UNIVERSITY CEREMONY
Bridgeforth Stadium, May 5, 2017

COMMENCEMENT 2017
The First Convocation of the One Hundred and Eighth annual Commencement
**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
UNIVERSITY CEREMONY
FRIDAY, MAY 5, 2017, 3 P.M.

PROCESIONAL
The Star-Spangled Banner ................................. Francis Scott Key
Performed by Ms. Melissa Allen (’17)

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

GREETINGS
Student Speaker Address ................................. Mr. David Vaughn (’17)
Faculty Speaker Address ................................. Dr. Alexander L. Gabbin
KPMG Professor of Accounting
Alumni Remarks .............................................. Ms. Heather E. Hedrick (’00)
President, JMU Alumni Association

America the Beautiful ................................. Samuel Augustus Ward, arranged by Carmen Dragon
Performed by the James Madison University Wind Symphony and The Madison Singers

Introduction of Commencement Speaker ....................... Mr. Alger
Commencement Address ................................ Mr. Arthur Moats (’12)
Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker

Presentation of Honorary Doctoral Degree ...................... Mr. Alger
Recognition of Honor Graduates ...................... Dr. A. Jerry Benson
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Candidate Endorsement by Faculty .................... Dr. Mark Piper
Speaker Pro Tempore, Faculty Senate

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES.
Conferring of Degrees ........................................ Mr. Alger
JMU Alma Mater .............................................. Dr. James R. Riley
Performed by The Madison Singers

RECESSINAL
Please join us on Godwin Field following the ceremony for a reception to celebrate with the graduates.
Pittsburgh Steelers linebacker Arthur Moats (’12) is a two-time nominee for the NFL’s Walter Payton Man of the Year Award for his volunteer and charity work in the community. In 2013 he was the Buffalo Bills’ recipient of the Ed Block Courage Award which is given to a NFL player from each team who exemplifies the commitments to the principles of sportsmanship and courage. He and his wife, Shonda, support JMU Athletics and recently established an endowed scholarship in the studio arts.

As a child growing up in Portsmouth, Virginia, Moats learned the values of hard work, humility and service from his parents, both pastors at a local church. He carried those values with him to JMU, where, as a senior, he received the 2009 Buck Buchanan Award as the nation’s top defensive player in the Football Championship Subdivision (FCS).

Moats’ dream of playing professional football was realized when the Buffalo Bills selected him in the sixth round of the 2010 NFL Draft. After his rookie season in Buffalo, during which he emerged as a team leader in giving back to the community, he returned to JMU to begin completing his degree in political science.

Since signing a free-agent contract with the Steelers in 2014, Moats remains committed to helping those in need by volunteering with Ronald McDonald House Charities, the United Way, and the Boys & Girls Club, and regularly visiting veterans’ and children’s hospitals in and around the Steel City.

Arthur and Shonda have two young daughters and an infant son.

HONORARY DOCTORAL DEGREE RECIPIENT

Richard D. “Dick” Roberts is the retired chief executive of TeleCable Corp., formerly a division of Landmark Communications. Roberts is a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and Harvard Business School. When he joined TeleCable in 1968 as vice president of operations, the company had about 14,000 subscribers in the Norfolk, Virginia, area. By the time the company was sold in 1994 to industry giant TCI for $1.4 billion, TeleCable was the 18th largest cable company in the United States with more than 750,000 subscribers in the South and the Sun Belt.

Under Roberts’ leadership, TeleCable acquired a reputation in the industry for technological development, innovative services and principled business conduct. He also served as chairman of the National Cable and Telecommunications Association.

Roberts and his wife, Shirley Hanson (’56) Roberts, are major donors to JMU, including a gift to establish The Shirley Hanson Roberts Center for Music Performance, part of the Forbes Center for the Performing Arts. In August 2015, Roberts announced a $1 million faculty endowment in recognition of professors whose primary commitment is to the students whom they teach.
THE STUDENT SPEAKER is an honor bestowed to a fellow senior through an application and audition process, run by the Student Government Association (SGA). David Vaughn is graduating Cum Laude with a major in Finance and minors in Business Analytics and Computer Information Systems. He was the V.P. of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity and the Treasurer for the SGA. David will begin his career as a Jr. Fund Analyst at The Carlyle Group in Washington, DC and hopes to pursue a career in private equity and impact investing.

THE CLASS OF 2017 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.

Christina Cammarata is a health sciences major from Mt. Laurel, NJ. During her time at JMU, she has been involved in the Intervarsity chapter, National Society for Leadership and Success, and volunteered at the JMU health center. Christina finds her passion in promoting health, and particularly working with the elderly community, as she has worked in a nursing home throughout her college career. After graduation, Christina will be attending Physician Assistant school at Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, PA.

Matthew Kohler is a biology major from Woodstock, MD. During his time at JMU, he has been involved in club swimming, worked at the Science and Math Learning Center as a chemistry tutor, and worked in the Biology department’s research lab studying the regulation of enzymes that break down starch in plants. Matt will be staying at JMU for a fifth year to complete the Master of Arts in Teaching program. His future goal is to become a high school biology and chemistry teacher.

Caroline Utne is an Interdisciplinary Liberal Studies major with teaching licensure minors in elementary education and English as a second language. During her time at JMU, Caroline worked with the supplemental instruction (PASS) program to train tutors and research teaching and learning. She led the prayer team and worship band for Campus Crusade for Christ (Cru). After graduation, she will earn her Master of Arts in Teaching from JMU. Caroline aspires to encourage and equip all of her future students to achieve their dreams.
THE MADISON SINGERS

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. The Madison Singers tour locally, regionally and internationally. 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.

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
Kathryn Bailey, Lindsey Bross and Kelsey Wessels, ensemble managers
Tracey Schimmel-Reed, accompanist

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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. Alexander L. Gabbin,** KPMG Professor of Accounting, earned a Ph.D. from Temple University, MBA from the University of Chicago, B.A from Howard University and is a Certified Public Accountant.

He has received numerous distinguished teaching awards and been an activist for many student organizations, including founding member of the National Black MBA Association while a student at the University of Chicago in 1970, co-organizing the Harrisonburg Young Achievers with Dr. Cheryl Talley of JMU’s Psychology Department, and serving as advisor to several JMU organizations. Currently, Dr. Gabbin chairs the nation-wide selection of stellar scholar-athletes for the Watkins Trophy Award.

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<td>Maya Davis</td>
<td>Howard Kim</td>
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<td>Aiden Everett</td>
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THE JMU WIND SYMPHONY

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
Lydia Carroll *#
Jordan Frazier *#
Liza Inaba
Davina Miaw
Sara Zhu

Oboe/English Horn
Sarah Blevins
Anthony Fortuna *#
Laura Ruple *

Bassoon/Contra
Joey Figliola *
Gina Moore
Seth Walker

Clarinet
Noah Karkenny *
Patrick O’Brien

Alison O’Bryan
Chris Pennington
Jessica Tang
Rosemary Williams

Bass Clarinet/Contra
Tony Moran (Bass)
Sarah Humphreys (Contra)

Alto Saxophone
Adam Gough
Corey Martin *

Tenor Saxophone
Jocelyn Abrahamzon

Baritone Saxophone
Joseph McNure

Trumpet
Megan George
Kyra Hulligan
Will Jones
Dylan Rye *
Josh Sylke
Allie Woodbury

Horn
DJ Landoll *#
Lincoln Marquis V
Hunter Payne *
Stephen Poehailos

Trombone
Brian Juntilla
Nick Warmuth

Tuba
Cody Bowald
Kai Smith *

PIANO
Winton La #

HARP
Kelsey Broadwell

Percussion
Paige Durr #
Mason Edwards
Caleb Pickering *#
Jacob Reeves
Elijah Steele
Joseph Ziemer

* denotes principal/co-principal  # denotes graduate student
**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 5, 6 p.m.**
- College of Business – Bridgeforth Stadium

**Saturday, May 6, 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

**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 at the college ceremonies on Thursday, 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.
COMMENCEMENT NOTES continued

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

**Godwin Field Reception** Following the University Ceremony, all are invited to Godwin Field outside the stadium, to socialize with family and friends and enjoy light refreshments.

**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. Once full, guests should proceed to lot R8 and ride one of our para-transit shuttles that will take you directly to Gate C and 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 in the reserved section on the football field. Please ask a volunteer or usher to direct you to the appropriate seating area when you arrive.

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 5** JMU will utilize live captioning on a large video monitor 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 the reserved section on the field. This section can be accessed easiest from Gate C. See an usher for assistance. For guests who wish to make use of American Sign Language interpretation, seating is available on the field, where we will have an interpreter on site for your convenience.

**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 on Godwin field, adjacent 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.
Please reference the JMU Commencement website for important information and updates:

www.jmu.edu/commencement

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