

COMMENCEMENT

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY





Dear Graduates,

Allow me to add my congratulations on your graduation from Nova Southeastern University.

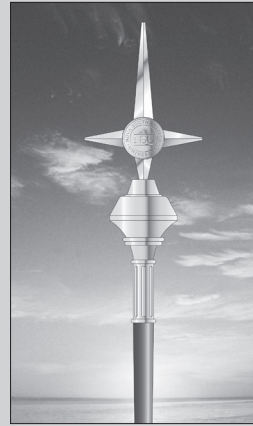
You can feel proud, as we do, that you walk this stage to receive your degree from a world-class, R1 research university that prepares our students for purposeful careers while fostering innovation, opportunity, and community service.

Personally, I believe the pursuit and successful achievement of higher education is one of life's most transformative journeys.

Today, I am sure that you are eager to step forward toward your own next chapter, ready to seek your own greater horizons. We celebrate you, your family, and your future success.

You are what excellence looks like.

Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
President and Chief Executive Officer
Nova Southeastern University



THE NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY MACE

HISTORY OF THE MACE

During the Middle Ages, the mace was an effective weapon in battle and also was displayed as a symbol to command order during royal gatherings, religious ceremonies, and university classes. As newer and more powerful military arms were created, however, the mace progressed into a symbol of authority and today is frequently used to lead religious and academic processions.

The mace was originally a wooden staff carried by royal messengers as a symbol to preserve order and usher royal functions. The early wooden staff of such royal messengers or lead ushers of ceremonial processions was transformed in the 14th century into an elaborate sterling silver mace. Eventually, in the 15th century it evolved into a symbol of academic excellence and dignity.

NSU'S MACE

Before its merger in 1994 with Southeastern University of the Health Sciences, Nova University's mace bore a sterling silver "nova star" symbolizing the university's name and mission. Symbolically, Nova University's "nova star" burned brightly, providing educational enlightenment to the world. Today, a new sterling silver mace highlights the past, present, and future through the inclusion of the original "nova star" representing the university's past, surrounding the NSU seal. When not in official use, the mace is displayed in the rotunda of the William and Norma Horvitz Administration Building.

In Latin, "nova" means new or innovative. Nova Southeastern University was created to be an innovative educational institution—to take the best of traditional education from the past and mold it to fit the needs of students for today and tomorrow.

NSU'S VISION

Enhance Nova Southeastern University's reputation as a leading professional-dominant, doctoral research university providing competitive career advantages to our students and fostering alumni and partnership connections.

NSU'S MISSION

The mission of Nova Southeastern University—a selective, doctoral research university—is to deliver leading academic programs in a dynamic, innovative environment. We foster academic excellence, leadership, integrity, and scientific, economic, and community contributions through engaging and empowering our students, faculty, staff, alumni, and partners.

CORE VALUES

Student-Centered
Academic Excellence
Scholarship and Research
Innovation
Opportunity
Community
Diversity
Integrity

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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President and CEO

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MACOI, FCCP
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Paul M. Sallarulo

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J. Kenneth Tate
Zachariah P. Zachariah, M.D.
Michael J. Zager

Trustee Emeriti

Ronald G. Assaf
H. Wayne Huizenga*
Mike Jackson
Nell McMillan Lewis, Ed.D.
George I. Platt, Esq.

* in memoriam

UNIVERSITY SENIOR ADMINISTRATORS

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President and Chief Executive Officer

Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
*Executive Vice President, Provost,
and Chief Academic Officer*

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*Executive Vice President and Chief
Medical Officer; Executive Medical
Director for NSU Health*

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*Executive Vice President for Facilities,
Safety, and Campus Services*

Marc Crocquet, M.B.A.
Vice President for Business Services

Ken Dawson-Scully, Ph.D., M.Sc.
*Senior Vice President for Research
and Associate Provost*

Kyle Fisher, B.A.
*Vice President for Public Relations and
Marketing Communications*

Valerie Grapshi, M.P.A.
Interim Vice President for Compliance

Rick E. James, B.B.A.
*Chief Strategy and Operations Officer
for NSU Health*

Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D.
*Senior Vice President for Academic
Affairs and Associate Provost*

Terry Mularkey, M.A.S., CFRE
*Vice President for Advancement and
Community Relations*

Thomas F. Panza, J.D.
*Interim Vice President for Legal Affairs
and General Counsel*

Stacy Peña-Villalobos, Ed.D.
*Vice President for Financial Aid and
Academic Records*

Ryan Romero, M.S.
Interim Athletics Director

Kelley Shanley, M.B.A.
*Interim Executive Director,
Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward
Center of Innovation*

Alyson Silva, M.AC., CPA
*Executive Vice President and
Chief Financial Officer*

Renee Venezia, Ed.D., SPHR
*Interim Vice President for
Human Resources*

Thomas West, M.B.A.
*Vice President for Information
Technologies and
Chief Information Officer*

CEREMONY SCHEDULE

Undergraduate Degrees

May 5, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.	4
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center	5
May 5, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.	8
Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice	9
College of Computing and Engineering.....	9
College of Psychology.....	10
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship	10
Shepard Broad College of Law	11

May 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.	12
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine	13
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences	13
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing	14

OUTSTANDING STUDENTS

May 5, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

**Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the
Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center**
Lauren Rose Nonnenmacher, *Chemistry*
Sophia Carolyn Wehle, *International Studies*

May 5, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

**Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and
School of Criminal Justice**
Suzette M. Benitez, *Education*
Julia M. Turano, *Education*

College of Computing and Engineering
Elohor Uvo, *Information Technology*
Efemena G. Uvo, *Information Technology*

College of Psychology
Kamea Peterman, *Psychology*
Divya Vijay Papaiya, *Psychology*

Farquhar Honors College
Kevin Rafferty, *Marine Biology*
Aditi Gorthy, *Neuroscience and Biology*

**H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business
and Entrepreneurship**
Isaiah Anthony Cabral, *Accounting*

Shepard Broad College of Law
Jenna Dewey, *Law*
Bryan A. Soudrain, *Law*

May 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
Colin J. Pulickathadam, *Health Informatics and Biology*
Galena Gomez, *Public Health*

Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Marissa Olina Bonsangue, *Anesthesia*
Kylee Thomas, *Medical Sonography*

Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing
Lauren Elizabeth Alberts, *Nursing*
Kaylah Louis, *Nursing*

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the
Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center

May 5, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal

Degree Candidates

Members of the Faculty

Members of the Board of Trustees

Distinguished Guests

University Officials

Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>
Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith	
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshal	Juliette Kitchens, Ph.D., <i>Associate Professor</i> <i>Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the</i> <i>Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President,</i> <i>Provost, and Chief Academic Officer</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., <i>Dean</i>
Halmos College of Arts and Sciences	Robin Cooper, Ph.D., <i>Interim Dean,</i> <i>Halmos College of Arts and Sciences and the</i> <i>Guy Harvey Oceanographic Research Center</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D.
Student Speaker	Taylor McKenna Reinsel, Class of '25
Conferring of the Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters Degree	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Commencement Address.....	Jeb Bush, <i>Governor</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshal Juliette Kitchens, Ph.D.
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
Bright sun shining new;
Radiant star of our morning,
Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
and thy love a beacon strong,
as throughout the world we spread thy name
joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
By thy light imbue,
Service, honor, loyalty,
'til our days are through,
Love Thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

HALMOS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE GUY HARVEY OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CENTER

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Art and Design

Maria Laura Bernal Torres
Malea M. Burroughs
Angelica Maria Guerra Ruales, Jr.
Cadan Emmanuel Hinds
Isabella Ray Marmo
Gabriella A. Neves
Jada A. Parris
Bryan Heath Pekar
Anastasia Vazquez de Miguel

Communication

Francesca Abarca
Brielle Amy Aguayo
Mia Alvarado
Alana Ellis
Luqman M. Gbenro
Allison E. Holland
Marissa Karlie Jacobacci
Suzan Kinran
Marlon Vicente Matute, Jr.
Kayla C. Mcgee
Fidel Ernesto Pérez Pujols
Emily Diane Potter
Nicolette Theresa Marie Sobit
Valeria Toro
Elimar Villamizar

Dance

Madison Ashley Cantor
Rachel L. Harris
Ysabella B. Lupercio
Abigail F. Mas
Kimora Roberts

English

Abigail D. Geier
Christina T. Hall
Anjaly Ann Kappen
Gloria D. Mendez
Sabrina Solaman

History

Anais K. Orellana

International Studies

Sama H. Ali
Kareilys Castillo
Catalina Cusano
Jenny Davila
Jihnnny P. De Giles
Alexandra Diana Hernandez
Sophia Carolyn Wehle

Music

Jyllian Donnae Brown
Estela Annette Bruno
Carmela Luna Cinnante
James Perez

Political Science

Joshua Hertz Abadi
Madison Alvarez
Kyle Bell
Suraj H. Doobay
Gabriella R. Fidanze
Casey L. Homorody
Taylor M. Margherita

Danisse Martinez
Parker J. Morgan
Melina Isabelle Pecci
Raul Andres Riquelme Forero
Nikolas David Tousis
Emily Nicolette Troy

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Amanda I. Alonso
Brooke M. Bowser
Maria Soccora Pironi
Katey Alexa Rusgo

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Applied Professional Studies

Mia Adamus
Elizabeth E. Adigun
Timari Janay Barnes
Natalia A. Berning
Addison A. Bremmer
Dominique B. Brown
Ian George Brundrett
Brianna Josephine Buckley
Ariana Beatriz Cardona
Jolie R. Coelho
Cassidy Duskin
Maria F. Espinoza
Stephanie Fernandez-Blay
Kayla Ashley Germain
Layth Hai
Joseph Iraldi, Jr.
Anabelle L. Jerome
Ryan Kenney
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Natalie Lynn McGinnis
Erin M. Mcglothlin
Sarai Rebecca Mooror
Jahbari I. Newton

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Carlos Nolasco, Jr.
Alejandro D. Perez
Kader Rabagh
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Lauren A. Robledo
Steven Rodriguez
Zeth Rodriguez
Raoul Rajanard Rolle
Jared Robert Scott
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Fernando J. Vila
Krystal B. Wallace
Teshia Natalie Watson Bailey

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Ashley Tomasine Abraham
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Sama H. Ali
Rohan Alokam
Melissa Alonso Roig
Tania Anousheh
Guadalupe Armendarez
Claudette C. Artilles
Karam H. Asad
Omobolanle A. Ayangade
Felipe F. Ayoub
Jake Thomas Baber
Catherine Balderas-Espinel
Carsyn E. Band
Shehr Bano
Danniel Shane Barte
Anish Batta
Amanda N. Bautista
Tiarra Been
Stephanie A. Bellido
Roshini S. Bodicherla
Ashley Nicole Bran Sampson

Andrew Ian Brandea
 Laasya Buddhharaju
 Dylan Bulkan
 Taylor Rhea Butler
 Brianna M. Calderon
 Alexis Nicole Carver
 Mateo CastanoGalindo
 Maria M. Castellon
 Lara Cereminati
 Bryan C. Chan
 Sansen Chanasseril
 Abril Chao
 Zinel Katarina Chernin
 Jordan D. Chessar
 Elizabeth Condor
 Cheyanne Carole Crisafulli
 Kylie Elizabeth daCosta
 Ahmad Abdallah Dahcheh
 Christina Dai
 Aalyah W. Daoud
 Krishna Dasyam
 Taila L. De Castro
 Mahi B. Desai
 Manav G. Desai
 Danna Michelle Diaz Pedroza
 Ishrat M. Diya
 Sahit Dokku
 Vishaal Athul Daryl Dulan
 Nitish Dundigalla
 Bianca Echeverria
 Valentina El Khouri Faieta
 Serene A. Ellis
 Nour I. Elmoutawakel
 Marco A. Escuela
 Justin Evans Fahie
 Brianna K. Ferguson
 Whitney K. Francois
 Stephany Frantser
 Joel Hedley Fry
 Francesca Marie Galanti
 Rahil J. Gandhi
 Alexa Bell Garcia
 Daniela Garcia Alvarez
 Fabie Gelin
 Thomas Eldose George
 Faith T. German
 Elizabeth S. Gertchev
 Aleksandra Gierasimiuk
 Kishan Chowdary Goli
 Aylen H. Gomez
 Chase Allen Gonzales
 Jovanna Anabel Gonzalez
 Michelle Lynn Gorodisky
 Aditi Gorthy
 Gal Gottesmann
 Simran Goyal
 Emmanuel Guerrero
 Sridevi Gundimeda
 Alicia E. Hall
 Daphne Sabrina Hernandez
 Adriana Hernandez Acosta
 Natalie My Duyen Ho
 Elsis Nerys Hurtado
 Melissa I. Intriago
 Jeniya N. Jackson
 Salena Rose Jacob

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 Arun S. Jagarlamudi*
 Christopher T. James
 Niah A. Johnson
 Briona Marie Johnston
 Al'Shanyrah C. Jones
 Vyctorea C. Jones
 Jasmine Julka
 Christie Justin
 Akhil S. Kalapatapu
 Tabitha P. Karls
 Mahit Kattekola
 Sanjna Chowdary Kavuru
 Mariya Tanveer Khan
 Sabrina M. Khan
 Chetan S. Kolli
 Sohan Reddy Kolli
 Sri Vaishnavi Konagalla
 Shravya Konatam
 Devaj Surya Koralla
 Megha Mary Kurian
 Anastasia N. Kydes
 Brianna Michelle Lacasse
 Amulya Lakum
 Shaini Lal
 Danny Vinh Lam
 Robert M. Langer
 Justin M. Le
 Vyn Aviso Le
 Kangheon Lee
 Kaylyn Lee
 Nia Angelique Lewis
 Olivia C. Livingstone
 Pranav Reddy Madadi
 Revanth Madamsetty
 Sanjana Madaram
 Kymberlee C. Mahatoo
 Martina Alejandra
 Maldonado Chavez
 Pavan Reddy Mandadi
 Ethan Christopher Manoo
 Sofia P. Marichal
 Annakay T. Martin
 Uriel L. Masckauchan
 Sheril Raju Mathew
 Jay Angad Matta
 Kayle Mederos
 Jasneen Meghadri
 Rushil Mehrotra
 Melanie Mendonca
 Nadia K. Milfort
 Michelle Claire Milman
 Jaffar I. Mohamed
 Yvedaelle Moncher
 Rahul Mote
 Jewel Mousa
 Smrithi Mukund
 Ilan R. Nedjar
 Rachel Nguyen
 Maximiliano B. Nolan
 Mahi Reddy Nomula
 Sharon Nunez
 Goodness Okoh
 Chukwudum Chimere Okpalaoka
 Julia Oliveira Bernardes

Alyssa Nicole Ortiz
 Aleia Jean Ott
 Luca Robert Pachler
 Jose Christian Padron, Jr.
 Pooja P. Parikh
 Taviana A. Parker
 Arjun Ashish Patel
 Ashna Patel
 Darsh D. Patel
 Diya Patel
 Ishani Gaurav Patel
 Kunjal M. Patel
 Mit R. Patel
 Ohm V. Patel
 Param Patel
 Pareena P. Patel
 Prem M. Patel
 Riyana Patel
 Savri K. Patel
 Shanay M. Patel
 Shreeya Patel
 Shreeya Rajesh Patel
 Shrey Nikhilesh Patel
 Sneh Patel
 Vir Patel
 Vraj V. Patel
 Kaitlyn J. Perez
 Angelina Perumal
 Chamryne R. Pierre
 Teya Ana Plastich
 Akhil Sai Polakampalli
 Bianca Simona Popovski
 Katherine Grace Christina Powell
 Colin J. Pulickathadam
 Victoria Pulido-Correa
 Sumaiya Rahman
 Arpita M. Raman
 Jarlynn Melissa Ramirez
 Roohika Rastogi
 Rohan Rukkannagari Reddy
 Lewis Augustus Reid
 Taylor McKenna Reinsel
 Daniela Reyes
 Hailey Virginia Ribeiro
 Melanie Rodriguez
 Adam M. Sadik
 Emiliano Saldana
 Omar E. Saleh
 Shriya Selvakumar
 Simrun Shah
 Valton Sharpe
 Rawia Siddiqui
 Elan Mark Silman
 Breanna Silva
 Carlos A. Silva
 Yenisis Maria Silva
 Varesha Ashti Singh
 Ngo Tsun Siu
 Jaden J. Smith
 Tanveer Soha
 Lauren Gabrielle
 Solovey-Zilberman
 Sameer Sorathia
 Anise M. Study
 Anagha Sneha Sudhir

Lohita Sunkara
 Srikar S. Sureddi
 Shreya Pankaj Surti
 Jalyann L. Sylvain
 Melianni Terrero
 Aleesha E. Thomas
 Dejelei Avianna Thomas
 Rebecca Thomas
 Alayla P. Tingzon
 Varun D. Toot
 Selena Tran
 Shivani H. Trivedi
 Nicoletta Tsalickis
 Ritu Upadhyay
 Ned Vaitkevicius
 Jay Vakil
 Giulia Eliza Vanden Bossche
 Renita A. Varghese
 Lizbeth M. Varughese
 George Vasilakis, Jr.
 Victoria A. Vazquez
 Linda Yelian Vega Bounmada
 Rachel Velazquez
 Annette Joe Veliyathumalil
 Rohith Venkateswaran
 Camilla I. Vertsman
 Zafeer A. Virani
 Raquel Rose Walton
 Makayla T. White
 Christeena T. Williams
 Natalia Christina Wood
 Leon Joe Yacoub
 Bhavya Sivani Yandapalli
 Subin Yun
 Astrid Carolina Yunapanta Cevallos

Chemistry

Emily Elizabeth Bernard
 Jalianna A. Bonetti
 Chloe E. Brooks-Noriega
 Ninoshka Isabel Garcia-Torres
 Fabio Andreas Hasler
 Lauren Rose Nonnenmacher
 Pablo A. Perez, Jr.

Environmental Sciences

Justin Abonce
 Adrianna Halina Agosto
 Morgan Anderson
 Michael A. Birnbaum
 Amanda Catherine Bogle
 Si'Ron Davis
 Roman Devlin
 John Paul Nichols
 Emma C. Pinard
 Iyanla Reid
 Corinne Renshaw
 Keever R. Rood
 McKenna Smith
 Lillie M. Suthers
 Carsyn Waldman

Interdisciplinary Studies

Eleni Angelos
 Blake Alexander Barker

Legal Studies

Grace Acierno
Victoria Arutunian
Sabrina Stephanie Barrabi
Isabella Dell'Api
Jareth Garcia
Isabela Garcia Arregui
Priya Goyal
Farrah Hashish
Nadia J. Hayslip
Monica V. Kiselyuk
Nicholette K. Lanane
Adam Tamsis
Alba Luz Vargas Rodriguez
Ravyn White
Tyler Jeffrey Williams
Maria-Elissa Zamora

** Pan Student Government
Association (PanSGA)
Representative*

Marine Biology

Nicholas Dean Burchett
Aidan M. Casey
Guenevere Coury
Alexis K. Crass
Anthony Daniel D'Auria
Delaney Madison Deinlein
Connor Scott Fitzgerald
Tehya S. Fulcher
Elizabeth German
Pamela Gonzalez
Samuel Gorman
Abigayle K. Groth
Kate Lynn Heffner
Emma M. Horton
Kevin Rafferty
Jarod Kester Rashad Johnson
Reginald Leon Kempson III
Katelyn Ann McKimmy
Charlotte Reanne Oliver
Juliana N. Ottens-Rivera
Sierra Marley Rafacz
Kevin Rafferty
Ryan T. Robison
Marissa L. Rosas
Kelsee B. Roterling
Mackenzie E. Soligon
Savanna Steinbacher
Alexis E. Tardif
Ian Xavier Thelwell
Jasmyn Todaro
Angelina Trapani-Banyra
Ariel Rose Velligan
Gavin M. Wagner
Ethan Lucky Warner
Olivia H. Weeks
Amelia Rose Wheaton
Alyssa Lauren Williams
Kylee M. Wright

Mathematics

Angelina Georg

Sociology

Daniella Rachel Friedman
Daniel Shvets

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the
**Abraham S. Fischler College of Education
and School of Criminal Justice**
College of Computing and Engineering
College of Psychology
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship
Shepard Broad College of Law

- THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION
- Grand Marshal
- Degree Candidates
- Members of the Faculty
- Members of the Board of Trustees
- Distinguished Guests
- University Officials

May 5, 2025, at 3:00 p.m.

Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>
Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith	
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshal	Gregory Simco, Ph.D., <i>Associate Dean/Chair/Professor, College of Computing and Engineering</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President, Provost, and Chief Academic Officer</i>
Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice	Kimberly Durham, Psy.D., <i>Dean</i>
College of Computing and Engineering	Meline Kevorkian, Ed.D., <i>Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Associate Provost; Dean</i>
College of Psychology	Karen Grosby, Ed.D., <i>Dean</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., <i>Dean</i>
H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship	Andrew J. Rosman, Ph.D., <i>Dean and Professor of Accounting</i>
Shepard Broad College of Law	Olympia Ross Duhart, J.D., <i>Interim Dean</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D.
Student Speaker	Anne Sylvie F. Jean Louis, Class of '25
Commencement Address.....	Mitchell W. Berger, Esq.
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshal Gregory Simco, Ph.D.
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
Bright sun shining new;
Radiant star of our morning,
Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
and thy love a beacon strong,
as throughout the world we spread thy name
joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
By thy light imbue,
Service, honor, loyalty,
'til our days are through,
Love Thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

ABRAHAM S. FISCHLER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Child Development

Angel M. Callenius
Adah R. Hall
Jamie C. Kivelier
Maranda Martin
Zhenya E. Nicholls
Mackenzie Gray Odom
Briona J. Pinder
Chiara B. Poke-Hannah
Olivia L. Van Duyne

Criminal Justice

Olivia A. Chierico
Noah Michael Donato
Lydia Drake
Morgan G. Gesty
Melanie Giordano
Deborah Gonzalez
Miguel Angel Guzman
Kristina Olivia Losquadro
Vanessa Jean Rose McDonald
Ryan Nauyokas
Camille Otero
Ashley L. Panzino
Julian E. Paskel
Gabriella Passenti
Catherine Pena-Pedraza

Anaiya L. Person
Destiny-Marie Shaughnessy
Rebecca Stieglitz
Sara Ximena Tafur
Gabriella Estella Tome
Anna Gwendoline Utech
Krista M. Vasquez
Aliza Jean Williams
Jenny Alise Young

Education

Lohatany Argueta
Eliana Raine Bouet
Adam Micheal Camerino
Ashley Caraballo
Skylar Elizabeth Carroll
Alora DaFonseca
Jennifer R. Estrada
Islandia M. Estrella Arias
Daniella Gainza
Amber S. Gammage
Dontae Gardner
Tiya Goins
Haylee A. Hebert
Anaisabel Herrera-Carvajal
Skye Hinson
Ayanna A. Morris
Kella B. Noncent
Anais K. Orellana
Eleanor Katherine Quinn
Madison Josie Richardson
Sofia Rodriguez
Alyssa Trozolino
Ana Laura Turino
Mahyrah York

Elementary Education with ESOL/ Reading Endorsements

Suzette M. Benitez
Genesis Castro Agosto

Alyssa N. Drogemuller
Kennedy Ann Goncalves
Maria Elena Gonzalez
Mekaylla Karlson
Ava Katherine Lee-Pitts
Hannah Miltenberger
Lauren Renee O'Brien
Jordan Elizabeth Pazos
Olivia Rose Plessl
Cady L. Rotolo
Kadian Sierra Taylor
Alana Varela

Exceptional Student Education with ESOL Endorsement

Nichole Caicedo
Daniel J. Cicerrella
Arianna Rose Moore
Alexa M. Schaan

Human Services Administration

Andrea Valentina Bruno Pestana
Kamilah Safa
Tatiana Smith

Secondary Biology Education

Emily Rose Giannelli
Maritere Manso

Secondary English Education with ESOL/Reading Endorsements

Barbara Jacobovitz
Valentina Mosquera

Secondary Math Education

Maria D. Rivera Ramos
Julia M. Turano

Secondary Social Studies Education

Christopher Cruz
Lily Martin
Eliana Mariah Plummer

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Computer Science

Jayden C. Alexander
Irem Arslan
Ethan Patrick Barthelemy
Julianne Bollain Y Goytia
Carol Ann Boodram
David Campos
Brandon J. Cardillo
Brandon J. Catalano
Angela Chung
Arthur Correia Iorio Gomes
Minh Triet Do
Braydon D. Gibson
Alyssa Livia Grigg
Tristan J. Hernandez
David A. Liendo
Inigo Marina
Anthony Ivan Parra
Nicolas Ritondale
Kade S. Robertson
Nicole Mary Shaker
Isha Swamy

Engineering

Cameron Marco Brown
Angie M. Castillo
Taliyah Cherubin
Noah D. Martinez
Ziv Nachmani
Ruben Anthony Ramirez
Brandon Colome Ysibido

Information Technology

Sameer Akhtar
Abdulrahman Mohammad
A. Alsuwaidani
Scott Konur Altiparmak
Camila Arroyo Alfaro
Luciano G. Dipiazza
Roberto O. Gardner
Clayton J. Haggitt
Sreejani D. Jonnalagadda
Priya D. Kallicharan
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Juan P. Marin
Marjorie Fabiana Mesias
James S. Plummer
Nicholaus M. Sabare
Charlie A. Sanchez
David Scheevel
Roxana Seoane
Trovon T. Stephenson
Daniel Tehrani
Kaylan Adrian Jordan Turnquest
Efemena G. Uvo
Elohor Uvo
Kiara Williams
Mingyang Xi

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

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Behavioral Neuroscience

Stacey Doret
Chandler James Kinney
Samantha D. Petitjean Nieves
Sajeev Kumar Sarkar

Neuroscience

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Arya Arunkumar
Roshini S. Bodicherla
Ashley Nicole Bran Sampson
Laasya Buddhara
Conor Ryan Burke
Zoe Busca
Juanita Castillo
Sabrina M. Castro
Chancey M. Cherry
Shawn D. Chollampel
Riya Davar
Bianca C. De Leon
Aliya DeJesus

Vikram Dhillon
Nitish Dundigalla
Kaelei A. Echavarria
Paulina L. Escudero
Larissa Fantetti
Nitisha S. Gajavalli
Alan George
Tiya Goins
Chase Allen Gonzales
Ariana Gonzalez
Maria Guillen-Mendez
Roham Hadidchi
Kaylee Nicole Hankey
Ariana Valentina Hernandez
Philopatier G. Ibrahim
Shruthi Kaveti
Divya Komandooru
Avani Anand Kulkarni
Shaini Lal
Justin M. Le
Amanda K. Lee
Medha Mageswaran
Natalia Andrea Martinez Bolivar
Sneha Puthiyakunnel Mathew
Valery Sofia Mejia
Melanie Mendonca
Nadia K. Milfort
Smrithi Mukund
Aishwarya Muppoor
Afia Zahin Mushfika
Sriya R. Nallala
Divya Vijay Papaiya
Ishika Patel
Yachi H. Patel
Neyna C. Portis
Bhargav Potineni
Priyanka Prasanna
Victoria Pulido-Correa
Arpita M. Raman
Pratha Rattan
Leilani Romero
Kiele G. Roth
Patricia Salamanca Succurro
Omar E. Saleh
Derek Sosias Marrero
Esha Surana
Ruth Thomas
Ritu Upadhyay
Samantha D. Petitjean Nieves
Diya Varma
Priya Reddy Vontikommu

Psychology

Shavonne Adaka
Aaron Benjamin Address
Hugo Alegre
Rueida Ali
Hayden Hope Almas
Lily G. Arancheril
Valerie Arevalo
Jillian R. Armesto
Victoria Arteaga
Azariah Bachan
Olivia J. Batista
Estelle G. Bauer
River Steele Beam

Bethany Bednarczyk
Melissa S. Bell
Kelsey McLaurine Berkebile
Justin Bey
Kylee S. Blair
Tamara Bogdanova
Celia Sophie Boyajian
Rebekah A. Brown
Pamela Burroughs
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Ruben Castellanos La Fuente
Thais Magali Chavez Maggi
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Luis A. Colon
Nadia Jocelin Cook
Tori Copeland
Kaitlyn Grace Cosgrove
Katia Coste
Mary Cristian
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Lihi Elmakias
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Thomas Erik Flower
Britney Ania Gardiner
Dontae Gardner
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Alexa Metelkin
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Daniyal Baig
Abigail Marie Bartoli
Hanna Bern
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Arielle Ehrenworth
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Johnny Jean-Claude
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Kevin Liang Liu
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Leo Szeinberg
Debora Tesserova
Destin Beverson Thompson
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Julian Vidal

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Alexander Micheal Anderson Lee
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Jordy Aristizabal
Cody Warren Brown
Christianne Drew Buddan
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Sabrina Lowy
Michael Griffin Mumme
Gabriella A. Neves
Chiara Ocasio
Cora J. Padilla Castillo
Ju'Neece Paris
Monique Petersen
Rose Maria Grazia Petrucelli
Jianna Renard
Kelsi A. Smith
Maria Paula Ulloa
Joao Pedro Moretti Vasques
Terry Alexander Worrell

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Syra M. Bhoola
Martina Campos Blumzak
Renardo Jamaine B. Curry
John T. English
Danny Gonzalez
Mickayla Rose Melnick
Kate Mihacevich
Jeremy Odajuste
Nuria Noemi Perez Herrera
Kayla S. Willis

Sport and Recreation Management

Luca Alessandrini
Theodore G. Bosecker
Ryker Cisarik
Ricardo Edu Gallardo Maldonado
Dallas S. Graziani
Jamal N. Kahok
Alexander P. Kaplan
Christopher David Marrero
Caley Massa
Anthony Preston Nelson
Mackenzie Katherine Schultz

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Law

Alexia Lauren Almeida
Lohatany Argueta
Emma Frances Cooley
Sara Elizabeth Cooley
Jayden N. Cowart
Jenna Dewey
Vincent K. Han
Amanda Marie Infante
Elizabeth L. Lauver
Melanie Loyola
Isabella Moreno Bayona
Brianna Santamaria
Jonathan Segura
Bryan A. Soudrain
Isabella P. Stapp
Mia Rose Swift
Julia Rose Zeb

Paralegal Studies

Elizabeth A. Pino

ORDER OF EXERCISES

Undergraduate Degrees from the
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing

May 6, 2025, at 9:30 a.m.

THE ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Grand Marshal
Degree Candidates
Members of the Faculty
Members of the Board of Trustees
Distinguished Guests
University Officials

Processional.....	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>
Presiding Officer.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd, <i>President and Chief Executive Officer</i>
NSU ROTC Contingent Presentation of the Colors	
<i>National Emblem March</i> (Trio) by E. E. Bagley, arr. Cavanaugh	
<i>The Star-Spangled Banner</i> by Key/Smith	
Convening the Commencement	
Grand Marshal	Barbara Arcos, D.O., <i>Chair/Associate Professor,</i> <i>Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine</i>
Welcome and Introductions.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D., <i>Executive Vice President,</i> <i>Provost, and Chief Academic Officer</i>
Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine.....	Phyllis Joy Filker, D.M.D., M.P.H., <i>Executive Associate Dean</i> <i>of Undergraduate, Graduate, Technology, and</i> <i>Community Education, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of</i> <i>Osteopathic Medicine</i>
Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences.....	Robert Wagner, D.H.Sc., M.M.Sc., CAA, <i>Executive Associate Dean,</i> <i>Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences</i>
Farquhar Honors College.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D., <i>Dean</i>
Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing	Stefanie La Manna, Ph.D., M.P.H., A.P.R.N., FNP-C, AGACNP-BC, <i>Dean and Associate Professor</i>
Opening Remarks.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Recognition of Honors College and Honor Society Graduates.....	Andrea Nevins, Ph.D.
Student Speaker	Colin J. Pulickathadam, Class of '25
Introduction to Commencement Speaker.....	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Commencement Address.....	Chad A. Perlyn, M.D., Ph.D., M.B.A., <i>Executive Vice President</i> <i>and Chief Medical Officer; Executive Medical Director for</i> <i>NSU Health</i>
Presentation of Candidates for Degrees.....	Ronald J. Chenail, Ph.D.
Conferral of Degrees	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Closing Remarks	Harry K. Moon, M.D., FACS, FRCSEd
Dismissal of the Commencement	Grand Marshal Jackie Hinckley, Ph.D., CCC-SLP, <i>Director/Professor,</i> <i>Dr. Pallavi Patel College of Health Care Sciences</i>
Recessional	

THE STAR-SPANGLED BANNER

O! say can you see by the dawn's early light,
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars through the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air,
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there;
O! say does that star-spangled banner yet wave,
O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

NOVA SOUTHEASTERN UNIVERSITY ALMA MATER

Hail Thee, Nova Southeastern!
Bright sun shining new;
Radiant star of our morning,
Ever rising, true;

May thy wisdom serve as our constant guide
and thy love a beacon strong,
as throughout the world we spread thy name
joining voice in grateful song:

Nova Southeastern, Alma Mater,
By thy light imbue,
Service, honor, loyalty,
'til our days are through,
Love Thee, Gray and Blue!

CANDIDATES

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Health and Wellness Coaching

Kirk Klemm
Viraaj Miriyala
Lauryn Olavarria
Kinsey G. Waite

Health Informatics

Nitya Alaparthi
Tiffany L. Bednarczyk
Brianna Nicole Perez
Marisa M. Persaud
Colin J. Pulickathadam
Rebecca F. Spector
Andie Nicole Trupiano

Human Nutrition

Vishal Ahuja
Kaveri Amin
Cony C. Chow
Samantha Cicardo
Lacaya S. Evans
Emily Kim Lopez-Martin
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Reilly Chloe Richardson
Maxwell James Sorensen
Hunter Taylor
Tanya thanh Van
Zachery T. Workeman
Shoshana R. Yachnes

Public Health

Fabiana P. Acosta
Nikole Emiliana Alexopoulos
Sam Craig Allardyce
Arisha Arain
Kiyan Nick Aslani
Stephanie Michelle Avelar
Yvonne Neylee Aviles
Zahra A. Aziz
Isabella Bazante
Nikhil M. Bhave
Yashica Bhuvane
Kaitlin Marie Bohorquez
Stephanie Marie Cabrera
Arianna M. Calderon
Frantzy A. Charles
Brooke Ann Chesto
Raeed Chowdury
Michelle Crespo
Amelie Desmangles
Abhay Raj Dharanikota
Samhita Doranala
Abiela Duperme
Emily R. Fallon
Galena Gomez
Sydonnie Grant
Nicole E. Grillo
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Megana Sange Guntur
Daveigh Henry
Kayleigh Josephine Herron
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Varun S. Jagarlamudi
Kashena Toniann James
Lickchina Jeanlis
Daquayvia Johnson
Sairohan Karnati
Kabir Duggal Lall

Thu-Trang Tristyn Le
Daniela Li Sereno
Wardah M. Lodhi
Alissa Nicole Lopez Sandoval
Mazariegos
April Y. Machta
Rathika Manikandan
Rithesh Manikandan
Jenin Mannaa
Rizwan Kashif Mansoor
Audrie Mulenga Matete
Kristen B. McFarlane
Heaven'le A. Mckenzie
Annaistasia Morris
Sajan Parikh
Courtney Marie Pascol
Mit R. Patel
Gabrielle C. Perez
Dylan Phen
James Marshall Pike
Sandhya D. Ponnaganti
Hannah J. Raible
Bryanna I. Ramirez
Robert A. Recupido
Alianys Rodriguez
Katherine Rodriguez
Renee Lenisha Rowley
Saya Seraj
Joanna Seraphin
Sanjana R. Sivaiah
Asia Stephen
Sreelikh Vangavolu
Alexia Grace Vulpis

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Aset-Tiyi Franklin
Destyn Unique Giffes
Carla Hernandez
Erika Elizabeth Honse
Stephanie A. Innocent
Whitney Simone Kelly
Myriah Claire Kosko
Fredeline Merone II
Colton Mizell
Laila Patel
Emely Pineda
Aysha Shaikh

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Cardiovascular Sonography

Hannah Armstrong
Aylin Bautista-Martinez
Amy Behling
Dannii Garcia
Sharline Joseph
Jonisha Kowalski
Erin Ann McDermitt
Saajidah Mohammed
Lindsey R. Montemayor
Ashley Catherine Osorio
Mariah Elise Pardo
Kara Rahn
Daniela Graciela Sucre

Exercise and Sport Science

Maria S. Apoldo
Avanie Balram
Anthony T. Benitez
Marissa Olina Bonsangue
ToniAnn I. Brezina
Gianna Cathryn Clemente
Antonio M. Crisanti
Maria Nickola Diamantis
David C. Diaz
Dijonae Amanda Ellis
Amanda Gelina
Summer P. Gunston
Andre M. Guzman
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Morgan Amelia Hallatt
Zoe N. Henry
Isabelle Sarah Jeanis
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Alexandra N. Jimenez
Caitlin Alexis Kucharski
Hope E. Laughlin
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Carlos Martinez
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Emma Charlotte Slaughter
Arizel Raisa Sosa
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Medical Sonography

Stephany Caceres Abanto
Ashley Anne Dobranski
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Amanda Freeman
Jaclyn L. Grieco
Megan Harris
Helen Maria Jimenez
Mache Ladie Lewis
Derbie Nicolas
Julie E. Nunez
Vanessa A. Pena
Kyloni Randolph
Sydney A. Rivera
Genny Robbins
Isabel Cristina Rodriguez
Tayler Nichole Shoenfelt
Kylee Thomas

Speech-Language and Communication Disorders

Farhaanah Shanaz
Abdool Seemungal
Sophia Acosta
Aiyanna N. Andre
Ismayri Masiel Bencosme
Jessica Buchanan

Carly L. Burch
Maiya Caban
Catherine Grace Carillo
Mandy Nour Elsagr
Miriam S. Farraj
Navratilova La'Shana Ferguson
Julie Anne Fumero
Sheyla Guajardo
Sarah Kazden
Lauren O. Leonard
Madison Marcus
Jazmin Alexandra Morell
Emma G. Mroz
Cristina Perez Castano
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Eden G. Pressley
Elizabeth M. Price
Briana Lynn Rodriguez
Xiomora D. Samms
Daimary Selles
Sheila Silva Lopez
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Alanna Nicole Vanderwende

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Respiratory Therapy

Amani Adel A. Alali
Fatmh M. Alatawi
Fatima Hassan A. Alibrahim
Khatoun Hussain M. AL Khalaf
Shatha Ali A. Alqarni
Batool Jamaan A. Alzahrani
Ali Fahad A. Balubaid, Sr.
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Ginny Cuadra
Trishauna Fiona Dallas
Kristian Garcia
Dhai Abdullaheem A. Jabbari
Sean-Dre Mcrae II
Lauren Moskowitz
Darryl Peters
Marc Romestil
Mckayla Theophile
Ryan Wagner

RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE OF NURSING

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

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Claudia Acosta
Grace M. Acosta
Meagan Acosta
Nicole Acosta

Ioana Persidia Adams
Christal Jessica Adriaola
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Nicole Aguilar
Alexis Ahler
Kayleen A. Alarcon
Lauren Elizabeth Alberts
Melina R. Albano
Meilan Aleman
Karla Alfonso
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Myangel Amazon
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Britney Anelus
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Katherine L. Avila
Hannah Rachel Azachi
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Sheyla N. Calderon
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Hardley I. Calixte
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Cano Cerna
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Cristina De Jesus
Denise de la Noval Medina
Krystal Marie De La Rosa
Brandon Delgado
Hannah Isabella Delgado
Dailisbeth Del Toro
Sherbie Demosthene
Nakishah Ronisky Derilus
Amanda Desir
Alexandra Maria Desmond
Jennifer Tasha Desravines
Jair Diaz Rodriguez
Jose Diaz Ruiz III
Isabella Dobrowolski
Olivia Rose Doering
Jaclyn Dolinsky
Isabella S. Dominguez
Emmalynn Dominguez-Lay
Jennifer Dominguez Oliva
Randy Daunte Donaldson
Antonio Duarte
Dune Dube
Tania Dufort
Anjeli Dulcio
Lucia Dundas
Colleen T. Dunne
Jill Isabelle DuPaul
Delaney Andorah Dyer
Monefia Earlington
Andrea A. Eccles
Sydney Michelle EgoVILLE
Oliver Patrick Eliacin
Nia Elie
Alexia Amanda Ellis
Elzahraa Elzayat
Devyn Rene Encalada
Kristen D. England
Melanie Enriquez
Haeley Olivia Paula Espeut
Veronica Espinal
Emely Espinales
Jonathan E. Espinales
Haley M. Espinoza
Melissa Estevez
Stefany Estit
Laurin Linnet Estrada Estrada
Tanisha M. Etienne
Arielle Marie Pajimula Euan
Maricela Falcon
Amanda De La Caridad Felipe II
Analy Felipe
Katherine Azul Fernandez
Paula Fernandez
Vanessa Fernandez
Gabriela Ferrer
Marisa Fisher
Breeyanna M. Fitzgerald
Christele Fleurant
Hannah Nell Flood
Samantha S. Flores
Jade A. Fong-Hong
Robens Fontus
Kaylen Elizabeth Fowler
Amanda France
Diana Fuentes

Audrey Rose Furst
Angielus Galarza
Daniela Galvis
Christian Garcia
Emma Alessandra Garcia
Samantha Caridad Garcia
Camila Marie Garcia De Paredes
Caitlin E. Garrett
Brianna A. Garrick
Gabriela Gerez
Shawn Michael Gerovac
Adriana Maria Gil
Gabriella Rose Gionta Battaglia
Allison J. Goehle
Sierra L. Goergen
Addy S. Gomez
Laisha Gomez
Fabian Gomez-Lostalo
Diana K. Gonzales
Anabel Gonzalez
Andrea Francis Gonzalez
Daniela Maria Gonzalez
Stephanie Gonzalez
Veronica Gonzalez
Yasmin F. Gonzalez
Angela Gonzalez Macias
Svetlana S. Gorin
Hope Mackensie Graba
Samantha Grant
Sara J. Grant
Vanessa Gratton
Helena Susan Grevelink
Stephanie Grimes
Alyssa Sloane Gruber
Jailin Estefani Guerrero Florian
Joanne Lucille Guillaume
Farah Gustave
Liz Guzman
Kaila Emily Guzzo
Christopher Hamdar
Brennan Kaizad Hansotia
Dylan T. Harner
Eva Simone Harris
Destiny Ann Harvey
Destin Bree Heartsill
Abigail R. Heer
Ashlee Hemans
Yesica M. Henao
Yvelande Henrilus
Sarah Candacy Henry
Laury Henrys
Daniel Raciell Hernandez
Erick Thomas Hernandez
Isaac Hernandez
Leanza C. Hernandez
Mell C. Hernandez
Nicole F. Hernandez
Daniela Hernandez Boza
Sabrina Hernandez Garrido
Meylin Hernandez Rizo
Jose Miguel Hernandez Sanchez, Sr.
Mia Angelica Hernandez-Salazar
Alejandro M. Herrera
Isabella Herrera
Andrea C. Herrera Mosquera

Gabriela Christina Herrero
Cailin Hinds
Avery Hinojosa
Alexa Nicole Holguin
Sabeeha S. Hosein
Jennifer Marie Hostia
Tiffany Hunter
Alexa Hurtado
Anna Huynh
Sydney Lauren Iandoli
Giovanna O. Ibacache
Arley M. Imbimbo
Arielle Inniss
Shanice K. Inniss
Latoya Isaacs
Syema Islam
Heather Jaramillo
Larissa P. Jarrett
Francesca Jean
Kathiana Jean
Noemi Woodjina Jean
Geraldine Jean-Baptiste
Ked JeanBaptiste
Maureen Jean-Baptiste
Rachelle E. Jean-Baptiste
Dadeline Jean-Francois
Edwine Jeantinor
Akeesha Jeanty
Julia Jensen
Eleyana A. Jerome
Sadaura J. Jeudy
Estefania Jimenez
Ana Clara Nunes Jogaib
Darnelle Shawna John Baptiste
Danella K. Johnson
Madison Alyssa Beth
Johnson Mitchell
Aaliyah Jolly
Al'Kiryah C. Jones
Olivia P. Jones
Kevin Jorge
Ashley Joseph
Emma Isabella Joseph
Ariel Arnell Julius
Suresh Balubhai Kabaria
Amelia Kabat
Bukhalima Kadirova
Sandra Karakunnel
Douglas Kellington
Victoria Beatrice Khudzik
Isabela Lina Knox
Olivia Danielle Komarek
Kelly L. Komoroski
Katrina Kotler
Naftali Kranz
Valdimir Labady
Bryan Jonathan Laderman
Adrian Lafuente
Lizz Marie Lagos-Villeda
Jahncarlos Lara
Arianys Lastre
Bianca Elena Lazar
Sydni A. Lazarus-Parache
Sasha-Ann Lebert
Alexandra C. Lemoine

Ivanna Lorena Lenz
Christie Leon
Alyssa Marie Lepiani
Ilona Diana Letushko
Brianna Nicole Levarity
Cheyenne M. Levine
Leehe Liza Levy
Jennifer M. Lilly
Jonathan Lima
Javonna K. Lindsay
Emily Rose Litke
Ashley Logan
Armando Longueira
Lais Lopez
Pamela N. Lopez
Susana Lopez
Brandon Lopez-Velasco
Kaitlyn A. Lorentzen
Kaylah Louis
Jocelyn Lozano
Jia Xiu Lu
Zequai Steffeni Lue
Heydi Lugo
Sacha Diamond Lyons
Diana Laura Machin Hernandez
Daniel Macias
John Nicholas Magallanez
Alexa Malucelli
Gati Manamba
Olivia Manuel
Cristhian Marin
Sofia Helena Marques
Andres Marquez, Jr.
Daniel Martin
Yasmeen Martinez
Natalie Martin-Miranda
River Mason
Nicole C. Mateos
Taylor Nicole Matthews
Dianet Mayor Quintero
Amia A. McBride
Jaida Antonia McDaniels
Amaya McIntyre
Alexa Brianna McNeil
Alexa Grace McQuown
Maria L. Mejia
Diana M. Melo
Mabel Mena Jardines
Alyssa Mendez
Madison Michelle Mendez
Victoria Mendoza
Lizbeth Mesa
Ange Katherine Mesidort
Abigail A. Metellus
Malik Albert Michel
Diego Michelena
Brooke Minaca
Alleigh Nicole Milam
Amanda Victoria Mitrani
Sophia Mitrani
Devyn Therese Mizrahi
Shawn B. Mohamed
Arianna Lauren Montero
Joshelyn V. Montoya
Sara M. Montoya

Jessica Montpellier
 Elizabeth Moody
 Chance Mootoo
 Daniela Morales
 Raechel Morales
 Sofia Amelia Morales
 Anthony A. Moran
 Jorge M. Morejon
 Annabella Morera
 Carly Muroff
 Tomas Ignacio Murua
 Audrey A. Myers
 Alexine Danielle Roxas Navarro
 Katherine N. Negrin
 Vietha Nelson
 Khanh Ngo
 Kemberly Noel
 Roodlyne Noel
 Ruth S. Noel
 Mackenzie Jo North
 Emily Nicole Nunez
 Judy M. Nunez
 Ariana Desire Oblitas Castillo
 Shamika Occeus
 Olamide Ruth Ojo
 Jacquelin M. Olazabal
 Nicole Alexis Oquendo
 Victoria Lyn Orazi
 Samantha Orellana
 Sofia Orenge
 Katrina Orozco
 Caroline Ortega
 Vanessa Ashely Ortiz
 Regine Oscar
 Jordan Aleise Oxios
 Maria Clara Oyakawa
 Natalie Y. Padilla
 Kaylee N. Parker
 Joseph Calvin Pascuzzi
 Gladis Pastor
 Xavier E. Paulos
 Isabella A. Pazos
 Megan Lian Pecorino
 Jennifer Pena
 Stephanie Peraza
 Alyah Perez
 Dayami Perez
 Esther M. Perez
 Kaitley Perez
 Katherine Perez
 Mirtha Paneque Perez
 Nicholas Perez
 Sarah Christina Perez
 Yohanet Perez
 Jose C. Perez Gonzalez
 Ashlyn Peterson
 Victoria R. Petr
 Chedeline Pierre
 Bernice Pierre-Georges
 Cassandra Pierre-Louis
 Nadyia Rose Pimentel
 Justin Pinzon
 Florangela Platas
 Andrea Poggi
 Xiomara Polanco
 Ashley Darleen Polanco Suero
 Gabrielle I. Polikoff

Adriana Isabel Ponce
 Juliana Posada
 Victoria M. Posada
 Kristen Jada Allana Prado
 Emily De La Caridad Prieto Moreno
 Sherri Prince
 Leilani Marie Proenza
 Dahlia Proetto
 Vanessa Karina Quintero
 Ariella Racine
 Hannah C. Radutiu
 Chelsea V. Rambally
 Christine Ramcharan
 Marisol Ramirez
 Amanda Carolina
 Ramirez-Nascimento
 Jennifer Jean Ramos
 Mikayla B. Ramsaran
 Regina Rangel
 Devyn S. Rapoport
 Mahirah Rashid
 Narmeen N. Rattani
 James Ready
 Hannah Elaine Reavley
 Katy Elizabeth Redell
 Jessica M. Redmond
 Anthony Ricardo Regueira
 Yanellie Regueiro
 Ashley Christina Reid
 Sarah Reimer
 Sydney Katherine Reinert
 Sabrina Remilien
 Mariah Reynolds
 Rachel Reynolds
 Nicole A. Rieger
 Shirley Eliana Rios
 Shannon Rivenbark
 Ashley M. Rivera
 Raquel Rivera
 Alfredo Alejandro Rivero
 Daniella Roa
 Sabrina Roberts
 Jodi-Ann Renee Robinson-Gordon
 Alana Rodriguez
 Angeline B. Rodriguez
 Brenda B. Rodriguez
 Bryan David Rodriguez
 Helen Adisbel Rodriguez
 Jessica Rodriguez
 Karen Rodriguez
 Laura A. Rodriguez
 Maria Jose Rodriguez
 Natalie M. Rodriguez
 Rachel J. Rodriguez
 Sofia Rodriguez
 Daniela Maria
 Rodriguez Santiesteban
 Epiphany N. Romer
 Glenda Romero
 Jessica Rosa
 Frida Elizabeth Rosado
 Melody Lucia Rosario
 Anabel Seline Rosas Rivas
 Jennika Keisha Roseme
 Alexander J. Ross
 Jesika Tihara Royal
 Isabella L. Roza

Danielle Ruffino
 Sabrina Russo
 Madison Jean Ryan
 Rama Saad
 Hannah I. Saavedra
 Katherine Saenz
 Jennifer Saint-Fleur
 Brandi Tama Saint-Louis
 Sheley Saint Louis
 Camila Sanchez
 Emely Sanchez
 Jessica V. Sanchez
 Andrew C. Sandoval
 Kayla T. Sands
 LeAnn Santa Barbara
 Melody Junarsy Santana
 Sergio Santini
 Bruna Santos Monteiro de Souza
 Ruppel Rolim
 Nicole Sardina
 Emily Sardinas
 Branthly Sauveur
 Deanna Nicole Scully
 Isabelle Wade Sergeant
 Tamara Severe
 Annestastia Sharpe
 Julia Sheffler
 Olivia Camille Shore
 Sierra Siedlecki
 Scarlett Felimar Silguero Chiquin
 Sophia Silva
 Sara Silver
 Carla Simplicio II
 Angelica Maria Skinner
 Tasane Smith
 Amy Sogegian
 Hardland Somarriba
 Jaimie Rachel Soriano
 Madiexy Sosa Hernandez
 Taylor K. Speer
 Katlyn M. Stansbury
 Katelynn Renee Stevens
 Jenna Steward
 Theselande St. Juste
 Francesca Strapp
 Nicole Suarez
 Tiffany A. Suboni
 Shira Suissa
 Taylor Mae Swanson
 Laura Teichman
 Berline Telcy
 Isabella Mercedes Tellez
 Meredith Marie Tentinger
 Ariana Thomas
 Kevin G. Thomas
 Allienna A. Thompson
 Eden Christine Toal
 Sabrina Tolchin
 Katherine Toral
 Arianna Torres
 Carolina Sofia Torres
 Jonathan L. Torres
 Maria Del Rocio Torres Cruz
 Gabriela Trimarchi Reyes
 Nina Marie Tsokopoulos
 Elmo Tugaoen
 Arturo Urgelles

Lina Ustaeva
 Jacob E. Vaca
 Cesar Gonzalo Valdes
 Simon Rodolfo Valencia
 Robed Valliere
 Kenani L. Valmyr
 Victoria Elise Varela
 Adalyn Grisell Vargas
 Elizabeth Varona-Chang
 Cristian Saul Veras Acevedo
 Carolina Vergara
 Claudia Sofia Vergara
 Nathalia A. Victor
 Mauricio Vidal-Murillo
 Gabriella Villafranca
 Diego E. Villagran
 Nemina Anne Origenes Villar
 Evelyn Villicana-Andrade
 Shaneece Kamiya
 RoSandra Walker
 Caelyn Weathers
 Madison Danielle West
 Lacey Starr Wilder
 Monique A. Williams
 Allyson R. Wolf
 Gabrielle Paige Woolley
 Avery L. Wright
 Brianna Emma Yates
 Elaine Yero Acosta
 Ashlyn M. Yoskowitz
 Eva M. Zambrano
 Zachary Timothy Zocharski

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

MORNING CEREMONY

May 5, 2025

Student Commencement Speaker

Taylor McKenna Reinsel, a biology major with minors in psychology, pre-health, and honors transdisciplinary studies, is from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She was accepted into Nova Southeastern University's (NSU's) Dual Admission Program in osteopathic medicine and has been a member of the Farquhar Honors College throughout her undergraduate career.

Reinsel conducted research beginning in her sophomore year, alongside W. Matthew Collins, Ph.D., and Leanne Boucher, Ph.D., completing her undergraduate thesis, "Resilience and its Effects on Well-Being During the COVID-19 Pandemic," which works with the NIH through the All of Us Database. She presented her research at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium (2025), as well as the Crossroads Conference (2025). She is also a co-author on an upcoming publication titled "The Impact of Resilience and Cultural Factors on Psychology, Well-Being, and Adherence to Restrictions During the COVID-19 Pandemic."

In addition to her academic achievements, Reinsel was involved in a variety of service and leadership roles. She volunteered at the Visiting Nurses Association Hospice Care (2023-2025) and in the Emergency Room and Maternity Departments at Butler Memorial Hospital (2022-2024). She also worked as a pharmacy technician (2021-2023) and served as an Anatomy and Physiology II lab assistant (2023-2024). In 2024, she joined the Tutoring and Testing Center at NSU as a peer tutor, where she currently works to this day.

On campus, Reinsel served as president of Phi Sigma Sigma and was recognized with NSU's Outstanding Student Leader Award in 2024. She was inducted into the TriBeta Biological Honor Society in 2023 and maintained a strong academic standing throughout her time at NSU, making the dean's list several times.

After graduation, Reinsel plans to continue her studies at Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine. She owes all her success to her amazing and supportive network of family, friends, and mentors that have believed in her every step of the way, especially those who are no longer with us, but whose love still lights her way.

Outstanding Students

HALMOS COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES AND THE GUY HARVEY OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH CENTER

Lauren Rose Nonnenmacher, of Freehold, New Jersey, will graduate with a degree in chemistry on the American Chemical Society (ACS) track, along with minors in marine biology and geographic information systems. She has made the dean's list throughout her undergraduate studies in these fields, while balancing her academic life with her love for nature, pottery, and film photography.

Nonnenmacher's interdisciplinary approach to her education has made her an active community member on both Nova Southeastern University's (NSU's) Fort Lauderdale/Davie and Oceanographic Campuses. Her involvement with Professor Amy Hiron, Ph.D., with the Charismatic Megafauna and Oceanography Laboratory (2022-2025) and Professor Dimitri Giarikos, Ph.D., with the Environmental Chemical Contaminants Organization (2022-2025) has given her a strong community, supporting her on her path into a life of research.

During her time at NSU, Nonnenmacher worked closely with Giarikos and Hiron on a series of research projects. She began her research journey employed as a laboratory research technician I (2022-2023), designing and constructing sediment trap platforms for deployment on the Florida Reef Tract. This role served as the steppingstone for her transition into independent research. Her next project, *Establishing Limit of Detection: Shimadzu AA-7800 GFAA Spectrophotometer* (2023-present), focused on optimizing the chemistry lab's atomic absorption spectrophotometer. During this time, she also worked as an administrative chemical researcher for the department (2024-2025).

Nonnenmacher has also led two environmental contaminant studies: "Global Assessment of Heavy Metals in Sediment from Areas of Geologic and Volcanic Activity" (2023-2024) and "Heavy Metal Distribution in Volcanic Hawaiian Sediment from 5 Million Years Ago to Present" (2023-2025). These studies were presented as posters at the American Chemical Society national conferences in 2024 (New Orleans) and 2025 (San Diego). The latter was also presented at the 2025 Undergraduate Student Symposium, where it was awarded first place in the Traditional Oral

Presentations category. Nonnenmacher has also been nominated by the Department of Chemistry and Physics for the SoFL-ACS Outstanding Graduating Seniors Award.

After graduating, Nonnenmacher plans to dedicate her career to continuing research in natural and physical sciences, with the goal of expanding the world's understanding of Earth's systems.

Kevin Rafferty is from Tinton Falls, New Jersey. He is majoring in marine biology and receiving minors in honors transdisciplinary studies, scientific diving, and geographic information science with a research citation. Rafferty is also a member of the Farquhar Honors College and made the dean's list his entire time at NSU.

Rafferty began to volunteer in the Fisheries and Avian Ecology laboratory with his current mentor and adviser, Professor David Kerstetter, Ph.D., in his sophomore year. Eventually the two developed the project that would become Rafferty's Honors Thesis, "Census of Non-U.S. Billfish and Swordfish Recreational Tournaments in the ICCAT Convention Area." This research was shared as a poster presentation at the Annual Florida Chapter meeting of the American Fisheries Society (2024); Rafferty received the Dennis Punches Student Travel Grant to attend the meeting. He also presented the poster at the Undergraduate Student Symposium (2025). Additionally, an oral presentation on the research was given at the Seventh International Billfish Symposium (2024), which Rafferty received the Pan Student Government Association Development Grant to help attend. Rafferty and Kerstetter plan on publishing this research in the near future.

On campus, Rafferty was involved in student leadership as an admissions ambassador his sophomore year. In this position he received the Dr. DeNapoli Legacy award (2023). He has also been a resident assistant (RA) in Mako Hall for the past two years and received the Mako Residential Assistant of the Year award in his senior year (2025).

Also in his senior year, Rafferty was selected as one of 10 Honors students to participate in the passport project. This involved students with limited travel experience taking a trip to learn about the culture and nature of Costa Rica.

Outside NSU, Rafferty expanded his scientific knowledge beyond marine systems through an internship position with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Wetland and Aquatic Research Center (2023–2025). At the USGS, he has participated and assisted in a variety of different research projects, mainly pertaining to understanding the Greater Everglades Ecosystem. He presented the poster “Machine Learning Models for Water, Energy, and Greenhouse Gas Fluxes Measured from a Dwarf Cypress Wetland Within the Greater Everglades” at the Greater Everglades Ecosystem Restoration Conference (2025) with USGS.

Rafferty plans on pursuing a Master of Environmental Management degree at Duke University with concentrations in Coastal and Marine Systems and Environmental Economics and Policy. He ultimately wants to work in conservation management at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association (NOAA) or an environmental protection agency.

Sophia Carolyn Wehle is a student from Tampa, Florida, majoring in international studies with minors in business and political science. During her time at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), she has received the honor of being a dean's list recipient every semester, has received the Outstanding Student Leader award (2024), has been a member of the Farquhar Honors College, and, for the past two years, has been an admissions ambassador.

As an undergraduate student, Wehle was very active on campus. She was a competing captain of the Undergraduate Mock Trial Team; founding president of the Theta Xi chapter of Sigma Iota Rho (International Studies Honor Society); and the inter-organizational council chair for the Society of Animation, Gaming, and Entertainment. She was also a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society and the NSU Marching Sharks Drumline.

Outside of extracurricular activities, Wehle has focused heavily on research throughout her time as an undergraduate student. She was sponsored by Professor Ransford Edwards, Ph.D., to conduct research on postcolonial development. She has presented this research at numerous conferences including the Florida Political Science Associations' Annual Conference (2024–2025); NSU's Undergraduate Student Symposium, where she won first place for oral presentation of research in 2024; and the National Conference for Undergraduate Research (2025).

In a more practical application of research skills, Wehle is a participant in the INSIGHT Fellowship, a student think-tank dedicated to finding policy-based solutions to plastic pollution, and the Council of Undergraduate Research's Scholars Transforming Through Research team, a program that is dedicated to advocating for research-based legislative policy, and works with Evara Health (a nonprofit health care company) on their Information and Education Committee for Family Planning, ensuring health-related educational material is accessible for the community.

After graduation, Wehle will be attending the University of Oklahoma in Norman, Oklahoma, to obtain her Ph.D. in Political Science with a focus on Comparative Politics and Public Policy. It is her goal to continue her research and to, one day, consult on governmental policies regarding international affairs

AFTERNOON CEREMONY

May 5, 2025

Student Commencement Speaker

Anne Sylvie F. Jean Louis, a psychology major with minors in public health and global engagement, was born in Port-Au-Prince, Haiti, but raised in Sunrise, Florida, for most of her life. While at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Jean Louis has been a proud member of the Hochberg-Miniaci Razor's Edge Global Program, serving on the Leadership Council all four years, as Franklin Cohort representative her freshman and sophomore years, then as Leadership Council chair her junior and senior years. She has held many other leadership positions, as well, including being a member of the President's 64 since her sophomore year, a UNIV 1000 peer leader for two consecutive semesters, a mentor to students at NSU, an orientation leader, a residential assistant in the Cultural Living Center, diversity senator of the 36th Administration of the Undergraduate Student Government Association, inclusion chair of the Diversity Student Council, 2024 NSU Homecoming Queen, and vice president of marketing for the E.X.O.T.I.C. Xi Zeta Chapter of Sigma Lambda Gamma National Sorority, Inc.

Jean Louis has also been an active member of numerous undergraduate student organizations, including Sociodrama: Stage

for Change, the Pressure Dance Team, Black Student Union, Haitian Student Association, Caribbean Student Association, and SEEMLY Fashion Club. She has also been a long-time supporter of the arts on campus, performing in various artistic media as a singer, dancer, and original spoken word poet at events, including the Student Life Achievement Awards (affectionately known as the STUEYs) two years as a co-host and singer, the 25th Annual Celebration of Excellence with the Shark Gold vocal performance group, the annual Greek Stroll-Off during homecoming week, the Black Student Union's Annual Black Excellence Showcase, the Indian Student Association's Annual Diwali Showcase, and Sharkapalooza. She has worked on multiple NSU theatrical productions as well. These included the PVA and Stage2NSU, the annual Improv Jam as a performer and student director, *Mayfly* as an actress and director, Shark Showcase, Student Choreography Showcase, *The Dolls of New Albion*, *Page to Stage*, Shakespeare's *Cymbeline*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and more.

During her freshman year, Jean Louis also created her own undergraduate student organization, Soap Box Speaks, along with three other freshman women as a community impact project to provide students with a space to write and perform spoken word poetry as a form of creative self-expression and mental health support. The organization also collaborated with the NSU Title IX Office and the Henderson Center for Student Counseling and Well-Being to co-host a Take Back the Night Open Mic Event and Candle Vigil to honor sexual assault survivors during April for Sexual Assault Awareness Month. Additionally, Jean Louis served as the student director, undergraduate research assistant, social media chair, and vice president of Sociodrama: Stage for Change during her four years with the organization, which was recognized as the 2024 STUEY Award Winner for Undergraduate Student Organization of the Year.

Jean Louis helped produce and perform in more than 20 workshops utilizing the sociodrama theatrical technique to increase community engagement and awareness about social justice issues, such as intimate partner violence, microaggressions, cybersecurity, and suicidal ideation, and recently served as the student panelist for the City of Pompano Beach's Mental Health Townhall Event. As a project manager and production assistant for the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice *Investigation with Dr. T* weekly webinar series, she helped

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

host numerous guests from criminal justice, social work, forensics, and mental health agencies in Broward County and beyond to the NSU community.

As the sole student researcher, Jean Louis worked extensively with Professor Grace Telesco, Ph.D., from the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice; Professor Tara S. Jungersen, Ph.D., from the College of Psychology; and Professor Maria Levi Minzi, Ph.D., from the Abraham S. Fischler College of Education and School of Criminal Justice Department of Human Services, to research the “Use of Sociodrama to Mitigate Justice System Involvement and Mental Health Issues in Adolescents and Young Adults” in collaboration with the United Way of Broward County’s Alternative Spring Break Program. Having been recipients of the 2023 President’s Quality of Life research grant, these findings were later presented at the 2024 International Academy of Law and Mental Health Congress in Barcelona.

Jean Louis also conducted a senior independent research study in public health, including an in-depth literature review and community-needs assessment, Impact of Cultural Arts Programs on Adults Living with Individual Developmental Disorders, with the help of Joy Siegel, Ed.D. in collaboration with a local community partner.

Overall, Jean Louis would like to thank her friends, family, and sorority sisters for their constant love and support over the years, most especially her mother, Flore Judy Lawrence Loiseau. “I am who I am because I grew up seeing a powerful woman that always managed to do it all. I attribute my deep love and connection with our Haitian culture, my self-confidence, and a large portion of my success to her.”

Jean Louis is still finalizing her future career plans but hopes to continue her education by earning master’s degrees in public health and business administration, while working part-time and continuing to make time for the arts. She would then like to become a public health professional working in community planning and resource allocation, as well as foreign and domestic policy, and travel as much as possible.

Outstanding Students

ABRAHAM S. FISCHLER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION AND SCHOOL OF CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Suzette M. Benitez is an elementary education major with endorsements in reading and ESOL. As a member of the Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Fischler Academy, she has been fortunate to grow both academically and professionally. Her journey at NSU has been filled with leadership and collaboration opportunities with contributions to the social media team, decorating team, preprofessional committee, and social committee, all while serving as an event coordinator.

Benitez is part of the first generation of Hispanic females in her family to graduate college, a milestone that means everything to her. All of her achievements reflect the sacrifices and unconditional love from her parents, who came to this country with nothing but a dream for a better future. Their strength and resilience gave her the foundation to succeed, and she credits her success to them.

Julia M. Turano, a secondary mathematics education major from Holbrook, New York, is a dedicated scholar and a passionate leader at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). As a proud participant in the Razor’s Edge Shark Teach Program and a member of the NSU Fischler Academy, Turano has strived for excellence in her field. By completing 21 credits per semester and taking ten mathematics courses in just five semesters, she has earned her undergraduate degree in just three years, showcasing her relentless commitment to her academic and professional goals.

Turano’s academic journey has been marked by a deep commitment to leadership and service. Inducted into the National Society of Leadership and Success (NSLS) and honored on the dean’s list twice, she exemplifies the power of perseverance and ambition. Her Secondary Mathematics Education internship, guided by esteemed faculty members professors Marilyn Zaragoza, Ed.D., and Lillian Greico, M.Ed., allowed her to apply her knowledge while nurturing her growing passion for teaching.

Since 2023, Turano has been tutoring K–12 students in math and SAT prep through her job at Just Pass It. This part-time job showcased her ability to balance her academic, professional, and leadership commitments with grace and determination.

Her experience inside and outside the classroom reflects her mission to empower every student she encounters. As a substitute teacher with Kelly Education in early 2025, she worked in different classroom environments, adapting her instruction to meet each student’s unique needs. Currently, as a math interventionist and response to intervention specialist at Somerset Academy Charter School, she is helping students who are struggling academically, developing individualized strategies to help them overcome challenges and build confidence in their abilities.

Turano is a strong advocate for making mathematics an engaging and accessible experience for all students. Driven by a desire to transform how students see themselves in relation to math, she is committed to teaching in ways that inspire, encourage, and support students’ unique learning styles. She aims to remove the stigma surrounding math by turning it into an exciting and meaningful subject that every student can relate to, regardless of their background or challenges.

Her global perspective further enriches her teaching. In February 2024, Turano traveled to Sweden with the Fischler Academy to teach in an international middle school, an experience that broadened her instructional strategies. This opportunity not only expanded her knowledge but also fueled her drive to create a more inclusive educational experience for all students.

Her leadership is also demonstrated through her extracurricular involvement. Since 2022, she has been an athlete on the NSU Women’s Club Basketball team. From 2023 on, she served as secretary for the team and recently stepped into the role of coach, combining her love of the game and guidance to her teammates, both on and off the court.

A dedicated member of Sigma Delta Tau Sorority, she has contributed to both the Slate Board and the Standards Board. She is also an active member of the Order of Lapis Honor Society and the Fischler Academy Social

Committee. Turano has mentored six students at NSU, nurturing their academic and personal growth along the way.

Her passion for service is evident in her volunteer work as a peer tutor for the General Knowledge Test (GKT), where she led review sessions, shared strategies, and provided the encouragement her peers needed to succeed. Turano's commitment to supporting future educators speaks to her collaborative spirit and dedication to making a lasting impact in the world of education.

Following graduation, Turano will launch her career in her home state, with the goal of becoming a middle school math educator and subsequently earning a master's degree in special education. She is eager to teach her subject, coach sports, and impact young minds. Turano graduating is not just an accomplishment, but a celebration of her family's legacy and unwavering support. She is filled with pride and gratitude, ready to carry her family's dreams forward and make a meaningful difference in the lives of others.

COLLEGE OF COMPUTING AND ENGINEERING

Efemena G. Uvo, an information technology major from Miramar, Florida, has demonstrated a strong passion for technology and community engagement throughout her academic journey at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). She participated in NSU's 2025 Undergraduate Research program, presenting a TECH 4900 capstone project on sentiment analysis in user reviews, under the guidance of Professor Gregory Simco, Ph.D. Her capstone project, "Rate My Landlord," is a web-based platform designed to promote transparency between tenants and landlords, where she focused on backend development and QA testing.

Uvo is an active member of the NSU Black Student Union and has contributed to multiple community service initiatives. She has volunteered with Feeding South Florida; the Center for Family and Child Enrichment, supporting events like the Birth Equity Resource Fair and Community Baby Shower; and Ranger Good Works, the charitable division of Ranger Tech, at Dillard Elementary.

Professionally, she has gained valuable experience through NSU's cohort program working at Fiserv, a global banking and fintech company, since 2023. She plans to pursue a career in cybersecurity or IT consulting, with aspirations of earning a master's degree in cybersecurity followed by a doctorate. She also dreams of traveling the world and experiencing different cultures along the way.

Elohor Uvo, an information technology major from Miramar, Florida, has shown a great interest in technology and community participation throughout her academic career at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). She attended NSU's 2025 Undergraduate Research Day and presented a TECH 4900 capstone project on sentiment analysis in user reviews, which she worked on with Professor Gregory Simco, Ph.D. Her capstone project, "Rate My Landlord," is a web-based platform that promotes transparency between tenants and landlords, where she concentrated on backend programming and QA testing.

Uvo is an active member of the NSU Black Student Union and has participated in a number of community service projects. She has volunteered with Feeding South Florida; the Center for Family and Child Enrichment (at events such as the Birth Equity Resource Fair and Community Baby Shower); and Ranger Good Works, Ranger Tech's charitable division, at Dillard Elementary.

Professionally, she has earned excellent experience as part of NSU's cohort program, working for Fiserv, a major banking and fintech company, since 2023. She intends to work in cybersecurity, namely protecting digital systems and data from increasing threats. She plans to pursue a master's degree in cybersecurity, gain industry certifications, and contribute to worldwide projects to promote cyber protection and digital privacy.

Uvo also wants to travel the world and gather new experiences, both personally and professionally. She has a passion for service and aspires to launch a foundation that helps children in Nigeria. She plans to continue giving back through community-focused initiatives wherever life takes her.

COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY

Aditi Gorthy, a neuroscience and biology double major, is from South Brunswick, New Jersey. While at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Gorthy was a member of the NSU Kidney Disease Awareness Club, the head lab assistant for general chemistry, a group fitness instructor, and an honors advocate for the Farquhar Honors College for four years. She was also a recipient of the Dean's Scholarship and made the dean's list several semesters throughout her undergraduate career.

Gorthy began working in a neuroscience research lab with her research mentor and adviser, Professor Allie Holschbach, Ph.D. Together, they were able to identify Gorthy's interest in understanding the impact of chronic stress on various outcomes. Since beginning this experience, she has collaborated with research mentors at the University of Miami and the University of Pittsburgh, focusing on injuries and diseases of the central nervous system. With their support, she first authored a literary review, *Chronic Stress in Early Development and Effects on Traumatic Brain Injury Outcome*, then co-authored a peer-reviewed publication in *Neurotherapeutics* titled "3,3'-Diindolylmethane improves pathology and neurological outcome following traumatic brain injury." Along with her publications, Gorthy also presented at numerous conferences. She shared poster presentations at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium (2023 and 2024), the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine Neuroscience Research Day (2023), the Sports Neuroscience Annual Conference (2024), and the Miami VA Research Day (2024 and 2025), winning various awards, including the American Association of University Women Award (2024) and Panchi's Presentation Prize (2024).

Following graduation, Gorthy will attend medical school, maintaining a strong foundation in scientific research. She aspires to become a neurologist, integrating cutting-edge research into personalized treatment plans to improve patient outcomes.

Divya Vijay Papaiya is from Bensalem, Pennsylvania, a small township on the outskirts of Philadelphia. Papaiya majored in neuroscience and received minors in pre-health studies, biology, and psychology

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

for health studies, for which she has been inducted in the Psi Chi Honor Society chapter for Nova Southeastern University (NSU) after maintaining rigorous academic standards. Alongside completing her studies, Papaiya has been a Presidential Scholar of the 2025 cohort, a member of the prestigious President's 64 vanguard during her fourth year, a candidate in the 4+4 Dual Admission D.O. program, and a dean's list recipient for all eight semesters she has attended NSU.

During her undergraduate career, Papaiya was committed to enhancing campus culture and student involvement. She helped start NSU Fitoor, the first singing club on campus that focused on fusing Bollywood and English, serving as treasurer and performing at many student organization and Inter-Organizational Council Gold Fin Award events throughout her tenure. Papaiya has also served as treasurer for Physician to Patient, one of the primary pre-health student organizations on campus, and has held the vice chair position in the recently formed Student Alumni Association, which aims to connect current NSU students with the university's vast alumni network. It was her focus on student enrichment opportunities that spurred her to become an advocate for bone marrow transplants and mental health therapies, both of which she spoke about with her team at the Health Occupations Students of America (HOSA) International Leadership Conference (2022 and 2023), winning a gold and silver medal, respectively, on behalf of NSU.

Inside the classroom, Papaiya maintained a close mentorship with Lisa Robison, Ph.D., her Intro to Neuroscience professor, joining Robinson's research lab and remaining an assistant there throughout her entire NSU career. Through the guidance of Robison, Papaiya earned the President's Faculty Research and Development Grant (2022) and presented a poster about how a chronic, high-fat diet affects brain inflammation differently amongst male and female mice at the Society for Sports Neuroscience (2023) and the Undergraduate Student Symposium (2023). Together with her mentor and peer research assistants, a more comprehensive paper regarding the poster study is in the works of being published for an academic journal. Through Robison, Papaiya joined the DIY Lab, which has been researching electronic sensors and their abilities to detect Alzheimer's disease using various bodily fluid samples. Additionally, since working with Robison, Papaiya has branched out to social psychology research and has worked with Professor Justin Landy, Ph.D. and Landy's Reasoning, Person-Perception, and Morality (RPM) Lab since 2023

to better analyze people's moral decision-making while committing war crimes and jury deliberation tactics. Papaiya also served as a lab assistant in Organic Chemistry II and Biochemistry I.

After swimming through the seas of NSU, Papaiya plans to begin medical school in the fall and develop the critical skills that will help her become a capable and empathetic physician. It is her goal to provide comprehensive care that will improve her future patients' quality of life, and she looks forward to the newest journey sailing her way!

Kamea Peterman, a psychology major and forensic studies minor, grew up with a mother, father, and stepfather that all served in the United States Army. After moving numerous times throughout her life, she and her family have settled here in South Florida. While studying at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Peterman has been awarded the Dean's Scholarship and the Shark Success Scholarship. She has also made the dean's list every semester that she has attended NSU.

Peterman worked as a research assistant for Professor Jonathan Banks, Ph.D., in his Attention Control and Stress Lab. She assisted with student participants in the lab, trained new research assistants, and coded data from old and current studies. She also worked under Professor Timothy Razza Psy.D., as a lead facilitator of the Life Skills and Wellness Collaboration, which allowed her to collaborate with peers to create evidence-based presentations on a variety of topics. In her role as lead facilitator, she was responsible for organizing the weekly schedules; reporting the weekly topics; collecting classroom information; and being a primary liaison between the high school, professors, and the program while relaying any other relevant data.

She also dedicated her time to her work at the NSU Veterans Resource Center from the second week of her freshman year until her graduation. In this position, she led the development of veteran, military-affiliated, and Army ROTC programs through networking, outreach, research, and facilitation of support services on campus and in the community. Peterman also planned and executed numerous community outreach events and military advocacy trainings. She was also the Inter-Organization Council chair for Freedom Sharks, a military advocacy and service student organization, and a member of the forensic psychology club and Hallyu Club and Dance Team.

Peterman studied abroad in Seoul, South Korea, for a semester. Before leaving, she taught herself to read, write, and speak Korean at a basic level and furthered her knowledge of the culture and language abroad. After graduation she will be attending Nova Southeastern University to get her Doctor of Clinical Psychology (Psy.D.). She hopes to work with veterans and their families.

H. WAYNE HUIZENGA COLLEGE OF BUSINESS AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Isaiah Anthony Cabral is an international student from Bermuda majoring in accounting with a minor in venture creation as part of the Huizenga Business and Innovation Academy (HBIA). His commitment to academic excellence is reflected in his consistent achievements as a five-time dean's list recipient. He also served as a charter member of the Beta Alpha Psi International Honors Society for accounting, finance, and information students. The Omicron Gamma Chapter was established in 2024 at NSU and Cabral served as treasurer during the 2024-2025 academic year. During his time at the university, he was actively involved in student life. He was a member of the Club Ultimate Frisbee team and served as a student entrepreneur through HBIA. His role as a student entrepreneur led to him managing his own business, BeyondPops, where, alongside his partners, he was able to successfully run a homemade popsicle business on campus. Through this business, he was able to collaborate with the Nova Southeastern University (NSU) Student Life Office and various on campus clubs and organizations. He and his partners even decided to donate a portion of the proceeds from BeyondPops to various community organizations. This contribution to student life continued through his work in the Student Activity and Accounts Office. He began working in this office during the fall term of 2023 as a student accounts assistant. In fall 2024, he was promoted to student account manager. He looks positively on his time in the office for further enhancing his skills in financial oversight while allowing him to continue to engage with students.

Cabral gained valuable professional experience through two consecutive summer internships with Deloitte Bermuda's DEEP Internship Program (2023 and 2024) after receiving the Deloitte Bermuda Scholarship in 2022. Through these experiences, he found a passion for financial advisory work and

forensic accounting. Looking ahead, he will be pursuing a Master of Accounting degree with a focus in analytical accounting at NSU while concurrently beginning his professional career with Deloitte Bermuda in the Financial Advisory Department. His future aspirations also include becoming a Certified Public Accountant, with the goal of becoming a forensic accountant.

SHEPARD BROAD COLLEGE OF LAW

Jenna Dewey is a law major with a concentration in paralegal studies and minors in both law, science, and technology and honors transdisciplinary studies. Originally from Felton, Delaware, Dewey is a proud member of the Farquhar Honors College and a Presidential Scholar. She also made the dean's list multiple times during her academic journey at Nova Southeastern University (NSU).

Dewey is a member of Phi Alpha Delta Law Society and holds the distinction of being the first undergraduate from the NSU Law program to intern with the Broward County State Attorney's Office. She completed two semesters (winter 2023 and fall 2024) in the Career Criminal Unit, an experience that led to the creation of a formal internship program for undergraduate law students at NSU. In summer 2024, she interned in the Misdemeanors Department of the Delaware Attorney General's Office.

On campus, Dewey serves as a Title IX ambassador, educating students about federal protections against sexual harassment and discrimination. She also served as a UNIV 1000 peer leader, supporting first-year students during their transition to college life. She is a dedicated member of the Moot Court team, where she served as a competitor in 2022 and 2023, as president in 2023, and as a coach in 2024. In addition, Dewey mentored three fellow students as an active member of the Pre-Law Society. Balancing her academic and extracurricular commitments, Dewey has also worked as a server at LongHorn Steakhouse in Davie, Florida, since August 2023.

Her certifications include a Certificate of Computer Literacy from the National Society of Legal Technology (2023), a certification as a peer educator (2024), and five legal research certifications from LexisNexis (2025).

Following graduation, she will attend Baylor Law School in Waco, Texas, on an academic scholarship. She plans to earn a Juris Doctorate by May 2028 with a focus on intellectual property law, specifically trademark law.

Bryan A. Soudrain is a dedicated international student from France pursuing a major in law with minors in international law, management, paralegal studies, and honors transdisciplinary studies. As a proud Farquhar Honors College and Alpha Chi Honor Society member, he has consistently demonstrated academic excellence and a passion for leadership.

Soudrain was honored to be an ambassador for the Presidential Leadership Program, representing the university and advancing campus-wide leadership initiatives. He also served as treasurer of the Pre-Law Society for two years and was a committed member of Phi Alpha Delta.

His deep interest in legal advocacy led him to compete for three years in Moot Court, where he also coached a team under the guidance of Professor Marc Consalo, J.D., whose mentorship was invaluable to his growth as a competitor and coach. Soudrain also spent three years on the Mock Trial team, earning a Best Witness award at the state level, with essential coaching support from Professor R. William Barner III, J.D. In addition, he competed at the regional level as part of the Alternative Dispute Resolution team.

Outside the classroom, he worked as a prelaw consultant at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), helping guide fellow students on their law school journeys. He was also a legal business intern at AdvntBlanket, a Miami-based tech start-up that supports law firms through innovative digital solutions.

Beyond campus, he serves as president of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, a nonprofit he founded in high school that connects youth to professional opportunities through educational programming, leadership development, and civic engagement.

Looking ahead, Soudrain plans to attend law school in South Florida and aspires to become an international corporate attorney.

MORNING CEREMONY

May 6, 2025

Student Commencement Speaker

Colin J. Pulickathadam, a native of Tampa, Florida, is graduating with a double major in health informatics and biology, along with triple minors in honors transdisciplinary studies, research studies, and pre-health. Throughout his time at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), he has been a dynamic campus leader serving in various roles, including being a member of President's 64, an honors advocate for the Farquhar Honors College, president of the Health Informatics Club, and vice president of the Brown-Wujick Junior Academic Society. He is also a proud member of the Hochberg-Miniaci Razor's Edge Research Scholars Program. Additionally, he has also worked on campus in various roles, including as an Organic Chemistry Laboratory assistant under Professor Camit Alexenberg, Ph.D., Anatomy and Physiology II supplemental instruction leader under Professor Santanu De, Ph.D., and as a CRLA Level II content tutor in the Tutoring and Testing Center. He has consistently achieved placement on the dean's list and is an inducted member of both the Alpha Chi (2022) and TriBeta Biological Honors Societies (2024).

In addition to various extracurricular involvements on campus, Pulickathadam has been involved in various research activities at NSU. He started research in his freshman year under the mentorship of Michelle Ramim, Ph.D., on what became a poster, "Analysis of errors in electrocardiogram data captured by patients using at-home devices compared to qualified healthcare professionals." He presented his findings at the annual Healthcare Information and Management Systems (HIMSS) global health conference in 2022 and published his work in the *International Institute for Applied Knowledge Management Journal* in 2023. Through his research project involvement, he is the first health informatics major to graduate through the honors in major program. Additionally, through the Hochberg-Miniaci Razor's Edge Research Scholarship Program, he also conducted biomedical research with the support of Narasimman Gurusamy, Ph.D.; Dana Mills, Ph.D.; and Barbara Packer, Ed.D., as he explored "Long noncoding RNA MALAT1 in mitochondrial modulation induced by ketosis in human cardiomyocytes," a poster.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

Pulickathadam has presented annually at both the Undergraduate Student Symposium (2022-2025) and the KPCOM Undergraduate Research Symposium (2022-2025).

Beyond NSU, Pulickathadam is passionate about volunteering with his local YMCA Leaders Club, an organization that fosters youth leadership and community engagement. He also enjoys serving as a volunteer staff member for YMCA Blue Ridge Leaders School, teaching character development and volleyball classes for teens 13-18. As a former participant himself during middle and high school, he finds great fulfillment in mentoring teens and giving back to a program that he credits with shaping him into the person he is today. In February 2024, he was selected to represent the YMCA at the inaugural White House Youth Policy Summit hosted by the U.S. Department of Education. In this space, he advocated for enhanced recognition and funding of "third spaces" that support adolescent socioemotional development and well-being. He also served as a youth peer reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education's Promise Neighborhood grant cycle in September 2024, evaluating applications based on their youth engagement efforts.

After graduation, Pulickathadam will be attending the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine at Nova Southeastern University. With a passion for research, community service, and innovation, he aspires to become a physician leader who improves health outcomes by leveraging collaborative innovation, impactful advocacy, and groundbreaking research.

Outstanding Students

DR. KIRAN C. PATEL COLLEGE OF OSTEOPATHIC MEDICINE

Galena Gomez is a public health major from Union City, New Jersey. For two years, she served as an event coordinator and treasurer in the Minority Association of Pre-Medical Students at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). For her senior capstone (2025), Gomez worked as a public health intern at the Jack and Jill School under the guidance of Professor Kasi Lou Van Heel, Dr.PH. In this role, Gomez helped design and implement outreach initiatives, raise awareness, and manage the logistical planning of a start-up carpooling program to assist children with transportation to school.

For two years, she participated in NSU's Clinical Exploration Program, gaining experience in the university's dental and speech-language pathology clinics. Gomez is a 2024 Hispanic Scholarship Fund finalist and has been awarded the Academic Dean's Scholarship, Shark Success Scholarship, and Achievement Scholarship at NSU. She has also earned dean's list honors during her undergraduate studies. Additionally, she is a Howell and Petrosky KPCOM Academic Society member and was recently nominated to the Delta Omega Public Health Honor Society, which recognizes the top 10 percent of undergraduate candidates. As part of her coursework in local outreach, she volunteered with several impactful community programs, including Camp Erin South Florida, Pink Up Lauderhill with the Foundation for Sickle Cell Disease Research, the Taskforce for Ending Homelessness, Showering Love at First Baptist Church, and NSU's Drop It Like It's Hot Blood Donor Drive.

Outside of NSU, Gomez is a registered pharmacy technician in Florida. She currently works as a research pharmacy technician at the University of Miami's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center, where she assists pharmacists in dispensing investigational drugs, compounding medications, and supporting clinical trial monitors in inventory tracking and protocol compliance. Before this role, she spent three years working in a community pharmacy managing inventory and collaborating with pharmacy teams to ensure accurate and safe medication dispensing.

After graduation, Gomez plans to pursue a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D.) at Nova Southeastern University's Barry and Judy Silverman College of Pharmacy. Her long-term goal is to continue in clinical research and use her pharmacy training to deliver safe, effective treatments that make a meaningful impact on her patients through exceptional patient care.

Colin J. Pulickathadam, a native of Tampa, Florida, is graduating with a double major in health informatics and biology, along with triple minors in honors transdisciplinary studies, research studies, and pre-health. Throughout his time at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), he has been a dynamic campus leader serving in various roles, including being a member of President's 64, an honors advocate for the Farquhar Honors College, president of the Health Informatics Club, and vice president of the Brown-Wujick

Junior Academic Society. He is also a proud member of the Hochberg-Miniaci Razor's Edge Research Scholars Program. Additionally, he has also worked on campus in various roles, including as an Organic Chemistry Laboratory assistant under Professor Camit Alexenberg, Ph.D., Anatomy and Physiology II supplemental instruction leader under Professor Santanu De, Ph.D., and as a CRLA Level II content tutor in the Tutoring and Testing Center. He has consistently achieved placement on the dean's list and is an inducted member of both the Alpha Chi (2022) and TriBeta Biological Honors Societies (2024).

In addition to various extracurricular involvements on campus, Pulickathadam has been involved in various research activities at NSU. He started research in his freshman year under the mentorship of Michelle Ramim, Ph.D., on what became a poster, "Analysis of errors in electrocardiogram data captured by patients using at-home devices compared to qualified healthcare professionals." He presented his findings at the annual Healthcare Information and Management Systems (HIMSS) global health conference in 2022 and published his work in the *International Institute for Applied Knowledge Management Journal* in 2023. Through his research project involvement, he is the first health informatics major to graduate through the honors in major program. Additionally, through the Hochberg-Miniaci Razor's Edge Research Scholarship Program, he also conducted biomedical research with the support of Narasimman Gurusamy, Ph.D.; Dana Mills, Ph.D.; and Barbara Packer, Ed.D., as he explored "Long noncoding RNA MALAT1 in mitochondrial modulation induced by ketosis in human cardiomyocytes," a poster. Pulickathadam has presented annually at both the Undergraduate Student Symposium (2022-2025) and the KPCOM Undergraduate Research Symposium (2022-2025).

Beyond NSU, Pulickathadam is passionate about volunteering with his local YMCA Leaders Club, an organization that fosters youth leadership and community engagement. He also enjoys serving as a volunteer staff member for YMCA Blue Ridge Leaders School, teaching character development and volleyball classes for teens 13-18. As a former participant himself during middle and high school, he finds great fulfillment in mentoring teens and giving back to a program that he credits with shaping him into the person he is today. In February 2024, he was selected to represent the YMCA at the inaugural White House Youth Policy Summit hosted by the U.S. Department of Education. In this space, he advocated for enhanced recognition and funding

of “third spaces” that support adolescent socioemotional development and well-being. He also served as a youth peer reviewer for the U.S. Department of Education’s Promise Neighborhood grant cycle in September 2024, evaluating applications based on their youth engagement efforts.

After graduation, Pulickathadam will be attending the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine at Nova Southeastern University. With a passion for research, community service, and innovation, he aspires to become a physician leader who improves health outcomes by leveraging collaborative innovation, impactful advocacy, and groundbreaking research.

DR. PALLAVI PATEL COLLEGE OF HEALTH CARE SCIENCES

Marissa Olina Bonsangue, an exercise and sports science major with a minor in chemistry on the pre-health track, is from Staten Island, New York. While at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), Bonsangue served as a lab assistant for general chemistry, organic chemistry, and physics labs, throughout her junior and senior years. She was an active member and vice president of NSU’s Ultimate Frisbee Club throughout each year at NSU, which became a sanctioned team under her leadership for the first time in school history in 2025.

Bonsangue also completed a Division I football nutrition internship at Florida Atlantic University, where she worked directly with athletes, assisting with hydration protocols, food preparation, and emergency on-field care (2022). During her summers, she worked with children as a teacher’s aide and supported a local children’s theater company in Staten Island as a lighting assistant and sound software developer.

She has contributed to multiple research projects during her undergraduate years. Bonsangue presented her work on “Assessment of Brain Function and Putting Performance of Collegiate Golfers” as a poster at the NSU Undergraduate Student Symposium (2023), Interlace Conference (2023), and the Society for Sports Neuroscience Conference (2023) with Professor Pradeep Vanguri, Ph.D. Bonsangue is the lead author of a study, “Changes in Joint Power Magnitude and Distribution Pre and Post Training Camp,” which uses 3D motion

capture and force-plate technology to analyze National Football League draft athletes. The study, which she conducted with Professor G. Monique Mohka, Ph.D., was published in a journal.

In addition to biomechanics research, Bonsangue was involved in two biology-focused poster projects: “Determining the Function of the Protein of Interest 2QRU Using Bioinformatic Tools and Wet-Lab Experiments” under Professor Arthur Sikora, Ph.D., and “Resveratrol-Inspired Synthetic Compounds for Glioblastoma Stem Cell Cytotoxicity,” with Professor Venkatesh Shanbhag, Ph.D. Both posters were presented at NSU’s Undergraduate Symposium (2024).

Outside of research and academics, Bonsangue has remained an active member of her community. She has volunteered as a physical therapy aide at Richmond University Medical Center, helping patients with rehabilitation exercises and daily treatment operations. She also volunteered at Staten Island University Hospital, both in the emergency room and surgical intensive care unit.

After graduation, Bonsangue will be attending Nova Southeastern University’s Master of Science in Anesthesia program. She plans to integrate her love of sports science with the precision of chemistry by becoming an anesthesiologist assistant with a focus on orthopedic operations.

Kylee Thomas, a diagnostic medical sonography major, is from Fredericksburg, Virginia. During her time at Nova Southeastern University, she served as class president for the Diagnostic Medical Sonography program and was an active member of the Society of Diagnostic Medical Sonography’s Emerging Leaders program. She also played on the NSU Women’s Club Volleyball Team and served as secretary on its Electoral Board.

Academically, she was a dean’s list recipient throughout her undergraduate studies and was awarded the Dean’s Scholarship, Shark Legacy Scholarship, and the Elks Lodge Legacy Award. She is certified in Sonography Principles and Instrumentation through the American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography® (ARDMS) and plans to take the Abdomen (AB), Vascular Technology (VT), and Obstetrics and Gynecology (OB-GYN) specialty examinations to be certified in many areas of sonography. Her clinical experience

includes rotations at Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center, where she performed vascular and abdominal ultrasound examinations, and West Boca Medical Center, where she specialized in OB-GYN sonography.

Thomas is deeply passionate about sonography and its vital role in patient care, using advanced imaging to enhance diagnostic accuracy and improve health outcomes. Her father, Robbie Thomas, recently passed away and is deeply missed today. Although he is not with us physically, his presence is still felt in every step she takes. He was her greatest source of strength, always reminding her to chase her dreams, never give up, and give her best in everything she does. His unwavering belief in her became the foundation of her hard work and determination. As she celebrates this achievement, she does so with him in her heart, forever grateful for the love and encouragement that continues to guide her forward.

RON AND KATHY ASSAF COLLEGE OF NURSING

Lauren Elizabeth Alberts, a nursing major, is from Troy, Michigan. She received recognition on the dean’s list for all semesters of her enrollment in the Accelerated Bachelor of Science in Nursing Program at the Fort Myers Campus. She served as president of the Nursing Student Association, Fort Myers, under the mentorship of Professor Camille Baldwin, Ed.D., and Professor Keylashal Miller-Graham, M.S.N. During this time, Alberts created numerous volunteer opportunities in the community, organized meetings for students to connect with professional nurses, and was honored with the National Student Nursing Association’s Future Nurse Leader Scholarship.

Alberts’ passion for nursing began early and was solidified at her first job at a memory care facility, where she formed meaningful connections with residents and gained valuable life lessons. Her clinical experiences at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) confirmed her interest in the Emergency Department setting. She began working as a nurse intern at an Emergency Department in Naples, Florida, in August 2024. At this internship, she was able to apply her knowledge from coursework and clinical experiences in a high-speed setting on a weekly basis. She also completed her final nursing practicum at a Level II Trauma Center Emergency Department in Fort Myers.

UNDERGRADUATE AWARD RECIPIENTS

After graduation, Alberts plans to work as a registered nurse in an Emergency Department in Southwest Florida. She would like to especially thank her mom (Diane), dad (Joseph), sister (Marisa), fiancé (Hunter), and Professor Chitra Paul Victor, Ph.D., for their unwavering support throughout her nursing journey.

Kaylah Louis, a proud Filipino-Haitian American and Miami native, graduates with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, bringing with her a rich academic background and a deep passion for patient care. Prior to nursing, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences from Chapman University, where she laid the foundation for her future in health care. Louis is a member of the Alpha Chi Honor Society (2024) and Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (2025). She has been recognized on the dean's list multiple times and was awarded the Changing Lives Scholarship for Nursing Students (2023) in recognition of her dedication to compassionate, transformative care.

As a Health Care Assistant (HCA) Scholar, Louis looks forward to beginning her nursing practice in a supportive and dynamic clinical environment. With the goal of working in an intensive care unit, she hopes to support patients through life-changing experiences and witness the miracles that occur when science and compassion come together to heal.

Outside of her academic and clinical achievements, Louis is a dedicated fitness enthusiast who proudly completed a half marathon alongside the dean of the Ron and Kathy Assaf College of Nursing Stefanie LaManna, Ph.D. Louis brings that same spirit of endurance, determination, and heart to every challenge she faces, both on the track and in life. Louis' journey is a testament to perseverance, purpose, and the belief that healing happens not only through medicine, but through connection, empathy, and hope. She steps into her nursing career with gratitude, ready to serve, heal, and lead.

DISTINGUISHED HONOREES

Commencement Speakers

UNDERGRADUATE

MAY 5, 2025—MORNING CEREMONY

JEB BUSH, born February 11, 1953, in Midland, Texas, was the 43rd governor of the state of Florida (1999–2007). His leadership, dedication to public service, and commitment to education have left an indelible mark on our nation. As Florida's governor, Bush championed conservation in the Everglades, fiscal responsibility, and far-reaching state education reforms. And he is still making an impact, in Florida and beyond, as a philanthropist, a writer, and the founder and chair of ExcelinEd, an organization dedicated to enhancing educational opportunities for all children.

Born into a legacy of political influence, Bush carved out his own path. He attended Philips Academy in Andover, Massachusetts. During his senior year, he studied in Mexico, where he met Columba Garnica Gallo. The couple married in 1974 and later had three children. Also in 1974, Bush graduated *magna cum laude* from the University of Texas—Austin with a Bachelor of Arts in Latin American Studies and was hired by the Texas Commerce Bank. For a time, he worked at a branch of the bank in Venezuela.

In 1979, he left his job to work on his father's presidential campaign. George H. W. Bush ultimately became the vice-presidential running mate of Ronald Reagan, and the two were elected in 1980. In 1981, Bush moved to Florida and became a real estate developer, while also remaining active in politics. He served as the chairman of the Republican Party in Dade County (1984–1986) and as Florida's commerce secretary (1987–1988). In 1988, he again worked on his father's presidential campaign, successful this time.

In 1994, Bush ran for governor of Florida on a conservative platform and narrowly lost to the Democratic incumbent. He subsequently founded the Foundation for Florida's Future, which sought to improve the state's education system. Bush ran for governor again in 1998 and, this time, he easily won. In 2000, he worked on the presidential campaign of his brother, George W. Bush, who was elected to the presidency. Then, in 2002, Bush ran for, and was elected to, his second term as governor. From 1999 to 2007, during his terms as Florida's governor, he transformed the state into a model of fiscal responsibility, education reform, and economic growth. In addition, he controversially signed an executive order that ended affirmative action in the state.

After leaving office in 2007, Bush served on the boards of various companies and founded a consulting firm, while remaining active in politics. He cowrote (with Clint Bolick) *Immigration Wars: Forging an American Solution* in 2013, in which he argued against a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants and, instead, proposed granting them legal status.

In 2015, Bush announced that he was entering the U.S. presidential election race of 2016. Later that year, he published *Reply All*, a collection of email correspondence from his tenure as governor of Florida. Though he lost that race, Jeb Bush remains a respected and sought-after voice on local and global issues. He continues to make a difference as a businessman, author, and philanthropist today.

MAY 5, 2025—AFTERNOON CEREMONY

MITCHELL W. BERGER, ESQ., is a nationally recognized attorney, civic leader, and longtime supporter of Nova Southeastern University. As the founder and chairman emeritus of Berger Singerman, he has led Florida's business law firm for nearly four decades, representing clients, including Fortune 500 companies, in complex commercial litigation and shaping the legal landscape of the state.

Beyond his distinguished legal career, Berger has played a pivotal role in both state and national politics, serving as a senior adviser to Vice President Al Gore in 2000. He notably represented the Gore/Lieberman campaign before the Florida Supreme Court in the landmark *Bush v. Gore* case—a defining moment in United States electoral history—which earned him portrayals in HBO's *Recount* and *537 Votes*.

In addition to his high-profile political work, Berger has held key roles on numerous public commissions and task forces, reflecting his broad commitment to public service and policy leadership. He served as chairman of the board of Sallie Mae and contributed his expertise to the Governing Board of the South Florida Water Management District, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Financial Advisory Board, the Florida Environmental Regulation Commission, and the United States Small Business Administration Advisory Board, and also received a presidential appointment for the Advisory Committee for Trade Policy and Negotiations. Through these roles, Berger has helped shape policies on education, environmental stewardship, economic development, and trade at both the state and national levels.

Berger's commitment to NSU runs deep. He has served on the university's board of trustees since 2006 and is a longtime member of the governing board for the Shepard Broad College of Law. He had also previously served on the board of the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship and, in 2010, was inducted into that college's Entrepreneur and Business Hall of Fame. Together with his wife, Sharon Kegerreis Berger, he helped launch the Sharon and Mitchell W. Berger Entrepreneur Law Clinic and the Berger Entrepreneur Bootcamp, an innovative, university-wide initiative that prepares students and community members to launch and lead successful start-ups.

A frequent speaker and published author on election law and constitutional issues, Berger has published four articles in the *Nova Law Review*. His lifelong commitment to public service, the law, and education reflects his belief in the power of civic engagement and innovation to drive meaningful change.

MAY 6, 2025—MORNING CEREMONY

CHAD A. PERLYN, M.D., PH.D., M.B.A., is the executive vice president and chief medical officer at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) and the executive medical director of NSU Health. As such, he directs the university's health care network, including eight colleges focused on education and research, as well as NSU Health, its patient-centered health care system. He is also the dean and a professor at NSU's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Allopathic Medicine. Perlyn joined NSU in December 2024, after serving as senior vice president at Nicklaus Children's Health System, where he led surgical services, community health, and corporate responsibility.

A distinguished leader in plastic and craniofacial surgery, Perlyn made significant contributions at Nicklaus Children's Health System, which he joined in 2009 as a pediatric plastic surgeon and later served in leadership roles, including president of Nicklaus Children's Pediatric Specialists, medical director of Surgical Services, and chairman of the Ambulatory Surgical Center. He expanded the physician group by 50 percent, led major affiliations, and developed multiple new practice sites and programs. Under his leadership, operational improvements were made, including streamlined patient access, scheduling, and revenue cycle processes. He also spearheaded the opening of the \$180-million Kenneth C. Griffin Surgical Tower, transforming pediatric surgical care in South Florida.

Perlyn is a global health leader, actively involved with the G4 Alliance on surgical care in low- and middle-income countries and collaborating with Partners in Health in Haiti and Kausay Wasi in Peru to improve accessible, affordable health care worldwide. As a board-certified pediatric plastic surgeon, he cares for children with congenital differences and contributes to the field through publications, lectures, and media commentary.

Perlyn earned his M.D. from the University of Miami, completed surgical training at Washington University/Barnes-Jewish Hospital, and obtained a doctorate in craniofacial molecular biology from the University of Oxford. He also holds an M.B.A. in health care education from the University of Miami's Herbert Business School and a degree in English literature from Northwestern University. A Miami native, Perlyn enjoys ocean activities, marathon running, photography, and travel.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE

Ceremonial garments worn at academic functions take their meaning from the original centers of learning of the western world in the church of the Middle Ages. Caps, hoods, and gowns of the early students and monks have been held through the centuries to be traditionally symbolic of the scholarly devotion so basic to education and to the deliberate and orderly evolution of knowledge.

The introduction of classical studies, the gradual rise of the great universities across Europe, and the ever-increasing awareness of the decisive role of education in the entire development of civilization influenced leaders among academicians in their desire for a singular identity. In the attempt to create this differentiation, educators fell upon the medieval system of classic heraldry, whereby the coat of arms, assorted ornamental trappings, and patterns of colorful design had been adopted to denote the distinctive character of designated chivalric orders. The function of a pedagogical heraldry became, then, simply identification. As such, measures were taken to signify through distinctive markings on the academicians' attire the institution that had granted the degree, the field of learning in which the degree had been earned, and the level of the degree, e.g., bachelor's, master's, or doctorate.

Of the three pieces of academic attire—the cap, the gown, and the hood—it is the hood that offers the most abundant and most readily discernible information about its owner. The inner lining of the hood identifies the institution at which the individual earned the degree. Some schools have adopted two-color patterns and introduced chevrons and bars in various designs to set themselves apart from other institutions. The velvet trim bordering the hood indicates the major field of learning, or faculty, in which the degree has been earned. The list at the conclusion of this section will explain this relationship. A final feature of the hood concerns its length and width and distinguishes further between holders of bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees. The length of the hood for the bachelor's degree is three feet, closed at the bottom, and with a velvet border of two inches. At Nova Southeastern University, however, individuals receiving a bachelor's degree do not wear a hood. A master's degree holder has a hood three and one-half feet in length with a three-inch wide border, and the hood is slit at the bottom. Those individuals with a doctoral degree wear a hood four feet in length, open at the bottom with a five-inch border.

The cut of the gown aids in differentiating between the three levels of degrees. The

bachelor's gown is relatively simple and falls in straight lines from an elaborate yoke. It may be recognized most readily by the long, pointed sleeves. The master's gown is somewhat fuller and bears no adornment. The sleeves are oblong in shape and open at the wrist, with the rear part of the oblong square cut while the front edge has a cutaway arc. The doctor's gown is more elaborate, with velvet panels down the front and around the neck of the garment. The sleeves are bell-shaped at the end and have three bars of the same material as the front panels at the upper portion of the arm. It is cut rather fully and may be ornamental in color.

The mortarboard or Oxford-type cap has been adopted throughout most universities in the United States, although tams have become increasingly fashionable to denote holders of the doctoral degree. Colored tassels are usually worn by holders of the bachelor's and master's degrees. These denote the field of learning.

The color, indeed, the flamboyance, of academic dress undoubtedly adds to the sense of occasion at academic ceremonies. But as its historical roots show, it has a much deeper significance. It is an outward sign of the universality of universities, and of their responsibility for certain timeless values essential to the freedom

of inquiry: tolerance of alternative views and courage in maintaining one's own tirelessness in the pursuit of truth and the free exchange of knowledge. Its wearing marks also the responsibility of the new graduate to maintain and uphold these ideals. These fundamentals of academic freedom have not been threatened in this country for more than 200 years, but the importance attached to the donning of traditional academic dress was underlined in recent years by scholars from Central and Eastern Europe; during the Cold War, their use of academic robes became a symbol of their refusal to be dominated completely by political forces and the state, and symbolized their persistent links to the worldwide community of scholars. Thus, the wearing of academic dress should be seen not simply as a sign of achievement, but as a symbol of the responsibility that falls on all members of universities.

HONORS

Students wear cords, pins, sashes, and medallions that reflect institutional and national academic honors as well as campus leadership, service, and engagement.

COLOR OF HOODS

The colors found on the hoods worn in the academic procession represent the candidate's discipline of study.

Arts, Letters, Humanities	White
Accounting, Business	Drab
Biomedical Science.....	Gold
Clinical Vision Research.....	Aqua
Dentistry	Lilac
Developmental Disabilities.....	Citron
Education.....	Light Blue
Law	Purple
Medicine.....	Kelly Green
Music	Pink
Nursing	Apricot
Occupational Therapy.....	Rhodes Blue
Optometry	Mint Green
Oratory (Speech).....	Silver Gray
Pharmacy.....	Olive Green
Philosophy, Political Science	Dark Blue
Public Administration, Human Services, Physical Therapy, and Criminal Justice	Peacock
Public Health.....	Salmon
Science	Bright Yellow
Sport Science.....	Sage Green



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