

DePaul University

127TH
COMMENCEMENT

School of Music

JUNE 13, 2026



JUNE 2026



DEAR GRADUATE,

Congratulations to DePaul's Class of 2026!

I'm thrilled to celebrate DePaul's commencement with you and your families. Today, you're joining one of the most powerful alumni networks in the nation.

Across the country and around the globe, DePaul alumni leave with more than just a degree. They carry with them a well-rounded education, a career-ready mindset, and a deep sense of purpose, equipping them to take on the world's most pressing challenges. As you move forward, let the Vincentian question guide you: What must be done?

Our collective impact on the world is now 6,000 people stronger, because of you. I'm proud of you and look forward to following your future success.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robert L. Manuel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, stylized "M" at the end.

Robert L. Manuel, PhD

PRESIDENT

JUNE 2026



DEAR GRADUATE,

My heartfelt congratulations on this important milestone.

Commencement serves a dual purpose: it celebrates all that you have accomplished at DePaul and marks the beginning of the next chapter of your life. It is both a moment of reflection and a moment of anticipation—an opportunity to look back with pride on your achievements and forward with confidence to all that lies ahead.

As you move forward, carry with you the lessons, values, and relationships that have defined your time here. Your education is not simply a record of what you have learned, but a foundation for how you will lead, serve, and make a difference. You are equipped to excel on your chosen path. Now it's time for you to go forward and make a difference in the world.

We are proud of all that you have accomplished and confident in all that you will achieve. Wherever your journey leads, you will always remain part of the DePaul community.

Go Blue Demons!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Ghanem', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Salma Ghanem, PhD

PROVOST

JUNE 2026



DEAR CLASS OF 2026,

On behalf of all at the School of Music, I'd like to extend heartfelt congratulations to each of you on this amazing milestone!

We are all incredibly proud of what you have accomplished while you have been a part of our school, and we wish you the best as you embark on the journey ahead.

Your time with us has been filled with countless hours creating, practicing, studying, challenging and drawing inspiration from others. As you move into the next phase of your life, remember the reasons that brought you here to DePaul—your desire to create, to share, and to enrich our communities through music. Let your passion and curiosity continue to guide you as you embrace the opportunities that will come your way.

I hope that you will continue to embrace the Vincentian mission, remain involved with our programs, stay connected with us as alumni, and keep us updated on your achievements and milestones ahead. We will take great pride in celebrating your accomplishments and are here to assist you when you need.

It has been our honor to have you as a part of the School of Music. We are confident that you are prepared and ready to make a positive difference in the world!

Cheers to the Class of 2026!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Milbauer". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Milbauer,

DEAN, SCHOOL OF MUSIC

JUNE 2026



DEAR GRADUATE,

Welcome to the DePaul University alumni family. By completing your degree, you have joined an elite group of more than 220,500 alumni who share with you the knowledge, Vincentian personalism and determination characteristic of a DePaul graduate. As a new member of the DePaul alumni community, your lifelong connection to DePaul and your fellow alumni will only grow stronger from here.

The Office of Alumni Relations is here to help you maintain and strengthen that connection, and we invite you to get started by utilizing the many resources and privileges available to DePaul alumni. Our growing network of regional chapters, affinity-based groups and alumni contacts in cities around the world brings the benefits of membership closer to you. On our website, you can register for upcoming events in your area, learn about volunteer opportunities, engage with fellow alumni on our networking platform, DePaulConnect and more. Be sure to visit alumni.depaul.edu to learn more about the myriad of ways you can stay connected.

Please accept our best wishes for continued success in the days and years ahead. Congratulations on receiving your DePaul degree! Go Blue Demons!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Katie Fraumann".

Katie Fraumann

SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT, DIVISION
OF ADVANCEMENT AND EXTERNAL
RELATIONS

2026 PROGRAM

College of Science and Health and School of Music

PROCESSIONAL

UNIVERSITY MARSHALS

T. Kyle Petersen, PhD, *Professor and Chair* | College of Science and Health
Sara Jones, PhD, *Associate Professor and Director* | School of Music

INVOCATION

Dana Hall, MM, *Professor and Associate Dean* | School of Music

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Meghan Krueger, *BM Candidate, Class of 2026* | School of Music

STUDENT PERFORMANCE

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); arr. Amanda Pinos Fernández
Sarabande, from *Cello Suite No. 6 in D Major, BWV 1012*

Amanda Pinos Fernández, *Tenor Trombone, MM Candidate, Class of 2026* | School of Music

Lawson Quesinberry, *Tenor Trombone, MM Candidate, Class of 2026* | School of Music

Ryan Saladin, *Tenor Trombone, MM Candidate, Class of 2026* | School of Music

Noah Ochander, *Bass Trombone, MM Candidate, Class of 2026* | School of Music

STUDENT ADDRESS

Deeba Shirazi, *MSN Candidate, Class of 2026* | College of Science and Health

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

John Milbauer, MBA, *Dean* | School of Music

Stephanie Dance-Barnes, PhD, *Dean* | College of Science and Health

CANDIDATES' NAMES ANNOUNCED BY

Jacqueline Kelly-McHale, PhD, *Associate Professor* | School of Music

Carey Southern, PhD, *Associate Professor* | College of Science and Health

Jennifer Sandoval, DNP, *Clinical Assistant Professor and Assistant Director, Master's Entry to Nursing Practice Program (MENP)* | College of Science and Health

David Sher, PhD, *Associate Professor* | College of Science and Health

REMARKS

Salma Ghanem, PhD, *Provost*

ALUMNI INDUCTION

Robert L. Manuel, PhD, *President*

RECESSIONAL

Pledge of Social Responsibility

Those graduates wearing green ribbons on their gowns today have made a personal commitment to practice social responsibility in their life and work.

The roster of degree candidates as represented in this program was reflective of degree candidates at the time of production of this program as of April 15, 2026. We request that all candidates for graduation, their families and their guests, remain seated until the conclusion of the ceremony.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

School of Music

Certificate of Music Performance

MILLIE AHEARN

Certificate in Performance

JULIANNA BRAY

Certificate in Performance

YU-YU CHANG

Certificate in Performance

JHOAN VICENTE GARCIA LOZANO

Certificate in Performance

SHAO-CHE HSI

Certificate in Performance

WONEE KIM

Certificate in Performance

JENNA KRAUSE

Certificate in Performance

TAE MCLOUGHLIN

Certificate in Performance

MUIRNE MONET MITCHELL

Certificate in Performance

JACOB CRAWFORD NELSON

Certificate in Performance

CHET RHODES

Certificate in Performance

ELENA BETH RUBIN

Certificate in Performance

SEBASTIAN CANDIDO SANCHEZ

Certificate in Performance

SOPHIA CHARLOTTA SCHOELCH

Certificate in Performance

CARLYSTA TRAN

Certificate in Performance

KEVIN WHEATLE

Certificate in Performance

SEAN WHITWORTH

Certificate in Performance

Master of Music

CONNOR KENNETH AMPLEMAN

Performance

STEVEN JOSEPH AUSTER

Performance

KYLIE CHRISTINE BAIRD

Performance

ASHLEY BARAJAS-GALAN

Music Education

Haidar Mohamad Barbarji

Performance

Kevin Bressanelli

Performance

Jorie Lynn Clark

Performance

Rebecca Rose Cloud

Music Education

Kyle Craven

Composition

Chase Crispin

Music Education

Alexander Jason Day

Performance

Walker James Dean

Performance

Samuel G. Frampton

Jazz Studies

Francisco Javier Garay

Performance

Alyssa Goh Hui Yi

Performance

Madeline Grace Guyer

Performance

Henry Hsueh

Performance

Haydn Lani Jones

Performance

Ryan Dennis Kirk

Performance

Trevor Matthew Lenhart

Music Education

Allison Lewkowski

Performance

Margaret Leigh Meierhenry

Performance

Stela Mkrtichian

Performance

John Momeyer

Performance

Ainsley Moore

Performance

Tiana Moritz

Performance

Rebecca A. Murray

Music Education

Noah Ochander

Performance

Milo Paperman

Performance

Alexandra Marie Patin

Performance

Daniela Virginia Pepe

Performance

Amanda Perez

Performance

Amanda Pinos Fernandez

Performance

James Lawson Quesinberry

Performance

Megan Rideout ReDecker

Performance

Diego Isaac Rodriguez

Jazz Studies

Ryan Daniel Saladin

Performance

Edith Samuelsson

Performance

Citlali Sanchez-Acosta

Composition

Mia Smith

Performance

Elizabeth N. Trumbore

Jazz Studies

Elio Adriano Wijaya

Jazz Studies

Xavier Leo Woodley

Performance

Bachelor of Arts

Serena Cruz Alvarez

Music

Bachelor of Music

Rix Dillon Barlow

Music Performance

Olga Berman

Composition

Rose Biser Bittle

Music Performance

Mathematical Sciences

Peter J. Breyer

Music Performance

Daniel Justin Bulpitt*

Music Education

Pou I Chao

Music Performance

*Denotes University Honors Program

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES

School of Music

**ALEJANDRA MICHELLE
CONTRERAS**

Music Performance

BROOKE CATHERINE CRAIG

Music Performance

KAYA JOANNA EGAN

Music Performance

TOBY B. ELLIOTT

Music Performance

NAT GARBE

Music Education

EDWIN DAVID GARDUZA

Music Performance

**ANGELA LUCIA HERNANDEZ
GONZALES**

Music Performance

ELI W. HOFFMANN

Music Performance

DAVID KAKAREKO*

Music Performance

JAMES MATTHEW KASREGIS

Music Education

**STEPHEN CORWYN
KILPATRICK**

Music Performance

BEN ERICH KOENIG

Music Performance

MEGHAN MARIE KRUEGER

Music Performance
Performing Arts Management

NICOLE HELENA KWASNY

Music Performance
Performing Arts Management

NICHOLAS MARK LARAMEE

Music Performance

BEATRICE ROSE LARSON

Music Performance

SCARLETT RAIN LICINA

Music Education

HSIANG LING LIN

Music Performance
Data Science

VOLODYMYR IVAN LYMAR

Music Performance

**KATHRYN VIRGINIA
MEFFERT**

Music Performance

**MARIA VICTORIA MERLO
MARTINEZ**

Music Performance

**BENJAMIN PATRICIO MORA
NEIRA**

Music Performance

RAMIDA NIVASNANDA

Music Performance
Sound Recording Technology

MIA OTERO

Music Education

BRENDAN ALEXANDER RICH

Music Performance

MARCO TULIO RIVERA ROSA

Music Performance

**ANGELA MARIA ROJAS
CASTRO**

Music Performance

DANIEL ERIC SANDERS

Music Performance

JULIA VIVIAN SEABRON

Music Performance

CONNOR JAMES SULLIVAN

Jazz Studies
Music Education

NORA SULLIVAN

Music Performance

**MARCO ALESSANDRO
VILLELA**

Music Education

CARMEN VIZIN-ESQUIVEL

Music Performance

TO WANG

Music Performance

ZACHARY R. WINKLER

Performing Arts Management

DANIEL A. ZANNONI

Music Education

ZHIVKO ZHEKOV

Jazz Studies

Bachelor of Science

HANNA BLOCH

Performing Arts Management

**ALEXANDER JAKOB
BUNGERT**

Performing Arts Management

KLARA MARIA CARRERA

Sound Recording Technology

JOHN R. CURRY

Sound Recording Technology

KIRA DANIELLE DROZDIK*

Performing Arts Management

**ZACHARY THOMAS
FITZGERALD**

Sound Recording Technology

OWEN SCOTT GINNETT

Sound Recording Technology

JORGE GUTIERREZ

Sound Recording Technology

**ALLISON FRANCES
JOHNSON**

Performing Arts Management

JOHN LEE KASTER

Sound Recording Technology

ALEX AUGUSTO LADNER

Sound Recording Technology

HENRY BOWMAN MADDEN

Sound Recording Technology

NATHAN EIMER MCMURRAY*

Sound Recording Technology

NERELLY MENDOZA

Performing Arts Management

MAEVE RILEY

Sound Recording Technology

JONATHAN TYLER SHEPARD

Sound Recording Technology
Mathematical Sciences

MARYCLAIRE SULLIVAN

Sound Recording Technology

**ALYSSA NICOLE
WOJTOWICZ**

Sound Recording Technology

*Denotes University Honors Program

CONGRATULATIONS!

