



Saturday, May 10, 2025
10:00 a.m.

Western Nebraska Community College
Cougar Palace
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Program

Welcome	Dr. Emily Norman Dean of Students
Land Acknowledgement	Natasha White Butterfly
Prelude	<i>Flourish for Wind Band</i> , by Ralph Vaughan Williams Western Nebraska Winds Conducted by Dr. Nathaniel Johnson, Instrumental Activities Director
Processional	<i>Burnished Gold and Army Blue</i> , by John Cacavas Western Nebraska Winds
National Anthem	<i>The Star Spangled Banner</i> , by Francis Scott Key Collegiate Chorale Conducted by Dr. Patrick Newell, Vocal Activities Director
President's Address.....	President Greg Dart
Student Commencement Address	Charles Oguoma
Special Music.....	<i>Jitterbug!</i> , by Robert Buckley Western Nebraska Winds Conducted by Dr. Nathaniel Johnson
Commencement Address	Bryan Slone President, Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry
Special Music.....	<i>Wanting Memories</i> , by Ysaÿe M. Barnwell Conducted by Dr. Patrick Newell
Certification & Presentation of Degree Candidates.....	Dr. Lisa Blair <i>Vice President of Academic Affairs</i>
Reading of List of Graduates	Dr. Grant Wilson <i>Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Services</i>
Conferral of Degrees.....	President Dart
Recessional.....	<i>Burnished Gold and Army Blue</i> , by John Cacavas Western Nebraska Winds

2024-2025 WNCC Graduates

Name	Award	Hometown
Reece Abts	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
James Adams <i>T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Kyler Adams	Associate of Science ‡	Erie, CO
Jamisen Allen <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Damien Alsidez	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Erin Altamirano <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Gering, NE
Gabriella Anderson <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Mitchell, NE
Kathryn Anderson	Associate of Arts ‡	Trion, GA
Diwenitissiou Andjawa <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts †	Lome, Togo
Keagan Arnold <i>DC</i>	Basic Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Mia Arnold <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Kayla Arroyo <i>MA</i>	Associate of Arts & Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Grace Baker <i>MA</i>	Collision Repair & Refinish Certificates ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jacob Baldwin <i>MA</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Makayla Bamrick <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Christina Bannan <i>H</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Chadron, NE
Lizbeth Barrera <i>T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Aurora, CO
Dawson Barrett <i>DC</i>	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Danaeah Bennett <i>H</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
Nathaniel Billey <i>P, T</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Oshkosh, NE
Allie Blackwelder <i>H</i>	Associate of Applied Science †	Brush, CO
Kay'leigh Blair	Associate of Science ‡	Morenci, AZ
Schyler Blake <i>H, T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Kathryn Blankenship <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Gering, NE
Kirsten Bonham <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Denver, CO
Krystal Borges <i>T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Dalton, NE
Rianda Bounds <i>H, MA</i>	Associate of Arts & Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Clayden Brandon <i>T</i>	Associate of Science §	Tailorsville, UT
Jordyn Brann	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Wellington, CO
Kyra Brannan <i>T</i>	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Ayden Branson <i>H, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Chadron, NE
Jessica Brenizer <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Arts §	Gering, NE
Jimmy Brians	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Kilgore, NE
Jade Brothwell	Associate of Science ‡	Torrington, WY
Isabel Brott <i>H</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Torrington, WY
Jacqueline Bryant <i>T, VUB</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Goleta, CA
Richard Buckley <i>MA</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jesse Bunnell	Associate of Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Cooper Burgess	Associate of Arts ‡	Spring Branch, TX
† Fall 2024 Graduate	‡ Spring 2025 Graduate	§ Expected Summer 2025 Graduate

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MA = Multiple Awards P = Phi Theta Kappa T = TRiO VUB = Veterans Upward Bound*

2024-2025 WNCC Graduates

Name	Award	Hometown
Elijah Burney	Associate of Arts ‡	Las Vegas, NV
James Buxbaum <i>T, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science §	Gering, NE
Alvin Cabello <i>MA</i>	Collision Repair & Refinish Certificates ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Calab Caciari	Associate of Science ‡	Evans, CO
Miguel Calihua-Gonzales <i>MA</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Minatare, NE
Adelita Calistro <i>T</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Victor Camacho <i>T, MA</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Alan Campos <i>P, T</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Christianne Carattini	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Chadron, NE
Karol Cardona	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Vanessa Carrera	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Mitchell, NE
Alex Carrillo Benavides <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Quito, Ecuador
Kylie Casados	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Dessiah Christopher <i>H, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Naples, FL
Minsuk Chung	Associate of Applied Science †	Seoul, South Korea
Andrew Clarey	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Caragh Clemens	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Katelynn Coil	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Sidney, NE
Kayli Cooper <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	North Battleford, Canada
Nathaniel Cooper	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Bridgeport, NE
Rosemary Cota <i>P, T</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Yesenia Cruz	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Christian Dacosta <i>MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Pedro De Jesus Presidio <i>MA</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Salvador, Brazil
Gavin De Los Santos	Associate of Science §	Gering, NE
Joao De Melo Bisneto <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Jaboatao Dos Guararapes, Brazil
Eduardo De Oliveira	Associate of Science †	Cuiaba Mato Grosso, Brazil
Tucker Deal <i>H</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Arvada, CO
Paul Denz <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Laufenburg, Germany
Rhegan Devier <i>H</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Dalton, NE
Norma Diaz Alvarez <i>T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Shelby Doescher <i>H, T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Chadron, NE
Mario Dominguez	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Carter Dormann <i>H</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Oshkosh, NE
Ella Draper	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Gurley, NE
Tamika Eastman <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Harrison, NE
Rebekah Edwards <i>T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Hay Springs, NE
Elliana Eichner <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Akeem Enriquez <i>T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
† Fall 2024 Graduate	‡ Spring 2025 Graduate	§ Expected Summer 2025 Graduate

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Name	Award	Hometown
Jessica Ernest	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Dalton, NE
Michael Escobar	Associate of Arts †	Miami, FL
Grace Fenn <i>H, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Torrington, WY
Benjamin Firminhac <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Torrington, WY
Paige Fisher <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	San Diego, CA
Sharron Fleming <i>H, T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Raul Flores <i>DC</i>	Basic Nursing Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Sarah Flores <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Gering, NE
Mary Forrester <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Tanya Frakes	Associate of Arts ‡	Kimball, NE
Jenika Fuentes <i>T</i>	Associate of Science §	Sweetwater, TX
Candice Fuqua	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award †	Gering, NE
Elizabeth Fuss	Associate of Arts ‡	Mitchell, NE
Valerie Gage <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Applied Science †	Palmyra, NE
Isaac Galindo	Basic Welding Certificate †	Minatare, NE
Yiselle Galindo <i>T</i>	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Crystal Garcia <i>T</i>	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Martin Garcia <i>P</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Jessyca Garza <i>H, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Jonathan Georgiades <i>H, P, VUB, MA</i>	Associate of Arts †	Hope Mills, NC
Benjamin Gibbons	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Mitchell, NE
Kale Gibbons <i>T</i>	Associate of Arts †	Minatare, NE
Kennedie Gibson	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Alliance, NE
Shane Gluth <i>T</i>	Basic Welding Certificate †	Harrison, NE
Guilherme Goncalves Lindolfo <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	São Paulo, Brazil
Destiny Gonzales <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
Esai Gonzales	Associate of Science †	Scottsbluff, NE
Meridith Gonzales <i>H, P, T, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Minatare, NE
Samantha Gonzalez Garza <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Nicole Gooder	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Chadron, NE
Layne Green <i>H, T, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Julesburg, CO
Jesse Griffen <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Arts §	Alliance, NE
Alexsa Guerra	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Ogallala, NE
Nayleni Guerra Lopez	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Ogallala, NE
Gisele Guerrero <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Minatare, NE
Juan Guerrero	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Gloria Hanyani <i>P</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Harare, Zimbabwe
Rocco Harmon <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Fort Collins, CO
Autumn Harris	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Morrill, NE
Talby Harvey	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Hayleigh Hatcher	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
† Fall 2024 Graduate	‡ Spring 2025 Graduate	§ Expected Summer 2025 Graduate

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2024-2025 WNCC Graduates

Name	Award	Hometown
Hope Hatcher	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
Tyson Helm	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Lincoln, NE
Angel Hernandez	Associate of Arts †	Broken Bow, NE
Fabiola Hernandez Canela <i>H, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Madison Hiemstra <i>H, T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Sierra Hilgner <i>H, T</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Divide, CO
Elijah Hollins	Associate of Arts ‡	Nashville, TN
JoLee Huffaker	Associate of Arts ‡	Wellington, CO
Whitney Huggler <i>T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jerren Hunter <i>H, T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Holyoke, CO
Karder Hyland <i>MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Powell, WY
Steven Jackson	Associate of Science §	Aurora, CO
Kelsey Janikowski <i>P</i>	Paramedic Certificate §	Potter, NE
Maggie Jenkins <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Science §	Alliance, NE
Alexandria Jeppson <i>H, T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Chappell, NE
Hannah Johns	Associate of Science ¥	Mitchell, NE
Kulwinder Kaur <i>H, T</i>	Associate Degree of Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Ramanjit Kaur <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Jessica Kessner	Associate of Applied Science †	Worland, WY
James Kihlthau <i>P, DC, MA</i>	Automotive Technology Certificates ‡	Mitchell, NE
Peyton Kindred <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma §	Alliance, NE
Jennifer Kinsey <i>H, VUB</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Mykah Klumpp <i>H</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Valley Center, KS
Courtney Knisley	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Harrisburg, NE
Malcolm Koehn <i>MA</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Lodgepole, NE
Justin Krasinski <i>H, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Olivia Krul <i>DC, MA</i>	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Helena Kuck <i>H</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Blumenau, Brazil
Jaimason Kulovany <i>HH, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Colby Langley	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Sidney, NE
Ashley Lara	Associate of Arts †	Morrill, NE
Miguel Lara <i>H, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Christina Lawver	Associate of Arts ‡	Chadron, NE
Hyemin Lee <i>MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science †	Seoul, South Korea
Mathieu Levesque	Associate of Arts ‡	Gatineau, Canada
Riley Liakos <i>H, P</i>	Business Technology Diploma ‡	Gering, NE
Ana Lockard <i>T</i>	Associate of Arts §	Otis, CO
Merce Lockwood <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Amanda Long-Ylander <i>T</i>	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE

¥ Summer 2024 Graduate

† Fall 2024 Graduate

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Name	Award	Hometown
Sara Lourenco P	Associate of Science §	Colider, Brazil
Aliyah Lovato T	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Samantha Lucio	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Gering, NE
Megan Lukassen MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Bushnell, NE
Breanna Lundgren T	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Regan Mader H, P	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Tawananyasha Magate	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Masvingo, Zimbabwe
Cari Maglitto T	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Melbeta, NE
Susan Maldonado-Calistro	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Gering, NE
Karlyee Marcoe H	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Andrea Marick H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Illiff, CO
Avory Maris	Associate of Applied Science ‡	McCook, NE
Savian Marquez H, T	Associate of Applied Science †	Scottsbluff, NE
Ashley Martinez	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Denver, CO
Sarah Martinez P	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Kaitlin McHugh	Associate of Arts ‡	Morrill, NE
Valentina Mejia Cueva	Associate of Arts ‡	Lima, Peru
Alyssa Mendoza	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Cameron Meyer	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Alesia Miller T	Associate of Science †	Gering, NE
Braylon Miller H	Associate of Science §	Kimball, NE
Kairyn Miller	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Robert Miller T, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Randi Mitchell H, P	Associate of Arts ‡	Greeley, CO
Steven Montgomery P, T	Drug & Alcohol Counseling Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Laura Montiel Baena	Associate of Arts ‡	Granada, Spain
Maryanne Moorman H, P, VUB	Associate of Fine Arts †	Kimball, NE
Devin Moosai	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Erica Morris	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Torrington, WY
Jillian Murillo T	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jaylen Nachtigall H	Associate of Arts ‡	Hot Springs, SD
Esha Nayak	Associate of Arts †	Lahore, Pakistan
Austin Neeley H, P	Associate of Science ‡	Severance, CO
Maria Negreira Paladino H, P	Associate Degree of Nursing ‡	Montevideo, Uruguay
Creighton Nemnich DC, MA	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Will Nichols DC	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Charles Oguoma H, P	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Imo State, Nigeria
Maria Oliva	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Brendyn Onstott MA	Automotive Technology Certificates ‡	Harrisburg, NE
Kelsey Opitz	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Hay Springs, NE
Alexa Osborn T	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Gering, NE
† Fall 2024 Graduate	‡ Spring 2025 Graduate	§ Expected Summer 2025 Graduate

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Name	Award	Hometown
Gavin Osborn	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Lucas Ovalle Diaz	Associate of Arts §	Santiago, Chile
Summer Parnell T	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Rylei Paulson	Associate of Applied Science †	Rapid City, SD
Landry Peeples H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Flagler, CO
Mollie Peterson DC	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Gering, NE
Kinley Pfeiffer	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Alliance, NE
Emily Probst P, T	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Morrill, NE
Abigail Prohs	Associate of Arts †	Gering, NE
Carleigh Pszanka	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Shayla Ramirez H	Associate of Science ‡	Mitchell, NE
Stephanie Ramos	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Brittain Reinmuth T	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Faith Reisig H, P, T	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
April Riggs	Associate Degree of Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Frank Riley	Basic Welding Certificate †	Minatare, NE
Quinton Robbins DC	Basic Welding Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Brittney Rodgers	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Alejandra Rodriguez Cadena	Associate of Science ‡	Quito, Ecuador
Carter Rudloff MA	Automotive Technology Certificates ‡	Crawford, NE
Skylar Russell H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Grand Island, NE
Miguel Salazar	Associate of Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Daniela Sanchez H	Associate of Arts ‡	Jalisco, Mexico
Kristina Sanders H	Associate of Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Richard Sanders H, P	Associate of Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Lisa Schekall H, P	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Hemingford, NE
Cadence Schleicher H, P	Associate of Science §	Mitchell, NE
Finja Schul H	Associate of Arts §	Bergisch Gladbach, Germany
McKenzie Schwartzkopf	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Torrington, WY
Alicia Sell MA	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Braden Sellers H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Tryon, NE
Tawanda Sibanda H, P	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Samuel Egan Simon Lopez	Associate of Science ‡	Bronx, NY
Nicholas Simons	Business Technology Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Caprice Sisneros T	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Madison Smith T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Nicolas Smith T, MA	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jessica Soler H, P, T	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Renton Spehar DC	Diesel Technology Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE

† Fall 2024 Graduate

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Name	Award	Hometown
Brianna Spurgeon	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jori Stewart	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Kimberly Stone	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Lawton, OK
Tristin Strauch <i>H, T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Rachelle Sutton-Corbett	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award †	Alliance, NE
Austin Svitak <i>H, P</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Bruce Swinford <i>H, P, MA</i>	Associate of Arts §	La Mesa, CA
Chayse Swinney <i>H, T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Chadron, NE
Nadaley Tarr	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Estefany Tavares	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award †	Torrington, WY
Cheyenne Taylor <i>T</i>	Associate of Arts †	Minatare, NE
Eli Thompson	Associate of Science †	Gering, NE
Mason Toner <i>T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Grant, NE
Emily Torres-Twombly <i>DC</i>	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
David Tross	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Kieyerah Twombly	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Taylor Tyser	Associate of Arts ‡	Laramie, WY
Adelina Urtane <i>H</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Aizkraukle, Latvia
Felix Vasquez <i>T</i>	Associate of Applied Science †	Gering, NE
Ashley Villagomez <i>H, T</i>	Associate of Arts §	Aurora, CO
Emily Villagomez <i>T</i>	Associate of Arts §	Aurora, CO
Maria Villagomez <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Arts ‡	Ventura, CA
Eric Vinton	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Gordon, NE
Hannah Walker	Associate of Science ‡	Mitchell, NE
Jaydon Walker <i>H, T, VUB, MA</i>	Associate of Applied Science §	Hemingford, NE
Makala Walsh	Phlebotomy Professional Skills Award ‡	Alliance, NE
Tabor Wasson	Associate of Arts §	Gering, NE
Reagan Werth <i>T</i>	Associate of Science §	Farmington, NM
Michael Winget <i>T</i>	Associate Degree in Nursing ‡	Torrington, WY
Candace Wolfe <i>H, P, T</i>	Associate of Arts †	Gering, NE
Elizabeth Woods <i>H</i>	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Manchester, PA
Kyle Wunsch <i>T</i>	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Ft. Morgan, CO
Hunter Wyland <i>H, T</i>	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Hemingford, NE
Jeronimo Zelaya Diaz <i>H</i>	Associate of Science ‡	Bahia Blanca, Buenos Aires
Sonia Zubia	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Michael Zuniga <i>T</i>	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Lilly Zwart	Associate of Arts §	Nelson, New Zealand

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‡ Spring 2025 Graduate

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Commencement Speaker

Bryan Slone



Bryan E. Slone became president of the Nebraska Chamber of Commerce & Industry in May 2018.

A Nebraska native, Bryan has lived in several Nebraska communities throughout the state.

As an attorney and accountant, Bryan brings more than three decades of policy and business experience to the State Chamber. Prior to his arrival at the Chamber, he was a tax attorney with Koley Jessen in Omaha, where he advised business clients on legal matters related to taxation, administrative law, international law, mergers and acquisitions, and government affairs.

Before Koley Jessen, he was the Nebraska office managing partner for Deloitte, one of the nation's largest professional services firms.

In the 1990s, Bryan worked in Berlin, Germany, as a tax attorney and co-founding partner for the Wilmer Cutler & Pickering law office located there.

In the 1980s, Bryan spent much time in Washington, D.C., where he was legal advisor to the IRS commissioner and served as a House Ways and Means Committee staff member under former U.S. Rep. Hal Daub of Nebraska. In this capacity, he helped shape the 1986 federal tax law.

Bryan was also a candidate for Nebraska governor in 2014.

He holds a law degree from the University of Nebraska College of Law, and a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Bryan and his wife Leslie have two adult children, Steve and Lauryn.

The State Chamber has proudly served as the voice of Nebraska's business community since 1912. With approximately 1,200 members statewide, the Chamber's mission is to protect all aspects of the free enterprise system, while making Nebraska an even better place to do business.

Western Community College Area Board of Governors

Western Nebraska Community College's Board of Governors is comprised of eleven elected members, representing the five districts of the Panhandle, with one member serving at large.

District One

Ms. Marjorie Schmidt

Ms. Lori Liggett

District Two

Mr. Joshua Hanson

Mr. R.J. Savely, Jr.

District Three

Ms. Starr Lehl, *Vice Chair*

Mr. Allan D. Kreman

District Four

Mr. Tony Kaufman

Ms. Coral E. Richards

District Five

Dr. William M. Packard

Ms. Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales

At-Large

Mr. John Stinner, *Chair*

Administrative Officers

Greg Dart, *President*

Lisa Blair, *Vice President of Academic Affairs*

Lynne Koski, *Vice President of Administrative Services*

Grant Wilson, *Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Services*

The Academic Regalia

The colorful attire worn by faculty, administrators, and students during commencement dates to the 12th and 13th centuries when universities were first taking form in Europe. Academic regalia was standardized across all colleges and universities in America in the late 19th century with few traditions changing since then.

THE GOWN: The academic gown is often black, though many colleges select gowns representing institutional colors. The gown's sleeve type distinguishes the type of degree earned: the gown for associate and bachelor's degrees, diplomas, and certificates has pointed, open sleeves that are untrimmed; the untrimmed, open sleeves of the master's gown are oblong, with the rear part square cut and the front with an arc cut; and the closed sleeves of doctoral gowns are bell-shaped with three bars of velvet trim.

THE HOOD: Students earning associate and bachelor's degrees, diplomas, and certificates wear traditional mortar boards. Those holding an advanced degree also wear a special hood which varies in length and, in the case of the doctorate, also in pattern. The master's hood is three feet long with a three-inch trim; the doctor's hood is four feet long, rectangular, and has a five-inch velvet trim. The colored velvet binding of the hood represents the major field in which the degree was earned. The color of the hood's lining symbolizes the official colors of the college or university that granted the wearer's degree.



Alliance Campus

1750 Sweetwater Avenue
Alliance, NE 69301

Scottsbluff Campus

1601 E. 27th Street
Scottsbluff, NE 69361

Sidney Campus

371 College Drive
Sidney, NE 69162

WNCC Mission

*To provide learning opportunities – **enriching** lives,
invigorating communities, and **changing** futures.*



#WNCCGrad25