



COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS & COMMUNICATION

**LAMAR UNIVERSITY**

MEMBER THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM™

# COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

MONTAGNE CENTER  
SATURDAY, MAY 12, 2018

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Kevin Dodson, Ph.D.	Dean of Reaud Honors College
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## MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN



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 2018 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.

Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.  
Dean



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## CEREMONY PROGRAM

Musical Prelude	Lamar University Commencement Brass Ensemble Andrew McMahan, D.M.A. <i>Director of Bands</i>
Academic Processional*	Nicki Michalski, Ph.D. <i>Associate Professor</i> <i>Department of Communication</i>
<i>Crown Imperial</i> Walton	Lamar University Commencement Brass Ensemble
The National Anthem* <i>The Star Spangled Banner</i> Francis Scott Key	Jammieca D. Mott, D.M.A. <i>Instructor of Voice</i> Mary Morgan Moore Department of Music
Welcome/Introductions	Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D. <i>Dean</i>
Commencement Address	James Simmons, Ed.D. <i>President Emeritus, Lamar University</i>
Student Commencement Address	Rebekah Gonzales <i>Theatre &amp; Dance Major,</i> <i>Dance Emphasis</i>
Certification of Graduates	Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.
Conferring of Degrees	Kenneth R. Evans, Ph.D. <i>President</i>



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Presentation of Graduating Class	Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.
Announcement of Graduates	Debrah Greschner, M.M. <i>Instructor, Department of Music</i>
Concluding Remarks and Awards	Derina Holtzhausen, Ph.D.
Lamar University Alma Mater* G. Rhodes Smartt	Jammieca D. Mott, D.M.A.
<i>Lamar to thee we're singing Voices raised on high. We will forever love thee Laud thee to the sky.</i>	<i>We will ever need thee As our guiding star. To us you'll always be Our glorious Lamar.</i>
Academic Recessional*	Nicki Michalski, Ph.D.

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.*



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## COLLEGE OF FINE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION FACULTY

Derina Holtzhausen,  
*Dean*

### **Art Department**

Donna Meeks, *Chair*  
Keith Carter  
Stephanie Chadwick  
Kurt Dyrhaug  
Xenia Fedorchenko  
Julia Fisher  
Prince Thomas

### **Communication Department**

Natalie Tindall, *Chair*  
Andre Favors  
Paul Hemenway  
Mahmoud Salimi  
Ruth Stanley  
Qingjiang Yao

**Deaf Studies/  
Deaf Education**  
Diane Clark, *Chair*  
Chong Min Lee  
Laura Maddux  
L. Joseph Mann  
Amber Marchut  
David R. Meek  
Millicent Musyoka  
Zanthia Smith  
S. Jordan Wright

### **Music**

Brian Shook, *Interim  
Chair*  
Sujung Cho  
Jacob Clark  
Rick Condit  
Robert Culbertson  
Timothy Dueppen  
Kim Ellis  
Kurt Gilman  
Debra Greschner  
James Han  
Andrew McMahan  
Charlotte Mizener  
Erin Murphy

Nick Rissman  
Dwight Peirce  
Eric Shannon

### **Speech & Hearing Sciences**

Monica Harn, *Chair*  
Jamie Azios  
Michael Azios  
Erin Burns  
Ashley Dockens  
Lilian Felipe  
Connie Howard  
Timothy Meline  
Nandhakumar  
Radhakrishna  
Heather Reading  
Karen Whisenhunt-Saar

### **Theatre & Dance**

Golden Wright, *Chair*  
Cherie Acosta  
Lou Arrington  
Brian LeTraunik  
Dave McManus  
Travis Prokop

### **FACULTY MARSHALS**

Kim Ellis  
Julia Fisher  
Paul Hemenway

Brian LeTraunik  
Timothy Meline  
Erin Murphy

Mahmoud Salimi  
Eric Shannon  
Zanthia Smith

### **OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR**

David Short Jr., *Registrar*  
Barbara Price, *Assistant Registrar*  
Natasha Walker, *Assistant Registrar*

### **COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE**

Summer Rather, *Director of Records & Registration*  
Mildred Piert, *Graduation Coordinator*  
Siaa Taylor, *Graduation Coordinator*



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## COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Veteran educator James "Jimmy" Simmons took office September 1, 1999, as Lamar University's 10th president, bringing a wealth of perspective on Southeast Texas and Lamar to the position.

A 40-year veteran of the faculty and leadership team at Lamar University, Simmons had served as dean of the College of Fine Arts and Communication since 1992. In 1996, he began serving concurrently as interim executive director of University Advancement.

Simmons' career with Lamar University began in 1970, when he joined the faculty as an instructor and director of the marching band. He rose through the ranks, later serving as Director of Bands and as Chair of the Department of Music and Theatre before his appointment as dean.

He previously taught and served as orchestra and band director in the Beaumont school district and as assistant director of bands and woodwind instructor at Memphis State University, where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree in music. Simmons earned his master's degree from the University of Houston and doctorate from McNeese State University.

Simmons and his wife, Susan, have a daughter, twin sons and six grandchildren.

Throughout his educational career, Simmons has attracted acclaim as a performer on clarinet, saxophone and piano and continues to maintain a performance schedule.

Jimmy Simmons is known as an administrator with a strong sense of direction and the keen ability to attract and cultivate talented faculty — who, he stresses, are professionals who teach rather than professional teachers. His innovative approaches to the pursuit of academic excellence and his winning rapport with students, faculty and staff are other defining qualities.



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## UNDERGRADUATE SPEAKER



Graduating Senior Rebekah Gonzales, the daughter of Wayne and Toni Gonzales, is a Southeast Texas native from Lumberton, Texas. A home school graduate, Gonzales received the Mirabeau Scholarship and enrolled in Lamar University in the fall of 2014, to pursue a Bachelors of Science in Theatre and Dance. While obtaining her degree, Gonzales has remained dedicated to building the creative community at Lamar University, as well as bridging the gaps between the arts

and other disciplines. Among her many involvements, Gonzales has served as a department ambassador during a two-week study abroad trip to Taiwan, a liaison for prospective dance majors, and as Historian for the Pi Omicron cast of Alpha Psi Omega. In November of 2016, Gonzales was a recipient of the Presidential Summer Fellowship, providing a five-week research trip in Montreal, Canada. While there, she worked with Brila Youth Projects to study creativity and philosophy for children. After graduation, Gonzales is looking forward to her summer wedding and plans to move to Galveston, Texas. She hopes to become a part of the thriving art community there both through performing and continuing to work with children. "I am a mix of open-minded creativity and hard-working ambition. My goal is to learn about other cultures and communities, while adding value to my own in every way I can."





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## **DOCTOR OF AUDIOLOGY**

Jasmin E. Auzenne  
Raymundo Charles  
Danica Lucille Moore  
Amber Nicole Olivas  
Stephanie Giovany Sandoval  
Gretchen Edith Stein  
Brienne Victoria Thibodeaux  
Natalie Nicole Yates

## **DOCTOR OF EDUCATION IN DEAF STUDIES/DEAF EDUCATION**

Heidi Lee Marice MacGlaughlin

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN DEAF STUDIES/DEAF EDUCATION**

Brenda Sue Marsh

## **MASTER OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH LANGUAGE PATHOLOGY**

Cristiana Adreanne Benson  
Christiana Elizabeth Bierbaum  
Collin Henderson Brice  
Kendra Lee Caswell  
Jordan Traylor Fetgatter  
Johanna Kristyn Figlia  
Brooke Cheri Freeman  
Valerie Diana Fuller  
Ciara Jordan Guilhas  
Natasha Samone Harrison  
Haley Marie Hebert  
Maria Teresa Hernandez  
Kayla Michelle Jackson  
Kolby Rachelle Joseph  
Lindsay Nicole Little  
Chelsea Danielle Lyles  
Chelsey Leanna Markum  
Leeanna Gabbrielle Martinez  
Ashlain Paige McGriff  
Kendall Morgan Precup  
Mallory Elizabeth Raborn

Stephanie Bermudez Richings  
Melissa Ann Fabie Sevilla  
Danielle Justine Smith  
Tibitha Mary Thomas  
Kali Jean Whitlow  
Tonica Yvette Wimberley  
Mary Wyatt  
Derek Andrew Yarbrough

## **MASTER OF MUSIC**

Caleb Michael Greene

## **BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN GRAPHIC DESIGN**

Timothy Michael Bazar  
Raven Alexandra Kristine Morse  
Marly J. Smith\*  
Shaina Dell Williams

## **BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS IN STUDIO ART**

Erin Kay DeLeon  
Virginia Paige Johnson  
Mary Catherine Caroline Wilbur

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN STUDIO ART**

Kelsie Nicole Liebel  
Stephanie Michelle Messina

## **BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATION**

Caleb Roy Adams  
Farid Ali  
Tierra Lynn Billiot  
Zjori Zane Bosha  
Jason Samuel Cabrera  
Ian Spencer Criss  
Tammy Lincecum Davis  
Lacey Marie de Bretagne  
Kiara Anne-Marie Akili Desamours  
Kaylee Brooke Dickens



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Brianna Nicole Dionne  
Bradford Keith Downs III  
Shyquilla Myqueen Ford  
Joseph Mathews Frenchwood  
Cathleen A. Hogan  
Milton Garfield Holmes II  
Michael Randyll Horton  
Jade Diminique Jackson  
Teddy Tyrone Johnson II  
Andrea L. Kennedy  
Roger Allen LaNear  
Hannah Michelle LeTulle  
Cedric Eugene Lyons  
Lisa W. McClelland  
Baileigh B. O'dell  
Deja Owens  
Brandi Nichole Scharber  
Gabrielle Malynn Smith  
Shelby Anne Strickland  
Elisabeth Leigh Tatum  
Taylor Christine Theriot  
Jason Tran  
Dawn D. Turner  
Whitney Raquel Walters  
Craig Douglas Watson  
Medron Keith White  
Aspen Danielle Winn  
Anthony DeVon Woodard

**BACHELOR OF ARTS IN AMERICAN  
SIGN LANGUAGE**

Miyah E'lon-Shawntell Clark  
Jessica Michelle Deville  
Rajmonda Krasniqi  
Tara Micaela Leopold  
Jakeitrah Emma-Louise Lockett  
Kandice LaNea McGrew  
Brittany Deanna Middleton  
Keeley Erin O'Dell  
Sidney Onwuharonye  
Ashley Nicole Owens

**BACHELOR OF MUSIC**

Anthony Lionel Alex Jr.  
Morgan Christopher Contreras  
Crystal Rochelle Haynes  
Caleb Mitchell King  
Randall Nguyen  
Adrian DeVonte Woodard

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SPEECH  
AND HEARING SCIENCES**

Kayla Nicole Broderson  
Chelsea Andrea Clark  
Hannah Lynn Goines  
Shelby Grace Hare  
Jessica Ana Hoskins  
Taryn Denise Lacour  
Chelsea Nguyen  
Kaylie Elisabeth Smith  
Maria Katherine Stamatis  
Mary-Caroline Trevino  
Kristen Diane Washburn

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
THEATRE AND DANCE**

Kaylee Nicole Breaux  
Shelby Danae Dryden  
LaTroy Roman Gable Jr.  
Rebekah Alyce Gonzales\*  
Sydney Danice Haygood  
Eyenkebi Brittney Itima  
Ciara Monique Jackson  
Bridget Leann Parker

\*Reaud Honors College Graduate



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## DOCTORAL DISSERTATIONS

MacGlaughlin, Heidi – *The Role of Fingerspelling in Early Communication, Language, and Literacy Acquisition of Deaf Children* –  
M. Diane Clark, Dissertation Chair



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## 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

### **LAMBDA PI ETA**

Communication Honor Society  
Red and White Double Cord

### **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



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**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 at least one high impact  
educational practice and 23 hour hours of honors coursework,  
including an honors thesis, or 26 hours with eight hours of  
upper-level credits while maintaining a 3.4 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



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## 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



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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 IS DEDICATED TO STUDENT  
SUCCESS BY ENGAGING AND EMPOWERING  
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,  
STUDENT SUCCESS, AND LEADING-EDGE  
SCHOLARLY ACTIVITIES CONTRIBUTING  
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.*