HERZING UNIVERSITY
COMMENCEMENT

Thusday, October 1st. 2026 7:30pm

Minneapolis Convention Center

Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commencement Ceremony

----Processional----

Welcome & Introduction	**Dr. Daniel Marcelle** Director, Minneapolis Campus
Student of the Year Award	**Jackie Bauman** Program Chair, Dental Hygiene
Commencement Speaker	**May yer Thao** President and CEO Hmong American Partnership
Conferring of Diplomas	**Eymie Fitzgerald** Program Chair, Nursing
Distinguished Alumni Award	**Heather Gilvary-Hamad** Senior Student Services Advisor MSW, 2024
Alumni Pledge	**Lauren McCue** Nursing Faculty MSN, 2025
Charge to Graduates & Closing Remarks	**Renee Herzing** President, Herzing University

----Recessional----

Commencment Speaker



May yer Thao

Commencement Speaker

May yer (“mine-za”) Thao is President & CEO of Hmong American Partnership (HAP), the largest Hmong-serving nonprofit in the United States, and its national subsidiary, Hmong National Development, Inc. (HND). A nationally recognized leader in economic and community development, May yer has built her career on a simple conviction: communities know what they need—and they deserve the voice, resources, and opportunity to shape their own futures.

Her leadership spans nonprofit, government, and community economic development. Before joining HAP, May yer served as the Governor-appointed Assistant Deputy Director of the Wisconsin Housing and Economic Development Authority (WHEDA), advancing equity, supplier diversity, and CDFI investment. She previously led the Hmong Wisconsin Chamber of Commerce, where she revitalized its CDFI, expanded access to capital and entrepreneurship, and elevated AAPI voices within Wisconsin’s economic development landscape.

At her core, May yer is a bridge-builder and community advocate. She is known for bringing people and sectors together, challenging systems that create barriers, and turning relationships into meaningful action and investment. Her leadership has earned numerous honors, including the Milwaukee Business Journal Woman of Influence in Public Policy, the Governor’s Community and Economic Development Award, and the SBA Wisconsin Minority Business Champion Award.

Whether at a community table, in a boardroom, or on a national stage, May yer leads with purpose, candor, and a deep belief in the power and potential of community. Her work is ultimately about creating pathways for people not simply to overcome barriers, but to build, lead, prosper, and shape what comes next.

Distinguished Alumnus



Lauren McCue

Nursing Faculty Member
Master of Science in Nursing, 2025

Lauren McCue is a board-certified Adult-Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner who earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from the University of New England in 2014 and her Master of Science in Nursing from Herzing University in 2025. She currently works as a registered nurse in the Emergency Department at Regions Hospital in St. Paul, Minnesota, a Level I Trauma Center, where she also serves as a preceptor for nursing staff. Lauren has more than a decade of nursing experience caring for critically ill and medically complex patients, primarily in emergency departments across the country. She holds certifications as a Certified Emergency Nurse (CEN) and Trauma Certified Registered Nurse (TCRN) and is a member of the Emergency Nurses Association and the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

Lauren is also a veteran of the United States Air Force Reserve, where she served for four years as a Critical Care Air Transport Nurse. During her service, she provided critical care to patients during aeromedical evacuation missions and was awarded the Air and Space Achievement Medal.

For the past three years, Lauren has served as an adjunct faculty member at Herzing University's Minneapolis campus, teaching undergraduate nursing students through mass casualty simulation experiences and helping prepare future nurses for high-acuity clinical situations.

Student of the Year

Rachel Ebright

Bachelor of Science in Nursing *m*

Magan Beguhn-Schmidt

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene *s*

Casey Johnson

Diploma in Dental Assisting

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.

Doctorate Degrees

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Patrick Birisi *h*

Post Master's Certificate

Post Masters Certificate in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Janaye Stewart

Zarina Dugawala

Master's Degrees

Master of Business Administration

Destiny DeFrance
Janice Kocis
Kelsey Haas

Nicholas Smith
Ronnie McCrimmon
Victoria Pelletier

Master's Degrees

Master of Business Administration in Business Analytics

Kalsang Dolkar
Lauro Ramirez Carrillo
Sandra Spry

Master of Science in Cybersecurity

Kevin Jack

Master of Science in Healthcare Administration

Julia Andrews
Morgan Lyke
Nina Vang
Susanne Schmidt
Ty Lawlor

Master of Science in Nursing

Cheyenne Carlsen
Ethan O'Connor
Fonya Fomenky
Joselyn Huelskamp
Ken Onwonga
Kerrigan Storie
Paulinus Fultang
Ramla Omar
Sabukasa Walukusa

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

Jennifer Thompson
Lydia McGrath

Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner

Hana Ahmed
Isaac Gifford
Jennifer Upshaw
John Krueger
Lexy Stemig
MaiVang Yang
Mersiha Nadarevic
Oluwabusayo Olowo

Master of Science in Nursing in Family Nurse Practitioner

Ifedayo Aluko
Logan Griffis

Master of Science in Nursing in Nursing Leadership and Administration

Laura Musolf
Youlina Thao

Master's Degrees

Master of Science in Nursing in Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

April Johnson
Bethany Halloran
Gabrielle Arsenault
Jennifer Kwe
Megan Vang
Olivia Deane

Master of Science in Nursing in Public Health Nursing

Alexandra Nnoruo

Master of Science in Nursing in Women's Health Nurse Practitioner

Miriam Udofot

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Business Management

Abukhayr Elmi
Iyonna Baggett
Janell Johnson
Pe Yang *s*

Bachelor of Science in Computer Programming

Meredith Thompson

Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice

Ka Lor

Bachelor of Science in Legal Studies

Kristina Timbrook

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene

Caysey Frattalone *s*
Chloe Krier *s*
Davina Persaud
Destynee Willert *c*
Emily Johnson *m*
Erin Carlston
Fatuma Abdulkadir *s*
Fuchi Vang *c*
Gianna Gabrielli *c*
Grace Greenbush *m*
Hailey Thielbar
Hannah Rowe *c*
Harvey Cheng
Jan Naparano
Kaitlyn White Rosencrans
Katie Olson *c*
Kayla Staples *s*

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Dental Hygiene (Cont.)

Kelvin Gorwor
Kendra Burr *m*
Kristi Wilber m
Leia Black *c*
Lindsay Alguire
Magen Beguhn-Schmidt *s*
Mai Vang
Mercedes Sauerwein
Michaelynn Sudue
Morgan Pint
Qali Osman
Rahael Abraham *c*
Randall Peralta Jimenez *c*
Samantha Hinderman
Samira Mohamed *m*
Savannah Jensen *s*
Sophie Barbato *s*
Stephanie Hemken *m*
Stephanie Weber *c*
Sumaia Mohamed
Suzy Running *m*
Tana Bloodworth
Tori Albrecht *m*
Veronica Lott *m*
Warda Zghair *c*
Caysey Frattalone *s*
Chloe Krier *s*
Davina Persaud
Destynee Willert *c*
Emily Johnson *m*
Erin Carlston
Fatuma Abdulkadir *s*
Fuchi Vang *c*
Gianna Gabrielli *c*
Grace Greenbush *m*
Hailey Thielbar
Hannah Rowe *c*
Harvey Cheng
Jan Naparano
Kaitlyn White Rosencrans
Katie Olson *c*
Kayla Staples *s*
Kelvin Gorwor
Kendra Burr *m*
Kristi Wilber *m*
Leia Black *c*
Lindsay Alguire
Magen Beguhn-Schmidt *s*
Mai Vang
Mercedes Sauerwein
Michaelynn Sudue
Morgan Pint
Qali Osman
Rahael Abraham *c*
Randall Peralta Jimenez *c*
Samantha Hinderman
Samira Mohamed *m*
Savannah Jensen *s*
Sophie Barbato *s*
Stephanie Hemken *m*
Stephanie Weber *c*
Sumaia Mohamed
Suzy Running *m*
Tana Bloodworth
Tori Albrecht *m*
Veronica Lott *m*
Warda Zghair *c*

Bachelor of Science in Entrepreneurship

Austin Marx *m*

Bachelor of Science in Health Information Management

Luckey Abshir

Bachelor of Science in Computer Programming

Meredith Thompson

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Administration

Amal Hussein *m*
Bradley Delacruz
Haley Thompson
Isatou Kanyi
Sakaria Barsug

Bachelor of Science in Human Resources

Alina Lee *c*
Nina Jones

Bachelor of Science in Interdisciplinary Professional Studies

Dwayne Holloway II
Marissa Graunke *s*

Bachelor of Science in Marketing

Gao Hlee Lor
Matthew Bergman

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Aaliyah Johnson
Abah Gnoan m
Abdalla Osman
Abraline Benson-Remi *c*
Adrianna Roling *c*
Ahmed Hussein *c*
Alex Nyambangi *m*
Allyson Davis *s*
Amber Hassan
Andie Kassenborg *m*
Angela Emeagi *m*
Angela Farma
Anisa Ahmed *c*
Antaeus Berryhill *m*
Aritha Johnson *m*
Asha Omar *m*
Ashaki Johnson
Autumn Somora
Badran Adan *c*
Bereket Woldemariam
Bethanie Midthun
Bilise Bariso
Blandine Besong *s*
Bryan Moua *c*
Burnley Tambi
Caitlin Spanovich
Carrie Mulkern
Cassandra Rost *c*
Celes Erickson
Celia Simonson
Chanell Felder
Chase LaTour *c*
Christa Maria Lambiv
Christopher Bartlett *c*
Chrysland Ngadjui
Cindy Ravn *c*
Claudia Major
Coraima Zerna *s*
cynthia vang *c*
David Stolhanske
Deka Hussein *m*
Devarshi Brahmbhatt *c*
Diana Jaimes
Ellyse Ferlauto

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Cont.)

Emily Bauer *c*
Emma Gee *m*
Enid Jah *m*
Ethan Kieper *c*
Evans Makori
Famatta Ware *m*
Fanny Ataambe
Fardosa Jama *m*
Fatima Ali
Francisca Manu *c*
Gabriella Nowrang
Gaea Bove
Georgia Cardinal
Grace Steffenhagen *m*
Gregory Nisja *c*
Haifa Sabra
Hannah Foss *c*
Heather Sager *c*
Hibaaq Mohamud *m*
Hiletework Mhiretu *m*
Hiwot Zemikael
Hlee Yang *c*
Hodan Ahmed
Ifrah Muse *c*
Ikram Salah
Isha Sheriff *m*
Ismid Mohamed *c*
Jacquelin Bobb
Jada Dillard *c*
Jasmine Her
Jay Vang *c*
Jeanie Yang
Jennifer Smith *c*
Josh Cid *s*
Joshua Holstein
Julie Anderson *m*
Juma Dennis-Edinger
Kamisha Collier
Kayla Hinze
Kaylee Joos
Kaytlyn Martin
Kendal McCaustlin *m*
Konah Mulbah *m*
Korto Livingstone *c*
Leah Bartyzal *c*
Letitia Hodge
Lexa Bleeker
Lisa Nyenie-Wea *m*
Lois Mokaya *m*
Loveline Ndelle *c*
Lucas Frankamp
Lydia Mokwe
Mackenzie Gordon *c*
Madeline Schulte
mahlet tsegaw *m*
Maimuna Janneh
Mamie Krah
Mamu Barry *c*
Mardyupleh Gbah *m*
Margaret Mwangi *m*
Mariejos Vogtembing
Melissa Helmbrecht
Michael Anderson *m*
Michelle Baruth *c*
Mihaly Toth
Molly Rosnau *m*
Monalisa Wilson
Musulyn Thomas *m*
Najma Abdi *c*
Nasra Aden *c*
Natalie Hudoba
Natey Mekonnen
Ngawang Chonzee *m*
Nguafac Nkem
Niayjah Roberts
Nimo Dirir *m*
Olubukola Atilola *c*
Oluwatimileyin Green *c*
Patricia Aigand
Peter Mofor
Rachel Ebright *m*
Sahra Ahmed
Salem Zekarias
Salma Abdi
Sarah Gutknecht
Sarah Hornig *m*
Selma Hussien *m*
Semira Ebiso
Shadia Elmi *c*
Suhaylah Marty
Tori Simeroth
Tyreese Daley
Tyrena Karschnik
Ursula Balderas
Vinnie Babu
Wanaag Nooh

Bachelor's Degrees

Bachelor of Science in Nursing (Cont.)

Warda Elmi *c*
Xanthe Bautista *c*
Xinxay Thao *m*
Yussuf Ibrahim *m*
Zubeyda Hade

Bachelor of Science in Psychology

Agnes Etete

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in Medical Office Administration

Airyana Golden

Associate of Science in Dental Assisting

Alyssa Slaughter
Amanda Inman
Annis Brenna Wlaschin
Camryn Nagel *h*
Cho Cho Oo
Christiana Mua *h*
Elisey Vang
Eliza Locke *h*
Emily Galvan Arias *h*
Emma McClellan *h*
Erika Quiroz
Fatuma Ainab *h*
Filsan Abdallah
Hailey Huesman
Hanna Wedeking
Hannah Frazer *h*
Hope Vue
Htoo Ray
Jami Larson *h*
Jordan Loper
Katie Wallisch *h*
Katrina Culler *h*
Kendra Setzer *h*
Kennedy Meyer
Khun Prinee Sok *h*
Kiara Newton *h*
Lauren Bushway *h*
Leslie Garibay-tejeda *h*
Makaila Waddell *h*
Maria Voegel *h*
Mariam Kromah
Michelle Thao
Morgan Marks *h*
Ne-Pliseh Zimay *h*
Nicole Dubois *h*
Noelle Petersen
Phoebe Chaw
Samantha Cortes *h*
Sara Demere *h*
Stacy Alvillar Alvarez *h*
Sumaya Mahamud *h*
Taohua Xiang
Taylor Kapp *h*
Tessa Ericksen
Tiffani Gray
Trinh Tran *h*
Uyen-Thien Mac *h*
Yealinatou Kamara
Youa Vang

Associate Degrees

Associate of Science in General Studies

Ava Zwack-Lafaurie *h*

Associate of Science in General Studies - Pre-Nursing

John Merdelus
Leonardo Ixcaya Ujpan *h*
Makayla Sudue
Molly Chang *h*
Naomi Blay
Nathalie Kabengele *h*
Rebecca Wanyenya *h*
Robyn Murray
Ross Cruickshank
Sarah Sende
Sehwon Tokpah
Shalanda Mathis
Shantal Maureen Alovera *h*
Sharina Alovera
Sophia Clemens
Taylor Sturgell
Teirra Collins
Tenzin Tsega
Teslim Yakoub
Tiffany Bennewitz

Associate of Science in Health and Human Services

Chakiira Poole
Donette James

Associate of Science in Health Information Management

Opeyemi Babalola *h*
Worwelee Weah

Associate of Science in Healthcare Administration

Laura Aanerud *h*
Maryan Hassan

Associate of Science in Insurance Billing and Coding Specialist

Audryanna Metteer *h*
Erica Mcclellan *h*
Jennifer Yang *h*

Associate of Science in Legal Studies

Martha Pinos

Associate of Science in Medical Assisting Services

Donniesha Bramble *h*
Kristin Houseton *h*
Whitney Gish

Associate of Science in Medical Coding

Brenda Lee
Carolyn Ngo *h*

Diplomas

Diploma in Dental Assisting

Ashley Salisbury *h*
Ava Vander Lee
Casey Johnson
Chantal Elgin
Cindy Firman
Czandra Boykin
Hanna Carlson *h*
Hannah Moss
Heather Blaha *h*
Jada Wickham *h*
Jaylin Knettel *h*
Jenna Schaible
Josaphine Jones
Kalvin Regalado
Kenya Reyes Duval *h*
Khloee Nelson
Lora Engh
Madelynn Carlson *h*
Miranda Malave
Nebiat Sebhatu
Olivia Evangelista *h*
Philinda Moore
Renajia Ross
Richel Yawson
Sandy Thao
Sarah Shoemaker *h*
Sarianna McNinch *h*
Socorro Vital Ortiz
Sophie O'Donnell-Hoff
Taylor Bornholdt
Tegan Tschida
Tessla Dopp
Tia Haugaard *h*
Tiffany Rivera
Ubah Jaylani

Diploma in Health and Human Services

Cassandra Garcia *h*
DeShanna Dotson
Doaa Abdallah *h*
Kelly Welch *h*

Diploma in Insurance Billing and Coding Specialist

Allison Scott
Amanda Ward *h*
Anyah Brown
Bahja Abdullahi
Cassandra Lardie
Deja Jones
Jessica Ritsche *h*

Diploma in Medical Coding

Jehiel Kiatamba
Kandi Crosby

Diploma in Medical Office Administration

Brianna Carey
Feleica Parker

Diplomas

Diploma in Medical Assisting

Andrea Suah
Asja Petrie-White
Christine Rewey
Ciara Kennedy
Danielle Christensen
Genevieve Nkouonga *h*
Latasha Harris *h*
Leah Medved
Marshenae Jackson
Mawata Bility
Nafisa Obsiye
Olivia Tjosvold
Rachidatou Gibril
Shelsea Arias De Rivas
Sheng Thao
Shonvaye Maxey
Taleaya Bass-Jordan *h*
Tamara Bass *h*

Diploma in Sterile Processing

Allishea Swearegene
Ambrianna Lovelace
Amya Lankford-Johnson
Analysia Davis
Clara Koloc
Gao Yang *h*
Hani Ali *h*
Hannah Yang *h*
Keilani Kesi Cortez *h*
Kendra Rasmuson *h*
Krysta Modtland
Lorretta Burton
Malia Love *h*
Manee Moua *h*
Naiesha Tillman *h*
Rockea Johnson
Tatiania Goodman *h*
Yvonne Castro *h*

Certificate

Certificate in Information Technology

Kimberlyn Mustapha

Key to Honors

Master Degree

Graduates receive the Masters 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 inductees have a grade point average of 3.75 or higher and are recognized 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 how-so-ever 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.

Alumni Pledge

I Acknowledge:

That I continue to be an essential part of Herzing University and shall represent the University proudly by mentoring and guiding others. That I am fortunate and empowered by my education to positively invest in supporting the well-being of the people around me helping to build a strong and inclusive community.

I Pledge Therefore:

That I will remember to demonstrate the P.R.I.C.E. of Success values that I have learned of Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Caring and Engagement in all that I do – in the workplace, at home and in my network.

Graduates, welcome to the Herzing University alumni circle! Please go to:

alumni.herzing.edu

and register to connect with classmates as well as enjoy the numerous complimentary benefits of the Association.

[i'm] possible

HERZING
— CIRCLE —

Executive Committee

Renée Herzing, M.B.A.
University President

Nigel Longworth, M.S.
Chief Operations Officer and Chief Information Officer

Kitty Kautzer, ED.D.
Chief Academic Officer

Erik Parks, B.S.
Chief Operations Officer and Chief Financial 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, Clarksville
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

HERZING®

UNIVERSITY

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