

McMurry University



Commencement 2021

J. W. Hunt Physical Education Center
Friday, May 7 | Saturday, May 8
Abilene, Texas

Alma Mater

Hail to our dear McMurry, long wave Maroon and White.

Pride of our western prairies, spirit of honor, truth and right.

We cherish your traditions; ever true we'll be.

Your Hall of Fame is in our hearts.

All hail to thee!

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Ceremony Notes –

* The audience will rise. Please remain standing for the recessional until the faculty and graduates have left the hall.

Photography:

You are respectfully asked to *remain seated while taking any personal photographs* so that you do not interfere with the progression of the program, the safety requirements of this facility, or the professional equipment in use.

Expressions of Celebration:

In order to maintain the dignity of this academic ceremony please *withhold individual expressions of celebration* when your candidate is called. We will celebrate together after the candidates have all been announced and at other appropriate times during the ceremony.

Academic Honors Designations:

† Member of the James Winford Hunt Chapter of Alpha Chi National Honor Society.

Honors listed in the program are computed through the end of the previous semester. At the time of graduation a student is designated for honors based on the following cumulative grade point average: *Summa Cum Laude*--3.85-4.0; *Magna Cum Laude*--3.7-3.84; *Cum Laude*--3.5-3.84. To be eligible for graduation with academic honors, a student must have completed a minimum of fifty-seven semester hours in resident courses at McMurry University.

Departmental Honors graduates have completed a senior thesis in an academic discipline, usually the student's major field, with the endorsement of the faculty members of that department, and maintained a grade point average of at least 3.25.

University Honors Program graduates have fulfilled all requirements for Departmental Honors, maintained a grade point average of at least 3.5, and completed several honors classes in other areas of the university curriculum.

Completion of Degree:

This program contains the names of December 2020 graduates, and degree and honors for May and August 2021 candidates for graduation based on information available at time of printing. Inclusion of candidates in the program is not confirmation of final completion of degree or honors designation.

Commencement Program

- * Processional *Pomp and Circumstance* by *Edward Elgar* Brass Quintet
- Marshal Dr. Robert Wallace
Professor and Department Head of Sociology and Criminology
- Welcome from the President Dr. Sandra Harper
McMurry University President
- * Invocation Rev. Marty CashBurless
University Chaplain and Director of Religious Life

Awards and Special Recognitions

- Awarding of Honorary Degrees Dr. Sandra Harper and Dr. Matt Draud
- Charlie Hukill Doctor of Arts
Betty Hukill Doctor of Arts
- Presentation of the Gordon R. and Lola J. Bennett Award Dr. Matt Draud
Vice President for Academic Affairs and Dean of the Faculty
- Introduction of Commencement Speaker Dr. Sandra Harper
- Commencement Address Mr. David Bailey

Conferring of Degrees

- Presentation of Graduates and Candidates for Degrees Dr. Matt Draud
- Awarding of Degrees Dr. Sandra Harper

Introduction of Degree Candidates

- Reading the names of degree candidates Mr. Kerry Goff, Department Head and Instructor of Theatre
Ms. Neena McLain, Visiting Instructor of Theatre
- Presentation of the Graduates Dr. Matt Draud
- * Singing of the Alma Mater Dr. Benjamin Druffel
Associate Professor of Music
- * Benediction Rev. Marty CashBurless
- *Recessional *La Rejouissance* by *G.F. Handel* Brass Quintet
Dr. David Amlung, Trumpet; Mr. Cedric Dario, Trumpet;
Dr. Ben Druffel, Horn; Mr. Taylor Orchard, Tuba;
Ms. Molly Amlung, Trombone

Betty Hukill

Betty Hukill was born and reared in Arlington, graduated from Arlington High School and attended UTA before completing a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Theatre from Stephen F. Austin State University. Marrying Charlie in 1977, they moved to Dallas where Betty provided income while Charlie earned his MFA degree from Trinity University via the Dallas Theater Center. The Hukills moved to Abilene in 1979 where Charlie joined the faculty of Hardin Simmons University. Betty was employed as Scenic Designer/Technical Director for the Abilene Community Theatre from 1983-1989, responsible for creating over 36 sets. In 1989, she joined the staff at the Paramount Theatre of Abilene as Artistic Director. In 1990, she was named the Paramount's Executive Director, leading the non-profit organization charged with operating and maintaining the historic venue. She left the organization in 1999 for three and a half years to manage Young Audiences of Abilene, the arts and education branch of the Abilene Cultural Affairs Council. Returning to the Historic Paramount as its Executive Director in 2003, she remained in the position until her retirement in 2018.

An active thespian, Betty is currently guest directing *Mamma Mia* at the Fredericksburg Theatre Company. She continues directing junior musical productions at the Paramount, adding to credits that include *Frozen, Jr* and twelve additional junior musicals that feature cast members ages 8 to 18. During her tenure at the Paramount, she also directed numerous non-youth productions including *Smokey Joe's Café, Ragtime, Annie, The Music Man* and *The Secret Garden*. Betty directed and helped launch several forty-five-minute school performance programs and Enchanted Café programs for Young Audiences. She has written scripts for exhibitions at the National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature, United Way report luncheons, Abilene Philharmonic Guild's Gold Medallion Balls and Brunches, Abilene Chamber of Commerce annual membership celebrations, the 2nd floor Paramount stage in the children's museum at the Grace and student performed scenes for the history gallery at the Grace. Betty has judged innumerable talent shows, speech tournaments, collegiate singing competitions and has presented numerous light programs for area civic clubs. From 1985 until 2006, she adjudicated over 60 UIL One-Act Play contests throughout West Texas.

Betty has performed in thirty-seven plays and/or musicals in various theatres in and around Abilene. Representative acting credits include Berthe in *Pippin*, Dolly Levi in *Hello Dolly!*, Desiree in *A Little Night Music*, M'Lynn in *Steel Magnolias*, Prudie Cupp in *Pump Boys and Dinettes* and Blanche DuBois in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. She has emceed countless community events, appeared in local TV commercials and provided voice-over talent to a number of projects. Betty was a dramatic reader for the Children's Art and Literacy Festival from 2012 to 2018 and an actor with the Paramount Players, presenting school performances for Young Audiences from 1994 through 1999.

Regarding civic involvement, Betty was a member of the Rotary Club of Abilene from 1990 to 1999 and again from 2005 to 2020, serving as club president from 2009-10. Through the years, she has served as a director on many local non-profit boards including the Abilene Convention and Visitors Bureau (2009-18), which she chaired from 2016-18; Abilene Heritage Square (2018-20); Goodwill West Texas (2006-17); Abilene Zoological Society (2006-16); United Way of Abilene (1996-05); National Center for Children's Illustrated Literature (1997-00); YMCA of Abilene (1991-94). Betty was active in the Abilene Downtown Association, serving as its president from 2012 to 2014. She is a 2013 graduate of Leadership Texas. Since its inception in 2014, Betty has chaired the committee for the Women's Leadership Conference at McMurry University. She has volunteered with the Abilene Preservation League, Global Samaritan, Junior Achievement and Abilene Rape Crisis Center.

The Hukills are committed members of First Central Presbyterian Church, where both have served as elders. Former choir members, they have participated in three live theatre productions benefitting the Medical Care Mission. The couple enjoys travelling, camping, music, and spending time with friends.

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Charlie Hukill

Charlie Hukill was born and raised in Arlington, Texas, graduating from Arlington High School in 1971. After attending the University of Texas at Arlington for several years, he transferred to Stephen F. Austin State University graduating in 1977 with a BFA in Theatre and a minor in English. He married his wonderful wife, Betty, after graduation and they moved to Dallas where he attended the Dallas Theater Center, graduating in 1979 with an MFA in Design and Playwriting from Trinity University. In the mid-90s, he returned to school at Texas Tech and amassed an additional 60 hours in Playwriting, Directing, Acting, and Fine Arts.

In 1979, after completing his graduate degree, Charlie was hired by Hardin Simmons University and remained there until 1985 when he accepted a position at McMurry College. He retired from McMurry in 2018, having achieved the rank of Professor, tenured. He is currently Professor Emeritus of Theatre at McMurry.

Professionally, he has worked at numerous theatres around the country, but mostly in Texas. Currently, he has a relationship with the Fredericksburg Theatre Company and has done scene design and directing work there since 2017. Since beginning his career in 1979, he has designed scenery for 118 productions, lights for 109, directed 71, and acted in 45.

Charlie has held a number of leadership positions at McMurry, within local organizations, and at the state level. For McMurry he served as the Chair of the Department of Theatre for many years, Acting Chair of the Department of Communication, and the Director of the University Core Curriculum. He has also held numerous committee chair positions, including Faculty Council, several stints as Chair of Faculty Development Committee, and Chair of the Faculty. He served on the Task Force to redesign the faculty evaluation process, on the Sub-Committee to revise the Faculty Constitution, and on numerous faculty search committees as well as search committees for the Dean of Arts and Sciences, and the Vice President for Academic Affairs. He is currently a member of the McMurry Visitor's Board.

In the community, Charlie has served on the Friends of the Abilene Library and for four years was in charge of the set-up of the annual book sale at the Civic Center. He served as the Chair of the board of Young Audiences of Abilene, and as the President of the Artist Members at the Center for Contemporary Arts. Additional local board membership includes the Community Advisory Board for KACU, the Advisory Board of Young Audiences, and the Advisory Board for the development of the Abilene Heritage Square. He is a Deacon and Elder at the First Central Presbyterian Church of Abilene.

At the state level, Charlie has been actively involved in the Texas Educational Theatre Association. He has been a member of TETA since 1980 when he was certified as an adjudicator for UIL One-Act Play competitions. He has been an active critic judge since then, averaging 6 play contests a year, judging all across the state, at all levels, including five times at the state competition. He served 4 years on the TETA Adjudicators Organization, which oversees the training and practices of UIL OAP critic judges. From 1999 to 2001, he was the Chair-Elect of AO and the Chair of the Standards and Practices Committee. From 2001-03, he was the Chair of AO. From 1998-2000, Charlie served on the TETA Board of Directors as the Vice-President for the College/University Section. From 2014-16, he was President-Elect of TETA, 2016-18, President, and 2018-2020, Immediate Past-President.

In addition to his work in the field of Theatre, Charlie has been an Artist Member of the Center for Contemporary Arts since a few years after its inception. He has had seven exhibitions of paintings at the CCA and has had work accepted into several juried competitions.

Charlie is also very grateful for the various honors he has received during his career. He has received Volunteer of the Year Awards from KACU FM, the CCA, and Young Audiences. In 1999, he was selected as the Educator of the Year for the College/University Section of TETA. Recognitions at McMurry University include Outstanding Faculty Member (2000), Bennett Award for Outstanding Teaching, Service, and Leadership (2001), and the E.E. Hall Award for contributions to the Discipline of Theatre. In 2017, he was selected for the Distinguished Theatre Alumni Award from Stephen F. Austin S.U.

Currently, Charlie is enjoying retirement with his wife, Betty. While they are staying active in the theatre, they are also taking advantage of opportunities to travel whenever possible.

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David Bailey

The story of David Bailey's career and volunteer path starts with his small town roots in Clyde, Texas. From an early age he learned the value of community involvement, genuine interpersonal communication, and a strong work ethic. Those values continued to be a focus since he chose to further his education at McMurry University after his graduation from Clyde High School in 2001. At McMurry, David was active in Kiva Men's Social Club and McMurry Student Government, where he served as president during his senior year and was voted class favorite. It was during those years he met his wife, Ashley Moseley Bailey, a 2004 graduate, and began working at First Financial Bank as a teller and personal banker in between classes. He earned a degree in Business Finance from McMurry in 2004.

David's part-time job at the HEB branch evolved into a career with First Financial Bank where he served in roles ranging from credit and loan review analyst in Abilene to vice president and commercial loan officer in Granbury. He then moved through the ranks from senior vice president and commercial loan officer to president of First Financial Bank in Eastland. In 2020, David was promoted to his current position as CEO of the Eastland Region and Executive Vice President and Senior Lender of First Financial Bank in Abilene. Since 2015, he has co-chaired the company's Service Improvement Team, driving the service culture for the entire organization.

Continuing a tradition learned from his parents and grandparents, David has committed many hours to volunteer work in church and community. He currently serves on the McMurry Board of Trustees, following in the steps of his grandfather, Ira Williams, who served in the 1970s. In Eastland, David served on the Community Foundation Board, and held offices in the Chamber of Commerce, the Lions Club, the County Crisis Center, and the County Child Welfare Board. He has chaired both the Administrative Council and Finance Committee at the First United Methodist Church but is best remembered by the church for the eleven years he spent as volunteer choir director there. He conducted a Christmas cantata each year during that time, building up to a 30-member choir with a 20-piece orchestra in the last two years of his service in the Eastland congregation.

David enjoys playing the Bailey family piano passed down to him, traveling, playing golf, and spending time with his family: wife Ashley, six year old son, Hudson, and one year old daughter, Hadley.

Eighteen members of David's extended family have attended McMurry University through the years. In addition to his wife, Ashley, they include parents, Tom and Shelley Bailey, grandfather, Frank Bailey, aunt, Ginger Bailey Hunter, brother, Weldon Bailey, cousin, Tess Williams and family by marriage, Leah Cameron Bailey, Holly Baker Bailey, Jodi Tucker Frizzell, Jeff Moore, Rhonda Tucker Moore, Wendell Tucker, Weldon Tucker, Susan Tucker James, Carol Tucker Burson, Wayne Tucker and Jan Tucker.

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Graduates

Fall 2020 / Spring 2021 / Summer 2021

MASTER DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Shannon Bagby Barnes	Master of Accountancy	Accountancy	Merkel
Neqowda Akchatzah Bradford	Master of Accountancy	Accountancy	Abilene
Justin Thomas Kutz	Master of Accountancy	Accountancy	Imperial MO
Stephanie Ann Munshower	Master of Science in Nursing	Nursing Education	Abilene
Dustie Charlene Price	Master of Science in Nursing	Family Nurse Practitioner	Sterling City

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BACHELOR DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Angel Arredondo <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Kinesiology	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Perf Pre-Professional Conc	Garland
◇ Samantha Lee Banks <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Art Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Studio Art Pre-Profess Art Therapy Conc	Clyde
Lydia Jean Clarke <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Computer Science Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Science	Mathematics and Computer Science	Leander
◇ Tiffany Nicole Cox <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Criminology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Abilene
Gabrielle Marie Ellwanger Departmental Honors in Nursing	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Magnolia
Shawna Faucett <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Biology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Roby
Sylvia Nicole Harmon <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Sociology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Amarillo
Claire Noelle Hillyer <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Art Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Fine Arts	Multimedia & Graph Design	Borger
William Tyler Irion <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Criminology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Abilene
◇ Shawna Lynn Johnson <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Theatre Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Theatre/Interfaith Studies/Christian Ministry	Artesia NM

Victoria Michelle Lamb <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Business Administration Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management Global Learning Endorsement	Krum
◇ Marcus A. McCray <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Sociology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Abilene
Celine Nguyet Thanh Nguyen <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Multimedia & Graphic Design Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Multimedia & Graphic Design	Abilene
Daniel Hugo Nunez Departmental Honors in Biology	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Abilene
◇ Juan David Ramirez <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Criminology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Roma
Ashley Marie Ray <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Psychology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Midlothian
Hunter Scott Reynolds <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Criminology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology and History	Willow Park
† Ryan Paul Rollins <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Biology	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Burton
Jonathan Jacob Samudio <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Physics Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Science	Physics	Fort Worth
Taylor Madison Smith <i>Magna Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Kinesiology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts Bachelor of Science	Psychology Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Lubbock
Subhanna Taveras <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Psychology Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Queens NY
Ernesto A. Valle <i>Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Chemistry	Bachelor of Science	Biochemistry	La Pryor
† Joseph Kirk Watson <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Physics Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Science	Physics Civil/Mech Engineering Conc	Panhandle
Cameo Dawn White <i>Summa Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Art Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Fine Arts	Multimedia & Graph Design	Abilene
Josephine Rose Woytas <i>Cum Laude</i> Departmental Honors in Political Science Graduate of the University Honors Program	Bachelor of Arts	Political Science and History	Tulsa OK

Brianna Nicole Adams	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	San Antonio
Francheska Victoria Aguino	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Houston
Mariam Saber Alabed	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Allied Health/Kinesiology/Psychology	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
Mays Mustafa Aldahan	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
James Georges Taillar Alexander <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Canyon Lake
◊ Ahmed Zamil Alnefaie	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia
Maria Elena Alonso	Bachelor of Business Administration	Accounting	Merkel
◊ Danielle Margarita Alvarado <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Stamford
Nwakaego Chidinma Amaechina	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Richmond
† Melanie Leann Ashlock <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
† Kayla Marie Bailey <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Port Saint John FL
Shai Tavia D'alize Marcayl Baisy	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology Counseling & Human Development Conc	Waco
†◊ Shannon Noel Baker <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Lynn Bandora <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	Finance	Abilene
Bryson Wayne Barrett	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Canyon
◊ Marissa Nicole Becerra	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Caitlin Enedina Bela	Bachelor of Business Administration	Marketing	Midland
Holly Emily Ann Bentea <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Christian Ministry	Van Horn
Cody Austin Berry	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Abilene
Anita Bhujel <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Logan Scott Bierman <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Gilmer
◊ Ethan Nicholas Blocker	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Wellness Conc	Waco
Cassandra Grace Borgfield	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology Counseling & Human Development Conc	Porter
Katelyn Rae Boster-Duke <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology Neurocognitive Conc	Azle
◊ Joel A. Bravo <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Iola
William Hunter Brooks	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology and Sociology	Burkburnett
Gerald Dewayne Brown II	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Shreveport LA
Jon Brown-Shannon	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Liberty Hill
Brittany Lynn Brzymialkiewicz	Bachelor of Fine Arts	Studio Art	Rowena
Trevour Devaughnte Burns	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Augusta GA
Calli Danielle Cannon <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Barrington NJ
◊ Philip Anthony Casali <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Emory
◊ Kayla Nichole Castillo <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Sweetwater

Christopher Michael Causer	Bachelor of Science	Environmental Science	Lubbock
Heather Michelle Chagolla <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	San Angelo
Rebekah Leigh Chance	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Clyde
†◇ Lance Allen Clark <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Roby
Eduardo Antonio Contreras	Bachelor of Science	Physics Civil/Mech Engineering Conc	Saginaw
Trent Scott Cooksley	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Wollongong, Australia
◇ Kelly Correa	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Chillicothe
Joshua Douglas Coy	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Vandalia OH
Kaitlynn Alexis Cozma	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Rockwall
Colin Michael Craft <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Religion	Irving
Marisa Morgan Daniel <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Sweetwater
Lauryn Raylee Davis <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Fort Worth
◇ Leigh Greer Davis	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Cedric Wayne Davis, Jr.	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Ethics	Balch Springs
Laura Elena Devora <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Colby Waller Diggs	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Snyder
Christina Jeannette Dixon	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Irving
◇ Emily Mae Elliott	Bachelor of Arts	Art Education	Abilene
Robert Thomas Fambrough III <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Computer Science and Mathematics	Aledo
Symone Anita Elizabeth Fiedler	Bachelor of Arts	Theatre	Center Point
Andrew Fiore	Bachelor of Business Administration	Finance	Dover DE
Emily Anne Fisher <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration Bachelor of Science	Accounting Mathematics	Fort Worth
Calista Flores	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Round Rock
Cameron Foster	Bachelor of Business Administration Bachelor of Arts	General Business Political Science	Hartley
Cassidy Futrelle	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Abilene
Antonio Gamez, Jr. <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Hidalgo
◇ Adelina Rose Garfield	Bachelor of Music Education	Music Education Instrumental Emphasis	Dilley
Daniel Wayne Gerik	Bachelor of Arts	History Grades 7-12	West
◇ Thomas Vincent Gigante <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Multidisciplinary Studies Science Grades 4-8	Huntington NY
Ryan Jacob Goetz	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Michael Anthony Gonzales	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Buda
Ryan Read Greene	Bachelor of Arts	History Grades 7-12	Granbury
Kaprice Alexander Griffin	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Houston
◇ Andrew Michael Hallowell	Bachelor of Business Administration	Accounting	Fort Worth

◇ Shannon Jean Harrell	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Bossier City LA
Hannah Renee Hernandez <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Art Education	Odessa
Christy Lynetta Hill <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology and Sociology	Sweetwater
Samuel Christopher Stephen Hillyer	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Wellness Conc	Borger
Chance Lloyd Holder	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Odessa
Matthew Joseph Holmes	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Sociology	Sugar Land
◇ Khristyn D'Shawn Howard	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Fort Worth
Michelle Rose Hunt <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Missouri City
Kamwren Chloe Jackson <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Abilene
David Joseph Jaime	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Carrollton
Emarie James	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Psychology	Abilene
◇ Michele Lee James	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Cambria Jaramillo	Bachelor of Arts	Political Science	Fort Worth
◇ Traya Nicole Joiner	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Lubbock
◇ Monica Zoe Kiamani Jones	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	South Bend IN
◇ Sharon Deanna Jordan <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Breckenridge
Carly Noel Kantrowitz	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Carlsbad NM
◇ Aidan Peter Keane <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Bandera
Kyle Lamar Keever	Bachelor of Arts	History	Ennis
Courtney Danielle Kendrick	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Red Oak
Donald Lynn Kimbrell <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	New Braunfels
Mikayla Krause	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Psychology	De Leon
Sarah Elizabeth Kruse	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Robert John LaMontagne <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Abilene
Amy Leann Lankford	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Rachel Michelle Laughlin	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Clyde
◇ Vicki Lynn Leckbee <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Wylie
Christopher Montero Lewis	Bachelor of Science	Biology	Cypress
†◇ Roderick Dale Lewis <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	San Antonio
Michael Lee Limones	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Burleson
Adam Nicholas Liuzza	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Kenner LA
◇ Joyce Ann Longenett	Bachelor of Arts	Studio Art Oceanside CA	
◇ John Mark Lopez <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Abilene
Ashley Anne Lott	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Abilene

Brendon Taylor Lowrance	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Mansfield
† Mashall Lynn Lowry <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Abilene
Ashley Dion Lozano	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	San Angelo
◇ Danny Lozano, Jr.	Bachelor of Science	Mathematics Grades 7-12	Corpus Christi
Cody Michael Lusk <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Longview
◇ Hunter Blair Lynn	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Sherman
Michael William Madrid	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
◇ Mason Rhea Malone	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Mineral Wells
Evaggelos Angelos Marmarinos <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Georgetown
Bailey Kaye Martinez	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Childress
Carlos Ricardo Martinez Hamdan	Bachelor of Science	Physics Civil/Mech Engineering Conc	Durango, Mexico
Ashley Ruth McClellan	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Midland
Chrystal McCutchen	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Abilene
Rebecca Lee McElroy	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Hawley
◇ Justice Jenee' McGowan	Bachelor of Science	All Level Physical Education	Waco
◇ Taylor Ray McLeod	Bachelor of Arts	Art Education	Abilene
◇ Shelby Jean McWilliams	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Business/Kinesiology	Cross Plains
◇ Kelsey Lynn Meyer	Bachelor of Arts	History Grades 7-12	Hawley
Jeffrey Middleton II	Bachelor of Arts	History Grades 7-12	North Hills PA
Kianni Tatianna Mitchell	Bachelor of Arts	Political Science	Abilene
◇ Kendric Rashaud Montgomery <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Lone Star
Sean Phillip Mooney	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Winters
Vanessa Marie Muniz	Bachelor of Arts	Political Science Global Learning Endorsement	Abilene
Kia Monyea Munoz	Bachelor of Arts	English	Abilene
Gwendolyn Diane Murchison	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology and Sociology	El Paso
Angelica Michelle Navarro <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Mathematics Grades 7-12	Fort Worth
◇ Kellie Renae Naylor <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Kylee Van Newberry	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Caitlyn Deeann Nicholson <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Rochester
◇ Nathan Andrew Norman <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Samantha Corin Normand	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Spearfish SD
Kendra Savannah Overstreet	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Anson
Ashlynn Brooke Pace	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Petrolia
Taylor Pelt	Bachelor of Business Administration	Entrepreneurship Global Learning Endorsement	Saginaw
Precious Kimberly Morgan Perez <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Abilene
◇ Connor Reece-Gomez Pina	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology & Sociology	Queens NY
Selene Vianeey Ramirez	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Abilene
◇ Trevin Voshon Ramirez	Bachelor of Science	All Level Physical Education	Carlsbad NM

Derrick Ramon Ray <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Richmond
Sky Elise Reynolds	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Midlothian
Taylor Lee Robertson	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Kerrville
Brittany Nicole Rodgers	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	San Antonio
◇ Kevin Dwayne Rogers	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Azle
William Lane Roye	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Fort Worth
Jillian Rudder	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
April Nadaley Ruiz	Bachelor of Business Administration	Finance	Fort Worth
Maisa Lyne Ryerson	Bachelor of Business Administration Bachelor of Arts	Marketing Psychology	Tiffin OH
Daniela Salas <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Ovalo
Matthew Santos	Bachelor of Science	Mathematics Grades 4-8	Lubbock
◇ A'lexus Marie Scott	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Kerrville
Jordan Elliott Sczech	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Spring Branch
◇ Wendy Serrano <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Dallas
Kameron Session	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Mansfield
◇ Richard Lee Shelly	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Prattville AR
◇ Jake Ethan Sims <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	All Level Physical Education	Abilene
Tyreek Michael Singleton	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Killeen
William Edward Smeltzer <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Longview
Davian Darnell Johnson Smith	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Business	Beaumont
Zackary Thomas Smothermon <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Biomedical Science	Benbrook
Julian Song <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	Computer Information Systems	Marietta GA
Blenda G. Stapleton <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Criminal Justice	Trinity
Marissa Leann Steele <i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Abilene
Marcus Allen Stephans <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	History	Abilene
Landen Kane Stephens	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Business/Psychology	Garland
Sarah Grace Stephenson	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Austin
Michael Stevens	Bachelor of Arts	English and Writing	Anson
◇ Rebecca Kathleen Stinson	Bachelor of Arts	English	Abilene
Kyle Bradley Strickland	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology and Sociology	Celina
Cody Lee Taylor <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Jacksonville NC
Colin Taylor	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Sociology	San Antonio
Dalton Lee Thomas	Bachelor of Science	Life Science	Bastrop

Ja'Corey Thomas	Bachelor of Interdisciplinary Studies	Interdisciplinary Studies Admin of Coach/Kinesiology/Criminology	Shreveport LA
Jaquay Thomas	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Magnolia
Quinton J. Thomas	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Houston
Mason Aaron Townley	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Personal & Community Fitness Conc	Duncanville
Adrain Ray Valerio, Jr.	Bachelor of Business Administration	General Business	Lubbock
Yezanyah Van Horne	Bachelor of Business Administration	Finance	Abilene
◇ Samantha Lee Vasquez-Gibbs	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
Madeline Ann Vermillion	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Arlington
Cindy Villasana <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Science	Exercise Sci & Human Performance Pre-Professional Conc	Cleburne
Brynn Ann Warnack <i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Business Administration	Management	Denton
◇ Chyna Shae Washington	Bachelor of Science	Early Childhood Education	Abilene
William Joseph Watson <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	English and Writing	Virginia Beach VA
Jennifer Ann Weatherman	Bachelor of Science	Life Sciences Grades 7-12	Abilene
Meghan Sabre Westcott	Bachelor of Science in Nursing	Nursing	Wilmington DE
Kylee Rae White <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Criminology	Mansfield
Christina Renea Williams <i>Cum Laude</i>	Bachelor of Arts	Art Education	Merkel
Jacob Thomas Williams	Bachelor of Science	Physics Civil/Mech Engineering Conc	Goldthwaite
Michael Alfred Williams, Jr.	Bachelor of Arts	Sociology	Houston
◇ Rakan Jamil Yaghmour	Bachelor of Arts	Psychology	Jeddah, Saudi Arabia

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Academic Dress

Academic regalia derive from two garments, a type of robe and a hood or head covering worn in the twelfth and thirteenth centuries. Since the clergy composed the majority of the educated class, academic dress is an adaptation of the cape that was worn for warmth in unheated buildings and in religious processions.

Through the years, great diversity in color and style of cap, gown and hood developed until 1895 when an intercollegiate code was adopted in the United States to encourage standard designs and usage. An academic costume consists of three items: the gown, the hood, and the Oxford cap or mortar board. Their sleeves easily distinguish gowns. The bachelor's gown has long pointed sleeves. The sleeves of a master's gown are oblong panels reaching nearly to the hem of the gown. A doctor's gown has full and bell-shaped sleeves which carry three horizontal bars; it also has a velvet panel extending around the neck and down the front of the hem. The velvet trim is usually black, but may be of the color associated with the degree.

Hoods for the master's and doctor's regalia are similar. The former are shorter and are trimmed with a narrower velvet band. Color of the trim of a hood identifies the wearer's degree: brown, fine arts; dark blue, philosophy; buff, business; golden yellow, science; light blue, education; orange, engineering; pink, music; apricot, nursing; white, arts and letters; and scarlet, theology. Color of the hood lining identifies the institution which conferred the degree.

The Oxford cap, commonly called the mortar board, is black and has a long tassel which is fastened by a button on the top. Doctors wear a gold tassel.

Mace

Once a familiar weapon in medieval combat, the mace evolved over time into a symbol of rulership and became associated with the pride of a nation and its origins. Later the mace was adopted by universities as a symbol of the power of the academic quest for truth and wisdom.

The mace that leads the procession is a symbol of McMurry's rich history. The base of the wooden staff holds bands signifying each president of the university. In the center of the staff lies an inlaid eagle feather symbolizing strength and purpose.

The globe of the mace captures the essence of the university. The Zuni bowl represents the Native American heritage of Dr. J.W. Hunt, McMurry's founding father, who lived on the Kaw Indian Reservation as a child. At the crest of the globe is the United Methodist cross and flame, symbolic of our strong ties and heritage within the United Methodist church.

The mace was designed and cast by Terry Gilbreth, sculptor, and a 1968 graduate of McMurry University.

Presidential Medallion

The Presidential medallion consists of the McMurry University seal displaying the founding date of 1923 in maroon. Dr. Harper's starting date of October 1, 2013, as the President of McMurry University, is engraved on the reverse side.

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Core Values of McMurry University

Christian Faith ~ as the foundation of life.

Personal Relationships ~ as the catalyst for life.

Learning ~ as the journey of life.

Excellence ~ as the goal of life.

Service ~ as the measure of life.