



Saturday, May 9, 2026
10:00 a.m.

Western Nebraska Community College
Cougar Palace
Scottsbluff, Nebraska

Program

Welcome.....	Dr. Emily Norman Dean of Students
Prelude.....	Flourish for Wind Band, by Ralph Vaughan Williams Western Nebraska Winds Conducted by Dr. Nathaniel Johnson, Instrumental Activities Director
Processional.....	Burnished Gold and Army Blue, by John Cacavas Western Nebraska Winds
National Anthem.....	The Star Spangled Banner, by John Stafford Smith (Service Edition) Collegiate Chorale Conducted by Dr. Patrick Newell, Vocal Activities Director
President's Address.....	President Greg Dart
Student Commencement Address.....	Mireya Casillas
Special Music.....	Kingdom Hearts, by Marty O'Donnell arr. by Ralph Ford Western Nebraska Winds
Commencement Address.....	Oscar Gonzalez
Special Music.....	The Defining Moment, by Pinkzebra Varsity Vocalise Conducted by Dr. Patrick Newell Accompanied by Robin Schmidt
Certification & Presentation of Degree Candidates.....	Dr. Kate Steinbock Interim Chief Academic Officer
Reading of List of Graduates.....	Dr. Grant Wilson Vice President of Enrollment Management & Student Services
Conferral of Degrees.....	President Dart
Recessional.....	Burnished Gold and Army Blue, by John Cacavas Western Nebraska Winds

2025-2026 WNCC Graduates

Name	Award	Hometown
Alvaro Abeal Pou, H	Associate of Arts ‡	La Coruna, Spain
Katalia Adams, PTK, H	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Ana Alarcon Palacios, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Yuma, CO
Alyssa Albaugh, T	Associate of Arts ‡	Torrington, WY
Stephanie Amm	Medical Coding Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Maraki Andargie, PTK, H	Associate of Science ‡	Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
Aspyn Andreas	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Austyn Andreas, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Angel Arellano, T	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Leslie Arias, H	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Rodolfo Avalos	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
James Avera, T	Associate of Science †	Scottsbluff, NE
Alejandra Avila	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
David Baker-Baszler, DC	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Minatare, NE
Nayeli Barraza, T	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Danaeah Bennett, PTK, H	Associate of Science §	Gering, NE
Hayden Bennett, H	Associate of Science §	Gering, NE
Melanie Belder	Associate of Arts §	Rotterdam, Netherlands
Trevor Beutner	Associate of Arts ‡	Highlands Ranch, CO
Andrew Biberos, VUB, T	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Bayard, NE
Keaton Body	Associate of Science §	Gering, NE
Kami Borton, PTK, H	Associate of Arts †	Wheatland, WY
Linda Bourlier, PTK	Coding Technician Diploma †	Gering, NE
Clayden Brandon, T	Associate of Science †	Taylorville, UT
Regan Braun, H	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Cody Brockman, PTK, T, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Lawrence, NE
Devin Broukal, PTK, T, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Spencer, IN
Macee Buchheit, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Hemingford, NE
Elijah Budd, T, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Alliance, NE
Garrison Burns	Associate of Arts ‡	Kearney, NE
Alvin Cabello	Non-Structural Collision Repair Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jazmin Calihua Gonzales, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Minatare, NE
Arianna Canseco	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Myca Cantrell Whaley	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Oral, SD
Antonio Casella Bruno, MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Santa Rosa La Pampa, Argentina
Mireya Casillas	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Christine Castillo	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Emilio Cervantes, T, MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Zavanah Chavez, H	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Calub Clark, T, H, MA	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Hastings, NE
Tara Clause, T	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE

† Fall 2025 Graduate

‡ Spring 2026 Graduate

§ Expected Summer 2026 Graduate

DC = High School Dual Credit H = Honors 3.4 - 3.99 GPA HH = High Honors 4.0 GPA
MA = Multiple Awards P = Phi Theta Kappa T = TRiO VUB = Veterans Upward Bound

2025-2026 WNCC Graduates

Name	Award	Hometown
Travis Cline, PTK, H	Associate of Arts †	Gering, NE
John Coakley, PTK, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Maya Cobos, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Tylii Connor	Associate of Arts ‡	Mitchell, NE
Elijah Cookston	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Gordon, NE
Austin Cooper	Associate of Science ‡	Bozeman, MT
Nathaniel Cooper, H	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Bridgeport, NE
Kye Crites, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Cozad, NE
Daniela Cruz Sanchez, PTK, H	Associate of Arts †	Bosque Vallarta, Mexico
Witold Czerenkiewicz, H	Associate of Science §	Bytom, Poland
Valerie Dabney, VUB, H	Associate of Science ‡	Zephyrhills, FL
Dorothy Daharsh, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Angora, NE
Cody Dauel	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate †	Alliance, NE
Avery Davies	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Hemingford, NE
Jenna Davis, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
John Dearmont, VUB, MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Sidney, NE
Richard Dobson, H, MA	Associate of Science ‡	Williston, ND
Chase Dominguez	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Torrington, WY
Erika Dominguez	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Sidney, NE
Howard Downer, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Kayla Dreiling	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate †	Scottsbluff, NE
Amanda Duarte De Oliveira, PTK, H	Associate of Science ‡	Tangara da Serra, Brazil
Adison Duke, T, H	Associate of Science ‡	Santaquin, UT
Jasmine Dunn	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Sidney, NE
Kelan J. Dunn	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Mederique Eboucle	Associate of Arts ‡	Abidjan, Ivory Coast
Courtney Eidson, T	Associate of Science ‡	Eidson, NE
Jessica Ernest	Associate of Applied Science §	Dalton, NE
Sara Ewing	Paramedic Certificate §	Mitchell, NE
Lincoln Falkenburg Brown, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Custer, SD
Banna Faye, PTK, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Banjul, Gambia
Brandon Fear, PTK	Paramedic Certificate §	Sutherland, NE
Kaden Ferguson	Associate of Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Jacob Fingar, MA	Associate of Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Rhett Flack, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Crawford, NE
Autumn Fleming, DC	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Mitchell, NE
Shurron Fleming, PTK, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Dylan Flores, T	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Torrington, WY
Jerry Fogg	Associate of Applied Science §	Lingle, WY
Mary Forrester, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Ronald Francescato, T	Associate of Arts §	Mitchell, NE

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Name	Award	Hometown
Joseph Freze	Associate of Arts ‡	Anaconda, MT
Rhegan Fritzler	Drug and Alcohol Counseling Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Patricia Fulton	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Sidney, NE
Kyana Gabriel, PTK	Associate of Arts †	Hilo, HI
Adriane R. Galloway, MA	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Sheridan, WY
Cesare Garcia, DC	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Maria Garcia Martinez, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Maddox Gardner, DC	Non-Structural Collision Repair Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Aliyah Garza, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Samantha Gherbaz, T	Associate of Science ‡	Parker, CO
Catcher Gladysh	Associate of Science ‡	Brighton, CO
Jaszmine Golden, H	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Alyssa Gonzales	Associate of Science †	Gering, NE
Faith Gonzales	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Kaleb Gonzales	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Minatare, NE
Xayvian Gonzales, H	Associate of Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Ericka Gonzalez, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Alejandra Gonzalez-Orozco, H	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Nicole Gooder	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Chadron, NE
Tiffany Graham, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Sabrina Gurrola	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Izaiah Gutierrez, MA	Associate of Arts §	Torrington, WY
Bryttny Hageman, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Bradley Haglund, T, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Wakefield, NE
Jayden Hakert, DC	Basic Welding Certificate †	Gering, NE
Brantz Halouska, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Randi Hansen	Medical Coding Certificate ‡	Minatare, NE
Shelby Hardin	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate †	Morrill, NE
Kellon Harris, H	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Harrison Hart	Associate of Arts §	Omaha, NE
Allard Helms, H	Associate of Science ‡	Utrecht, Netherlands
Marci Henderson, T	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Crawford, NE
Owen Henderson, PTK, H	Associate of Science ‡	Greeley, CO
Yediel Hernandez-Plaza, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Orlando, FL
Patricia Hiegel, PTK, T, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Mitchell, NE
Nicholas Hinman	Paramedic Certificate §	Alliance, NE
Madison Hohnstein	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Tina Horton, H	Associate of Science §	Minto, Australia
Dylan Howard	Associate of Arts ‡	London, Canada
Isabel Hubbard	Associate of Science ‡	Mitchell, NE
Nathaniel Hulsey, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Berthoud, CO
Chad Hutchins, VUB, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Colorado Springs, CO
Bryson Hyle, PTK, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Cheyenne Wells, CO

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Menattallah Ibrahim	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Brittany Jacobs	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Elizabeth Jallen	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Sidney, NE
Vanessa Jaramillo	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Adrien Joey	Basic Welding Certificate †	Scottsbluff, NE
Mycala Jones	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Noah Jones, H	Associate of Arts §	Baton Rouge, LA
Lukas Kadolph, DC	Basic Welding Certificate †	Gering, NE
Ramanjit Kaur	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Demaris Kelso, T, H	Associate of Science ‡	Chadron, NE
Makayla Keyes	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Leona Valley, CA
Joshua Kler, PTK, T, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Chappell, NE
Diana Kollars, H	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Eliezer Lamien, MA	Business Technology ‡	Boromo, Burkina Faso
Carter Lathrop, DC	Basic Welding Certificate †	Scottsbluff, NE
Isaac Leach, MA	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Ross Leinart, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Cheyenne, WY
Toms Linis, H	Associate of Science ‡	Cesis, Latvia
Ruth Lively, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Amanda Lootens, T	Associate of Applied Science †	Gordon, NE
Adriana Lopez, T	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Ashlyn Lopez, PTK, T	Associate of Arts †	Minatare, NE
Brittini Lopez, T	Associate of Arts §	Scottsbluff, NE
Nehemiah Loya	Basic Welding Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Viktor Lukic-Gavric, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Sodertalje, Sweden
Zachary Lussetto	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Bridgeport, NE
Sage Macke	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Juan Mangué	Associate of Arts ‡	London, England
Thomas Markussen, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Paxton, NE
Andrew Martinez	Basic Welding Certificate †	Gering, NE
Mary Beth Mau	Medical Coding Certificate ‡	Bayard, NE
Shellie McNeil	Associate of Applied Science †	Springfield, IL
Erica Medina, T	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Elijah Mickey, T, MA	Associate of Applied Science §	Sylacauga, AL
Trayton Middleton, PTK, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Sundance, WY
Abilene Miller	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Milena Montalvo Arroyo, MA	Associate of Arts §	Quito, Ecuador
Abigail Moreno, PTK, T	Associate of Fine Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Avian Moreno, T, H	Associate of Applied Science §	Alliance, NE
Kyle Morganegg, PTK, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Aurora, CO
Evangeline Mosher, DC, MA	Structural Collision Repair Certificate ‡	Gering, NE

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Shyla Moss	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Diego Munoz, DC	Non-Structural Collision Repair Certificate †	Scottsbluff, NE
Kaidence Murphy, H	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Sterling, CO
Lydia Najera, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jacob Nicholes, PTK, T, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Anaconda, MT
Jesse Nichols	Powerline Construction & Technology Certificate †	Torrington, WY
Ryder Nichols, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Cozad, NE
Shawn Noon, VUB, PTK, H	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Morrill, NE
Nadiyyah Northern	Associate of Arts §	Avondale, AZ
Ogechi Nwagwu	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Imo, Nigeria
Hope Ogbonda, H, MA	Associate of Arts §	Carlsbad, NM
Jeanne Ogden	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Sidney, NE
Maria Oliva, T	Associate of Applied Science §	Scottsbluff, NE
Noel Onate, DC, HHR	Associate of Science ‡	Sidney, NE
Maxwell Orchard	Associate of Arts ‡	Loma, CO
Owen Osmera, H, MA	Associate of Science ‡	Torrington, WY
Zoey Paez	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Allison Parker, PTK, H	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
Megan Peister, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Taylor Perkins, H	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Alliance, NE
Darian Perrin	Medical Coding Certificate ‡	Alliance, NE
Andrew Peterson, MA	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jay Peterson, MA	Paint and Refinish Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Natalie Porro	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate †	Sidney, NE
Josslyn Pourier	Associate of Science ‡	Chadron, NE
Quintyn Quevedo, DC, MA	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Morrill, NE
Nicole Radice, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Alliance, NE
Abbigail Rath, PTK, T, H	Associate of Science †	Whitman, NE
Brandon Renaud, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Lincoln, NE
Nicholas Renz	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Cassandra Requejo, H	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Alliance, NE
Mason Rix, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Lincoln, NE
Micky Roark, PTK, T	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Des Moines, IA
Quinton Robbins, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
Braden Robertson	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
McGuire Rolls, PTK, H, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Aurora, CO
Jackson Ronne, VUB	Paramedic Certificate §	Sidney, NE
Porshe Ronne	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Lincoln, NE
Jared Ross	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Sidney, NE
Gianna Ruland	Associate of Arts †	Alliance, NE
Mya Rupp	Associate of Arts §	Gering, NE
Mikka Salazar, T	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Jeston Salinas, DC	Basic Welding Certificate †	Mitchell, NE

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Viktoria Sarkanyova, PTK, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Bratislava, Slovakia
Jase Satterfield, H	Associate of Arts §	Grand Junction, CO
Ren Sato	Associate of Arts ‡	Yokohama, Japan
Anthony Savala, T	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Hemingford, NE
Nathan Schick	Associate of Arts †	Scottsbluff, NE
Caden Schledewitz, DC, MA	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Mitchell, NE
Tosha Schmunk, PTK, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Sidney, NE
Brayden Schneider, DC	Advanced Welding Certificate ‡	Mitchell, NE
Cassandra Schreiner, H	Associate of Arts †	Alliance, NE
Leticia Segelke, T	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Ogallala, NE
James Shaske	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Hyunseo Shin, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Daejeon, South Korea
Chelsea Sigsbury, H	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Cheyenne, WY
Nicholas Simons, MA	Associate of Arts ‡	Gering, NE
Zozefine Sipolina, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Jurmala, Latvia
Brady Smallwood, PTK	Associate of Arts ‡	Mead, CO
Jonathan Smith	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Sidney, NE
Kael Smith	Structural Collision Repair Certificate ‡	Gering, NE
Elannah Soper, PTK, H	Associate of Science ‡	Sterling, CO
Isaiah St. Preux	Associate of Arts §	Miami, FL
Casandra Steinbrecher, H	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Hemingford, NE
Nathaniel Stewart Ruiz	Basic Welding Certificate †	Bayard, NE
Mitchel Stritt, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Bartley, NE
Hunter Strodman	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Sidney, NE
Josie Stueck	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Paxton, NE
Denise Styer, T	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Madrid, NE
Kassyl Swinney, H	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Chadron, NE
Druid Swires, VUB, T	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Alliance, NE
Lily Ann Tabor, T	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate §	Kimball, NE
Nadaley Tarr, PTK, T, H	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Ryan Thorstensen, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Prescott, AZ
Chad Tracy, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Wray, CO
Tori Travers	Associate of Science ‡	Sammamish, WA
Kira Tunin	Coding Technician Diploma †	Mitchell, NE
Elias Valdez, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Aurora, CO
Siena Van Der Veen	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Kathryn Vance, T, H	Associate Degree Nursing ‡	Minatare, NE
Justin Vanwinkle	Basic Welding Certificate †	Minatare, NE
Ariel Veliz-Smith	Associate of Arts ‡	Wellington, CO
Eric Vinton, H	Associate of Applied Science §	Gordon, NE
Noel Voborny	Paramedic Certificate §	Ogallala, NE

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Hannah Walker	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Mitchell, NE
Bridger Wallace, DC, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Frost Wallace, PTK, DC, MA	Associate of Applied Science ‡	Gering, NE
John Ward, PTK, H	Aviation Maintenance Certificate ‡	Carpenter, WY
Tonya Weimer, PTK	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate †	Gering, NE
Wyatt Weiss, H	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Cheyenne, WY
Chelsea Wickam	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Ogallala, NE
Derrick Williams, VUB, MA	Associate of Arts ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Cooper Wilson	Associate of Arts ‡	Riverton, UT
Willie Wilson, T	Associate of Science §	Minneapolis, MN
Kadon Woerner, T	Powerline Technology Certificate ‡	Ashby, NE
Aminata Yajoh, PTK	Practical Nursing Diploma ‡	Banjul, Gambia
Aaliyah Ybarra, T	Associate of Science ‡	Gering, NE
April Young	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Torrington, WY
Xinyan Zhu, DC	Phlebotomy Technician Certificate ‡	Scottsbluff, NE
Mikhail Zubko, PTK, HH	Associate of Science ‡	Scottsbluff, NE

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Commencement Speaker Oscar Gonzalez

Oscar Gonzalez moved to the Scottsbluff area as a teenager, where he worked as a migrant laborer and attended Scottsbluff High School. After graduating, he enlisted in the United States Army, serving on active duty as a parachutist.

Throughout his military career, Oscar rose to the role of military police supervisor and traveled extensively around the world for training, combat operations, and contingency missions. He served as a member of the elite, world-renowned 82nd Airborne Division's Global Response Team and completed multiple deployments, including assignments in Afghanistan, South Korea, and other international locations.

Oscar is a 2019 graduate of Western Nebraska Community College. He is deeply committed to his community, serving as a member of several veteran outreach programs, a board member for the WNCC Foundation and CASA of Scotts Bluff County, and an active member of St. Agnes Catholic Church.

Today, Oscar owns and operates Reverence Funeral Parlor alongside his wife, Stefanie. Together, they have a blended family of six children: Maryah, Oscar Jr., Diego, Tucker, Chantilly, and Hunter.



Student Speaker Mireya Casillas

Mireya Casillas is graduating with an Associate of Science degree. Following graduation, she plans to pursue a Doctor in Nursing (DNP) and specialize in Dermatology and Aesthetics, combining clinical knowledge with cosmetic and wellness care to help patients look and feel their best.

She aspires to open her own aesthetic nursing practice in Scottsbluff to serve and support the community.



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
Ms. Monica Shambaugh
Ms. Linda A. Guzman-Gonzales

At-Large
Mr. John Stinner, Chair

Administrative Officers

Greg Dart, President
Lynne Koski, Vice President of Administrative Services
Kate Steinbock, Interim Chief Academic Officer
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.



#WNCCGrad26