COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER
SATURDAY, MAY 13, 2017
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Joe Nordgren, Ph.D.                   Interim Dean of Arts and Sciences
Enrique “Henry” Venta, Ph.D.         Dean of Business
Robert Spina, Ph.D., FACSM           Dean of Education and Human Development
Srinivas Palanki, Ph.D.               Dean of Engineering
Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.             Dean of Fine Arts and Communication
Kevin Dodson, Ph.D.                   Dean of Reaudi Honors College
David J. Carroll, M.L.S.             Director of Library Services
Earning a university degree is one of the highest accomplishments one can achieve. Thus it is our pleasure to welcome our graduating students and those who supported and nurtured them to the May 2017 Commencement Ceremony of the College of Fine Arts and Communication. Together we are all celebrating your success, perseverance and tenacity in obtaining your degree. Nobody achieves success alone. The people whose moral, financial and mentoring support made today possible for our graduates should also be recognized, among them the faculty members of this college. I thank them in particular, because I know they care about each student individually and will do anything possible to ensure her or his success.

As the Dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication, I am very proud of the diversity in our college, not only in terms of human diversity, but also disciplinary diversity. From art, music, theatre and dance, to communication, deaf studies and deaf education, and speech and hearing sciences, the ultimate aim of all these programs is to make our lives better and improve our communities and our society. That is the one common bond we all have in the college, faculty and students alike. As our successful students leave us to move forward on their career paths, I hope that is the one goal they will continue to strive for.

I also hope that you will return as alumni or as graduate students. You will soon realize that lifelong learning will be an essential part of your future. Remember, Lamar University is always here to offer an opportunity. We will also welcome you back in your role as mentors and role models for our students. This will be your academic home forever.

Enjoy your new-found and hard-earned success. We all wish you a long and successful career in the field you choose.
## Ceremony Program

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Performer/achiever</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Musical Prelude</td>
<td>Lamar University Brass Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Scott Deppe, Ed.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Director of Bands</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Processional*</td>
<td>Joel Groethe, M.F.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Department of Theatre and Dance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crown Imperial Walton</td>
<td>Lamar University Brass Ensemble</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The National Anthem*</td>
<td>Serdar Ilban, D.M.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Star Spangled Banner</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Voice</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Francis Scott Key</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Welcome/Introductions</td>
<td>Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commencement Address</td>
<td>Gisela Houseman</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Owner and CEO of The Houseman Companies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Address</td>
<td>Tanasha K. Slack-Olumoya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American Sign Language Major</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certification of Graduates</td>
<td>Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conferring of Degrees</td>
<td>Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Presentation of Graduating Class</td>
<td>Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Announcement of Graduates | Debra Greschner  
| Instructor of Music |
| Concluding Remarks and Awards | Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D. |
| Lamar University Alma Mater* | Serdar Ilban, D.M.A. |
| G. Rhodes Smartt | |
| Lamar to thee we’re singing | We will ever need thee |
| Voices raised on high. | As our guiding star. |
| We will forever love thee | To us you’ll always be |
| Laud thee to the sky. | Our glorious Lamar. |

Academic Recessional* Joel Groethe, M.F.A.

Please join us for an informal reception, located upstairs in the concourse area of the Montagne Center, following the ceremony.

*Audience please stand.

To maintain the dignity of the program, guests are requested to refrain from unnecessary noises (air horns, etc.) and movement during the ceremony.
College of Fine Arts and Communication Faculty

Art Department
Donna Meeks, Chair
Stephanie Chadwick
Julia Fischer
Sherry Saunders Freyermuth
Natacha Poggio
Prince Thomas
Christopher Troutman

Communication Department
Natalie Tindall, Chair
Jian “Raymond” Rui
Mahmoud Salimi
O’Brien Stanley
Quingjiang Yao

Deaf Studies/Deaf Education
M. Diane Clark, Chair
Cain Chaisson
Mary Anne Gentry
ChongMin Lee
Heidi MacGlaughin
David Meek
Millicent Musyoka
Zanthia Smith

Music
Brian Shook, Interim Chair
Sujung Cho
Jacob Clark
Richard Condit
Robert Culbertson
Scott Deppe
Timothy Dueppen
Kim Ellis
Kurt Gilman
Debra Greschner
James Han
Matt Holm
Serdar Ilban
Charlotte Mizener
Jammieca Mott
Erin Murphy
Dwight Peirce
Brian Proksch
Maurice “Nick” Rissman
Eric Shannon

Speech & Hearing Sciences
Monica Harn, Chair
DeLanea Bronson
Erin Burns
Ashley Dockens
Jamie Hartwell-Azios
Connie Howard
Vinaya Manchaiah
Tim Meline
Heather Reading
Karen Whisenhunt-Saar

Theatre & Dance
Golden Wright, Chair
Cherie Acosta
Lou Arrington
Joel Grothe
Brian LeTraunik
Dave McManus
Travis Prokop

Faculty Marshals
Timothy Dueppen Kim Ellis Julia Fischer Timothy Meline
Bryan Proksch Heather Reading Mahmoud Salimi
Eric Shannon Christopher Troutman

Directors of Graduation Ceremony
David Short Jr., Registrar
Barbara Price, Assistant Registrar

Directors of Records & Registration
Summer Rather Natasha Walker

Graduation Coordinator
Mildred Piert
Gisela Houseman is the owner and CEO of The Houseman Companies in Orange, Texas. A native of Hamburg, Germany, Houseman immigrated to America with her family when she was 6 years old, settling in Oklahoma where her father worked in the dairy business. She became a U.S. citizen in 1956.

For 25 years, she used her background in accounting and finance as an insurance professional. In 1987, she and Tony, her husband of 23 years, moved to Southeast Texas and continued the Houseman tradition of home building that had begun in the 1960s. Their work in property development and as master builders can be found across seven Southeast Texas counties, from Galveston Bay to Sabine Lake and points inland, and in five Louisiana parishes.

In 2007, she lost her business and life-partner. Making the transition to being the sole leader of the business wasn’t easy, but she’d never been one to avoid a challenge. Well-travelled, she has climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro, joined in the polar plunge in Antarctica, and participated in the pre-race activities of the Iditarod in Alaska. Running the company on her own was a new mountain to climb, but under her leadership it has flourished.

At the time of Tony’s passing, she decided scholarships would be a good way to honor his memory. Her youngest daughter’s career as a speech therapist inspired her to create the Tony Houseman Memorial Scholarship in Speech and Hearing at Lamar University, as well as a general scholarship in his name at Lamar State College-Orange. She also established a scholarship in her name at the Lamar Institute of Technology. Houseman continues to donate to these scholarships.

Her service on numerous charity boards and foundations includes the Salvation Army, CASA, the Lutcher Theater, the Symphony of Southeast Texas, Foundation of Southeast Texas, Leadership Southeast Texas, the Better Business Bureau, Lamar State College-Orange Foundation and the Lamar Institute of Technology Foundation.

Her leadership has been recognized throughout her lifetime, including being honored as Southeast Texan of the Year and the Citizen of the Year - Greater Orange Area Chamber of Commerce. She also received the Frances Monk Award for Leadership from Leadership Southeast Texas, the Torch Award from Better Business Bureau Southeast Texas, the Athena Award of Orange County, the J.C. Penney Golden Rule Award, the CASA Lone Star Proud for Kids Award and the Bill Leger Family Advocate of the Year Award.

In 1991, Houseman was inducted into the Women’s Conference of Southeast Texas Hall of Fame. She is mother of two and grandmother of four.
Tanasha K. Slack-Olumoya grew up in Fort Worth, Texas, and graduated magna cum laude from Western Hills High School. She is a first-generation college graduate and the only Deaf person in her family. Slack-Olumoya attended Southwest College Institute for the Deaf, where she founded their women’s basketball team and was the first black female to become student body president. In 2013, she transferred to Lamar University to earn a Bachelor of Arts in American Sign Language. She has been on the Dean’s List since the fall of 2015. Slack-Olumoya is an active member of the Signing Cardinals student group, as well as serving as a tutor for students learning ASL. During her time as a Cardinal, she worked as a student assistant in the Department of Deaf Studies and Deaf Education and represented the department at recruitment fairs. Olumoya presented her undergraduate research project at the “Ethnography and Qualitative Research” conference in Las Vegas in 2017. After graduation, she plans to pursue a Master of Science in Deaf Studies and Deaf Education at Lamar University, with the goal of eventually completing her doctoral degree and becoming a university professor.
DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY IN AUDIOLOGY
Tiffany Elizabeth Ballard
Shawn Buller Hopkins
Amanda M. Jean-Pierre
Kathryn E. Luttmann
Amanda Joy Scarbrough
Alix Nicole Williamson
Craigen Michael Zoch

Hira Sarwar
Caitlin Michelle Trahan
Karina Trujillo
Shelley Eileen Turner
Perla Yaneth Villela Alvarez

DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN DEAF STUDIES/DEAF EDUCATION
Farraj Mohammed AlQarni
Emily Vey Anderson

MISTEY OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY
Misty Michelle Banasik
Danielle Nicole Cavaretta
Michelle R. Cochran
Enjoli Monique Cole
Abigail Dueppen
Nico Renee Frank
Carlissa Garcia
Megan Ruth Harrison
Orlando Hinojosa
Caitlen M. Howington
Katherine Alexis Lafleur
Morgan Grace Laird
Jessica Marisol Mancha
Katherine Elizabeth Markey
Krysten Lynn Moffitt
Samantha M. Moody
Lucky Uba Nwaozuru
Jessica L. Piatt
Mauri Elizabeth Reynolds
Grace Meredith Richardson

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN
Jade Freedman
Erika Elyse Leggett
Kimberly Michelle Lowell
Marisol Lua-Figueroa
Imani Jayonna Owens

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN STUDIO ART
Jessie Aaron Hawthorne
Victoria Marie Robicheaux
Lacey Ashton Wolgast

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION
Whitney Victoria Adams
Sanquinetta C. Banks
Brianna Michelle Bass
Ethan David Berwick
Baylee Shian Billiot
Ethan Marc Biri
Kiandra Louise Bowers
CaDarius LeByrant Clayborn Booker
Timothy Adam Collins
Cayla Denae Cooper
Kaysi Dawn Cox
Dvonte Tyrone Davis
Lisa Marie Dodson
Samantha Deeann Edwards
Cody Lyman Evans
Francesca Sioux Farris-Cancellare
Courtney Renee George
Jeanna Anne Gonzales
Trevier Matias Gonzalez
Rachel Deanne Green
Sarah Michelle Harris
Humberto Jimenez
Brooke Chesney Kirchhofer
Christine Robyn Lane
Johnny Ray Lively
Edward August Long III
Kenya Raysha Manuel
Marcus T. Owens
Patrick Charles Papillion
Caylin Brooke Poulter
Darrell Wayne Rachui Jr.
Leah Rochelle Randle
Michelle Marzieh Rezaie
Noe Omar Rodriguez
Brendan Michael Satran
Rashamir Ahmad Sims
Avery Hannah Smithhart
Brittany Danielle Soliz
Rebekah Carroll Wells
Blake H. Williams
Bryson Allen Wilson
Charles Edward Wright

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN AMERICAN SIGN LANGUAGE

Terri Nicole Britten
Jasmine Ashley Davis

Judith Karina De La Rosa
Jared Seth Emmons
Xavier Ahsur Kyree Hagans
Alexandra Nicole Hayes
Marta Marie Mentesana
Elizabeth Opeyemi Olatunbosun
Tanasha K. Slack-Olumoya
Nicholas William Thorson

BACHELOR OF ARTS IN MUSIC

Morgan Suzanne Buie

BACHELOR OF MUSIC

Eric Emmanuel Diaz
Madison Parker Droptini
Evan Carl LeBouef
Dakota J. Maradiaga
William John Poppe
Denzel Allen Richard
Tiffany Alyssa Ruiz
Stormy Alyssa Semich

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH AND HEARING SCIENCES

Cheridan Cymone Bailey
Marilee Katherine Brinson
Kelsey Marie Burt
Brooke Nicole Cleveland
Taylor Nicole DaPra
Richard Julian Datu
Rachel Nicole Davis
Sabrina G. Davis
Hunter Mathew Donnelly
Shelby A. Fincher
Baylie Ann Fox
Celina Grace Fabie Gernale
Nathan Kevin Griffin
Bachelor of Science in Theatre and Dance
Meredith Leigh Taylor

Doctoral Dissertations
Alqarni, Farraj – Hearing Parents of Deaf Children in Saudi Arabia: Communication Modes and Challenges – M. Diane Clark, Supervising Professor

Anderson, Emily Vey – The Discourse Marker ‘But’ in English to ASL Interpretations – M. Diane Clark, Supervising Professor

Masters Theses
Dueppen, Abigail – Voice Science and Instructional Language: How both are Integral in the Private Voice Studio – Nandhu Radhakrishnan, Supervising Professor
HONORS

An Honor Graduate must have completed 60 hours at Lamar University for a 4-year degree. A student with a GPA of 3.5 or higher on all LU undergraduate work will be awarded honors. Cum laude is 3.5 to 3.64, magna cum laude is 3.65 to 3.79 and summa cum laude is 3.8 to 4.0.

**ALPHA LAMBDA DELTA**
Freshman Honors
Red, White and Gold Triple Cord

**BETA TAU CHAPTER OF KAPPA PI**
International Honorary Art Fraternity
Purple and Gold Double Cord

**BETA XI CHAPTER OF PHI BETA DELTA**
International Student Honors
Gold Medallion with Red and Yellow Ribbon

**LU AMBASSADORS**
Student Ambassadors
Red and Gold Double Cord

**LU HONORS**
Latin Honors
Red and White Double Cord

**LU VETERANS**
US Military Veteran
Red, White and Blue Double Cord

**ORDER OF OMEGA**
Greek Honors
Gold Stole with Logo, Gold and Ivory Cord

**PHI BETA DELTA**
International Honor Society
Gold Medallion with Red and Gold Ribbon
**Phi Eta Sigma**
Freshman Honors
Black and Gold Double Cord

**Phi Kappa Phi**
Junior/Senior Honor Society
Yellow Stole with Insignia on White Background, White Medallion with a Blue Ribbon and Blue Cord

**Reaud Honors College**
Graduate who has completed 23 hours of honors coursework, including an honors thesis, or 26 hours with eight hours of upper-level credits while maintaining a 3.25 GPA.
Bronze Medallion with Red and White Ribbon

**Ronald E. McNair Scholar**
First generation, low income, and underrepresented graduate who has completed graduate-level research internship, including undergraduate thesis and research defense.
NASA Blue Stole with Lettering, Lamp of Knowledge Medallion with Red, White, and Blue Ribbon

**Smith-Hutson Scholar**
Smith-Hutson Scholarship Recipient
Black Stole with Red Trim
THE ACADEMIC REGALIA

In its essential features, the academic regalia worn at American college exercises had its beginning in the Middle Ages. The oldest universities in Northern Europe grew out of church schools, and both faculty and students were regarded as part of the clergy. Hence, as their regular costume, they wore clerical garb borrowed largely from the monastic dress of their day.

The academic gown and hood were first regularly adopted by the University of Cambridge in 1284 and by the University of Oxford a little later. The custom transplanted to this country in Colonial times by King’s College in New York, now Columbia University. In 1895, American universities and colleges decided to standardize their academic styles and developed the intercollegiate code of academic costume. The style follows in the vein of the Cambridge tradition. The distinctive caps, gowns and hoods worn at present-day college and university functions denote the institution that granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree was earned and the level of the degree – bachelor, master or doctorate.

The gown is usually of black material (serge or worsted for bachelors, the same or silk for masters and silk for doctors). Bachelor’s gowns have pointed sleeves and master’s have long pouch-like sleeves, which reputedly were once used to carry books. Doctor’s gowns are faced with panels of velvet down the front and three bars of velvet across each sleeve.

The hood, worn around the neck so as to hang down the back, is the principal emblem of the nature and source of the degree held. The colors in the hood lining are the colors of the school conferring the degree. The color of the border indicates the scholarly field of the wearer. Hoods may be worn only after the degree has been granted.

The cap, the square mortarboard in American universities, but a round, short, flat velvet hat in British, Canadian and some European universities, bears a tassel which may be black, or it may be colored
according to the scholarly field of the wearer. Only the doctors’ cap may be of velvet.

The degree colors are used for the edging of all hoods and may be used for the velvet facing and sleeve bars of doctors’ gowns and tassels on bachelors’ and masters’ caps. This includes: Arts and Letters – White, Commerce – Drab, Education – Light Blue, Engineering – Orange, Fine Arts – Brown, Humanities – Crimson, Law – Purple, Library Science – Lemon, Medicine – Green, Music – Pink, Pharmacy – Olive, Philosophy (Ph.D.) – Dark Blue, Physical Education – Sage Green, Science – Golden Yellow and Theology – Scarlet.

**University Mace**

Originally a medieval weapon and later carried by Sergeants at Arms guarding kings and high church officials, the mace has gradually assumed a purely ceremonial character symbolizing authority. As used in formal academic processions, the mace derives from the early university history. The Lamar University mace is traditional in design. The mahogany shaft is crowned by a head on which are mounted four representations of the university seal. The president of the Faculty Senate, who leads the academic procession, carries the mace in today’s ceremony.

**Academic Gonfalons**

Gonfalons, banners that are designed to hang from a crossbar, have historical roots dating back to the 12th century when they served as the official emblems to represent the various districts of Florence, Italy. In more recent times, gonfalons have been adopted by academia to serve as symbols to represent each college within a university. Each college has their own representative banner with the dean from the respective college carrying the gonfalon in the academic processional.
Lamar University engages and empowers students with the skills and knowledge to thrive in their personal lives and chosen fields of endeavor. As a doctoral granting institution, Lamar University is internationally recognized for its high quality academics, innovative curriculum, diverse student population, accessibility and leading edge scholarly activities dedicated to transforming the communities of Southeast Texas and beyond.

Special appreciation is extended to volunteers for serving as ushers for today’s commencement ceremony.

This program is not an official graduation list. This printed program lists students who are eligible to graduate pending the outcome of final examinations and final grades. Therefore, it should not be used to determine a student’s academic or degree status. The student’s permanent academic record is kept by the Records Department, P.O. Box 10010, Beaumont, Texas 77710. Students, faculty and staff members are selected without regard to their race, color, creed, sex, age, disability or national origin, consistent with the Assurance of Compliance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964; Executive Order 11246 as issued and amended; Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended; Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973.