. He is certified in marriage ministry by the American Association of Christian Counselors (AACC), and he and his wife specialize in family ministry and have taught marriage and parenting courses together for over two decades. Boyette gives administrative leadership to Parkridge Christian Academy, which provides education for two years old through 8th grade. Under his leadership

Parkridge Christian Academy will begin offering 9th grade this fall. He also oversees the Parkridge Leadership Pipeline which trains and develops church planters, future pastors, and missionaries.

Boyette's heart for missions has led him all over the country and internationally to places such as the Amazon River in Amazonas Brazil, Honduras, Guatemala, the Andes Mountains in Peru, and Haiti.

He is a graduate of Trinity International University-Florida with a BA in Christian Ministry. He earned a MA from Liberty Baptist Theological Seminary, concentrating in Pastoral Counseling, and a Doctor of Educational Ministry from The Southern Baptist Seminary, concentrating in Family Ministry. Boyette's doctoral dissertation focused on equipping fathers to lead in the discipleship of their children at home, something that he is very passionate about. He is the author of a six-week curriculum called "D-6 Dads," based on Deuteronomy 6:4–9.

He has also been an adjunct professor at TIU Florida for six years teaching in the Biblical Studies and Christian Ministry concentrations. Boyette enjoys spending time with his wife and his grandkids, playing golf, writing his first book, reading, playing the guitar, going to concerts, and hiking.

# Trinity International University Mission Statement

Trinity International University educates men and women to engage in God's redemptive work in the world by cultivating academic excellence, Christian faithfulness, and lifelong learning.

### THE VALEDICTORIAN SPEECHES

#### SELECTION OF THE VALEDICTORIANS

Trinity International University-Florida awards the title of valedictorian based upon various criteria such as overall academic record of grades and credits, a student's grade point average, the level of rigor within a student's academic program of studies, a vote by university administrators, and the student's public speaking skills and abilities.

Historically and traditionally, schools confer the title upon the top-ranking graduate of the class, who thereby earns the honor of delivering the valedictory address.

TIU-Florida selects each year both a graduate and undergraduate valedictorian to speak at the Commencement service. We celebrate with them this amazing accomplishment.

#### VALEDICTORIAN MEDAL Awarded to the 2024 Valedictorians



# Graduate Valedictorian, 2024 JORGE MACHADO-MOLINA

Jorge Machado-Molina is a son, nephew, cousin, husband, and most importantly through a recent accomplishment, the adoptive father to two wonderful boys. He has dedicated four years to fostering children; at the same time, he finished his college education with a bachelor's degree, and today, his master's degree. This was all accomplished while working full-time. He feels that it is never too late to get started to reach the goals that God has destined for us. He is the one who can truly decide when and how anything is possible, not *if* it's possible.



# Undergraduate Valedictorian, 2024 JENNIFER OQUENDO VASQUEZ

Jennifer Oquendo Vasquez is honored to embody steadfast dedication and unwavering passion in her roles as an educator, spouse, mother, daughter, sister, and friend. Rooted in her Christian faith, she navigates her journey with a profound commitment to education, nurturing her love for literature and cherishing the precious moments with her family. Acknowledging the divine guidance of Christ our Lord, she remains hopeful and is eagerly anticipating the promising opportunities ahead. Gratitude overwhelms her as she reflects on the privilege of achieving her bachelor's degree in elementary education at Trinity International University, a testament to her perseverance and the blessings bestowed upon her by God.



### ORDER OF SERVICE

#### THE PROCESSIONAL

Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar

#### INVOCATION

Susie Cohen, PhD
Associate Dean
Trinity International University-Florida

#### CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

This is Our God

By Phil Wickham

Parkridge Church Worship Team

#### Welcome & Remarks

Marsha P. Wilson, LMHC

Director of the Mental Health Counseling Program

Trinity International University-Florida

#### VALEDICTORIAN SPEECHES

Jorge Machado-Molina Master's Degree in Leadership

Jennifer Oquendo-Vasquez

Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education

#### Music

Parkridge Church Worship Team

#### OLD TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Carla McCullough,

Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling
Isaiah 41:13

#### NEW TESTAMENT SCRIPTURE READING

Kayleigh Draper

Bachelor's Degree in Psychology

James 1:17

#### COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

"GOD'S GUIDANCE AND PROVISION"

Bradley Boyette, DMin

Children and Families Pastor

Parkridge Church

#### Presentation of Degree Candidates and Conferral of Degrees

Susie Cohen, PhD Associate Dean

Marsha P. Wilson, LMHC
Director of the Mental Health Counseling Program

Gianluca Cueva, MDiv Undergraduate Advisor/Adjunct Professor

#### CHARGE TO GRADUATES AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Cody Wallace, DMin Senior Pastor Southwest Community Church — 13 —

Music

Parkridge Church Worship Team

#### ALUMNI MESSAGE

Karina R. Smith
Director of Alumni Relations
Trinity International University

#### BENEDICTION/CLOSING PRAYER

(PLEASE STAND)
Jose Fontanez, RMHC

#### RECESSIONAL AND POSTLUDE

Pomp and Circumstance by Edward Elgar

— 12 -

### ACADEMIC REGALIA

A tradition derived from the oldest European universities, academic dress in American higher education follows the guidelines adopted by the American Council on Education. A bachelor's gown is traditionally black and has pointed sleeves. The master's gown can be distinguished by its oblong sleeves, while the doctor's gown has bell-shaped sleeves with velvet panels on the sleeves, around the neck, and down the front.

The colorful hood linings represent the colors of the institution conferring the degree. Hood linings for Trinity International University are royal blue and white. The velvet border on the hood indicates the field of study in which the degree has been conferred:

#### ROYAL BLUE:

Doctor of Philosophy (Educational Studies, Intercultural Studies, and Theological Studies)

#### SCARLET:

Doctor of Ministry, Master of Theology, Master of Divinity, Master of Arts (Ministry, Systematic Theology, Theological Studies, Urban Ministry)

#### LIGHT BLUE:

Master of Arts (Educational Ministries, Teaching), Master of Education

#### CITRON YELLOW:

Master of Arts (Chaplaincy and Ministry Care, Counseling Ministries, Mental Health Counseling)

#### WHITE:

Master of Arts (Biblical and Near Eastern Archaeology and Languages, Bioethics, Church History, Intercultural Studies, Leadership, New Testament, Old Testament and Semitic Languages, Philosophy of Religion)

### STOLE OF GRATITUDE

Graduation is a special day for reflecting on the past, celebrating the present, looking to the future, and sharing time-honored traditions.

The Trinity International University-Florida "Stole of Gratitude" offers the opportunity for expressing gratitude to those who share in a graduate's success at TIU-Florida!

This special stole is worn by the graduating student during the Commencement Ceremony. After the ceremony, the stole is presented by the graduate to a parent, relative, friend, spouse, or mentor who has provided extraordinary influence and support during his or her collegiate career.

Each stole becomes a cherished keepsake for the recipient honored. Presenters often write a few words of love and appreciation on the back of the stole before presenting it.



## **GRADUANDS**

Cum Laude Honors Magna Cum Laude High Honors Summa Cum Laud Highest Honors

TRINITY EVANGELICAL DIVINITY SCHOOL MASTER OF ARTS IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES RECIPIENTS 2024

Michael Shane Gray Summa Cum Laude Lensley St Felix
Cum Laude

**Lezlie Stubbs** 

TRINITY GRADUATE SCHOOL
MASTER OF ARTS IN LEADERSHIP RECIPIENTS
2024

**Daniella Olea**Summa Cum Laude

Jorge Machado-Molina Summa Cum Laude

Christy B. Mahoudeau Magna Cum Laude

TRINITY GRADUATE SCHOOL

MASTER OF ARTS IN MENTAL HEALTH COUNSELING RECIPIENTS
2024

**Tracey Bowen** 

Jessica Lynn Buikema Summa Cum Laude Claude-Daniel Fabien

Cum Laude

Magda Flor Fuentes Summa Cum Laude

Nancy Herrera Summa Cum Laude

Allana Ingram Summa Cum Laude

**Kenneth Jones** Summa Cum Laude

**Daniel J. Laliberte**Summa Cum Laude

**Shawn A. Laser** Magna Cum Laude

Erwin G Lee
Cum Laude

Anne Marie Lunkins Summa Cum Laude

Ivonne M. Machado Summa Cum Laude

Shamira Lizzeth Manun-Madrid
Cum Laude

Carla Myeshia McCullough

Summa Cum Laude

Kecia Patrice Michel
Cum Laude

Caitlin A. Moody Magna Cum Laude

Shanice Shenoya Patten Summa Cum Laude

Jessica Lynn Ramser Summa Cum Laude

> Vanessa Ravelo Cum Laude

**Duvan Rios** Magna Cum Laude

Sarah Rae Seldomridge Cum Laude

Ashley L. Ticas
Cum Laude

Krystal Jones Walton III Summa Cum Laude



# TRINITY COLLEGE BACHELOR OF ARTS RECIPIENTS 2024

Holly Arguelles
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Luis Artiles CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Cleyvis Basilio BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Caleb Cardell
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES

Adoración Carrillo PSYCHOLOGY Cum Laude

Ingrid Cofino
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Summa Cum Laude

**Arnaldo Delgado**BIBLICAL STUDIES

Wilfrid Derviste
CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
Cum Laude

**Djoura Doreus**BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

**Kayleigh Draper** PSYCHOLOGY Summa Cum Laude

**Giovanni Falzone**BIBLICAL STUDIES
Cum Laude

Sorina Greely
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Summa Cum Laude

Ashley Gutierrez PSYCHOLOGY

**Denise Henry-Strawder** ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP **Andrei Hobafcovici** GENERAL BUSINESS Cum Laude

Alea Jones
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Summa Cum Laude

Rachel Landry PSYCHOLOGY Magna Cum Laude

Stephanie Lorenzi PSYCHOLOGY

Carmen Maiocco
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

Joyce Morris PSYCHOLOGY Cum Laude

**Paula Murphy**CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES
Summa *Cum Laude* 

**Joshua Nunez** CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES *Magna Cum Laude* 

Jennifer Oquendo-Vasquez ELEMENTARY EDUCATION Summa Cum Laude

**Daniel Burgos Rodriguez** PSYCHOLOGY

> Lorie Reid Thomas PSYCHOLOGY

Suzette Walters-Murray BIBLICAL STUDIES

**Matthew Zaldivar** CHRISTIAN MINISTRIES *Magna Cum Laude* 



#### — 20 —

# Congregational Hymn

#### This Is Our God

By Phil Wickham

Remember those walls that we called sin and shame? They were like prisons that we couldn't escape But He came, and He died, and He rose

Those walls are rubble now

Remember those giants we called death and grave?

They were like mountains that stood in our way

But He came, and He died, and He rose

Those giants are dead now

This is our God

This is who He is, He loves us

This is our God

This is what He does, He saves us

He bore the cross, beat the grave

Let Heaven and Earth proclaim

This is our God, King Jesus

Remember that fear that took our breath away?

Faith so weak that we could barely pray

But He heard every word, every whisper

Now those altars in the wilderness

— 21 —

Tell the story of His faithfulness

Never once did He fail, and He never will

This is our God

This is who He is, He loves us

This is our God

This is what He does, He saves us

He bore the cross, beat the grave

Let Heaven and Earth proclaim

This is our God, King Jesus

Who pulled me out of that pit? He did, He did Who paid for all of our sin? Nobody but Jesus

wito paid for all of our sin. Hobbay but jesus

Who pulled me out of that pit? He did, He did

Who paid for all of our sin? Nobody but Jesus

Who rescued me from that grave? Yahweh, Yahweh

Who gets the glory and praise? Nobody but Jesus Who rescued me from that grave? Yahweh, Yahweh

Who gets the glory and praise? Nobody but Him

This is our God

This is who He is, He loves us

This is our God

This is what He does, He saves us

He bore the cross, beat the grave Let Heaven and Earth proclaim

This is our God, King Jesus

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He bore the cross, beat the grave Let Heaven and Earth proclaim

This is our God, King Jesus

Oh, this is our God

# A Message From the ALUMNI OFFICE

Dear Graduates.

Greetings in the mighty name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Alumni Office of Trinity International University, it is my joy and privilege to congratulate each of you on the completion of your degree. This has been a transformative and worthwhile journey. What you have accomplished is no small feat. You have stayed the course and finished your race. By God's grace you've earned the crown of your degree. We, as well as your family, friends, and peers are super proud of you! We know that God has plans to use you for his glory and service in magnificent ways. Be light in the darkness and let the light of Christ shine all around you, everywhere you go. You have joined a legacy of more than 28,000 Trinity alumni who are living out the gospel throughout the world. You, like your fellow alumni, are entrusted with the gospel. Use this opportunity to live out your faith and to share the gospel wherever you work, live and minister. As an Alumni Office, we seek to serve and support Trinity graduates in every way we can. If the Alumni Office at Trinity can ever be of service, it is our pleasure to do so. Please feel free to contact us.

Congratulations and God bless you!

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Deerfield, IL 60015

877.339.1416

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In His service.

Market Ho

Karina R. Smith

Director of Alumni Relations



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