

# Lakeland

COMMUNITY COLLEGE



*59*<sup>th</sup> Annual Commencement  
Saturday, May 9, 2026 • 10 a.m.

# ORDER OF CEREMONY

## PRELUDE

Lakeland Civic Orchestra

Dr. Matthew Saunders

*director*

“General McClellan’s Grand March”

*by Edward Mack, arranged by John McClellan*

“Variations on a Shaker Melody”

*by Aaron Copland*

“Adoration”

*by Florence Price, arranged by M. Saunders*

## ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Lakeland Civic Band

“Pomp and Circumstance March No. 1”

*by Sir Edward Elgar*

## WELCOME

Dr. John Crooks

*Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs*

## THE NATIONAL ANTHEM\*

Lakeland Civic Band

Heidi Skok

*Contralto Soloist*

“The Star-Spangled Banner”

*by Francis Scott Key and John Stafford Smith*

## INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT SPEAKER

Dr. Christina Corsi

*Interim Vice President for Enrollment and Retention Management*

## WORDS OF REFLECTION

Allison Bonfiglio

*Lakeland class of 2026*

## OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Sunil Ahuja

*President of the College*

\*Audience standing. Gentlemen, please remove your hats.

\*\*Thank you for not approaching the stage during conferring of degrees.

\*\*\*Audience, please remain seated until the procession has exited the facility.

# ORDER OF CEREMONY (continued)

## INTRODUCTION OF BOARD OF TRUSTEES, STAGE GUESTS & WELCOMING REMARKS

Paul L. Rupert, Chair  
*Board of Trustees*

## INTRODUCTION OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Paul L. Rupert  
*Chair, Board of Trustees*

## COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Matt Dolan  
*CEO, Team NEO*

## ALUMNI KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Michael D. Thomas, 1985;  
*Alumni Hall of Fame inductee, 2019;*  
*Alumni Representative to The Lakeland Foundation Board of Directors;*  
*Senior Director for MediaVision at Case Western Reserve University*

## CONFERRING OF DEGREES\*\*

Dr. Sunil Ahuja and Dr. John Crooks

## WORDS OF THANKS

Kasandra De La Luz Ensaldo  
*Lakeland class of 2026*

## LAKELAND ALMA MATER\*

Lakeland Civic Orchestra  
Heidi Skok  
*Contralto Soloist*

“The Soul of Lakeland College”  
*by George Parrish and J.S. Larkins*

## RECESSIONAL\*\*\*

Lakeland Civic Orchestra  
“The Liberty Bell”  
*by John Phillip Sousa*

\*Audience standing. Gentlemen, please remove your hats.

\*\*Thank you for not approaching the stage during conferring of degrees.

\*\*\*Audience, please remain seated until the procession has exited the facility.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Paul L. Rupert (Chair)  
Kevin D. Freese (Vice Chair)  
Janet R. Majka

Matthew J. Hebebrand, Esq.  
Jack C. Cornachio  
Timothy M. O'Brien

Deanna D. Elsing  
Nancy E. Fellows

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## FORMER TRUSTEES

Raymond Q. Armington\*  
William M. Baker  
K. Michael Benz  
Lorry Bleiweiss\*  
Clarence A. Bortz\*  
Dennis M. Callahan  
Ryan K. Callender, Esq.  
Paul G. Chase\*  
Donald W. Chenelle  
Jerry C. Cirino  
Lester E. Coleman\*  
Stephen C. Ellis, Esq.\*  
Dale H. Fellows  
Robert H. Fountain\*  
Duane H. Frager  
Leo E. Garrity\*  
Richard H. Gehring\*  
Howard D. George\*

Terry Gerred-Ditchcreek  
Arthur S. Holden Jr.\*  
Bruce Huston\*  
Kenneth M. Iwashita\*  
Faith L. Jackson  
David A. Kalina  
Ellen Foley Kessler  
Richard Kessler\*  
Ernest A. Lallo  
Frank P. Lombardo\*  
Morgan McIntosh  
Paul S. Malchesky  
Kathleen T. Malec, D.A.E.  
Thomas W. Mastin\*  
Elizabeth Mastrangelo\*  
Raymond F. McGuinness\*  
Walter J. McNamara III  
Kip L. Molenaar

Carol A. Mosher  
W.R. Moyer\*  
Patricia O'Donnell  
John F. Olsen\*  
Joseph Pandey Jr.  
J. Malcom Poynter\*  
Kenneth J. Quiggle  
David Quigley  
Neil J. Ranney\*  
Alta Reigert\*  
Gerard J. Reis  
Jerrie Lee Rispoli  
David W. Rittenhouse\*  
Lillian L. Robinson\*  
John S. Ruple\*  
Margaret Ryan\*  
Bill R. Sanford  
Margaret A. Seidel\*

Phillip W. Shroul  
JoAnne V. Sommers\*  
Albert M. Suiguitan  
Roger J. Sustar  
Sandra A. Swain  
A. James Totin\*  
Rev. Walter J. Tulley\*  
Mark A. Tyler P.E.  
Paul Vanek, M.D.  
Robert G. Vaughn  
Patria Vega  
Noel Wical\*  
Linda J. Williams  
Msgr. Robert C. Wolff

\* Deceased

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## REPRESENTING THE ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Sunil Ahuja, *President of the College*  
Dr. John Crooks, *Interim Provost and Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs*  
David Cummins, *Vice President for Administrative Services and College Treasurer*  
Dr. Christina Corsi, *Interim Vice President of Enrollment and Retention Management*  
Dr. Nora Stickney, *Assistant Provost*  
Lucy Ott, *Executive Director for Workforce Development and Employer Relations*  
Dr. Erin M. Fekete, *Dean of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Division*  
Dr. Ryan Hamilton, *Dean of STEM + Business Division*  
Dan Solomon, *Interim Dean of Health Professions Division*  
Mario D. Petitti Jr., *Dean of Students*

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## REPRESENTING THE FACULTY

Faculty Marshal: Jack Thomas, *Professor/Radiography*  
Trisha Iacobucci, *Professor/Nursing*  
Megan Mamolen, *Professor/Librarian*  
Jennifer Rutkowski, *Professor/Dental Hygiene*  
Gretchen Skok DiSanto, *President, Lakeland Faculty Association and Professor/Business Management*  
Susan Wadkowski, *Professor/Biology*

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## SIGNING INTERPRETERS

Dani Prater  
Vince Reddy

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## REPRESENTING THE STAFF

Kristin Gregory, *President, Lakeland Staff Association*

## REPRESENTING THE STUDENTS

Allison Bonfiglio, *Lakeland class of 2026*  
Kasandra De La Luz Enseldo, *Lakeland class of 2026*



## MAY 2026 GRADUATES (continued)

Nicholas W. Colbert, AA, AAS, *	Tiffany M. Hammond, AAS	Andrew M. Koestner, AA, ***, +
Mark Benjamin Cole, AAS	Jennifer Hanifon, AAS, *	Miles Kovach, AAS
Kennedy Coleman, AA	Christine Marie Harnage, AA, ***	Heather Kral, AS, *, #, -
Blaise P. Collins, AA, *	Stephani A. Harpster, AAS	Christopher James Kush, AAB, *, #, -
Nathan Richard Combs, AA, AS, +	Gloria Harrison, AAS	Madison Lampman, AAS, AS
Georgi Ann Constantino, AAB, ***, -	Samantha L. Harsh, AAS	Emily K. Laukonis, AS, ***, +
Alexis J. Corbett, AAS	Mikaela R. Haslett, AA, AS, ***, +	Dawn Joylene Leduc, AAB, *, #, ####
Kyla E. Covell, AAS	Audyn Haueter, AA, AS, ***, +	Brenda Yaneth Leon, AS, +
Alexis Crenshaw, AA	Nathaniel D. Hawkins, AA, #, -	Darren Lindberg, AAS
Aaron W. Crummey, AAS, *	Tyler S. Heasley, AS	Jared T. Linder, AA, ***
Johan R. Cruz Mejia, AAS	Victoria L. Heasley, AA	Ruslana Z. Locher, AAS
Victoria Cutchall, AA	Andrea E. Heiser, AAS, *, #	Agustin Bernal Lopez, AAS, **
Isabel M. D'Astolfo, AS	Kailey Helbig, AA, AAS, ^	Latasha A. Love, AAS
Makayla Lynn D'Ercole, AAS	Ryann Helmers, AAS, ***	Samantha R. Loxterman, AA, **, -
Gianna G. Dahlhausen, AAS	Aleigha P. Henkel, AA, *	Kayla M. Lueders, AAS
Asia Davis, AA, ATS, *	Anastasia J. Henkel, AA	Emily Mairead Lynes, AAS, AS, ***, #, ###
Kiesha D. Davis, AAS	Madalynn P. Herman, AAS	Mark W. Malitz, AAB
Kassandra De La Luz Ensaldó, AA, **, #, -, <, @	Adrielle Hicks, AA	Trevor W. Manning, AS
Jessica Eve Dicus, AAS, ^	Veronte Higgins, AS	Maison Raymond Martin, AA, +
Logan S. Dillon, AA, **, +	Lucibella Hinde, AS, *, +	Alyssa M. May, AA, *, +
Giana Dispenza, AA	Lily L. Hlebak, AS, ***	Andrew W. McCabe, AAS
Akettha Dixon, AAS	Tyler M. Holan, AAB	James Patrick McCarthy, AAB, *, #
Brandi Monique Dunn, AAS	Anna D. Holp, AAB, +	Oliver D. McCourt, AS
Brandon P. Dwyer, AS	Aja J. Holt, AS	Rowan C. McGee, AS
Katherine Dybzinski, AAB, ***	Sam Honkala, AAS, ***	Trevor McKinney, AS, +
Kelly A. Eversole, AAS	Emerson M. Hren, AS	Elizabeth S. McKnight, ATS
Conner Everson, AA, AS, #	Dillon Wayne Hull, AAS	Kyle B. McLaughlin, AA
Grace Faulhaber, AA, **, -	Olivia Marie Humphrey, AAS	Sophia E. McLaughlin, AA, *, +
Beau L. Feikert, AA, **, +	Cara N. Iacobucci, AA, +	Sarah L. McNeely, AAS
Julia Fleming, AS	Maria F. Iammarino, AS	Haily McRoberts, AA
Kenneth J. Fox, AA, ***, +	Mackenzie Cadence Ipavec, AA, ***, +	William-Ashden River Messer, AAS, -
Shaylee Ann Frazier, AA, *, +	Mary P. Jackson, AA	Sophia Messina, AA, +
Chloe Freeman, AA, *	Anngel J. Jacobs, AAS	D'Lesha Sherron Miller, AA
Duranda Freeman, AAB	Raynah E. Jemison, AAB, #	Jesse R. Moriarity, AAB
Catherine Fresenko, AS, **, +	Aliece M. Johnson, AAB, **, #, ^	Sarai L. Morris, AA
Adelia Gable, AS, *	Daneen L. Johnson, AS	Holly E. Mosnik, AA, AS, ***, +
Amaya M. George, AA	Timara T. Johnson, AAS	Jason Moulton, AA, **
Gabrielle G. Gilliam, AA, ***, #, +	Ashlie N. Jones, AAS	Annabella J. Mussell, AAS
Mazie G. Gingher, AAS	Carly Monique Jones, AA	Jaclyn M. Napier, AAB
Natalie R. Gladish, AA, **	Jeannie M. Jyurovat, AAB	John Warren Napier, AS, **
Andrije Gojevic, AA, AS, **, +	Gena R. Kajic, AAS	Anthony M. Narducci, AAS
Caden D. Gragg, AAB, **	Jesse R. Kasper, AAB	Sarah M. Nawrocki, AAS
Ryan J. Grau, AA	Ashleigh Rose Kazeka, AAB, *	Cheyenne Janee' Myisha Naylor, AAS
Kason M. Greenwood, AAS	Kennedy A. Kelly, AS, ***	Macy J. Neely, AAS
Jacob J. Gregory, AA	Leah N. Kingston, AAS, *, #	Leticia C. Nicholson, AA, *
Marie Manning Grmek, AA, #	Nicole Ann Knapp, AAS	Arrienne Raine Nieves, AAS, *
	Elijah J. Knezevich, AA, AS, +	Gabrielle Oatman, AAS, <

## MAY 2026 GRADUATES (continued)

Kate Y. Oh, AS, \*\*  
 Allison E. Ortiz, AA  
 Kathryn M. Oshlick, AAS, \*\*, #, -  
 Madeline E. Otto, AAS, #, <  
 Lillyanna Noel Pagano, AS, \*\*, -, +  
 Sophia Paoloni, AA, \*\*, -  
 Sydney Rian Park, AA  
 Samantha N. Parobek, AA, #  
 Nora Maeve Pastor, AA, +  
 Bansri Patel, AA, \*\*, +  
 Mahi P. Patel, AS  
 Vanshi Patel, AA, AS, +  
 Anexie Mercedes Perez, AS  
 Raegan Margaret Perkins-Hirz, AS  
 Ryan M. Peters, AAB, ^  
 Caitlin Renee Peterson-Kelbach, AA  
 Alexandra Petri, AA, \*  
 John C. Phillips, AAS  
 Mercedes Pike, AA, +  
 Brittany R. Pomplas, AAS  
 Elena Porter, AS  
 Amanda J. Prince, AA, AAS, #, ###, ####, ^  
 Jessica A. Puzder, AS, \*\*\*, #  
 Lauren P. Quinn, AA, AS, \*\*  
 Madelynn Rose Rackovan, AA, \*\*\*  
 Nadirah Bahjah Rahman, AAS  
 Hetvi V. Rana, AS  
 Emilia D. Rausch, AA, \*, #, +  
 Caleb Ray, AA, \*  
 Emily Joselyn Rios, AAB  
 Lily Rivera-Borchers, AA, \*  
 Sophia C. Rivers, AA  
 Jackson F. Roberts, AAB  
 Katarina Roditis, AAS, \*\*\*  
 Ulisses Ignacio Rodriguez, AS  
 Braiden J. Ruffo, AA

Adam J. Ruggeri, AA  
 Emmelynne R. Russ, AAS, \*\*\*, #  
 Phillip Coulter Ryan, AA, \*, #, ^  
 Mara A. Sabo, AA, \*, +  
 Danila Samoshkin, AA, \*\*, #, <  
 Sloane Samples, AA, \*  
 Addison Evelyn Sarich, AS  
 Sarah Elizabeth Saunders, AA  
 Aaron Schaffer, AA, +  
 Alyssa M. Schmidt, AA, AAS, <  
 Brayden R. Schmidt, AA, AS, \*, -, +  
 Abigail M. Schneider, AA  
 Elizabeth Ruth Schneider, AS, \*  
 James Schonauer, AAS  
 Brittany F. Schostek, AAB  
 Olivea Alexandra Julianna Jayne Scott, AA  
 Angel Starr Scott-Hawthorne, AS  
 Jake Seifert, AA  
 Paige B. Seleman, AS, \*\*, #  
 Joseph Sensibello, AAB  
 Anna Shantery, AA, +  
 Shelby L. Shields, AA  
 Kaitlynn M. Shirer, AAS  
 Isabella G. Shubert, AAS  
 Leah M. Shutic, AA, AS, \*\*, +  
 Marlena L. Slaninka, AA, +  
 Melissa K. Smialek, AA, \*  
 Lisa Renee Smith, AA, AS, <  
 Tonia Megal Smith, AAB  
 Hailey N. Solomon, AA  
 Heather N. Sopko, AAS, \*, #  
 Selina N. Sparker, AS, +  
 Tracy Anne Squatrito, AAS  
 Quinn J. Srp, AA  
 Celest Stinnett, AAS, \*\*, #

Bridget L. Storey, AS, \*  
 Riley J. Strickland, AA, \*\*, #, +  
 Jessica R. Strother, AAS  
 Sharda Symonette, AAS  
 Daniel R. Talladino, AS  
 Teevi Tasane Champa, AAS, \*\*\*, #  
 Malley R. Teahan, AS, \*\*\*, +  
 David Thomas Tedeschi, AA, \*\*, #  
 Jacob C. Thomas, AA  
 Sarah R. Ticel, AAB  
 George M. Tiller, AA, ^  
 Emily G. Tindell, AA, \*, #, +  
 Samantha Josephine Toke, AAS, \*\*, #  
 Henry Toth, AAB, +  
 Charliisa J. Tyner, AAS  
 Nicole A. Unterwagner, AAS  
 Giana Vecchio, AAS  
 Christine M. Velardo, AA  
 Emma L. Veri, AA, AS, +  
 Hannah Joy Vess, AA, AAS  
 Vincent G. Vigliotti, AA, AS, \*\*\*, +  
 Will Waaland, AA, \*, +  
 Amy Waggoner, AAS, \*\*\*, #  
 Carmen N. Wasniak, AAB, \*  
 Ashlyn A. White, AAS, \*\*\*, #  
 Colin Wiley, AA  
 Jessica R. Wills, AAB, \*\*\*, #  
 Alyssa C. Wilson, AS  
 Bethany J. Wilson, AAS  
 Allyson L. Wischmeier, AAS  
 Candace A. Woodward, AAS, \*\*\*  
 Jacob J. Yettke, AA, +  
 Cortney Zahn, AAB  
 Camryn A. Zgrebnak, AA, +  
 Michael Allen Zgrebnak, AAS

## MAY 2026 CERTIFICATE CANDIDATES\*

Diana Guadalupe Arias  
Kevin Fernando Arrieta Cabrera, <  
Anna Marie Melanie Avalos  
Gracie L. Claypool  
Grace E. Corello  
Bevin B. Cormack  
Benji Cottrell  
Laurie A. Custer  
Emilia Cwik  
Asia Davis  
Kasandra De La Luz Ensaldó, -, <  
Anna Denton  
Jesse W. Eastman  
Caitlin English  
Amber Enos  
Callum Garrett  
Caden D. Gragg  
Dianna L. Gunnoe  
Zachary Heintz  
Jordan E. Holcomb  
April Marie Hubbard

Catherine Janick  
Raynah E. Jemison  
Tiara Jones  
Jeannie M. Jyurovat  
Ashleigh Rose Kazeka  
Evan Kelly  
Grace Krenisky  
Irena Kutlesa  
Dawn Joylene Leduc, #, ####  
Anthony Ludlow, ^  
Mark W. Malitz  
Adriana M. Martin  
Sandra Mason  
Lucy Marie A. Mastandrea  
Cortney Miller  
Sydney O. Mina  
Jesse R. Moriarity  
Angelic Mudrauskas  
Joel T. Muzila  
Jaclyn M. Napier  
Kendra Naylor

Elissa Noonan  
Grecia Yazaira Perez  
Gabrielle M. Pittman  
Bailey C. Platzar  
Antonina Randell  
Leah D. Richter  
Jackson F. Roberts  
Imelda Rodriguez  
Alexandria N. Rose  
Yesenia Sanchez  
Brittany F. Schostek  
Tonia Megal Smith  
Olivia G. Steelman  
Heikki R. Talikka  
Sarah R. Ticel  
Adriana Tizzano  
Kenneth A. Walker  
Carmen N. Wasniak  
Cortney Zahn

\* Listing includes only certificates of 16+ credit hours.

## SPRING 2026 HOLDEN PARTNERSHIP GRADUATES

<b>FRANKLIN UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>Bachelor of Science in Information Technology</b> Austin Campbell	<b>UNIVERSITY OF AKRON</b>	<b>YOUNGSTOWN STATE UNIVERSITY</b>
<b>Bachelor of Science in Accounting</b> William Brunskole Jason Oneill	<b>Bachelor of Science in Interactive Media Design</b> Quan Gan	<b>Bachelor of Science in Nursing</b> Brittany Adams Evan Contento Tara Deets Emily Hughes Cheyenne McGowan Lexi White	<b>Bachelor of Science in Applied Science in Criminal Justice</b> Kayle Chandler Channon Frech Carly James
<b>Bachelor of Science in Adolescence to Young Adult Education</b> Lauren Barcelo	<b>Bachelor of Science in Intervention Specialist</b> Kalab Nakaji Steven Nakaji	<b>URSULINE COLLEGE</b>	<b>Bachelor of Social Work</b> Kara Goergen Brianna Heikell
<b>Bachelor of Science in Business Administration</b> Allison Fende	<b>Bachelor of Science in Management and Leadership</b> Brandon Chafer	<b>Bachelor of Arts in Business Management</b> Redina Aponte Tiffany Drumm Alexander Torres	<b>Master of Social Work</b> Patrice Bates Kayla Fitzgerald Antoinette Foster Kelly Kolberg Louise Leonard Alexa Malnar Jamiya McIntyre Angelac Miller Billie Satava Jacquelyn Welch Sarah Welsh
<b>Bachelor of Science in Education Studies</b> Jocelyn Barth	<b>Bachelor of Science in Primary Education</b> Caitlin Washburn	<b>Bachelor of Arts in Psychology</b> Kimberly Kennedy	
<b>Bachelor of Science in Human Resource Management</b> Jessica Lewis Julia Ortiz	<b>Bachelor of Science in Psychology</b> Gina Grandini	<b>Bachelor of Social Work</b> Johnisha Bell Magnolia Knavel Jamie Piorkowski Darryl Pless	

## 2026 OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARDS

<b>Outstanding Accounting Student</b> Caden Gragg	<b>Outstanding Early Childhood Education Student</b> Marcia Jenks	<b>Outstanding Mathematics Student</b> John Napier	<b>Outstanding Physics and Planetary Sciences Student</b> John Napier
<b>Outstanding Business Management Student</b> Alicee Johnson	<b>Outstanding English Student</b> Phillip Ryan	<b>Outstanding Medical Assisting Student</b> Cortney Miller	<b>Outstanding Radiologic Technology Student</b> Makayla D'Ercole
<b>Outstanding Chemistry Student</b> Ulisses Rodriguez	<b>Outstanding Health Information Management Technology Student</b> Jennifer Brand	<b>Outstanding Nursing Student</b> Emmelynn Russ	<b>Outstanding Respiratory Therapy Student</b> Jill Bucci
<b>Outstanding Criminal Justice Student</b> Maggie McEvoy-Hinton	<b>Outstanding Information Technology &amp; Computer Science Student</b> Benjamin Burns	<b>Outstanding Paralegal Studies Student</b> Heikki Talikka	<b>Outstanding Surgical Technology Student</b> Teevi Tasane Champa
<b>Outstanding Dental Hygiene Student</b> Katarina Roditis		<b>Outstanding Philosophy Student</b> Mikaela Haslett	<b>Provost's Award</b> Vincent Vigliotti

## **LAKELAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE: A COMMUNITY HISTORY**

The history of Lakeland Community College is one in which “community” has been the operative word. Conceived in 1964 by a group of 22 Lake County citizens, the college has grown considerably while serving the educational needs of hundreds of thousands of people. The goal of the college has remained constant: to offer a comprehensive two-year college transfer program, to provide technical and paraprofessional programs, to provide general education, and to provide professional educational counseling. In addition, Lakeland has responded to the needs of the community by offering numerous programs ranging from specific industry-generated requests, to professional development courses. Today nearly 7,000 individuals attend Lakeland each year in credit and noncredit programs.

Lakeland Community College was the first college in Ohio created by the vote of the people. Twenty-two Lake County citizens provided the impetus for establishing a community college in Lake County by petitioning the board of commissioners. The petition led to the generation of a feasibility study, which recommended that the “creation of a community college district” be a serious consideration. Anxious to move forward, the League of Women Voters began a petition drive in 1965 to place the issue before Lake County voters. On Nov. 2, 1965, Lake County voters approved the issue by a narrow margin. The State of Ohio further supported the movement in 1966 by authorizing the creation of a community college, and that year a board of trustees was appointed. On May 2, 1967, the citizens of Lake County approved a 1.7 mill levy, thereby giving final approval to the opening and operating of a community college district.

When Lakeland opened its doors in September of 1967, the first group of 1,073 students attended classes that were scattered around Painesville in various facilities. These included the Cleveland Trust Building, the YMCA, a Mill Street location, and the Painesville Methodist Church. The administration was housed in an abandoned mortuary home. The college eventually purchased approximately 400 acres belonging to the Edward W. Moore estate to house the permanent site of the college. In the summer of 1971, the college moved to its present site and the dream of 22 citizens took on a reality few could have imagined in those early organizational meetings of 1964.

From humble beginnings to a state-of-the-art campus, the college has been guided by six presidents – Dr. Wayne L. Rodehorst (1967-1981); Willis P. Kern (1977); Dr. James L. Catanzaro (1981-1987); Dr. Ralph R. Doty (1988-2001); Dr. Morris W. Beverage Jr. (2001-2024). Dr. Sunil Ahuja was named the college’s sixth president in May 2024. The college has expanded in both its physical size and the programs and services it offers. The college now encompasses 10 buildings on the campus. The beautiful and historic Mooreland Mansion, the main house on the Moore estate, underwent an extensive restoration and now serves as an elegant conference center and reception site.

Since 1967, the number of classes and programs of study have grown substantially. Lakeland now offers over 1,000 credit courses, 61 degrees, 80 certificates, and transfer modules that provide transferable credits to other colleges and universities located all over the country. Students can take classes at the campus location, through online courses, in an accelerated format, or as high school students in the College Credit Plus or the Career Technical Education (formerly Tech Prep) Program. The Holden Partnership Program of Lakeland Community College began in the fall of 2011 and offers convenient access to complete a bachelor’s, master’s and even a doctoral degree from a variety of leading colleges and universities. Lakeland promotes lifelong learning for people of all ages, from summer camps for children to free credit classes for senior adults. Noncredit professional development courses are offered to learn new skills.

Culturally, Lakeland has become a focal point of high-quality regional performances. The college hosts professional concerts that are housed in one of the largest venues in Northeastern Ohio. Lakeland is the home to noted music competitions that draw individuals from around the nation. Also, a variety of annual lecture series and symposia address important political, economic, environmental and educational issues affecting area citizens.

The expansion of the college in terms of its physical size, number of employees and programs offered has been impressive since its inception in 1967. Residents of Lake County support the college through two operating levies and a capital improvement bond issue that keep Lakeland always working for Lake County. For nearly 60 years, Lakeland Community College has served generations of Northeast Ohioans, and as it continues to grow, will remain true to its original guiding principle: to serve the community.

Contributor: The late Dr. John C. Kesler, Professor of History



## The Arms of Lakeland Community College

Arms approved by the Board of Trustees  
and assumed Friday, 20th, October, 1967.

BLAZON: (description in heraldic terms)

Per fess Azure and Argent, in chief two  
open books of the last and in base three  
barrulets wavy of the first.

College colors: Blue and silver

## SIGNIFICANCE

In non-heraldic language, the arms of Lakeland Community College may be described as a shield divided across the middle—known in heraldry as “per fess”—with the upper portion being blue and the lower portion silver (white may be substituted). In the upper part of the shield—known in heraldry as the “chief”—are placed two open books completely in silver. In the lower part of the shield are three narrow wavy bars—known in heraldry as “three barrulets wavy.”

The Arms of Lakeland Community College are known in heraldry as canting or “arms parlantes”; they sing or play upon the name. The division across the middle of the shield and the three narrow wavy bars in blue in the base, cant or sing upon the name Lakeland (the land being a deposit from the lake).

The two open books in silver in the upper part of the shield symbolize the arts and sciences. Both branches of learning are dependent upon the written word which is generally transmitted by means of books.

These Arms were designed by A.W.C. Phelps, Fellow of The American Society of Heraldry, member of The Heraldry Society (London) England, on Thursday, 11th May, 1967.

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## FULL-TIME FACULTY

Ricky R. Amster	David A. Goswick	David R. Murad	Meryl F. Soto-Schwartz
William A. Armstrong	Rebecca D. Grasser	Andrea T. Musial	Carl J. Stitz
Brooke A. Arnold	Mark B. Guizlo	Anna Mytko	David A. Stumpf
Tina L. Barnauskas	Matthew Hiner	Jennifer E. Nalmpantis	Traci L. Sullivan
Rowena A. Bautista	Thomas M. Hyland	Justin M. Nussbaum	Emily Taylor
Jeanette E. Brossmann	Trisha A. Iacobucci	James D. O'Brien	Jennifer R. Teichman
Kimberly M. Brown	Mitchell R. James	Nicole Patel	Tobin F. Terry
Kenneth M. Browner	Hyojin Jeong	Lauren Patton	Jack A. Thomas
Deanna R. Cassell	Christine M. Jerson	Sarah Preston	Jason H. Thomas
Thomas M. Ciferno	Mikhail V. Khoretonenko	William H. Previts	Perry A. Tonni
Christine J. Corwin	Tara K. Kinsley	Erica Prior	Gregory Truhan
Alexander T. Cox	Alan B. Kirsh	James E. Racic	Eric P. Usatch
Jennifer K. Crissman	Joseph Kozlevcar	Emily Raddell	Steven J. Vieira
Daniel J. Curtin	James A. Landis	Deborah Rorick	Susan M. Wadkowski
Nichole L. Dauenhauer	Denise M. Lash	Justin N. Rosemier	Angela L. Weaver
Donald E. Davis	Janice E. Lawrenz	Philip D. Roskos	Douglas J. Webb
James B. De Monte	Jennifer M. Lemons	Jennifer A. Rutkowski	Carl L. West
Nicholas A. DiTirro	Victoria Leonetti	Matthew C. Saunders	Joanna N. Whetstone
Clotilde Dwyer	Lisa A. Lewins	Robert J. Schindler	Daniel R. Winterich
Susan E. Fogarty	Debbie Lozano	Rose Sheykhani	Si Yuen
Lynne T. Gabriel	Megan C. Mamolen	Connie Sheykhan	Paul F. Zachlin
Elizabeth J. Ginsburg	April L. Mason	Rebecca L. Silbaugh	
Cheryl C. Goergen	Susan M. McClendon	Gretchen Skok DiSanto	
Constance D. Golden	Stacey Modarelli	Anthony P. Slabicki	

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The history of academic costume dates from medieval days when university students wore woolen and fur garments for warmth in damp and drafty buildings. Most of those studying were clerics in the holy orders; they wore a cloak to which was attached a hood that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads. Simplified today, the costume serves to remind us that its wearer is a member of an ancient and venerable profession; it also indicates by its color and design its wearer's degree and the institution by which the degree was conferred.

In the United States, black has been the traditional color for academic gowns, but some institutions authorize holders of their doctorates to wear the colors of the institution. The associate's gown and the bachelor's gown, which are black in color, are distinguished by their long, open sleeves; the master's by its closed, slitted sleeves; the doctor's by its full sleeves trimmed with bands of velvet, which may be black or a color denoting the field in which the degree was taken.

The mortarboard cap, proper for all degrees, is black. Tassels are worn over the left front quarter of the cap. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread.

Academic hoods vary in length according to the degree and are lined with the colors of the institution by which the degree was granted. The hood is trimmed with velvet in a color that indicates the field in which the degree was taken. Colors associated with some of the various disciplines are: Arts and Letters, white; Business, drab; Education, light blue; Engineering, orange; Fine Arts, brown; Law, purple; Library Science, lemon; Medicine, green; Music, pink; Philosophy, dark blue; Physical Education, sage green; Science, golden yellow; Theology, scarlet.

The ceremonial mace, which is carried by the lead faculty member in the procession, signifies highest honors bestowed upon a distinguished faculty member by his/her professional colleagues.

Lakeland graduates wear tassels that correspond to their degree or certificate program. Tassel colors are listed below by program.

<u>Degree</u>	<u>Tassel Color</u>	<u>Degree</u>	<u>Tassel Color</u>
<b>Associate of Arts Degree</b>	White	<i>Applied Studies - Health Technologies</i>	
<b>Associate of Science Degree</b>	Golden Yellow	Biotechnology Science	Golden Yellow
<b>Associate of Applied Business Degree</b>		Dental Hygiene	Lilac
<i>Applied Studies -</i>		Health Information Management Technology	Green
<i>Computer, Design and Engineering Technologies</i>		Histotechnology	Green
Graphic Design	Brown	Medical Laboratory Technology	Green
Information Technology and Computer Science	Drab	Multi-Skilled Health Technology	Green
Media Technology	Drab	Nursing (RN)	Apricot
<i>Applied Studies - Management</i>		Occupational Therapy Assistant	Sage Green
Accounting	Drab	Physical Therapist Assistant	White
Business Management	Drab	Radiologic Technology	Green
Paralegal Studies	Purple	Respiratory Therapy	Green
<b>Associate of Applied Science Degree</b>		Surgical Technology	Green
<i>Applied Studies -</i>		<i>Arts and Sciences - Languages and Communications</i>	
<i>Computer, Design and Engineering Technologies</i>		Applied American Sign Language Studies	White
Civil Engineering Technology	Orange	<i>Arts and Sciences - Social Sciences</i>	
Computer Integrated Manufacturing Technology	Orange	Geospatial Technology	Golden Yellow
Electronic Engineering Technology	Orange	<b>Associate of Technical Studies Degree</b>	
Mechanical Engineering Technology	Orange	<i>Applied Studies -</i>	
Network Infrastructure Engineering Technology	Orange	<i>Computer, Design and Engineering Technologies</i>	
Nuclear Engineering Technology	Orange	Computer Information Technology	Drab
<i>Applied Studies - Education, Human and Public Services</i>		Electrical Construction Technology	Orange
Criminal Justice – Corrections	Golden Yellow	Electrical Technology	Orange
Criminal Justice – Law Enforcement	Golden Yellow	Industrial Welding	Orange
Early Childhood Education	Light Blue	Tool and Die Technology	Orange
Emergency Management Planning and Administration	Golden Yellow	<i>Applied Studies - Health Technologies</i>	
Fire Science Technology	Golden Yellow	Nuclear Medicine	Green
Human Services	Citron	Radiologic Technology	Green
		<i>Applied Studies - Management</i>	
		Culinary Arts Technology	Maroon
		<b>Certificate</b>	Black

# THE LAKELAND FOUNDATION

The Lakeland Foundation is a premier educational foundation that contributes to the stature and success of our community through its responsive solicitation and distribution of resources in support of education and workforce development in Northeast Ohio.

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 2026

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### PHOTO OPPORTUNITIES

Post your graduation photos to Facebook, X and Instagram using the official commencement hashtag: **#Lakeland2026**



### COMMENCEMENT PHOTOGRAPHS

GradImages® is the official photographer for the commencement ceremony and will take a photo of each graduate as he/she shakes hands with a college official before exiting the stage.

Order photos online at [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com) or call **1.800.261.2576**. There is no obligation to purchase, and you will have the option of ordering several enlargement packages at reasonable prices. If you have questions concerning your photo order following commencement, contact Customer Service at GradImages directly at **1.800.261.2576** or visit [www.gradimages.com](http://www.gradimages.com)

### COMMENCEMENT BROADCAST

The 2026 Commencement Ceremony will be available to view on YouTube. Access the link via [lakelandcc.edu/commencement](http://lakelandcc.edu/commencement).



# The Soul of Lakeland College

(Lakeland Community College Alma Mater)

Lyrics by J.S. Larkins

Choral arrangement by Cyril Chinn

Music by the late George Parrish

Edited by M. Saunders



In mem - o - ries a - cross the years with a grace for - ev - er



true, Dwells the Soul of Lake - land Col - lege all dressed in sil - ver and



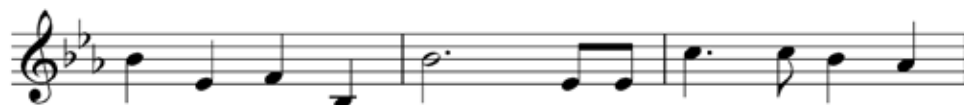
blue. — The friend - ships of our Lake - land days lin - ger



on with warmth and cheer, To bless our lives in count - less ways, keep



Lake - land ev - er near. A - cross the years, a - cross the years our -



hearts will ren - dez - vous — with the love - ly Soul of



Lake - land, our glo - rious sil - ver and blue.

*Graduation is just one of the many achievements you will experience.*

*Cherish the moment, then the new journey begins.*

*As you look to the future, continue to put forth a gallant effort  
and believe that nothing is impossible.*

*You can make dreams come true.*