

HERZING UNIVERSITY COMMENCEMENT



Friday, September 19th 2025, 11:00AM CT

Trussville Civic Center

Trussville, AL

Commencement Ceremony

~ Processional ~

**Welcome &
Introduction**

Dr. Kandis Steele
Director of Campus Operations

**Student of the Year
Introduction**

Sarah Higgins
Regional Vice President of
Operations, South

**Student of the Year
Award**

Anna Hocutt
Diploma in Practical Nursing,
2025

**Commencement
Speaker**

Dr. Jessica Houston
Professor, Licensed Master
Social Worker (LMSW), Author,
Certified Personal & Executive
Coach

**Conferring of
Diplomas**

Dr. Kandis Steele
Director of Campus Operations

**Hooding of Master
& Doctoral Candidates**

Sarah Higgins
Regional Vice President of
Operations, South

**Distinguished Alumni
Introduction**

Stephanie Hoppe
Alumni Relations Ambassador

**Alumni
Pledge**

Dishon Williams
Associate of Science in Nursing,
2024

**Charge to Graduates &
Closing Remarks**

Renée Herzing
University President

~ Recessional ~

Celebrating 60 Years of Herzing

A Legacy of Learning: Herzing University Turns 60

For six decades, Herzing University has been at the forefront of career-focused education. Founded in 1965 by Henry and Suzanne Herzing, and now led by their daughter, President Renée Herzing, we've grown from a single computer training institute to a respected, multi-campus institution with 11 campuses across eight states offering a wide range of academic programs, as well as our online campus and programming.

As we commemorate our 60th anniversary with over 50,000 graduates, Herzing University remains dedicated to fostering long-term career success in a caring learning environment. We continue to adapt and innovate, ensuring our students are prepared for the challenges and opportunities of tomorrow's workforce. Join us in celebrating 60 years of transforming lives through education, and discover why students choose to be part of the Herzing University family.



Commencement Speaker



Dr. Jessica Houston

Professor | Licensed Master Social Worker (LMSW) | Author | Certified Personal & Executive Coach

Dr. Jessica Houston, Ph.D., LMSW, is an internationally recognized keynote speaker, licensed social worker, and respected educator with more than a decade of experience in higher education, leadership development, and personal transformation.

Named one of Real Leaders magazine's Top 50 Speakers in the World, Dr. Houston has inspired audiences across the U.S. and abroad with impactful keynotes on emotional intelligence, workplace well-being, and self-leadership. Her powerful messages are grounded in her own journey of overcoming poverty, depression, low self-confidence, and intimate partner violence—experiences that now fuel her passion for empowering others to thrive.

As the Founder and CEO of Expecting Victory, a personal development and coaching organization, Dr. Houston delivers transformative workshops, keynotes, and one-on-one coaching that help women heal from trauma, build lasting confidence, and pursue purpose-driven lives.

She is also the author of two empowering books:

- *Women's Secrets: It's Time to Stop Suffering in Silence*
- *Profitable Conversations: How to Position Yourself for Expansion*

Through her work as a speaker, educator, and coach, Dr. Houston equips individuals and organizations with practical tools to overcome adversity, lead with intention, and unlock their highest potential.

To learn more or connect with Dr. Houston, visit drjessicahouston.com.

University President



Renée Herzing
University President
Herzing University

Renée succeeded her father, Henry Herzing, as president of the Herzing University System on March 1st, 2009. After attaining a bachelor's degree from Brown University, she taught abroad in Scotland and Germany for nine years before completing her Masters in Business Administration.

She has worked in various positions at Herzing University at the campus level, including registrar, director of admissions, and president of Herzing University online. In addition, Ms. Herzing has overseen the System's online, strategic planning, and information technology initiatives. She launched the System's Online division in 2003, which has grown from 100 students to over 2500 students.

In education, she is on the Steering Committee of the Higher Education Regional Alliance (HERA), the Board of WAICU (Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities), and a Trustee of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Milwaukee. Renée served on the Board of Directors for the Career Education Colleges and Universities (CECU) and was the Chair of its Grassroots Committee. Additionally, she is active in national educational idea-sharing groups.

In the business community, she is a member of YPO (Young Presidents' Organization), an international organization of over 20,000 CEOs, where she has held a variety of leadership roles since 2011. She is also a member of the Greater Milwaukee Committee (GMC), on the Steering Committee of Milwaukee Women, Inc. and a member of TEMPO Milwaukee.

Outside of work, Renée enjoys playing rock music in a band with her family, traveling, entertaining, learning languages, and spending as much time as possible with her two children, including horseback riding with her daughter.

Distinguished Alumnus



Dishon Williams

Associate of Science in Nursing, 2024

Dishon Williams is a 2024 Associate of Science in Nursing graduate from Herzing University. She currently serves as an RN Case Manager at ProHealth Home Health in Birmingham, AL, where she provides compassionate care to patients facing life-limiting illnesses. In this role, Dishon offers emotional, spiritual, and practical support to patients and their loved ones, ensuring dignity and quality of life.

Beyond her current role, Dishon has proudly served as a member of the Krucial Krew, deploying to New York and Texas during the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her service in these high-demand environments reflects her courage, adaptability, and commitment to delivering lifesaving care in times of crisis.

Her dedication, courage, and compassion exemplify the values of her profession and the spirit of a distinguished alumna.

Student of the Year



Anna Hocutt

Diploma in Practical Nursing, 2025

Anna Claire Hocutt is a proud graduate of Herzing University and this year's Student of the Year honoree. Originally from Mississippi, Anna Claire entered nursing school with a deep passion for helping others—especially those facing mental health challenges. Throughout her program, she demonstrated unwavering dedication to academic excellence while gaining hands-on clinical experience and forming strong bonds with her peers.

With a heart for patient advocacy and a calling to serve in psychiatric nursing, she aspires to deliver holistic, compassionate care that makes a lasting impact. Anna Claire is honored to receive this recognition and is committed to giving back to the community that helped shape her journey.

Roster of Candidates

This Commencement Program is a roster of candidates, not an official list of graduates. Appropriate degrees and honors are only awarded to candidates who successfully complete all requirements for program completion by established deadlines.

Herzing University’s official designator for degree conferral is the student’s permanent academic record and is displayed on the official transcript.



Certificate in Information Technology Technical Support

Peyton Blair



Diploma in Bookkeeping and Payroll Accounting

Myrtle Clay *h*

Diploma in Health and Human Services

Nadiesha Mcadory

Diploma in Insurance Billing and Coding Specialist

Anthony Campbell

Jett Cloud

Maria Cooley

Bahiyyah Cox

LaDeshia Hawkins

Latoya Jarrett

Hortense Martin

Tamara Phillips

Danielle Posey

Kema Ross

Ashely Stewart

Diplomas

Diploma in Medical Assisting

Bergenia Battle
LaTomara Bridges
Andrea Carter
Denyse Figueroa
Patricia Harris
Patricia Jones
Tanya Jose *h*
Fechi Nnakwe *h*

Julie Rakestraw
Markquaisha Rush
Nariah Sanford
Janiya Thomas
Elizabeth Turner *h*
Stephanie Walker
Whitney Young

Diploma in Medical Coding

Cecily Boyland
Katina Broyles
Tiffany Dassau *h*

Marjorie Queen Foster *h*
Melanie Haney
Tiffany Reynolds

Diploma in Medical Office Administration

Valencia Adams
Archanda Alexander
Michaila Anderson

Austrilia Johnson
Zakiya Ridgeway *h*
Tahirah Sanders

Diploma in Practical Nursing

Netashia Abrams
Alicia Arrington
Laruin Averitt
Ariyona Barlow
Ruby Black
Nick Blackmon
Keyaira Browdus
Alencia Brown
Stacy Brown
LaShaundra Carter

Jessica Carter
Kalyn Collins
Curteria Collins
Autumn Cospers
Chivongala Covington
Raneshia Davis
LaTasha Drane
Ashar Draper
Aareuna Dunson
Shaniqua Ellis

Diplomas

Diploma in Practical Nursing (Cont.)

Keira Embry	Rosario Perez Hernandez
Tiffani Franks	Tiffany Perkins
Jayla Gibbs	Christian Pruitt
Sidney Harrell	Chelsea Reese
Zandria Harris	Havlyn Rhine
Kimber Hicks	Laporsha Rhone
Anna Hocutt	Dametria Rutley
Melanie Jenkins	Eliud Saina
Ambria Johnson	Courtney Sales
Tayvion Jones	Tamarrow Scroggins-Shaffer
Gabrielle Jones	Telia Shepard
Raven Jordan	Kyleigh Smith
Susan Kemei	Britannica Smith
Ruth Alice Kimotho	Janeka Smith
Taylor Lacour	Jasmine Smith
Raven Lake	Shandrekia Smith
Jaida Lane	Lejanae Sneed
Catlyn Lattimore	Amber Starks
Johnnie Lee	Destinie Stone
Courtney Love	Keana Sturkie
Aimee Martinez h	Joshua Tate
Alexis Miller	Raymond Vega
Shaveattea Miller	Helen Venable
Kionna Milligan	Mosezetta Walker
Jamya Mills	Jane Wathiru
Loretta Minor	Crystal Welch
CaNetra Moore	Cordell Williams
JaNetria Morgan	Aniya Williams
Alexis Paige	Krystal Williams
Sydria Parker	Ashley Winn

Diploma in Sterile Processing

Jada Avery <i>h</i>	Kiara Love <i>h</i>
Zohreah Berry	Shemeka Love
Katresa Brooks	Darrielle Morgan
Anthjuanese Christopher Raines <i>h</i>	Laketria Nesbitt
Fatou Diallo <i>h</i>	Candace Palmer
Lashawnda Elmore	JaQuanna Pitts
Jalerya Ford	Ametrice Pratt
Dominique Fuller <i>h</i>	Patrice Pritchett
Roslyn Hudson <i>h</i>	Damion Ridge
Melinda Johnson	Madonna Robinson <i>h</i>
Camryn Johnson	Ashley Robinson
Leneshia Johnson	Fredarrius Rutledge
Jermeria Johnson	Tiesha Starks
Tiffani Johnson	Octavia Swain
Zyasia Johnston-McCutchen <i>h</i>	Kiyana Taylor
Raquel Kilgore	Pierra White
Syprea Lamb	Brenda Williams
Shykeria Love <i>h</i>	Crystal Williams

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in Business Management

Keniesha Benson *h*

Max Faulcon *h*

Brion Jones *h*

Ambi Lawler

Jaleesha Mowery

Stacie Perkins *h*

Sabrina Warner *h*

Associate of Science in General Studies - Pre-Nursing

Darian Bienvenue *h*

Janice Bollers-McGregory *h*

Maria de Jesus Calixto Rojas *h*

Patricia Coleman Minor

Denzil Gelly *h*

Shaniya Gillom *h*

Amber Graham *h*

Brooke Laurent *h*

Natasha Llanos

Destiny Mackie *h*

Deshayna Norman *h*

Katelyn Reynolds *h*

Associate of Science in Health and Human Services

Aaliyah Cousette

Breauna Eaton

Lauren Isbell

Shanta Johnson

Chandra Richardson *h*

Associate of Science in Health Information Management

Tameko Bolden *h*

Associate of Science in Healthcare Administration

Tara Allen

Krysten Bishop *h*

Samantha Briscoe *h*

Rachel Denny

Desiree Farrington Bailey *h*

Anastasia Sands *h*

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in Information Technology

RaKiyah Dunlap

Associate of Science in Insurance Billing and Coding Specialist

Paul Brannen *h*

Amber Callen

Anna Casey

Selina Conley *h*

Jayson Harris

Nyesha Locker *h*

Monecka Parker-Gales

Ashley Smith

Adgerlina Sneed

Chantavia Threatt

Terica Watkins

Associate of Science in Legal Studies

Carmen Ramos

Associate of Science in Medical Assisting Services

Taylor Broadwater *h*

Crystal Pannell

Joanna McKinstry Williams

Associate of Science in Medical Coding

Jamiyah Swann

Associate of Science in Medical Office Administration

Jasimen Davis

Alicia Mauras *h*

Tatyana Jewell

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in Nursing

Quaneesha Amos	Luke Hock
Ashley Ayala	Giang Ho-Nguyen
Oluwaseun Badewa	Anna James
Sherrie Barnes <i>h</i>	Jessica Jemison
Stacey Beasley	Tiffany Jenkins
Shellon Bentick	Yvonne Jenkins
Carlorial Boles	Beverly Johnson
Kameron Bradley	Elizabeth Karanja
Madison Brown	Deborah Kulata Otali
Whitney Buckner	Sharika Lee
Chloe Burns	Donita Manns
Latasha Connor	Phallen Marshall
Keondra Craig	Crystal Massengill <i>h</i>
Nicole Cummings	ShanQuita McClellan
Diamond Davis	Erin McWhirter
Floda Davis	Kedricka Moore
Raven Eatmon	Adria Morgan
Jasma Ford-Bass	Jhayla Morton
Janiqua Garrett	Danielle Nagel
Shineatra Gilbert	Serah Ndungu
Kinley Goodwin	Raysheuna Nelson
Taucora Grant-Edwards	Shalonda Patterson
Jada Green	Ashia Peasant
Sequoia Hakiym-Bey	Nathanaele Philippe
Katonia Hampton	Marleigha Pope
Jakia Harris	Amber Powell
Mikindra Hayes	Jasmin Robinson
Dommonique Hayes-Parnell	Ember Rushing
Icys Henderson	Katlyn Sampley
Christopher Hernandez	Milani Shillingford
Britney Higgins	Tyleesia Simmons

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in Nursing (Cont.)

Gesiane Stover

TKeyha Wright

Trenity Wilson

Associate of Science in Software Development

David Carlisle *h*

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Business Management

Brittney Thompson *c*

Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management

Valerie Childress

Kenisha Harris

Bachelor of Science in Health Sciences

Zykerriah Lyles

Anderea Sampleton

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

Kamaria Ambers *s*

Anika Minor

Mary Anderson

Talaya Peterson *c*

Sade Bryant *m*

Mae Reed

Winter Crosby

Kidest Solomon

Renee Fuller

Teaira Sturdivant

Natarsha Hayes *c*

Qiana Washington

Alexandria Johnson *c*

Katrina Wiley-Huff *c*

Bachelor of Science in Human Resources

Telkia Jennings

Quinjarius Stanton

Petra Sanchez Melendez *s*

Teria Taylor *s*

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Professional Studies

Sam Bowdon

Constance Johnson *m*

Joshua Franks

Keonte Wilson

Kenneth Howard *c*

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies

Felicia Nathan-Oliver *m*

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Nana Acquah	Kritzia Landrum
Ogechi Anyanwu <i>s</i>	Maya Lanier
Agnes Baindu Turay	Tager Madden <i>c</i>
Josee Barret	Lashanda Marshall
Evan Brooks	Shelby Menard
DeVon Buchanan <i>c</i>	Lekecho Nyiawung <i>s</i>
Ebony Byers	David Onegbedan <i>c</i>
Celine Chery	Diamond Palmer
Reanna Daley <i>m</i>	Manuella Pierre <i>m</i>
ShaRon Dock	Monica Prescott
Catherine Dubose	Lindsey Pruitt <i>c</i>
Danae Duron	Labertha Robinson <i>c</i>
Tierra Earl	Karen Rodas-Escobar <i>c</i>
Jasmine Ellington <i>m</i>	Kristyn Schneider <i>s</i>
Mildrede Gai	Jasmine Sherman <i>s</i>
Andres Garcia	Raley Shirey
Kayla Harris <i>c</i>	Briana Tedesco
Dorothy Hunter <i>m</i>	Jacqueline Temms
Neha Janmohammad	Leighanne Whitley
Hope Jones	Ciara Williams
Denea Kiser	

Bachelor of Science in Project Management

Justin Parrish

Saleighna Pryor

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Aliyah Anderson s

Bachelor of Science in Software Development

Monet Knox c

Master's Degrees

Master of Business Administration

Sohrab Attarha	Michael Sherly Sanjana Modi
Darneisha Davis	Shikha Moni
Shahizad Dewani	Saniya Raujani
Muskan Barkat Dodiya	Temeka Robinson
Rebecca Foster	Jessica Ruiz Benn
Delronda Glover	Keren Bridgate Sapparapu
Noman Jawaid	Dupinder Singh
Muhammad Jahanzaib Khan	Sachin Prahalad Soni
Ronak Nurdinbhai Kotadia	Susana Sunuwar
Grishma Kusiya	Aaftab Wadsariya
Chourtnee Mack	

Master of Business Administration Dual Concentration

Sabeeh Mohiuddin	Alidys Trenche Morales
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Master of Business Administration in Business Analytics

Mary Johnson

Master of Science in Healthcare Administration

Brandie Christian	Erica Phillips
Janice Johnson-Mortel	Enasha Phillips
Rachel Jones	Jazmyn Sippio

Master's Degrees

Master of Science in Nursing

Brooke Allen	Maureen Okoye
Jessica Boles	Dajo Orubo
Izehinomen Ehimemen	Shannon Parker
Nyoka Hicks	Uche Porbeni
Nkechi Jejenwa	Alisha Shepard
Christopher Jones	Timmecia Smith
Raegan Lavant	Lynette Tatum
Jeri Mannie	Gabrielle Thompson
Mattie McGill	Theresa Weber

Master of Science in Nursing in Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner

Tyler Gary	Toirenette Barnes
Amani Simeon	Jennifer Dilworth

Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner

Brandi Bundrick	Trinita Peterson
LaToya Darby	Leekeisha Stover
Kourtney Davis	Kesia Torrance
Renee Hartsman	Earnestine Wagner
Wendy Jenkins	Briana Wiggins
Quiana Lomax	Meagan Wilson
Trevonna Miller	

Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Education

Julie Henderson	Heather Williams
Martha Leon	

Master's Degrees

Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Leadership and Administration

Troy Johnson

Master of Science in Nursing in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Damous Anderson

Chidera Balogun

Lyndsay Franklin

Franca Isename

Joseph Jenkins

Jennifer Jenkins

Patricia Kimeu

Tolulope Oladele

Teairra Prentice

Dimitria Roberts

Racine Wabwende

Master of Social Work

Dalila Parrish ‡

Post Masters Certificate in Project Management

Roslyn Holmes

**Post Masters Certificate
in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner**

Michelle Anderson

Quetina Howell

Kayla King

Nichelle Osborne

KaTisha Pitts

Crystal Porter

Doctorate Degrees

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Gabrielle Bennett

Kshawnda Frazier

Shirley Torres

Nakisha Williams

Key to Honors

Master & Doctoral Degree

Graduates receive the Masters and Doctoral degree hood as a recognition of academic achievement.

Bachelor Degree Honors

s = Summa Cum Laude (*with greatest honor*)

A cumulative grade point average of 3.90-4.00 is recognized by a gold stole that is part of the graduate's academic regalia.

m = Magna Cum Laude (*with high honor*)

A cumulative grade point average of 3.70-3.89 is recognized by a double gold cord that is part of the graduate's academic regalia.

c = Cum Laude (*with honor*)

A cumulative grade point average of 3.50-3.69 is recognized by a double silver cord that is part of the graduate's academic regalia.

Associate Degree and Diploma Honors

h = Honors A cumulative grade point average of 3.50 to 4.00. is recognized by double white cord that is part of the graduate's academic regalia.

Alpha Beta Kappa National Honor Society (ABK)

† = ABK National Honor Society

Alpha Beta Kappa National Honor Society membership is open to undergraduate students who have a grade point average of 3.75 or higher and are recognized at commencement by wearing red, white and blue honor cords. Additional qualifications for membership include leadership and service in class and school activities, and personal integrity and good moral character. The purpose of the society is to help schools, colleges and universities however organized and named, and their students and alumni through the encouragement and recognition of superior academic work and laboratory training in honorable fields of endeavor.

Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society (PA)

‡ = PA Social Work Honor Society

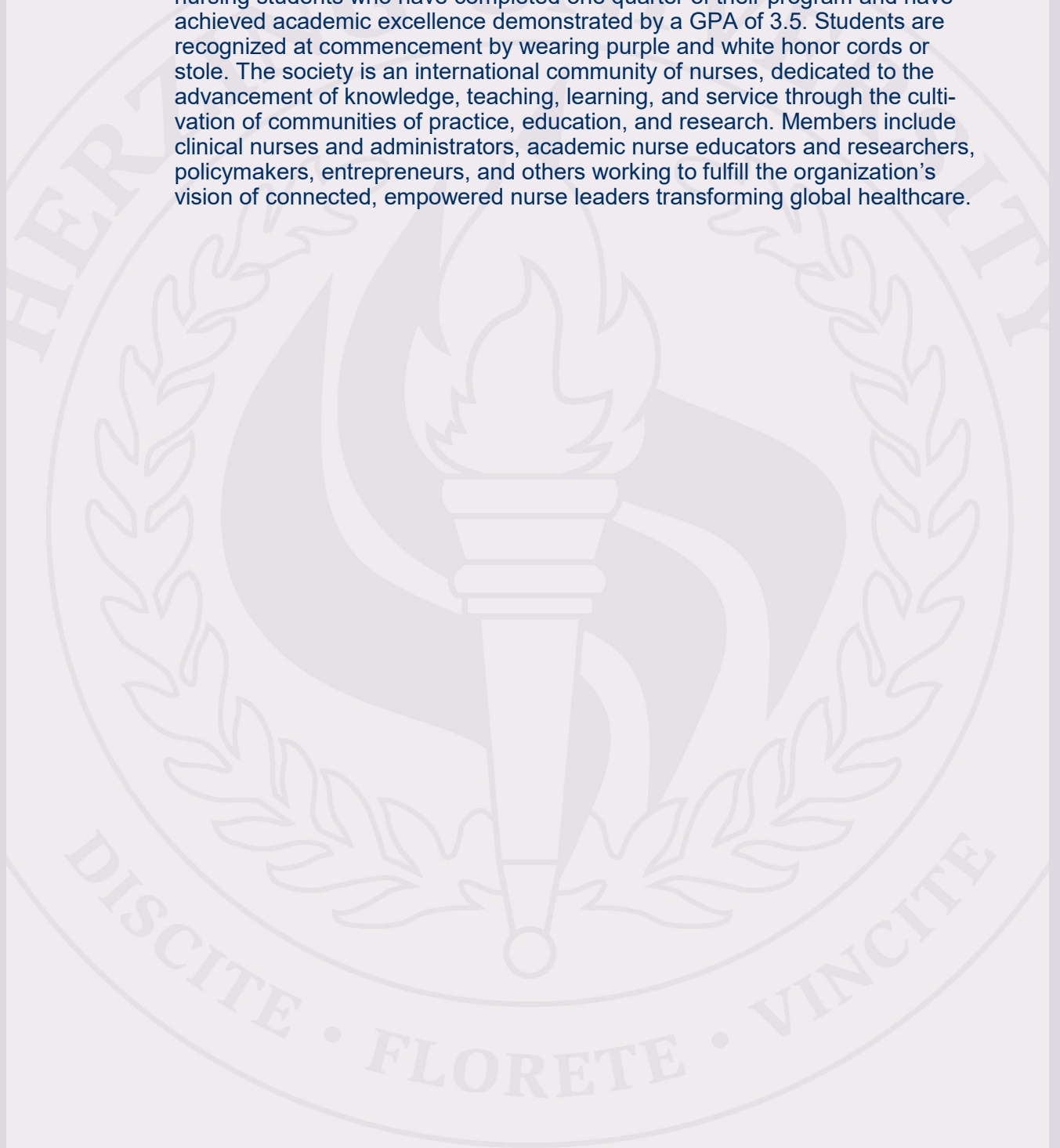
The highest honor one can receive in Social Work at Herzing University is membership in the Delta Kappa Sigma Chapter of Phi Alpha International Honor Society. Members must earn a 3.5 cumulative GPA, have completed at least one-third of the program, and have completed 10 hours of community service. Phi Alpha fosters high standards of education for social workers and invites into membership those who have attained excellence in scholarship and achievement in social work. Students are recognized at commencement by wearing a blue and gold honor cord or stole. The purpose of Phi Alpha Honor Society is to provide a closer bond among students of social work and promote humanitarian goals and ideals.

Key to Honors

Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing (STT)

Σ = STT International Honor Society

Induction into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing is open to undergraduate nursing students who have completed one half of their nursing curriculum, achieved academic excellence demonstrated by a GPA of 3.0 and rank in the upper 35% of their class; membership is open to graduate nursing students who have completed one quarter of their program and have achieved academic excellence demonstrated by a GPA of 3.5. Students are recognized at commencement by wearing purple and white honor cords or stole. The society is an international community of nurses, dedicated to the advancement of knowledge, teaching, learning, and service through the cultivation of communities of practice, education, and research. Members include clinical nurses and administrators, academic nurse educators and researchers, policymakers, entrepreneurs, and others working to fulfill the organization's vision of connected, empowered nurse leaders transforming global healthcare.



Alumni Pledge

I Acknowledge:

As a proud Herzing University alum, I am part of a lifelong community built on mentorship, leadership, and support. Empowered by my education, I will inspire others, foster inclusivity, and create meaningful change.

I Pledge Therefore:

To embody the P.R.I.C.E. of Success—Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Caring, and Engagement—in all aspects of my life, making a positive impact wherever I go.

Graduates, welcome to the Herzing University Alumni Circle! Keep in touch and access your no-cost alumni benefits!



careerconnect.herzing.edu

[i'm] possible



Executive Committee

Renée Herzing, M.B.A.

University President

Nigel Longworth, M.S.

Chief Information Officer

Kitty Kautzer, ED.D.

Chief Academic Officer

Erik Parks, B.S.

Chief Operations Officer

Clay Gillespie, B.S.

Chief Marketing Officer

Simha Sudarshan, M.B.A., J.D.

Chief Financial Officer

The faculty, staff, and administration of Herzing University cordially welcome graduates, their families, and their friends to this festive occasion and extend to each graduate heartfelt congratulations and best wishes on the journey ahead!



Locations

**Herzing University is an Institution of Higher Learning with
Locations in the Following States**

Alabama

Herzing University, Birmingham

Florida

Herzing University, Orlando

Herzing University, Tampa

Georgia

Herzing University, Atlanta

Louisiana

Herzing University, New Orleans

Minnesota

Herzing University, Minneapolis

Ohio

Herzing University, Akron

Tennessee

Herzing University, Nashville

Wisconsin

Herzing University, Brookfield

Herzing University, Kenosha

Herzing University, Madison

Herzing University, Online

Herzing University Central Administration

275 W. Wisconsin Ave. Suite 210

Milwaukee, Wisconsin, 53203

www.herzing.edu

Herzing University is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.
To learn more, please go to www.hlcommission.org



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