

A MESSAGE TO THE GRADS

Congratulations!

We are excited to see you celebrate with the family, friends, and colleagues who supported you on this journey. Your commitment to improving your life and the lives of those around you is inspiring and energizing to all of us at Walden. We're proud to have been a part of your journey.

Earning your degree is an impressive achievement, but the true reward will be what you accomplish with your new knowledge.

Remember, today is “Commencement”—the start of a new chapter in your journey, but you are not alone in that journey! Your passion for lifelong learning and making a difference connects you with our more than 178,000 alumni around the world. I hope you stay connected to our community through the many opportunities available in our active alumni association. Together, we can continue to advance positive social change in our communities, countries, and the world. I hope you'll keep us posted as you advance your ideas for social change!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sue". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and a long, sweeping underline.

Sue Subocz, PhD

Associate President and Provost

CEREMONY PROGRAM

PRELUDE

PROCESSIONAL

Walden University Faculty Members

Walden University Leadership

WELCOME

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Nina Nabors, PhD

Vice Provost

Division of Healthcare Access and Quality

WALDEN COMMUNITY SPEAKERS

Alina Perez, PhD

Dean, College of Allied Health

Kevin Johnson, EdD

Academic Program Coordinator

Doctor of Education (EdD)

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Human Sciences

Xellex Z. Rivera, PhD

2020 Walden University Alumnus

DEGREE CONFERRAL

AWARDING OF DEGREES

Graduates will cross the stage by college and degree level. Colleges and their programs are listed on pages 3–5.

Guest tickets will show the college and degree level of the graduate.

DIVISION OF HEALTHY COMMUNITIES AND ORGANIZATIONS

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Human Sciences

College of Health Sciences and Public Policy

School of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Studies

College of Management and Human Potential

College of Psychology and Community Services

DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND QUALITY

College of Allied Health

College of Nursing

College of Social and Behavioral Health

CLOSING

RECESSIONAL

During the recessional, guests in the auditorium are asked to remain seated until the platform party and the faculty members have exited.

COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS

Graduates will cross the stage when their college and degree level is announced. Check the following list of colleges to find your graduate's program so you will be ready when they cross the stage. Guest tickets will show the college and degree level of the graduate.

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SUPPORTS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

THE RICHARD W. RILEY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

BS in Child Development
BS in Early Childhood Studies
BS in Educational Studies
BS in Elementary Education

MASTER'S LEVEL

Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Elementary Education
Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT) in Special Education
MS in Developmental Psychology
MS in Early Childhood Studies
MS in Education
MS in Education, Educational Leadership, and Administration
MS in Health Education and Promotion
MS in Higher Education
MS in Instructional Design and Technology
MS in Psychology

SPECIALIST LEVEL

EdS in Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment
EdS in Curriculum, Instruction, and Professional Development
EdS in Early Childhood Education
EdS in Educational Administration and Leadership
EdS in Educational Leadership and Administration (Principal Preparation)
EdS in Educational Technology
EdS in Learning, Instruction, and Innovation
EdS in Reading, Literacy, and Assessment
EdS in Special Education

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Education (EdD)
PhD in Developmental Psychology
PhD in Education
PhD in Health Education and Promotion

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND PUBLIC POLICY

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

BS in Health Studies
BS in Public Health

MASTER'S LEVEL

Master of Public Administration (MPA)
Master of Public Health (MPH)
MS in Nonprofit Management and Leadership

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Public Administration (DPA)
Doctor of Public Health (DrPH)
PhD in Public Health
PhD in Public Policy and Administration

COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS continued

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SUPPORTS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

BS in Communication

COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN POTENTIAL

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

BS in Accounting

BS in Business Administration

BS in Business Communication

BS in Computer Information Systems

BS in Healthcare Management

BS in Information Technology

MASTER'S LEVEL

Master of Business Administration (MBA)

Master of Healthcare Administration (MHA)

Master of Information Systems Management

MS in Accounting

MS in Communication

MS in Cybersecurity

MS in Data Science

MS in Finance

MS in Human Resource Management

MS in Industrial and Organizational Psychology

MS in Information Technology

MS in Leadership

MS in Management

MS in Marketing

MS in Project Management

MS in Software Engineering

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

Doctor of Healthcare Administration (DHA)

Doctor of Information Technology (DIT)

PhD in Health Services

PhD in Industrial and Organizational Psychology

PhD in Management

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

BS in Criminal Justice

BS in Human Services

BS in Psychology

MASTER'S LEVEL

MS in Criminal Justice

MS in Criminal Justice Leadership and Executive Management

MS in Forensic Psychology

MS in Human Services

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Human Services (DHS)

PhD in Criminal Justice

PhD in Forensic Psychology

PhD in Human and Social Services

PhD in Human Services

PhD in Psychology

COLLEGES AND PROGRAMS continued

DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND QUALITY

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH

MASTER'S LEVEL

MS in Clinical Psychology

DOCTORAL LEVEL

PhD in Clinical Psychology

PsyD in Behavioral Health Leadership

COLLEGE OF NURSING

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

MASTER'S LEVEL

Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

PhD in Nursing

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BACHELOR'S LEVEL

Bachelor of Social Work (BSW)

MASTER'S LEVEL

MS Dual Degree in Clinical Mental Health Counseling and School Counseling

Master of Social Work (MSW)

MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling

MS in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling

MS in School Counseling

DOCTORAL LEVEL

Doctor of Social Work (DSW)

PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision

PhD in Social Work

WALDEN UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS



NINA NABORS, PhD

Vice Provost

Division of Healthcare Access and Quality

Dr. Nina Nabors has served Walden University in a variety of leadership roles over the past 22 years primarily within the School of Psychology. These roles included dean, associate dean, senior director, director, interim program director for the Doctor of Business Administration (DBA), residency coordinator, core faculty for the PhD in Clinical Psychology, and chair of the PhD in Clinical Psychology program in the early days as contributing faculty. Additional service at Walden includes participating in multiple working groups for several accreditation efforts, the Gender and LGBTQI+ working group, and the Diversity and Inclusion working group.

Dr. Nabors received her doctoral degree in clinical psychology from the University of Florida in 1994. Before full-time work at Walden University, she was a tenured associate professor at Eastern Michigan University and has also served as assistant professor at Central Michigan University. Dr. Nabors has an active research agenda currently focused on women and leadership. Other research interests include mental health stigma, psychology of women, multicultural psychology, womanist/feminist therapy, women with disabilities, and rehabilitation psychology. She has numerous publications and presentations on these topics over the past 25 years. She has also served in a variety of leadership positions at the Association for Women in Psychology.

A Chicago native, Dr. Nabors is a licensed psychologist in Michigan and board-certified in rehabilitation psychology. She has a part-time private practice focused on multicultural psychology and related issues. She is married and resides in Southeast Michigan with her spouse, Cynthia, and her teenage son, Jeremiah, who attended his first Walden University event at six months of age.



ALINA PEREZ, PhD

Dean, College of Allied Health

Dr. Perez is the dean of the College of Allied Health at Walden. She has been with the university since 2020 and has held leadership roles in higher education since 2008, leading graduate programs in psychology, public health, and clinical research. To this role, she brings extensive knowledge and experience in teaching, mentoring, and academic leadership in higher education.

In her work as a faculty member, Dr. Perez has focused on helping adult learners primarily in clinical psychology achieve their career goals and develop research interests. Her research interests have led to various publications and research grants in forensic psychology and adult learning. She contributes to student learning now through her leadership in the College of Allied Health with a focus on creating an inclusive and caring learning environment.

Dr. Perez is a licensed psychologist in Florida where she practices clinical work primarily in psychological assessment of forensic populations. Her expertise is focused on the evaluation of criminal offenders as well as diverse populations seeking immigration asylum. Dr. Perez's clinical work has also included delivering psychotherapy with diverse populations of adults, focusing on the treatment of depression and anxiety. She has expertise in assessing a wide variety of clients, including treatment and evaluation of sex offenders, immigration evaluations, competence evaluations, fitness for duty evaluations, and disability evaluations.

Dr. Perez resides in Miami with her partner and five children. She is an avid fitness enthusiast and professional competitor.

WALDEN UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS continued



KEVIN JOHNSON, EdD

Academic Program Coordinator

Doctor of Education (EdD)

The Richard W. Riley College of Education and Human Sciences

Dr. Kevin Johnson has a rich career spanning over three decades that has profoundly impacted the field of education through various roles as a leader, educator, mentor, professor, and scholar.

Dr. Johnson embarked on his academic journey at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania, later transferring to Westfield State College where he obtained his undergraduate degree in psychology and special education. His continued quest for knowledge led him to Georgia State University in Atlanta, where he completed master's degrees in special education and education leadership. Furthering his expertise, Dr. Johnson earned an Education Specialist degree in education administration from the University of West Georgia and culminated his educational pursuits with a Doctor of Education in leadership and policy from Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama.

Dr. Johnson is currently an academic program coordinator and core doctoral faculty member in the Richard W. Riley College of Education and Human Sciences. He previously served as an associate professor in education leadership and special education. His extensive experience in education includes various teaching and administrative positions at the elementary, middle, and high school levels. Dr. Johnson also held various leadership positions at the State Department of Education in Georgia before transitioning to higher education.

Dr. Johnson's mission in education is deeply rooted in social change, focusing on community service that includes mentoring youth, addressing food insecurities, reducing the school-to-prison pipeline, and supporting parents. He volunteers at senior centers, provides technology training, and works tirelessly to uplift urban communities. A proud member of Omega Psi Phi fraternity, Dr. Johnson is also engaged in ministry work and consults in public relations to expand global access to technology to enhance learning.

Dr. Johnson's vision is to transform the lives of the underprivileged and impoverished. He advocates the power of education to overcome social, cultural, and economic challenges and inspires everyone to pursue their dreams with the belief that a quality education is the key to success.

Dr. Johnson currently resides in Florida with his wife. He has four children and three grandchildren. Dr. Johnson enjoys all sports but loves basketball, bicycling, and swimming.

WALDEN UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS continued



XELLEX Z. RIVERA, PHD
2020 Walden University Alumnus

Dr. Xellex Z. Rivera, also known as “Dr. X”, is a native of the Bronx, New York, and a graduate of Manhattan College with a double master’s degree in counseling and mental health counseling. A proud HBCU (historically Black college or university) graduate, Dr. Rivera attended Livingstone College, majoring in liberal arts and English. Initially, with the dream of becoming a journalist, Dr. Rivera quickly realized her life calling was going in another direction. In 2019, she earned her third master’s, a Master of Philosophy in human and social services, and in 2020, completed her Ph.D. in human services, both at Walden University. Featured in Forbes Women and on the Bronx Network,

her dissertation, *Experiences of Long-Term Stay Among Homeless Millennials in New York City Shelters*, explored the experiences of long-term stay millennials, 25 to 34 years of age, residing in single adult New York City (NYC) shelters to understand how they explain and interpret their extended stays.

As one of the youngest C-suite non-profit executives in NYC, Dr. Rivera is currently the chief program officer for the Housing Solutions of New York (formerly known as Bronx Parent Housing Network, Inc.). Her primary clients are families with children who are experiencing homelessness, as well as being severely mentally ill or drug-addicted.

Dr. Rivera is motivated to work, advocate, and develop programming for vulnerable populations – particularly the homeless population in New York City. Her work has also been featured on Fox News, CBS News, and NBC News. Xellex is a published contributing author of the *Ministry That Impacts* book released by the Re-Thinking Church Summit. Xellex continues to educate and facilitate workshops about homelessness in NYC. In addition to her work, Xellex is an adjunct professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University teaching a trans-continental course between the New Jersey and Vancouver, Canada campuses, and a dissertation mentor at Walden University.

Raised by a single mother, Dr. Rivera is a quick learner and has an unyielding drive to be successful. Following her favorite Bible verse, “I can do all things through Christ which strengthens me” (Phil. 4:13), Dr. Rivera does not believe in the word “No” and works until she has what she wants. Growing up in the African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church, Dr. Rivera is no stranger to hard work and dedication and has been involved in numerous positions. Currently, she serves as the vice president of the Assembly of Christian Educators (ACE). She is also an active member of the Tau Upsilon Alpha National Honor Society, the National Society for Leadership and Success Honor Society, the International Association of Women (IAW), and Alpha Phi Omega National Service Fraternity – Alpha Theta Lambda Chapter, which includes members such as Michelle Obama and Hillary Clinton.

Dr. Rivera is also the founder and CEO of the #iAmSHE Women’s Empowerment Organization. This non-profit organization prides itself on the advancement of minority women and girls. With the undertone name of Caterpillar Girls, Inc. and, under the umbrella of the Rivera Sister’s Foundation, #iAmSHE is on a mission to provide a holistic approach and mentorship to bring women and girls together to build positivity and strength.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR AWARD WINNERS

FRANK DILLEY AWARD

The Frank Dilley Award recognizes a student whose doctoral study meets the highest standards of academic excellence. It was created to honor Dr. Dilley's dedication to Walden's programs and his contributions to North American higher education.

Award Winner: **Dr. Diana Skaff**
Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)

HAROLD L. HODGKINSON AWARD

The Harold L. Hodgkinson Award honors a student whose dissertation meets the highest standards of academic excellence. Dr. Hodgkinson was one of the nation's most esteemed experts in demography, and he played a vital role in the establishment and development of our university.

Award Winner: **Dr. Godfrey Ddungu**
PhD in Counselor Education and Supervision

ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE AWARD

The Academic Performance Award honors an undergraduate student for distinguished scholarship, service, and citizenship. Recipients embody Walden's core values and are committed to serving humankind.

Award Winner: **Ashlee Marie Phillips Ramirez**
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN)

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

The Citizenship Award recognizes a master's student for distinguished scholarship, service, and citizenship. In addition to embodying Walden's core values, recipients effected positive social change during their graduate program.

Award Winner: **Maria Teresita Valenzuela-Cope**
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE AWARD

The Leadership Excellence Award is bestowed upon a doctoral student who contributed to the Walden community through distinguished leadership, scholarship, and mentorship of fellow students.

Award Winner: **Dr. Maria D. Santiago**
Doctor of Education (EdD)

DAISY AWARD

The DAISY Award honors nurses wherever they practice, in whatever role they serve, and throughout their careers — from nursing student through lifetime achievement. The vision is to inspire nurses through recognition, in hopes that they will provide extraordinary care not only with their brains but also with their hearts.

Award Winner: **Dr. Sonya DiCirio**
Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP)

Award Winner: **Tia Jones**
Master of Science in Nursing (MSN)

WALDEN LEADERSHIP

Michael Betz, *President*

Sue Subocz, PhD, *Associate President and Provost*

DIVISION OF SOCIAL SUPPORTS FOR HEALTHY COMMUNITIES

Kelley Costner, EdD, *Vice Provost*

THE RICHARD W. RILEY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN SCIENCES

Sara Makris, PhD, *Dean*

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND PUBLIC POLICY

**Jörg Westermann, PhD, MA,
Dipl. Oec. Univ., *Dean***

COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN POTENTIAL

Karlyn Barilovits, PhD, *Dean*

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Shana Garrett, PhD, *Dean*

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Sara Makris, PhD, *Dean*

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS & ADMINISTRATION

Devon Edmund, *Vice Provost*

INSTITUTIONAL EFFECTIVENESS, ENGAGEMENT & ACADEMIC PERFORMANCE

Savitri Dixon-Saxon, PhD, LCMHC, *Vice Provost*

REGISTRAR'S OFFICE

Justin Zickar, EdD, *Walden University Registrar*

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS OF HEALTH AND HEALTH CARE ADVANCEMENT

Andrea Lindell, RN, PhD, ANEF, *Vice Provost*

DIVISION OF HEALTHCARE ACCESS AND QUALITY

Nina Nabors, PhD, *Vice Provost*

COLLEGE OF ALLIED HEALTH

Alina Perez, PhD, *Dean*

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Tracy Slemper, DNP, FNP, *Dean*

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

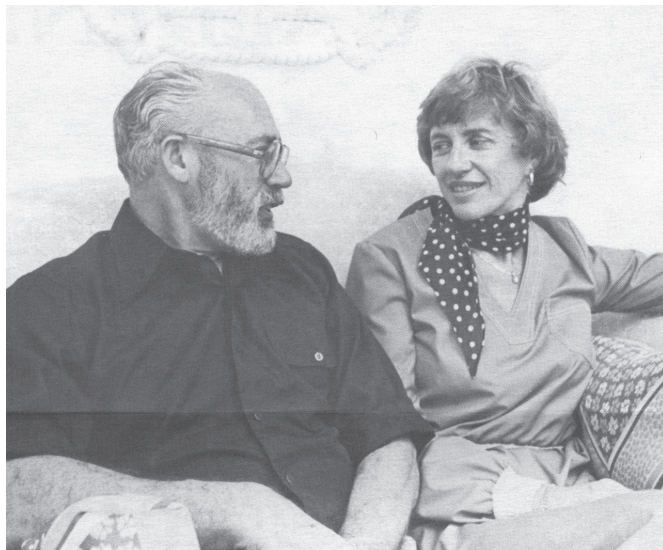
Lisa Moon, PhD, *Dean*

WALDEN HISTORY

“I learned this, at least, by my experiment: that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavors to live the life which he has imagined, he will meet with a success unexpected in common hours.”

—Henry David Thoreau, *Walden* (1854)

More than 50 years ago, Bernie and Rita Turner took a bold step that would change higher education in America. At that point in history, if you were a working professional who wanted to earn an advanced degree, most universities required that you quit your job and move close to their campus. The Turners sought to change that dynamic and found a like-minded innovator in Dr. Harold “Bud” Hodgkinson, who had published a paper that laid out a new vision for a student-centric university. Titled “Walden U: A Working Paper,” Hodgkinson’s vision became the philosophical underpinnings of the Turners’ new school: Walden University.



Founded in 1970, Walden began with a 1971 summer session in Naples, Florida, which gave working teachers and school administrators the opportunity to finish their doctorates without having to leave their jobs. It was a truly unique opportunity, and in 1972, the first Walden students earned their degrees.

The Turners’ university was already making a difference. But Walden’s development into the school it is today took time and perseverance. The first major step occurred in 1979 when the Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Board licensed Walden to grant PhDs and EdDs in the state. An official move to Minneapolis quickly followed in 1982 and, as the decade progressed, Walden grew. Some students in the 1980s completed coursework by correspondence. Sometimes this meant that faculty and students mailed floppy disks back and forth! While this

form of distance learning seems antiquated today, it was innovative in its time and opened new opportunities for working professionals.

This spirit of innovation also impacted the coursework itself. In 1984, Walden officially integrated social change into the curricula, formalizing the school’s founding mission. In 1987, the university introduced a new individualized program structure. Thanks to these efforts and the ceaseless drive to offer the highest-quality education, Walden accomplished the biggest achievement of its early years. In 1990, Walden earned accreditation from The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools.

What had begun as a radical idea was now an accredited university. In 1995, Walden became known for something more: It was the first U.S. university to offer an online master’s in education degree program. The degree was Walden’s first master’s, as well as its entrance into online education. This wasn’t just the next logical step in distance learning; it was a seismic shift that would quickly end the era of postal-based higher education and usher in a huge number of innovations that would change Walden and higher education throughout the world.

While Walden introduced other online programs in the late 1990s, Sylvan Learning Systems’ 2001 investment in the university sparked the biggest change, helping Walden complete the shift from a correspondence system of learning to an online system of learning. At the same time, Walden grew into a comprehensive university offering bachelor’s, master’s, and doctoral degree programs in a variety of disciplines.

WALDEN HISTORY continued

In 2004, Walden became a full part of Laureate Education (the new name for Sylvan Learning Systems) and merged with National Technological University, which allowed Walden to expand its degree offerings and student enrollment even further. These were exciting days, filled with the promises of online education. Thanks to this technological innovation and Walden's eagerness to embrace it, the university was able to carry the Turners' original vision to working professionals all over the world—empowering more people than ever to change their lives, their careers, and their communities.



While Walden was increasing its educational profile, it was also increasing its focus on social change. In 2006, Walden initiated its annual Global Days of Service campaign, in which students, alumni, faculty, and staff gather in communities all over the world to complete social improvement projects. In 2017, Walden took its mission even further and founded the Center for Social Change, which serves as a connective hub that promotes, facilitates, and supports social change action and research. The Center for Social Change is a valuable resource for members of the Walden community and others throughout the world who want to make a real difference.

Walden was once again reaccredited by the HLC in 2013 for a period lasting 10 years—the maximum any institution can receive. Clearly, Walden has remained busy ensuring its students—and the higher education community at large—can trust that it maintains the highest possible educational standards. This level of trust is one that Turners always wanted for Walden. *And*, it's a trust that has attracted the attention and praise of several high-profile dignitaries. In 2010, Nelson Mandela accepted an honorary doctorate from Walden; in 2011, former President Bill Clinton spoke at commencement; and in 2014, former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice spoke at commencement as well.

From its first 70-person graduating class to this commencement's 8,007-person class, Walden has remained true to its founding principles of expanding access to higher education and working for the greater good. For more than 50 years, Walden's innovation and growth and its student-first philosophy have empowered 10s of thousands of working professionals across the U.S. and in over 165 countries.

In 2021, Walden University transitioned from Laureate Education to become part of Adtalem Global Education. Adtalem, like Walden, believes that education empowers students to achieve their goals, find success, and drive positive social change in our global community. Together, Walden and Adtalem will provide the world with diverse graduates who have the talent and skills to answer workforce needs and a passion for advancing positive social change.

Walden has been accredited by The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) since 1990. Accreditation is a mark of quality, and in 2023, the Higher Learning Commission (HLC), reaffirmed Walden's institutional accreditation status. Being accredited by the HLC validates that our institution lives its mission, operates with integrity, offers programs that focus on student learning, hires faculty that are academically qualified, and provides the resources and support necessary for our students to succeed. In 1970, Bernie and Rita Turner took a bold step and founded Walden University. Without question, the university will continue to be bold long into the future, building on its legacy and continuing to empower the greater good for decades to come.

VISION, MISSION, VALUES, AND ACCREDITATION

VISION

Walden University envisions a distinctively different 21st-century learning community where knowledge is judged worthy to the degree that it can be applied by its graduates to the immediate solutions of critical societal challenges, thereby advancing the greater global good.

MISSION

Walden University provides a diverse community of career professionals with the opportunity to transform themselves as scholar-practitioners so that they can effect positive social change.

VALUES

Quality • Integrity • Student-Centeredness

ACCREDITATION

Walden University is accredited by The Higher Learning Commission, www.hlcommission.org.

CEREMONIAL SYMBOLS

CEREMONIAL MACE

It is a tradition of many universities to include a ceremonial mace in their commencement celebrations. The mace, which is typically a long staff of wood and metal, symbolizes the university's governing authority and is present whenever the university president and Board of Directors are in attendance. The history of the mace can be traced to medieval times, when it was used as a weapon held by a royal bodyguard to protect the king. Today, the ceremonial mace can be seen in governmental ceremonies worldwide, including in the U.S. House of Representatives and Britain's House of Commons.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The presidential medallion symbolizes the authority given to the president by the Board of Directors to carry out its charge, including first and foremost the preparation of candidates for degrees to be awarded by the board. It is worn by the president at all formal academic occasions. The medallion was created to be a symbolic representation of the university's foundations, with a design that includes the name of the university and its founding date, representing tradition; laurel leaves, representing the knowledge that the university was founded to expand; and a globe, representing Walden's future as the university continues its tradition of innovation in a global community.

GENERAL INFORMATION

GLOBAL COMMUNITY

The following list represents the diversity of Walden University's graduating class: American Samoa; Antigua and Barbuda; The Bahamas; Bahrain; Bangladesh; Barbados; Belarus; Belgium; Belize; Bermuda; Bolivia; Brazil; British Virgin Islands; Burundi; Cabo Verde; Cambodia; Cameroon; Canada; Cayman Islands; China; Colombia; Côte d'Ivoire; Cuba; Czech Republic; Democratic Republic of the Congo; Denmark; Dominica; Dominican Republic; Ecuador; Egypt; Equatorial Guinea; Eritrea; Eswatini; Ethiopia; Fiji; France; Gabon; The Gambia; Georgia; Germany; Ghana; Grenada; Guam; Guyana; Haiti; Honduras; Iceland; India; Iran; Iraq; Ireland; Israel; Italy; Jamaica; Japan; Jordan; Kenya; Kuwait; Lebanon; Liberia; Libya; Lithuania; Malawi; Mexico; Morocco; Mozambique; Myanmar; Nepal; Netherlands; New Zealand; Nicaragua; Nigeria; Northern Mariana Islands; Oman; Pakistan; Palau; Palestine; Panama; Peru; Philippines; Poland; Puerto Rico; Qatar; Republic of the Congo; Rwanda; Saint Kitts and Nevis; Saint Lucia; Saint Vincent and the Grenadines; Saudi Arabia; Senegal; Sierra Leone; Somalia; South Africa; South Sudan; Spain; Sudan; Sweden; Switzerland; Syria; Tanzania; Thailand; Togo; Trinidad and Tobago; Tunisia; Uganda; Ukraine; United Arab Emirates; United Kingdom; United States; U.S. Virgin Islands; Venezuela; Vietnam; Yemen; Zambia; and Zimbabwe.

REGALIA

Academic regalia originated in medieval Europe, where it was the dress for both faculty and students. Standards for academic costumes for colleges and universities in the United States were adopted in 1895. Walden's custom regalia reflects the branding and official colors of the university. The gowns for all degree levels are Celebration Slate with Alumnus Cyan accents.

The gown for the bachelor's degree has pointed sleeves and is untrimmed. It is designed to be worn closed. The length of the hood worn for the bachelor's degree must be 3 feet.

The gown for the master's degree is untrimmed, like the bachelor's degree gown. It has an oblong sleeve, open at the wrist. The sleeve's base hangs down in the traditional manner. The rear part of its oblong shape is square cut, and the front part has an arc cutaway. Supplied with fasteners, the gown may be worn open or closed. The hood for the master's degree is 3.5 feet long.

The gown for the doctoral degree has bell-shaped sleeves. Supplied with fasteners, the gown may be worn open or closed. The gown has velvet on the front and three bars of velvet across the sleeves. The hood worn for the doctoral degree has panels only at the sides and is 4 feet long.

Hoods are lined with the official color or colors of the college or university conferring the degree. Walden University's color is Alumnus Cyan; therefore, each Walden hood has an Alumnus Cyan and Graduation Gold chevron in the middle of the hood. The binding or edging of the hood is velvet or velveteen and 2 inches, 3 inches, and 5 inches wide for the bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees, respectively. The color is indicative of the subject to which the degree pertains. For example, the trimming for the degree of Master of Science is golden yellow, representing science. In the case of the Doctor of Philosophy degree, dark blue represents the mastery of the discipline of learning and scholarship in any field and is not intended to represent the field of philosophy.

CEREMONY BROADCASTS

Both the virtual and in-person commencement ceremonies will be broadcast live at www.WaldenU.edu/Winter-2024. After commencement, the ceremony videos will be saved and accessible on Walden University's YouTube channel under the Commencement Ceremonies playlist.

COMMENCEMENT PROGRAM

The Walden University commencement program—which includes the names of eligible graduates from June 7, 2023, through December 24, 2023—will be available online for viewing by graduates, their families, and guests in April 2024. To access and share the Walden University commencement program and view a full list of graduates, please go to www.WaldenU.edu/Commencement.

HONOR CORDS

Some of our undergraduate degree candidates will receive gold honor cords.

These cords indicate those who have a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher at the time of graduation:

Summa cum laude: Designates those candidates with a cumulative GPA of 3.900–4.000 at the time of graduation.

Magna cum laude: Designates those candidates with a cumulative GPA of 3.750–3.899 at the time of graduation.

Cum laude: Designates those candidates with a cumulative GPA of 3.500–3.749 at the time of graduation.

Latin Honors are awarded at the bachelor's level only. Bachelor's graduates with Latin Honors are indicated by an asterisk (*) in the Walden University commencement program.

Individual honor societies contact master's-level and doctoral-level graduates if the graduates have earned honors. Cords are sent to those honor graduates prior to commencement.

Presidential Commendation for Undergraduate Academic Achievement

Walden University recognizes the significant accomplishment of undergraduate students who achieve a perfect cumulative GPA in their undergraduate work. Students with a 4.0 GPA at the time of graduation will receive a Presidential Commendation for Academic Achievement. Recipients will be given a presidential medallion and will be recognized in the Walden University commencement program.

HONOR SOCIETIES

SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society

SALUTE Veterans National Honor Society is the only honor society in the U.S. that recognizes and honors the service and scholastic achievements of veterans and is dedicated to encouraging excellence in scholarship, research, and leadership. The core values of the honor society are service, academics, leadership, unity, tribute, and excellence.

Golden Key International Honour Society

Golden Key International Honour Society is the world's largest collegiate honor society, comprising more than 2 million undergraduate, graduate, and alumni members. Golden Key is committed to a high standard of scholastic achievement and an ethos of integrity, innovation, respect, collaboration, and diversity. With more than 400 student chapters worldwide, Golden Key recognizes highly motivated academic achievers who will become leaders and contributors to society in the future.

The National Society of Leadership and Success

The National Society of Leadership and Success is the world's largest leadership honor society. With more than 700 chapters nationwide, it recognizes bachelor's, master's, and doctoral students in all programs who have achieved high academic standards. The National Society of Leadership and Success requires students to complete a four-step leadership program in order to be inducted.

UNIVERSITY WIDE STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

Divine Nine Alliance (DNA)

The Divine Nine Alliance (DNA) provides members of the Divine Nine Greek letter organizations with opportunities for professional development, networking, and mentorship.

Student Veterans Association

The Student Veterans Association (SVA) at Walden University partners with the Student Veterans of America national chapter, which supports over 1,500 school chapters and 750,000 student veterans. The mission of Walden's SVA is to support student veterans in achieving their professional goals in higher education and life.

THE RICHARD W. RILEY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND LEADERSHIP

Kappa Delta Pi

Walden is home to the Alpha Epsilon Xi Chapter of Kappa Delta Pi (KDP), the international honor society in education, one of the largest and most prestigious education honor societies in the world, with more than 675 active chapters. Membership is offered to those who display outstanding scholastic achievements in education. KDP recognizes scholarly contributions and scholastic achievement and strives to enhance the professional development of its members. Members of KDP are dedicated to promoting excellence and advancing scholarship, leadership, and service.

COLLEGE OF MANAGEMENT AND HUMAN POTENTIAL

Delta Mu Delta

Delta Mu Delta (DMD) is a business honor society that recognizes and encourages academic excellence of students at qualifying colleges and universities to create a DMD community that fosters the well-being of its individual members and the business community through lifetime membership.

Society for Human Resource Management

The Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) is the world's largest HR society, representing 300,000 members in more than 165 countries. SHRM promotes the HR profession and provides education, certification, and networking to its members, while lobbying Congress on issues pertinent to labor management.

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Phi Nu Chapter

The mission of the Honor Society of Nursing, Sigma Theta Tau International, is to support the learning, knowledge, and professional development of nurses committed to making a difference in health worldwide. The vision of Sigma Theta Tau International is to create a global community of nurses who lead in using knowledge, scholarship, service, and learning to improve the health of the world's people. Membership is by invitation to baccalaureate and graduate nursing students who demonstrate excellence in scholarship and to nurse leaders exhibiting exceptional achievements in nursing.

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Alpha Phi Sigma

The goals of Alpha Phi Sigma are to honor and promote academic excellence, community service, educational leadership, and unity. Alpha Phi Sigma recognizes academic excellence of undergraduate and graduate students of criminal justice.

Psi Chi

Psi Chi is the International Honor Society in Psychology, founded in 1929 for the purposes of encouraging, stimulating, and maintaining excellence in scholarship and advancing the science of psychology. Membership is open to graduate and undergraduate students who are making the study of psychology one of their major interests and who meet the minimum qualifications. Psi Chi is a member of the Association of College Honor Societies and is an affiliate of the American Psychological Association (APA) and the Association for Psychological Science (APS).

Tau Upsilon Alpha

The National Organization for Human Services Honor Society, Tau Upsilon Alpha (TUA), recognizes Walden students in the College of Psychology and Community Services who demonstrate integrity, academic excellence, and dedication to empowering people through education and service. The purpose of TUA is to honor academic excellence; foster lifelong learning, leadership, and development; and promote excellence in service to humanity.

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

BARBARA SOLOMON SCHOOL OF SOCIAL WORK

Phi Alpha

The purpose of Phi Alpha Honor Society is to provide a closer bond among students of social work and promote humanitarian goals and ideas. Phi Alpha fosters high standards of education for social workers and invites into membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work.

SCHOOL OF COUNSELING

Chi Sigma Iota

Students in Walden's School of Counseling who join Chi Sigma Iota are recognized for their honor, integrity, and academic success. Established to recognize outstanding achievement and service within the counseling profession, Chi Sigma Iota's mission is to promote scholarship, professionalism, leadership, advocacy, and excellence in counseling through recognition of individual achievements in the pursuit of academic and clinical excellence.

Walden's Omega Zeta Chapter of Chi Sigma Iota was founded in 2009. Under the leadership of Dr. Kelly Dardis, the chapter offers students the opportunity to build a sense of community, network with peers, and hold leadership positions as a chapter officer or committee chair. Access the Omega Zeta newsletter and reach out to other members at www.csi-net.org/member/omega_zeta.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES AND PUBLIC POLICY

Pi Alpha Alpha

Pi Alpha Alpha (PAA) is the national honor society formed to recognize and promote excellence in the study and practice of public affairs and administration. PAA recognizes outstanding scholarship, promotes excellence in public service studies, and fosters integrity and professionalism among its many members. To become a member, undergraduate students must be in the top 10% of their graduating class by their last semester of junior year; have completed at least 15 hours of coursework for their public administration, public policy, or subfield degree; and have achieved and maintained at least a 3.5 GPA for all degree-related courses and at least a 3.0 GPA for all other coursework. Graduate students must have achieved and maintained a 3.7–4.0 GPA and have completed 50% of their public administration, public policy, or subdegree coursework.

SCHOOL OF INTERDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES

Alpha Sigma Lambda

Alpha Sigma Lambda's aim is to recognize the special achievements of adults who accomplish academic excellence while facing competing interests of home and work. Undergraduate students have the opportunity to join Walden's chapter of Alpha Sigma Lambda, a national honor society for adult learners, when invitations are extended to eligible students twice a year. Students must attend a regionally accredited college or university that offers degrees to nontraditional/adult students. Currently, membership is limited to undergraduate students seeking their first degree. Undergraduate students must have a minimum of 45 institutional quarter credits earned at Walden, active enrollment during the most recent past two quarters, and a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.75.

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS)

The National Society of Collegiate Scholars (NSCS) is an honors organization that provides career and graduate school connections, leadership and service experiences, and practical and skills-based content. With nearly 300 chapters across the U.S., NSCS recognizes bachelor's students in all programs who have achieved high academic standards.

Honor Roll for Undergraduates

An honor roll for undergraduates is calculated and generated twice a year to coincide with the end of two consecutive terms: the combination of winter/spring quarters and summer/fall quarters. Matriculated undergraduate students with a cumulative GPA of 3.75 or higher will be recognized if a minimum of 10 GPA quarter credits have been taken at Walden in each of the two consecutive quarters.

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IN MEMORIAM

We remember those in our Walden community who have passed away in recent months.

Christine Albertson

School of Lifelong Learning

Norvilla Baldwin

*Doctor of Business Administration (DBA) Student
College of Management and Human Potential*

Jacqueline Ballard

*Doctor of Education (EdD) Student
The Richard W. Riley College of Education and
Human Sciences*

Andrea DiMattia

*Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Student
College of Nursing*

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*Master of Social Work (MSW) Student
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Shavonn Hodges

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Wendell Jackson

*MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*

Betty Mccarty

*PhD in Psychology Student
College of Psychology and Community Services*

June Mitchell

*BS in Accounting Student
College of Management and Human Potential*

Terri Morton

*Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) Student
College of Nursing*

Larry Pishko

*BS in Communication Student
School of Interdisciplinary Undergraduate Studies*

Kristen Powell

*MS in Marriage, Couple, and Family Counseling Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*

Kevin Price

*Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*

Janel Richard

*Bachelor of Social Work (BSW) Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*

Brenna Salansky

*MS in Clinical Mental Health Counseling Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*

Kendra Streat

*Master of Social Work (MSW) Student
College of Social and Behavioral Health*