

College of Nursing

2024

**Hooding and
Commencement
Ceremony**

MAY 9, 2024



Creighton
UNIVERSITY



Table of Contents

Letter from the President.....	3
Order of Exercises.....	4
Candidates for Earned Degrees.....	5
Traditions of Creighton.....	6
The History of Hood, Cap and Gown.....	7
Awards.....	8
Board of Trustees and President's Council.....	9
Endowed Chairs.....	10
History of Creighton University.....	11
D.J. Sokol Arena Map.....	12
Social Media.....	13
Welcome to the Alumni Family.....	14



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

President, Creighton University



Dear Creighton University Graduate,

Let me be among the first to say “congratulations” on reaching this important day. After much hard work and perseverance, it is time to gather in the company of family, friends, and supporters as we celebrate you and all you have achieved. From this day on you are now, officially, a proud member of the graduating Class of 2024!

Commencement is an incredibly special time, and it is yours to cherish as you close the book on one chapter and turn the page to discover what comes next. There is so much to look forward to as you continue your journey, and I join all those who helped you and supported you along the way in expressing that we cannot wait to see what you will accomplish in this world of endless possibility.

I encourage you to take time to reflect on the transformational journey that has brought you here. The rigor of your studies, the purposeful contributions you made, and personal investment you have shown in building a better world are not something anyone can achieve. You can now count yourself among those few. You have accomplished the extraordinary.

I hope you bring this same commitment to your profession and to your community. Know, too, you are not alone in your next journey. You are part of a Creighton alumni family that is close to 80,000 strong and stretches across the globe.

As a student, you were challenged to go to the edges of the Creighton campus and step out of your comfort zone; now you have an entire world to continue to explore. Keep that fire for discovery alive by maintaining all that a Jesuit, Catholic education offers—inquiry, imagination, and inspiration.

You are a changemaker and that means you do not wait for the world to come to you; you go forth with a mission to make it better. The world needs you, and I have faith that you will be a leader who remains steadfastly driven and compassionate because you are not just a graduate, you are a Creighton University graduate!

May God bless you and your families as you celebrate today. You have earned it.

Sincerely,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD



Order of Exercises

PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

PROVOST'S WELCOME

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

INVOCATION

Rev. Nicholas J. C. Santos, SJ, PhD
Rector, Jesuit Community

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Jessica R. Clark, DNP, RN
Dean

STUDENT COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Kaitlin M. Edminsten
Doctor of Nursing Practice Candidate

BOARD AUTHORIZATION

Presented by
Board of Trustees Member

DEGREE CONFERRAL STATEMENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Jessica R. Clark, DNP, RN
Dean

Names read by

Mary Kunes-Connell, PhD, RN
*Associate Dean, Academics,
Assessment and Accreditation*

Hoarding of candidates by

Dan Stein
OFD Paramedic Program Coordinator

Jacqueline S. Cota, MS, NRP
Clinical and Field Coordinator

Shelly J. Luger, DNP, RN, NEA-BC
Associate Professor

Lori M. Rusch, PhD, RN
Associate Professor

Lindsay M. Iverson, DNP, APRN-NP, ACNP-BC
Associate Professor

Cathy A. Carrico, DNP, APRN-NP, FNP-BC
Assistant Professor

Jocuelin Jones, DNP, PNP, NNP-BC
Assistant Professor

Susan C. Connelly, DNP, APRN-NP, CPNP, PC/AC
Associate Professor

Sara E. Banzhaf, DNP, APRN-NP, PMHNP-BC
Associate Professor

Nancy D. Bredenkamp, PhD, APRN-NP, FNP-BC
Assistant Professor
Assistant Dean, Graduate Nursing Programs

COLLEGE OF NURSING AWARDS

Jerilyn H. Kamm, PhD
Assistant Dean, Student Affairs

TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY, AND GRADUATE RECESSIONAL



CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Jessica R. Clark, DNP, RN, Dean

MASTER OF SCIENCE

Kody Allen

Emergency Medical Service
Centennial, Colorado

Christopher Von Floto

Emergency Medical Service
Fort Mill, South Carolina

Adam Christopher Hagar

Emergency Medical Service
Eureka, Missouri

Jonathon William Jenkins

Emergency Medical Service
Scottsdale, Pennsylvania

Loren Leslee Jones

Paramedicine
Cynthiana, Kentucky

Peter Ulrich Kowalski

Emergency Medical Service
Port Washington, New York

Kelly Rebecca Renfroe

Emergency Medical Service
Commerce City, Colorado

John-Louis Solms

Paramedicine
Sammamish, Washington

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Danielle Rene Coffelt

Nursing Administration and Leadership
Plattsmouth, Nebraska

Ashley Louise Dotger

Nursing Education
Davis, California

Sarah Patricia Hawthorne

Nursing Education
O'Neill, Nebraska

Brittany Hunsaker

Nursing Administration and Leadership
Rapid City, South Dakota

Armani Elle Hutten

Nursing Education
Stevenson Ranch, California

Leslie Louise Baker Neal

Nursing Administration and Leadership
Houston, Texas

Jeris Quinette Nichols

Nursing Education
Clover, South Carolina

Ginny Marie Rath

Nursing Administration and Leadership
Peoria, Arizona

DOCTOR OF NURSING PRACTICE

Shirley Ahrens

Nurse Practitioner-Neonatal
Chubbuck, Idaho

Megan Francies Anderson

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Dunlap, Iowa

Mikayla Renee Benz

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Halie Grace Breninger

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Shawnee, Kansas

Lynsey Rae Brouillette

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-Family
Danbury, Iowa

Elizabeth Anne Cooper

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Chandler, Arizona

Sally Marie Davenport

Nursing Administration and Leadership
Danville, Kentucky

Samantha Kay Downs

Nurse Practitioner-Neonatal
South Sioux City, Nebraska

Kaitlin Margaret Edminsten *

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Peoria, Arizona

Alexandra Eleanor Eglund

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Boise, Idaho

McKenzie Jean Falcone

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Omaha, Nebraska

Brittany Rose Feltner

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Nevada, Iowa

Lauren Kathryn Fleege

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-Family
Dubuque, Iowa

Natalie Christine Golden

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Luverne, Minnesota

Casie J. Hale

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
West Des Moines, Iowa

Alysa Nicole Harner

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Omaha, Nebraska

Corinna Herickhoff

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Rogers, Minnesota

Taylor Jordyn Huff

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Eagle, Nebraska

Mallory Claire Kane

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-Family
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Kaitlyn Leister Morton

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-Family
Highlands Ranch, Colorado

Christoffel Benjamin Lombard

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Omaha, Nebraska

Molly Deignan Martin

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Minnnetonka, Minnesota

Kirsten Marie Meissen

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Phoenix, Arizona

Jodi Lynn Menninga

Nurse Practitioner
Psychiatric Mental Health
Waukee, Iowa

Barbara Kay Mullaney

Clinical Systems Administrator
Cody, Wyoming

Katelyn Marie Norman

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Phoenix, Arizona

Bethany Martina Norwood

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Denver, Colorado

Sarah Ann O'Connell

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Waterloo, Iowa

Courtney Claire Reeve

Nurse Practitioner-Neonatal
Omaha, Nebraska

Kim Ann Reinitz

Red Wing, Minnesota

Lily Sangtongaroonkul

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Irvine, California

Megan Brianna Schoepke

Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Carrey Ann Schottler

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Chanhausen, Minnesota

Christina Marie Solt

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Red Oak, Iowa

Isabelle Jane St. John

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Amanda Kriz Stanton *

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-
Adult/Gerontology Acute Care
Grand Forks, North Dakota

Lee Ann Williford Stride

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Wichita Falls, Texas

Meredith Renea Sturenfeldt

Nurse Practitioner-
Pediatric Acute/Primary Care
Omaha, Nebraska

Amelie Mireille Tristant

Nurse Practitioner-
Psychiatric Mental Health
Rochester, Minnesota

Jamie Lynn Uram

with honors
Nurse Practitioner-Neonatal
Omaha, Nebraska

Brandon Timothy Vuong

Nurse Practitioner-Neonatal
Eagan, Minnesota

Samantha Ann Wakefield

Nurse Practitioner-Family
Owatonna, Minnesota



Traditions of Creighton



Creighton Seal

The Creighton University seal includes elements representing the Creighton family, Creighton's Jesuit tradition and the Omaha Archdiocese.

The gold stripes on the red field, in the upper left-hand quadrant of the shield, come from the family coat of arms of St. Ignatius of Loyola, the founder of the Society of Jesus (Jesuits). The lion rampant comes from the Creighton family coat of arms, and the three seashells on a field of white and red sable come from the Wareham family coat of arms—paying homage to Creighton University's founding families. The design for the shield's final quadrant, in the lower left, comes from the coat of arms of the Archdiocese of Omaha. The starburst behind the shield comes from the seal of the Society of Jesus.



Ceremonial Mace

In the Middle Ages, the mace was a club used in battle and carried by a bodyguard to defend a person of authority. Over the years, it began to lose its warlike image and became a symbol of peaceful leadership.

At an academic institution, the mace is the symbol of the legal and chartered authority of the leadership to whom the board of trustees has delegated authority. When the ceremonial mace is present, the authority of the University is present. Use of the mace is reserved for occasions of outstanding importance, and it is an honor to bear the mace.

The Creighton University mace was designed and fashioned by Brian K. Besack, operations supervisor of the University's carpenter shop, at the invitation of then president, the Rev. John P. Schlegel, SJ, to commemorate the 125th anniversary of the University.

Using a cherry wood baluster from a long-abandoned staircase in the attic of Creighton Hall, the oldest building on Creighton's campus, Besack designed and fashioned the shaft, head and foot of the mace. Each facet of the nine-sided head displays a bronze, gold-plated medallion bearing the name and founding date of the University's schools and colleges. Its foot is sheathed in gold-plated brass, and cradled in its shaft rests the official seal of the University. At its top, the mace is crowned with a three-dimensional blue and gold medallion symbol of the Society of Jesus.



History of the Hood, Cap and Gown

Though the history of the hood, cap and gown dates back to the 14th century, it was not until the 19th century that colleges and universities attempted to adopt a common code to distinguish the degree, field of study and university or college conferring the degree. The tassel color signifies the field of study. The field of nursing is signified by the apricot color. Both the baccalaureate and master's degree tassels are an apricot color. The gold, metallic colored tassel is reserved solely for doctoral graduates as it represents the highest degree earned.

Gowns, though all black, do have distinguishing characteristics signifying the degree earned. The baccalaureate gown is a simple gown with the distinguishing characteristic being a long, pointed sleeve. The master's gown is also distinguished by a sleeve that is more closed with only an opening in the wrist. The doctoral gown is the most elaborate and is adorned with velvet panels and sleeve bars.

The hood is the most distinguishing characteristic of academic regalia and is reserved only for graduates being awarded a master's or doctoral degree. The hood's colors signify both the field of study and the institution conferring the degree. The apricot color represents the field of nursing while the blue color represents Creighton University. The doctoral hood is more elaborate in that it is longer and the colored trim is wider than that associated with the master's degree hood.





Awards

Constance Smith-Peterson Memorial Award

An award to a graduate student who best exemplifies a commitment to the advancement of nursing theory and practice through scholarship, leadership, psychosocial skills and community service.

DNP Practice Excellence Award

Presented to the DNP student whose efforts substantially contribute to an enduring practice innovation or policy implementation.

Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research Award

The CIPER IPE Award is given annually to a student in each health profession who has demonstrated an exemplary commitment to interprofessional education and demonstrates leadership for future practice in interprofessional environments.

Sigma Theta Tau–Iota Tau Chapter Award

A certificate and a monetary award to a graduate student for exemplary research and scholarship.





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*Creighton alumnus/alumna

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*Dean, School of Pharmacy
and Health Professions*

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Vice Provost, Student Success

*Creighton alumnus/alumna



Endowed Chairs

COLLEGE OF NURSING

Dr. C. C. and Mabel L. Criss and Drs. Gilbert and Clinton Beirne Endowed Chair in Nursing (2007)

Joan R. Lappe, PhD, RN, MS'85, FAAN

Keough Family Endowed Chair in Nursing (2022)

Meghan M. Potthoff, PhD, APRN-NP

HEALTH SCIENCES

O'Brien Endowed Chair in Health Sciences (2016)

Alternates between School of Medicine and College of Nursing every 5 years.

Martha J. Todd, PhD, APRN

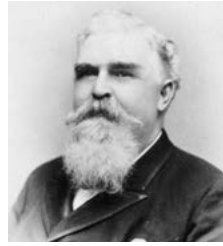




Edward Creighton



Mary Lucretia Creighton



John Creighton



Sarah Emily Creighton

History of Creighton University

Edward and Mary Lucretia Creighton, along with Edward's brother, John, settled in Omaha in the 1850s. John married Mary Lucretia's sister, Sarah Emily Wareham, in 1868, and the four are considered the founders of Creighton University. Edward's work with the transcontinental telegraph and freighting, ranching, railroading and banking became a major force in the city's economic development. The two brothers were widely known for their business enterprises, and the two couples were also widely regarded for their philanthropy.

Edward died in 1874, and his widow included \$100,000 in her will to establish Creighton College in memory of her husband. Mary Lucretia died in 1876, and her executors, who included her brother-in-law John, purchased 6.2 acres of land at the northwest corner of what is currently 24th and California streets. The land and additional securities were transferred to Bishop James O'Connor of Omaha, and construction began on the school.

The bishop asked the Jesuits to operate the school and the first president, Roman A. Shaffel, S.J., arrived in Omaha in late 1877; the school opened on Sept. 2, 1878. One priest, two scholastics, a layman and a laywoman formed the faculty. The school began with 120 students ranging in age from 6 to 30. On Aug. 14, 1879, Bishop O'Connor surrendered his trust to the Jesuits, who incorporated "The Creighton University" under Nebraska law. Much of the initial teaching was below the collegiate level; in 1891, Creighton University awarded its first baccalaureate degree.

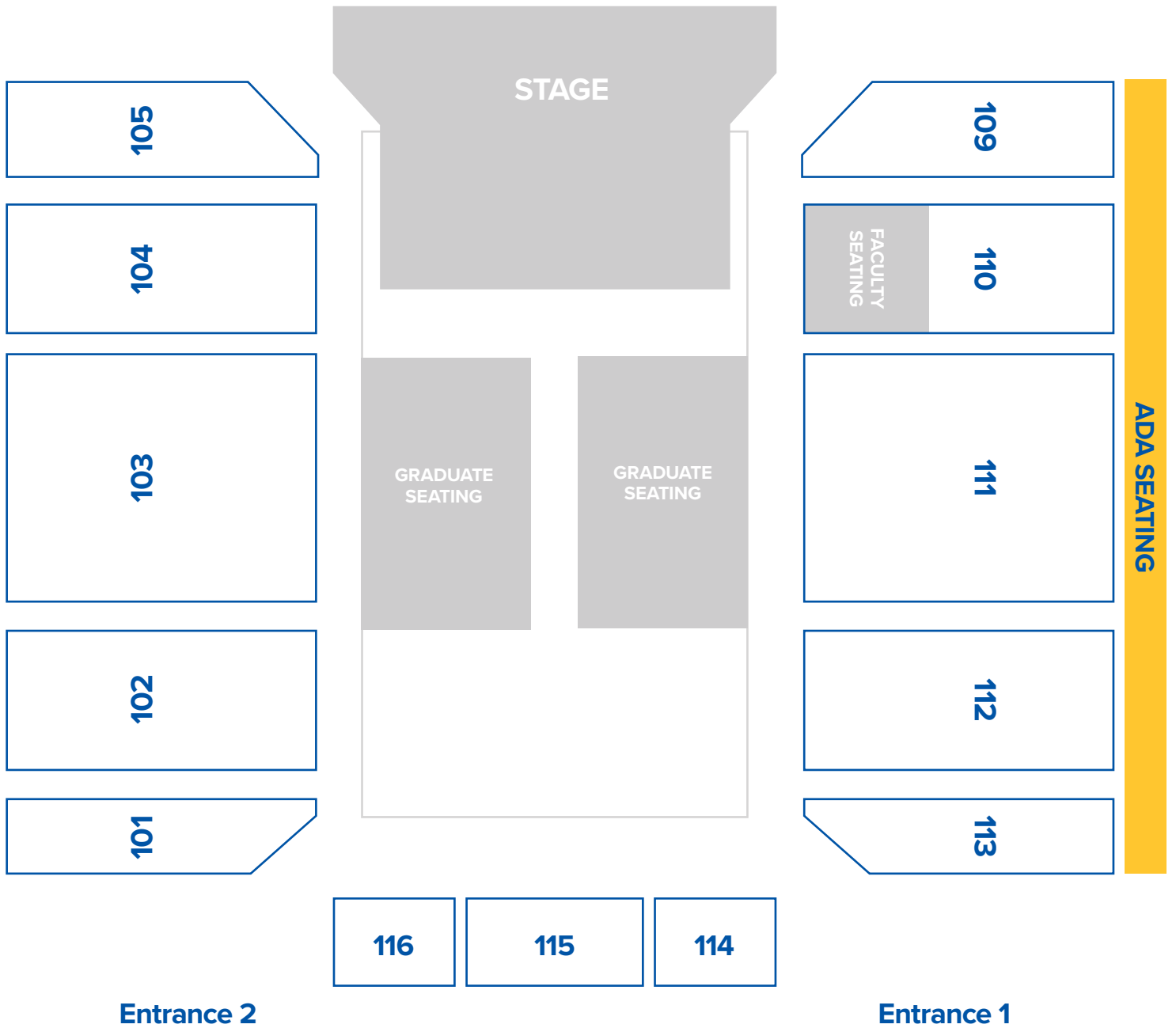


Edward and Mary Lucretia's generosity is credited with establishing Creighton College, while John and Sarah Emily's philanthropy enlarged it to a five-school university. Today, Creighton University consists of nine schools and colleges:

- College of Arts and Sciences (1878)
- School of Medicine (1892)
- School of Law (1904)
- School of Dentistry (1905)
- School of Pharmacy and Health Professions (1905)
- Heider College of Business (1920)
- Graduate School (1926)
- College of Nursing (1971; four-year bachelor's degree program began in 1958)
- College of Professional and Continuing Education (Established as University College in 1983)



D.J. Sokol Arena Map





Lord, teach me to be generous; teach me to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for reward; save that of knowing that I am doing your will.

A Prayer for Generosity

St. Ignatius of Loyola, Founder of the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits)



Connect to the **Creighton Commencement** experience using **#CreightonGrad**

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 @creighton.nursing | @CreightonAlumni

 CreightonNursing | CreightonUniversityAlumni

Graduation Honors

Students may graduate with honors. Criteria for graduation honors can be found in the Creighton University catalogs. Honors for students with previously conferred degrees are listed in this program. Honors for students with May degrees met the honors criteria based on Fall 2023 cumulative grade point averages. Official honors will be awarded on the transcript and diploma based on Spring 2024 cumulative grade point averages. Honors for students who anticipate completing their degree requirements in August or December are not listed in this program. Honors will be awarded on the transcript and diploma at the time of degree conferral.

Degree Conferral

Creighton University confers degrees three times per year: August, December, and May. Annual University commencement ceremonies are held in May for all Colleges and Schools. The hooding ritual is included in the commencement ceremony for master and doctoral level students. An additional graduate level commencement ceremony is held in December. Students who complete their degree programs in August or December may attend the commencement ceremony following completion, or with the approval of the Office of the Dean, in the preceding May. Participation in a commencement ceremony does not guarantee a degree is officially earned. A degree is conferred only after the dean verifies all academic requirements are met and the degree is posted on the student's transcript by the Office of the Registrar.

Ceremony Photos

Ceremony Photos will photograph each graduate receiving his or her diploma. Graduates will be emailed a link to their photo proofs, or they can go to ceremonyphotos.com for more information. Questions may be addressed to service@ceremonyphotos.com or call 402.917.6518.



Welcome to the Creighton University alumni family,

now nearly 80,000 strong. While your time as a student is coming to a close, your time in our global alumni community is just getting started. No matter where life takes you, we will be here to support you with opportunities and benefits to help you stay connected.

Bluejays for life.



alumni.creighton.edu

Alumni & Family Weekend

CREIGHTON DAYS

SEPT. 20–22, 2024

Reconnect with classmates. Reminisce about your college days. And remember that Creighton forever remains your home away from home.

More info: creighton.edu/creightondays

Creighton
UNIVERSITY

College of Nursing