

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION

*CONVOCATION CEREMONY*

*Sunday, May 17, 2026*

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UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN



College of Education

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This program contains an unofficial list of degree candidates for May 2026, as well as a list of graduates who received degrees in August and December 2025. Due to printing deadlines, names of some degree recipients may not appear while names of some degree candidates who have not yet completed degree requirements may be included. Please accept our apologies for any errors or omissions.

The University's official registry for conferral of degree is the Office of the Registrar, 901 W. Illinois St., Urbana, IL 61801.

**Photography:** A professional photographer will take onstage pictures of graduates as they receive their diplomas. Families and friends are asked to remain outside of the stage areas and aisles as the ceremony takes place so all audience members may continue to view the event.

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# WELCOME TO THE 2026 CONVOCATION CEREMONY FOR THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS.

Commencement, or Convocation, has its roots eight centuries in the European past and is based on the ancient practice of beginning life's work at the end of an apprenticeship. The robes and caps worn by the faculty and graduating students at the University of Illinois follow the style of Oxford University in England.

The bachelor's gown has long pointed sleeves. The master's gown has long closed sleeves with square ends and a slit at the elbow for the arm to come through. The doctoral gown has full, round, open sleeves with three velvet stripes; it is faced with velvet.

The hood colors and tassels you will see today indicate the wearer's field of study. At the University of Illinois, candidates for the bachelor's degree do not wear hoods, but the color of their tassel indicates the fields in which they are receiving their degree. The color for education is light blue. The candidates for the master's degrees wear hoods, and the color of their tassel is black. The candidates for doctoral degrees wear hoods lined with silk in the official orange and blue colors of the university. The velvet edging of the hood bears the color of the candidate's major field. The color of the tassel used by doctoral degree candidates at the University of Illinois is black.

At the moment the degree is conferred, the graduates move the tassels from right to left to signify their changed academic status.

# ORDER OF EXERCISES

*Interpreter provided by the Division of Disability Resources & Educational Services*

## **PROCESSIONAL**

Music by Sycamore Brass

## **BANNER CARRIER**

Allison Witt, Director of International Programs  
and Teaching Associate Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

## **WELCOME**

Chrystalla Mouza, College of Education Dean

## **LAND GRANT INSTITUTION ACKNOWLEDGMENT**

Oliver Tapaha, Assistant Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

## **SINGING OF THE “STAR-SPANGLED BANNER”**

Blair Mathis, soloist

## **CONVOCATION ADDRESS**

Teresa Ramos, '04, M.A. '08, Ph.D. '12 LAS  
*Secretary of the Illinois Department of Early Childhood*

## **PRESENTATION OF DOCTORAL DEGREE OUTSTANDING STUDENT MEDAL AWARD**

### **AWARDED TO**

Marisol Jimenez

### **PRESENTED BY**

Lorenzo Baber, Interim Head and Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

Gabriel Rodriguez, Assistant Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

## **RECOGNITION & HOODING OF DOCTORAL DEGREE CANDIDATES**

### **READERS**

Cynthia D'Angelo, Associate Professor  
*Curriculum & Instruction, Educational Psychology*

Tamara Bertrand Jones, Associate Dean  
for Faculty Affairs and Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

## **PRESENTATION OF MASTER'S DEGREE OUTSTANDING STUDENT MEDAL AWARD**

### **AWARDED TO**

Ruoqian Wu

### **PRESENTED BY**

Helen Neville, Department Chair and Professor  
*Educational Psychology*

**RECOGNITION OF MASTER’S DEGREE, CERTIFICATE OF ADVANCED STUDY  
AND GRADUATE CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES**

**READERS**

Joshua Danish, Department Head and Professor  
*Curriculum & Instruction*

Denice Hood, Teaching Associate Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

**RECOGNITION OF BRONZE TABLET AND JAMES SCHOLAR HONORS**

Curtis Mason, Associate Dean for Undergraduate  
Programs and Teaching Associate Professor  
*Education Policy, Organization & Leadership*

**RECIPIENTS WILL STAND AND BE RECOGNIZED.**

**PRESENTATION OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREE OUTSTANDING STUDENT MEDAL AWARD**

**AWARDED TO**

Adele Suzanne Miller

**PRESENTED BY**

Matt Lambert, Department Head and Professor  
*Special Education*

Laurie Andrews, Clinical Assistant Professor  
*Special Education*

**RECOGNITION OF BACCALAUREATE DEGREE CANDIDATES**

**READERS**

Stacy Dymond, Professor  
*Special Education*

Mari Altshuler, Teaching Assistant Professor  
*Curriculum & Instruction*

**ALUMNI WELCOME**

Heather Zorn, Chief Advancement Officer

**CLOSING REMARKS**

Chrystalla Mouza, Dean

**SINGING OF “HAIL TO THE ORANGE”**

**RECESSIONAL**

Music by Sycamore Brass

*HAIL TO THE ORANGE*

**HAIL TO THE ORANGE,**

**HAIL TO THE BLUE,**

**HAIL ALMA MATER,**

**EVER SO TRUE!**

**WE LOVE NO OTHER**

**SO LET OUR MOTTO BE**

**VICTORY, ILLINOIS! VARSITY!**

## PARTICIPATING FACULTY

Mari Altshuler	Gloriana Gonzalez Rivera	Chrystalla Mouza
Laurie Andrews	Jessica Hardy	Helen Neville
Cherie Avent	Linda Herrera	Eunjung Grace Oh
Lorenzo Baber	Denice Hood	Michaelene Ostrosky
Jackie Beard	Barbara Hug*	Yoon Pak
Tamara Bertrand Jones	Pat Justice	Michelle Perry
Paul Bruno*	Mary Kalantzis	Gabriel Rodriguez
Yvonne Carey	Christina Krist	Rachel Roegman*
Catherine Corr*	Matt Lambert	Nidia Ruedas-Gracia
Jennifer Cromley	Sharon Lee	Michele Schutz*
Cynthia D'Angelo	Jessica Li	Oliver Tapaha
Joshua Danish	Robb Lindgren	Emily Tarconish
Catherine Dornfeld	Curtis Mason	Crystal Williams
Tissenbaum	Erica Mason	Allison Witt
Stacy Dymond	Emma Mercier*	Eboni Zamani-Gallaher
Sarah Gantz	Karla Moller	Kary Zarate
Molly Goldstein	Theopolies Moton*	

*\*Denotes participation as a faculty marshal*

# UNIVERSITY HONORS

## BRONZE TABLET

The University of Illinois recognizes high academic achievement by inscribing on Bronze Tablets the names of students who have at least a 3.5 cumulative grade-point average through the academic term prior to graduation and rank in the top 3 percent of students in their graduating class. The tablets hang in the Main Library.

Junhua Chen	Sophia Elizabeth Kurzman	Rosevelia Rocha
Sydney Michelle Furth	Brayden Sophia Libman	Andrea Itzel Sosa-Lopez
Katherine Marie Grawe	Olivia Seoyun Lim	Lilliana Marie Stange
Moira Erin Irwin	Kelly James McCall	
Joanna Angelica Katsoudas	Adele Miller	

## JAMES SCHOLARS

The College of Education James Scholar Program recognizes the talents of outstanding students and provides unique learning opportunities to enrich their educational experience.

Kailey Michelle Aranda	Nora Loftus	Jordan Anne Smith
Stephanie Evelyn-Leona Coleman	Kaitlyn Marie Madderom	Andrea Itzel Sosa-Lopez
Cesar Espinoza	Mia Elise Camua Mangaba	Lilliana Marie Stange
Sydney Michelle Furth	Adele Miller	Cedric Sung
Samantha Lynn Gordon	Mishal Nazim Nizar	Yaime Maria Urrieta Rosas
Katherine Marie Grawe	Guadalupe Nunez-Palomares	Nicole Alejandra Valdez
Megan Marie Hendry	Seoyoun Park	Yoselyn Cristina Velazquez
Alice Jane Kessler	Paula Posadas	Leslie Paola Villarreal
Sophia Elizabeth Kurzman	Anaya Prasad	Ruxu Zhao
Maia Eliana Lewis	Avania-Joy Chirag Raval	
Olivia Seoyun Lim	Grace Margaret Schlichter	

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

***Computer Science  
+ Education***

Ayush Chadha

Junhua Chen

Adhwita Gopi Selvan

Harshil Koyyalamudy

Yadi Qi

Cedric Sung

***Early Childhood  
Education***

Yaritza Arahi Avalos

Tiffany T. Bell

Anna Elizabeth Boone

Mochu Chen

Morgan Clark

Yunxiao Deng

Caleigh Madison Ellis

Meagan E. Favier

Adriana Fernandez

Katherine Marie Grawe

Joseph Olon Haarvei

Brianna Marie Haas

Eshal Khan

Emma Anne Little

Ariana Isabella Loor

Jayne Mefford

Karla Mendoza

Da'Miyah Marie Morgan

Jaclyn Rachel Munds

Mishal Nazim Nizar

Elisyana Michelle  
Nordengreen

Madison Paddock

Kyli Symone Ralford

Miriam Alexandra  
Ramirez

Areli Ramos

Samantha Danielle Rangel

Kayla Alisara Ratsamy

Miranda Rodriguez

Olivia Helena Severance

Whitney Michelle Sievers

Keiry Rubit Trejo

Hannah Layne Twaddell

Leslie Paola Villarreal

***Elementary Education***

Keina Arteaga

Alana Marie Brown

Jasmine Cai

Alaya L. Castro

Karla Magdalena Castro

Stephanie Evelyn-Leona  
Coleman

Allison Grace Cosgrove

Hope Elizabeth Crouch

Miranda Cruz

Ryan Robert Derasse

Christopher Jacob Dressler

Sara Nicole Dziengel

Andrea Camila Esparza

Yasmin Estrada

Sydney Elizabeth Feinberg

Nathaly Figueroa

Teresa Helen Foley

Sydney Michelle Furth

Jacqueline Marie Gallo

Erin Ann Graham

Emma Olivia Hayes

Grace Abigail Herning

Moira Erin Irwin

Jake Janczak

Macy Lynn Jemmi

Nora Johnson-Guy

Sophia Frances Juhl

Joanna Angelica  
Katsoudas

Elena Grace Kielczynski

Sophia Elizabeth Kurzman

Valeria Leon

Maia Eliana Lewis

Hannah Gabrielle  
Lieberman  
Kaitlyn Marie Madderom  
Maricela Mata-Villa  
Kelly James McCall  
Kathryn Scarlett Meinecke  
Baylee A. Merema  
Anna Eileen Miller  
Leslie Angelina Morales  
Meghan Nicole Nicastro  
Kyra Nitsche  
Guadalupe Nunez-  
Palomares  
Seoyoun Park  
Sophia F. Philbrick  
Destiny Tenise Phillips  
Abigail Susanne Pikor  
Paula Posadas  
Jackson Anthony Rausch  
Avania-Joy Chirag Raval  
Hailey Lynn Robb  
Rosevelia Rocha  
Grace Margaret Schlichter  
Emma Kae Schmahl  
Maya Sela  
Kelly Grace Sheridan  
Sarah Rose Sipchen  
Lauren Skiba

Jordan Anne Smith  
Andrea Itzel Sosa-Lopez  
Lilliana Marie Stange  
Amber Rayne Steinhaus  
Michael Strozak  
Najah Alise Terrell-Walker  
Benjamin Henry Thurkow-  
Schlund  
Pricilla Isabel Torres  
Makayla Paige Tupper  
Yaime Maria Urrieta  
Rosas  
Anna Patricia Valle  
Ava Jane Volanti  
Ava Elizabeth White  
Skylar Paige Wilkins  
Amanda Mary Wolf  
Hoi Shui Wong  
Claire Elizabeth Yehle  
Linsenate Zheng

***Learning &  
Education Studies***

Angelita Calhoun  
Isabella Rose Dailey  
Sandra Gabriela Diaz-  
Sanchez  
Beibei Liu  
Yuheng Liu

Maya Moloney  
James Jeonghan Park  
Anaya Prasad  
Olivia Niobe Quiles  
Amy Daniela Rodriguez  
Dev Rahul Siva  
Chenyi Zhang  
Ruxu Zhao

***Middle Grades  
Education***

Andrew Michael Berg  
Carly Anne Burnett  
Javaris Jahrell Conner  
Luke Thomas Cushing  
Jessica Marlene  
Dominguez  
Jackson David Dressler  
Dhanya Duvvuri  
Elijah Veal Macalinga  
Enolva  
Cesar Espinoza  
Emma Rose Geiger  
Olivia Dolores Hill  
Megan Siyuan Huang  
Destiny Shade Jolly  
Olivia Seoyun Lim  
Long Lin

Mia Elise Camua Mangaba

Katherine Elizabeth  
McCurdy

Nora Helen McNicholas

Maria Lucia Mendoza

Jasmin Perez

Neeci Yulissa Perez

Carly Ann Perzee

Tania Rachel Real

Sania Renee Shelton

Elaine Tran

Nicole Alejandra Valdez

Karen Vo

Earica Watkins

Diana Whitfield

Joseph Winiacki

Madeline Wise

***Secondary Education***

Kevin Huang Ly

***Special Education***

Kailey Michelle Aranda

Samuel Patrick Carrico

Sophia Rose Carroll

Samantha Lynn Gordon

Megan Marie Hendry

Alice Jane Kessler

Brayden Sophia Libman

Nora Loftus

Adele Miller

Livia Anne Mullaney

Drew Marie Populorum

Katherine Angele Taylor

Yoselyn Cristina Velazquez

**GRADUATE  
CERTIFICATE**

***Instructional System  
Design Management  
& Leadership***

Krystal-Flora U. Dureke

Amanda Erin Gurley

Jasleen Hundal

Tiye B. Sherrod

Tong Zhang

***International  
Education  
Administration  
& Leadership***

Nickya Bellevue

Bethany Ellen Burger

Emily Frances Cordeiro

Annelise Eileen Depman

Sally Haskins

Ahlam Fayik Hassan

Lisa Johnson

Maggie K. Mancl

Steven Heinz Schuler

***Learning Design  
& Leadership***

Lisa Johnson

Ellen Marie Thurber

***Middle Grades  
Education***

Delaney Lynne Andolino

Nakiyah Nicole Matthews

***Sustainability  
Education &  
Climate Justice***

Bryan Neal Lake

Logan Tayler Pender

**MASTER OF ARTS**

***Curriculum  
& Instruction***

Shehneela Naz

***Educational Psychology***

Alexa Rayas

**MASTER OF  
EDUCATION**

***Curriculum  
& Instruction***

Emine Ahsen  
Delaney Lynne Andolino  
Paige Calderwood Barnett  
Andrew George Beck  
Marjorie Bernard  
Donnalyn Magas Biel  
Kailee Burkhalter  
Blanca M. Bustos  
Whitney Campbell  
Sarah Coulter  
Annika Danielsen  
Jenny Lind Diskin  
Jackson David Earl  
Pamela Rose Ellis  
Aubrey Sue Farrell  
Christine Lynn Filer  
Alexandra Sierra Gilbert  
Sherry Gittens  
Stephanie Adele Gulden  
Patrick Michael Hall  
Angela Hasse  
Ciara Marie Hay  
Lisa M. Hoewing  
Katya Nicole-Kesenia  
Hoffmann

Hailey Nicole Hunter  
Nafisa Aden Ibrahim  
Jennifer Keddie De Cojon  
Claire Kinoshita  
Oktaria Mbeni Haba Kolnel  
Megan Kuo  
Savannah Kust  
Skye Breann Lawson  
Shuchen Liu  
Cynthia Rose Marshall  
Ignacio Andres Montaldo  
Esther Marie-N'Dre Okossi  
Jessica Leigh Pelletiere  
Jamie Lee Berry Putnam  
Melissa Lynn Rohde  
Cherullo  
Anisha Shanmugam  
Stacy Shotkoski  
Ciara Sombero  
Abigail Soto  
Robert Allen Sweatman  
Bridgette Michelle  
Thompson  
Hannah R. Turk  
Joselyn Valerio  
Gabriela Isabel Villacres  
Gualotuna  
Montana Jayne Weissner  
Jamie May Wong

Alexander Jackson Wright  
Yin Xiao  
Ashly Chloe Zurlo

***Education Policy,  
Organization &  
Leadership***

Emma Joy Abi Hanna  
Noah Earl Allen  
Lena Alzeir  
Chloe Priya Baumann  
Kellen R. Beaty  
Michala Rose Belter  
Marhawit Beraki  
Maureen Brothman  
Bethany Ellen Burger  
April Latriece Carter  
Deborah Ann Cohen  
Melissa Corral Quinones  
Travis Lynn Coverdell  
Ryan Hal Cowley  
Clare McKean Craigan  
Keelan Brian John Crimmins  
Tony K. Dinh  
Elisa Diane Dodge  
Mindy Sue Dyson  
Andrew Michael Edwards  
Stephanie Ellison  
Michael James Epstein

Mia Isabella Escobar	Claudia Krok	Jennifer Raigoza
Katelyn Grace Fernandez	Bryan Neal Lake	Nisha Saleha Rehman
Viviana A. Flores	Holly Lancaster	Alec Renn
Sophie Marita Fuchs	Yiping Liu	Kaci Cameron Reyes
Lindsey Gauger	Kevin Elliott Lundeen	Kristine Renee Rousseau
Alexandra Caryn Gilruth	Maggie K. Mancl	Lisa Soomin Ryou
Jessica Nicole Glazier	Jennifer Cristal Marin	Madison Courtney Sage
Kierra Joy Green	Aleksandra Markus	Jacob Patrick Schab
Jorge Jason Gruzeski	Nakiyah Nicole Matthews	Hannah Grace Schurz
Kenneth Hall	Rachel Elizabeth Matug	Erica Janae Shaper-Brolin
Jenna Kristine Hallmark	Jenna Marie McDonald	Rebecca Joy Sinclair
Chanda Ashley Hand	Kathryn S. McFarland	Jessica Diane Sponseller
Corey L. Harris	Dasha Rylee McKinney	Todd M. Sweet
Rebecca Hauert	Marinna Mendoza	Johannah Tomita Martin
Lan Anh Hoang	Kristina R. Miller	Kasey L. Umland
Abby Marie Howard	Mehrdad Mohammadi	Athanazia E. Varner
Francisco Jose Irizarry	Erin Rachel Molay	Sheetal S. Vora
Ipshita Noor Iva	Tenetia Kay Monelle	Padmaragam Vundi
Leslie Hunter Jason	Savannah Rose Moynihan	Linna Wang
Guangnan Jiang	Jasmine Ann Mraz	Crystal J. Wensel
Amber A. Jirsa	Michelle Elizabeth Naese	Christian Timothy Charles Wimber
Eva Juliet Kanaskie King	Leandro D. Padilla	Caroline Zermeno
Liam Kaplan	Lea Laryn Peck	
Jamie Elizabeth Kendall	Logan Tayler Pender	<b><i>Early Childhood Education</i></b>
Erin Kingsley	Pamela Perry	
Sarah M. Kistler	David Lee Pierce	Elisabeth Ebony Anne Houston
Garrett Steven Kline	William Joseph Radtke	

***Elementary Education***

Brian Ivan Acosta  
Aleesa Eva Johnson  
Kaitlyn Marie Ochs

***Secondary Education***

Christine Jiwoo Kim  
Alexander R. Paul  
Kristian Addie Robbins

***Special Education***

Mercedes Elizabeth  
Gravley  
Shannon Marie Kephart  
Shweta Sharma  
Yuxiu Zhang

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

***Curriculum  
& Instruction***

Laura Elizabeth Placzek

***Educational Psychology***

Avery Bandstra  
Lillian Dine Young  
Aberjohn Espinoza  
Ravon Preston Pittman  
Jernesha Walls  
Ruoqian Wu  
Qingqing Zhou

***Mental Health  
Counseling***

Nina Simone Bonner  
Andrew Ben Eggert  
Celeste Genevieve  
Farnsworth-Wahl  
Kimberly Sanchez  
Lei Zhang

**CERTIFICATE OF  
ADVANCED STUDY**

***Education Policy,  
Organization &  
Leadership***

Sandy Xiomara Jump  
Apoorva Murthy  
Siew Yoke Szetho

**DOCTOR OF  
EDUCATION**

***Education Policy,  
Organization &  
Leadership***

Janece Geralyn Albers  
Atsu Evedzinawo  
Alogbleto  
Natalie Bidnick Andreas  
Ahmad Faiq Gulalam  
Anees  
Noura Anwar  
Jack Baldermann

Aurore Bargat  
Cinder Cooper Barnes  
Danielle Blount Bridewell  
Brandon James  
Brockhouse  
Chin-Hung Chang  
Brad Joseph Curabba  
David Davin  
Aimee Mitzie Devitto  
Jose Fernando Duran  
Marques  
James Arthur Elliott III  
Shayla Alaine Ewing  
Laura Lucille Falk  
Joseph Glenn Fatheree  
Tyra Frederick  
Kendra Kay Friar  
Michele K. Galla  
William Firmin Green  
Dawn Marie  
Grossenbacher  
Emily Shu Min Gung  
Victoria M. Harris-Karnes  
Magnus Jon Harsem  
Ahlam Fayik Hassan  
Sarah J. Henning  
Danielle Lashe Hill  
Megan J. Hougard  
Paul Joseph Hubinsky

Darshan M. Jain  
Thomas Kaufmann  
Ava Conover Kerr  
Christopher Allen Kniesly  
Jay R. Mehta  
John Derek Meyer  
Wendy Anne Mockler  
Giles  
Nathan D. Moldenhauer  
Norma Angelica Muniz  
Munoz  
Larry Nelson, Jr.  
Kristin Marie Novy  
Anna Park  
Jeong Eun Park  
Deborah L. Peot  
Nili Zucker Pinhasi  
Freeda George Pirillis  
Nargues Nancy Rafati  
Myeisha S. Ramirez  
Norma Elena Ramos  
Dillin Elliott Beasley  
Randolph  
Diana Razo Jimenez  
Paquita Elese Reedy  
Endia McWhorter Robbins  
Beth Marie Rock  
Justine Sabrina Rovin

Charles Runyan  
Stephen Santello  
Geoffrey Schenker  
Anthony Joseph Schlorff  
Diana Tarant Schmidt  
Charlene Thobe Scott  
Uzma Shaheen  
Elizabeth Shay  
Samantha Smith  
Amy Lynn Sosanko  
David Frederick Stack  
Daniel Sean Staylor  
Gadwin L. Stewart, Jr.  
Duy Quoc Tran  
Logan Andrew Walther  
Joanne Chen Ward  
Michael George Watts  
Renayee M. Westfield  
Robert L. Wilson, Jr.  
Melissa Kristin Zaniewski

**DOCTOR OF  
PHILOSOPHY**  
***Curriculum &  
Instruction***

Alissa G. Irvin  
Miche'le Deshawne  
Johnson

McKenna Lee Lane  
Nicholas John Leonardi  
Nessrine Machaka  
Melanie Alese Kirkwood  
Marshall  
Veronica Ann Moermond  
Juan Daniel Pinto  
Robin Jephthah  
Rajarathinam  
Shuchi Sinha  
Yiqiu Zhou

***Education Policy,  
Organization &  
Leadership***

Tara Adams  
Jewel Amanda Bourne  
Kaiqiang Deng  
Adetutu Temitope  
Fabusoro  
Marisol Jimenez  
Tracy S. Kleparski  
Jiyoung Lee  
Jarijion Minnett  
Nina Lynn Owolabi  
Aryakorn Joy  
Phaphouvaninh  
Jasmine Nicole Porter  
Rallins  
Dementro Powell

# 2025-2026 COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATES

Rachita Rana

Tasha Marie Matos Robles

Aaron Troy Surratt

Cecilia Noelle Vaughn-Guy

Ning Ching Zulauf

## ***Educational Policy Studies***

Cynthia Hobby Exum

## ***Educational Psychology***

Erin Fritz Budesheim

Katy S. Curry

Nicholas Francesco Heimpel

Diana Esperanza Lesmes Palacios

Hameed K. Makttoof

Andrea Pellegrini

Taiylor Renee Rayford

Katherine Wong Regelson

## ***Special Education***

Megan Elizabeth Best

Kelly Marie Fulton-Armer

Camille Griffin

Keun Hee Kim

Alexandra V. Richmond



TO THY HAPPY CHILDREN  
OF THE FUTURE  
THOSE OF THE PAST  
SEND GREETINGS

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The Alma Mater sculpture was first unveiled by  
University of Illinois artist Lorado Taft in 1929.

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**A** land-grant institution established in 1867, the University of Illinois has a long record of commitment to public engagement and to the discovery and application of knowledge. During the past 150 years, our faculty, staff, students, and alumni have transformed the social and economic landscape worldwide. As a leading institution of higher learning, we will continue to expand our global presence through supporting public policies that address the grand challenges of a global society, lead advancements in information and medical technology, and spur economic development.

The University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign has a responsibility to acknowledge the historical context in which it exists. In order to remind ourselves and our community, we provide the following statement. We are currently on the lands of the Peoria, Kaskaskia, Piankashaw, Wea, Miami, Mascoutin, Odawa, Sauk, Mesquaki, Kickapoo, Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Chickasaw Nations. It is necessary for us to acknowledge these Native Nations and for us to work with them as we move forward as an institution. Over the next 150 years, we will be a vibrant community inclusive of all our differences, with Native peoples at the core of our efforts.

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## *THANK YOU*

for participating in our Convocation Ceremony to celebrate the graduates of the College of Education at Illinois. A national and global leader in education and research, the College of Education is proud of our graduates who join more than 33,000 alumni to become the next generation of influential education leaders.

