



HOUGHTON UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT

Excellence for the Glory of God

Saturday, May 13, 2023

John & Charles Wesley Chapel

COMMENCEMENT 2023

Processional

Trumpet Tune in D major & Processional in D major

David Johnson (1922-1987)

Judy Congdon, organ
Parent of Graduate

Welcome

Wayne D. Lewis, Jr.
President

Invocation

Lisa Groff '90
Parent of Graduate

Musical Selection

No One Is Alone (From Into the Woods)

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim
Book by James Lapine

Linette Taylor '23, mezzo soprano
Rachel Grace Huchthausen '23, piano

Commencement Address

Jerry Gillis

“Don't Graduate from Jesus”

Houghton Choir

The Road Home

Stephen Paulus (1949-2014)
Kevin Dibble '11, '13 (M.M.), Conductor

Presentation of Class Gift

Kathryn E. Evans '23

Presentation of Degrees

David Davies '01
Provost

Benediction

Matthew Pickering '93
Parent of Graduate

Recessional

Toccata in F major from Symphony Op. 42, No. 5

Ch. M. Widor (1844-1937)

Judy Congdon, organ
Parent of Graduate

Junior Class Marshals: Alisabeth Crandall '24 and Andrew Hotchkiss '24
Pipers: Alastair Hutton '10 and Andrew Hutton '18

Following the ceremony, all are invited to join us for lunch on the quad.
Graduates can meet their professors at the designated reception areas.

MASTER'S DEGREES

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Rudy Alvarez Armas, M.B.A.
Sophia Andre, M.B.A.
Michael John Cavanaugh, M.B.A.
Nathan R. Crews, M.B.A.
Julius Klohr, M.B.A.
Barbara Fay Richert, M.B.A.
Sheilymar Rodriguez, M.B.A.
Elissa Janelle Tyrrell, M.B.A.
Kenian Jeffrey Ulrich, M.B.A.
Constance Wadsworth, M.B.A.
Kelly Ann Welninski, M.B.A.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Emily Grundtisch, M.S.Ed.
Heather Marie Mann, M.S.Ed.
Haley Unverdorben, M.S.Ed.

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF MUSIC

Ethan M. Carr, M.Mus.
Rebekah Elizabeth Scharf, M.Mus.

BACHELOR'S DEGREES

EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY

EDUCATION

** Marilyn Amborski, B.S.◇
*** Ashley Archilla, B.S.
** Grace Ann Armstrong, B.S.
Sarah M. Burton, B.A.◇
Lael T. Card, B.S.
** Hannah Grace Chorey, B.S.◇
** Kayli Lynne Clapper, B.S.
** Raegyn Dow, B.S.
Hannah Duncan, B.S.
* Kendra Evans, B.S.
** Madeline M. Feldman, B.S.
*** Hannah Elizabeth Fraser, B.S.◇
Jacob Paul Lajza, B.A.◇
Brennan Lewandowski, B.S.
** Kayla Thersille Loomis, B.S.
** Cameron Mario Lott, B.A.◇
* Katherine Manley, B.S.
Megan Merrifield, B.S.
*** Gabriel Keith Negus, B.S.
** Justice Newell, B.A.◇
** Leah O'Connell, B.S.◇
Nayellis Skylin Perez, B.S.
Brianna Porterfield, B.S.
Faith N. Redlecki, B.S.
** Ygeutte Nabintu Rudahindwa, B.S.
Logan Grant Schrock, B.A.◇
Mikayla Grace Simons, B.S.
* Moriah Steffen, B.A.◇
Emily Katherine Strauss, B.S.
* Gwendolyn Anne Swanson, B.S.◇
* Makaila Lynn Van Wie-Adair, B.A.◇
Micah Daniel Williams, B.A.◇
** Sara Elizabeth Wright, B.S.◇

PSYCHOLOGY & CRIMINAL JUSTICE

*** Marith Mae Anderson, B.A.◇
** Mikayla Marie Bond, B.A.◇

- ** Laura Catherine Bunce, B.A.
- Chyanne Ruth Bushyhead, B.A.
- Rachel Helen Caine, B.S.◇
- McKenzie N. Celotto, B.A.
- Nadia R. Desautels, B.A.
- ** Addysen Rose DiMatteo, B.A.
- ** Samantha Elizabeth Gorski, B.A.◇
- Baylie M. Harnish, B.A.
- Kristin Holly Keller, B.A.
- ** Cassidy Elizabeth Kuhlmann, B.S.◇
- Lyndsay Lewis, B.A.
- Isaac C. Little, B.A.
- * Giovanna Malay, B.A.
- ** Melody J. Maus, B.A.
- Brianna L. Meaney, B.A.
- * Chloë Rose Elizabeth Monday, B.A.◇
- Kristina Elena Moreno, B.S.
- ** Isabelle Murch, B.A.◇
- ** Lydia Rose Peterson, B.A.◇
- Desiree J. Radford, B.A.
- Timothy Ralph Rasmusson, Jr, B.S.
- * Bridget Nicole Sobolewski, B.A.
- *** Liesl Staton, B.A.
- Tai Cao Minh Tran, B.S.◇
- Keith Joseph Van Dyne, B.A.◇
- Elizabeth Grace Veacock, B.A.
- Jaeden Thembani Zabula, B.A.
- ** Arianna Michelle Zampella, B.A.
- *** Ian Michael Zon, B.A.

GREATBATCH SCHOOL OF MUSIC

- ** Mikayla Marie Bond, B.Mus.◇
- Brent Hernandez, B.S.
- *** Rachel Grace Huchthausen, B.Mus.◇
- ** Rachael McVeigh, B.Mus.
- *** Ekaterina Nikolaeva-Howard, B.A.◇
- ** Luc Pereira, B.Mus.
- * Emily Lynne Quick, B.Mus.
- Adeline Roeske, B.Mus.
- ** Linette Taylor, B.Mus.

MANAGEMENT & CREATIVE ARTS

ART

- ** Gabriel Huizenga, B.A.◇
- *** Danae Rachele Jarrett, B.F.A.
- Alexis Klohr, B.F.A.
- Alyssa Michelle Lyon, B.F.A.
- Erin Ozminkowski, B.F.A.◇
- *** Casey Colombo Sharpe, B.F.A.
- * Gwendolyn Anne Swanson, B.S.◇
- Hayden Kristine Williamson, B.F.A.

BUSINESS & ECONOMICS

- ** Lydia Jane Bodnar, B.S.◇
- ** Ryan Thomas Carlsen, B.S.◇
- *** Christine Elizabeth Carpenter, B.S.
- Jonah Ewing, B.S.
- Kim E. Hernandez, B.S.
- Taylor Johnson, B.S.
- Jason August Kauffeldt, B.S.◇
- Victoria Elise Lozada, B.S.
- * Christopher Erich Marks, B.S.
- * Jacob L. Masterson, B.S.
- Davis Munro Mcmillan, B.S.
- Pray Meh, B.S.
- Mina Ismael Mohammed, B.S.
- Ryan G. Newtown, B.S.
- ** Emmanuella Osuzoka, B.S.◇
- Taylor C. Porter, B.S.
- Dan Alejandro Ramirez Amador, B.S.
- Benjamin James Rappa, B.S.
- Sebastian Rodriguez, B.S.
- Michaela Joy Roth, B.S.
- Austin W. Schaumleffel, B.S.◇
- Gariana-Christie Valentin, B.S.
- Emma Ruth Wetherell, B.S.
- * Alexandria Grace Wisniewski, B.S.◇
- Jared Younger, B.S.◇
- Renée Marie Zahm, B.S.
- *** Katiana Ariel Zubryn, B.A.◇

COMMUNICATION

- *** Marith Mae Anderson, B.A. ◊
- * Rylee Elizabeth Archambault, B.S.
Hanna Marie Avery, B.S. ◊
- ** Lydia Jane Bodnar, B.S. ◊
Brice Adiel Tanoh Bogna, B.S.
- *** Noah Burton Brewster, B.A. ◊
- *** Megan Elise Brown, B.A. ◊
Rachel Helen Caine, B.S. ◊
- ** Hannah Grace Chorey, B.S. ◊
- ** Grace Ann Deitrick, B.A. ◊
- ** Rachel Elizabeth Domaracki, B.S.
- ** Rebekah Fenn, B.S.
- ** Kathryn Lenoir Groff, B.S.
- ** Kamaron Hillman, B.A. ◊
- *** Ekaterina Nikolaeva-Howard, B.A. ◊
- ** Leah O'Connell, B.S. ◊
Zachary Parr, B.S.
- * Lindsey Anne Waters, B.A.

SPORT, RECREATION & WELLNESS

- Hanna Marie Avery, B.S. ◊
- Sarah Grace Box, B.S.
- Jennifer Grace Burrows, B.S.
- * Jamie C. Calimano, B.S.
Trevor Ciccotti, B.S.
Isabella R. Goss, B.S.
- * Isabelle F. Gritsavage, B.S.
- *** Emma Rose Hancock, B.S.
- ** Cassidy Elizabeth Kuhlmann, B.S. ◊
Elizabeth Rayana Lucks, B.S.
Jose A. Morales, B.S.
Erin Ozminkowski, B.S. ◊
Emily Elizabeth Pickering, B.S.
- Alessia Caterina Salati, B.S.
- *** Natalie Sommons, B.S.
Terra Sullivan, B.S.

NATURAL SCIENCES & MATHEMATICS

BIOLOGY

- * Maeve Michele Anderson, B.A.
Emily Angeline Andruczyk, B.A.
Miguel Arce, B.A.
Joseph T. Arnold, B.S.
- *** Nicholas Beach, B.S.
Peyton Elizabeth Bentley, B.A.
- * Amanda Burrichter, B.S.
Ashley R. Burton, B.A.
- ** Samuel James Calkins, B.S.
Colin Bernard Campbell, B.S.
- ** Cassie Cavell, B.S.
- *** Adora Joy Colicci, B.S.
Chloe Elizabeth Esch, B.S.
Kathryn E. Evans, B.S.
Reece Harlan Gustafson, B.S.
- * Jessica Keeran, B.S.
- ** Isaac Edward Mann, B.S.
- *** Isaiah Miller, B.S.
- * Chloë Rose Elizabeth Monday, B.A. ◊
Sarah Virginia Potocki, B.S.
Logan Grant Schrock, B.A. ◊
- *** Mary Shaker, B.S.
Maria E. Simonin Rodrigues, B.S.
- * Mary Katherine Vandenbosch, B.S.
Lyle A. Warrior, B.S.
- ** Allyson Katherine Waters, B.S.
- ** Natalia Weyforth, B.S.
Hannah Grace Wilber, B.A.
Micah Daniel Williams, B.A. ◊
- *** Marika A. Yelle, B.S.

CHEMISTRY & BIOCHEMISTRY

- * Skye Calissa Chaapel, B.S. ◊
- ** Blake Eby, B.S.
Evan Kasper, B.S.
Lydia B. Lagree, B.S.
Collin Nasso, B.S.
- * Abigail Joy Weeks, B.S.

MATHEMATICS

- Matthew Cicero, B.A.
- ** Timothy Yun - Chung Lund, B.S.◇
- Benji Marmor, B.A.◇
- ** Allison Elizabeth Morgan, B.A.
- * Moriah Steffen, B.A.◇
- ** Sara Elizabeth Wright, B.S.◇

PHYSICS, COMPUTER SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

- * Matthew Bowman, B.S.
- ** Adam Edward Brown, B.S.
- *** Micah Kurt Condie, B.S.◇
- *** Benjamin Alexander Dostie, B.S.◇
- *** Liam Fisher, B.A.
- ** Seth Hodgkins, B.S.◇
- * Hunter D. Kendall, B.S.
- ** Timothy Yun - Chung Lund, B.S.◇
- Tai Cao Minh Tran, B.S.◇
- ** Joshua Wilson, B.S.
- * Jonathon Zdunski, B.S.

RELIGION, HUMANITIES & GLOBAL STUDIES

ENGLISH & WRITING

- *** Megan Elise Brown, B.A.◇
- Victoria Hock, B.A.
- *** Rachel Grace Huchthausen, B.A.◇
- Jacqueline Johnson, B.A.◇
- Jacob Paul Lajza, B.A.◇
- ** Justice Newell, B.A.◇
- *** Elise Deborah Swanson, B.A.◇

HISTORY, POLITICS, & PHILOSOPHY

- *** Noah Burton Brewster, B.A.◇
- Sarah M. Burton, B.A.◇
- *** Danielle A. Cohen, B.A.◇
- Yifei (Joseph) Huang, B.A.

- Jacqueline Johnson, B.A.◇
- ** Cameron Mario Lott, B.A.◇
- *** Frances Lydia Mullen, B.A.◇
- *** Gaelen Kelly Negus, B.A.◇
- *** Elise Deborah Swanson, B.A.◇
- ** Zebulon Thompson, B.A.
- * Makaila Lynn Van Wie-Adair, B.A.◇

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- ** Marilynn Amborski, B.S.◇
- ** Ryan Thomas Carlsen, B.S.◇
- ** Rebekah Lynn Clark, B.A.
- *** Danielle A. Cohen, B.A.◇
- Haylee E. Conrad, B.A.◇
- Nina Rose D'Amato, B.A.
- ** Grace Ann Deitrick, B.A.◇
- *** Benjamin Alexander Dostie, B.S.◇
- Emily Evans, B.S.
- *** Hannah Elizabeth Fraser, B.S.◇
- ** Samantha Elizabeth Gorski, B.A.◇
- ** Kamaron Hillman, B.A.◇
- ** Gabriel Huizenga, B.A.◇
- Benji Marmor, B.A.◇
- Adam McCutcheon, B.A.
- * Joshua Morris, B.S.
- ** Isabelle Murch, B.A.◇
- *** Gaelen Kelly Negus, B.A.◇
- ** Lydia Rose Peterson, B.A.◇
- Richard John Schmeling, B.A.
- Daniel JonArthur Stegen, B.A.
- ** Zoe Danielle Utterback, B.A.◇
- *** Katiana Ariel Zubryn, B.A.◇

ASSOCIATE DEGREES

HOUGHTON / BUFFALO EXTENSION SITE

Arham Mohammed Abde, A.A.
Mohamad Salim Aloush, A.A.
Nazir Eliezer Austin, A.A.
Furaha M. Balokwa, A.A.
Jerome T. Boyd, A.A.
Sonya Ann Cardwell, A.A.
Tiana Tuyen Danh, A.A.
Rodas Goitom, A.A.
Kasseem Harris, A.A.
Darnelle Tashawn Hilliard, A.A.
Bryana Marie Hassan James, A.A.
Lytasha Marie Jones, A.A.
Darius La-quantae Lewis, A.A.
Tnajah Jakese Meeks, A.A.
Sea Meh, A.A.
Jeanne M'munga, A.A.
Dieu-Fidele Munano, A.A.
Melat Futsum Nguse, A.A.
Mikal Futsum Nguse, A.A.
Taj'Anay Marie Quigley, A.A.
La'Cher Reynolds, A.A.
Hannah Caprice Ross, A.A.
Noemi Sepulveda, A.A.
Kuban Yao, A.A.

HOUGHTON / ONLINE

Destiny Coombs, A.S.
Rachel Doezema, A.A.

HOUGHTON / RESIDENTIAL

Rebekah Christine Ellis, A.A.
Joshua Micheal Ludolph, A.S.
Jonah Robert Tonkin, A.A.

SYMBOL KEY

◇ Students with multiple majors. When majors are in different departments, the student's name appears in each department.

* *cum laude* 3.5 – 3.69
(white cords)

** *magna cum laude* 3.7 – 3.89
(purple cords)

*** *summa cum laude* 3.9 – 4.0
(gold cords)

Valedictorian / Salutatorian – gold stole

Latin Honors are computed based on cumulative grade point average at the end of the fall semester as verified on March 20 and are subject to change pending completion of degree requirements.

Listing of student's name does not guarantee degree completion.

RECIPIENT OF U.S. ARMY COMMISSION

CDT Alexandria Grace Wisniewski

Active Duty, Field Artillery

SENIOR HONORS AND RESEARCH

CO-VALEDICTORIANS

Adora Joy Colicci
Gabriel Keith Negus
Gaelen Kelly Negus
Mary Shaker
Natalie Sommons

SALUTATORIAN

Isaiah Miller

SENIOR HONORS RESEARCH

Timothy Yun-Chung Lund
Senior Honors in Mathematics
Committee Chair: Rebekah Yates
Title: *Numerical Range Over Finite Fields*

HONOR SOCIETIES

PSI CHI – PSYCHOLOGY

Psi Chi is an international honor society whose purpose shall be to encourage, stimulate, and maintain excellence in scholarship of the individual members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and to advance the science of psychology.

Marith Mae Anderson
Laura Catherine Bunce
Addysen Rose DiMatteo
Samantha Elizabeth Gorski
Cassidy Elizabeth Kuhlmann
Isabelle Murch
Bridget Nicole Sobolewski
Arianna Michelle Zampella
Ian Michael Zon



PI KAPPA LAMBDA – MUSIC

The primary objective of Pi Kappa Lambda is the recognition and encouragement of the highest level of musical achievement and academic scholarship. The Society is convinced that recognizing and honoring persons who have enhanced their talents by serious, diligent, and intelligent study will stimulate others to do the same.

Rachel Grace Huchthausen
Ekaterina Nikolaeva-Howard
Rebekah Elizabeth Scharf



SIGMA ZETA – MATH/SCIENCES

A national undergraduate honor society to encourage and foster scholarly activity and recognize academic scholarship in the natural and computer sciences and mathematics.

Matthew Bowman
Samuel James Calkins
Skye Calissa Chaapel
Adora Joy Colicci
Benjamin Alexander Dostie
Mary Katherine Vandenbosch
Allyson Katherine Waters
Micah Daniel Williams
Marika A. Yelle



HOUGHTON LEADERSHIP

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Joy B. Tolliver
Coreena L. Weaver '84
Ruth Woodworth
Aimee Wuethrich '89
Jun Zhuang

EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP CABINET

Greg Bish '95
David Davies '01
Natasha Davis
Wayne D. Lewis, Jr.

Karl Sisson
Jason Towers '97
Matthew Webb
Dale Wright '84

PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY BOARD

Reginald Burt
Adam Compton '89
Melissa Fisher '90
Rosario "RoZ" Picardo '03
Jeffrey Prinsell '75
Gordon "Don" Purdy '89

James R. Rogan II '83
Stephen Sawada
Jeffrey J. Thompson '01
Robert Van Dyk '75
Rick Vienne '84

COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Rev. Dr. Jerry Gillis

Lead Pastor at The Chapel in Buffalo, NY

Jerry Gillis is a native of Atlanta, Georgia, who has put down roots in Western New York. He has been serving the people of The Chapel since 2002 and has been in vocational ministry since 1992. His formal education includes a degree in Communication from the University of Georgia, a Master of Divinity from New Orleans Seminary, and a Doctor of Ministry from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary.

Jerry is passionate about reaching every man, woman and child with repeated opportunities to hear and see the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Since becoming Lead Pastor of The Chapel, he has aimed to center this local church on that singular mission. Jerry also has the opportunity to speak to numerous pastors and churches around the nation (and even in other nations) as a result of his involvement with a network of churches called Christ Together. This network aims to empower the whole Church to bring the whole Gospel to the whole nation.

Jerry and his wife, Edie, have two sons, a daughter-in-law and a granddaughter and make their home in the suburbs of Buffalo, New York. He loves to watch University of Georgia football, go for a long run, read a good book and eat a great meal with his family at the dinner table.

HOUGHTON HISTORY

The institution was established in 1883 as a seminary (high school) under the Wesleyan Methodist Connection. Coeducational from its founding, Houghton operated as a secondary school for its first 15 years. The institution has been committed from its conception to making a high-quality, deeply Christian education available to those who would not otherwise have this kind of opportunity.

The commitment is grounded in the conviction that God has gifted each individual in ways that ought to be developed for the purpose of more effectively participating in God's redemptive purposes throughout our world. Thus, affordability, accessibility and global engagement – as well as high quality and deeply Christian faith – have been consistent trademarks of a Houghton education throughout our history.

Beginning in 1899, a few college classes were offered – sufficient to allow the college department's first diploma to be awarded in 1901. Early principals of the school were Wesleyan Methodist pastors willing to accept the job. In 1908, Houghton acquired its first academically trained president, James S. Luckey, who served until his death in 1937. President Luckey believed that, if Houghton College was to have the impact that God intended, it needed to be recognized within the larger world of American higher education. Thanks in large part to President Luckey's persistent efforts, Houghton College received its provisional charter from New York State in 1923 and awarded its first 19 baccalaureate degrees two years later. A permanent charter was granted in 1927 followed by full accreditation by the Middle States Association of Schools and Colleges in 1935.

When the former Buffalo Bible Institute in West Seneca merged with Houghton College in 1969, the West Seneca site was created. The programs at this site evolved from lower-divisional status to specialized courses and internships designed to complement majors offered on the main campus, particularly those requiring an urban setting. Through these teaching sites, as well as a growing presence through online offerings, Houghton continued to expand its efforts to make a high-quality, deeply Christian education available to those of all ages who would not otherwise have this opportunity.

In 2022, the University of the State of New York Board of Regents approved the name change and updated the charter for the institution to become Houghton University. Today, Houghton University offers multiple avenues for individuals to access a Christ-centered higher education. Throughout its history, Houghton has affirmed that an education grounded in a deep sense of our identity as God's children and a commitment to excellence in critical thinking, communication and community formation is the very best preparation for a lifetime of effectiveness and impact in the everchanging circumstances of our 21st-century world.