



Commencement
2023

— ◆ —
JUNEAU CAMPUS

This page is blank



***Fifty-Second Annual
Commencement***



**Sunday, May 7, 2023
2:00 PM**

**Charles Gamble Jr.–Donald Sperl
Joint Use Facility**

This page is blank



To our extraordinary graduates

As Chancellor of the University of Alaska Southeast, I want to congratulate you and all of our graduates in the Class of 2023! This is the first time in three years we have had a normal commencement and what a time it has been. You are strong, you are resilient, and you persevered. I am so very proud of you for completing your degrees while living through a pandemic, and you should be proud of yourselves.

This has been a tough three years on everyone but you stuck to it, you focused on what you needed to do, and you did it! Completing a degree is a major life achievement that no one can ever take away from you. You have demonstrated you are successful and I wish you the best as you land your dream job, continue on with your studies, or focus on family. Remember UAS. You will always be family.

Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Karen T. Carey". The signature is written in dark ink on a white background.

Dr. Karen Carey, UAS Chancellor



COMMENCEMENT 2023

*Order of the
Ceremony*

***Academic Procession**

Led by the Mt. Juneau Tlingit and Woosh.Ji.Een Dancers

Grand Marshal: Associate Professor Jennifer Ward, President of Faculty Senate

Traditional Welcome

Áak'w Kwáan Elder Frances Houston

***The National Anthem & Alaska's Flag Song**

National Anthem: Alyssa Fischer, Class of 2017

Alaska Flag Song (in English and Ahtna Athabaskan):

Yuxgitsiy George Holly, Deg Xit'an songster and educator

Introduction of Dignitaries and Commencement Remarks

Chancellor Karen T. Carey, Ph.D.

Conferring of Degrees

President Pat Pitney

University of Alaska Regent Dale Anderson

Chancellor Karen Carey

Provost Maren Haavig

Conferring of Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts to Ms. Anna Ehlers

Regent Dale Anderson

Chancellor Karen Carey

2023 Commencement Student Speaker

Ms. Kali Spencer, Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Interdisciplinary Studies

President's Remarks

University of Alaska President Pat Pitney

Charge to the Graduates

University of Alaska Regent Dale Anderson

Closing of 2023 Commencement

Chancellor Karen Carey

***Recessional**

Glacier Blue Funk

Original Composition by Dr. Linda Rosenthal, UAS Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters (2005)

*Audience stands

Degree Recipients 2023



The University of Alaska Southeast is pleased to honor graduates from 2022, and 2023 in this year's ceremony. UAS students pursue their studies from many different locations across Alaska. We offer congratulations to those graduates who could not be here today.



Honors

SCL *Summa Cum Laude* - 4.0 G.P.A.

MCL *Magna Cum Laude* - 3.8 G.P.A.

CL *Cum Laude* - 3.5 G.P.A.

All college work attempted, including that attempted at other institutions, is considered in the calculation of honors. Honors at commencement are based on grades through the fall semester, and calculations may be revised after spring grades have been posted. Honors are not awarded to certificate and graduate degree students.

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Certificate

Accounting Technician

Edna S. Abella
Alice Elizabeth Johnson
Rachel Kukull

Indigenous Language Teaching

Loralie Leslie Heagy
Victoria Maureen McKoy
Rose A. Willard

Outdoor Skills & Leadership

Eli Kartik Kniazowski
Zachary Christopher Maves
Erin Marie McCarthy

Pre-Nursing Qualifications

Yvonne R. Peterson

Pre-Radiologic Technology Qualification

Katlyn Anne Ferguson

Small Business Management

Mike Standridge

Associate of Arts

Kaitlyn Marie-Hull Bolla
Grace Eliza Carter
David Josiah Deats
Ian Michael Fraim
Jack Nicholas Galaktionoff
Elaria Marie Gonzalez
Koneal Diego Sungcad Laguidao
Debra Lee Lujan
Courtney E. MacArthur
Anh N. Nguyen
Alexander Prindle
Rachel A. Reeves

Jacob Alan Stevenson
Megan Whitermore **CL**
Alice Marie Williams
Kiele C. Wise
Charlene Y. Zanoria

Northwest Coast Indigenous Arts

Gloria DR. Eyon

Associate of Science

Jenna R. Helminski
Hannah J. Vance

Associate of Applied Science

Construction Technology

Jarvis Pitka Evans
John Casey Somerlot

Business Administration Accounting

Taylor Rae Buettner
Nerissa Calsada Fernandez
Gilbert Thomas Goodrich
JennyRose B. Lomat **CL**
Robert D. Mell **CL**
Cameron Scott Okins **CL**
Amy Frances Payenna
Levi Justin Rinehart **MCL**
Jessica Alexis Sanchez **CL**
Kirsten Leanna Sanchez **CL**
Jennifer L. Sanchez
Jessica Lynn Scouller
Lydia Rose Shumaker **CL**
Glory C. Subillaga **CL**
General Business
Courtney Allred

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Austin Ronald Eastham **CL**
Tellisha Marie Frankhouser
Danielle Natalia Lestenkof
Hannah Kay Mitchell
Georgia Rae Robinson
Mike Standridge
Jessica Kristine Whitaker **MCL**

Health Sciences

Yvonne R. Peterson

Pre-Nursing Qualifications

Koreana Sky Barnedt
Apakasi Luka

Power Technology

Diesel/ Heavy Duty

Trevor Lee Fritz
Rigdon E. Hermann
Conner Alexander Kniefel
Jaycee Ryan Mack-Neff
Meagan Spencer **MCL**

Ryan J. Spratt

Mine Mechanic

Jacob Styrwold

Bachelor of Arts

Biology

Taylor Nicole Ranney
John Charles Wade

Elementary Education

Madison M Blackburn **CL**
Madison Joan Bloodworth **CL**
Sommer Rae Burgett
Jennifer Flint Burton
Ivan Falcon
Li Mei A. Fiske **SCL**
Michelle L. Hartley **MCL**
Tim Hemme
Alyssa Marie Howard
Rylee Marie Johnson **MCL**

Isabel Elena Leath **CL**
Julie J. Manwiller
Emily Anne McMahon
Alaina Jean Nardini
Sophia G. Nelson **SCL**
Reyna N Olson
Cora Elizabeth Parish **CL**
August M. Pennington
Barbie Marie Sam
Anastasia Leigh Skonberg
Jennifer A. Spatz **MCL**
Cheyenne Janae Ticket-Foote
Jacquelynn Nichole Tomrdle
Samantha Anne Trosvig
Savanah Marie Wilson **MCL**
Mary Wright

English

Creative Writing

Lillian E. Burger-Pothier **MCL**
Emily Faith Bowman
Elias Luke Champney Minick
Shaelene Grace Moler **CL**

Literature and the Environment

Olive Mallory Brend **CL**

Environmental Studies

Lydia Anna Hentzen **CL**
Riley R. Stadt

Outdoor Studies

Keagan Victor Walker

Geography, Environmental, Outdoor Studies

Shaelene Grace Moler **CL**

Social Science

Nanna Beck **CL**
Heather MacKenzie Howell
Grace Eliza Carter
Junnie Chup **CL**
Ashley Schae Cunningham **CL**

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Lacey Elizabeth Derr
Christian Trenton Michael English
Elizabeth Autumn Dawn Ferguson
Jannie Blanche Bulauan Fernandez **CL**
Steven Friess
Jamison Davis Lednum **CL**
Courtney E. MacArthur
Andrea Michele Scharen
Ty Shae **MCL**
Kristian J. Untalasco **CL**
Paula Veshti **CL**
Claire Kathleen Winzenburg **CL**

Special Education

Misty Rose Hancock **MCL**
Helen F. McCoy
Brian Charles Reid
Michael Thomas Teilborg
Amanda Younggreen **CL**

Bachelor of Business Administration

Accounting

James Ray Davis
Tumy Vu Dolan **MCL**
Sarah A Foglia **CL**
Nan Zhang Haley **MCL**
Helen Holzmeister **CL**
Timothy J. Rifanburg
Augustina Louise Sanchez
Carrie L. Wawrzyk **CL**
Kyonia Melainie Williams **CL**

Human Resource Management

Tina J. Fifarek
Sierra Marie Elizabeth Mow
Cassandra Marie Rudolph **CL**

Management

Ashlyn Paige Antonelli
Alyxn Bohulano **CL**
Rhea M Bromley **CL**
Jie S Canete **MCL**
Breanne J. Carroll
Robyn Lynn Chai **CL**
Jessica Marie Clayton
Caitlin Marie Coreson **CL**
Daryl Ann Cryts
Nicholas Colten Daniels
Caitlin J. Driscoll
Krystal Danataya Gray
Brittany Nichole Holom
Karlesa L. Lobaugh
Cindy French McMorris
Mariell G. Mendoza **SCL**
Russell E. Miller
Gregory M. Norris
Cameron Scott Okins **CL**
Cagney A. Ramirez **MCL**
Aaron Edwin Young

Management Information Systems

Brandi Leigh Deafendeffin **CL**
Jodi Kathleen Hodgson
Casey Ann Rall
Kevin Wayne Smith
Kailee M. Veldstra **CL**

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Bachelor of Liberal Arts

Alaska Native Languages and Studies

Tanessa A. Ashenfelter
Lydia A. Foster **CL**
Shamai Kathleen Thacker **CL**

Independent Design

Rayne L. Billings

Interdisciplinary Studies

Stephanie Christine Harasim
Chatham T. Moser
Patrick Ryan Cashman Jr.
Kiley Dawn Doiron
Sapphira Antoinette Flint
Rachele Holom
Angelo Dennis Katasse
Michelle Marie Manning
Kristina Romero **SCL**
Mollee Elizabeth Rowland
Kali B. Spencer **CL**
Elizabeth Doehne Tallmadge
Evelyne Jeanne Tunley-Daymude
Lindsey Carolyn Wenzel

Bachelor of Science

Biology

Stephanie Jane Driscoll
Jacob Ryan Ferrill
Megan Sienna Hewes
Amalia Jean Tamone **MCL**
Louise May Tymrak **MCL**

Environmental Resources

Erin Rachelle Galla
Isaiah Stephen Shepler

Environmental Science

Elizabeth Anne Bretscher **MCL**
Ashley Marie Ford
Connor Matthew Owens **CL**
Haroldas Subertas

Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

Molly Ann Ekstrom **CL**
Benjamin Royce Ranniger
Alex Jordan Tugaw

Geography and Environmental Resources

Carmen Laree Soto

Marine Biology

Gage Cadenhead
Jonathan Michael Calleja
Preslee Lynn Chase
Matthew Thomas Harl
Natalie Katherine Starkey
Donovan James Kole Varelman
Helena I. Wayne
Jessica Marie Whitney **MCL**
Kenedy Annejulee Williams

Mathematics

Austin L. Knull
Alice Dou Mehalek
Hailey Mai Quinto **CL**

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Master of Arts in Teaching

Elementary Education

Amanda Lynn Aloysius
Timothy P. Chandler
Heea Lee Chang
Molly Stella Chingliak
David Funatake
Rebecca L. Gaguine
Yvonne Renee Gregg
Adam Gullen
Emelia Katherine Crawl Jackson
Matthew Brandon Liston
Megan Maloney
Megan Meier
Rachel A. Ostler
Kelley Ann Polasky
Erin N. Saunders
Heather Y.F. Shelton
Bridey L. Short
Kathy J. Smith
Joseph Conor Spink
Clinton J. Sullivan

Secondary Education

Aaron M Allred
Sarah Carolina Davies
Katrina M. Gray
Martin Jeffrey Harrington
Emily E. Hatley
Cade A. Havel
Matthew Stuart Henry
Jurny Victoria Hinz
Lauren M. Langford
Autumn N. Levy
Robert Ostrom
Kelly Overduijn
Lara R. Millette
Austin Patrick Rochon

Mollie Lynn Sandoval
Masen J. Smith
Rosalie Rae Westfall
Elsa Marie Wintersteen
Alex Liam Walton

Special Education

Kaylynn M. Beus
Zacharia Matthew Brogdon
Jennifer Anne Howell
Anna Louise Maguire
Jarred Rivera
Harold G. Ruchti
Hector Angelo Teran

Master of Education

Educational Leadership

Rebekah Colleen Albertson
Katie Bynagle
Amanda E. Duvall
Sarah Fonger
Margaret Lavell Gray
Matthew Wane Lawrence
Jule L. LeBlanc
Robin L. Lockwood
Kasey L. McNamee
Jeremy Miller
Katherine Pamela Pittman
Nicholas A. Settle
Keith Morgan Shelton
Diana K. Twaddle
Allison Lynn Wylde

Reading Specialist

Jennifer Joy Jones
AnnMarie Susan Rudstrom
Jody L. Stamps
Nicole K. Twitchell
Kathleen Riley Yerbich
Caitlin Margaret Zibell

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Special Education

Erika Cummings
Chantelle M. Filoialii
Christine J. Huff
Angela Michelle Marrero
Amanda C. McClure
Tess Elisabeth McFadden
Kerin Ann Pheabus
Karalyn Marie Pillsbury
Kathryn Donna Jennine Sathers
Michael A. Simpson
Margaret Lynn Taylor

Master of Public Administration

Josephine Afful
Peter Eric Amylon
Rachel Ellen Andersen
Maren Elfriede Balke
Cherise A. Beatus
Carla Jo Browning
Jan Jakub Grzeda
Maureen C Radotich
Amy K. Samuel
George Schaaf
Waverli Blair Stowe
Kaylee Anne-Marie Tower
Amanda J. Triplett
Barbara Jean Wadlinger
Joseph Clay Walker

Higher Education

Jessica Leigh Driscoll
Jessica A. Speed

Municipal Governance

Glenn J. Brown

Natural Resource Policy

Bernadette Aanavak Fischer
Traci Lynn Wilkins

Graduate Certificates

Elementary Education

Sierra Elizabeth Afoa
Courtney Beckham
Michael Chase Dickerson
Barbara L. Dude
Andrea Kennedy Wilt Duncan
Samantha Jo Ferguson-Ruiz
Samantha Ann Franklin
Olga Marissa Garcia de Leon
Haoyi Wang Kelly
Verena Komes-Lower
Robin Joyce Kornfield
Ekaterina Mikhaylovna Murphy
Hilary G. Robbins
Erin N. Saunders
Hailey Susan Stockton
Danielle Iona Talerico

Reading Specialist

Caitlin Margaret Zibell

Secondary Education

Robyn N. Lanier

Special Education

Debra Weller Bryant
Cody W Burnham
Erika Cummings
Christine J. Huff
Alexandra Taylor Hurley
Tess Elisabeth McFadden
Travis D. Millsap
Karalyn Marie Pillsbury
Cynthia Dawn Starnes
Jessica Allison Vincent

2023 UAS DEGREE RECIPIENTS

Superintendent

William R. Burr
Frank Henry Hauser
Jennie Lynne Peterson
Theodore M. Wilson

Occupational Endorsements

Accountant

Mary Patricia Anderson
Linda M. Frazier
Nicholas John Kramer
Katie Mariah Storey
Kathleen Kalila Turley

Behavioral Health Assistant

Charity L. Anderson
George A. Fisher
Angel I. Flores Lopez
Sydney Mariah Holst
Sara M Raster
Dakota Rae Smith
Shaunte M. Sternod

Certified Nurse Aide Training

Kanchana Adikaram
Kaidence Jean Bernaldo
John Anthony Castillo
Absatu Conteh
Keirri Usara Gordon
Jonas P. Hamilton
Haley Hewlett
Kirska C. Hughes-Skandijs
Jackson Keko Toribio

Power Technology

Diesel/ Heavy Duty

Devin T. Reid
Meagan Spencer
Ryan J. Spratt

Diesel/Marine

Stewart R. Conn
Meagan Spencer

Welding

Elias G. Bolshakoff
James V. Bouschor
Stewart R. Conn
Taylor Patrick Funderburk
Oleksandr Kryvoruchko
Helena I. McAlister
Robert L. Museth-Morris
Ryan J. Spratt
Dennis Aaron Stoner
Jacob Styrwold

Outstanding Student Academic Awards 2023



Olive Brend

Bachelor of Arts, English

Elizabeth Bretscher

Bachelor of Science, Environmental Science

Carla Browning

Master of Public Administration, Ernest Gruening Award

Junnie Chup

Bachelor of Arts, Social Sciences

Tumy Dolan

Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting

Molly Ekstrom

Bachelor of Science, Fisheries and Ocean Sciences

Robin Lockwood

Master of Education, Educational Leadership

Alice Mehalek

Bachelor of Science, Mathematics

Outstanding Student Academic Awards 2023



Kelly Overduijn

Master of Arts in Teaching, Secondary Education

Cagney Ramirez

Bachelor of Business Administration, Management, Bob Ellis Award

Anastasia Skonberg

Bachelor of Arts, Elementary Education

Meagan Spencer

Associate of Applied Science, Power Technology

Riley Stadt

Bachelor of Arts, Environmental Studies

Michael Teilborg

Bachelor of Arts, Special Education

Shamai Thacker

Bachelor of Liberal Arts, Alaska Native Languages and Studies

Nicole Twitchell

Master of Education, Reading Specialist

Jessica Whitaker

Associate of Applied Science, Business Administration

Ms. Anna Ehlers



Honorary Doctorate of Fine Arts



Photo courtesy of Goldbelt Inc.

Anna Ehlers has made significant contributions toward the landscape of traditional arts and culture of Southeast Alaska and far beyond. Anna is rooted in the traditional Tlingit art of Chilkat weaving mastery that goes far deeper than the highly technical weft and weave of mountain goat hair and cedar into exquisite clan regalia. Her expertise includes gathering and processing of traditional materials, a deep understanding of the complex social structure of Tlingit people represented by the technical and nuanced Tlingit art form line and knowledge of clan histories captured by the classic rules of design. Her work honors the dignity of Tlingit identity,

status, and belonging. Anna Ehlers' mastery of Chilkat weaving is both classic and timeless, representing one of the exquisite foundational roots of Northwest Coast Art. This award honors Anna Ehlers for her high caliber of artistic and cultural finesse, and representation of the vital role Indigenous women play in anchoring culture and traditions through art, textiles, and traditions in the past, present day, and for future generations. Her expertise in this tradition has garnered attention from the artist community, nationally and internationally and secured recognition through the National Endowment for the Arts, Rasmuson Foundation, and museums.

Ms. Kali Spencer



Student Speaker



Hailing from Eagle River, Kali Spencer graduates today with a Bachelor of Liberal Arts in Interdisciplinary Studies, emphases in political science, psychology, and philosophy. She is the current President of the Student Government of the University of Alaska Southeast Juneau Campus, having served since 2020. In addition, Ms. Spencer was appointed to the University of Alaska Board of Regents as the Student Regent for service from

2021-2023 by Governor Dunleavy. She has a long history of representing students, having served as the student representative on the Anchorage School District School Board, student body president of Eagle River High School, president of the Alaska Association of Student Governments. She is joined today by her friends and family, whom she loves dearly, and hopes to pursue a career in politics or law after graduation.

Congratulations!

On behalf of the UAS Alumni Association, congratulations on achieving a milestone event in your life – earning your degree! As you embark on your new path, we hope you will remember the time you spent with the University with fondness. We'd love to keep in touch with you as you move on. As you are now an alumnus of UAS, we hope you will consider joining the UAS Alumni Association to stay connected with the University, be invited to special events, and show your support for UAS.

*Stay Connected
and be a Part of Something Bigger
Please join us by becoming a member of
UAS Alumni & Friends Association.*

*Connections • Impact • Membership
uas.alaska.edu/alumni*



Alaska's Flag Song

Alaska's Flag
Words by Marie Drake
Music by Elinor Dusenberry

Eight stars of gold, on a field of blue
Alaska's flag, may it mean to you
the blue of the sea, the evening sky
the mountain lakes, and the flowers near by
The gold of the early sourdough's dreams
the precious gold of the hills and streams
the brilliant stars in the northern sky
the bear, the dipper, and shining high
the great north star with its steady light
o'er land and sea, a beacon bright
Alaska's flag to Alaskans dear,
the simple flag of the last frontier



**UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
SOUTHEAST**

UA is an AA/EO employer and educational institution and prohibits illegal discrimination against any individual: www.alaska.edu/nondiscrimination.

This page is blank

This page is blank