

School of Dentistry

2025

Hooding and
Commencement
Ceremony

MAY 15, 2025





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LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD

President, Creighton University



Dear Creighton University Graduate,

Congratulations on reaching this remarkable milestone. Through hard work, perseverance and resilience, you have not just reached the end of your studies but the beginning of a new chapter in your life.

Commencement is an incredibly special time, and it is yours to cherish in the company of your family, friends and supporters. As a member of the Class of 2025, you carry with you the hopes and dreams of those who have supported you as well as the legacy of those who have come before you. I am proud to count myself among the many individuals who have watched you embrace the challenges of higher education and become all the stronger and more compassionate because of it.

There is so much to look forward to as you continue your journey. But today, I encourage you to reflect on all that has brought you to this moment. Your academic rigor, service to the community and commitment to a better world—these are rare and extraordinary achievements. You now stand among a select few who have dared to pursue excellence with courage and heart.

During your time at Creighton, you embraced the unknown and stepped out of your comfort zone. You met new people, explored new places, and, most importantly, pursued truth in all its forms. I implore you to keep that passion for discovery alive and hold with you the lessons of your Jesuit, Catholic education as you become a leader the future needs.

As you join the Creighton alumni family of more than 80,000, remember that the world will not simply come to you. It is your responsibility to lead with clarity of purpose and fullness of soul. Keep seeking truth, embracing discomfort and creating change not just as a graduate—but as a Creighton graduate.

May God bless you and your family as you celebrate today. You have earned this moment—and now, the world awaits your light. Go forward with courage and conviction, knowing you will be a Bluejay, always.

Sincerely,

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD



Order of Exercises

PROCESSION

MACE BEARER

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

BANNER CARRIER

Cara L. Fisher, PhD, MS
*Associate Professor,
Department of Oral Biology*

GRAND MARSHAL'S OPENING REMARKS

Jennifer A. Hasslen, DDS
*Associate Professor and Interim Chair,
Department of General Dentistry*

PROVOST'S WELCOME

Mardell A. Wilson, EdD, RDN
Provost

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Robert P. Crannage III
Class of 2025
Justin T. Ludwig
Class of 2025

INVOCATION

Rev. Nicholas J. C. Santos, SJ, PhD
Associate Professor, Heider College of Business

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

DEAN'S MESSAGE

Jillian A. Wallen, BDS, MS
Dean, School of Dentistry

BOARD AUTHORIZATION

Presented by
Board of Trustees Member

DEGREE CONFERRAL STATEMENT

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Jillian A. Wallen, BDS, MS
Dean, School of Dentistry

Names read by

Jennifer A. Hasslen, DDS
*Associate Professor and Interim Chair,
Department of General Dentistry*

Hooding of candidates by

Mark D. Essner, BS, DDS, FACD
*Assistant Professor and Chair,
Department of Endodontics*

Terry F. Lanphier, BS, DDS, MBA
*Interim Dean for Clinical Operations
Associate Professor,
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery*

OATH OF HIPPOCRATES

James A. Kelly, BS, DDS, MS, MBA, MPH
*Chair and Professor,
Department of Prosthodontics*

CLOSING REMARKS

Therese C. Reardon
President, Class of 2025

TURNING OF THE TASSEL

Rev. Daniel S. Hendrickson, SJ, PhD
President

STAGE PARTY, FACULTY, AND GRADUATE RECESSIONAL



CANDIDATES FOR EARNED DEGREES

Jillian A. Wallen, BDS, MS, Dean

DOCTOR OF DENTAL SURGERY

Duha Abou Khadija
Palm Bay, Florida
Private Practice,
Houston, Texas

Mitchell Theodore Akrie
Centennial, Colorado
Private Practice,
Fort Collins, Colorado

Marina Nicole Aldous
Anchorage, Alaska
Private Practice,
Anchorage, Alaska

Connor Layne Asay
Jefferson Township, New Jersey
Cherokee Nation
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Rachel Sloane Aybar
Southlake, Texas
Private Practice,
Aurora, Colorado

Egan Hewitt Baber
Charlotte, North Carolina
Private Practice,
Tampa, Florida

Casandra Alicia Barba
Deming, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Deming, New Mexico

Adam Joseph Barrack
Prairieville, Louisiana
General Practice Residency
University of Nebraska Medical
Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Nicolette Michele Barranger
Sicklerville, New Jersey
General Practice Residency
University of Nebraska Medical
Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Matthew Stephen Barry
Arvada, Colorado
Private Practice,
Arvada, Colorado

Cole Carsten Becker
Captain, U.S. Army
Glendale, Arizona
Fort Jackson
Columbia, South Carolina

Allison Colleen Begley
Omaha, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

Megan Rose Bengier
Omaha, Nebraska
General Practice Residency
University of Nebraska Medical
Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Andrew Robert Berthold
Arvada, Colorado
Private Practice,
Arvada, Colorado

Luke John Bertrand
Bossier City, Louisiana
Pediatric Dental Residency
at NYU-Langone,
Providence, Rhode Island

Evan Harper Brewer
Laramie, Wyoming
Private Practice,
Sheridan, Wyoming

Aidan Patrick Brophy
Salem, Oregon

Ethan William Brown
Bathgate, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Winston-Salem, North Carolina

Tyler Patrick Buterbaugh
Lancaster, Pennsylvania
Periodontic Residency Program
University of Kentucky,
Lexington, Kentucky

Ryan Thomas Cassidy
Bloomington, Illinois
Private Practice,
Las Vegas, Nevada

Karson Michael Casteel
Layton, Utah
Private Practice,
Las Vegas, Nevada

Elyce Susan Cederholm
Vancouver, Washington
Private Practice,
Scottsdale, Arizona

Carlton Tara Chow
Honolulu, Hawaii
Public Health,
Central Valley, California

Samuel Thomas Cox
Sikeston, Missouri
Private Practice,
Sikeston, Missouri

Robert Peter Crannage III
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Owen Rhys Dailey
Captain, U.S. Army
Houston, Texas

Kristi Ann DeBruzzi
Park Ridge, Illinois
Advanced Education in General
Dentistry, Columbia University
College of Dental Medicine,
New York, New York

Tina Le Dinh
Honolulu, Hawaii
Private Practice,
Seattle, Washington

Steven Malone Duran
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Erin Eileen Emmert
Grand Blanc, Michigan
Private Practice,
Grand Rapids, Michigan

Evan John Erickson
Matthews, North Carolina
Private Practice,
Florence, South Carolina

Jacob Francis Favino
West Chester, Pennsylvania
Private Practice,
West Chester, Pennsylvania

Kenol Junior Felix
Petaluma, California
Public Health,
Tallahassee, Florida

Joseph Domenic Ferrante
Melville, New York
General Practice Residency
NYU Langone
Mineola, New York

Shannon Janice Foley
De Smet, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Wahpeton, North Dakota

Decker Thomas Gates
Salina, Kansas
Private Practice,
Kansas City, Missouri

Jaime Enrique Gazabon
Tampa, Florida
Private Practice,
Tampa, Florida

Patrick Thomas Geha
Overland Park, Kansas
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Residency, Parkland Health
General Hospital, Dallas, Texas

Erin Patricia Goaley
Omaha, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Bristol, Vermont

Kynan Mikala Goldsby
Chehalis, Washington
Orthodontic Residency Program,
University of Louisville,
Louisville, Kentucky

Garret Scott Gonzales
Twin Falls, Idaho
Orthodontic Residency
Program, St. Louis University,
St. Louis, Missouri

Nicole Esparza Gonzales
Gallup, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Brody Racota Grantham
Hayti, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Watertown, South Dakota

Oliver Winslow Graumann
Portland, Oregon
Private Practice,
Portland, Oregon

Ramon Alejandro Gutierrez Vazquez
Bellevue, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

Timothy Steven Harrison
Pocatello, Idaho
Private Practice,
Layton, Utah

Jacob James Heit
Topeka, Kansas
Public Health,
Manhattan, Kansas

Avery Michael Hill
Saline, Michigan
Private Practice,
Lenexa, Kansas

Shayla Hoskins
McCammon, Idaho
Private Practice,
Sequim, Washington

Abdulrahman Hotiri
Kuwait City, Kuwait
Advanced Education in General
Dentistry, University of Nebraska
Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

Emily Ann Johnson
Fort Dodge, Iowa
Private Practice,
Minot, North Dakota

Savannah Grace Johnson
Las Cruces, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Las Cruces, New Mexico

Brent Louis Jones
La Barge, Wyoming
Pediatric Dental Residency
Program, University of Nebraska
Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska

**Farheen Khatoon**

Skokie, Illinois
Private Practice,
Chicago, Illinois

Landon Kleingartner

Mandan, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Schaumburg, Illinois

Garrett Joseph Kovar

Grand Forks, North Dakota
Private Practice,
St. Cloud, Minnesota

Peyton Polly Kuchenbecker

Philip, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Stacy Hey Lam

Fremont, California
Private Practice,
Central Valley, California

Caytlen Lamaj

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Private Practice,
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Scout C. Lee

Chanute, Kansas
Oral Surgery Fellowship, University
of Nebraska Medical Center,
Lincoln, Nebraska

Natalie Kay Little

Eagle, Idaho
Private Practice,
Eagle, Idaho

Ethan Perry Livermont

Menan, Idaho
Private Practice,
Sequim, Washington

Meredith Brooke Lloyd

Cedar Rapids, Iowa
Private Practice,
Chatanooga, Tennessee

Megan Kay Louder

Coalville, Utah
Private Practice,
North Platte, Nebraska

Cheng Lu

Omaha, Nebraska
Periodontic Residency Program,
University of Minnesota,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Justin Thomas Ludwig

Lieutenant, U.S. Navy
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Advanced Education in General
Dentistry, Navy Dental Corps,
Norfolk, Virginia

Stephen August Mancuso

Columbus, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Columbus, Nebraska

Brynn Marie Maul

Wichita, Kansas
Private Practice,
Hutchinson, Kansas

Riley Daniel McKay

Kirkland, Washington
Periodontic Residency Program
University of California
Los Angeles, California

Pierce Hamilton Mederios

Mountain Home, Idaho
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery
Residency Program, Carle
Foundation Hospital,
Urbana, Illinois

Haley Marie Molstad

Rapid City, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Rapid City, South Dakota

David Moon

Houston, Texas
Private Practice,
Urbana, Illinois

Brandon James Nelson

Elkhorn, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

John Michael Neubauer

Delavan, Wisconsin
Private Practice,
Delavan, Wisconsin

Christina Hong Nguyen

Alpharetta, Georgia
Private Practice,
Greenville, South Carolina

Julie Vo Nguyen

Albuquerque, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Michael Huu Nguyen

Rio Rancho, New Mexico
Private Practice,
Huntley, Illinois

Luke Andrew Nikodem

St. Louis, Missouri
Private Practice,
St. Louis, Missouri

Cody James Olsen

Captain, U.S. Army
Omaha, Nebraska
Army Dental Corps

Maria Corina Pablo

West Fargo, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Fargo, North Dakota

William Kayden Phillips

North Platte, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Kearney, Nebraska

Lucas Richard Postlewaite

Rice Lake, Wisconsin
Anesthesiology Residency
Jacobi Medical Center
New York, New York

Zachary John Quinonez

Beaverton, Oregon
Private Practice,
Denver, Colorado

Maryael Jane Cuevas Ramos

Elk Grove, California
Private Practice,
Colorado Springs, Colorado

Therese Colleen Reardon

Elmhurst, Illinois
Pediatric Postgraduate Residency,
Children's Hospital,
Milwaukee, Wisconsin

Emma Claire Reno

Mission Hills, Kansas
Private Practice,
Olathe, Kansas

Viviana Alessandra Repenning

Boulder, Colorado
Private Practice,
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Pedro Stephen Rivera

Hutchinson, Kansas
United States Navy

Nicholas Daniel Rowland

Yuma, Arizona
Private Practice,
Spokane, Washington

Jacob Raymond Ruble

Wixom, Michigan
Private Practice,
Wixom, Michigan

Jonathan P. Russo

Charlotte, North Carolina
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

Nicholas W. Scheer

Omaha, Nebraska
Private Practice,
Yankton, South Dakota

Madison Mae Schirado

Bismarck, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Bismarck, North Dakota

James Patrick Schmidt

Mandan, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Mandan, North Dakota

Angelo Carmen Searls

Riverview, Florida
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

Roma Nikolaevich Shilo

Bismarck, North Dakota
Private Practice,
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Shoaib Siddiqui

Blaine, Minnesota
Private Practice,
Bemidji, Minnesota

Tyler Ross Siegford

Rathdrum, Idaho
Private Practice,
Spirit Lake, Idaho

Nathanial D. Simmons

Meridian, Idaho
Private Practice,
Fort Collins, Colorado

Rylee Nichol Smith

Brandon, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Omaha, Nebraska

Madison Grace Tapia

St. Louis, Missouri
Private Practice,
St. Louis, Missouri

Rayni Leigh Templin

Bemidji, Minnesota
Private Practice,
Bemidji, Minnesota

Alec Sebastian Thurston

Englewood, Colorado
General Practice Residency
Rocky Mountain VA Medical Center
Aurora, Colorado

Sophie Milbauer Tobin

Mountain View, California
Private Practice,
Monterey, California

Nicola Joseph Villanueva

Chicago, Illinois
Private Practice,
Wichita, Kansas

Mary Catherine Wallace

Tyler, Texas
Private Practice,
Tyler, Texas

Isaac Todd Westphal

St. Peter, Minnesota
Private Practice,
La Vista, Nebraska

Harley Jo Whitesides

Clearfield, Utah
Private Practice,
Stansbury Park, Utah

Alan James Wichman

Sioux Falls, South Dakota
Private Practice,
Sioux Falls, South Dakota

Kyle Andrew Konapilihi Wong

Kaneohe, Hawaii
Private Practice,
Kaneohe, Hawaii



Vision Statement

Creighton University School of Dentistry is dedicated to excellence in education, patient care, service and research. The faculty and staff are passionate about developing dental professionals who will employ leading-edge knowledge and technology of the 21st century in the Jesuit educational tradition characterized by compassion, leadership, professionalism, creativity, service and social justice.



Awards

American Association of Endodontists and the Department of Endodontic Award of Excellence in conjunction with Harriet J. Knowles DAR Scholarship

Connor Layne Asay

Bien Air 2025 Excellence in Endodontics Award

Nicolette Michele Barranger

Academy of Operative Dentistry Award

Megan Rose Bengier

Brian D. Stone Memorial Award

Luke John Bertrand

American Academy of Periodontology Dental Student Award for Achievement in Periodontology

Tyler Patrick Buterbaugh

American College of Prosthodontists Your Smile.

Our Speciality Award

Dr. Stanley J. Honsa Award

Elyce Susan Cederholm

Dentsply/Sirona Dental Leadership in Endodontics

Owen Rhys Dailey

American College of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons

William H. Bell Award for Predoctoral Achievement in Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Pathology Award

Patrick Thomas Geha

Center for Interprofessional Practice, Education and Research

Erin Patricia Goaley

American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology Award

American Equilibration Society Award

Senior Orthodontic Specialist Award

Kynan Mikala Goldsby

American Academy of Oral Medicine Award

Department of Pediatric Dentistry Orthodontic

Excellence Award

Garret Scott Gonzales

Department of Oral Surgery and Emergency Services

Acute Care Award

Brody Racota Grantham

International Congress of Oral Implantologists Predoctoral Student Achievement Award

Ramon Alejandro Gutierrez Vazquez

American Academy of Implant Dentistry Predoctoral Student Award

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Restorative Dentistry

Shayla Hoskins

American Association of Public Health Dentistry Award

Nebraska Society of Pediatric Dentistry Senior Award

Brent Louis Jones

American Association of Women Dentist's Eleanor J. Bushee Senior Dental Student Award

American Dental Education Association

Dr. Jeanne Craig Sinkford Student Leadership

Stacy Hey Lam

Whip Mix "Best of the Best" Award for Excellence in Prosthodontics

Ethan Perry Livermont

Quintessence Award for Clinical Achievement in Periodontics

Cheng Lu

International College of Dentists Student Leadership Award

Justin Thomas Ludwig

Academy of Osseointegration Outstanding Dental Student in Implant Dentistry Award

Riley Daniel McKay

Dr. Marvin O. Ludlow, Brasseler USA Endodontics Award

Pierce Hamilton Mederios

Dr. and Mrs. Philip J. Maschka Award

Dr. Joseph M. Simpson III Award for Aesthetic

Restorative Dentistry

ZimVie Implant Concierge Award

Haley Marie Molstad

Dr. Neil Norton Magis Award

Brandon James Nelson

International College of Dentists Student Humanitarian Award

Maria Corina Pablo

American Dental Society of Anesthesiology Horace Wells Senior Student Award

Lucas Richard Postlewaite

American Student Dental Association Award of Excellence

Therese Colleen Reardon

American Academy of Esthetic Dentistry Award

American College of Dentists Student Leadership Award Nebraska Section

Viviana Alessandra Repenning

Pierre Fauchard Academy Award

Isaac Todd Westphal

Omicron Kappa Upsilon Honor Dental Society

Allison Colleen Begley, Elyce Susan Cederholm,

Kynan Mikala Goldsby, Garret Scott Gonzales,

Timothy Steven Harrison, Shayla Hoskins, Brent Louis Jones,

Natalie Kay Little, Ethan Perry Livermont, Justin Thomas Ludwig,

Pierce Hamilton Mederios, Haley Marie Molstad,

Tyler Ross Siegford, Nathaniel D. Simmons

Alpha Sigma Nu

Patrick Thomas Geha, Kynan Mikala Goldsby,

Garret Scott Gonzales, Pierce Hamilton Mederios,

Viviana Alessandra Repenning

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.



Oath of Hippocrates

One of the most widely known of Greek medical texts, the Hippocratic Oath requires new health care professionals to swear to uphold specific ethical standards.

As a member of the dental profession, I shall keep this pledge and these stipulations.

I understand and accept that my primary responsibility is to my patients, and I shall dedicate myself to render, to the best of my ability, the highest standard of oral health care and to maintain a relationship of respect and confidence. Therefore, let all come to me safe in the knowledge that their total health and well-being are my first considerations.

I shall accept the responsibility that, as a professional, my competence rests on continuing the attainment of knowledge and skill in the arts and sciences of dentistry.

I acknowledge my obligation to support and sustain the honor and integrity of the profession and to conduct myself in all endeavors such that I shall merit the respect of patients, colleagues and my community.

I further commit myself to the betterment of my community for the benefit of all society.

I shall faithfully observe the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct set forth by the profession.

All this I pledge with pride in my commitment to the profession and the public it serves.





CREIGHTON UNIVERSITY

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*Creighton alumnus/alumna

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Dean, Heider College of Business

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and Continuing Education*

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*Associate Vice President,
Human Resources*

Scott A. Taylor
*Interim Vice President,
Information Technology*

Pernell J. Toney
*Director of Recruitment,
Human Resources*

Sarah Singletary Walker, PhD
*Vice President, Equity,
Diversity and Inclusion*

Jillian A. Wallen, BDS, MS
Dean, School of Dentistry

Susan Speliopoulos Weems
*Assistant Dean, Student Affairs and
Operations, Phoenix Campus*

Amy Friedman Wilson, PharmD*
*Dean, School of Pharmacy
and Health Professions*

W. Wayne Young Jr., PhD*
Vice Provost, Student Success

*Creighton alumnus/alumna



Endowed Chairs

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

**Dr. Raymond W. Shaddy Endowed Chair
in Operative Dentistry (1994)**

Jennifer A. Hasslen, DDS

**Dr. Oscar S. Belzer Endowed Chair
in Dentistry (1997)**

Hardeep K. Chehal, DDS

**Dr. Edward J. "Eddie" and Neta DeRose
Endowed Chair in Dentistry (2006)**

Donal D. Scheidel, DDS

**Dr. Philip Maschka Chair for Ethics
in Dentistry (2011)**

James A. Kelly, DDS'04

**Dr. Gaylord G. Huenefeld Endowed Chair
in Pediatric Dentistry (2023)**

Bryan J. Skar, DDS





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.

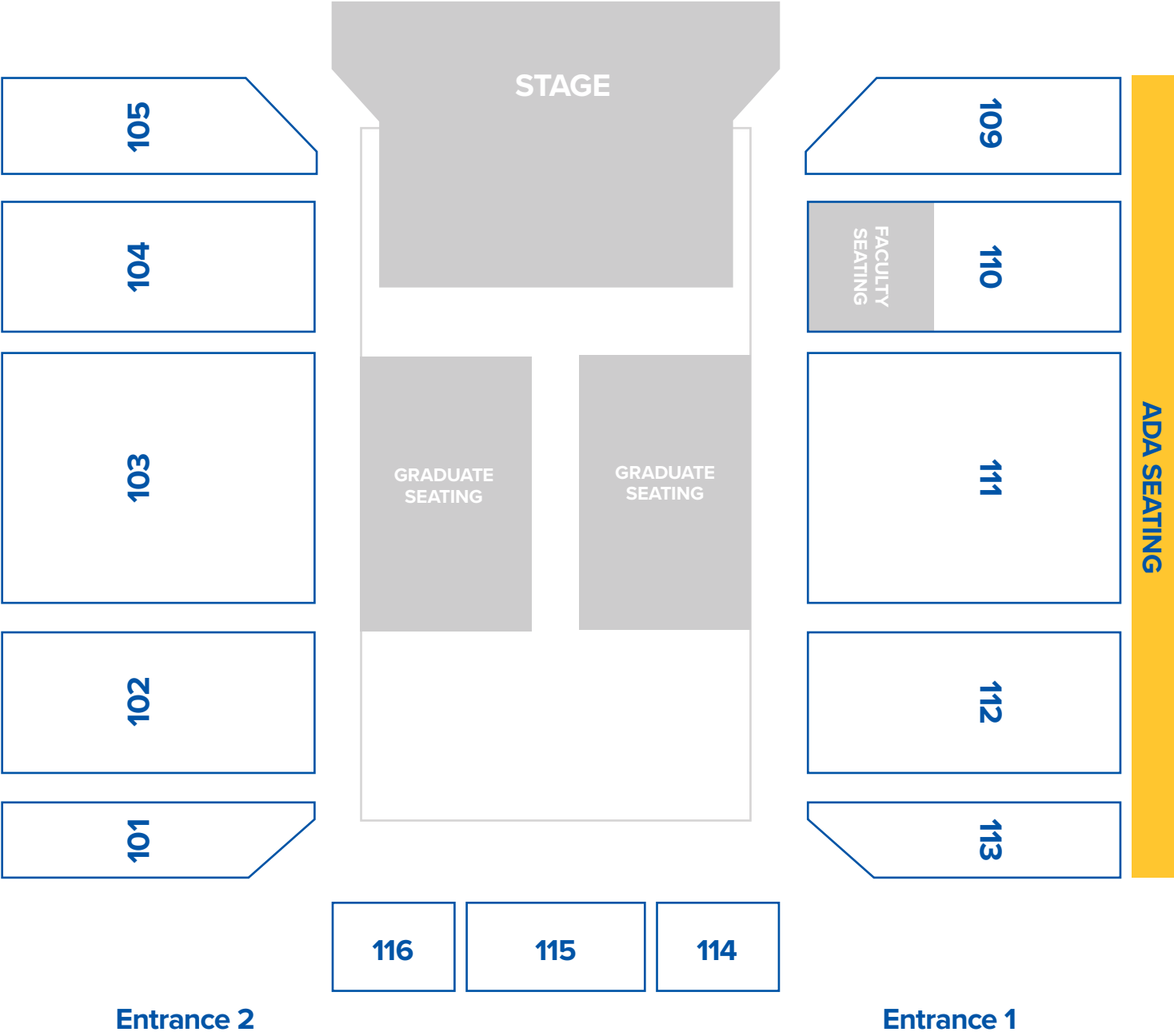


Edward and Mary Lucretia's generosity is credited with establishing Creighton College, while John and Sarah Emily's philanthropy enlarged it to a five-school university. Today, Creighton University consists of nine schools and colleges:

- 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)



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 Creighton University School of Dentistry

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 2024 cumulative grade point averages. Official honors will be awarded on the transcript and diploma based on Spring 2025 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 more than 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. 12–14, 2025

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

More info: creighton.edu/creightondays

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School of Dentistry