ONE HUNDRED TWENTY-EIGHTH
COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES
NORTH CAROLINA CENTRAL UNIVERSITY
PROGRAM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10, 2016, 9 A.M.
MCDOUGALD – McLENDON ARENA

JOHNSON O. AKINLEYE, PH.D., ACTING CHANCELLOR,
PROVOST AND VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Presiding

E Major Op. 10, No.3.................................................Processional..................................................Mr. Derison Duarte
by Frederic Chopin Pianist

Opening Statement.................................................................................................................Dr. M. La Verne Reid
University Marshal

Welcome.....................................................................................Acting Chancellor and Provost Johnson O. Akinleye

Reflections..................................................................................................................The Reverend Timothy Taylor
Abiding Savior Lutheran Church

Greetings................................................................................................................................ Mr. Walter Davenport
Member, University of North Carolina Board of Governors

Mr. George R. Hamilton
Chair, NCCU Board of Trustees

Ms. Deja L. Young
President, Senior Class

Mr. Patrick Mosley
Vice-President, Graduate Students Association

Ms. Nicole Little
President, Student Bar Association

Introduction of the Speaker.....................................................Acting Chancellor and Provost Johnson O. Akinleye

Commencement Address.............................................................................................Ms. Valeisha Butterfield Jones
Co-founder, Women in Entertainment Empowerment Network; Head of Black Community Engagement, Google

Recognition of Honor Students...............................................Acting Chancellor and Provost Johnson O. Akinleye

Valedictorians.................................................................................................................. Cody M. Burkhardt
Xaysana Douangdara
Morgan Jones
Kathryn M. Manginelli
Jennifer M. Morehead
Mary, Did You Know ................................................................. University Choir by Buddy Greene

Conferring of Graduate and Professional Degrees

Introductory Remarks ................................................................. Dr. Jaleh Rezaie
Dean, Graduate Studies

Presentation of Candidates for Graduate and Professional Degrees
Introduction of the Deans ........................................................... Dr. Rezaie

Introduction of the Candidates ................................................... College of Arts and Sciences
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
School of Business
School of Education
School of Library and Information Sciences
School of Law

Conferring of Baccalaureate Degrees

Introductory Remarks ................................................................. Dr. Carlton Wilson
Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

Presentation of Candidates for Baccalaureate Degrees ................ College of Arts and Sciences
College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
School of Business
School of Education

Induction of Graduates into the National Alumni Association .... Mr. Samuel Cooper
President, NCCU Alumni Association

Charge to the Graduates ............................................................ Acting Chancellor and Provost Johnson O. Akinleye

The Alma Mater – Dear Old N.C.C ................................................ University Choir
(The audience will please stand.)

Benediction ................................................................................... The Reverend Taylor

Closing Statement ........................................................................ Dr. Reid
University Marshal

Weeping Willow .......................................................................... Recessional
by Scott Joplin
by Pianist

Mr. Duarte
In 1910, Dr. James E. Shepard, a Durham pharmacist and religious educator, opened the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race and declared its purpose to be “the development in young men and women of the character and sound academic training requisite for real service to the nation.”

The institution struggled financially in its early years. In 1915, it was sold and reorganized, then becoming the National Training School. In 1923, the state legislature appropriated funds to buy the school, and renamed it the Durham State Normal School. Two years later, the legislature converted the institution into the North Carolina College for Negroes, dedicating it to liberal arts education and the preparation of teachers and principals. The college thus became the nation’s first state-supported liberal arts college for black students.

In 1939, the college offered its first graduate-level courses in the arts and sciences. The School of Law opened in 1940, followed in 1941 by the School of Library Science. In 1947, the legislature changed the name to North Carolina College at Durham. Shepard served as president until his death in 1947. Dr. Alfonso Elder was installed in 1948 as his successor.

North Carolina College at Durham became North Carolina Central University in 1969. On July 1, 1972, all the state’s public four-year colleges and universities were joined to become the Consolidated University of North Carolina. As part of the transition, the chief executive’s title changed from president to chancellor.

Dr. Albert N. Whiting presided over the transition, leading the university from 1967 until 1983. He was succeeded by Dr. LeRoy T. Walker, vice chancellor for university relations and an internationally renowned track and field coach. Dr. Tyronza R. Richmond succeeded Walker in 1986; Richmond’s tenure saw the establishment of the School of Education.

In 1992, Dr. Donna J. Benson was appointed to serve as interim chancellor for one year, after which Dr. Julius L. Chambers, a noted civil rights attorney, became the first NCCU alumnus to lead the university. Chambers led construction of a biomedical/biotechnical research institute and a new education building.

Dr. James H. Ammons became chancellor in June 2001, eight months after state voters approved a major bond issue for UNC system capital improvements. NCCU was among the campuses targeted for growth, and under Ammons’ leadership the university experienced a surge in enrollment.

Dr. Charlie Nelms succeeded Ammons in 2007. During his five-year tenure, he focused on improving retention and graduation rates. Nelms presided over NCCU’s centennial celebration during the 2009-10 year. Under his leadership, NCCU was ranked as the nation’s No. 1 public historically black university by U.S. News & World Report for two consecutive years.

Nelms retired in 2012, and was succeeded on an interim basis by Charles L. Becton, a prominent attorney and former judge on the North Carolina Court of Appeals. He served until August 2013.

On Feb. 8, 2013, Dr. Debra Saunders-White was selected as the 11th chancellor and first permanent female chancellor of NCCU by the University of North Carolina Board of Governors. Dr. Saunders-White assumed her duties on June 1, 2013. Under her leadership, student enrollment and other key performance indicators rose. In August 2016, after Dr. Saunders-White took a leave of absence, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs Dr. Johnson O. Akinleye was named as acting chancellor by UNC President Margaret Spellings. Dr. Saunders-White died on Nov. 26, 2016, at age 59.
JAMES E. SHEPARD was born Nov. 3, 1875, in Raleigh, the son of the Rev. Augustus and Mrs. Harriet Whitted Shepard. He received undergraduate and professional training at Shaw University, from which he graduated in 1894. The next year he married Annie Day Robinson, a descendant of Thomas Day, a famed North Carolina furniture maker.

The Shepards had three daughters, Marjorie A. Shepard, Annie Day Shepard Smith, and Marion Shepard, who died in infancy. The family legacy continues through the two daughters of Annie Day Shepard Smith, Annie Day Smith Donaldson and Carolyn Marie Smith Green, their children, and Mrs. Green's grandchildren.

Soon after his graduation, Shepard opened a pharmacy business in Durham, and he continued his education in theology and related studies. From 1905 to 1909, he traveled nationally and internationally as field superintendent for the International Sunday School Association, whose goal was a standardized Christian education curriculum across denominational lines.

By 1909, he had decided to start his school to train pastors and educate African-Americans, who were shut out of most opportunities for higher education by Jim Crow laws. The first 130 students arrived in 1910 when the school opened as the National Religious Training School and Chautauqua for the Colored Race. It was supported by the philanthropy of Dr. Shepard's numerous black and white friends in both the North and the South. The institution struggled in its early years and suffered two devastating fires. Undeterred, Shepard would reconfigure the school and press on. He was a constant presence on campus. He demanded decorum and stellar behavior of students and faculty. From his home and from his office, he kept a close watch on the students’ comings and goings.

Shepard also played key roles in the founding of major financial institutions that serve African-Americans to this day. He became a sought-after speaker nationally. He lent his influence at the state and federal levels to increasing public aid to African-American education.

He died in his NCCU home on Oct. 6, 1947. The tiny enterprise had grown to a physical plant worth $2 million, with state appropriations that year of an additional $2 million. At the time of his passing, African-Americans could earn an array of degrees from then North Carolina College at Durham, including law and nursing.
COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Valeisha Butterfield Jones is co-founder, Women in Entertainment Empowerment Network; Head of Black Community Engagement, Google.

A native of Wilson, N.C., Butterfield Jones earned a political science degree from Clark Atlanta University, where she developed an early passion for diversity and inclusion that she has followed through nearly two decades of work in social responsibility and community engagement endeavors.

Butterfield Jones began her career working for music icon Wu Tang Clan and former heavyweight boxing champion Mike Tyson while still in college. After graduation, she served as the executive assistant to the president of HBO Sports.

After briefly dipping her toe into North Carolina politics as field director for the campaign of N.C. Supreme Court Justice Henry Frye, Butterfield Jones relocated to New York City, where she landed an unpaid internship with music industry executive Russell Simmons. She rose quickly within his company, Rush Communications, prior to going to work for the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network. The network is an independent non-profit coalition of artists from hip-hop and other genres aligned in support of education, civil rights, services for at-risk youth, and other socially significant causes.

Butterfield Jones was asked to become deputy director of public affairs for the International Trade Administration during the first administration of U.S. President Barack Obama. She went back on the campaign trail in 2012 as the national youth vote director for the Obama campaign, helping to turn out one of highest youth votes in history.

As chief executive officer of WEEN, she guides the nonprofit organization in providing career development and mentorship opportunities for women of color and promotion of fair and balanced portrayals of women in entertainment and society.

Butterfield Jones’ accolades include the City of New York’s Leadership Award (2015), the New York Coalition of 100 Black Women’s Leadership Award (2015), City & State’s Top 25 Women in Leadership Award (2014), and many others.

In 2014, she authored The Girlprint, a career guide for young women that has been described by Simmons as “guaranteed to ignite and empower a new generation of young women leaders.”

She is married to 2016 NBA champion Dahntay Jones of the Cleveland Cavaliers. The couple had their first child in 2012. Butterfield Jones is the daughter of NCCU alumni U.S. Congressman G. K Butterfield and N.C. State Legislator Jean Farmer Butterfield.
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
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CHANCELLOR AND VICE CHANCELLORS
Dr. Johnson O. Akinleye, Acting Chancellor, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Mr. Benjamin Durant, Vice Chancellor for Administration and Finance
Dr. Harriet Frink Davis, Vice Chancellor for Institutional Advancement
Dr. Miron P. Billingsley, Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs

DEANS
Dr. Audrey W. Beard, Interim Dean, School of Education
Attorney Phyllis V. Craig-Taylor, Dean, School of Law
Dr. John P. Gant, Dean, School of Library and Information Sciences
Dr. David S. Hood, Dean, University College

Dr. Wanda Lester, Interim Dean, School of Business
Dr. Debra O. Parker, Dean, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences
Dr. Jaleh Rezaie, Dean, School of Graduate Studies
Dr. Carlton E. Wilson, Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

FACULTY MARSHALS
Dr. Prince H. Bull
Dr. Toya Daye
Dr. Agnes DeWitt
Dr. Yolanda Dunston
Dr. Willie Gilchrist
Attorney Angela Gilmore
Dr. Tonya Gerald-Goins, Head Faculty Marshal
Dr. Frederick Johnson
Dr. Gwendolyn Newsome
Dr. Veronica Nwosu
Dr. James Osler
Dr. Nancy Durham-Reese
Dr. LaVerne Reid, University Marshal
Dr. Patrick Roughen
Dr. Darlene Taylor
Dr. Shauntae White

PROFESSORS EMERITI
Dr. Walter M. Brown
Dr. George H. Conklin
Dr. Howard Fitts
Dr. William T. Fletcher
Dr. Cecelia Steppe-Jones
Dr. Marilyn K. McClelland
Dr. Muriel J. Mellow
Dr. Percy E. Murray
Dr. Charles Nicholson
Dr. Freddie L. Parker
Dr. Walter Pattillo
Dr. Norman E. Pendergraft
Dr. Patsy B. Perry
Dr. Lilian Pruett
Dr. Phyllis R. Randall
Dr. Thomas Ringer
Dr. Arthur R. Sanders
Dr. Barnetta White

COMMENCEMENT PLANNING COMMITTEE
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Gary Brown
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Iris Hicks
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Timothy Moore
Attorney Lisa Morgan
Robert Northcott
Lucretia Pinckney
Dr. M. LaVerne Reid
Dr. Jeanine Smallwood
Brenda Toomer
André Vann
Deja Young*

*Student
THE COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY

A PERSPECTIVE: North Carolina Central University owes a substantial debt to its medieval predecessors for its commencement ceremony and academic attire. The Middle Ages gave birth to the academic heritage that provided us with a teaching institution, the university; a method of measuring academic progress, degrees; and a structure for an appropriate ceremony recognizing student achievement, commencement. This One Hundred Twenty-Eighth Commencement is being held today for graduates who qualified for their degrees with the completion of Fall Semester, 2016. This colorful ceremony is the formal climax and recognition of the graduates’ years of study and preparation.

ACADEMIC ATTIRE: All participants in the commencement ceremony, except members of the military services, are attired in traditional cap and gown, patterned after the attire of the monks and students in the Middle Ages. Black is the traditional color for all academic gowns. The bachelor’s gown has pointed sleeves; the master’s gown has oblong sleeves with an arc at the bottom; and the doctor’s gown has bell shaped sleeves. The bachelor’s and master’s gowns are untrimmed. The doctor’s gown is faced down the front with velvet and has three velvet chevrons across the sleeves. The facing and chevrons may be black or the distinctive color of the field of study. The hoods recognized for each of the degrees vary in size, shape and length, with the larger and more elaborate designating the doctoral level.

HOSTS AND HOSTESSES

Terra Anthony  
Tasha Andrews  
Karen Baldwin  
Gregory Battle  
Delores Blue  
Gary Brown  
Sandra Brunson  
Tawanda Burno  
Jon Childress  
Toya Corbett  
Mary Ann Colatuno  
Ronnie Davis  
Catrina DosReis  
Judith Dunston  
Caleb Eddleman  
Andrew Elman  
William Evans  
Joanne Griffin  
Samantha Hargrove  
Roderick Heath  
Sharnia Herbin  
Harvey Hinton  
Darrien Jerman  
Krystal M. Johnson  
Stewart Johnson  
Tammy Jones  
Juls Joyner  
Deidre Kelly  
Donnae Ward  
Laughinghouse  
Terri Lawson  

James Leach  
Kesha Lee  
Nichole Lewis  
Rae Lundy  
Eydie Martin  
Ferrell McGilvary  
Valerie McIver  
Trinice McNally  
Carolyn Moore  
Jill Morris  
Selina Mumford  
Walter Munoz  
Sharon Oliver  
Orok Orok  
Ruth G. Phillips  
Nicole Piscitelli  
Jared Pone  
Michael Robinson  
Colleen Scott  
Monica Stuckey  
Ilean Sutton  
Marshall Thompson  
André Vann  
Nicole Wiley  
Kent Williams  
Grace Wilson  
Pearl Wilson  
Michael Wilson  
Tyrone Wilson  
Atia Wise
The shell of the hood matches the black material of the gown. The lining, which is folded out, bears the official colors of the institution that conferred the degree, maroon and gray for North Carolina Central University. The color of the velvet border on the hood denotes the field of study to which the degree pertains:

- Apricot.................................Nursing
- Brown.................................Fine Arts
- Crimson..............................Journalism
- Dark Blue..............................Philosophy
- Golden Yellow........................Science
- Lemon Yellow........................Library Science
- Light Blue..............................Education
- Maroon..............................Human Sciences
- Pink.................................Music
- Purple.................................Law
- Sage Green..........................Physical Education
- Salmon Pink........................Public Health
- Scarlet.................................Theology
- Yellow-Brown......................Commerce/Business
- White..............................Arts, Letters, Humanities

Mortarboards are the traditional headdress. The tassel, worn on the left side of the cap, may be gold if the holder has a doctor’s degree. Candidates for undergraduate degrees wear the tassel on the right side of the mortarboard until after their degrees have been conferred. Candidates receiving honors for academic achievement wear honor cords draped around the collar. The gold cord represents summa cum laude; purple, magna cum laude, and white, cum laude honors.

**THE PROCESSION:** The University Marshal leads the procession into McDougald–McLendon Arena. Following the Marshal are the faculty, the candidates and members of the platform party. Platform guests include members of the University of North Carolina Board of Governors and the NCCU Board of Trustees, the guest speaker, the Provost, Deans of the colleges and schools and other members of the university administration. The procession concludes with the Chancellor. The University Marshal at the beginning and the Chancellor at the end of the procession are both attired in the distinctive maroon and gray gowns symbolic of their offices.

**UNIVERSITY COLORS:**
Maroon and Gray

**UNIVERSITY FLOWER:**
White Carnation

**UNIVERSITY MOTTO:**
“Truth and Service”
GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

MASTER OF ARTS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Nathan B. Dixon

Magna Cum Laude
Ethan S. Roy
Darien Wellman

Cum Laude
Kristen E. Douglas
Adrienne Gillis
Andrew J. Winters

ENGLISH
Nathan B. Dixon
Kristen E. Douglas
Ashley L. Gadsden
Adrienne Gillis
Tashe House

HISTORY
Ethan S. Roy
Darien Wellman
Andrew J. Winters

MASTER OF MUSIC

Cum Laude
Lydia S. Dudley

CHEMISTRY
Youb R. Aryal
Nirmal Maharjan
Alexander R. Schultheiss

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES
Christian D. Beinpuo
Lhoucine Chhid
Uchechukwu S. Chimeh
Adepeju M. Dayo
Marsh M. Moyer
Hassan M. Shehata
Shengyuan Wang

MATHEMATICS
Tauleshwar P. Chaudhary
Jiajun Jiang
Dolly J. Rakiro

PHYSICS
Alexey Gulyuk
Oluwasemire A. Olaniyi
Jamel J. White

JAZZ STUDIES
Lydia S. Dudley
Michael Wallace

MASTER OF SCIENCE

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Youb R. Aryal
Tauleshwar P. Chaudhary
Lhoucine Chhid
Uchechukwu S. Chimeh
Jiajun Jiang
Nirmal Maharjan
Hassan M. Shehata
Shengyuan Wang

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Christian D. Beinpuo
Marsha M. Moyer

Cum Laude
Giovanni Anthony
Adepeju M. Dayo
Alexander R. Schultheiss

BIOLOGICAL AND BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES
Giovanni Anthony
Derek F. Burton Jr.

Candidates are listed as of the printing of the program. The appearance of a name on this program is not proof of graduation. Only a notation on an Official Transcript is proof of graduation. Honors representation is based upon accumulated grades at the completion of the previous term.
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**COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**MASTER OF ARTS**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Nathaniel D. Crosby
Kiira M. Lyons

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Whitney L. Duncanson

**PSYCHOLOGY**

Nathaniel D. Crosby
Whitney L. Duncanson
Crystal Y. Hawkins
Brittany T. Jones
Kiira M. Lyons
Stephanie R. Ritz

**PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION**

David N. Ades
Jessica D. Aldavé
Jewel R. Black
Jo-Nette A. Boyd
Rondey A. Bullock
Shanetta N. Burris
Lasara D. Carter
Ashlee T. Dyer
John H. Edwards
Benjamin N. Foti
Niketa Frazier
Audrey C. Godwin
Tannu Gupta
Delante D. Hatchett
Danielle D. Hudson
Alrik K. Lunsford
Sidney Thomas
Shirley Thoms
Katoya L. Tripp
Aundrea M. White

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Michael J. Palmieri
Susan E. Ramsay

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Shaunnise L. Brimage
Tenaja R. Cunningham
Frederick L. Harris
Herman C. Maycock
Olivia S. McDonald
Danye N. Medhin
Venissa C. Nelson
Latina A. Nevelle
Michael J. Palmieri
Raven S. Privette
LaTanya C. Richburg
Kendalyn J. Smith
Scott T. Winberry

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Isaac Brewton
Carly P. Kirkman
Heather E. Reed
Jacqueline M. Wilson

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**

Rondey A. Bullock
Aundrea M. White

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCE**

Chancy N. Bryant
Cathy A. Culbrett
Phillip A. Daye
Geneva L. Gádsden
Joyce K. Gutuza
Inell Jeffery
Carly P. Kirkman
Susan E. Ramsay
Heather E. Reed
Dominque L. Selby
Jacqueline M. Wilson
PHYSICAL EDUCATION
Jessica Freeman
Tyler R. Hanson
Dexter A. Jenkins
Bobby L. Turner

RECREATION
ADMINISTRATION
Justin A. Bradley
Isaac Brewton
Garrett N. Bridges
Evan K. Johnson
Kia N. Robinson
Sandra E. Smith Cornelous
Jason L. Smoots
Asuerus L. Thompson

SOCIAL WORK
Jennifer M. Major

SCHOOL OF
BUSINESS

MASTER OF BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
CUM LAUDE
Yakumba Jallow

BUSINESS
ADMINISTRATION
Louise W. Brunson
Jeremy L. Burnette
Rodney D. Callwood
Evon H. Findley
Yakumba Jallow
Roshouny M. Johnson

Erica L. Long-Ellis
Ashley D. Morton
Patrick L. Mosley
Christina A. Reid
Fatou N. Tall
Salena A. Tyson

CAREER COUNSELING
AND PLACEMENT
Kiel Frett
Khalilah Z. Slade
Anthony Tyre
Wesley J. Wade
Angel Wiggins

MENTAL HEALTH
COUNSELING
Yevgeniya Bayda
Latoya C. Dunston
Kiel Frett
Brandon J. Russell
Khalilah Z. Slade
Anthony Tyre
Wesley J. Wade
Therese A. Wells

SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION

MASTER OF ARTS
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Brandon J. Russell
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Latoya C. Dunston
Wesley J. Wade

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SCHOOL COUNSELING
Therese A. Wells

MASTER OF ARTS IN TEACHING

MASTER OF EDUCATION

SPECIAL EDUCATION
Abass A. Kamara

SPECIAL EDUCATION, EMOTIONAL DISABILITY
Lorrain L. Harrell
Gloria B. Holden

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Amy R. Chinnici

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Elizabeth M. Geoghan
Alexander L. Orocz
Casey M. Tinkham
Julia A. Tuttle

COMMUNICATION DISORDERS
Sarah V. Burnett
Tyler E. Evans
Elizabeth M. Geoghan

Heaven L. Gouch
Christi B. Mileski
Alexander L. Orocz
Cassandra Silenzi
Casey M. Tinkham
Julia A. Tuttle

SPECIAL EDUCATION, BLIND AND VISUALLY HANDICAPPED
Amy R. Chinnici
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New Residence Hall II
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SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE

MASTER OF INFORMATION SCIENCE

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Shalini Acharya
Suroor F. Ali
Brittany A. Boynton
Merlyn Deunha
Yakumba Jallow
Manish K. Singh

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Geoghan Angela C. Haney
Abrar A. Khan

CUM LAUDE
Rodney D. Callwood
Amber Glenn-Thomas
Antoine L. McClain

INFORMATION SCIENCE
Shalini Acharya
Charles G. Adams
Catherine L. Adefolalu
Suroor F. Ali
Brittany A. Boynton
Jeremy L. Burnette
Rodney D. Callwood
Merlyn Deunha
Darren Drake
Kasaundra D. Felder
Amber Glenn-Thomas
Angela C. Haney
Yakumba Jallow
Abrar A. Khan
Antoine L. McClain
Ashley D. Morton
Manish K. Singh

MASTER OF LIBRARY SCIENCE

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Lindsey A. Bloodworth
Ross Brand
Kohnee L. Harmon
Jerry McRae
Jessyca K. Morgan
Kristy N. Oxendine
Molly R. Schaefer

CUM LAUDE
Chasidy L. Allen
Sharnette A. Evans
William I. Hyde
Chineal N. Nobles
Melody L. Rood
Brittani Sterling
Sharon L. Sullivan

LIBRARY SCIENCE
Chasidy L. Allen
Lindsey A. Bloodworth
Ross Brand
Felecia D. Diggs
Sharnette A. Evans
Courtney R. Goldbeck
Kohnee L. Harmon
William I. Hyde
Mary R. Jordan
Jerry McRae
Courtney L. Miller
Jessyca K. Morgan
Starla A. Nichols
Chineal N. Nobles
Kristy N. Oxendine
Melody L. Rood
Molly R. Schaefer
Brittani Sterling
Sharon L. Sullivan

SCHOOL OF LAW

JURIS DOCTOR
CUM LAUDE
Chikaodili E. Anyikire
Jeremy S. Mozingo
Sara W. Trexler

JURIS DOCTOR
Rosa S. Antunez
Chikaodili E. Anyikire
Louise W. Brunson
Timothy F. Cain
Brandon O. Gibbons
John M. Janson
Erica L. Long-Ellis
Jeremy S. Mozingo
Christina A. Reid
Donna M. Rinck
Sidney Thomas
Sara W. Trexler
Stephen O. Vaughan
Belinda F. Williams
BACCALAUREATE CANDIDATES

COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES

BACHELOR OF ARTS

SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Rebekah E. Barber
Joseph M. Falzone
Sydney C. Garrett
Kimberly D. Thompson

HISTORY
Rebekah E. Barber
Malcolm J. Covington
Nicholas Foggie
Ebony E. Jackson
Perry M. Maxie
Danielle A. Olivares
William J. Person
Alyiah R. Smiling
Elainey N. Williams

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
David W. Hoover
Suhailah A. Waheed

CUM LAUDE
Devante J. Campbell
Kyla L. Davis
Breanna C. Little
Curtis L. McPhatter Jr.
Shatoria L. Monroe
Nicholas S. Tillman

ART
Sharada L. Fozard-Mccall
Dana A. Friday
Lalia C. Garrett
Latonya Moye
Phelandis D. Scott
Aisha L. Suggs
Shyann M. Villegas

ENGLISH
Rebekah E. Barber
Joseph M. Falzone
Sydney C. Garrett
Kimberly D. Thompson

MUSIC
Andrew A. Barnes
Kyla L. Davis
Nancy J. Francis
Eric M. Kattes Jr.
Curtis L. McPhatter Jr.
Darius Middleton
Collin P. Williams

SPANISH
David W. Hoover
Latasha L. McMillan
Patricio A. Rodriguez
Suhailah A. Waheed

THEATRE
Aaliyah J. Batts
Jeffrey J. Beeke
Gregory D. Cogman
Sheldon C. Mba
Shatoria L. Monroe
Toni B. Oliver
Urgains G. Vilsaint

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**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**
Chiagozie O. Agbai
Misha Raza
Reyad M. Williams

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**
Pusp R. Bhatt
Dipatrimarki I. Farkas
Cassiopeia N. McMillan-Nease

**CUM LAUDE**
Desiree M. Autry
Carlos M. Best
Brittany L. Carson
Yvonne L. Meli
Dawn M. Stancil
Christine Zavala

**BIOLOGY**
Quiosha S. Allen
Desiree M. Autry
Kimberly Y. Barnes
Brandon X. Beaty
Sandra M. Bennett
Carlos M. Best
Shaqoya L. Bordeaux
Courtney R. Crandall
Aaliyah L. Hankerson
Jhaquille U. Hankerson
Ravyn D. Harper
Diahanna Y. Harris

Velma B. Holloway
Asha B. Jadeja
Dominique R. Jones
Amber M. Kirkland
Dominique C. Littles
Cassiopeia N. McMillan-Nease
Alia S. Mills
Eliran Nunez
Witney C. Okonye
Leah I. Oruwari
Oriana L. Pearson Scott
Zeeshan J. Polani
Sylvette M. Ramos Diaz*
Misha Raza
Kelly D. Rossip
Desiree V. Sanders
Raven T. Springs*
Dawn M. Stancil
Thomika A. Sutton
Tristen D. Taylor
Reyad M. Williams
Gregory L. Woods Jr.
Christine Zavala

**ENVIRONMENTAL AND GEOGRAPHIC SCIENCES**
Brittany L. Carson
Dipatrimarki I. Farkas

**PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCES**
Chiagozie O. Agbai
Pusp R. Bhatt
Caitlin C. Ho
Yvonne L. Meli
Starr J. Nichols
Eliran Nunez
Catrina A. Peaks
James Pridgen Jr.
Sylvette M. Ramos Diaz*
Franklin N. Rider III
Eugene J. Yap

**COLLEGE OF BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**BACHELOR OF ARTS**

**MAGNA CUM LAUDE**
Kayleigh E. Brueck
Karoline A. Price
Bianca J. Robinson

* Denotes Student Service Impact Awardee

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CUM LAUDE
Keona J. Hawkins
Whitney I. Howard
Kwanna J. Wimbush

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Montreal R. Chambers
Kester Hackett
Brenton A. Hodge
Jamila A. Long
Perry M. Maxie
Alyiah R. Smiling
Fanuel Tibebu
Matthew R. Willis

PSYCHOLOGY
C’era M. Banks
Jubriel J. Barnes
T’Niya B. Bias
Shakina C. Boyd
Tyshay Britten
Kayleigh E. Brueck
Tiffany L. Bunch
Alisa V. Burton
Keturah L. Davis
Jac’quan Downing
Emily E. Eswonia
Stephen M. Gibson
Jabril T. Gregory
Casey M. Hargett
Keona J. Hawkins
Nimrod A Hilliard IV
Ambria L. Horn
Whitney I. Howard
Dutchess M. James
Jamila A. Long
Kacie M. Lynk
Brandon J. McLaren
Dominique H. Miller
Nicole D. Mills
Aviance Moore
Austin J. Murphy
Ariel P. Parker
Karoline A. Price
Bianca J. Robinson
Cameron T. Scalzo
Jawanza E. Scott
Aaliyah R. Shipp
Tony S. Tate Jr.
Brianna C. Taylor
Trevor R. Theissen
Jocelyn B. Williams
Kwanna J. Wimbush
Christopher I. Young

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Moises G. Alejo Perez
Cody M. Burkhardt
Tenisha T. Hines
Morgan Jones
Kathryn M. Manginelli
Edsette J. Sepulveda
Devan M. Strack
Brittany A. Thompson
Lara A. Valerio

MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Phoebe G. Arnold
Crystal G. Boycher
Kirby N. Brown
Niquita S. Burnette
Jameca D. Cotton
Ariana D. Dalton
Tanesha E. Daniels
Donetta R. Floyd
Tisha D. Hardy
Selena M. Kornegay
Alexis G. McAllister *
Erika H. Parker
Randy D. Parrott
Tevin J. Peterson
Tamarah Schley
Sirah Sonko
Ranjana Srinath
Donnae S. Ward Laughinghouse

CUM LAUDE
Eboneye Alston
Christopher T. Belden
Tyler L. Brooks
Ashley M. Gilyard
Deisha L. Guy
Dariel D. Hackett
Leah W. Hayes
Rebecca J. Hayes
Morgan R. Hughes
Cherica L. Jefferies
Rashawn C. King
Omeka S. Laney
Sha’kym T. Nicholson
Amber Ollison
Phyllis T. Parker
Zerwanika B. Prewitt
Ruby A. Rhodes
Shareka L. Roberts
Maren M. Scott
Jessica L. Smith
Rayesha S. Smith
Tierra K. Smith
Torya D. Smith
Fakira Wahid
Taysia S. Williams
Labriah R. Wilson

ATHLETIC TRAINING
Cecil McDonald II

BEHAVIORAL AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
Elizabeth E. Adjei
Demerius R. Blount
Brittnei J. Boyd
Whitney R. Burns
Perry S. Dixon
John G. Drew
Lakisha S. Dzilah
Sherhae T. Holloway
Cherica L. Jefferies
Derrick D. Manigo Jr.
Richard A. Mitchell
Brittany N. Nsemi
Desiree T. Russell
Gentry J. Sneed
Miyesha C. Swayne
Stephany D. Taylor

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**CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

Hakeem Abdul  
Demarco D. Adams  
Moises G. Alejo Perez  
Jonte H. Angle  
Christopher T. Belden  
Malcom O. Bell  
Malcom J. Boyd  
Kiera M. Brabham  
Tyler L. Brooks  
Anjelica J. Brown  
Sophia A. Burnette  
Brandi L. Claybrooks  
Dawanna D. Davis  
Cassidy P. Ellison  
Curterra D. Ervin  
Raeven N. Gibbs  
Charvonna Q. Grant  
Precious L. Hairston  
Tisha D. Hardy  
Tenisha T. Hines  
Dolan F. Hinson  
Morgan R. Hughes  
Morgan Jones  
Anthony T. Jones Jr.  
Kelly S. Jumper  
Destiny B. June  
Omesha S. Laney  
Kathryn M. Manginelli  
Shadarian McCullough  
Dwayne T. McNeil Jr.  
Sunny G. McPherson  
Brittney M. Parker  
Erika H. Parker  
Jasmine C. Parker  
Randy D. Parrott  
Marcus Pratt  
Randy J. Pugh  
Kandice M. Reaves  
Ruby A. Rhodes  
Valeretta M. Roberts  
Ahlea Z. Robinson  
Dashana M. Sabal  
Tamara Schley  
Randall D. Simmons  
Tierra K. Smith  
Joy E. Thomas  
Donya T. Tolbert  
Fakira Wahid  
Joshua D. Washington  
Shanae R. White  
Alicia A. Wright  
Shanai N. Wright  
Andrea R. Young

**EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION**

Crystal G. Boycher  
Niquita S. Burnette  
Ashley M. Gilyard  
Selena M. Kornehay  
Devan M. Strack

**FAMILY AND CONSUMER SCIENCES**

Princess C. Ashley  
Omyni M. Barnes  
Viva J. Brookins  
Kirby N. Brown  
Ashley N. Bumpers  
Jameca D. Cotton  
Cynthia G. Cromartie*  
Jeanelle P. Darius  
Keturah L. Davis  
Ryan L. Davis  
Ashli S. Edwards  
Janicquia S. Elkerson  
Donetta R. Floyd  
Maticia S. Frederick  
Taylor D. Freeman  
Deisha L. Guy  
Dariel D. Hackett  
Tiffany N. Hargrove  
Leah W. Hayes  
Rebecca I. Hayes  
Kiara C. Hemmings  
Victoria D. Hill  
Nadirrah S. Ingram  
Dajonna M. Johnson

**HEALTH EDUCATION**

Randi Boston  
Shakeya A. Brevard  
Ashley M. Bueno  
Shaitana Lassiter  
Megan S. Pearson  
Katrice M. Perry  
Davitta T. Singletary  
Rayshe S. Smith  
Shante M. Speed  
Jalisa C. Talley  
Ryan S. Taylor

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

Eboney Alston  
Phoebe G. Arnold  
Cody M. Burkhardt  
Tyesha J. Byrd  
Monkeia L. Cobb  
Shauntera M. Copeland  
Davetta S. Darden*
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**NURSING**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Barbara P. Moukwa

**Magna Cum Laude**

Stacey S. Harvin

**NURSING**

Shonquivia L. Galloway

Stacey S. Harvin

Barbara P. Moukwa

Shenique M. Ocean

**SOCIAL WORK**

**BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Jennifer M. Morehead

Carla D. Mullins

**Magna Cum Laude**

Lakia N. Buchanan

Vatica T. Bullock

Lashonda C. Meadows

Robert A. White

**Cum Laude**

Shan'Trese C. Cameron*

Andree M. Viho

**BUSINESS**

**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

**SUMMA CUM LAUDE**

Rosalyn B. Arnette

Xaysana Douangdara

Masresha W. Kebede

**Magna Cum Laude**

Benson M. Kasolo

Natalie Morgan

Amber S. Richardson-Booker

**Cum Laude**

Brydon D. Hicks

Deonte C. Monroe

Jamaal G. Symmonett

Natasha C. Thornton

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ACCOUNTING
Simiat L. Azeez
Angelique C. Boyd
Briana J. Degree
Xaysana Douangdara
Darcel S. Haywood
Masresha W. Kebede
Amber S. Richardson-Booker
Jamaal G. Symmonett
Natasha C. Thornton
Amber S. Richardson-Booker
Preston L. Robinson II
Eboni Roundtree
Britten M. Shaw
DeShunda L. Sims
Taya M. Squires
Donnie J. Thomas
Natasa C. Thomas
Rodney D. Thompson
Edidiong C. Utin

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION
Rosalyn B. Arnette
Celinda M. Bailey
Mahogany K. Barnes
Angelique C. Boyd
Raven B. Bradley
Anthony D. Carrington-Thorpe
Devin J. Carter
Shu-ya Chang
Chavis S. Crosby
Alisha A. Davis
Jamara S. Davis
Xaysana Douangdara
Brittany N. Flowers
Ebony R. Flowers
Brandon T. Floyd
Micah M Gardner
Laquisha S. Gatewood
Brydon D. Hicks
Yejiade A. Hicks
Derrick E. Holloway Jr.
Adrienne T. Jackson
Ahmad D. Jackson
Dejah A. Johnson
Benson M. Kasolo
Alexus Z. Knight
Christa S. Landy
James B. Malone
Deonte C. Monroe
Natalie Morgan
Patrick Onguti Sr.
Charles A. Peyton Jr.
Zakiya J. Reid

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE
SUMMA CUM LAUDE
Amal Kartaoui

CUM LAUDE
Amesha E. Bridges
Devin N. Chavis
Curtis J. Jefferys
Auxillia M. Miller
Ahmed S. Sorour

HOSPITALITY AND TOURISM ADMINISTRATION
Marian Belk
Raven B. Bradley
Amesha E. Bridges
Devin N. Chavis
Jasmine O. Galberth
Xavier N. Hodge
Adrienne T. Jackson
Curtis J. Jefferys
Amal Kartaoui
Destyneee I. Lovelace
Auxillia M. Miller
Jurel X. Myers
Ahmed S. Sorour
Xenia L. White

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

BACHELOR OF ARTS
MAGNA CUM LAUDE
Austin D. Harris
Courtney A. Shiver
Ashley B Swepson

CUM LAUDE
Shannon D. Burton
Fabian B. Crawford
Jessica Polanco

ELEMENTARY EDUCATION
Shannon D. Burton
Jessica Polanco
Courtney A. Shiver
Ashley B Swepson
Kevin P. Washington

MIDDLE GRADES EDUCATION
Kendyl C. Bethune
Fabian B. Crawford
Austin D. Harris

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ART AND MUSIC
C. Ruth Edwards Music Hall, Recital Hall

BIOLOGY, CHEMISTRY, ENVIRONMENTAL, EARTH AND GEOSPATIAL SCIENCE, MATHEMATICS AND PHYSICS
Mary M. Townes Science Building, Room 111

BUSINESS
C.T. Willis Commerce Building, Room G32

CRIMINAL JUSTICE
B.N. Duke Auditorium

EDUCATION
H.M. Michaux Jr. School of Education Building, Lobby

HISTORY
Edmonds Classroom Building, Room 201 B

HUMAN SCIENCES
Dent Human Sciences Building, Room 105

LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE
Farrison-Newton Communications Building, Room 347

MASS COMMUNICATION
Farrison-Newton Communications Building, Lobby

NURSING
Nursing Building, Lobby

PHARMACEUTICAL SCIENCE
BRITE Building, Lobby

PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND RECREATION
Leroy T. Walker Physical Education Complex
Second Floor

POLITICAL SCIENCE
Edmonds Classroom Building, Room 103

PSYCHOLOGY
Leroy T. Walker Physical Education Complex
Rooms B100 and B102

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
Miller-Morgan Building, Auditorium

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATION
Miller-Morgan Building, Auditorium

SOCIAL WORK
Hubbard-Totten, Auditorium

SCHOOL OF LAW
Great Hall, Turner Law Building

SCHOOL OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCES
Shepard Library – Room 339

THEATRE AND DANCE
Farrison-Newton Communications Building, Room 108

RECEPTIONS
Immediately following the ceremony unless otherwise indicated
North Carolina Central University remembers our beloved 11th Chancellor, Dr. Debra Saunders-White, who passed away on Saturday, Nov. 26, after a brave fight with cancer.

Dr. Saunders-White became the university’s first permanent female chancellor on February 8, 2013, after a successful career in higher education, serving with the U.S. Department of Education, at the University of North Carolina Wilmington and Hampton University. Prior to entering higher education administration, she spent 15 years as a technology specialist at IBM.

A native of Hampton, Va., she held a bachelor’s degree in history from the University of Virginia, a master of business administration degree from the College of William & Mary and a doctorate in higher education administration from The George Washington University.

Dr. Saunders-White’s vision for “Eagle Excellence” became the standard for all academic and non-academic departments during her tenure, where she also voiced and demonstrated strong support for the university’s historic commitment to community service.

During her tenure, she enhanced NCCU’s reputation as a first-choice and global leader in higher education with significant improvements in retention and graduation rates, student-faculty ratios, high school standing for incoming first-year students and alumni giving. Other achievements included a successful proposal for a new Student Center and allocation of funding through the Connect NC bond program to build a new School of Business.

As a result of her efforts, the university was named the third-highest ranked public Historically Black College or University (HBCU) in the nation by U.S. News & World Report and appeared at or near the top of various lists of academic rankings. NCCU also was honored as 2016 HBCU of the Year by HBCU Digest.

The university community extends condolences to the family, friends and colleagues of Dr. Saunders-White. While her loss has been devastating, we remain eternally grateful for her leadership and the positive influence she has made on NCCU and higher education throughout the United States.
INDUCTION INTO THE ALUMNI
ASSOCIATION PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I hereby solemnly pledge unbroken allegiance to my alma mater in appreciation for the opportunities for development afforded me as a student at North Carolina Central University.

I pledge active membership in the Alumni Association wherever I may be. Through association with fellow alumni, I shall ever do my best to uphold the ideals and traditions of my alma mater.

I pledge as a citizen to exemplify the high ideals thus implied, seeking truth always, rendering positive service to community, state, and nation, and so to live as ever to bring honor and respect to my alma mater.