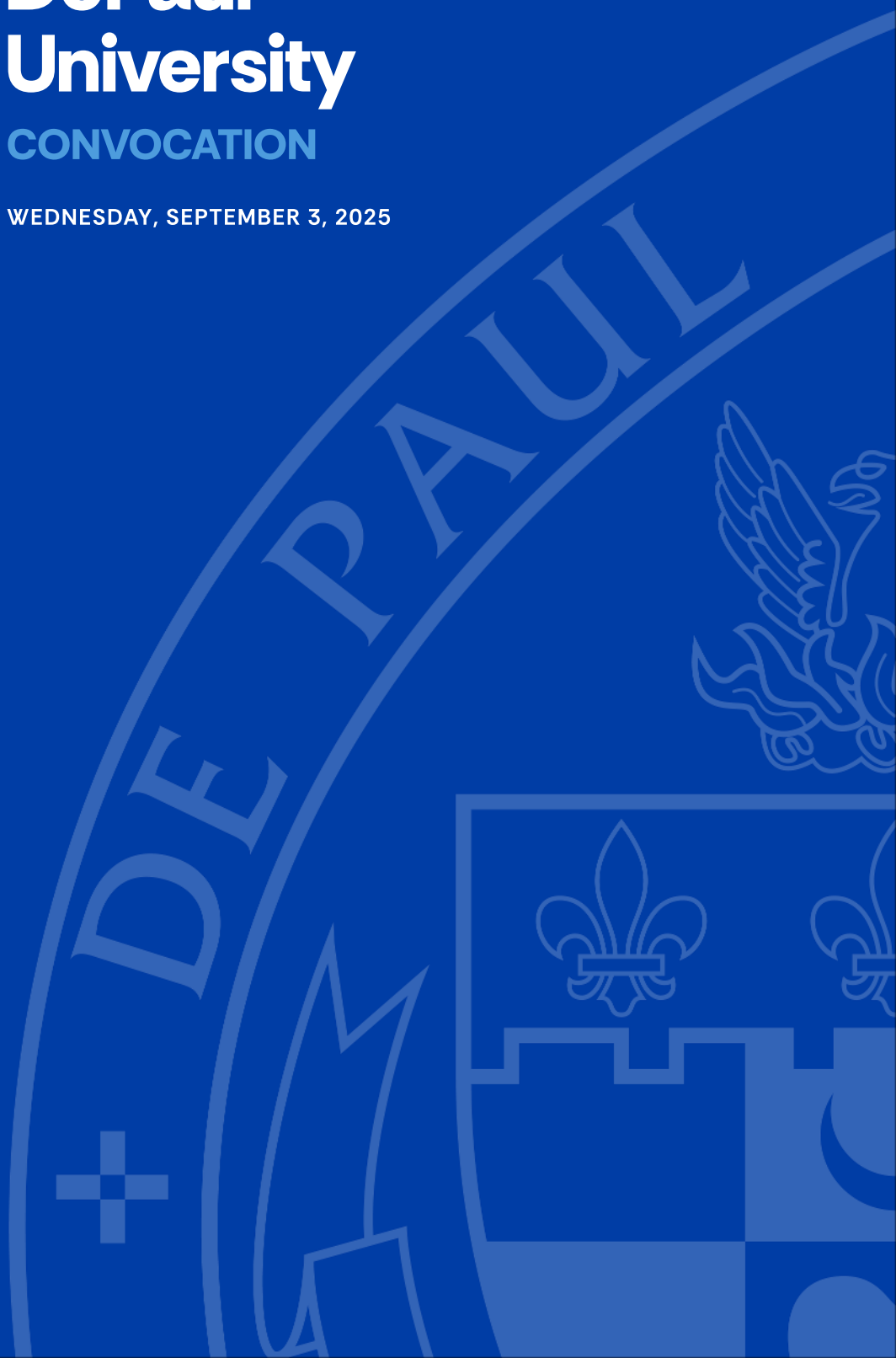


DePaul University

CONVOCATION

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025



The Banners of DePaul University



COLLEGE OF
COMMUNICATION



DRIEHAUS COLLEGE
OF BUSINESS



COLLEGE OF
EDUCATION



JARVIS COLLEGE OF
COMPUTING AND
DIGITAL MEDIA



COLLEGE OF
LAW



SCHOOL OF
CONTINUING AND
PROFESSIONAL
STUDIES



COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES



SCHOOL OF
MUSIC



COLLEGE OF
SCIENCE AND
HEALTH



THE THEATRE
SCHOOL

Convocation Program

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 3, 2025

ACADEMIC PROCESSION

Robert Beatty, Director of Music and Community Development, St. Vincent de Paul Parish

UNIVERSITY MARSHAL

Sonia Soltero, Professor, Department of Leadership, Language, and Curriculum (COE), and President, Faculty Council

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Salma Ghanem, Provost

INVOCATION

Mark Laboe, Interim Vice President, Mission and Ministry

VIA SAPIENTIAE AWARD

Dania Matos, Vice President for Institutional Diversity, Inclusion, and Belonging

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD

SPIRIT OF INQUIRY AWARD

EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC SERVICE AWARD

Daniela Raicu, Professor, School of Computing (CDM), and Associate Provost for Research

GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT FACULTY AWARD

GianMario Besana, Professor, School of Computing (CDM), and Associate Provost for Global Engagement and Online Learning

PROVOST'S AWARD FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY AND INCLUSION

Valerie Johnson, Professor, Department of Political Science (LAS), and Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

GERALD PAETSCH ACADEMIC ADVISING AWARD

John Shanahan, Professor, Department of English (LAS), and Associate Provost for Student Success and Accreditation

SOCIETY OF VINCENT DE PAUL PROFESSORS

Susan D. McMahon, Professor, Department of Psychology (CSH), Associate Dean for Research (CSH), and President, Society of Vincent de Paul Professors

REMARKS FROM THE PROVOST

Salma Ghanem, Provost

PROMOTION AND TENURE RECOGNITION

Salma Ghanem, Provost

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY, OUR HOME OF HOPE AND GRACE

Music by Ralph Vaughan Williams, Lyrics by Kristine Chalifoux and James Hawley-Meigs
Soloist **Chuck Chandler**, Associate Professor, School of Music, accompanied by **Robert Beatty**, Organist

SPIRIT OF DEPAUL AWARD

Mark Laboe, Interim Vice President, Mission and Ministry

STAFF EXCELLENCE AWARD

STAFF COUNCIL DIVERSITY AWARD

Scott Ozarowski, Associate Director, Study Abroad, and President, Staff Council

REMARKS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Robert L. Manuel, President

RECESSIONAL

Robert Beatty, Director of Music and Community Development, St. Vincent de Paul Parish

Land Acknowledgment

At DePaul University, we acknowledge that we live and work on traditional Native lands and we appreciate that Chicago is home to one of the largest urban Native populations in the United States.

We extend our respect to all of them, including the Potawatomi, Ojibwe, and Odawa nations, who signed the Treaty of Chicago in 1821 and 1833. We also recognize the Ho-Chunk, Myaamia, Menominee, Illinois Confederacy, and Peoria people who also maintained relationships with this land.

In the spirit of St. Vincent de Paul, we reaffirm our commitment, both as an institution and as individuals, to making our community and our society a more equitable, welcoming, and just place for all.



Recognitions

Via Sapientiae Award

Established in 1961, the Via Sapientiae Award is the highest honor DePaul University has to acknowledge the contributions of those individuals who have devotedly served the purposes and ideals of the university.

Darryl Arrington

ASSOCIATE VICE PRESIDENT
FOR STUDENT RETENTION
AND SUCCESS
Office of Institutional
Diversity & Equity

Stephen Balderston

PROFESSOR EMERITUS, CELLO
School of Music

Stephen G. Bell

SENIOR INSTRUCTOR
Department of Finance
& Real Estate (BUS)
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
The Real Estate Center

Gregory Brewster

PROFESSOR EMERITUS
School of Computing (CDM)

Kenneth Butigan

SENIOR PROFESSIONAL LECTURER
Peace, Justice, and Conflict
Studies Program (LAS)

Caryn Chaden

ASSOCIATE PROVOST FOR
STUDENT SUCCESS AND
ACCREDITATION
and
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
OF ENGLISH
Department of English (LAS)

Ralph Erber

PROFESSOR EMERITUS
Department of Psychology
(LAS)

Jonathan Gemmell

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
School of Computing (CDM)

Patty Gerstenblith

PROFESSOR EMERITA
DISTINGUISHED RESEARCH
College of Law
DIRECTOR
Center for Art, Museum and
Cultural Heritage Law

Phyllis Gregg

PROJECT MANAGER, STUDENT
RETENTION AND SUCCESS
Office of Institutional
Diversity & Equity

Laura Owen

PROFESSOR EMERITA
Department of Economics
(BUS)

Bibiana Suarez

PROFESSOR AND
VINCENT DE PAUL PROFESSOR
The Art School (LAS)

Eugene L. Zdziarski, II

VICE PRESIDENT
Student Affairs

Recognitions

Excellence in Teaching Award

In support of this university's core mission, which places the highest priority on programs of instruction and learning, the Quality of Instruction Council makes annual DePaul University Excellence in Teaching Awards. The awards recognize significant achievement in teaching as well as a commitment to the university's teaching mission.

Vahid Alizadeh

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
School of Computing (CDM)

Kamilah Cummings

ADJUNCT FACULTY
School of Continuing and
Professional Studies

Alyce Johnson

ADJUNCT FACULTY
School of Music

Ryan Kitley

ADJUNCT FACULTY
The Theatre School

Jamie Kleppetsch

PROFESSOR
College of Law

Christie Klimas

PROFESSOR
Department of Environmental
Science and Studies (CSH)

Michelle Lopez-Rios

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
The Theatre School

Judith McCray

SENIOR PROFESSIONAL
IN RESIDENCE
College of Communication

Christopher A. McCullough

INSTRUCTIONAL
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
Department of Teacher
Education, Kinesiology, and
Education Studies (COE)

Heather Montes Ireland

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of Women's and
Gender Studies (LAS)

Jessica Pamment

TEACHING ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of Biological
Sciences (CSH)

Rachel Scott

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
Department of Anthropology
(LAS)

Lisa Sedor

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
School of Accountancy
& MIS (BUS)

Robert Sliga

ADJUNCT FACULTY
School of Cinematic Arts
(CDM)

Steve Socki

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
School of Cinematic Arts
(CDM)

Jordan Stalker

ADJUNCT FACULTY
College of Communication

Kevin Thompson

PROFESSOR
Department of Philosophy
(LAS)

Ilie Ugarcovic

PROFESSOR
Department of Mathematical
Sciences (CSH)

William Zink

ADJUNCT FACULTY
School of Accountancy
& MIS (BUS)

Recognitions

Spirit of Inquiry Award

The Spirit of Inquiry Award was established in 2000 in support of the university's belief that the quest for knowledge is the foundation upon which the idea of a university rests, and the purpose that unites both teacher and student. This award honors specific research and scholarly or creative achievements that exhibit commitment to that spirit of creative inquiry, which we endeavor to inspire in our students.

Yujong Hwang

PROFESSOR AND EZSERSKI ENDOWED FELLOW

School of Accountancy & MIS (BUS)

DIRECTOR

MIS Program

Matthew Ragas

PROFESSOR

College of Communication

David Williams

PROFESSOR

Department of Political Science (LAS)

Excellence in Public Service Award

DePaul's specific commitment to service is a distinctive characteristic of the university. Our mission affirms that the university encourages faculty to apply specialized expertise in ways that contribute to the social, economic, cultural, and ethical quality of life in our global community. The purpose of the Excellence in Public Service Award is to honor the significant contributions our faculty have made to the communities in which they are involved.

Kenton Klaus

DIRECTOR, MASTER OF SCIENCE IN TAXATION AND ANALYTICS

School of Accountancy & MIS (BUS)

Global Engagement Faculty Award

Global engagement is a cornerstone of DePaul University's mission and reflects our deep commitment to preparing students for leadership in an interconnected world.

This year marks the inaugural presentation of the Global Engagement Faculty Award, which honors faculty members who have demonstrated exceptional dedication to advancing international education, cross-cultural understanding, and DePaul's global presence. The award celebrates impactful contributions through teaching, research, service, and institutional partnerships that foster meaningful global engagement and enrich the academic and cultural life of the university.

Jason Goulah

PROFESSOR

Department of Leadership, Language, and Curriculum (COE)

DIRECTOR

Institute for Daisaku Ikeda Studies in Education

Recognitions

Provost's Award for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Diversity and inclusion are core values of DePaul University's mission and have been since our founding. Established in 2020, the Provost's Award for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion recognizes individual or groups of faculty members who demonstrate excellence in the pursuit of diversity, equity, and inclusion through scholarship, curricula, programming and outreach, community building, and advocacy.

Jacqueline Lazu

PROFESSOR AND VINCENT DE PAUL PROFESSOR
Department of Modern Languages (LAS)

Vahap Uysal

PROFESSOR
Department of Finance & Real Estate (BUS)
ACADEMIC DIRECTOR
Arditti Center for Risk Management

Gerald Paetsch Academic Advising Award

Academic advising has long been recognized as a critical contributor to student success and, here at DePaul, as a natural extension of our commitment to Vincentian personalism. As a reflection of our commitment, the university established the Gerald Paetsch Academic Advising Award in 2005 to recognize of university community members who demonstrate excellence in advising undergraduate and graduate students.

Alec Brownlow

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR AND DEPARTMENT CHAIR
Department of Geography & GIS (LAS)

Eric Landahl

PROFESSOR
Department of Physics and Astrophysics (CSH)

Tim Mazurek

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Office for Academic Advising Support

Katie Walsh

SENIOR ACADEMIC ADVISOR
College of Communication

Recognitions

Society of Vincent de Paul Professors

The Society of Vincent de Paul Professors is an organization of professors who have distinguished themselves within faculty of distinguished teachers and scholars. The members of the society commit themselves to service projects that support the university's mission.



Yuki Miyamoto

PROFESSOR

Department of Religious Studies
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Dr. Yuki Miyamoto's work as an ethicist focuses on nuclear ethics through the intersecting lenses of environmental justice, race, gender, and coloniality. Her scholarship has resulted in several articles and monographs in both English and Japanese, while also informing her extensive service work. She has led DePaul University's short-term study abroad program to Hiroshima and Nagasaki eight times since 2005 and was appointed Nagasaki Peace Correspondent in 2010 and Hiroshima Peace Ambassador in 2011 by the respective cities.

Dr. Miyamoto serves as an academic advisor to the Nobel Peace Prize laureate the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN, 2017), and works closely with another laureate, the Japan Confederation of A- and H-Bomb Sufferers Organizations (Hidankyō, 2024). She also co-leads the TEAACH project team—comprising faculty from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and teachers from the Chicago Public Schools (CPS)—which has received support from the Union of Concerned Scientists and the Hiroshima Peace Grant. TEAACH has developed a nuclear justice curriculum for CPS middle schools, including National Teachers Academy and Minnie Miñoso Academy, which serve predominantly under-resourced communities.

Dr. Miyamoto's work has been featured in national and international media outlets such as the NBC, BBC, Radio Canada, ABC (Australia), and NHK (Japan's national broadcaster). She currently serves as Director of the DePaul Humanities Center, where she is dedicated to making the humanities more relevant to everyday life through collaborations with the University of Chicago, School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Japan Arts Foundation, the Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists, Gene Siskel Film Center, and the Music Box Theatre.

Recognitions

Promotion and Tenure

DePaul honors and rewards faculty members for their professional achievements through promotion and tenure, based on the evaluation of their faculty peers.

Chris Anthony

The Theatre School
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Jay Baglia

College of Communication
PROFESSOR

Emily Barnard

Department of Mathematical
Sciences (CSH)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Molly Bathje

Department of Rehabilitative
Sciences & Professions (CSH)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Coya Paz Brownrigg

The Theatre School
PROFESSOR

Michael Cadilhac

School of Computing (CDM)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Gary Chen

School of Accountancy
& MIS (BUS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Samantha Close

College of Communication
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Noe U. de la Sancha

Department of Environmental
Science & Studies (CSH)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Ning Du

School of Accountancy
& MIS (BUS)
PROFESSOR

Timothy Elliott

Department of Writing,
Rhetoric, & Discourse (LAS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Maria Ferrera

Department of Social Work
(LAS)
PROFESSOR

William Gilliland

Department of Biological
Sciences (CSH)
PROFESSOR

Verena Graupmann

Department of Psychology
(CSH)
PROFESSOR

Martine Kei Green-Rogers

The Theatre School
PROFESSOR

Megan Greeson

Department of Psychology
(CSH)
PROFESSOR

Bradley Hoot

Department of Modern
Languages (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Zhen Huang

School of Computing (CDM)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Stan Chu Ilo

Department of Catholic
Studies (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Valerie Johnson

Department of Political
Science (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Morag Kersel

Department of Anthropology
(LAS)
PROFESSOR

Goran Kuljanin

Department of Management
& Entrepreneurship (BUS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Jacqueline Lazu

Department of Modern
Languages (LAS)
PROFESSOR

I-Hao Lee

School of Music
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Yan Li

Department of Psychology
(CSH)
PROFESSOR

Karl Liechty

Department of Mathematical
Sciences (CSH)
PROFESSOR

Yvette Lopez

Department of Management
& Entrepreneurship (BUS)
PROFESSOR

(continued)

Recognitions

Promotion and Tenure (cont.)

Shiera Sharafuddin Malik

Department of International
Studies (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Martha Martinez-Firestone

Department of Sociology
(LAS)
PROFESSOR

Joseph Mello

Department of Political
Science (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Caterina Mongiat-Farina

Department of Modern
Languages (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Quoc Nguyen

Department of Finance
& Real Estate (BUS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Heather Snyder Quinn

School of Design (CDM)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Thiru Ramaraj

School of Computing (CDM)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Nicole Ricciardi

The Theatre School
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Rocco Sacconaghi

Department of Catholic
Studies (LAS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

David Sher

Department of Mathematical
Sciences (CSH)
PROFESSOR

Rachel Shteir

The Theatre School
PROFESSOR

Roxanne Spurlark

School of Nursing (CSH)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Richard Squibbs

Department of English (LAS)
PROFESSOR

Roselyne Tchoua

School of Computing (CDM)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Danielle Vance-McMullen

School of Public Service (LAS)
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR
WITH TENURE

Jaejoon Woo

Department of Economics
(BUS)
PROFESSOR

Chi Jang Yin

School of Cinematic Arts
(CDM)
PROFESSOR

Music

DePaul University, Our Home of Hope and Grace

Many before have graced these cherished halls,
Leaving a light to shine for all to see.
By that light, we too will chart our course,
DePaul University, where learning lights the way.

Gathered are we, an urban family,
Sharing our lives, and our hopes and dreams.
Gath'ring strength from our diversity,
DePaul University, where learning lights our way.

We sing this hymn in one communal voice,
Grateful are we for our chance to serve.
Faithfully, we pledge to give our best,
DePaul University, our home of hope and grace.



TEXT: KRISTINE CHALIFOUX AND JAMES HAWLEY-MEIGS
TUNE: RALPH VAUGHAN WILLIAMS

Recognitions

Spirit of DePaul Award

The purpose of the Spirit of DePaul Award is to highlight institutional Vincentian values and their relation to the achievement of DePaul's mission, and to personally honor and recognize members of the DePaul community for their leadership and service in the spirit of Saint Vincent de Paul.

Matthew Girson

PROFESSOR
The Art School (LAS)

Thomas Mondschean

PROFESSOR
Department of Economics
(BUS)

Lolita Pippens

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR
Office of Financial Aid

Douglas Long

DIRECTOR
First-Year Program

Samuel D. Morgan

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR,
STUDENT RECORDS
College of Liberal Arts and
Social Sciences

Katy Weseman

ASSESSMENT AND
EVALUATION SPECIALIST
Division of Student Affairs

Staff Excellence Award

The Staff Excellence Award is designed to recognize staff members whose work and job-related accomplishments set the standard for service at the university.

Sarah Amutavi

DIRECTOR
Office of the University
Registrar

Ann Hurley

ASSISTANT DEAN
Graduate Admission Office
(CDM)

Margaret Vogt

OPERATIONS COORDINATOR
Department of Management
& Entrepreneurship (BUS)

Monika Gunty

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Driehaus College of Business

John Ourada

IS ENTERPRISE ARCHITECT
Information Services

Staff Council Diversity Award

Commitment to diversity and inclusion has been a core value of DePaul's mission since our founding. This is reflected in the Staff Council Diversity Award, which recognizes staff members who demonstrate outstanding achievements, initiatives, and a sustained commitment to the DePaul mission. The award specifically honors those who embrace equity, inclusion, and diversity as fundamental practices and go above and beyond their assigned duties to promote these principles within the DePaul community, advocating for cultural diversity and civil and human rights.

Olinda Rios

COORDINATOR
Department of Finance and Real Estate (BUS)

**Congratulations to
all the award recipients!**

Our thanks to the
St. Vincent de Paul Parish
and our faculty and
staff volunteers.

