

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY



COMMENCEMENT

MAY 6, 2023

10:00 A.M.

CIMPL ARENA, YANKTON, SD

2023 COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

PROCESSIONAL

“Pomp and Circumstance”

Marches OP. 39, No. 1

by Sir Edward Elgar

Led by Dr. Alan Ferris

Academic Senate Chair

NATIONAL ANTHEM

“The Star Spangled Banner”

by Francis Scott Key

Mount Marty University Choir

INVOCATION

Tuenedi Villicana Palencia '23

**“The Mount Marty University
Prayer”**

by Anthony Maglione

Mount Marty University Choir

WELCOME

Dr. Marcus Long

President

STUDENT AWARDS AND TRADITION

Dr. Katie Harrell

Vice President for Student
Success

HONORARY DOCTORATE AND COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Denis Fokken '73

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

Dr. William Miller

Executive Vice President and
Provost

CONFERRING OF DEGREES

Dr. Marcus Long

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION WELCOME

Jonna Supurgeci '98

Registrar

BENEDICTION

Father Grant Lacey

Chaplain and Director of Campus
Ministry

“Flight Song”

by Kim Andre Arnesen

Mount Marty University Choir

RECESSIONAL

**“Procession of the Nobles”
from Mlada**

by Nikolai Rimsky-Korsakov

Led by Dr. Alan Ferris

**It is customary for the audience to stand during the Processional,
National Anthem, Invocation, Benediction and Recessional.**

MOUNT MARTY PRAYER

O God,

Creator of all things and source of wisdom and knowledge, send your Holy Spirit to guide our thoughts, words, and actions so that everything we do will begin with your inspiration and continue with your guidance and blessing. Help us to speak and act with integrity so that we may uphold the values of Mount Marty University. May we use our talents and abilities in the best ways possible so that You may be glorified and our neighbor served.

We pray these things through Jesus, your Son, in the power of the Holy Spirit.

AMEN.

CLASS RIBBON CEREMONY

In 2020, we embarked on a new phase of our history as Mount Marty University. To commemorate the moment, our students and administration created a new tradition to be conducted during the commencement ceremony to honor and celebrate the graduation of one senior class and the introduction of the next: the Class Ribbon Ceremony.

During this ceremony, the graduating president of the Student Government Association will be joined on stage by the president-elect. Together, they will tie a ribbon representing the new senior class to the shield. The ribbon, selected by members of the incoming senior class, may contain a bible verse, quote or other meaningful representation intended to forever mark their impact on the MMU community.

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

by Denis Fokken '73

Denis Fokken received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Business Administration with an emphasis in Accounting from Mount Marty in 1973, and later became MMU's first business graduate to become a certified public accountant. He then spent three years at a Yankton CPA firm before embarking on a long career with First Dakota National Bank.

Fokken has remained a steadfast supporter of the Mount Marty community following his graduation. In 1977, he was the recipient of the University's Alumni Merit Award and became a charter member and director of the MMU Booster Club, now known as the Lancer Club. He played in the first ever Mount Marty Golf Classic in 1985 and has played in 34 of the 38 tournaments to date. Fokken was the first person to be inducted into the MMU Business Hall of Fame in 1995, and he was the guest speaker at the 2016 Mount Marty Business Community Prayer Breakfast. In 2017, Fokken became a member of the MMU Annual Giving Committee, and is a long-time member of the President's Society, the University's premiere giving club. Also in 2017, he and his wife, Mary Beth, established the Denis and Mary Beth Fokken Family Endowment at Mount Marty to benefit elementary education and accounting students.

In November of 2001, Fokken was first elected to Mount Marty's Board of Trustees and, since that time, has served as an elected member, treasurer, and two years as chair of the board. He is currently completing his fourth four-year term on the board and serves as treasurer and chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

Following a 41-year-long career, Fokken retired in 2017 as executive vice president and chief financial officer of First Dakota National Bank. Since the beginning of his career he has been a member of both the American Institute of CPAs and the South Dakota CPA Society. He served in the South Dakota Air National Guard from 1969 to 1975 and is a member of Sacred Heart parish in Yankton.

For more than a decade, Fokken has been a United States Golf Association Rules Official and a USGA Regional Affairs Committee member. He is a past president of the South Dakota Golf Association and the Hillcrest Golf and Country Club in Yankton. He also served as Hillcrest Pro-Am Chair and a Dakotas Tour Vice Chair.

Fokken spends his retirement by traveling, golfing and staying active on both the Mount Marty Board of Trustees and the First Dakota National Bank Board of Directors.

BACHELOR OF ARTS

JORGE SEBASTIAN AGUERO SOLIZ

Business Administration
Santa Cruz, Bolivia

TOMMY ALITZ

Business Administration
Recreation Management and Tourism
Omaha, NE

CHASE JAMES ALTENBURG

Business Administration
Harrisburg, SD

KENJI KENEY APARICIO BORGE^

Psychology
Bucaramanga, Colombia

JESUS HUMBERTO BASURTO

Exercise Science
Houston, TX

MATTHEW BECKER

Business Administration
Hartington, NE
Cum Laude

DAYVON BOTTS*

Business Administration
Los Angeles, CA

LINDSEY ANN BOUFFARD

Elementary Education
Special Education
Concord, NH
Magna Cum Laude

EMILY BRANDT^

Biology
Hartford, SD

EMMA CATHERINE BROWN^

Human Service
Antigo, Wisconsin

KYLEE BULICK

Biology
Sioux Falls, SD

JUSTIN BRADLEY CAP^

Accounting
Yankton, SD
Magna Cum Laude

CONNER WILLIAM CAPPS*

Recreation Management and Tourism
Discovery Bay, CA

JULIE LYNN DATHER

Business Administration
Bloomfield, NE
Magna Cum Laude

MARIAH ROSE DATHER^

Accounting
Crofton, NE
Magna Cum Laude

TORREN DEVERICKS^

Exercise Science
Sioux Falls, SD

GIOVANNI DIAZ^

Business Administration
Plant City, FL

ELITA EASTMAN

Performing Arts
Springfield, SD
Magna Cum Laude

JACKSON ELI FABER

Accounting
Brandon, SD
Cum Laude

RACHEL FLYNN

Biology
Performing Arts
Secondary Education
Stillwater, MN

KATHRYN GERWER

Interdisciplinary Studies
Sioux Falls, SD

ADAM CRAIG GOODWILLIE

Criminal Justice
White Salmon, WA

KRISTIN LYNN GROSZ

Elementary Education
Scotland, SD

SOFÍA Y. GUERRA

Psychology
Houston, TX

GRADY DOUGLAS GULBRANSON

Business Administration
Sioux Falls, SD

DREW JAMES GUSSO*

Business Administration
Spearfish, SD

WILLIAM FREDRICK HANCOCK III

Recreation Management and Tourism
Wahoo, NE

LYNDON HARRISON*

Biology
Omaha, NE

SARAH HART

Criminal Justice
Oxnard, CA

COURTNEY DARLENE HEATH

Psychology
Sisseton, SD
Cum Laude

MEGAN HIRSCH^

Pre-Professional Studies
Gayville, SD

MADISON JO HOWARD

Criminal Justice
Sioux Falls, SD
Magna Cum Laude
Alpha Phi Sigma

CADEN WILLIAM IDEKER

Exercise Science
Hartford, SD
Cum Laude

ALLISON MACKENZIE JONES^

Physical Education
Secondary Education
Brandon, Manitoba, Canada

LINCOLN JORDRE

Business Administration
Onida, SD

CAID KOLETZKY

Criminal Justice
Yankton, SD
Alpha Phi Sigma

BAILEY GEORGIA KORTAN*

Elementary Education
Tabor, SD

MARVAN JONEL PHILLIPSTAN

ARMSTRONG LAROSE
Business Administration
Atlanta, GA

TYLER LINCH

Exercise Science
Gresham, OR
Cum Laude

KIEREN DAWSON LUELLMAN

Biology,
Pre-Professional Studies
Yankton, SD
Summa Cum Laude

JOSEPH LUND
Business Administration
Sioux Falls, SD

BROOKE LAUREN MADSON
Interdisciplinary Studies
Yankton, SD

ANDREA MAGGIONI*
Business Administration
Milan, Italy

ELSIE OLIVIA MARQUARDT^
Accounting
Yankton, SD
Cum Laude

EMMA GRACE MCMANAMAN*
Human Service
Hawarden, IA

NOAH MOON
Business Administration
Sioux Falls, SD

JAREN MORTENSEN*
Business Administration
Duchesne, UT

MITCHELL A. NOEM
Pre-Professional Studies
Lake Norden, SD
Magna Cum Laude

BRIDGET MARIE NOLZ^
Accounting
Yankton, SD
Cum Laude

ABIGAIL LILLIAN PAGE
Criminal Justice
Human Service
O'Neill, NE
Cum Laude
Alpha Phi Sigma

HALLIE MARIA PARKER^
Business Administration
Columbus, NE
Magna Cum Laude

ANDREW PEITZ^
Recreation Management and Tourism
Yankton, SD
Summa Cum Laude

REECE MATTHEW PETERS*
Criminal Justice
Vermillion, SD

ZANE THOMAS POLLON
Recreation Management and Tourism
Wilcox, Canada

MIGUEL ANGEL PONCE
Business Administration
South Sioux City, IA
Cum Laude

TORRYE PROVENCHER^
Human Service
Chula Vista, CA

SEBASTIAN RAYMOND RAMOS*
Psychology
East Los Angeles, CA

EDWARD REYES NUNEZ
Accounting
South Sioux City, NE

AVRY M. RICE*
Psychology
Sioux Falls, SD

KYLE RICHERT^
Business Administration
Gresham, NE

GRACIE MARIE RIPPEN
Exercise Science
North Platte, NE
Magna Cum Laude

CHRISTOPHER ROFE
Biology
Pre-Professional Studies
Sydney, Australia
Summa Cum Laude

MATIAS ROMERO*
Exercise Science
Neuquen, Argentina

MAX EDWARD ROOT
English Writing
Ventura, CA

KATHERINE JOHANNA ROTH
Business Administration
Viborg, SD
Phi Alpha Theta

ALEXANDRA RUTH
Criminal Justice
Norfolk, NE
Summa Cum Laude
Alpha Phi Sigma

GABRIELLE RUTH
Biology
Norfolk, NE
Cum Laude

REX RYKEN^
Accounting
Yankton, SD

ZANE THOMAS SALLEY
Business Administration
Rapid City, SD

**DIEGO ALFREDO ROMERO
SANCHÉZ**
Business Administration
Cordoba, Veracruz, Mexico
Cum Laude

LIESHA SCHIEBOUT^
Human Service
Viborg SD

GAVIN SCHULTZ*
Criminal Justice
Norfolk, NE

KADE BAKKER STEARNS
Recreation Management and Tourism
Sioux Falls, SD
Magna Cum Laude

WILLIAM C. TURNER
Business Administration
Ames, IA
Summa Cum Laude

AUBREY TWEDT
Exercise Science
Beresford, SD
Cum Laude

JOANIE ANN VILLAFUERTE
Business Administration
Ruskin, NE

JERONIMO WAGNER
Accounting
Business Administration
Cipolletti, Argentina
Summa Cum Laude

DYLANA DAWN WARD^
Biology
Belle Fourche, SD

WYATT HOWARD WINDHORST
Biology
Pre-Professional Studies
Alexandria, MN
Summa Cum Laude

RITA WOODRASKA
English
Secondary Education
Valentine, NE
Sigma Tau Delta

BENJAMIN ZAMBELE BATANYO^
Criminal Justice
Springfield, IL

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

NADINE AKIMPAYE

Temecula, CA

ALANA MARIE BERGLAND

Beresford, SD

KENNETH BLAKE BONDS

Madison, MS

MICAH WADE BURKE

Willow Lake, SD

MADELYN MARIE BURNS

Sioux Falls, SD

Summa Cum Laude

JOSSLYN LEIGH ERICKSON

Howard, SD

Magna Cum Laude

MACIE K. FERWERDA

Winner, SD

JOSIE LYNN FUHRMANN

Freeman, SD

Magna Cum Laude

HARLIE ANN HACECKY

Yankton, SD

Cum Laude

BROOKLYNN KAY HAKL

Yankton, SD

Magna Cum Laude

JAIDEN MARIE HARTL

Stanton, NE

ALEXANDRA HEALY

Sioux Falls, SD

Cum Laude

LEXI HOCHSTEIN

Sioux Falls, SD

Summa Cum Laude

MCKENZIE JOHANNSEN

Yankton, SD

JERAH JOHNS

Yankton, SD

ALEXIS KAY KIRKMAN

Exeter, CA

TYLER LANGE

Irene, SD

RACHEL MCCORMICK

Rapid City, SD

EVE MARIE MILLAR

Redfield, SD

Cum Laude

LEIGHTON VICTORIA MLADY

Atkinson, NE

Summa Cum Laude

ANDREW NANFITO

Omaha, NE

LINDSEY PIBAL

Yankton, SD

ALEX WILLIAMS

SAAVEDRA-GUERRERO

McCook Lake, SD

HAILEY NICOLE SCHMIDT

Omaha, NE

JOSEPH PAUL STIBRAL

Yankton, SD
Magna Cum Laude

COURTNEY WENANDE

Yankton, SD
Summa Cum Laude

TUENEDI VILICANA PALENCIA

South Sioux City, NE
Summa Cum Laude

FAITH K. YEARGAN

Hermosa, SD
Magna Cum Laude

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

PERCY JOEL SANTA CRUZ DEZA

Medical Laboratory Science
Lima, Peru

HANNA REISCHL*

Radiologic Technology
Farimont, MN

LEXYSS DANIELLE AVILES*

Radiologic Technology
Barstow, CA

SIERRA ROSALES*

Radiologic Technology
Belle Fourche, SD

PAYTON REED BURTZLAFF*

Radiologic Technology
Whitewood, SD

EMILY J. TYCZ*

Radiologic Technology
Tyndall, SD

TAYLOR ELIZABETH DUNN*

Radiologic Technology
Valley Springs, CA

ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

DEVORD J. ALLEN*

Business Administration
Brooklyn Park, MN

TRENTON MICHAEL DODD

Accounting
Business Administration
Marshalltown, IA

LIONEL D. BENNETT^

Accounting
Billings, MT

GRADUATION HONORS AND NOTES

Graduation honors are awarded to students earning bachelor degrees in recognition of superior scholarship.

Summa Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.9 and is recognized by blue/gold honor cords.

Magna Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.7 and is recognized by gold/white honor cords.

Cum Laude is the honorary title used to signify those with a cumulative grade point average of 3.5 and is recognized by blue/white honor cords.

Alpha Phi Sigma is the honor society for criminal justice and is recognized by blue/gold cords and gold sash.

Phi Alpha Theta is an American History honor society and is recognized by a white cord and red sash.

Sigma Tau Delta is the national English honor society and is recognized by a pin.

Sigma Theta Tau is the international honor society of nurses and is recognized by a purple and white cord.

Honors Program is Mount Marty University's program to recognize students who demonstrate exceptional academic skill and who explore areas above and beyond the standard classroom requirements and is recognized by a gold cord.

^ INDICATES DECEMBER 2022 GRADUATE

* INDICATES AUGUST 2023 CANDIDATE

Names listed in this publication and participation in the commencement exercises may not be construed as documentation of completion of degree requirements. Certification of the conferral of a degree is by official transcript noting degree completion.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

The tradition of academic costume has a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townsmen wore long flowing robes or gowns. The materials and colors varied greatly, according to wealth and rank of the individual and were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. This tradition survives today in gowns of religious orders, the judiciary and the academic regalia.

The gowns worn by the recipients of the various degrees vary somewhat in design. The sleeves of the gown worn by recipients of the baccalaureate degree are long and pointed, while the sleeves of the gown worn by the master's degree recipients are square at one end with a slit at the elbow. The doctor's gown has flowing sleeves with three bars of velvet and a facing of velvet down the front of the gown.

Most distinctive of the academic regalia is the hood, which identifies the graduate degree and the institution where the degree was awarded. The hood is lined with silk in the official colors of the institution. The velvet edging indicates the degree as follows:

Arts, Letters, Humanities: White
Commerce, Accountancy, Business: Drab
Education: Light Blue
Fine Arts: Brown
Music: Pink
Nursing: Apricot
Philosophy: Dark Blue
Physical Education: Sage Green
Science: Golden Yellow
Theology: Scarlet

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY

Mount Marty University is a Catholic, Benedictine institution of higher learning founded in 1936 by the Sisters of Saint Benedict of Yankton, South Dakota. The institution is named in memory of Martin Marty, a Swiss monk, who came to the Dakota Territory in 1876 as a missionary to the Native Americans and became the territory's first Catholic Bishop. As bishop, he invited the Benedictine Sisters to establish a religious community in Yankton.

The university functioned as a junior college for women for 15 years; in 1951 it awarded its first Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees. In 1969, the college became coeducational. Associate of Arts degree programs were introduced in 1975 in areas compatible with already existing programs. Graduate study came to the institution with the first Master of Science degree being awarded in 1983, followed closely by the first Master of Art degree in 1999. The first doctorate, Nurse Anesthesia Practice, was approved in 2016.

Mount Marty University's main campus is located in Yankton, SD. There are two additional locations in Watertown, SD, and Sioux Falls, SD.

MMU-Watertown has been serving northeast South Dakota since 1972 and offers numerous undergraduate degrees in non-traditional formats. This non-residential learning environment offers flexible options that cater to all students and working professionals looking to further their careers through higher education.

Sioux Falls is home to the MMU Doctorate of Nurse Anesthesia Practice graduate program, a program that has been producing successful nurse anesthetists for over 75 years. This 36-month program prepares the next generation of advanced practice nursing professionals for commitment to excellence in clinical care, advancing the profession and service to the human community.

In keeping with the Benedictine tradition, the university exists as a community of learners. Primary emphasis is placed on the development of each person as a complete human being with intellectual competence; professional and personal skills; and a composite of moral, spiritual and social values.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

The Presidential Medallion represents the authority granted to the President of the institution by the Board of Trustees. It carries the seal of the university as well as four banners with the core values: awareness of God, community, hospitality and lifelong learning. They serve as a constant reminder that these values are believed in and carried out from the leader of the institution on to the various internal and external publics that Mount Marty University serves. On the bottom of the medallion are the words; scientia (knowledge), veritas (truth) and sapientia (wisdom). It is a symbol that will inspire the quest for knowledge by the faculty and our students. It is a symbol that will inspire the pursuit of spiritual wholeness for all the members of our community.

MOUNT MARTY UNIVERSITY MISSION STATEMENT

Mount Marty University, an academic community in the Catholic Benedictine liberal arts tradition, prepares students for a contemporary world of work, service to the human community and personal growth.

MMU BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022 - 2023

CHAIR, DR. JIM FITZGERALD

VICE CHAIR, MR. ROB STEPHENSON

SECRETARY, SR. MARY JO POLAK

TREASURER, MR. DENIS FOKKEN

Sr. Mildred Busch
Mr. Michael Donohoe
Ms. Deb Fischer-Clemens
Mr. Shawn Gallagher
Dr. Lori Hansen
Dr. J. Lee Johnson
Fr. James Keiter
Sr. Barbara McTague

Mr. John Porter
Mr. Donald Roby
Fr. Paul Rutten
Mr. Daryl Thuringer
Sr. Patricia Ann Toscano
Sr. Carol Jean VanDenHemel
Sr. Maribeth Wentzlaff
Dr. Marcus Long, President