

FINLANDIA

UNIVERSITY

Commencement

THURSDAY, MAY 21, 2020, 6 P.M.
FINNISH AMERICAN HERITAGE CENTER

*A learning community dedicated to academic
excellence, spiritual growth, and service*

2020 Commencement Speakers

Student Representative – Nicholas Tobey

The 2020 Student Representative, Nicholas Tobey, is an accounting major from St. Louis, Missouri. Tobey has earned a 4.0-grade point average and will be graduating Summa Cum Laude.

Tobey has made a difference in the Finlandia community by being a successful student and great leader. Tobey has been the Student Senate president for two years, a peer tutor, as well as a student ambassador.

"Nick has been fantastic to work with. He has a strong work ethic that makes him a great leader," said Leann Fogle, Director of Residence Life and Advisor of Student Senate. "Instead of delegating work to others, he would jump into a project and work with his team to get things accomplished. He would also get his team excited about projects. I never thought I would see a group of six students get excited to shovel off a broomball court, but under Nick's leadership, I saw it happen twice. He loves Finlandia and that shows. His goal was always to give back to the school and help it become better and better each year."

"I really enjoyed the accounting program. Laura Sieders was such an amazing professor and she really took an interest in our work and our lives. I am fortunate that I will be leaving with such a wide knowledge of the field and hope to build on what I have learned later on."

Along with his achievements in and out of the classroom, Tobey was a member of the NCAA Men's Ice Hockey Team, where he received the academic excellence award three times and was recognized on the NCHA All-Academic Team multiple times.

After graduation, Tobey has been selected to attend the Marine Corps Officer Candidate School in June.



Commencement Speaker – Darlene King



Darlene King ('90), executive director of the Michigan Diversity Council (MIDC) is the 2020 commencement ceremony speaker.

King began her career with the MIDC, a division of the National Diversity Council, in 2015. As the executive director, her charge is working with corporations and organizations in developing diversity and inclusion initiatives, programs, processes, and procedures. She also oversees the growth of the council in the area of business development throughout the entire state of Michigan. King earned her National Certification as a Certified Diversity and Inclusion Professional in 2018.

King has a passion for people and earned a bachelor's degree in public relations and marketing from Wayne State University in Detroit. She also owns Life's Journey Training and Consulting. Competing in today's global market, Life's Journey offers services in industries ranging from education to automotive, medical, non-profits and manufacturing. Its area of expertise consists of diversity and inclusion, leadership development, marketing, and public relations. Life's Journey has provided service deliverables to Wayne County Head Start Programs, Wayne Metropolitan Community Action Agency, The Order of the Fisherman, The Detroit Medical Center, Revival Home Health Care, RTM Music Group, Real Times Media, Stonecrest Behavioral Health, Detroit Area Agency on Aging, Universal Studios, Detroit Community Schools, MASCO Corporation, Diversity Lansing and many more.

She says her faith in God, family, passion for people, and her love of traveling and gardening are the drivers that keep her on a "Life's Journey".

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Instrumental	<i>Pomp and Circumstance</i>
Invocation	Sarah Semmler Smith Campus Pastor
Welcome and Remarks	Dr. Philip Johnson President
Student Representative	Nicholas Tobey Bachelor of Business Administration Accounting
Introduction of Keynote Speaker	Dr. Philip Johnson President
Commencement Address	Darlene King Executive Director of the Michigan Diversity Council
Presentation of the Class of 2020	Dr. Fredi de Yampert Vice President for Academic Affairs
Conferring of Degrees	Dr. Philip Johnson President
Awarding of Diplomas	Dr. Fredi de Yampert Vice President for Academic Affairs
Benediction	Sarah Semmler Smith Campus Pastor
Congratulations	<i>This is My Song (Finlandia)</i>

Candidates for Graduation

ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Criminal Justice

Caleb Randall Scroggs#

Physical Therapist Assistant

Annika Bea Bekkala+ **

Greta Pauline Berg+ **^

Jared Joseph Bradford+

Carli Christine Daavettila+

Bethany Lynn Fehr+

Allie Lynne Greenlund+

Tyler Austin Hosking+ ***

Lisa Justina Keskimaki+

Kirsten Lynn L'Esperance+ ***

Curtis John Mick+ *

Molly Marie Niemi+ *

Kenley Elise Oosterhouse+ **

Emma Sue Pietila+

ASSOCIATE IN GENERAL STUDIES

General Studies

Paige Brown*

Thomas Joel Randell#

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Art Therapy

Chelsea Marie LaPalme***^

Biology - Bachelor of Arts

Sarah Elizabeth Gundry

Paige Nicole Leier#

Biology - Bachelor of Science

Charles Jackson Macdonald

Criminal Justice

Bryce Steven Beauchaine*

Karri Dale Johnson

Emily Caitlin Lan Nguyen

Giordan Dominique Randazzo***^

Brandon William Teichman

English & History

Annie Jo Catherine Wills*(H)

History

Terry Hainstock

Addison Lewis Martin

Wilson Henry Spreier+

Liberal Studies

Allison Marie Cooper**

Seth Randall Dahl***(H)^

Jayson Walter Dahlquist+ **

Avery Wyatt Huibregtse

Harold Allan Noble*

Psychology

Kassandra Elizabeth Avila

Mamoonah Aisha Khokhar

Chengbin Xuan

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Accounting

Albert Alexander Hammond

Samantha Jo Richards#***^

Nicholas Thomas Tobey***^

Applied Sports Management

Molly Kristiin Berg**

Taylor Jean Nettell^

Taylor Lynn Pertile*

Kaitlyn Aili Ryynanen**-

Healthcare Management

Austin Paul Carlson

Dewan Latra Keeling

Kendra Rae Schmitt#**

Zuleiki Wilful Corsette Wight

International Business

Dare Mayomi Jr.

Management and Entrepreneurship

Brendan Callow

Patrick Alexander Coles#

Nikolaus William Geiser+

Makenna M. Gorham

Lindsey Michelle Johnson**

Shawn Donovan Knutson

Javier Alberto Martinez

Marketing

Elle Lake Rowe

Sports Management

Brian Elisha Doyle

Mia Tatiana Glenn

Joey Krug#

Adrian Jess-Howard Saterstad#

BACHELOR OF FINE ARTS

Graphic Design

Denia Nikkia Bent***^

Shannon Marie Chouinard

Annah Elizabeth Smiddy

Intermedia

Mindy Nicole Aho*

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Nursing

Isabella Jean Abear

Amy L. Basolo**

Megan Marie Bruci**

Todd Anthony Essendrup**

Katherine Rae Helppi

Sarah Lynn Hockings

Benjamin Christian Johnson***(H)^

Brianne Marie Maggio

Timothy James Massoglia**

Mallorie Ann Norman

Christie Kathlene Plourde

Patrick J. Prouty Jr.*

Ashley Jeanne St. Germain

Brooke Nicole Turin

Jenni Marie Wolter

Andrea Marie Woolcox#

***summa cum laude (3.9-4.0 gpa)

**magna cum laude (3.7-3.89 gpa)

*cum laude (3.5-3.69 gpa)

(H) Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society

^Sampo Society

#Fall 2019 Graduate

+Summer 2020 Graduate

Commencement Information

Graduating with Honors

Finlandia University recognizes the exceptional academic achievements of graduation candidates at an annual Honors and Awards Banquet. During this celebration students receive the regalia representing the degree of honor that they have achieved. The regalia — tassels, cords and medals — is worn during the commencement ceremony and graduates are identified as honor students when their names and degrees are announced. The three levels of honor are:

Cum Laude — Students have earned an overall 3.50 to 3.69 grade point average. They wear a gold honors tassel.

Magna Cum Laude — Students have earned an overall 3.70 to 3.89 grade point average. In addition to the honors tassel, these graduates also wear a gold honors cord.

Summa Cum Laude — Students have earned an overall 3.90 to 4.0 grade point average. In addition to the honors tassel and gold honors cord, these graduates wear a medal with royal blue and white ribbon.

The Sampo Society

Each spring semester, faculty members nominate graduating students for the Sampo Society, the university's honor society established in 1930. Nominees must have earned an overall grade point average of 3.70 to 4.0 and demonstrated exceptional leadership, commitment, achievement, initiative, and involvement in the cultural and

intellectual life of the campus and community. Four to six of the most outstanding nominees are selected for lifelong Sampo Society membership by the university's Academic Achievement Committee. Sampo Society members are recognized at the Honors and Awards Banquet, and they wear a special pin on their graduation gowns.

Academic Attire

How did it all start? Academic attire has endured for centuries, and is still widely worn by graduates during commencement ceremonies all over the world. It had its origins in the 12th and 13th centuries during the early formation of universities in Europe, and it had a practical aspect back then: the long robes and hoods provided warmth to the scholars and clerics who roamed the unheated buildings. The "one size fits all" academic robe discouraged "excess" in apparel. Though no longer worn regularly, academic attire continues to lend both uniformity and identity during commencement exercises.

Today, the different types of academic attire, though still deeply traditional, have evolved into something quite different. Though not exactly stylish with its billowing, tent-like design, academic attire can be colorful, ornate and highly symbolic.

During commencement, Finlandia faculty who have earned master's and doctoral degrees will wear gowns that reflect their academic achievements. The black master's gown sports elongated sleeves, while the distinguished doctoral robe is identified by its more elaborate design and velvet stripes on its voluminous sleeves. Hoods are also worn with the master's and doctoral robes and bear colors representing the degree earned and institution from which the individual graduated. The medal worn by President Philip Johnson during commencement represents the office that he holds at Finlandia.

Colleges and universities develop their own traditions. Finlandia graduates wear blue gowns, to represent the blue and white school colors. Some Finlandia faculty wear a special white velveteen cap, which replicates a Finnish graduation hat.



Finlandia University Faculty

COLLEGE OF HEALTH SCIENCES

Ryan Bessolo, M.S.N., R.N.
Cindy Blake, M.S.N., R.N.
Pam Brown, M.S., P.T.
Fred de Yampert, Ph.D., R.N.
Mark Miron, M.S.N. Ed., R.N.
Marnie Polkky, M.S.N., R.N.
Nicole Polakowski, B.S.P.T., P.T.
Theresa Rajala-Halsey, M.S.N., R.N.
Irina Sergeyeva, M.S.N. Ed., R.N.
Lori Sullivan, D.N.P., R.N.
Johnna Therrian, M.S.N., R.N.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF ART & DESIGN

Tom Adolphs, Ph.D.
Phyllis Fredendall, M.F.A.
Denise Vandeville, M.F.A.
Dylan Weiler, M.F.A.

INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL OF BUSINESS

Mary Jane Hatton, M.P.A.
Kevin Manninen, M.B.A.
Steven Nordstrom, M.A.
Laura Sieders, B.S.
Paul Werner, M.B.A.

SUOMI COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

Judith Budd, Ph.D.
Rebecca Daly, M.L.I.S.
Carolyn Dekker, Ph.D.
Richard Gee, Ph.D.
Patricia Gross, Ph.D.
Philip Johnson, Ph.D.
René Johnson, Ph.D.
Ashok Khanal, Ph.D.
William Knoblauch, Ph.D.
Matt Laird, M.S.
Mark Lounibos, Ph.D.
Juan Marin, Ph.D.
Jason Oyadomari, Ph.D.
Jeff Pettibone, Ph.D.
Michael Reay, Ph.D.
Hilary Virtanen, Ph.D.

“This is My Song” (Finlandia)

1 This is my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 2 My coun - try's skies are blu - er than the o - cean,
 3 This is my prayer, O God of all earth's king - doms,

a song of peace for lands a - far and mine.
 and sun - light beams on clo - ver - leaf and pine.
 your king - dom come; on earth your will be done.

This is my home, the coun - try where my heart is;
 But oth - er lands have sun - light too, and clo - ver,
 O God, be lift - ed up till all shall serve you,

here are my hopes, my dreams, my ho - ly shrine;
 and skies are ev - 'ry - where as blue as mine.
 and hearts u - nit - ed learn to live as one.

but oth - er hearts in oth - er lands are beat - ing
 So hear my song, O God of all the na - tions,
 So hear my prayer, O God of all the na - tions;

with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
 a song of peace for their land and for mine.
 my - self I give you; let your will be done.

Finlandia University expresses its appreciation to:

THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 2020 AND THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THEM

THE 2020 COMMENCEMENT SPEAKERS

THE FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

FINLANDIA UNIVERSITY FACULTY, STAFF AND ADMINISTRATION