

# Alumni Times

CELEBRATING ALUMNI

▶  
**Honoring Clarkson  
College Graduates**  
Past, Present & Future

▶  
**R&MI Goes High Tech**  
Innovative 3D Printing  
Center Brings the Future of  
Healthcare to Campus

▶  
**135**

**YEAR ANNIVERSARY**

Annual Spirit Week  
Celebration in Review

CLARKSON COLLEGE

WINTER 2024 ISSUE



# high five



DR. ANDREIA NEBEL,  
CLARKSON COLLEGE  
PRESIDENT

## 1 What books are on your nightstand?

I rarely read one book at a time. I enjoy reading books that can teach me something, but I also enjoy just reading fiction for pleasure. Currently, I am reading "Fundraising for Presidents," "Memory Jogger," "True Believer," "At Your Best" and "The Book of Joy."

## 2 What is your favorite comfort food?

Nachos are my favorite—especially with chicken, fresh pico de gallo, hot salsa, jalapenos, sour cream, homemade guacamole, and lots of cheese.

## 3 What is a hobby that you enjoy?

Since middle school, I have enjoyed riding dirt bikes. When our kids were younger, we taught them to ride, and combined family camping trips with rides all over. In recent years, we have taken advantage of our acreage to ride at home. I still have a Honda 230cc!



## 4 What are three things on your bucket list?

I want to visit all 50 states before I am 50, and continue to travel abroad. I hope that I can still play cards and pickleball, go for walks, collect firewood for a campfire, and beat my husband in a round of golf well into my 80's. I also want to learn how to teach reading and start an after school or summer school reading and writing program for kids that incorporates art, music, and exercise.

## 5 If you could have dinner with any person (dead or alive), who would it be and why?

Many people come to mind but it would mean the world to have one more visit with my dad. I would be so grateful. He passed away when I was in my late 20's, and continues to be one of the best humans I have ever known.



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## From the Desk of Bill Koile

## On the Cover

The DNP (Doctor of Nursing Practice) hooding ceremony December 15, 2023, celebrated 15 graduates including Marleine Luke. She now serves as a Nurse Anesthetist (CRNA) at Great Plains Health in North Platte, Nebraska. She stated, "The anesthesia faculty ensures students are equipped with all resources needed to succeed in the classroom, in every clinical setting, and the real world."

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## 2024 BOARD MEMBERS



**Bill Koile, MS, MBA**

"The Alumni Association allows me to continue to show the importance of Clarkson College and the impact it has on students and the healthcare workforce. It helps shape the future of the alumni as it engages them with their alma mater."



**Kendra Swanson, MHA, R.T. (R) (MR)(CT)(ARRT)**  
**Secretary/Treasurer**

"I enjoy giving back to all alumni and Clarkson College as a member of the Alumni Association Board – especially through the networking opportunities throughout the year."



**Mark Longacre, MHA, MPT**  
**Director**

"I believe it is important to give your time and experience to those that have helped you along your career journey. I am happily obligated to provide additional insight for those that are educating our healthcare workforce and future leaders."



**Jenette L. Smith, Ed.D.,  
DipACLM, M.S., Vice President**

"The primary reason for joining our Clarkson College Alumni Association Board of Directors was to remain connected to our wonderful school and, perhaps most importantly, to continue to advance our mission, vision, and values."



**Jason DeLong, MHA, HCM, PTA**  
**Director**

"I plan to continue to advocate for Clarkson College by reinforcing the bond between strategic goals and strengthening connection points between alumni, the community, and Clarkson College."



**Becky Wolf, Director**

"I have received so much support from so many people from the college throughout my professional career, and I am grateful for the opportunity to get involved and support my fellow alumni."

### About Us

Clarkson College Alumni Association Board of Directors serves as a liaison between alumni and our administration, staff, and employees to provide input on alumni activities, news, and accomplishments. Serving as the voice of the alumni body, the Board provides the College with insights from the Alumni point of view. Messages to the Board may be emailed to: [alumni@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:alumni@clarksoncollege.edu)



**Karen Abboud, PTA, MHA, CLT**  
**Director**

"Clarkson College has always been student-centered and upon graduating, those students become our alumni and I feel it is important to provide opportunities to communicate with and engage our alumni for the continued success of the College."



**Marsha Yembi, EdD, MSN, RN**  
**Director**

"Clarkson College has played a significant role in my nursing profession. Joining the Alumni Board gives me a chance to give back to the institution that has helped me grow professionally."



## ▶ Tell Your Story

Your time as a Clarkson College student and your career as a health care professional no doubt hold many interesting stories. If you would like to share your experiences or have an idea for an article, contact us at [Alumni@ClarksonCollege.edu](mailto:Alumni@ClarksonCollege.edu) or submit a Class Note on the Alumni webpage. Your idea may be published in a future edition of Alumni Times.

# reflections

## on a century

CENTENARIAN CONTINUES AS ADVOCATE FOR NURSING PROFESSION

**W**ITH THE COUNTRY ON the brink of war, and just having graduated from high school, career choices in 1941 for Florence “Elaine” Mortensen were limited. She was not keen on settling for the life of a missionary or farmer’s wife. Bolstered by good grades and the encouragement from a science teacher, Elaine headed east to Omaha with a \$50 PEO scholarship in hand, enrolling at Bishop Clarkson Memorial Hospital School of Nursing.

Elaine and her fellow students bonded quickly over shared interests and long hours of study. They attended class full-time for three months, then started a combination of classes and hospital work. Although she preferred med-surg and its inherent patient care, Elaine began training in surgery. It wasn’t easy; in fact, following an encounter with an angry young doctor, Elaine caught and lost the tip of a finger in a door. The same doctor treated her wound. In a twist of fate, he became her family’s doctor some 40 years later.

With the war raging, Elaine was faced with a dilemma. Her beau, Gene Cline, was due to leave for Naval Basic training. At the time, it was unheard of for married female students to continue their education. But Gene’s persistence and Elaine’s sense of daring led them to elope, driving to Rock Port,

cla



Missouri on October 10, 1942. Gene left the following day and Elaine returned to school where she kept her marriage secret for more than a year. Over the next three years, the pair spent a combined 30 days together. Elaine graduated in 1944, Gene returned home at the end of the war in 1945, and the couple started their life together.

Their marriage endured nearly 79 years until Gene's passing in 2021 at age 99. They were recognized by the Nebraska Family Alliance as one of Nebraska's longest married couples.

After a year, Elaine put her career on hold to start a family with three daughters born within five years. She often jokes that she became "Dr. Mom," using her medical training to bandage boo-boos and treat childhood ailments. In 1964, she organized the 20-year reunion of her graduating class, a wonderful opportunity to reconnect with her friends. It was also the "spark" she needed to resurrect her nursing career. She took a refresher course and began working for Immanuel Hospital in the Med-Surg ward. Over the next 25 years, Elaine witnessed the growth of what is now CHI Health Immanuel and made more lifelong friendships.

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## "For Elaine, nursing is all about community"

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For Elaine, nursing is all about community. She keeps in touch with her fellow classmates through Christmas cards and reunions. Her Clarkson roommate, Estella Nordmeyer, even married her brother, Don. She also regularly attends gatherings of her Immanuel family.

Now, at the age of 102, Elaine keeps up with nursing through three of her eight grandchildren who are in the field. She is impressed with their abilities and how their education differed from her own. Her love of the profession has not diminished nor has her appreciation for the education she received from Bishop Clarkson Memorial School of Nursing.

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**Elaine Cline shared this verse, popular during her time as a Clarkson College student.**

### A Clarkson Nurse

A Clarkson nurse is hard to beat,  
she's just a hundred from head-to-feet.  
She's got that style,  
that smile,  
that winning way.  
And when you look at her,  
you'll recognize and say,  
"Now there's a nurse I'd like to know."  
She's got that good old  
Clarkson pep and go,  
and when you look at her,  
you're sure you'll always know,  
A Clarkson Nurse.

# Clarkson nurse

135 REASONS TO CELEBRATE  
CLARKSON COLLEGE

# SPIRIT WEEK



▶ Imagine turning 135 years old. With all you've seen and experienced since 1888, you've earned a big celebration! Clarkson College marked the anniversary of the institution's founding during annual Spirit Week festivities, honoring the past and dreaming of an exciting future.

## A WEEK OF VALUES AND MEMORIES

Each day of Spirit Week highlighted a Clarkson College Value, respecting the core principles that continue to guide our efforts.

### 1 MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 25 **Integrity**

The day began with specialty coffee from Joe On-The-Go followed by a catered lunch in the Courtyard where lively entertainment by Omaha Street Percussion punctuated the air. The annual banner contest entries were revealed and voted upon for their creativity. The Communications and Development team and the Psychology Class of Fall 2023 student group were declared the winners.

### 2 TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26 **Caring**

Caring was at the heart of this activity-filled day. Alumni, students, and staff joined in a cleanup of the Blackstone neighborhood, and a group volunteered at Open Door Mission. Members of the Clarkson community were rewarded for their hard work with a visit from The Pancake Man and Simply Sweet Ice Cream. The day concluded with a public Open House, a great opportunity to share the beautiful campus, advanced learning spaces, and friendly faces of Clarkson College. A highlight was the official ribbon-cutting of the 3D Printing and Training Center of Excellence. (Learn more on page 8.)





PTA program director, Jessica Nieman, tossed a direct hit and sent Dr. Nebel into the water.



In attendance at the Alumni Dinner were Patricia Weber, Ellen Collins, Shelli Weddum, Kendra Swanson and Katie Fulton.

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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

## Excellence

The day of Excellence began with a mile-long walk, promoting a healthy body, mind & soul. At the Legacy Series luncheon, students and staff gathered to learn from notable alumni Traci Rawlinson, Susan Riggs, Becky Wolf, and Bill Koile who shared their insights. With vendor booths and games galore at the afternoon's Wellness Fair, students and staff volunteered and took advantage of the fun which included a dunk tank. Even President Nebel took a turn in the hot seat, cheerfully accepting her fate as she was "dunked."



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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

## Commitment

Thursday was dedicated to the history of Clarkson College beginning with a ceremony in the Clarkson Service League Heritage Garden. Those lost and cherished were honored by the dedication of inscribed bricks. The event was capped with the announcement of the selection of 2023's Mr. Clarkson and Ms. Clarkson: Erik Sorlien (PTA,) and Hannah Subbert (BSN.) Following the ceremony, Alumni gathered reminisced at brunch and took advantage of campus tours and later connected at an afternoon happy hour.

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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

## Learning

Three industry experts presented at a public continuing education event. Nearly 100 attendees heard trending healthcare perspectives from Jeremy Nordquist (President, Nebraska Hospital Association,) Blair Kauzlarich (3D Printing & Training Center Administrator,) and Dr. Andreaia Nebel (President, Clarkson College.)

Spirit Week concluded with the alumni dinner at the historic Cottonwood Hotel, honoring the graduating classes of 1963, '73, '83, '88,'93, 2003, '08, '13 and '18, and the 10-year anniversary of the Doctor of Education (EdD) in Healthcare Education & Leadership program and the 30-year anniversary of the Radiography program. Dr. Andreaia Nebel, Dr. Aubray Orduña, and Ellen Collins joined Alumni and Development Coordinator, Alexandra Denton, as presenters. Caleb Poore and Luke Poore were honored as Distinguished Alumni. (See details on page 10.)

JOIN US FOR THE  
2024 CELEBRATION  
SEPTEMBER 23–27



## It's Official! Ribbon-Cutting Opens 3D Printing Center of Excellence

The atmosphere was charged with excitement on a beautiful fall afternoon as Clarkson College, community dignitaries, and administrators from 3D Systems Healthcare celebrated the official ribbon cutting ceremony of the 3D Printing Center of Excellence. This collaborative venture promises to revolutionize healthcare by providing advanced medical solutions including a range of FDA 510(k) cleared, patient-specific 3D printed medical devices.

The services provided to physicians harness the power of 3D printing. For example, it allows the creation of patient-specific 3D anatomic models which enable healthcare providers to tailor treatments precisely to an individual's unique anatomy, needs, and medical condition. This level of customization leads to more accurate diagnoses, optimized treatment plans, and ultimately, improved patient outcomes.

This significant milestone signaled a future where 3D printing, and healthcare seamlessly converge. The 3D Printing Center of Excellence will have a significant impact on the local community, providing access to state-of-the-art healthcare solutions and educational programs, empowering healthcare providers, and benefiting patients.

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**“It is a testament to the potential of technology to transform healthcare, enhancing the lives of both patients and medical practitioners alike.”**

TRISH WEBER, ASSISTANT DIRECTOR,  
RADIOGRAPHY/MEDICAL IMAGING AND  
TECHNOLOGY

Shown left to right:

Trish Weber, Assistant Director, Radiography/Medical Imaging and Technology, Menno Ellis, Executive Vice President, Healthcare Solutions at 3D Systems, Devash Vyas, Senior Product Portfolio Manager at 3D Systems Healthcare, Blair Kaulzarich, Administrator of the 3D Printing and Training Center at Clarkson College, Patrick McClellan, Business Development at 3D Systems Healthcare, Dr. Andriea Nebel, President/CEO of Clarkson College.

“The 3D Center of Excellence follows the storied Clarkson College history of being pioneers in healthcare, continuously pushing the boundaries of what is possible to improve the lives of the community and the practice of healthcare. It is a testament to the potential of technology to transform healthcare, enhancing the lives of both patients and medical practitioners alike” said Trish Weber, Assistant Director, Radiography/Medical Imaging and Technology,

For more information, visit [ClarksonCollege.edu/3D-printing-and-training-center](http://ClarksonCollege.edu/3D-printing-and-training-center) or contact the Center directly via email: [3dlab@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:3dlab@clarksoncollege.edu)



► **Building a Lasting Heritage, Brick-by-Brick**

ON SEPTEMBER 28, IN A heartwarming display of unity, the Clarkson College community gathered to commemorate the Heritage Garden Walk. The event offered alumni, employees, and students the opportunity to honor a cherished family member or colleague by purchasing an inscribed brick for placement in the Clarkson Service League Heritage Garden.

The significance of this emotional event was not lost on those present, as participants memorialized friends and family members including recently departed Clarkson College graduates Angie Scott and Abby Olberding.

Additional funds generated through this initiative were dedicated to the Alumni Endowed Scholarship Fund to pave the way for deserving Clarkson College students. Bricks were dedicated to the following:

**Rita Vanfleet** dedicated a brick to celebrate her friend, **Jackie Parmenter**, stating that she is, "one of the best nurses I have ever had the opportunity to work with and is well-respected within the profession." The two friends earned their bachelor's degrees together and have great memories of their time as Clarkson College students.

**Fran Anderson** ('64) dedicated a brick to support "peace for all."

The **Physical Therapist Assistant (PTA)** program dedicated two bricks in memory of **Angie Scott** and **Abby Olberding**. A 2007 graduate, Angie Scott served patients with heartfelt compassion and therapeutic hands throughout her career. Classmates and co-workers remember her loyalty, spirituality, and calming energy. Angie passed away following a battle with cancer on September 29, 2022.

Abby Olberding was the victim of a car accident on September 13, 2023, just months after graduation.

She was a friend to all and spread joy through her bright smile and kind-hearted nature. She had a passion for physical therapy and touched many lives with her care, compassion, and diligence.

A brick was purchased to honor **Emily Lykke** who passed away in 2019. Emily was a dedicated nurse, who graduated from the BSN program in 2008. Her friends and family came together to honor her as an amazing nurse, daughter, sister, aunt, dog mom and friend.

The General Education Department and Academic Council celebrated the retirement of their colleague, **Lori Bachle**, and honored her with a brick. Her enthusiasm for teaching serves as an inspiration.

To celebrate the 135-year anniversary of the institution, a brick was dedicated to Clarkson College. This dedication serves as a lasting tribute of the enduring legacy and long-standing commitment to education, excellence, and service in the healthcare field.

The collective act of remembrance and generosity, reinforces the strong bonds within the Clarkson College community.





# SHARING MORE THAN DNA

Brothers Earn Distinguished Alumni Awards



Shown: Carla Dirkschneider, Dr. Andraea Nebel, Luke Poore, Caleb Poore, and Jessica Neimann.

Caleb Poore and Luke Poore were selected as 2023 Distinguished Alumni and honored during the alumni dinner on Friday, September 29. This award recognizes the extraordinary support of those who have had a significant impact on Clarkson College or the health care community.

Caleb's journey started with graduating from the Physical Therapist Assistant Program at Clarkson College in 2011. He quickly gained trust and respect as a PTA and became the Director of Rehabilitation for his organization. Under his leadership, the facility received the Operational Excellence Award from Genesis Rehab Services, a nationwide company. Eager to learn and grow, Caleb pursued both bachelor's and master's degrees in healthcare administration. Caleb is now the new Chief Executive Officer at Boone County (IA) Health Center, a 25-bed facility.

Luke is a two-time graduate of Clarkson College, receiving his Physical Therapist Assistant degree in 2010 and his master's degree in healthcare administration in 2016. He has leveraged his education to become an executive healthcare leader, currently serving as CEO of Kearney County Health Services in Minden, Nebraska. As a leader, Luke emphasizes the importance of community collaboration and bringing together various healthcare stakeholders including nursing homes, public health departments, local pharmacies, home health services, and more to provide comprehensive rural healthcare.



## Best of Omaha

Clarkson College was voted the 2nd place winner in the Technology Training / School category of Omaha Magazine's 2024 Best of Omaha! We are in great company alongside our friends at Metropolitan Community College (Nebraska) and Iowa Western Community College

## ▶ In Memory

We extend a warm "thank you" to donors who gave to Clarkson College in 2023. These donations support student scholarships, improve student experiences and grow capital improvement funds. Over \$60,000 was raised in 2023 including through our annual "Choose To Give" campaign. A complete list of donors may be found on our website: [www.clarksoncollege.edu/donate](http://www.clarksoncollege.edu/donate)

### Honorariums and memorial gifts are listed below:

**Lori Sharp** donated in memory of Jennifer Lee Etheredge, class of 2000.

**Holly Rogge-Hafer** donated in honor of Tawnya Roberts, class of 1988.

**Thomas Bramford** donated to the Student Emergency Fund in memory of Susan Bamford, wife and graduate of 1970.

**Robyn Hansen** donated in honor of Hannah Nicole.

**Kenneth A. Scheer** donated in memory of Mary Smestad Krecek 1967. Died January 20, 2023 in Omaha of CHF. Survived by husband, John; two daughters and one grandson.

**Robert Howard** donated in memory of Abby Olberding, PTA graduate, class of 2022.

**Richard, Secor, Jr.** donated in honor of Bill Dinsmoor, Jim Canedy, Torri Criger, and Matt Hruska, Clarkson Regional Health Services.

**Karen Abboud** donated in memory of Abby Olberding, PTA graduate, class of 2022.

**Andrea Padilla-Rosas** donated in memory of Bertha & Salvador Padilla.

**James Linder** donated in honor of future Clarkson College Alumni.

**Michael Kaminski** donated in memory of Kelly Jean Falk, a Clarkson College graduate.

**Janet Hansen** donated in memory of Mary Fran (Paine) Bacon, a fellow registered nurse.

To donate online, navigate to our website [www.clarksoncollege.edu/donate](http://www.clarksoncollege.edu/donate) or use your smart device to scan the QR code.



Checks may be mailed to:  
Clarkson College  
101 South 42nd Street  
Omaha, Nebraska, 68131  
Attn: Ale Denton

To report an error on the list of donors, please email:

**Ale Denton**, Alumni and Development Coordinator  
[DentonAle@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:DentonAle@clarksoncollege.edu)



## ▶ Graduate Honored Posthumously

### MAKOVICKIA PHYSICAL THERAPY ESTABLISHES SCHOLARSHIP

This issue of Alumni Times is dedicated to the memory of Abby Olberding.

The December 2022 graduate of the Clarkson College Physical Therapist Assistant program lost her life in a car accident in September 2023. At the time of her death, she proudly worked for Makovicka Physical Therapy in Omaha.

To honor her memory, Makovicka Physical Therapy has created a scholarship at Clarkson College, which will keep Abby's memory alive as it aids students in their pursuits.

Jessica Niemann, Director of the Physical Therapist Assistant Program, stated "Abby Olberding will forever be remembered. She was an exceptional student and had an unwavering passion for physical therapy. She touched many lives with her care and diligence."

If you would like to contribute to **Abby Olberding Makovicka PTA Scholarship**, contact Ale Denton, Alumni and Development Coordinator, at [dentonale@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:dentonale@clarksoncollege.edu).

# Summer 2023 Graduates

## **Certificate in Computed Tomography**

MaKenna R. Beller

## **Certificate in Medical 3D Printing Specialist**

Kelly Jo Eaton  
Amber Gabbard  
Michelle Olson  
Michael S. Sandelier  
Kendra Lea Swanson

## **Certificate in Magnetic Resonance Imaging**

Samantha Jean BeckBest  
MaKenna R. Beller  
Emma Claire McDonald  
Jordyn Seidel  
Taylor Lynn Woitzel

## **Associate of Science in Health Information Technology**

Blanca Vasquez *summa cum laude* Σ

## **Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant**

Gregory A Bedel  
Luis Cardenas *magna cum laude*  
Isaac Egenberger Σ  
Emily Ann Gross *summa cum laude*  
Kalen Leget  
Michelle Lyn Lueking *summa cum laude*  
Brandon Carl Marker *summa cum laude*  
Jimmy Nguyen *summa cum laude* Σ  
Chelsy Nicole Norman  
Naomi Jean Sather *summa cum laude*  
Lyndsie Marie Stewart *summa cum laude*

## **Associate of Science in Radiography**

Samantha Avalos *with distinction*  
Samantha Jean BeckBest *cum laude*  
MaKenna R. Beller *summa cum laude*  
Angela Clair Butler *with distinction*

Kevin Austin Eaton  
Grace Gottner *summa cum laude*  
Christian Alan Jensen  
Britni E. Kirkland *with distinction*  
Jackellin Adriana Magana *cum laude*  
Emma Claire McDonald *summa cum laude*  
Anah Marie McNeal *cum laude*  
Christian Busuma Mulongo  
Danielle Nielsen  
Cailyn Popham  
Megan Reynolds *with distinction*  
Jordyn Seidel *magna cum laude*  
Baleigh McKenzie Thompson  
Cameron Jean Tritle  
Taylor Lynn Woitzel *with distinction*

## **Bachelor of Science in Community Health**

Kiara Rose Monteith

## **Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Business**

Christina Lynn King – Health Information Administration *summa cum laude* Σ  
Leyton Robert Luke – Health Information Administration  
Kim Rachelle Stamper - Management

## **Bachelor of Science Medical Imaging**

MaKenna R. Beller *summa cum laude*  
Christine Stephanie Harris *summa cum laude*  
Britni E. Kirkland *with distinction*  
Sydney Marie Warren

## **Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Olivia Madje Agbekponou  
Angela Marie Balkovec  
Alissa Rae Berryman  
Marisela Castillo-Negrete  
Jessica Cera  
Trisha Cerone *with distinction* Σ  
Meghan D. Crouch *cum laude*  
Brittany Renee Early  
Candice Grant  
Isabella Haave *cum laude* Σ

Jordyn Hardeman  
Kimberly Harpole-Hutchinson *summa cum laude*  
Allie Shea Hartman Σ  
Josh Hecker  
Hannah Mackenzie Jeffrey *summa cum laude* Σ  
Haydn Jones Σ  
Peyton Alivia Kahler Fox  
Lauren Elizabeth Kasik  
Janelle Kristine Kellberg Σ  
Andrea Marie Kempkes Σ  
Julie Roxanne Kottmann  
Mikayla Lindsey *summa cum laude*  
Courtney Louis *with distinction*  
Jennifer Martin *summa cum laude*  
Kaitlyn Elizabeth McDermott  
Mikayla Morrow *cum laude*  
Hasna Abdikadir Muhina  
Emma Jean Pals *cum laude*  
Michelle Louise Platt  
Paola Patricia Ramirez Del Toro *with distinction*  
Cecelia Nandak Samci Σ  
Kiley Sheard  
Stephanie Smith  
Annika Marie Vohs  
Elizabeth Kae Ward *cum laude*  
Hope Marie Whitten  
Jamie Marie Zimmerman *magna cum laude*

## **Master in Healthcare Administration**

Joann M. Baumert Σ  
Melody Diack  
Elizabeth Jones  
Brittany M. Simpson  
David Terry

## **Master of Science in Nursing**

Julia Adee – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Alyssa Anson – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Chelsea Lynn Baird – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Richard Brunmeier – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Christopher D. Burrell – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Sarah Carter – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Melody Diack – Nursing

Healthcare Administration  
Elizabeth Dolan – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Jessica Ann Drees – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Amy Ehli – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Emily Alison Clare Farrell – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Elizabeth A Fitzgarrald – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Kacie Gittings – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Lindsay Ann Godberson – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ †  
Ashley Gormley – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Katie Hickens – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Stephanie Hoerle – Nursing Education  
Elizabeth Jones – Nursing Healthcare Administration  
Carrie L. Lechtenberger – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Stephanie Ann Lovett – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Bailey Hinseth Miller – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Cassie Moser – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Mariah Noid – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Daniel Owen – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Olga Patkovsky – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Sarah Petersen – Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
Brooke Plooster – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Elizabeth Daisy Rasmussen – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Corinne Elise Schriver – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Kelly Jo Steele – Family Nurse Practitioner

## **Doctor of Education in Healthcare Education and Leadership**

Stephanie Entringer

Elaine Kathryn Owen Σ  
Marsha Tyana Yembi Σ

**Doctor of Nursing Practice**

Lisa Christine Baker  
Rachael J. Barnes – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Jerome L. Bouie – Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
Marissa Jean Faulkner- Family Nurse Practitioner  
Katie Ann Gurskis  
Lyne Christiane Liboiron-Bouie – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Danielle Alexis Reuter – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Lorraine Marie Romero Σ

**Master of Science in Nursing**

Kacie Gittings

**Doctor of Education in Healthcare Education and Leadership**

Elaine Kathryn Owen

**Doctor of Nursing Practice**

Lisa Christine Baker  
Lorraine Marie Romero



13 years and running! U.S. News & World Report has voted our Graduate Nursing program as one of the 100 best online options in the nation for the 13th year in a row. Congratulations to our faculty, staff and students who have made this program into one of the top choices nationwide!

**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS**

**Associate of Science in Health Information Technology**

Blanca Vasquez

**Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant**

Emily Ann Gross  
Michelle Lyn Lueking  
Naomi Jean Sather

**Associate of Science in Radiography**

Emma Claire McDonald

**Bachelor of Science in Healthcare Business**

Christina Lynn King

**Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging**

MaKenna R. Beller

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Hannah Mackenzie Jeffrey

**Master in Healthcare Administration**

David Terry

**Certificate in Computed Tomography**

Samantha Jean BeckBest λ

**Certificate in Health Information Management**

Janel Constance Hamilton  
Michelle Jean Morgan

**Certificate in Medical Imaging Informatics**

Megan Reynolds  
Taylor James Tebeau

**Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant**

Julia Boshart *summa cum laude*  
Braydon C. Caldwell *summa cum laude*  
Grace Mann  
Jordan Peatrowsky *cum laude*  
Jamie Rae Rapp *summa cum laude*  
Charlee Sharp *summa cum laude*

**Bachelor of Science in Community Health**

Katherine Houlden *summa cum laude*  
Maria Esther Rodriguez Leon

**Bachelor of Science Medical Imaging**

Samantha Jean BeckBest *magna cum laude* λ  
Christian Alan Jensen

Emma Claire McDonald *summa cum laude* λ

Megan Reynolds *with distinction*  
Baleigh Mckenzie Thompson  
Taylor Lynn Woitzel *with distinction* λ

**Bachelor of Science in Nursing**

Carol Ann Bailey *cum laude* †  
Riley Bera  
Shelby Bergholz *with distinction*  
Toni Boardman  
Gabrielle Cole *with distinction*  
Mikayla Gibson *with distinction* †  
Gabrielle Hunke  
Margaret N. Kaburu  
Matthew Kienow  
Cherie Lawton *summa cum laude*  
Cali Marsh *cum laude*  
Ellison McNeill  
Payton Meyer  
Kayla Miller *summa cum laude* †  
Alexandria Morimoto  
Caleb Noah  
Aubrey Anna Olson  
Rachel Parker *with distinction*  
Kimberly Richart *cum laude* †  
Travis Smidt  
Brandi Jo Smith  
Njowo Tchakounte *summa cum laude*  
Zachary Thomas *magna cum laude* Σ †  
Abby Nicole Titus *summa cum laude*

**Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant (3)**

Melanie Renae Jones *with distinction* Σ  
Emma McGee *with distinction*  
Rachel Lee Teten *summa cum laude* Σ

**Master in Healthcare Administration**

Dayton Headlee  
Jamie Ann Rudd

**Master of Science in Nursing**

Allison M. Briley – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Camellia R. Brown – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Ellie Danielle Burks – Family Nurse Practitioner †  
Katarina Kay Dirkson – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Kimberly Ngoc Thi Gillespie – Family Nurse Practitioner  
Kayla Louise Heflin – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Stacey Lynn Hess – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner Σ  
Abby Johnson – Family Nurse Practitioner †  
Amber Johnson – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
Cory Joseph Johnson – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner

Fall 2023 Graduates

Kayleigh Elizabeth Jopson – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
 Nicole Michelle Lenaghan – Nursing Education  
 Courtney Linn Marquis – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Holly Montgomery – Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner  
 Karin Mortenson – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Nicole Peterson – Family Nurse Practitioner †  
 Mindy Quarles Owens – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Mary Nelle Richardson – Family Nurse Practitioner †  
 Ashley Ruhaak – Family Nurse Practitioner †  
 Katie Schlotterback – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Larissa Schuety – Nursing Education  
 Ashley Shacklett – Nursing Healthcare Administration  
 Maresa Sierra – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Angela Kay Sivertson – Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
 Christopher J. Strain – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Meghann Warnke – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Jennifer Marie Wisnieski – Nursing Healthcare Administration Σ †  
 Mandy Lynn Woods – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Kari Zimmerman- Family Nurse Practitioner

### Post-Graduate Certificate in Nursing

Abby Layne Hager – Adult Gerontology Acute Care Nurse Practitioner  
 Anna Kill – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Calista Kringen – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Erin Renae Swint – Family Nurse Practitioner

### Doctor of Education in Healthcare Education and Leadership

Kimberly Michael  
 Jodie L. Smith

### Doctor of Nursing Practice

Kelly-Jo P. Balignasay  
 Rachael J. Barnes – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ  
 Christopher Ryan Duff – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Aaron Egelkraut – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Briana Foulk – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Melissa Jo Frazier – Family Nurse Practitioner Σ †  
 Brent Donald Hannah – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Kolby Erin Harper – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Jaimie Jensen – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Caitlin Johannes – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Julia Claire Kepple – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Dustin Kaare Lode – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Marleine Luke – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Brittany Morrison – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Alexa Kay Neill-Scheer – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Bhavisha Shreeya Patel – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Beatrice Pradhan – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Emily Rollag – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Seedy Ali Sarr – Nurse Anesthesia  
 Brittany Schaefer – Family Nurse Practitioner  
 Erin Marie Soma – Family Nurse Practitioner †

## ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AWARD WINNERS

### Associate of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Julia Boshart  
 Braydon C. Caldwell  
 Jamie Rae Rapp

### Bachelor of Science in Community Health

Katherine Houlden

### Bachelor of Science in Medical Imaging

Emma Claire McDonald

### Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Kayla Miller  
 Njowo Tchakounte  
 Abby Nicole Titus

### Bachelor of Science in Physical Therapist Assistant

Rachel Lee Teten

### Master in Healthcare Administration

Dayton Headlee

### Master of Science in Nursing

Larissa Schuety  
 Maresa Sierra  
 Angela Kay Sivertson

### Doctor of Education in Healthcare Education and Leadership

Kimberly Michael

### Doctor of Nursing Practice

Christopher Ryan Duff  
 Dustin Kaare Lode

## Academic Honors

Academic honors are conferred on Bachelor of Science and Associate of Science degree candidates who, upon graduation, distinguish themselves by maintaining a high cumulative grade point average. To qualify for academic honors, a student must have completed the minimum required residency hours. Honors are distinguished as follows:

\*\*\*\* Summa Cum Laude: 3.85 and above

\*\*\* Magna Cum Laude: 3.75 through 3.84

\*\* Cum Laude: 3.65 through 3.74

\* With Distinction: 3.50 through 3.64

## Honor Societies

Honor societies at Clarkson College include:

Σ Member of National Society of Leadership and Success Sigma Alpha Pi Interdisciplinary Honor Society

† Member of Omicron Epsilon Chapter Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing

λ Member of Delta Chapter Lambda Nu National Honor Society for the Radiologic and Imaging Sciences

*Note: Names and honors designations are based upon current information at press time. We apologize for any errors.*

## 2024

Join us to Celebrate Commencement  
 Saturday, August 10, at 10 a.m.  
 Baxter Arena, Omaha, Nebraska

# Dear Alumni,

FROM THE DESK OF THE ALUMNI  
BOARD PRESIDENT

AS THE NEWLY RE-ELECTED president of the Clarkson College Alumni Board, I am excited to continue working with the dedicated members of the board to advance our mission and strengthen the connection between our alumni and our alma mater. I invite you to not only watch but to participate as we make efforts to:

› **Strengthen engagement with our alumni community**

Let's foster a vibrant and inclusive alumni community where all graduates feel connected and valued. We will create meaningful opportunities for alumni to engage with the college, with each other, and with current students.

› **Enhance career development and networking opportunities**

Alumni should have access to valuable career resources and networking events, as well as fellow alumni and industry professionals.

› **Support student success**

Scholarships, mentorship programs, and internship opportunities can all benefit from our joined efforts. The student experience is enhanced through alumni giving, enabling us to invest in scholarships, faculty development, and other initiatives.

› **Expand alumni outreach and engagement**

Alumni from all generations and backgrounds should be encouraged to participate, fostering a sense of belonging and pride in Clarkson College.

› **Promote philanthropy**

Aside from dollars and cents, your time and talents are needed to support our students and faculty in a variety of ways. Mentoring, serving on committees, organizing and hosting events, guiding students on career pathways, and connecting with other alumni to strengthen our professional network are all encouraged.



Our alumni board can play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Clarkson College and make a positive impact on the lives of our students. I am committed to working with our board members, our alumni community, and the college administration to achieve these goals. I look forward to working with you to make a difference!

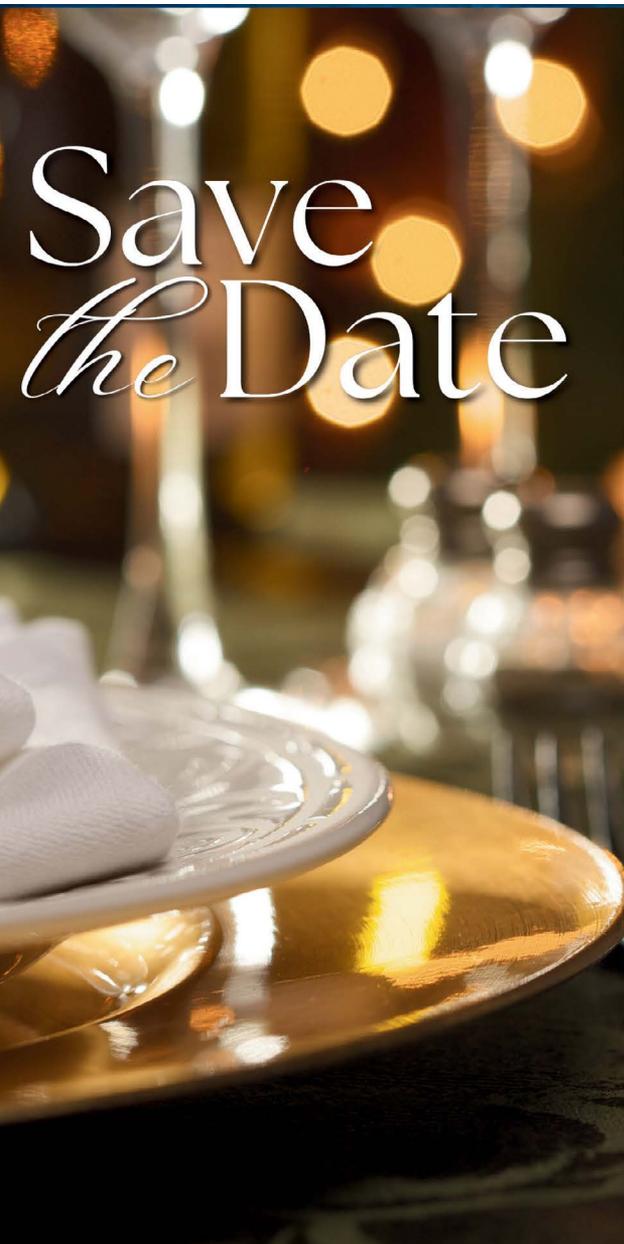
Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Bill Koile'.

**Bill Koile, MS, MBA**

Alumni Association Board President

If you have any questions or would like to contact the Alumni Association Board, please send an email to [alumni@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:alumni@clarksoncollege.edu) or reach out to Ale Denton, Alumni and Development Coordinator, at [dentonale@clarksoncollege.edu](mailto:dentonale@clarksoncollege.edu) or 402-552-2685.



Save  
*the* Date

# Alumni Weekend Dinner

27 September 2024

6 o'clock in the evening

The Farnam

1299 Farnam Street, Omaha