UNIVERSITY CEREMONY
Bridgeforth Stadium, May 6, 2016

COMMENCEMENT 2016
The First Convocation of the One Hundred and Seventh annual Commencement

JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY®
**JMU ALMA MATER**

Madison, James Madison, we’ll be forever true.  
Our loyalty will always be to JMU.  
While friends remain within our hearts and knowledge guides our way, 
James Madison will lead us on to conquer each new day.

**JMU FIGHT SONG**

Madison, James Madison,  
We are the Dukes of JMU  
Madison, James Madison,  
The fighting Dukes of JMU  
Fight for Glory – Honors Won  
Brighten the Lights of Madison  
Madison, James Madison,  
Show your Colors  
Proud and True  
We are the Dukes of JMU

**COLLEGE CEREMONIES**

Each college will hold its own ceremony where each graduate will have his or her name read aloud and walk across the stage. Listed below are the colleges and their graduation locations. The college ceremonies are held rain or shine, so bring umbrellas or ponchos if the weather forecast reflects rain. If weather conditions appear life-threatening (lightning, tornado warnings, etc.) the college ceremonies will adhere to a “severe weather” schedule. If this is the case due to safety issues, a decision will be made by 7 a.m. and will be posted on the website, commencement app and media outlets.

**Friday, May 6, 6 p.m.**
- College of Business – Bridgeforth Stadium

**Saturday, May 7, all ceremonies begin at 9 a.m.**
- College of Arts and Letters – The Quadrangle
- College of Education and University Studies – Convocation Center
- College of Health and Behavioral Studies – Bridgeforth Stadium
- College of Integrated Science and Engineering  
  – UREC East Campus Field across from The Festival Center
- College of Science and Mathematics – Alumni Centennial Park
- College of Visual and Performing Arts – Duke Lawn
UNIVERSITY CEREMONY
FRIDAY, MAY 6, 2016, 3 P.M.

PROCESIONAL

*The Star-Spangled Banner* ........................................... Francis Scott Key
Exit 245 Seniors
Michael Brooks, Shaun Nerney, David Pumphrey and Samuel Valentine

WELCOME ................................................................. Mr. Jonathan R. Alger
President, James Madison University

GREETINGS

Introduction of Student Speaker ................................... Mr. Ryan Windels (’16)
President, Student Government Association

Student Address ......................................................... Ms. Mia Brabham (’16)

Introduction of Faculty Speaker ................................... Ms. Kathy Corena (’16)
President, Senior Class Council

Faculty Address ......................................................... Dr. William Evans
Psychology Professor, Brigadier General and Pastor

Alumni Remarks ....................................................... Mr. Larry W. Caudle, Jr. (’82)
President, JMU Alumni Association

*America, the Beautiful* .............................................. Samuel Augustus Ward, arranged by Carmen Dragon
Performed by the JMU Wind Symphony

Introduction of Commencement Speaker ....................... Mr. Alger

Commencement Address ............................................. Dr. Curt Carlson
Founder and CEO of Practice of Innovation

Recognition of Honor Graduates ................................... Dr. A. Jerry Benson
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Candidate Endorsement by Faculty ............................... Mr. David K. McGraw
Speaker, Faculty Senate

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Conferring of Degrees ................................................ Mr. Alger

*JMU Alma Mater* ..................................................... Dr. James R. Riley
Performed by The Madison Singers

RECESSIONAL

Please join us on Godwin Field following the ceremony for a reception to celebrate with the graduates.
2016 OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTORS

THE STUDENT SPEAKER is an honor bestowed to a fellow senior through an application and audition process, run by the Student Government Association (SGA). Mia Brabham is graduating cum laude with a major in Media Arts and Design and a minor in Creative Writing and was a First Year Orientation Guide. Mia hopes to one day direct, write, produce, and host her own talk show.

THE CLASS OF 2016 VALEDICTORIANS meet the criteria for class valedictorian with the highest grade point average in their class, 100 or more hours of coursework at James Madison University, and an average of 14 hours earned each regular semester of attendance.

Alexandra Deal is a biology major from Chesapeake, Va. She has been an executive member of Beta Beta Beta, the Biological Honor Society, and in the SGA for the past four years. Alexandra is a STEM Second Century Scholar and works in a research lab in the biology department studying gene misregulation in Alzheimer’s Disease. After graduation, Alexandra will be attending medical school at the University of Virginia.

Ryan Stees is a mathematics and music composition double major from Harrisonburg, VA. During his time at JMU, he has been active in mathematics research. Ryan has studied euphonium and baritone with his father, music professor Kevin Stees, and has performed as a member of JMU’s Brass Band, Wind Symphony, Symphony Orchestra, and Symphonic Band. After graduation, Ryan will pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics. He aspires to teach mathematics at a university while continuing his pursuits as a composer and performing musician.

FACULTY SPEAKER Every year the senior class selects a faculty member who has made a significant contribution to their Madison experience. The professor is asked to share their words of wisdom and inspiration to the graduating class. Dr. Bill Evans earned his bachelor’s degree in religion from Wofford College and went on to obtain his master’s of divinity at Duke University. He earned his educational specialist and doctoral degrees in counselor education at the University of South Carolina. Evans served in the U.S. Air Force (Air National Guard) as a Chaplain from 1984 until retiring in 2010 as Brigadier General.

His open door policy represents his endless giving to the university. JMU’s psychology students recently rated him the “most accessible professor” in the department. In 1994, Evans came to JMU’s Psychology Department and teaches various developmental and leadership courses. He is also the Faculty Advisor for several service organizations at JMU. Evans is a co-author of three books: Inspiring Leadership, Thriving!, and Becoming a Community Counselor.
DR. CURTIS R. CARLSON is an internationally recognized innovator and thought leader on the practice of innovation. Carlson is the founder and CEO of Practice of Innovation, a company that works with entrepreneurs, start-ups, established companies, governments and universities to improve their innovative performance.

He is an advisor to government presidents and ministers, company CEOs and others on innovation and economic development plans. Carlson is currently helping to incubate two new companies.

The former president and CEO of SRI International from 1998 to 2014, Carlson led SRI to become a global model for the systematic creation of disruptive and world-changing innovations. Previously, SRI had made many seminal contributions to society, such as the foundations of personal computing, including the computer mouse, windows, shared editing and the first Internet transmission, but its previous innovation model was no longer working.

Under Carlson’s leadership, SRI’s revenue more than tripled and the company became a global model for the systematic creation of high-value innovations. Among the expansions of SRI was a new innovation center for biosciences in Harrisonburg, Virginia.

Before joining SRI, Carlson led teams in digital video, internet systems, human perception and computer vision at RCA, GE and the Sarnoff Corporation. In 1977 Carlson started and helped lead the high-definition television program that became the U.S. standard and in 1997, the Sarnoff team won an Emmy Award for outstanding technical achievement. In 2000 another Sarnoff team started by Carlson won an Emmy for a system to optimize satellite broadcast image quality.

Carlson has received numerous awards and served on multiple boards due to his expertise in technology innovation, including President Obama’s National Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and the U.S. National Science Foundation’s Engineering Advisory Council.

He was named a Fellow of the National Academy of Inventors in 2012 and is a founding member of the Innovation Leadership Council for the World Economic Forum.


He earned his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Rutgers University and his B.S. degree in physics from Worcester Polytechnic Institute, where he is a trustee.
MUSICIANS

THE JMU WIND SYMPHONY, under the direction of Dr. Stephen P. Bolstad, is the premier woodwind, brass and percussion ensemble at James Madison University and incorporates the wind ensemble concept of one-player-per-part. With an active performance schedule, the Wind Symphony is committed to performing the great works of the wind-band’s core repertoire while also exploring the best of contemporary composition. Graduates of the Wind Symphony hold positions in several of the Washington-based military bands, military post bands and symphony orchestras throughout the world, and numerous graduates are serving as noted educators and conductors throughout the country.

Flute/Piccolo
Guilherme Andreas *
Caroline Clouse
Emilia delGrosso *
Schuyler Thornton #

Oboe/English Horn
Aaron Robinson *
Alissa Forbes

Bassoon/Contra
Joey Figliola
Leonard Grasso *
Seth Walker

Clarinet
Noah Karkenny
Evan Kopca
Alison O’Bryan
Chris Pennington

* denotes principal

Allison Satterwhite *
Jessica Tang
Rosemary Williams

Bass Clarinet/ Contra
Sarah Wilson #
Tony Moran

Alto Saxophone
Jocelyn Abrahmzon
Adam Gough *

Tenor Saxophone
Corey Martin

Baritone Saxophone
Kaleel Moore

Trumpet
Vince Bryk

H. Carl Hess
Dylan Rye
Michael Sullivan *
Robert Wollenberg
Andrew Wood

Horn
Daniel Atwood **
Grace Chan
DJ Landoll
Hunter Payne
Benjamin Yehle *

Trombone
Will Ford *
Brian Junttila
Nick Warmuth

Bass Trombone
Andrew Comparin #

Euphonium
Joel Collier *
Allison Hunter

Tuba
Andrew Foote
Will Mason *

String Bass
Neal Perrine

Percussion
Chris Cerreto
Patrick Fisher
James Infantino
Matt Rapiejko *
Elijah Steele
Steve Vereb

# denotes graduate student
**Exit 245** is an all-male, student run and funded a cappella group from JMU in Harrisonburg, Virginia. Founded in 1998, Exit 245 has spent the past decade and a half traveling up and down the east coast, making a name for themselves in the a cappella world thanks to popular releases and viral videos.

Exit 245 has appeared on the *Best of College A Cappella* (BOCA) CD in 2016, 2012, 2010 & 2007, and most recently received the honor of “Runner Up” for best Male Collegiate Album in the nation from the 2016 Contemporary A Cappella Recording Awards. Performing today are graduating senior members:

Shaun Nerney (Musical Theater, Tenor)  
Samuel Valentine (Media Arts and Design, Tenor)  
David Pumphrey (Kinesiology, Baritone)  
Michael Brooks (Physics, Bass)

**The Madison Singers** are the select, auditioned choral chamber ensemble at JMU. They explore, prepare and present advanced choral repertoire that is expressive of the diversity of the human spirit throughout both music history and world cultures. Membership is by audition only and open to any JMU student. Often two to four members on a part, and sometimes unconducted, this touring ensemble requires superior musicianship and vocal ability as it performs wonderfully complex choral pieces spanning all time periods. The Madison Singers tour locally, regionally and internationally. The ensemble has collaborated with the Czech National Orchestra in Prague and competed in the National Eisteddfod of Wales. They have joined the concert stage with American storytelling icon, Garrison Keillor, and were recently the guest choir on the 2015 Josh Groban *Stages* Concert Tour, singing with Josh on stage at the DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, DC, and the renowned Tower Theatre in Philadelphia.

The Madison Singers are active as “audible ambassadors” for James Madison University, performing concerts at local schools, nursing homes and assisted living facilities.

Dr. Jo-Anne van der Vat-Chromy, director  
Meghan Rainey, choral accompanist  
Wen Chin Liu, graduate assistant  
Sarah Schweit, TMS manager

**Soprano**  
Melissa Allen  
Amber Blakovitch  
Katie Carbone  
Annemarie Cartwright  
Wen Chin Liu  
Nelia Maurizi  
Abby Schneider  
Sarah Schweit

**Tenor**  
Samuel Allen  
David Bogaev  
Nick Branson  
Henry Hubbard  
Mike Jarvis  
Ben Swanson

**Alto**  
Madeline Chalk  
Jessie Dunnivant*  
Elizabeth Garcia*  
Kara Levchenko  
Cristen Mitchell**  
Megan Rainey**  
Abby Stanley  
Sydney Wilkens

**Bass**  
Lexington Bowler  
Erik Grendahl  
Billy La Pietra  
Aaron Todd  
Sterling Webster  
Kyle Yampiro**

* denotes principal  
** denotes MM graduates
Bluestone Drive closed to thru traffic on Saturday – transit use only.
COMMENCEMENT NOTES

PHOTOGRAPHY JMU’s official photographers, Grad Images, will take photos of each graduate at their respective college ceremonies. Shortly after the commencement ceremonies, graduates will be emailed the photography website link, which will include the proofs and information about ordering prints. Graduates and guests may take photographs during the ceremonies from their seats but are prohibited to take photos in the aisles or block the sight lines of other guests for long periods of time.

FLOWER SALES Our floral vendor, Commencement Flowers will be offering floral arrangements for purchase near every college ceremony on Friday and Saturday.

WEBCAST The University Ceremony in the stadium will be broadcast live online at www.jmu.edu. The link will also be available for viewing several weeks after commencement.

DIPLOMAS are not distributed at the college graduation ceremonies. Diplomas are mailed by the Office of the Registrar approximately eight weeks after graduates complete their final class and fulfill all program and financial requirements. For questions regarding diplomas, please email the Office of the Registrar at graduation@jmu.edu or call (540) 568-6281.

CONCESSIONS are available on the Concourse level of the stadium and in the breezeway between the stadium and Godwin Hall.

GODWIN FIELD CELEBRATION Following the University Ceremony, all are invited to Godwin Field for a celebration. Located outside the stadium, graduating seniors are welcome to socialize with family and friends and enjoy light refreshments. Alumni Relations and JMU Athletics will be handing out gifts and our very own Duke Dog will be making a special appearance.

DISABILITY SERVICES – James Madison University welcomes all graduates and guests to participate in our commencement ceremonies and is committed to universal access.

Accessible Parking for Bridgeforth Stadium ceremonies: For the University Ceremony, you are welcome to park in the Champions Drive Parking Deck if you display a DMV-issued parking tag or license plate. Guests may also park in lot R1 and ride one of our para-transit shuttles that will take you directly to Gate A where an elevator is available to take you to accessible seating options.

Accessible Seating: We are pleased to offer accessible seating for guests, including those with limited mobility. Accessible seating is available in the Club area on a first come, first served basis and these fill early. Additional seating is available on the main concourse (no steps) or under the tent on the football field, located near section 104. Please ask a volunteer or usher to direct you to the appropriate seating area when you arrive.
**Disability Services continued**

Due to the large number of guests attending, and the limited space, seating in the bench style seats on the main concourse and under the tent on the football field is available for the person who needs the accessible seating and one accompanying guest or attendant.

**Wheelchairs:** Graduates and guests with mobility impairments are encouraged to bring their own wheelchairs to the graduation events. Elevator access and wheelchair seating in the stadium is available, however all outdoor ceremonies occur on grass lawns. Some sidewalks and paths are located at certain locations, but rough terrain may be difficult.

**Captioning and ASL Interpretation in Bridgeforth Stadium on Friday, May 6**

JMU will utilize live captioning on a large video screen for the University and the College of Business ceremonies on Friday and for the College of Health and Behavioral Studies ceremony on Saturday. The reserved seating area will be in front of section 106. This section can be accessed easiest from Gate A, then off of the main concourse level, near Concessions. See an usher for assistance. For guests who wish to make use of American Sign Language interpretation, seating is available in section 106, where we will have an interpreter on site for your convenience. Captions may also be viewed by the family or friends of graduates, and by the graduates themselves from portable devices such as laptop computers, iPads, Smart Phones, etc. The QR code for this service is here:

**First Aid and Medical Assistance**

The Emergency Medical Services treatment area, staffed by the University of Virginia Health System Special Event Medical Management team will be located at the C/D entrance to Bridgeforth Stadium and near all college ceremonies. If weather temperatures are high, a cooling tent will be available to all guests at this location as well.

*Photos in this publication are courtesy of JMU University Photography, Grad Images, Sarah Reid and individuals involved in the ceremonies.*

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**JMU Grad App now available for download in the Apple and Google Play Stores**

The official app for all James Madison University Commencement Ceremonies details everything from frequently asked questions, shuttle information, and interactive maps. Download the app now to have everything at your fingertips and stay informed should weather changes affect the ceremonies.
Please reference the JMU Commencement website for important information and updates:

www.jmu.edu/commencement

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