



# FALL COMMENCEMENT

ST. MARY'S UNIVERSITY • SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS

Saturday, December 10, 2022

1:30 p.m.

Alumni Athletics & Convocation Center,  
Bill Greehey Arena

## THE GRADUATES' PROCESSION

Thank you for joining us to recognize and celebrate the hard work, dedication and sacrifice of our students and their families. St. Mary's University is a community that believes in traditions — traditions of excellence, of values, of faith. Today, we celebrate a long-standing tradition in which our graduates pass through St. Louis Hall, the University's oldest building, before processing into Commencement.

These students will, for the first time, walk across the University seal in the building's foyer and out the grand doors at the front of St. Louis Hall. They will process past what are likely some of their favorite places — Assumption Chapel, Barrett Memorial Bell Tower, University Center and Cotrell Learning Commons — giving them a final tour of their alma mater. For the graduates we celebrate today, this is a defining moment.

Please share in your graduates' experience by watching their procession on the screen.

## LET THE CONVERSATION COMMENCE!

Follow @StMarysU and use #StMUgr22 or @StMarysLaw on Instagram and use #StMULawGrad22.



# PROGRAM

## Master of Ceremonies

Jason Pierce, Ph.D.

*Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*

---

### Processional

“Pomp and Circumstance”

Composed by Sir Edward Elgar

Performed by San Antonio Brass

### Bearer of the Mace

Sergio Palacios, Ph.D.

*Associate Professor of Management*

### Marshals

Sheri King, Ph.D.

*Associate Vice President for Diversity,  
Equity and Inclusion*

Patricia Medina

*Director of Academic Success Programs*

Juan Ocampo, Ph.D.

*Associate Professor of Engineering*

Jessica Uhlig, Ed.D.

*Associate Provost for Academic Administration  
and Mission Integration*

### Posting of the Colors

The St. Mary's University Color Guard

### The National Anthem

Daija Vanegas

*Music major*

### Invocation

The Rev. John Thompson, S.M., Ed.D.

*Vice President for Mission*

### President's Remarks

Thomas M. Mengler, J.D.

### Commencement Address

Andrea Garza (M.A./ M.A. '09)

*President and CEO of JDG Associates, Inc.*

### Presentation of the Candidates for Degrees

Nancy LaGreca, Ph.D.

*Dean, College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences*

Rowena Ortiz-Walters, Ph.D.

*Dean, Greehey School of Business*

Ian Martines, Ph.D.

*Interim Dean, School of Science, Engineering  
and Technology*

Patricia E. Roberts, J.D.

*Dean, School of Law*

### Conferring of Degrees

Thomas M. Mengler, J.D.

### Closing Remarks and Benediction

### Alma Mater

Daija Vanegas

### Recessional

“Canzona”

Composed by Samuel Scheidt

Performed by San Antonio Brass

*Note: Names of degree candidates that appear in the Commencement program are of students deemed eligible or approved for graduation as of Oct. 15, 2022. Honor designations presented at Commencement are based on the students' semester credit hours and grade point average as of the semester prior to Commencement, which may differ from honors earned after official verification of final grades.*

---

*College of*

---

# ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

## DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY

**Pisinee Dangwung**

Marriage and Family Therapy

“Latina’s Experiences of Shared Parenting in the Context of Intimate Partner Violence: A Phenomenological Study”

Dissertation adviser: Carolyn Tubbs, Ph.D.

## MASTER OF ARTS

**Shay Elizabeth Adams**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Sadem Khalid Altwily**

English Literature and Language

**Bonita S. Babu**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Destiny Berry**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Susana Lizet Cisneros**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate  
McNair Scholar

**Leah Virginia De la Torre**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Karol Yesenia Diepenhorst**

International Relations  
Distinguished Graduate

**Zainab A. Elkadiri**

International Relations

**Justin R. Garcia**

English Literature and Language

**Amy Jordan Guajardo**

English Literature and Language  
Distinguished Graduate

**Denise Flores Guillen**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Sarah Daniela Hannan**

English Literature and Language  
Distinguished Graduate

**Virginia Gwyn Hartung**

Public History  
Distinguished Graduate

**Christopher L. Hohman**

Public History  
Distinguished Graduate

**Ronald Kirklin**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Phi-Long Le**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Flavio Marroquin**

International Relations

**Cristal Rose Mendez**

Public History  
Distinguished Graduate

**Rene Michael Ornes**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Natasha Maria Pinter**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Helena Sugei Pulido**

Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Christina Mariana Resendez**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling

**Summer Marie Robertson**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Asia Jacqueline Robinson**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Maria Aurora Rodriguez**  
Clinical Mental Health Counseling  
Distinguished Graduate

**Rita Sibaja**  
International Relations

**Audrey Brianna Torres**  
International Relations

## MASTER OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

**Eric Edward Azpeitia**

**Roy Christopher Ellis**

**Scott Nicholas Figueroa**

**Ameriz Gamez**

**Megan Diandra Garcia**

**Jacqueline Crystal Guerrero**

**Elizabeth A. Hish**

**Saul Sanchez**

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

**Miranda A. Aguilar**  
Sociology  
Cum Laude

**Diego Aguilera**  
Political Science

**Nathan Sebrant Alba**  
International and Global Studies

**Yousef Abdulrahman Alghamdi**  
Forensic Science  
Cum Laude

**Maxx Anthony Arizmendi**  
Music

**Juan Eduardo N. Avalos**  
Music

**Christina Shantell Baker**  
Exercise and Sport Science

**Caroline Clarene Barnes**  
Communication Studies  
Cum Laude

**Ana-Sophia Boyd**  
Criminal Justice

**Ariana Nichole Brown**  
Criminology

**Didier Emmanuelle Cadena**  
English

**Jessica Abigail Calvillo**  
Forensic Science

**Trinity Grace Casillas**  
Sociology

**Eliane Castorena**  
International and Global Studies

**Gabrielle Nicole Christman**  
Art Education

**Ingrid Alexa Cuellar**  
Psychology

**Christopher David Dancy**  
Music

**Cassandra Leigh De Leon**  
Forensic Science

**Karla Cassandra Echeverri**  
Forensic Science  
Psychology

**Catherine Mercedes Flores**  
Psychology  
Summa Cum Laude

**Thalia Galindo**  
Forensic Science

**Joshua Antonio Garza**  
Music

**Morgan Rae Gillette**  
Philosophy

**Christina Gorzell**  
Forensic Science

**Sara Guerrero**  
History  
Cum Laude

**Maya Harris**  
Psychology

**Caitlin A. Hernandez**  
English

**Elizabeth Aleyda Hernandez**  
English

**Ezequiel Raul Hernandez**  
Psychology

**Omar Herrera-Miramontes**  
Political Science  
Magna Cum Laude  
McNair Scholar

**Yuhui Huang**  
Economics  
Cum Laude

**Grace Dianne Ibarra**  
History  
Cum Laude  
McNair Scholar

**Nicolas Alexander Juarez**  
Political Science

**Michael R. Lazcano**  
English  
Magna Cum Laude

**Joe Felix Lopez**  
English Communication Arts

**Samuel Ryan Maldonado**  
Criminal Justice

**Briana Martinez**  
Political Science  
Magna Cum Laude

**Gabrielle E. Martinez**  
Political Science  
Cum Laude

**Kathryn Allyson Martinez**  
Forensic Science  
Cum Laude

**Ariel Yazlyne Mata**  
Criminal Justice

**Lionel Mbat**  
Political Science  
Cum Laude

**Jillian Leigh Mccann**  
Forensic Science

**Ernest Matthew Medrano**  
Psychology

**Kayla Angelina Mendez**  
Psychology  
Magna Cum Laude

**Claryse Alexa Mendoza**  
Interdisciplinary Language Arts  
and Reading  
Summa Cum Laude

**Marisol G. Moreno**  
Psychology  
Summa Cum Laude

**Samantha Nicole Olveda**  
Forensic Science

**Edward Vincent Padilla**  
Political Science  
Magna Cum Laude

**Courtney Jean Pena**  
English Communication Arts  
Summa Cum Laude

**Victor Emilio Perry**  
Political Science  
Cum Laude

**Sofia Puente**  
Psychology  
Cum Laude

**Carlos Antonio Rangel Jr.**  
Criminal Justice

**Britney I. Reyes**  
Psychology

**Noah Steven Riehle**  
Communication Studies  
Summa Cum Laude  
Honors Program Scholar

**Nicholas Anthony Robitille**  
Political Science

**Michael Christian Rodarte**  
Criminology

**Denzel Gustavo Rubio Gomez**  
Music  
Cum Laude  
Honors Program Scholar

**Kimberly Nicole Rubio**  
History  
Magna Cum Laude

**Tresor Rusesabagina**  
Communication Studies

**Gabriella Isabel Salinas**  
Communication Studies

**Gianna Daniella Salinas**  
Political Science

**Emmanuel Sanchez**  
Political Science  
Magna Cum Laude

**Brandon Torres**  
Psychology

**Noemi Trejo Callejas**  
Criminal Justice

**Lisa Nicol Varela**  
International and Global Studies

**Priscilla A. Vargas**  
Spanish  
Psychology  
Cum Laude

**Hannah Marie White**  
English

**Justin W. Wymys**  
Exercise and Sport Science

---

*Greehey*  
**SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

**MASTER OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

<b>Mohammed Theeb Alqahtani</b>	<b>Yolanda Gutierrez</b>	<b>Chadwick Joseph Nguyen</b>
<b>Orsirk Gerell Benjamin Jr.</b>	<b>Justin Dayne Havenar</b> Distinguished Graduate	<b>David Thomas Ormiston</b>
<b>Sandra E. Bruce</b>	<b>Javier Alejandro Herrera</b>	<b>Vanessa R. Ortega</b>
<b>Monica Lizeth Chavarria</b>	<b>Martin Estanislao Ibarreche Chavez</b>	<b>Chad Peters</b> Distinguished Graduate
<b>Eliud A. Contreras</b>	<b>Sara K. Juhl</b>	<b>Myranda E. Pina</b>
<b>Katherine Conway</b>	<b>Anitaka Knight</b>	<b>Matthew John Rivera</b>
<b>Sandra R. Cuevas</b>	<b>Leandra Marie Koehler</b> Distinguished Graduate	<b>Raul Roy Rodriguez</b>
<b>Carleigh Paige Donner</b>	<b>Katelyn Michele Machen</b>	<b>Collin San Jose</b>
<b>Vanessa Dos Santos De Matos</b>	<b>Iliana R. Mallett</b>	<b>Christopher Joseph Schlein</b>
<b>Harry T. Falkiewicz</b> Distinguished Graduate	<b>Dimitri George Masters</b>	<b>Adolfo Serrato</b> Distinguished Graduate
<b>Christine Nicole Flores</b>	<b>Connor G. McQuage</b>	<b>Richard Paul Shea</b>
<b>Laura H. Flores</b>	<b>Jose Manuel Moncada</b> Distinguished Graduate	<b>Samantha Victoria Shelton</b>
<b>Lauren Rae Franco</b>	<b>Alejandro Erick Montes De Oca</b>	<b>Laura Velasquez</b>

**BACHELOR OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION**

<b>Crystal Baeza</b> Management	<b>Demi Nicole Bestor</b> Finance and Risk Management	<b>Cassidy Maye Brawley</b> Marketing
<b>Marcelino Barrera</b> Marketing	<b>David A. Bogan</b> Finance and Risk Management Cum Laude	<b>Samantha N. Callahan</b> Marketing

**Angelique Brienne Candia**  
Marketing

**Serena R. De La Garza**  
Marketing

**Caden Ray Floyd**  
Marketing

**Victoria Garcia**  
Accounting  
Magna Cum Laude

**Isabel Marie Gillenwater**  
Management  
Marketing

**Clarissa Gonzalez**  
Accounting and Data Analytics

**Colby Alexander Nicholas Guillory**  
Accounting  
Finance and Risk Management  
Cum Laude

**Ya Pey Hew**  
International Business  
Cum Laude

**Nathan Alexander Kelley**  
Finance and Risk Management

**Reagan Edward Meuret**  
Accounting and Data Analytics

**Abigail Miranda**  
Management

**Montserrat Moreno Ramirez**  
Accounting  
Management

**Emmanuel Moreno**  
Management  
Cum Laude  
Honors Program Scholar

**Montserrat Moreno**  
Management  
Cum Laude

**Benjamin George Pampackal**  
Management

**Valeria C. Perez**  
Finance and Risk Management  
Marketing  
Magna Cum Laude

**Gregory Anthony Plata**  
Finance and Risk Management

**Rebecca Ann Reed**  
Marketing  
Summa Cum Laude

**Natalia Ryng**  
Management  
Cum Laude

**Kierstin N. Sifuentes**  
Accounting  
Magna Cum Laude  
Honors Program Scholar

**Christopher M. Silva**  
Management

**Lisa Nicol Varela**  
International Business

**Noah J. Wesolowski**  
Finance and Risk Management

---

*School of*

---

# SCIENCE, ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY

## MASTER OF SCIENCE

**Arun John Abraham**  
Industrial Engineering

**Yahya Ahmed Al Sayil**  
Industrial Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Eliud A. Contreras**  
Engineering Systems Management

**Ryan James Dixon**  
Engineering Systems Management  
Distinguished Graduate

**Eliseo Dorado**  
Computer Engineering

**Chidera Duanne Anita Eluwa**  
Cyber Security  
Distinguished Graduate



**Justin William Garcia**  
Computer Information Systems

**Derek Thomas Gwin**  
Software Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Stephen A. Kilpatrick**  
Computer Engineering

**Diana Moreno-Gutierrez**  
Computer Science  
Distinguished Graduate

**Pablo Muñoz-Baroja Orallo**  
Industrial Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Sirisha Parimi**  
Computer Science  
Distinguished Graduate

**Barbara Ruth Perez Granick**  
Industrial Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Baptiste Thomas Pousset**  
Electrical Engineering

**Basil Qasem**  
Industrial Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Damian Ramirez**  
Software Engineering  
Distinguished Graduate

**Chandana Reddy Raya**  
Computer Science  
Distinguished Graduate

**Jan Paul Reguero**  
Computer Engineering

**Luis Antonio Rodriguez Puerto**  
Engineering Systems Management

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

**Alvaro J. Benitez Gonzalez**  
Computer Engineering

**Maria Grazia Cossio**  
Engineering Management

**Rachael L. Dargan**  
Biology

**Christian Joel Guerrero**  
Bioinformatics  
McNair Scholar

**Nayeli Lizette Guerrero**  
Biology

**Haley Brooke Hemenway**  
Mathematics  
Cum Laude

**Jaiden Annajeon Lada**  
Forensic Science

**Heather Lynn Mann**  
Forensic Science

**Megan Alexandra Sells**  
Engineering Management  
Magna Cum Laude

**Jessica Marie Shelton**  
Biology

**Matthew Patrick Swaykus**  
Environmental Science

**Joel Eberto Trejo**  
Computer Science  
Magna Cum Laude

**Mirsab Zar**  
Mathematics  
Cum Laude

## BACHELOR OF ARTS

**Rebeca Escobar**  
Mathematics

---

*School of*  
**LAW**

---

**MASTER OF LAWS**

**AMERICAN LEGAL STUDIES**

Malek K. Aldamen

Reyna S. Caldera Manzanares

Eva Pepple

Gladys Ayarzagoitia

Patricia Garcia Summerville

**DOCTOR OF JURISPRUDENCE**

Brandy A. Anderson

Karly Michelle Knox

Elisa Reyes-Hinojosa

Rafael Anguiano Arzola

Sarah Alexis Kusler

Rachel Robertson

Rocille Campbell Brawner

Kevin Vincent Lyssy

Pedro Wilbert Rodriguez

Teran J. Delgado

Kael A. McInnis

Yasamin Sadreddinimehrjordi

Anna Marie Draker

Mariah J. Medina

Erica N. Schell

Zainab A. Elkadiri

Mozelle Elida Moreno

Omar Sherif

Jonathan Roth Ellis

Naylil M. Moreno

Travis J. White

RaiDion K. Fails

Lloyd A. Newton

Matlin K. Whitten

Fernando Flores

William E. Pope

Cody James Kent

Samantha A. Razo

## MASTER OF JURISPRUDENCE

**Shakerra L. Black**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Kimberly R. Davis**  
Concentration in Education Law

**John R. Delatorre**  
Concentration in Criminal Justice

**Lorie M. Floyd**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Robert T. Furlong III**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Alexis Garcia**  
Concentration in Criminal Justice

**James A. Jackson**  
General Law Studies

**Tyler Anthony Juarez**  
Concentration in Criminal Justice

**Amanda Mendez Lee**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Sarah Ostling Leon**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Stephanie Marie Leon**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Bridgett Renee Llanes**  
Concentration in Education Law

**Avis T. McGowan**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Luis E. Rivas II**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

**Erika N. Schwarz Taylor**  
Concentration in Compliance,  
Business Law and Risk

*Note: Names of School of Law degree candidates that appear in the Commencement program are of students deemed eligible or approved for graduation as of Nov. 22, 2022.*

# COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

## **ANDREA M. GARZA (M.A./M.A '09)**

**President and CEO of JDG Associates, Inc.**

---

Andrea M. Garza is president and CEO of JDG Associates, Inc., a small consulting firm providing equal employment opportunity (EEO) and civil rights support to the federal government. Garza joined JDG Associates in 2001 and, in 2010, acquired a small share of the company.

Over the years, JDG Associates has expanded to provide not only EEO support services but also fraud, waste and abuse investigations; diversity training; conference planning; and other human resource support services. In 2015, she was named the senior vice president and purchased the company later that year JDG's founders, John and Donna Gonzalez, retired. Since then, she has refocused JDG's efforts exclusively on EEO support services and JDG is recognized as one of the leading small businesses in this field.

Garza currently serves on the board of the Tuesday Musical Club. She is also a member of the Junior Tuesday Musical Club, which is dedicated to giving young people an appreciation of fine music and encourages the study and performance of music. She has served on the board of her neighborhood association for more than eight years, serving in officer, board and committee positions. She is currently serving as president of her neighborhood association. Garza is a member of the College of Arts, Humanities, and Social Sciences Dean's Advisory Council at St. Mary's University.

Garza graduated from Texas A&M University with a Bachelor of Arts in History. She received two Master of Arts degrees in Political Science and International Relations from St. Mary's.

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Rev. Oscar Vasquez, S.M., *Chancellor*

Lynda Ellis (B.A.S. '81), *Chair*

Brother Thomas Giardino, S.M., *Vice Chair*

John Vaught (J.D. '78), *Vice Chair*

The Rev. Dennis Arechiga

Martin Beirne (J.D. '69)

Ray E. Berend (B.B.A. '67)

William Douglas Bineham (J.D. '90)

Leland T. Blank, Ph.D, P.E. (B.S. '67)

Brother Edward Brink, S.M.

Leticia Contreras (B.A. '89)

Joseph Diaz, M.D. (B.A. '79)

Sara E. Dysart (B.A. '74, J.D. '81)

The Rev. James Fitz, S.M.

Brother Francisco González, S.M., M.D.

George B. Hernández Jr., J.D. (B.A. '74)

David Herrmann (B.B.A. '88, J.D. '90)

Sister Laura Leming, F.M.I., Ph.D. (B.A. '79)

Lauro Lopez Jr. (B.B.A. '76)

Ellen F. Manzullo, M.D. (B.S. '82)

The Hon. Sandee Bryan Marion (J.D. '80)

Michael Martin (B.B.A. '81)

Sandra Nannini (M.A. '07)

Brother Jesse O'Neill, S.M.

Joseph Ojile, M.D. (B.A. '80)

Steven Peña Sr. (J.D. '94)

Brother Bernard Ploeger, S.M., Ph.D.

Katherine Resteiner (M.S. '94)

Michael Schott (B.B.A. '68)

Yava Scott (B.B.A. '77, J.D. '80)

Gaston Sosa de la Torre (B.A. '92)

Mary Brennan Stich (B.A. '78, J.D. '81)

Joe Louis Vela Jr. (B.A.M. '06)

## OFFICERS OF THE UNIVERSITY

Thomas M. Mengler, J.D., *President*

Jason Pierce, Ph.D., *Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic Affairs*

Aaron Hanna, *Vice President for Administration and Finance*

The Rev. John Thompson, S.M., Ed.D., *Vice President for Mission*

Rosalind Alderman, Ph.D., *Vice President for Enrollment Management*

Joel Lauer, *Vice President for University Advancement*

Curtis D. White, *Vice President for Information Services*

## **MISSION**

St. Mary's University,  
as a Catholic Marianist University,  
fosters the formation of people in faith  
and educates leaders for the common good  
through community, integrated liberal arts  
and professional education,  
and academic excellence.

## **ALMA MATER**

The Bells of St. Mary's  
Ah! Hear they are ringing  
They sing out the bright hope  
Of hearts firm and true.

And while they are ringing  
Our young hearts are singing  
The praises of, the glory of  
The Gold and Blue!

ST. MARY'S  
UNIVERSITY



The Catholic and  
Marianist University