Class of 2018

Academic Awards

Keynote Speaker

Honorary Class Speaker

2018 Commencement Video
Class of 2018

**Tiffany Nichole Absher**  
Magna Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science  
*Psychology*  
Norton, Virginia

**Sammatha Lachelle Adkins**  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Communication Studies*  
Wise, Virginia

**Maicee Morgan Allen**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Health and Physical Education*  
Marion, Virginia

**Christopher Michael Armistead**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Health and Physical Education*  
Virginia Beach, Virginia

**Caleb Lawrence Ashby**  
Bachelor of Science  
*Administration of Justice*  
Vansant, Virginia

**Pamela Brianne Atwood**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Coeburn, Virginia

**Taiwo H. Badmus**  
Bachelor of Science  
*Management Information Systems*  
London, England

**JerWanda TaQuise Bagley**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Government*  
Keysville, Virginia
Daniel Dwight Baker Jr.
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science / Software Engineering
Washington, D.C.

Decima Lauren Baker
Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Wise, Virginia

Hannah Taylor Balthis
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Clintwood, Virginia

Thomas Mathew Barnett
Bachelor of Science
Economics
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Jessica Lauren Barrett
Bachelor of Arts
Mathematics
Abingdon, Virginia

Jaclyn Grace Barton
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Lebanon, Virginia

Natalie Gayle Battaglia
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Alexandria, Virginia

Rebecca Elizabeth Bays
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Hiltons, Virginia

Melissa Heather Belcher
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Jonesville, Virginia
Ambar Idanys Beltran-Gonzalez
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Hillsville, Virginia

Aaron Scott Blair
Bachelor of Arts
Art
Coeburn, Virginia

Zachary Blair
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Front Royal, Virginia

Austina Michelle Bond
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Coeburn, Virginia

Brent Sterling Bowen
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Richmond, Virginia

Monica Storm Brandts
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
King George, Virginia

Taylor Leila Brandts
Bachelor of Arts
Art
King George, Virginia

Shaughnessy Laurel Bright
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Coeburn, Virginia

Robert Anthony Brown Jr.
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Whitesburg, Kentucky

Katie Marie Brownschidle
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Yorktown, Virginia

Jacob Hunter Buchanan
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Wise, Virginia

Christian Madeline Bullion
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Norton, Virginia

Jacqualyn “Jacy” Rayne Burdette
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Clifton Forge, Virginia

Serena Mary Burgess
Bachelor of Arts
Biology
San Antonio, Texas

Mariah Burke
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Kevin Wesley Burns
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Marsha Candace Bush
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Alex Ryan Cantrell
Magna Cum Laude
College Honors
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Pound, Virginia

Kayla Grace Carey
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Knoxville, Tennessee

William Castle
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Clintwood, Virginia

Joseph Anthony Catalani
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Front Royal, Virginia

Jacob Carlton Caudill
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Norton, Virginia

Natalie Marie Chapman
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Economics
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Brandee Cheyenne Childress
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Appalachia, Virginia

Tyler Gregory Childress
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Clintwood, Virginia
Grace Taiyu Evadare Clements
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Moncure, North Carolina

Morgan Paige Cline
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Bluefield, Virginia

Makenzie Beth Cluesman
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Jonesville, Virginia

Jessee Christian Coffey
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Norton, Virginia

Rachel Briana Cole
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Ashburn, Virginia

Kaitlyn Destiny Collins
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Appalachia, Virginia

Madison Lee Compton
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Lebanon, Virginia

Keisha LeAnne Cook
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Jonesville, Virginia

Madyson Arissa Cook
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration / Accounting
Jonesville, Virginia

Jacob Austin Cousins
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Richmond, Virginia

James Alexander Cousins
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Richmond, Virginia

Christopher Logan Cox
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Clintwood, Virginia

Emily Marie Cox
 Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Clintwood, Virginia

Haley Blaine Crabtree
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Castlewood, Virginia

Grace Anne Craddock
Magna Cum Laude
College Honors
Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
New Castle, Virginia

Roseanna Marie Crowell
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Marion, Virginia

Claude Hamilton Crump IV
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Alexandria, Virginia
Meaghan Kathleen Davis  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Staunton, Virginia

Morgan Andrew Davis  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science  
*Computer Science*  
Haysi, Virginia

Ciara Jenae Daymude  
Bachelor of Science  
*Sociology*  
Culpeper, Virginia

Colby Stephen Dean  
Bachelor of Science  
*Business Administration*  
Castlewood, Virginia

Laura Elizabeth Dean  
Bachelor of Science  
*Computer Science*  
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Mercedes Sierra Delvalle  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Mechanicsville, Virginia

Cayla Dempsey  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Round Hill, Virginia

Robert Ivan Dennis  
Bachelor of Science  
*Business Administration*  
Chincoteague Island, Virginia

Corey Alexander Dick  
Bachelor of Science  
*Management Information Systems*  
Whitsett, North Carolina
Michael Doherty  
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Dyke, Virginia

Lauren Elizabeth Donahue  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Stafford, Virginia

Tanner Storm Dorton  
Bachelor of Science  
Chemistry  
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Cassandra Lynn Dotson  
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Hurley, Virginia

Kevin Blake Dotson  
Summa Cum Laud  
Bachelor of Arts  
History  
Wise, Virginia

Sarah Frances Douglass  
Bachelor of Arts  
Spanish  
Woodville, Alabama

Leon R. Dreher  
Bachelor of Science  
Environmental Science  
Williamsburg, Virginia

Lorraine Dresch  
Summa Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
English Literature  
Big Stone Gap, Virginia
Megan Michelle Dwyier
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Alexandria, Virginia

Ahmad Jamil Eccleston
Bachelor of Arts
Government
Bristol, Virginia

Connie Merie Edwards
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Haysi, Virginia

DeMarcus Alexander Edwards
Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Washington, D.C.

Anas Fathy Elkattan
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Richmond, Virginia

Samantha Nicole Ely
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Jonesville, Virginia

Caitlin Ardis Emond
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Greenfield, Massachusetts

Taylor Lakin Evans
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Duffield, Virginia

Rebecca Maria Farley
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Bassett, Virginia
Aaron Russell Fee  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
Government  
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Jared Thomas Finch  
Bachelor of Arts  
Health and Physical Education  
Nickelsville, Virginia

Crystal Bolling Fleming  
Bachelor of Science  
Sociology  
Pound, Virginia

Nikki BreeAnn Fleming  
Bachelor of Science  
Psychology  
Clintwood, Virginia

Alexander William Forster  
Bachelor of Science  
Accounting  
Lorton, Virginia

Lyndra Abena Frimpong  
Bachelor of Arts  
Government  
Woodbridge, Virginia

Christopher Matthew Fritze  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
History  
Gate City, Virginia

Sasha Nicole Funk  
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Coeburn, Virginia

Benjamin Carl Funny Jr.  
Bachelor of Science
Lauren Ashley Gardner
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Wise, Virginia

Troy Cameron Garrett
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Hampton, Virginia

Ahliyah Curtrese Gavin
Summa Cum Laude
College Honors
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies / Art
Lakeland, Georgia

Joseph Ghammashi
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Coeburn, Virginia

Destiny Hope Gibson
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Duffield, Virginia

Natalie Ann Gilbert
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Great Falls, Virginia

Alexandra Caroline Gilliam
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Wise, Virginia

Andrew Cody Gilliam
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science  
*Mathematics*  
Jonesville, Virginia

**Morgan LeAnne Goodbrod**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Health and Physical Education*  
Marion, Virginia

**Kyle Gorman**  
Bachelor of Science  
*Business Administration*  
Sandston, Virginia

**Cody Lee Griffin**  
Bachelor of Science  
*Computer Science*  
Pound, Virginia

**Joshua Preston Griggs**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Art*  
Raven, Virginia

**Audrey Christina Grigsby**  
Bachelor of Science  
*Biology*  
Wise, Virginia

**James Cody Haley**  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Government*  
Pennington Gap, Virginia

**Alexander Patton Hall**  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Theatre*  
Wise, Virginia

**Sarah Louella Hall**  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science
Biochemistry  
Wise, Virginia

Jacklyn Sheryl Hamm  
Bachelor of Arts  
Government  
Coeburn, Virginia

Cali Rae Hancock  
Bachelor of Arts  
Health and Physical Education  
Henrico, Virginia

Anne Golden Hanson  
Bachelor of Science  
Administration of Justice  
Fairfax, Virginia

Kimberly Paije Hargrove-Taylor  
Bachelor of Science  
Sociology  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

Dorian O’Bryant Harris  
Bachelor of Science  
Business Administration  
Floyd, Virginia

Muhammad Zaheer Uddin Hasham  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science  
Accounting  
Abingdon, Virginia

Hannah Lee Haupt  
Bachelor of Science  
Psychology  
Beaverdam, Virginia

Emily Margaret Henneberry  
Bachelor of Science  
Administration of Justice  
Chesterfield, Virginia
Bridget Lucia Henzel  
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science  
*Administration of Justice*  
Toano, Virginia

Jonathan Hicks  
Bachelor of Science  
*Psychology*  
Saint Paul, Virginia

Hannah Leigh Hill  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Coeburn, Virginia

Ricardo Hill Jr.  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Government*  
Cincinnati, Ohio

Alexis Carrie Hillman  
Magna Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Art*  
Fort Blackmore, Virginia

Jason Christopher Hoskins Jr.  
Bachelor of Science  
*Administration of Justice*  
Jacksonville, Arkansas

Sarrah Anne Nicole Hulsey  
Bachelor of Science  
*Environmental Science*  
Wise, Virginia

Chandler Lee-Alexander Hunt  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Health and Physical Education*  
Salem, Virginia

Luke Langhorne Hurley  
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
History
Bluefield, Virginia

Kayla Leanne Hylton
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Appalachia, Virginia

Rebecca Marie Iozzi
Bachelor of Arts
History
Frelinghuysen, New Jersey

Renee Mamiko McKinney Ishii
Bachelor of Arts
Foreign Studies
Clintwood, Virginia

Austin James Jerrell
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Jonesville, Virginia

Joshua Mack Jessee
Bachelor of Arts
Government
Norton, Virginia

Darius Keon Johnson
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Dinwiddie, Virginia

Torrey Benjamin Johnson
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Alexandria, Virginia

Ashley Renae Keen
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
History
Raven, Virginia
Elizabeth Louise Kegley
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Wise, Virginia

Ian Christopher Kemp
Bachelor of Arts
History
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Roanoke, Virginia

Kyle Landon Kime
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Wytheville, Virginia

Tyler James King
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Bristol, Virginia

Oleg Kopychenko
Bachelor of Arts
Art
Simferopol, Crimea

Randy Kumah
Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Woodbridge, Virginia

Antonio La’Vante Kyle
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Norton, Virginia

Anthony L. Lamb
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Virginia Beach, Virginia

Cody Dean-Blake Large
Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Pound, Virginia

Sara Kathryn Large
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Abingdon, Virginia

Zachary Allen Large
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Roanoke, Virginia

Kimberly Ann Lawson
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Wise, Virginia

Kobe Allen Lawson
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Saint Paul, Virginia

Khalil Lemons
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Lanexa, Virginia

Dustyn Taylor Livesay
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration / Economics
Pennington Gap, Virginia

Kelsey Morgan Lovell
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Kenya Shanell Lyons
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Capron, Virginia
Ryan Bradley Maggard
Bachelor of Science
Management Information Systems
Wise, Virginia

Hannah Elizabeth Marshall
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Atlanta, Georgia

Aaron Lee Martin
Bachelor of Science
Management Information Systems
Bristow, Virginia

Dylan Thomas Martin
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Gate City, Virginia

Jawaine Massenburg
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Hopewell, Virginia

Stelliani Dimitrios Matheos
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Gloucester, Virginia

Joshua Michael Mayer
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
History
Roanoke, Virginia

Tyler Lee McFarland
Bachelor of Arts
Liberal Arts and Sciences
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Mary Rachael McGeorge
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Grundy, Virginia

Rachel Elise McGlone
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Ewing, Virginia

Bethany Jane McPeak
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Martinsville, Virginia

Morgan Elijah Meade
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Coeburn, Virginia

Randy Lee Meade
Bachelor of Arts
English Literature
Coeburn, Virginia

Timothy Lee Meador II
Bachelor of Arts
Biology
Roanoke, Virginia

Zoe Nicole Millard
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Glen Allen, Virginia

Autumn Katherine Miller
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Wise, Virginia

Krystal Marie Miller
Bachelor of Arts
History
Meadowview, Virginia

Megan Elizabeth Minor
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Norton, Virginia

Stephanie Taylor Marie Morris
Bachelor of Arts
*History*
Rogersville, Tennessee

Brianna Caitlin Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
*Communication Studies*
Coeburn, Virginia

Caitlin MacKenzie Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Norton, Virginia

Dakota Lee Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
*History*
Clintwood, Virginia

Diana Faith Mullins
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
*History*
Clintwood, Virginia

Mark Benton Mullins
Bachelor of Science
*Chemistry*
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Morgan Beatrice Mullins
Bachelor of Science
*Psychology*
Castlewood, Virginia
Nicholas Corey Mullins
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Jonesville, Virginia

Taylor Brooke Mullins
Bachelor of Science
*Business Administration*
Wise, Virginia

Benjamin Allen Munson
Bachelor of Science
*Environmental Science*
Short Pump, Virginia

Landon Christopher Musick
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
*Business Administration*
Lebanon, Virginia

Desiree Nicole Napier
Bachelor of Science
*Psychology*
Blackwater, Virginia

Hannah Brooke Nash
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Pound, Virginia

Lora Beth Neeley
Bachelor of Arts
*Spanish*
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Morgen Lee Newell
Bachelor of Arts
*Music*
Hillsville, Virginia

Madison Brooke Niece
Cum Laude
College Honors
Bachelor of Science
Chemistry
Wise, Virginia

Brittany Faith Olinger
Bachelor of Arts
History
Marion, Virginia

Nathaniel Robert Owen
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Bluefield, Virginia

Kaitlyn Renee Owens
Bachelor of Science
Accounting / Business Administration
Clinchco, Virginia

Markie Cheyenne Owens
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Haysi, Virginia

Anthony Darnell Parker
Bachelor of Arts
Government / History
Stafford, Virginia

Keyannah Atal Patel
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Fredericksburg, Virginia

Kunj Rajanbhai Patel
Bachelor of Science
Software Engineering
Abingdon, Virginia

Kenneth Logan Patrick
College Honors
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Copper Hill, Virginia
Joshua Aaron Peal
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Patrick Springs, Virginia

Logan Denise Pelton
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Birchleaf, Virginia

De’Ante LaMar Perkins
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Martinsville, Virginia

Jacob Donald James Peters
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Environmental Science
Norton, Virginia

Darian Elizabeth Phillips
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Norton, Virginia

Nancy Louise Pilkenton
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Pound, Virginia

James Elliott Poff
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Caitlyn McKenzie Powers
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Wise, Virginia
Samantha Brooke Powers
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Ewing, Virginia

**Tucker Cole Price**
Bachelor of Science
*Administration of Justice*
Kenbridge, Virginia

**Korey Ann Purtee**
Bachelor of Science
*Medical Technology*
Saint Paul, Virginia

**Maddison Hope Ramsey**
Bachelor of Arts
*French*
Wise, Virginia

**Rachel Thia Ratley**
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
*Sociology*
Clintwood, Virginia

**Mary Katherine Reda**
Bachelor of Arts
*Communication Studies*
Virginia Beach, Virginia

**Melanie Colleen Reilly**
Bachelor of Science
*Economics*
Chesapeake, Virginia

**Lauren Alexandra Rentz**
Summa Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
*Communication Studies*
Sugar Groave, Virginia
Céline Adélie Rhodes
Bachelor of Arts  
History  
Barhamsville, Virginia

William Parker Robertson
Bachelor of Science  
Chemistry / Mathematics  
Blacksburg, Virginia

Payton Matthew Robinette
Bachelor of Arts  
Environmental Science  
Dryden, Virginia

Joshua Dalton Rollins
Bachelor of Science  
Biology  
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Megan Nicole Roop
Cum Laude  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing  
Jonesville, Virginia

Harrison Scott Russell
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Roanoke, Virginia

Andrii Rutnytskyi
Bachelor of Science  
Management Information Systems  
Odessa, Ukraine

Kristin Michaela Sanders
Bachelor of Arts  
Liberal Arts and Sciences  
Duffield, Virginia

Sarah Ridgely Sanders
Bachelor of Arts  
Health and Physical Education  
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Cassandra Paige Sartin  
Bachelor of Science  
*Accounting*  
Pound, Virginia

Jeromy Dale Sartin  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Coeburn, Virginia

Joshua Craig Sawyers  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Communication Studies*  
North Tazewell, Virginia

Austin Raylyn Schank  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Health and Physical Education*  
Wise, Virginia

Cody Wayne Sheets  
Bachelor of Science  
*Psychology*  
Marion, Virginia

Stephen Michael Shook  
Bachelor of Arts  
*History*  
Norton, Virginia

Sarah Elizabeth Short  
Bachelor of Science  
*Sociology*  
Pound, Virginia

Addie Morgan Shortt  
Bachelor of Arts  
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*  
Pound, Virginia

Stephanie Nichole Sintetas  
Bachelor of Science  
*Psychology*  
Long Grove, Illinois
Dylan Blake Slemp
Bachelor of Arts
*Communication Studies*
Haysi, Virginia

Allyssa Carol Sluss
Bachelor of Science
*Psychology*
Pound, Virginia

Jordan Wayne Sluss
Bachelor of Arts
*Government*
Nickelsville, Virginia

Clayton Lee Snow
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
*Chemistry*
Wytheville, Virginia

Dimitri Chatzicharalambous Sousa
Bachelor of Science
*Economics*
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Mychal Christopher Spivey
Bachelor of Science
*Management Information Systems*
Richmond, Virginia

Christopher Brian Stacy
Bachelor of Science
*Management Information Systems*
Richlands, Virginia

Allison Renee Stallard
Bachelor of Arts
*Communication Studies*
Pound, Virginia

Deja Makayla Stallard
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Coeburn, Virginia

Kristen Nicole Stallard
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Coeburn, Virginia

Dakota Rose Stanley
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Coeburn, Virginia

Rebecca Nicole Statzer
Bachelor of Science
Biology
Castlewood, Virginia

Josi Clarinda Stidham
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Wooten, Kentucky

Breann Magalina Strouth
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Swords Creek, Virginia

David Conley Chance Strouth
Bachelor of Arts
History
Wise, Virginia

Maxwell James Stuker
Bachelor of Arts
Theatre
Sterling, Virginia

Nicholas Kane Sturgill
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Environmental Science
Wise, Virginia
Micheal Jerome Tarrer Jr.
Bachelor of Science
*Biology*
Glen Allen, Virginia

Dakota Cage Taylor
Bachelor of Science
*Biology*
Wise, Virginia

Maggie Carolin Nicole Thayer
Bachelor of Arts
*Liberal Arts and Sciences*
Mendota, Virginia

Brandon Allen Thompson
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
*Biology*
Big Stone Gap, Virginia

Rico S. Torres
Bachelor of Arts
*Art*
Saint Paul, Virginia

Viktor Tunnikov
Bachelor of Science
*Management Information Systems*
Kharkiv, Ukraine

Faith Tunstall
Bachelor of Science
*Psychology*
Danville, Virginia

Whitney Leigh Turner
Bachelor of Arts
*History*
Vansant, Virginia

Julie Ann Twyman
Bachelor of Science
Accounting
Madison, Virginia

Daria Tyshchenko
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Kropyvnytskyi, Ukraine

Stuart Kyle VanDyke
Bachelor of Arts
History
Castlewood, Virginia

Jazmine Marie Vanover
Bachelor of Science
Business Administration
Clintwood, Virginia

Zachary Charles Watson
Bachelor of Science
Psychology
Dumfries, Virginia

Kaitlyn Dean Wegner
Bachelor of Science in Nursing
Pooler, Georgia

Travis John Welty
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Arts
Mathematics / History
Hampton, Virginia

Jessica Whaley
Bachelor of Arts
Health and Physical Education
Haymarket, Virginia

Lauren MacKenzie Austin Whitaker
Bachelor of Science
Sociology
Wise, Virginia
Jonathan Cody White
Bachelor of Arts
Music
Gate City, Virginia

Thomas William White
Bachelor of Arts
Communication Studies
Charlottesville, Virginia

Matthew Wilkinson
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Clarksville, Virginia

Kristin Brooke Williams
Bachelor of Arts
History
Fort Blackmore, Virginia

Ernest Wade Woodlief
Bachelor of Arts
History
Lebanon, Virginia

Jason Scott Woods
Bachelor of Science
Chemistry
Coeburn, Virginia

Matthew Philip Wright
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Administration of Justice
Round Hill, Virginia

Paulina Wright
Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Mathematics
Coeburn, Virginia

Peter Wyckoff
Magna Cum Laude
Bachelor of Science
Computer Science
Wise, Virginia

Kieffer Alexander Yearout
Bachelor of Arts
History
Floyd, Virginia

Francis Alakaminin-Tul Zakama
Bachelor of Arts
Government
Fredericksburg, Virginia
Academic Awards

Business and Economics

Napoleon Hill Achievement Award
Tyler Gregory Childress

Outstanding Achievement in Accounting
Tyler Gregory Childress

Outstanding Achievement in Business Administration
Kimberly Ann Lawson

Outstanding Achievement in Economics
Natalie Marie Chapman

David W. Roane Award in Business Ethics
Kellen Michael Larkin

Communication Studies

Ronald Heise Award for Excellence in Communication Studies
Jaclyn Grace Barton

Education

Jack M. Holland Award in Education
Rashelle Paige Barton
Emily Kaitlin Daily

Lois P. Lowry Award in Language Arts
Allison Jeanine Ball

Richard A. Davidson Education Award
Andrew Cody Gilliam

Beulah M. Johnson Secondary Teaching Award
Decima Lauren Baker
Laura Elizabeth Viers

Outstanding Woman Scholar in Education
Samantha Brooke Powers

Gilmer Blackburn Award in Sport Management
Madison Lee Compton
Ray Spenilla Award in Health and Physical Education
Jessica Lynn Whaley

**History and Philosophy**

Glenn Blackburn Scholarship for Intellectual History and Philosophy
Robert Lynn Powers

Edward L. “Buck” Henson, Jr. History Scholarship
Jordan Hunter Kern

Heather Markusich Scholarship
Rachel Glenice Fee

N. Brent Kennedy Scholarship in Appalachian Studies
Ashleigh Renae Keen

The David Rouse Minor Award
Gabriel Lee Dillon

William Elbert Fraley Awards
Christopher Matthew Fritze

L. Stanley Willis Award
Dustin Cain Stiltner

**Language and Literature**

Language and Literature Award for French
Maddison Hope Ramsey

Language and Literature Award for Spanish
Lora Beth Neeley

German Scholar Award
Robert Lynn Powers

Frances Currie Peake Scholarship
Hannah Grace Mullins
Heaven Lee Parridgen

Outstanding Senior English Major
Lorraine Elizabeth Dresch
William Elbert Fraley Award in English
Lorraine Elizabeth Dresch

Language and Literature Senior Thesis Distinction
Grace Anne Craddock

**Mathematics and Computer Science**

Outstanding Senior in Computer Science
Peter Jaquet Wyckoff

Outstanding Senior in Mathematics
Andrew Cody Gilliam

Outstanding Senior in Management Information Systems
Viktor Tunnikov

**Natural Sciences**

CRC Freshman in Chemistry Award
Madelyn Leigh Lawrence

J. Rex Baird Outstanding Biologist Award
Christian Madeline Bullion

Philip C. Shelton Outstanding Environmental Science Award
Nicholas Kane Sturgill

Bruce William Crystal Award
Brandon Allen Thompson

American Institute of Chemists Award for Biochemistry
Sarah Louella Hall

American Institute of Chemists Award for Chemistry
Jason Scott Woods

Dr. Autumn and Dr. Christopher Starnes Medical Award
Fred Wayne Hicks, Jr

American Chemical Society Outstanding Chemist Award
Madison Brooke Niece
Joseph C. Smiddy Science Award
Madison Brooke Niece
Jacob D. Peters

**Nursing**

Velta Collins Holyfield Memorial Scholarship
Samantha Collins
Alexis Shae Jessee

Betty M. Johnson Clinical Excellence Award
Haley Blaine Crabtree

Outstanding Graduate in Nursing
Shaughnessy L. Bright

Karen Denice Lane Nursing Challenge Award
Shaughnessy L. Bright

**Social Sciences**

Leon and Helen Lederer Memorial Award in Applied Psychology
Megan Michelle Dwyier

Outstanding Graduate in Administration of Justice Award
Joshua Aaron Peal

Outstanding Research Contribution in Psychology
Joseph Ronald Ghammashi
Darian Elizabeth Phillips

Outstanding Non-traditional Student in Psychology
Allen Dwayne Owens

Scholar in Government Award
Gabriel Lee Dillon

Scholar in Sociology Award
Rachel Thia Ratley

Joseph M. Scolnick, Jr. Excellence in Government and Public Service Award
James Cody Haley
Joseph M. Scolnick, Sr. Memorial Pre-Law Award
JerWanda TaQuise Bagley

**Visual and Performing Arts**

Roxbury Hyde Crystal Music Scholarship Award
Alyssa Lauren Shell

Music Scholarship Award
Alyssa Lauren Shell

Music Leadership Award
William Dale Farmer

Musicianship Award
Joseph Michael McNulty

**The Alfred and Shirley Wampler Caudill Fund**

The Alfred and Shirley Wampler Caudill Best Paper Award
Autumn Brooke Stover

The Alfred and Shirley Wampler Caudill Best Presentation Award
Telena Marie Turner

**Peake Honors**

Alex Ryan Cantrell
Grace Anne Craddock
Ahliyah Curtrese Gavin
Madison Brooke Niece
Kenneth Logan Patrick

**Chancellor’s Medal for Undergraduate Research**

Roseanna Marie Crowell
Keynote Speaker

Senator Mark Warner will be the speaker at Commencement 2018 at The University of Virginia’s College at Wise. Commencement is set for May 5 at 11 a.m. in the David J. Prior Convocation Center.

“We are honored that Senator Warner has accepted our invitation to deliver the commencement address to our Class of 2018,” Chancellor Donna P. Henry said. “He has visited Southwest Virginia often as governor and Senator, and he knows the region well. We look forward to hosting Senator Warner during Commencement.”

Senator Warner was elected to the U.S. Senate in November 2008 and reelected to a second term in November 2014. He serves on the Senate Finance, Banking, Budget, and Rules Committees as well as the Select Committee on Intelligence, where he is the vice chairman. During his time in the Senate, Senator Warner has established himself as a bipartisan leader who has worked with Republicans and Democrats alike to cut red tape, increase government performance and accountability, and promote private sector innovation and job creation. Senator Warner has been recognized as a national leader in fighting for the nation’s military men and women and veterans, and in working to find bipartisan, balanced solutions to address our country’s debt and deficit.

From 2002 to 2006, he served as Governor of Virginia. When he left office in 2006, Virginia was ranked as the best state for business, the best managed state, and the best state in which to receive a public education.

The first in his family to graduate from college, Senator Warner spent 20 years as a successful technology and business leader in Virginia before entering public office. An early investor in the cellular telephone business, he co-founded the company that became Nextel and invested in hundreds of start-up technology companies that created tens of thousands of jobs.

Senator Warner, his wife Lisa Collis, and their three daughters live in Alexandria, Virginia.
Honorary Class Speaker

Andrew Gilliam, a mathematics major, is the honorary student speaker for Commencement 2018. The Jonesville, Virginia native graduated from Thomas Walker High in Lee County before beginning his college career at UVa-Wise. The 22-year-old has plans to attend graduate school soon to meet his goal of teaching mathematics.

“I have wanted to teach math since I was in sixth grade,” he said. “I never had a bad math teacher, so I just want to pay it forward and teach. To me, math is like solving puzzles, and I hope that I can turn a reluctant math student around one day.”

Gilliam certainly made his mark at UVa-Wise during his four years on campus. He was a sought after math tutor in the Tutor Connection Office. He worked as a teaching assistant in the Mathematics Department. He served as president of the SVEA, is a member of the National Society for Leadership and Success, a member of the Darden Society and is a member of the Sigma Zeta, the mathematics and science honor society. Gilliam has also performed on the stage of the Gilliam Center for the Arts in a production of Marisol. He has also performed in the “Trail of the Lonesome Pine,” Virginia’s official outdoor drama.

During Gilliam’s stint as president of the Student Virginia Education Association and as the Southwest Virginia representative for the SVEA State Board of Directors, UVa-Wise won the Ultimate Award and Best Chapter in Virginia.

Gilliam’s journey to UVa-Wise began when Winston Ely, a former member of the Office of Development and College Relations team, spotted him at a football game in Lee County. Gilliam was there with his family to watch his brother play football. The UVa-Wise administrator noticed Gilliam working hard on his math homework as the others watched the game.

“He asked someone who I was, and she told him that I was the valedictorian of Thomas Walker High,” Gilliam said.
Ely began recruiting Gilliam for UVa-Wise. Although Gilliam still had other colleges in mind, the deal was sealed when he called one school’s financial aid department to see what scholarship packages he could receive. After a lengthy phone session that required him to give his account number several times as he was transferred from desk to desk, Gilliam decided to ask the same questions at UVa-Wise.

“I called UVa-Wise’s financial aid office and they said ‘hey, Andy, how’re you doing?’ I was immediately recognized and they knew me.”

He landed several scholarships, including the Thomas Walker Class of 1950 and the Chancellor’s Scholarship, Riggs Family Scholarship, Hank Johnston International Scholarship, Lauren Wallace Fields Scholarship, Thelma Meade Hancock & Robert C. Hancock Memorial Scholarship, Miners’ Family Scholarship, and the William H. Starnes, Jr., & Sofia M. Starnes Scholarship.

Gilliam reflected on his decision to come to Wise, and he knows he made the right choice.

“My instructors were wonderful,” he said. “If I ever had questions or problems, they would help me,” he said. “I got to go to Rome and study abroad on scholarship, and that was an amazing experience for me.”

Gilliam also served as an usher for Commencement for three years. Today, he gets to enjoy the event with his fellow classmates.