Kent State University
Two Hundred Seventy-Sixth
Commencement

Conferral of Degrees
August 19, 2023
The Strategic Vision of
Kent State University

Vision
To be an inclusive community whose collective commitment to learning sparks transformative thinking, meaningful voice and sustainable outcomes to better our world.

Mission
To transform lives by providing access and opportunity, fostering diverse and inclusive communities, and advancing the power of discovery, learning and creative expression.

Core Values
- A distinctive blend of teaching, research and creative excellence.
- Inquiry and discovery that expands knowledge and human understanding.
- Life-changing educational experiences for students with wide-ranging talents and aspirations.
- An inclusive environment for learning, working and living that creates a genuine sense of belonging.
- Collaborative engagement that inspires positive change across campuses, in communities and throughout the world.
- Diversity of identities, cultures, beliefs and thoughts.
- Freedom of expression and the free exchange of ideas.
- Respect, kindness and purpose in all we do.
Board of Trustees

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Academic Organization

Senior Vice President and Provost
MELODY J. TANKERSLEY

Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship
DEBORAH F. SPAKE, DEAN
College of Aeronautics and Engineering
CHRISTINA L. BLOEBAUD, DEAN
College of Applied and Technical Studies
PEGGY SHADUDD, DEAN
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College of Education, Health and Human Services
JAMES C. HANNON, DEAN

College of Nursing
VERSIE JOHNSON-MALLARD, DEAN
College of Podiatric Medicine
ALLAN M. BOIKE, DEAN
College of Public Health
SONIA A. ALEMAGNO, DEAN
Graduate College
MANFRED VAN DULMEN, DEAN
Honors College
ALISON J. SMITH, DEAN
University College
ELIZABETH PIATT, INTERIM DEAN
University Libraries
KENNETH BURHANNA, DEAN
A Message From the President

Congratulations to the Kent State University Class of 2023.

You did it!

You have persevered to the finish and achieved your academic degree. I am sure there were times when you faced challenges and hardships, but your hard work and dedication saw you through to this great accomplishment.

I hope you are leaving Kent State with many fond memories of the people, places and learning that made your educational journey rich and full.

As you go out into the world, always remember that Flashes Take Care of Flashes. Always maintain our Flashes caring spirit, treating others with kindness and respect at every turn of your life’s journey.

On behalf of the entire Kent State community, I again extend our heartfelt congratulations to our graduates and your families. This is a time to celebrate the realization of your dream. You have earned it!

Please know that the entire campus community is proud of you and continues to cheer for you on your future beyond Kent State. We can’t wait to see how you are going to change the world.

Flashes Forever!

Sincerely,

Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President
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Order of Exercises

Undergraduate Degree Ceremony
Manchester Field
August 19, 2023
10 a.m.

Welcome
Taléa R. Drummer-Ferrell, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

Call to Order
Tracy Laux
Macebearer

National Anthem

Introductions
Taléa R. Drummer-Ferrell, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

Trustee Welcome
Member of Kent State University’s Board of Trustees

President’s Welcome
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

Commencement Address
Lamar Hylton, Ph.D.

Recognition of Honors
Presented by:
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost

Conferral of Undergraduate Degrees
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost
Presiding

Degrees Conferred by:
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President
Presentation of the Class of 2023
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

Closing Remarks
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

Alma Mater

Graduate Recessional and Presentation of Diplomas
Assisted by:
Chris Dorsten
Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and University Registrar

Special Thanks to our

Pianists
String Quartet
Vocalists from the School of Music

Volunteers and Event Staff:
Commencement Committee
Community Members
Faculty Marshals
Students
Staff
Order of Exercises

Advanced Degree Ceremony
Manchester Field
August 19, 2023
2 p.m.

Welcome
Taléa R. Drummer-Ferrell, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

Call to Order
Tracy Laux
Macebearer

National Anthem

Introductions
Taléa R. Drummer-Ferrell, Ph.D.
Associate Vice President for Student Life and Dean of Students

Trustee Welcome
Member of Kent State University’s Board of Trustees

President’s Welcome
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

Commencement Address
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost

Special Recognitions
Presented by:
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost

Conferral of Doctoral Degrees
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost
Presiding

Degrees Conferred by:
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President
PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL RECIPIENTS
Assisted by:
Chris Dorsten
Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and University Registrar

Hooded by:
Deans of the Colleges and Students’ Advisors

Music by:
Hugh A. Glauser School of Music String Quartet

CONFERRAL OF MASTER’S AND EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST DEGREES
Melody J. Tankersley, Ph.D.
Senior Vice President and Provost
Presiding

Degrees Conferred by:
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

PRESENTATION OF MASTER’S AND EDUCATIONAL SPECIALIST RECIPIENTS
Assisted by:
College Deans

CLOSING REMARKS
Todd A. Diacon, Ph.D.
President

ALMA MATER

GRADUATE RECESSIONAL AND PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS
Assisted by:
Chris Dorsten
Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management and University Registrar

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR
Pianists
String Quartet
Vocalists from the School of Music
Volunteers and Event Staff:
Commencement Committee
Community Members
Faculty Marshals
Students
Staff
Commencement Speaker
Lamar R. Hylton, Ph.D.

Lamar R. Hylton, Ph.D., first came to Kent State University on June 1, 2017, to serve as the dean of students. He recently concluded his service to the university as the senior vice president for the Division of Student Life and has the distinction of being the first Black vice president for student life in the history of Kent State. He is personally invested in giving back to the students he serves as he works toward impacting academic achievement, college satisfaction and student success.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Hylton received his bachelor’s degree in vocal music-performance from Morgan State University; his master’s degree in college student personnel from Ohio University; and a doctorate in higher education administration from Morgan State. He is a product of the Upward Bound Program and is a first-generation college graduate three times over. He is currently active in numerous civic and professional organizations, including serving on the Board of Directors of NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education; chair of the Council on Student Affairs for the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities; and is a proud member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. Hylton also is a graduate of the Institute for Educational Management at Harvard University.

Hylton is the proud husband of Rhonda Hylton, Ph.D., who is a tenure-track assistant professor in Kent State’s College of Education, Health and Human Services. They are the proud parents of two amazing children Emilee and Madison.

The Kent State community is grateful for his leadership in advancing students first and wishes him well as he joins Indiana University Bloomington as vice provost for student life on Sept. 5.
Cum Laude
Graduation With Honors

Honors are awarded to those students with an average of at least 3.500 to 3.699 on a 4.000 scale. Graduates who achieve Cum Laude have earned blue Institutional honor cords.

Brianna Barbara Alfieri
Adam Reid Bell
Brett Robert Bodensteiner
Joseph Benjamin Bohbot
Ryan E. Boyle
Pamela L. Braeutigam
Christy J. Cecil
Hannah Codner
Jessica Ann Copeland
Rylee Kennedy Davis
N’yah Lee Davis
Thomas Frank Donadio
Hayden Charles Edwards
Nora C. Erdman
Logan P. Fedorchak
Zoe Elena Flate
Celina Rose Fojas
Samantha Lea Glowacki
Sophie Ruth Greff
Katarina Lindsay Guenther
Jacob Howard Hansen
Alaina Mackenzie Henry
Raini Kay Hershey
Allison Elizabeth Hill
Andrew Michael Jacobs
Tyler Parker Kelly
Makayla Renee Kennerly
Megan Nicole Kinsey
Peyton E. Knight
J’Khari Ahshaune Lamar
Megan L. Landis
Madeline Claire Luxon

Maya Anais McDaniel
Nicole D. Miller
Hind Moufakkir
Matthew Lawrence Musso
Daniel Richard O’Connor
Olivia Ellen Paoletti
Carmia Rose Parsons
Raven Leigh Pence
Emma McGowan Pintar
Evan Matthew Pomeraning
Ivy Jeanne Quinn
Tia Esther Sahlani
Michael John Schoeppner
Alexa Paige Sepesky
Anthony J. Shamatta
Ariel Kaye Smathers
Bonnie S. Somogyi
Caleb Thomas Sowash
Michael Allen Stanley
Robert Wayne Steffy
Jessica E. Sweitzer
Dean William Tunberg
Elizabeth Angela Vernon
Athena Jean-Genevieve Vohs
Emily Jennifer Walker
Audrey Mayle White
Chance Philip Wilging
Kyle Young
Magna Cum Laude
Graduation With High Honors

High honors are awarded to those students with an average of at least 3.700 to 3.899 on a 4.000 scale. Graduates who achieve Magna Cum Laude have earned gold Institutional honor cords.

Lilian Adelle Abdoo
Mohamed Abdirizak Ali
Jack Michael Betz
Justin Mark Blyer
Delaney Rose Pierce Boggs
Isabelle Rose Bosler
Olivia Margaret Bouma-Hannam
Brian Robert Brenner
Lisa Careless
Kane Allen Claflin
Victor Everett Como
Caylee Ann Croskey
Daniella de Castro
Cody Daniel DeGordon
Kerri Ann Donaldson
Emily Frances Endlish
Emma Parker Fandray
Lucas Mark Goldsmith
Lauryn Kathryn Groves
Grant Larkin Hagler
Liam Rob Haney
Colby Mark Hartzler
Heidi Louise Hauck
Sydney Taylor Iceman
Makayla Grace Kearns
Samantha B. Kiger
Nathan Brady Leap
Marissa Rose Lee
Matthew David Loeffler
Zachary Brice Manzella
Hannah E. Michael
Margaret Ann Moffitt
Carlota Isabel Moritz
Lena Christine Murauskas
Lia YuQiu Neuenschwander
Hannah Nordby
Safwan Nafeur Rahman
Sally Ann Saindon
Casey Nichole Santoro
Lara Anne Schaffer
George Joseph Simon
Kylie Jean Snyder
Kelsea Jean Terry
Braelyn Nicole Turek
Haley Winter Van Cura
Marissa Mae Vasatka
Annberlyne M. Vaughn
Katherine Maria Vermes
Katherine E. Volz
Reja Bushra Wasty
Katherine Ellen Weaver
Brayden Nicholas Wikoff
Eryn Catherine Yoder
Summa Cum Laude
Graduation With Highest Honors

Highest honors are awarded to those students with an average of at least 3.900 on a 4.000 scale. The asterisk (*) indicates those students who have maintained a 4.000 grade point average. Graduates who achieve Summa Cum Laude have earned blue and gold Institutional honor cords.

Victoria Elise Austin          Valerie Ong
Evan Michael Bainbridge       Ritika Suresh Patel
Jenna Claire Bal              Justin Thomas Politzer*
Kaitlynn A. Bamler            Marikate Elizabeth Roscoe
Michael Blaser                MacKenzie N. Rouse
Haley M. Brenner*             

Paul-Gregg Pascua Cinko       Natalie Laura Timmerman*
Allison G. Conkey             Shannon Trenta Kolm

Cody Decker                   Olivia Rose Weingartner
Annika Elise Dudik
William D. Dzenowski*

Kari Amanda Evans             
Keri Grace Fabrizi
Mackenzie Mae Fadorsen
Christian Michael Fair

Danielle Grace Gallant        
Torrance Grace Gaskins
Keaton Lynn Grabarczyk

Alissa Hellstrom*             
Jordan Alexandra Herceg
Aisley Lyn Herndon
Monica Ann Holzapfel*
Jocelyn Janay Hughes*

Saiomkar K. Iyer              
Reba Lin Kocher                
Tyler Michael Lee              
Carolyn R. Marquis
Michael Jarrett Miller

Olivia Grace Nagy
Candidates for associate degrees who demonstrate high levels of scholarship through their coursework will graduate With Distinction. The designation With Distinction is awarded when students achieve a minimum 3.500 GPA for all undergraduate coursework at Kent State University. Graduates who achieve With Distinction have earned white Institutional honor cords.

Julie Amber Barton
Danielle Rose Bowyer
Isaiah David Brazofsky
John James Brutvan

Nicolette Taylee Ellis-Corle

Carley Jean Horner

Clay Keeley

Emily Ann Luyster

Heather May
Troy James McAuliff
Lilac Angeloe Metzger
Kendall Olivia Myers

Evan Grant Siedel

Landon Michael Wicks
Madelyn Kay Williams
Students in the Honors College, having completed a senior honors project or thesis in their major field, and having evidenced exceptional academic performance, have fulfilled requirements for graduation with University, General or Departmental Honors.

**General Honors**

**Katarina Lindsay Guenther**  
Fashion Design  
Thesis Title: “Scoby Leather”  
Advisor: Linda Ohrn

**Departmental Honors**

**Torrance Grace Gaskins**  
Anthropology and French  
Thesis Title: “Cannabinoid Receptor Type 1 (CB1) Densities in Monogamous and Non-monogamous New World Monkeys”  
Advisor: Mary Ann Raghanti
The Honors College

Alison J. Smith, Ph.D., Dean

Honors students who have met grade and course requirements graduate as Honors College Scholars.

Ambassador Crawford
College of Business and Entrepreneurship
Sahil P. Patel

College of Aeronautics and Engineering
Olivia Margaret Bouma-Hannam
Katherine E. Volz

College of the Arts
Ava M. Chemero
Samantha B. Kiger
Madilyn O. Lococo
Sofia Linnea Lopez
Ivy Jeanne Quinn
Marissa Mae Vasatka

College of Communication and Information
Jenna Claire Bal
Aiden S. Hooper
Natalie Laura Timmerman
Haley Winter Van Cura

College of Education, Health and Human Services
Danielle Grace Gallant
Liam Rob Haney

College of Nursing
Sofia Nolan DeGirolamo
Jessica Lynn Vari
Ethan Seth Wagner

College of Arts and Sciences
Sarah Elizabeth Clark
Richard James Dell
Annika Elise Dudik
Emma Parker Fandray
Samantha Lea Glowacki
Corryn N. McHugh
Eryn Catherine Yoder
The Honors College
Alison J. Smith, Ph.D., Dean

PHI BETA KAPPA

Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s most prestigious honor society, was founded in 1776 by students at the College of William & Mary who recognized the importance of a liberal education as the foundation of participation in a democratic society. Phi Beta Kappa recognizes students who have achieved excellence in all aspects of their education, and who have a strong background in the liberal arts and sciences, mathematics and a foreign language. Fewer than 1% of students across the nation are elected to Phi Beta Kappa annually. The Kent State University chapter was established in 1976, and each year the Phi Beta Kappa faculty members elect juniors and seniors who have met the high standards of excellence of the society.

Membership degree candidates include:

Annika Elise Dudik
Torrance Grace Gaskins
Ambassador Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship

Deborah F. Spake, Ph.D., Dean

Doctor of Philosophy

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Eric Michael Curley
Dissertation Title: “A Comprehensive Model of Group Engagement with Technology”
Dissertation Director: Greta Polites

Joseph Mahboub Hashem
Dissertation Title: “An Examination of the Impact Regulatory News Announcements have on Firms Vested in the Cryptocurrency Market”
Dissertation Directors: Shunlan Fang and R. Drew Sellers

Cheryl-lyn Ngoh
Dissertation Title: “The Effect of Retailer Channel Decisions on Consumer Channel Shopping Behavior”
Dissertation Director: Chris Groening

Saurabh Singh
Dissertation Title: “AI-Powered Embodied Conversational Agents. The Joint Impact of Form Realism and Interactions on Liking”
Dissertation Director: Robert Jewell

Aten Kwame Zaandam
Dissertation Title: “CEO Characteristics as Antecedents to Firm Strategy and Resource Allocation”
Dissertation Director: Jennifer Wiggins

Matthew D. Francescon
Asha Nadine Fumi-Fiamawle

James E. Gray
Jenna Marie Gregory
Todd Anthony Grether
Abbrielle Pearson Jones

Jennifer Lynn Lamboy
Matthew Mangano
Alfred Andrew Mason III
Rosalyln Miranda-Marin
Salima Musbah
Elizabeth Mary Philibin

Nikhil Kumar Sampath
Thomas Dale Scarberry II
Abhinav Thupili
Harish Kumar Uddandi

Master of Science in Accounting

Brittany Sue Gonzalez
Jessica Green
Osaid Saed Qaraqish

Bachelor of Business Administration

Madelyne Oseiwah Anim
Jason Michael Anzaldi
Adrian P. Asimou

Jason Stephen Balaban
Ethan Ronald Barry
Ghahah Bin Ati
Rylee Nicole Brown

Cheryl K. Cannon
Joseph H. Clarke
Theresa L. Clere
Lauren E. Clifton
Alan Joseph Cook
Joshua Birks Coyne
Jacob R. Crissman

Parker Louis Darah
Julia Rose DiPaolo
Thomas Frank Donadio Jr.
Alex Leland Douds

Keri Grace Fabrizi
Nicholas Edward Fallaro
Noah Jacob Fayak
Gabrielle M. Filing
Asia Marie Flynn
Alexia Gangos

Master of Science

Nikhil Reddy Addula
Zachariah Alex
Snehitha Anpur
Pavan Chaithanya Bommadevara
Shashidhar Reddy Boreddy
Hannah Elise Cronin
Venkata Naga Siddartha Gutha
Kiran Kour
Khutso Ledwaba
Wan Liu
Tongxiang Lu
Gowtham Chakri Mallepaka
Abinaya Sundari Panneerselvam

Nikhil Kumar Sampath
Thomas Dale Scarberry II
Abhinav Thupili
Harish Kumar Uddandi

Master of Science

Master of Science in Accounting

Bachelor of Business Administration
Emily Elizabeth Hasson
Joshua Allen Hogue
Anne M. Hornyak
Tanner Christopher Howard
Marissa Marie Hunt
Logan Mitchell Jacobs
Isiah Johnson
Michael J. Kadair
Sony Hans Kipre
Mckenna Kayleen Kocin-Montes
Daniel John Leitholf
Julian Levinson
Gianna M. Lopiccolo
Zachary Brice Manzella
Andrea Marino
Julia Eileen Mazzotti
Matea Milisic
Michael Jarrett Miller
Trenton Edward Mills
Blake Edward Mitchell

Anna Elizabeth Nelson

Bissan Obaid
Valerie Ong

Egypt Marie Pampley
David Parrott
Sahil P. Patel
Alexis Elizabeth Petrisko
Evan Matthew Pomeraning
Peyton Elizabeth Prall

Savannah M. Quinn

Jordan Randall
Nicholas Eugene Reeder
Kathleen Rose Reilly

Casey Nicole Santoro
Michael Francis Scaravelli Jr.
Sophia Andrea Schilling
Katherine Elizabeth Seibert
Alexa Paige Sepesky
Jeremy David Simmons
Donald Joseph Snyder
Molly Jean Stitt
Edward Howard Suber IV

Tyler Matthew Turkovich

Hailey Raniya Vaughn
Zyan Jeramiah Vazquez
Caleb Adam Walters
Olivia Rose Weingartner
Hunter Alderson Weston
Spencer Patrick Whelan
McKenzie Wilber
Samuel Harold Wilson
Eric Dean Wintle

Adam John Yossef
Kyle Young
Tyler Michael Zak
Doctor of Philosophy
AEROSPACE ENGINEERING

Chao Huang
Dissertation Title: “Human-Inspired Fast and Customized Learning for Safe Distributed Robots Teaming”
Dissertation Director: Rui Liu

Master of Science
Zachery S. Fitzgerald

Bachelor of Science
Jack Michael Betz
Michael Blaser
Brett Robert Bodensteiner
Brian John Boehmer II
Isabelle Rose Bosler
Olivia Margaret Bouma-Hannam
Joel Teater Casey
Paul-Gregg Pascua Cinko
Kane Allen Claflin
Kyle Noah Cory
Claudia Cozan
Cody Daniel DeGordon
Hayden Charles Edwards
Logan P. Fedorchak
Nathan Thomas Foltz
Jett Hinton Frazier
Lucas Mark Goldsmith
Grant Larkin Hagler
Tyler Andrew Hayes
Brennan Zachary Hosier
Saiomkar K. Iyer
Andrew Michael Jacobs
Elliott Henry Johnson

Tyler Parker Kelly
Nicole Denise Koch
Trenton Robert Martin
John Anthony Marzula III
Derek Michael McCarthy
Tyler Joseph McKern
Emily Kathryn Milosevic
Griffin Ryan Mohney
Carlota Isabel Moritz
Andreas J. Oberheim
Aris Pecchia
Jonathon James Pechatsko
Emma McGowan Pintar
Brandon T. Poage
Charles L. Purcell
Kyle Scott Rediger
Jonathan Rivera
Austin Michael Rolfe
Sydnie Marie Schwenk
Caleb Thomas Sowash
Logan Alexander Spencer
Larissa Ann Sperk
Matthew Jacob Stanek
Robert Wayne Steffy
Richard Karl Lange Underwood
Matthew Ryan Van Brunt
Katherine E. Volz
Chance Philip Wilging
Bachelor of Radiologic and Imaging Sciences
Heidi Louise Hauck

Bachelor of Science
Dustin Donald Crosby
Alexander Nicholas Denney
Sebastian Frederick Hanlin
Jordan Ray Kirkman
Carolyn R. Marquis
Maya Anais McDaniel
Curtis Joseph Parker
Benjamin Joseph Potter
Freda M. Robinson
Antonio Charles Ventresca

Bachelor of Science in Information Technology
Mohamed Abdirizak Ali
Adam Reid Bell
Thiago R. Ciuba
Jackie M. Cruz
Cody Decker
William D. Dzenowski
Tyler Michael Lee
MacKenzie N. Rouse
George Joseph Simon
John Nicholas Smith
Bonnie S. Somogyi
Brendan Lee Stoneburner

Bachelor of Technical and Applied Studies
Courtney Lynn Dawson
Stephanie T. Dietelbach
Hind Moufakkir
Nicholas Jon Pedaline
Sarah Christine Ruane
Deborah L. Schrock

Associate of Applied Business
Danielle Rose Bowyer
Alexa S. Brace
Alec Daniel Burkholder
Hanna Rane Carden
Eli David Carty
Amber Lee Demko
Cassy R. Donaldson
Taylor M. Fehn
Robert Patrick Granny III
Buddy L. Holiday
Carley Jean Horner
Miguel Howell
Jesse A. Kehres
Kristen Medure
Lilac Angeloie Metzger
Lindsay Mae Montague
Paige Violet Musarra
Jennifer Noga
Fernando Henry Andre Wanton III
Alexia L. Williams

Associate of Applied Science
Bethany Marie Avramaut
Adrienne Tramaine Barnes
Julie Amber Barton
Kiersten Dawn Bichard
Meganne Renae Boyd
Isaiah David Brazovsky
John James Brutvan
Justin Michael Croll
Amanda Fay Crum
Rebecca Jean DeLoach
Erik S. Doran
Cheyenne Dubia
Leah Ann Dunlevy
Ashley J. Frattali
Kenyetta Frazier
Jennifer Geig
Dianne Nichole Goodbar
Brenna Elizabeth Hagerdon
Angelaca M. Haywood-Tate
Alyssa Nicole Incarnato
Cari Ann Johns
Lametou Rahma Kangouline
Logan Parker Katzman
Clay Keeley
Allysen Tamarrar Kimble
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Shyenne Autumn Miller
Kyle James O’Donnell
College of the Arts

Diane Helfers Petrella, D.M.A., Dean

Doctor of Philosophy

MUSIC THEORY - COMPOSITION

Kevin Alexander Wilson
Dissertation Title: "Part 1 – Concerto for Erhu and String Orchestra, Part 2 – Confluence of Culture: Analysis of Two Indonesian Works for Orchestra"
Dissertation Director: Adam Roberts and Josh Albrecht

Master of Arts

Cody Allen Knepper

Kevin Alexander Wilson

Master of Music

Shannen Billie

Emily Ann Chapman
Molly Ann Clark
Jaime Dever
Julie Ann Fairless
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Elliott Steven Hawks
Grace Elizabeth Jerasa
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Connor Leland Ruppelt
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Bachelor of Music

Stephen Christian Stavnicky

Bachelor of Science

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College of Arts and Sciences
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Doctor of Philosophy

APPLIED MATHEMATICS

Jordyn Taylor Stoll
Dissertation Title: "Macro and Micronutrient Effects on Stream Biofilm and Lake Phytoplankton Communities"
Dissertation Director: David Costello

BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES - ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTIONARY BIOLOGY

Sayoni Dutta
Dissertation Title: "Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Water: Occurrence, Removal, and Impacts on Microbiomes and Invertebrates"
Dissertation Directors: Xiaozhen Mou and Laura G. Leff

Katherine McNamara Manning
Dissertation Title: "Evaluating Biases in Biodiversity Sampling of Insects in Managed Environments"
Dissertation Director: Christie Bahlai

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES – CELLULAR AND MOLECULAR BIOLOGY

Lia Gavazzi
Dissertation Title: "Evolutionary and Developmental Novelty in Cetacean Limbs and Tail Flukes"
Dissertation Directors: Hans Thewissen and Lisa Cooper

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Dissertation Title: "Essential Oils from Monarda fistulosa: Chemical Composition and Activation of Transient Receptor Potential A1 (TRPA1) Channels"
Dissertation Directors: Derek S. Damron and Gary Koski

Wesam Omran M. Nofal
Dissertation Title: "Basis for the Essential Role of the Mammal-Specific Protein Phosphatase Isoform PP1γ2 in Sperm"
Dissertation Director: Srinivasan Vijayaraghavan

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES – NEUROSCIENCES

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Dissertation Title: "Tracing the Effects of Alzheimer's Disease Across Sensory Circuits"
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Timothy Douglas Niepokny
Dissertation Title: "The Cannabinoid System Regulates Circadian Clock Function"
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Dissertation Title: "Pharmaceuticals and Personal Care Products in Water: Occurrence, Removal, and Impacts on Microbiomes and Invertebrates"
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Amit Kumar Bhowmick
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Dissertation Director: Philip Bos

CHEMISTRY

Sudeshi Madushani Abbedeera Liyana Patabendige
Dissertation Title: "Investigation of The Roles of Nucleotide Modifications And Their Respective Modification Enzymes on Bacterial Ribosome Assembly and Eukaryotic Epitranscriptomic Regulation"
Dissertation Director: Sanjaya Abeysingunawardena

CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY

Tyler Kuhn
Dissertation Title: "The Role of Resilience in Predicting Mental Health, Behavior, and Protective Factors During the Covid-19 Pandemic"
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Dissertation Title: "Experiences of Childhood Adversity and Racial Discrimination Among Black Young Adults"
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Muhammad Hassan Bin Afzal
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Dissertation Title: “Impacts from Intentional and Incidental Online Health Information Seeking and eHealth Literacy on Shared Decision-Making and Information Avoidance Among Diabetic Patients”
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Doctor of Education

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Dissertation Title: “Assessing Confidence in an Early Professional Athletic Trainer Through an Onboarding Program: A Case Study”
Dissertation Director: Kimberly S. Peer

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Dissertation Title: “Athletic Training Students’ Achievement Goal Orientation Effect on Evaluation Scores and Transition to Practice”
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Dissertation Title: “Understanding the Ways Teachers are Influenced in Their Curricular and Instructional Decision-Making Processes in a Freshman Level Mathematics Class”
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Doctor of Philosophy

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Dissertation Title: “A Pastoral Journey of Faith, Education, and the Common Good”
Dissertation Director: Natasha Levinson

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Dissertation Title: “The impact of Teachers’ Gender on Reading Achievement and School Enrollment and Attendance for Male Primary students in Saudi Arabia”
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Dissertation Director: Kristine Pytash

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Dissertation Director: Denise N. Morgan

Meghan Ashley Valerio
Dissertation Title: “Negotiations, Enactments, and Cultural Constructs During Guided Reading: A Case Study of a Third Grade Classroom Community”
Dissertation Directors: Timothy Rasinski and William P. Bintz

Lauren Ann Vogel
Dissertation Directors: William Bintz and Todd Hawley

EDUCATION ADMINISTRATION – HIGHER EDUCATION

Meredith A. Bielaska
Dissertation Title: “Finding Family: The Experiences of Transgender Students on Gender-Based Membership and Resiliency in College”
Dissertation Director: Tara D. Hudson

Shari Snyder Pollack
Dissertation Title: “An Interpretative Phenomenological Analysis Study of How Black Medical Students Who Identify as Women Experience Hidden Curriculum During Their Preclinical Years of Medical Education”
Dissertation Director: Christa Porter

EVALUATION AND MEASUREMENT

Ahlam Saeed Z. Alghamdi
Dissertation Title: “Evaluation of Media and Technology-Related Attitudes and Behaviors Among University Students in Saudi Arabia”
Dissertation Director: Jian Li

Hamada Alzoubi
Dissertation Title: “Using Eye-Tracking and Pupillometry to Understand the Impact of Auditory and Visual Noise on Speech Perception”
Dissertation Director: Jennifer M. Roche
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Patrick M. Tomko
Dissertation Title: “Hemodynamic Changes After Exercise-Induced Muscle Damage Between Voluntary or Stimulated Isometric Contractions in the Knee Extensors”
Dissertation Director: John McDaniel

RESEARCH, MEASUREMENT AND STATISTICS
David K. Putman
Dissertation Title: “Predictive Models of Student Performance in Podiatric Medical School Across Four Stages of Development: Matriculation Through Residency Match”
Dissertation Director: Jason Schenker

SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
Heather Darlene Salvo
Dissertation Title: “Challenge and Threat Appraisals of Preschool-Age Children Who Stutter”
Dissertation Directors: Hayley S. Arnold and Sloane Burgess

Educational Specialist
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Master of Arts
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Miranda Skylar Evans
Alexander Jayson Forster
Danielle Grace Gallant
Emily Ann Graham
Liam Rob Haney
Roshun L. Harper
Raini Kay Hershey
Alexander Joseph Horton
Asiana Sharnee Jackson
Makayla Renee Kennerly
Chase Kern
Connor D. Knabe
Michael Christian Lawrence
Nathan Brady Leap
Brooke Ashley Linton

Hannah E. Michael
Zachary Thomas Morton
Olivia Grace Nagy
Robert Newsome
Daniel Richard O’Connor
Emilee R. Parker
Alexius Elizabeth Payne
Abby J. Powell
Raechelle Powell
Sydnee Marie Raines
Cameron Wayne Rogers
Thomas Wade Ruggles
Lauren Nicole Sanders
Luke Steven Schiopota
Samantha Olivia Schwab
Anastasia Alisa Selkirk
Leah Simpson
Hannah Beatrice Skinner
Autumn Marie Suhre
Nathan William Ulbrich
Tyler Lynn Ward
Courtney Alicia Winn
Taylor Marie Wise
Michael George Wright
Matthew Richard Zaremski

Bachelor of Science in Education
Madison Rose Bish
Nicholas W. Common
Sibyl Nicole Henline
Anastasia Alisa Selkirk
Samuel William Timmons
Maria A. Tirabassi
# College of Nursing

Versie Johnson-Mallard, Ph.D., Dean

## Master of Science in Nursing

Stephanie Ann Yatsu-Patterson

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Ian G. Kausch</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bliss Elizabeth Knight</td>
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<td>Andrea Elizabeth Koberlein</td>
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<tr>
<td>Reba Lin Kocher</td>
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<td>Irene Kotyk</td>
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Ethan Seth Wagner

Emily Jennifer Walker

Amy Marie Warchal

Kaylin Nichole Westbrook

Audrey Mayle White

## Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Brianna Barbara Alfieri

<table>
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<tr>
<td>Natalie Rae Barker</td>
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<td>Hope Tylesh Brown</td>
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<td>Ryleigh Addison Brown</td>
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<td>Saddi I. Brown</td>
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<td>Lisa Careless</td>
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<td>Kari A. Cargnel</td>
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<td>Robert Kristofer Carroll</td>
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<td>Hannah Coblentz</td>
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<td>Hannah Codner</td>
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<td>Kennady Elise Crayne</td>
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<td>Angel Dong</td>
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<td>Cassandra Michelle Duplin</td>
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Clara Vivianne Lemmon

Lisa Lightfoot

Carmen A. Lillie-Ford

Mallory Melissa Malmer

Jennifer I. Marsh

Tori L. Martinez

Baylee Claire McCandless

Aubrianna Noel Mellott

Matthew Lawrence Musso

Hannah Nordby

Tatum E. Nye

Chelsea Eileen Ohler

Olivia Ellen Paoletti

Ritika Suresh Patel

Raven Leigh Pence

Lindsay Marie Phillips

Renee Sue Pike

Liliana Nokomis Pocock

Katherine Poorman

Safwan Nafeur Rahman

Gabriella Diane Schimmels

Carly Renee Schneiders

Aeriel Kaye Smathers

Alexa Marie Snyder

Alexandra Juliana Sommer

Jared Matthew Squire

Danielle Christina Suiter

Jessica E. Swetzter

Nathan Lee Taggart

Shannon Trenta Kolm

Jessica Lynn Vari
College of Public Health
Sonia A. Alemagno, Ph.D., Dean

Doctor of Philosophy
PUBLIC HEALTH

Neda R. Kasim
Dissertation Title: “Human Papillomavirus (HPV) Related Cancer Risk and Survival Among Arab Americans: The Impact of Marital Status”
Dissertation Director: Madhav Bhatta

Michael J. Oravec
Dissertation Director: Jonathan VanGeest

Master of Public Health

Chelsea Marie Adams
Maryam Ahmed
Narjis A. Alghorab
Dockota Claude Bartlett-Wynter
Christina M. Berardinelli
Derek Brockway
Danny Lamar Campbell
Emily Christine Canaday
Jenna Lee Cannon
Giulia Cerasi
De'Ann Arneal Cobbs
John Dalomba
Corey Matthew Davis
Bhargav Doddala
Kierra Catherine Barbara Dooley
Kristy M. Dopp
Ciara Ann Douglass
Tara Ferman
Jhni R. Fleming
Valerie Marie Fletcher
Ireland Sean Flores Rae

Nikkiann Giaimo
Sarah Elizabeth Gilbert

Brandi Gray
Tatum N. Grover
Andrea L. Huff
Carson Isaac
Tuma M. Jaber
Trent Michael Judis
Nicole S Keith-Biagas
Mar-Qilia T'Vett Kelly
Stephanie Phillips King
Noelle Kosela
Jessica Allison Lee
Anna Leininger
Trevor Dean Mathey
Delaney Catherine McConaha
Mariah McGee
Mairead Elise Miklos
Harsh Mishra
Shelbi Marlena Netzband
Annakay Anna Alecia Newell
Okechukwu Daniel Onwuka
Jay S. Patel
Angel Alyssa Powell
Sara Puracchio
Keira Nicole Rathsock
Sinclair Hae Sook Robinson
Randall C. Ruszkowski
Morgan Francis Sperling
Janay Patricia Strayton
Lydia-Ashleigh Thornton
Olga Volkova
Anna Meredith Wachter
Viola Webber

Master of Science

Anupa Gottipati
Arianna M. Lionetti
Omkar Subhash Pawar
Jorge Silva Ferrera

Bachelor of Science in Public Health

Kelli Logan Baxter
Yahnnai Leslie Clipps
Sierra Teresa Corbett
N’yah Lee Davis
Shayla M. Davis
Nazli Aydin Durm
Nora C. Erdman
Natasha Marie Goldsby
Paige Melissa Goodrich
Angles Limun Karnag
Brooke Lillianna Pember
Molli Inez Peroglio
Rachel L. Perry
Tameacko A. Preston
Logan Lauren Raymond
Marikate Elizabeth Roscoe
Tara Monquia Simmons
Alice Jamie Stevenson
Elisabeth E. Swaney
Kamara Kaylyne West
Alexis Greer Wilson
Madison Lynn Wimmer
Kent State University Legacy Graduates

These students carry on the tradition of family members who are Kent State University alumni.

Savanna Katherine Ansley
Jordan Elizabeth Archer
Marzuka Tasneem Khan Ayeshey

Adrienne Tramaine Barnes
Adam Reid Bell
Ellie Marie Benedict
Christina M. Berardinelli
Isabelle Catherine Beres
Amy Rose Bisesi
Joseph Benjamin Bohbot
Brian Robert Brenner
Haley M. Brenner
Hope Tyleah Brown
Elsa Miller Byler

Katelyn Elizabeth Caswell
Giulia Cerasi
Katherine Ava Chaney
Sarah Renee Chlysta
Delaney Maureen Connor
Amanda Cooper
Joshua Birks Coyne

Courtney Marie Davian
Bridget Ann DeJesus
Morgan Taylor Dorsky
Megan Olivia Dugger
Nazli Aydin Dum

Taylor Nicole Ellman
Courtney Nicole Englheart
Nora C. Erdman

Nicholas Edward Fallaro
Nicole Jean Giuliano
Virgilio Anthony Glorioso
Brianna Vivian Gooden
Samantha Gossett
Jenna Marie Gregory
Jessica Grossman

Kaitlin E. Hards
Roshan L. Harper
Maggie Jane Harris
Zachary Seth Harrison
Sibyl Nicole Henline
Alaina Mackenzie Henry
Colleen Ann Holby
Hannah Leigh Holzopfel

Jessica L. Hrubik
Jocelyn Janay Hughes
Jeremy M. Jarzemback
Charmae Johnson
Nathalia Joucoski Teixeira

Jakayla Grace Kearns
Peter Serik Keating
Jacob William Keller
Makayla Renee Kennerly
Wasomi Tigela Khewa
Logan M. Kiser
Ashley Kaytlyn Kistler
Melanie Elizabeth Komlenic
Alex Michael Konic
Kiran Kour

Sarah Marie Maida
Tori L. Martinez
Trevor Dean Mathey
Glenn Lenal Matlock Jr.
Aubrianna Noel Mellott
Margaret Ann Moffitt

Olivia Grace Nagy
Bissan Obaid
Celia G. Ohnman
Michael J. Oravec

Emily Ann Pack
Stefanie Paganini
Liliana Nokomis Pocock
Evan Matthew Pomeraning
Jeremy J. Poparad
Aisha Nicole Price

Osaied Saed Qaraqish
Jordan C. Randall
Mamoni Ray
Brandon Lee Reedy

Luke Steven Schiopota
Carly Renee Schneiders
Katherine Elizabeth Seibert
Olivia Natalie Shagla
Hannah Beatrice Skinner
Alexander Matthew Snowberger
Alexa Marie Snyder

Shari Snyder Pollack
Terran N. Stacey
Samantha Taylor Steinbrenner
Brendan Lee Stoneburner

Nathan Lee Taggart
Lydia-Ashleigh Thornton
Jayden Allen Toomer

Hailey Raniya Vaughn
Elizabeth Angela Vernon
Lauren A. Vogel

Anna Meredith Wachter
Emily Jennifer Walker
Kathleen Elizabeth Wayt
Viola Webber
Alexis Greer Wilson
Kevin Alexander Wilson
Taylor Marie Wise

James C. Yarbrough
Eryn Catherine Yoder
Commissioning of Officers for the Armed Forces

Commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Armed Forces of the United States

UNITED STATES ARMY
Lillian M. Baechle
Jaxon T. Buike
John Nicholas Smith
## Summary of Candidates for Degrees

**Kent State University**

**Summer 2023**

### ASSOCIATE DEGREES

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>Associate of Technical Studies</td>
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### BACHELOR DEGREES

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<td>Bachelor of Fine Arts</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Integrative Studies</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Radiology and Imaging Sciences</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Information Technology</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Science in Public Health</td>
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<td>Bachelor of Technical and Applied Studies</td>
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GRADUATE DEGREES

Doctor of Audiology ........................................................................... 0
Doctor of Education ............................................................................ 5
Doctor of Nursing Practice ................................................................. 0
Doctor of Philosophy ......................................................................... 62
Doctor of Podiatric Medicine .............................................................. 0
Educational Specialist .......................................................................... 1
Master of Architecture .......................................................................... 2
Master of Arts ....................................................................................... 57
Master of Arts in Economics ................................................................. 0
Master of Arts in Teaching ................................................................... 2
Master of Business Administration ...................................................... 24
Master of Digital Sciences ................................................................... 0
Master of Education ............................................................................ 52
Master of Engineering Technology ....................................................... 0
Master of Fashion Industry Studies ..................................................... 0
Master of Fine Arts ............................................................................... 1
Master of Geographic Information Science ....................................... 6
Master of Healthcare Design ............................................................... 0
Master of Landscape Architecture ..................................................... 0
Master of Liberal Studies ................................................................... 0
Master of Library and Information Science ....................................... 37
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<td>Master of Urban Design</td>
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**SUMMARY**

<table>
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<th>Level</th>
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<td>Doctorate</td>
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<td>Total</td>
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Identification of the hood and robe as academic apparel is believed to have originated at the English universities of Oxford and Cambridge during the 12th and 13th centuries. The hoods are a carry-over from the times when monks, who operated those universities, wore them to protect their shaved heads in winter. The robe is an adaptation of the shoulder cape also worn by those same monks while collecting alms.

Use of the academic robe came to the United States in 1754, with the founding of what is now Columbia University. In 1895, a commission of university officials adopted a universal code of design and color for the academic garb. This code has undergone several revisions in subsequent years, with most recent modifications accepted in 1960.

Styling of the robes varies for the bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. The width of sleeve borders and length of the hood increase with each advanced degree.

In the hoods, the color of the velvet border indicates the type of degree held, while the lining designates the official colors of the institution granting it.

A distinguishing color table for academic attire:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Amb. Crawford College of Business and Entrepreneurship</th>
<th>Drab</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>College of Aeronautics and Engineering</td>
<td>Orange</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>College of Applied and Technical Studies</td>
<td>Maize</td>
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<tr>
<td>Agribusiness</td>
<td>Black</td>
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<tr>
<td>Associate</td>
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<td>Engineering</td>
<td>Golden Yellow</td>
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<td>Horticulture, Science</td>
<td>Pink</td>
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<td>Music Technology</td>
<td>Maroon</td>
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<td>Fine Arts</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Peacock Blue</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Communication and Information</td>
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<td>College of Nursing</td>
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<td>College of Podiatric Medicine</td>
<td>Green</td>
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<tr>
<td>College of Public Health</td>
<td>Salmon</td>
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</table>
The Mace

The mace carried by the macebearer in the academic processional symbolizes authority. The macebearer carries a mace created and crafted by alumnus Michael V. Jaszczak, ’98. Jaszczak created the mace based upon the input of a committee charged with the task of bringing forth a new design utilizing the resources and wealth of talent available in Kent State’s School of Art.

The central motif of the university seal retains the sun of the state seal, signifying state ownership, and is symbolic of the light of knowledge and wisdom. The shield suggests the geographic shape of Ohio. The bird, which symbolizes leadership, is the chimney swift, a species that colonizes on campus and seems to be in constant flight. The university colors of blue and gold are incorporated in the enameled piece, which is set on top of a walnut pole. The mace rests in a walnut stand crafted by David Dalton, Ph.D., who taught for many years in the College of Education, Health and Human Services.

The Gonfalons

Gonfalons are long ceremonial flags or banners suspended from a crossbar. The use of ceremonial banners dates back to the 1500s. Italian towns, for example, each have a gonfalon, which is the official emblem of the town, showing its coat of arms.

Each of the college gonfalons is emblazoned with the Kent State seal on an academic color of one of the college’s disciplines, established by academic protocol.

The President’s Medallion

The president’s medallion symbolizes the responsibility in the Office of the President. Its central motif is the university seal, which retains the sun of the state seal, signifying state ownership, and is symbolic of the light of knowledge and wisdom. The shield suggests the geographic shape of Ohio. The bird, which symbolizes leadership, is the chimney swift.
Kent State University is one of the largest university systems in the nation, yet one of the closest families in the world. We embrace diversity and the culture it creates – promoting visionary ideas and bold thinking. From this environment, our students draw strength and support to stand for what matters and to take meaningful action for change.

More than 100 years after William S. Kent donated his valuable farmland so the state could build a teacher-training school for the area, Kent State is one of Ohio’s leading public universities and a major educational, economic and cultural resource far beyond the Northeast Ohio region it has served since its founding as the Kent State Normal School in 1910.

Today, as it plays a leading role in 21st century education, Kent State holds the esteemed distinction of being one of only five institutions in Ohio to be recognized as an R1 top-tier research university by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Kent State is the highest-ranked public university in northern Ohio on the Top Public Schools and Best National Universities lists by U.S. News & World Report.

With eight campuses spanning Northeast Ohio, a College of Podiatric Medicine, the Twinsburg Academic Center and academic sites in locations around the globe – such as New York City; Florence, Italy; and Curitiba, Brazil – Kent State illuminates the way as a world-class institution. Its programs and partnerships boldly expand the boundaries of knowledge for faculty engaged in research and collaboration, and for students receiving life-changing experiences in experiential and education-abroad programs.

The student body comprises more than 33,000 students, including about 1,650 international students from 100 countries. The university earns worldwide recognition for its optimum balance of nearly 375 undergraduate programs of study and 220 graduate programs of study.

The addition of new teaching and learning environments, from the sciences to the arts, and the development of exciting new academic programs characterize Kent State’s focus on transformational educational experiences. The university is accelerating its strategic investment in established areas of research expertise, including environmental science, population health, global understanding and materials sciences. Building upon its historic and foundational research in liquid crystals, Kent State’s Advanced Materials and Liquid Crystal Institute embraces a leading international role in advanced materials and soft matter science and innovation.

Kent State recognizes its place in history with the May 4 Visitors Center and annual May 4 Commemoration, which pay homage to the seminal events of May 4, 1970, on the university’s Kent Campus. The center and annual observances honor those who lost their lives, those who were wounded and those who survived.

World-renowned, nationally ranked and regionally vital, Kent State proudly serves higher education and the world with graduates who are finding their purpose and making a difference with their contributions.

While some people measure both history and success by tangibles, a Kent State professor emeritus suggests considering timeless intangibles that “can be measured by the lump in your throat … by walking tall.” On a sun-drenched July day in 1914, Kent State’s first graduation class of 34 members walked tall. They led the way for the many hundreds of thousands of Kent State alumni who live and work around the world. Proudly joining their ranks are today’s newest members of the Kent State family on this glorious day of celebration.

For more information about Kent State, visit www.kent.edu.
Welcome to the Golden Flash Alumni Family!

Congratulations on earning your Kent State University degree! As you close this chapter, you join a special group of graduates around the world who make up our alumni family.

Wherever your next journey may take you, Kent State will always be here to support you. From career readiness to alumni events to volunteer opportunities and more, there are many resources to connect you with fellow Flashes and your alma mater.

Visit [www.kent.edu/alumni](http://www.kent.edu/alumni) to learn more about alumni programs and stay in touch with us on social media @KSUA: [Facebook](http://www.facebook.com) [Twitter](http://www.twitter.com) [Instagram](http://www.instagram.com)

Share your graduation stories and Kent State memories using: #FLASHERSFOREVER

Your achievement powers a lifetime of purpose, and we are excited to see how our new alumni will go on to make the world Forever Brighter. Wear your alumni pin with pride!
Hail to Thee, Our Alma Mater
Words by E. Turner Stump  |  Music by Dwight Steere

From the beauty land Ohio comes a universal praise,

'Tis the song of Alma Mater that her sons and daughters raise,

'Tis a Hail to Kent forever,

on the Cuyahoga shore,

Now we join the loving thousands as they sing it o'er and o'er.

Hail to Thee, our Alma Mater

O, how beautiful thou art,

High enthroned upon the hilltop,

Reigning over ev-ry heart.