



HONORS  
RECOGNITION

2023



Clarke UNIVERSITY



# HONORS BANQUET

FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2023

CLARKE UNIVERSITY



INVOCATION

BANQUET

ACADEMIC HONORS

INSTALLATION

TORCH PASSING

FINAL BLESSING

The Honors Banquet is a Clarke University tradition recognizing students from all classes for their academic, leadership, and service achievements.

# ACADEMIC AWARDS

## CLASS VALEDICTORIANS

Class valedictorian is the highest academic award Clarke University confers each year on its undergraduate students. This title is conferred on one or two individuals who have achieved the highest level of academic performance in their class. The students speak at the Commencement ceremony. The valedictorians for the class of 2023 are:

Isabelle Barefoot  
Matthew Priola

## ACADEMIC HONORS AT COMMENCEMENT

Academic honors at commencement are awarded to candidates for baccalaureate degrees who have earned a cumulative G.P.A. of at least 3.5 on Clarke University coursework. Candidates must have completed a minimum of 45 graded credit hours at Clarke University by their degree completion date.

### SUMMA CUM LAUDE – 3.80-4.0 G.P.A.

Avery Abbas	Kaelyn René Howe	Sydney Schilling
Molly M. Allen	Madison Inez Kirschbaum	Emmett Schwartzhoff
Isabelle Grace Barefoot	Kaylyn Michelle LeGrand	Meghan Michele Smith
Daija Rae Bates	Alexis Auburn Loney	Allison Lynn Troester
Shawn Anthony Buhr	Jared Thomas Martinson	Tyson Nicholas Tucker
Vaneza Lizet Diaz	Mary T. Mayer	Nejra Vatres
Mary Alyssa Forbes	Giana Marie Michels	Ellen Marie Welu
Jessica Lynn Heine	Matthew Joseph Priola	Daniel Matthew Zanger
Darius Hernandez	Kaylee Jo Rowland	Paul Von Zboray
Krystal Deniz Holmes	Keita Sato	

### MAGNA CUM LAUDE – 3.65-3.79 G.P.A.

Kierstin Esther Adams	Masayuki Maruhashi	Kirsten Patrice Schroeder
Nolan Baumhover	Maranda Ann Mausser	Rachel Tebon
Brett Chandler Dean	Timothy Patrick Miller	Jordan Turney
Johel Gonzalez	Brooke Puckett	Brynlee A. Ward
Carley Elyse Gylling	Sierra Nicole Revell	CoraAnne Vyhnanek
Hannah Rose Kilburg	Paige Romberg	

### CUM LAUDE – 3.50-3.64 G.P.A.

Vinicius Freitas Aspahan	Josie Kleinow	Andrew Swartz
Chloe Baer	Brandon James Mueller	Adrian Vincent Tamayo
Mercy DeRyke	Alexander J. Sherman	Peyton Anna Tegeler
Olivia Marie Gossard	Maria Louise Small	Donovan Isiah Thompson
Adante' Elander Jones	Addison Mary Staszewski	

## KAPPA GAMMA PI

Kappa Gamma Pi is a National Catholic University Graduate Honor Society. Membership is limited to not more than 10 percent of the graduating class. Seniors who have attained a 3.50 or higher G.P.A. for the last four semesters and who have demonstrated leadership and significant participation in campus life are selected by vote of the faculty and senior class. The following Clarke University seniors have been selected as Kappa Gamma Pi members this year:

Jordan Turney  
Kaylee Rowland  
Vaneza Diaz

## SCHOLARS PROGRAM

The Scholars Program is an outgrowth of both Clarke's robust liberal arts/general education philosophy and the institution's commitment to career-ready and life-ready learners. The program serves as a unique, innovative, and flexible platform from which exceptional students can prepare for their futures even as they explore their potential in the present. They do this by challenging themselves and each other intellectually, developing formative academic and professional relationships, and actively engaging with the larger community.

The following graduating seniors have completed the Scholars Program this year:

Tucker Aeschliman	Krystal Holmes	Kaylee Rowland
Vaneza Diaz	Kiara Lebouton	Xander Sherman
Darius Hernandez		

## ACCEPTANCE TO GRADUATE STUDY AT CLARKE UNIVERSITY

### DOCTOR OF PHYSICAL THERAPY

Rory Bickler	Cassidy Grady	Sydney Norman
Derek Bowman	Johanna Hartke	Jack Sabers
Sophie Callahan	Samantha Kane	Renae Schaper
Royce Clarke	Sarah Kile	Faith Schier
Anne Crawford		

### MASTER OF ARTS IN EDUCATION

Isabelle Barefoot

### MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Daija Bates	Adante' Jones	Dominic Pedroza
Conner Cole	Jared Martinson	Addison Staszewski
Connor Crabill	Nicole McDermott	Andrew Swartz
Vaneza Diaz	Kenneth Murray	Margaret Woywood
Rodrigo Fragoso		

### MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

Molly Allen	Jenna Edgington
Mackenzie Baker	Meghan Smith

## ACCEPTANCE TO GRADUATE STUDY AT OTHER INSTITUTIONS

Alyssa Humphrey

Accepted into Doctor of Veterinary Medicine program at Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine; will attend Virginia-Maryland

## OTHER HONORS

Nathaniel Seutter

Entering the Dominican Order following graduation

Mercy DeRyke

Selected to represent Clarke as an intern to teach English reading and writing skills in the ANKURI literacy program in Dehradun, India during the summer of 2022

## SPECIAL FIELD AWARDS

### GLORIA WEIR MELGAARD ART AWARD

Art award established in 1997 by Robert Melgaard in tribute to his wife, Gloria Weir Melgaard '78. It recognizes a senior who, in the opinion of the art faculty, has produced exceptional art works and demonstrated artistic growth and professional development. Awarded to a student who has contributed to the department through generosity of time and energy, supportive presence, and creative activity. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

CAITLIN SHORT

### ART + DESIGN PROGRAM FACULTY AWARD

Awarded to an outstanding sophomore or junior art major who contributes to the creative atmosphere of the department and who demonstrates the potential for highly creative, professional artistic performance. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

EMMA GRANT

### VASARI ART HISTORY AWARD

Established in 1986 by the Gilbert Redelman family, of Chicago, in honor of Renaissance art historian Giorgio Vasari. Awarded to a student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in the field of art history.

ALEC DOS SANTOS

### WALTER AND KATHRYN DUNHAM FINE ARTS AWARD

Established in 1995 by Meneve Dunham '53, in tribute to her parents. Awarded to a senior majoring in art, music, drama, or music theatre who, in the judgment of the fine arts division faculty and on the basis of demonstrated record, shows the potential for advancement as a professional in an artistic field. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

DANIEL ZANGER

### MARY IGNACIO WALSH, BVM, BIOLOGY AWARD

Established by a friend of Sister Mary Ignacio Walsh. Awarded to a senior who shows promise for further achievement in biology. Nominated and elected by biology majors. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

MORGAN CATCHUR

## MARY AND HATTIE RAWLS GUEST BIOLOGY AWARD

Established by Mary F. and M. I. Guest in memory of their mother. It was renamed in 2001 to honor the memory of Mary F. Guest, biology department faculty member, 1972-1992. The award is presented annually to an upper-division biology major who has achieved a minimum 3.0 average in biology, who has participated in extracurricular activities in the biology department, and who has given service within Clarke University or the Dubuque community.

GIANA MICHELS

## BARBARA BEN BONAVENTURA BIOLOGY AWARD

Established by the Class of 1967 and Dr. Leo Bonaventura in memory of his wife, Barbara Bonaventura '67. It is awarded annually to a biology major selected by the students and faculty in the biology department. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

ACACIA DABAREINER

## ANN PAULINE BRASSER, BVM SCIENCE AWARD

Established in 1990 by Katherine Au-Young Lam '57, this award pays tribute to former Biology professor Sister Mary Ann Pauline Brassier, BVM. The award is presented annually to an incoming senior majoring in biology, chemistry or nursing who has achieved a minimum of 3.0 average in his or her field and who has contributed to the university community through extracurricular activities or volunteer services to the Dubuque area non-profit organizations. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

ELLA ESSER

## OUTSTANDING ACCOUNTING STUDENT AWARD

Established by the Education Committee of the Iowa Society of Certified Public Accountants to honor outstanding accounting students at Iowa colleges and universities. It is awarded to a senior major judged by departmental faculty to be outstanding in the field of accounting.

TIMOTHY MILLER

## MCDONALD BUSINESS AWARD OF EXCELLENCE

Established in 1975 by R. D. McDonald, Chairman of the Board, President and Chief Executive Officer of A.Y. McDonald Manufacturing Company. Awarded to a senior major who, on the basis of academic excellence and community service, is judged by departmental faculty to be outstanding in the field of business. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

VANEZA DIAZ



## THE FLYNN FAMILY AWARD IN BUSINESS

Established by Sister Mary Michael Flynn, BVM, in honor of the Flynn family sisters. Awarded to a sophomore or junior majoring in accounting or business administration who has demonstrated leadership, service, scholarship, and potential for professional achievement. The recipient is selected by faculty and students in the accounting and business department. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

RIED RAISBECK

## MARGUERITE NEUMANN, BVM, CHEMISTRY AWARD

Established by chemistry department alumni to honor Sister Marguerite Neumann, BVM. The award is given annually to a chemistry major on the basis of a demonstrated record of leadership, service, scholastic achievement, and potential for advancement of the chemical profession. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

GREGORY WITTE

## AULEEN EBERHARDT JOURNALISM AWARD

Established in 1995 by Alan and Bette Eberhardt. Awarded to a senior in communication who, in the judgment of the communication department, shows potential for excellence, professionalism, and community service. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

JAYDON DENNIS

## POWERS COMPUTER SCIENCE AWARD

Established by the Powers family in honor of Dave Powers '85, computer science graduate and faculty from 1987 to 2000. Presented annually to a graduating senior in the computer science department whose achievement has been noteworthy. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

TYSON TUCKER

## JOHN AND PEARL VOSS EDUCATION AWARD

Established by Susan Voss Webb '62 in honor of her parents in recognition of their lives as educators. Awarded to a junior education major who demonstrates outstanding scholarship with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 or higher in the major and overall, with priority given to someone in the honors program. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

ISABEL MANNING

## RENATA KORONA DIPASQUALE EDUCATION AWARD

Established in 1994 by Aimee Pacholski Goldsmith, Donna Peppers Rhodes, and Anne Casey Stanfa in memory of Renata Korona DiPasquale, all of the Class of 1979. The award is presented annually to a Clarke University senior education major who, according to the education faculty, has demonstrated an inspirational attitude toward the vocation of teaching while maintaining an above-average academic record. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

SHAWN BUHR

## MARY FRANCES CLARKE, BVM, EDUCATION AWARD

Established in 1976 by friends of the Clarke education department. Presented to a senior who, in the judgment of the education department faculty, gives promise of becoming an outstanding member of the teaching profession, as evidenced by academic excellence, superior performance in teaching, as well as professional and/or community involvement during the student's program at Clarke. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

MARY MAYER

## EUGENE H. GEISLER HISTORY AWARD

Established in 1991 in memory of Eugene H. Geisler by his wife, Bernadine Hingtgen Ament Geisler '43. It is awarded to an outstanding sophomore or junior history major. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

BLAKE WILLIS

ANDREW CULPEPPER

## JOHN F. AND CATHARINE MORAN O'MALLEY AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN FOREIGN LANGUAGES

Established by Catharine M. O'Malley, St. Joseph Academy '25, in memory of her husband. It is awarded to a second-semester sophomore in Spanish on the basis of academic excellence in foreign languages. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

MONTANA LAFRENZ

## VERA CLARKE, BVM AWARD

Initiated by Mary Lane Neubauer Blomquist '72 and established in 1992 by Clarke alumni in memory of Mary Vera Clarke, BVM, Mathematics Department faculty member, 1957-1975. Awarded to a graduating senior majoring in mathematics whose achievement has been noteworthy. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

SAMUEL SWENOR

## VIRGINIA GAUME, BVM, MUSIC AWARD

Established in 1979 in recognition of Sister Virginia's years of dedicated service to excellence in the Music Department.

NATHANIEL SEUTTER

## SR. RUTH CONNOLLY, BVM MUSIC AWARD

Established in 1979 by the music faculty and music majors, classes of 1979-1982, in memory of Sister Mary St. Ruth, Clarke music graduate and Music Department faculty member. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

SAM WRIGHT

## ELIZA KELLY, BVM, MUSIC AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Established in 1984 by the music faculty in honor of the 150th anniversary of the Sisters of Charity, BVM. It is awarded to a student who, in the judgment of the Clarke music faculty, excels in scholarship. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

NAOMI NOEL

## ANNE SIEGRIST, BVM VOCAL PERFORMANCE AWARD

Established to cover the cost of vocal lessons for a voice major. The student must demonstrate excellent growth and progress in vocal performance, must consistently work in music classes at a high level of potential, and demonstrate positive attitude in departmental activities. The student must maintain a GPA of 3.0 in music classes and 2.5 in other college classes.

MARIA MUSTAFA

## NURSING AND HEALTH LEADERSHIP AWARD

Established in 1999 by the faculty of the nursing department. This award honors a student who has a consistent record of exceptional leadership in community endeavors.

KAYLEE ROWLAND

## NICOLE THING NURSING AWARD

Established in 2015 by Anne Thing, in memory of her daughter, Nicole Thing, who was an outstanding second-year nursing student at Clarke University when she passed away suddenly. Nicole had a passion for helping people, a passion that lives through her organ donation. The Nicole Thing Award is given to an outstanding first-year nursing student who is encouraging, supportive, giving, willing to go the extra mile, and a team player, characteristics that describe Nicole's generous personality.

MALIA BEICH  
EMILY PRIER

## CATHERINE DUNN, BVM, EXCELLENCE IN NURSING AWARD

Established in 1994 by the Board of Trustees, this award pays tribute to a decade of extraordinary leadership provided by former President Catherine Dunn, BVM. It is presented annually to a nursing student whose academic record and community service have demonstrated excellence. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

KRYSTAL HOLMES

## MARY ANTONIA DURKIN, BVM, PHILOSOPHY AWARD

Established in 2001 by Norm Freund and Kent Anderson in memory of Antonia Durkin, BVM, who successfully lobbied to open the doors of Catholic higher education for herself and other religious women. The award honors her pioneering spirit, dedication to the liberal arts, and many years of service to Clarke. It is presented annually to the student in the introductory philosophy course who has demonstrated the most outstanding course work and dedication to the discipline of philosophy.

STEELE FREDRICKS

## SOCRATES AWARD

Established in 1990 by Norm Freund and Kent Anderson to recognize excellence in philosophy. It is awarded annually to a student in an upper-division philosophy course who demonstrates outstanding performance in course work and dedication to the discipline of philosophy.

NATHANIEL SEUTTER  
MATTHEW PRIOLA

## BENEDICT PHELAN, BVM, PSYCHOLOGY AWARD

Established in 1969 by the Clarke Development Council to honor Sister Mary Benedict Phelan, BVM, former Clarke president. Awarded to the psychology major who, in the judgment of the psychology department faculty, shows the greatest promise of contributing to the field of psychology. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

CARLEY GYLLING

## DEE LEOW-SCHREINER AWARD

Established by her family and friends in 1997, this award pays tribute to Dee Leow-Schreiner in recognition and gratitude for the profound influence Clarke had in her life. Presented annually to a student who has gained and demonstrated personal spiritual growth while at Clarke University. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

JAYDEN HARRINGTON

## FLORETTA MILLER CALMEYN RELIGIOUS STUDIES AWARD

Established by Mary Kennedy Dandurand and members of the class of 1964.

The Floretta Miller Calmeyn Religious Studies Award pays tribute to their classmate, who lived life fully as a mother, wife, friend, and parish spiritual director. The award is given to a student who has demonstrated excellence in religious studies coursework.

MATTHEW PRIOLA

## MARY ELLEN CALDWELL, BVM, RELIGIOUS STUDIES AWARD

Established by Janet and Michael O'Meara, this award honors Sister Mary Ellen Caldwell, BVM, assistant professor emerita and religious studies faculty member, 1962-1987. It is presented annually to a student who demonstrates the pursuit of excellence in religious studies and a commitment to social justice. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

ALYSSA HUMPHREY

## MARY J. MCCORMICK SOCIAL WORK AWARD

Established in 1979 to recognize the life and work of Dr. Mary J. McCormick, a 1924 graduate of Clarke College (Mount St. Joseph College at the time), who was a leader in both social work education and international social work. This award is presented to a senior social work major who, in the judgment of the seniors and faculty in the department, has demonstrated academic achievement in the field of social work and gives promise of becoming an outstanding member of the profession. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

MEGHAN SMITH

## OUTSTANDING SPORT MANAGEMENT STUDENT AWARD

Established in 2023 by the Sport Management faculty to recognize a senior Sport Management major who demonstrates academic achievement, service, and potential for professional success.

ADRIAN TAMAYO

## MARIANNE JOY, BVM, AWARD

Established in 1983 by family and friends of Sister Marianne Joy, BVM, in memory of her significant contributions to Clarke and her unique commitment, care, concern, and love for the residence life program. This award is presented to a resident assistant who has demonstrated significant service to the university residential community for at least one year.

KAYLEE PITZEN

## CLARKE STUDENT ASSOCIATION AWARD

Established in 2007 by the Clarke Student Association, this award is given in recognition of outstanding participation in student government. The award recipient is a non-graduating Clarke University student who has exhibited outstanding participation in the Clarke Student Association and the Clarke University community.

## ATHLETICS NEWCOMER OF THE YEAR AWARD

Established in 2009, this award recognizes an outstanding male student athlete and an outstanding female student athlete who are in their first year of competition at Clarke University.

## ED COLBERT ATHLETICS CAREER ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Established in 1993 in honor of Coach Ed Colbert's contributions to the Clarke athletic program. The award is presented annually to a senior male student and a senior female student in recognition of their outstanding career achievements in Clarke University athletics.

## JOHN AND MARY MILES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD

Established by Mary J. Miles in 1977 as the John A. Miles Service Award, enlarged and revised by the Miles Family after Mary's death in 2013, the John and Mary Miles Community Service Award is presented each year to a full-time second-year student who has demonstrated energetic volunteer service to the Clarke University and the community. In the spring semester sophomore students, faculty and administration may nominate for the award; sophomores and faculty vote for the award. The recipient of the award is announced annually at the spring Honors Banquet. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

## MABEL ROONEY HOFFMAN AWARD

Established in 1969 by the late Alois Hoffman in honor of his wife, this award is presented each year to the junior who, by nomination and vote of the faculty and members of the junior class, has exhibited evidence of academic interest and effort, and an outstanding response to the opportunities to serve others in the university community and society. This award is partially funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

## FRANCIS J. O'CONNOR MEMORIAL AWARD

Since 1935 the O'Connor Award has been recognized as the most prestigious honor bestowed upon a Clarke University graduating senior. Criteria for the award include demonstrated leadership, cooperation, generosity, kindness, and academic achievement. Originally, the Mary Agnes O'Connor Award was established by the late Frank A. O'Connor in memory of his wife. In 1991 it was renamed the Francis J. O'Connor Memorial Award to honor the late Francis J. O'Connor, son of Frank and Mary Agnes O'Connor, and longtime Clarke trustee. The award recipient is selected by vote of the senior class, faculty and staff. The presentation of the award is made at commencement exercises. This award is funded by the Helen and Melvin Hack Award.

# INSTALLATION OF CLARKE STUDENT ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

## TORCH PASSING

The concept of torch passing originated with the ancient Greek Olympics over 2,700 years ago. During the earliest athletic competitions, relays of runners carried a sacred flame lit from the fire burning before the altar of Zeus to the location of the games.

Similarly, the Clarke Torch Passing Ceremony, initiated in 1935, recognizes the continuity in the transition of student officers, with the flame being passed from those who have served the university community for the past year to those elected to serve during the coming year.

## **Thank you to our 2022-2023 CSA Executive Board and Senate!**

Anne Crawford, '24, President

Johanna Hartke, '24, Vice President

Darius Hernandez '22 (Fall) & Josiah Nichols, '24 (Spring), Secretary

Rory Bickler, '24, Treasurer

### **Class of 2026 Senators**

Jennifer Dehahn

Sydney Herzmann

Zoe Schultz

### **Class of 2025 Senators**

Rachel Haubert

Emma Kanne

Mckenzie Nodolf

Benjamin Vasquez

### **Class of 2024 Senators**

Mackenzie Baker

Shannon Catchur

Jenna Edgington

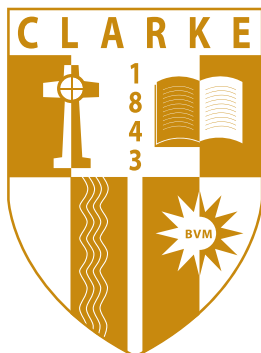
Josiah Nichols

### **Class of 2023 Senators**

Abby Archer

Avery Abbas

Nathaniel Seutter



# 179<sup>th</sup> Commencement

Saturday, May 13, 2023 · 2 p.m.  
Robert and Ruth Kehl Center, Clarke University

*A reception for graduates and guests will immediately  
follow commencement in the R.C. and Celeste Wahlert Atrium.*