

2026

COMMENCEMENT

September 18, 2026
San Diego, CA



ASPEN UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement

Aspen is dedicated to offering any motivated college-worthy student the opportunity to receive a high quality, responsibly priced distance-learning education for the purpose of achieving sustainable economic and social benefits for themselves and their families.

Aspen University

Commencement Program

Processional of Graduates

Pomp and Circumstance

National Anthem

Brittney Meskimen

Welcome

Dr. Scott Burrus, President

Introductions

Dr. Jennifer Billingsley, Provost

Student Speaker

Verlin Guanga

Dr. Shenell Deville

Conferral of Degrees

Dr. Jennifer Billingsley, Provost

Closing Remarks

Dr. Scott Burrus, President

Recessional to Lobby

Academic Leadership

Dr. Scott Burrus, President

Dr. Jennifer Billingsley, Provost

Dr. Gregory Bradley, Dean, College of Business and Technology

Dr. Amanda Jones, Dean, College of Nursing and Health Sciences

Dr. Laurie Wellner, Dean, College of Education

Board of Trustees

Mr. Timothy Fischer: Board Chair

Ms. Patricia Potter

Ms. Todd MacDonald

Dr. Mary Oling-Sisay

Dr. Tanya Osborne-McKenzie

Ms. Leslie M. Sanchez

Mr. Michael Mathews: Board of Managers

Dr. John Scheibelhoffer: Board of Managers

Dr. Scott Burrus: Ex Officio

ASPEN UNIVERSITY FEATURED STUDENT SPEAKER

Verlinda Guanga



Verlinda Guanga is a healthcare leader with more than 31 years of nursing experience specializing in Pediatric Intensive Care, healthcare informatics, analytics, and quality improvements. Originally from the Philippines, she earned her Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Manila Doctors College before pursuing further education and a rewarding career in the United States.

As Director of Registries and Regulatory Reporting at NewYork-Presbyterian Hospital, Verlinda leads teams dedicated to healthcare quality, regulatory reporting, clinical registries, and performance improvement initiatives. Her career has been guided by a passion for improving patient outcomes through

innovation, collaboration, and the meaningful use of data and technology. In 2026, Verlinda earned her Master of Science in Nursing with a specialization in Informatics. She is deeply honored to serve as a Student Speaker for the Class of 2026 as she and her fellow graduates celebrate this milestone and the opportunities that lie ahead.

ASPEN UNIVERSITY FEATURED STUDENT SPEAKER

Dr. Shenell Deville



Dr. Shenell Deville is an accomplished educational leader with more than 25 years of experience in education. She currently serves as the Statewide Director of Education for the Louisiana Office of Juvenile Justice. Throughout her career, she has served as a principal, state academic coordinator, district administrator, teacher, educational diagnostician, and instructional support specialist, with experience in public, charter, virtual, and state-level education systems.

Dr. Deville holds two Master of Education degrees from the University of New Orleans and earned her Doctor of Education in Organizational Leadership from Aspen University in 2025. She is a member of the

American Association of School Administrators (AASA), the National Society of Leadership and Success, and the Correctional Education Association (CEA). Dr. Deville is honored to represent her fellow graduates as a student commencement speaker.

COMMENCEMENT REGALIA AND HONOR CORDS

Academic regalia (cap, gown, and hood) in the United States has been influenced by the academic dress traditions of Europe. This includes a long flowing gown, usually black, and sleeves that are indicative of the degree obtained. Master's level sleeves have pointed cuffs. Academic hoods have several components:

Shell: The shell material of the hood typically matches the robe. This is traditionally black.

Interior Lining: Typically satin, the interior indicates the colors of the institution from which the graduate received the degree. Aspen University's hoods have a red and blue interior lining.

Trim: The outer edge of the cowl is trimmed in velvet or velveteen. The color of the velvet/velveteen hood trimming is distinctive in the academic field and varies by major.

Aspen University's Hood Colors

Business Degree: Drab (light brown)

Education Degree: Light Blue

Nursing Degree: Apricot

Psychology and Addiction Studies Degree: Sun Gold

Technology Degree: Yellow Gold

Undergraduate Honor Cords

Students who have earned the following GPA will be honored with the corresponding cord:

Gold Cord: (3.5-4.0)

Graduate & Doctoral Honor Cords

Students who have earned the following GPA will be honored with the corresponding cord:

Blue & White Braided Cord: with distinction (3.8-4.0)

Honor cord eligibility is determined using the student's cumulative GPA during the first week of August 2026.

◇ Honors

List of Candidates

School of Business and Technology

Bachelor of Science in Business Administration

Angelica Solis, Rebecca	◇
Barrow, Erica	
Bass, Valencia	◇
Cineus, Quincy	
Da Silva, Thiago	
Davis, Courtney	◇
Del Duca, Kaitlyn	◇
Garcia, Martin	◇
Guerrero, Christian	
Howard, Kim	◇
Mason, Shavonne	
Sellers, Stephon	◇
Smith, Elizabeth	
Sotelo-Ruiz, Luis	
Tirado, Robertson	◇

Bachelor of Science in Health Care Administration

Atlas, Johnice	
Bascom-Watson, Kelly	
Colucciello, Jennifer	◇
Dorlean, Rebecka	◇
Dublo, Chandra	

Holmes, Sheena	
Marie Blount, Wanda	◇
Mata, Vivian	◇
Niyo, Joyeuse	
Powell, Alicia	
Reyes, Melannie	◇
Roselle Cortez, Ma.	◇
Schlicting, Teresa	◇
Sifuentes, Brittany	
Walayat, Imran	
Waldon, Emily	◇

Master of Business Administration

Banks, Doris	
Candelario, JonCarlos	◇
Higginson, Kristen	◇
Ipinyomi, Titilope	◇
Klibi, Rania	
Mahajan, Nitin	
Manning, Pamela	◇
Mwambwa, Ronald	◇
Owolade, Maxwell	◇
Rockingham, Robin	
Roy, Shreya	◇

Sandoval, Tiffany ◇

Master of Science in Technology and Innovation

Jayachandran, Vimal ◇

Doctor of Science in Computer Science

Bytyqi, Flamur ◇

Estrada, Ruben

Fredericks, Antonio

Hatcher, Justin

Imhans, Oliver ◇

Napo, Martin ◇

School of Education

Associate of Applied Science in Early Childhood Studies

Canchani, Aura

Sims, Valerie

Bachelor of Science in Early Childhood Studies

Lupian, Alejandra ◇

Moor, Hope ◇

Pass, Dinesha

Welch, Muna ◇

Master of Arts in Education

Balag, Larae

Graves, Kelli ◇

Julien, Julnes ◇

Nayfack, Kaira

Scott, Victoria ◇

Education Specialist

Shaw, Simone ◇

Doctor of Education

Arman, Odette ◇

Armstead, Karen ◇

Asato, Dana

Blackwell, Malisa

Bolden, Chassidy ◇

Bouanani, Bouchra ◇

Brown, Benjamin ◇

Brown, Tonya ◇

Clement, Bonita ◇

Collingwood, Nichlas ◇

Cruz, Kayla

Deville, Shenell ◇

Dindukurthi, Ganesh ◇

Downing, Alonzia ◇

Durst, Anais

Furlanetto, Priscila ◇

Galindo, Monica Isabel ◇

Geist, Laurel	◇
Gilbert, Kevin	◇
Ginnett, Jada	◇
Gintoli, Odetta	◇
Goldstone, Carla	◇
Gunter, Marsia	
Gupta, Aarti	◇
Hargrove, Tambrea	◇
Harris, Jermaine	
Harvey, Dwight	◇
Haubrich, Jillian	◇
Hernandez, Deserea	◇
Hicks Sanchez, Tia	◇
Hicks, Bruce	
Howard, Terry	◇
Ismail, Baseemah	◇
Jackson, Catherine	
Jimenez, Richard	◇
Johnson, Kevin	◇
Johnson, Tyrone	◇
Jones, Tony	
Jones, Tara	◇
Kalb, Kristina	◇
Kemp, Benjamin	◇
Kiage, Bitengo	
Luty, Kandy	◇

Marshall, Brian	◇
Mast, Liudmila	◇
McAfee, Scott	◇
McLaughlin, Ronda	◇
Moghareei, Hormoz	
Mohamed, Faneeza	◇
Mora, Cindee	
Morgan, Natasha	
Nevarez, Edward	
Noel, Nalisha	
Osbourne, Nikilie	◇
Owens, Melvin	◇
Porter, Theresa	◇
Ramsue, Sonya	◇
Richards, Brian	◇
Roberts, Heather	◇
Rosen, Marjorie	◇
Russell, Lasonia	
Sanchez, Jennifer	
Scott, Christina	◇
Seals, Kimberly	
Shukla , Shubhi	◇
Smith-Monard, LouEllen	◇
Smith, Kelly	◇
Soesbee, Kimberly	◇
Swain, Sharon	◇

Thompson, James		Williams, Larissa	◇
Van Norman, David		Wrany, Amy	◇
Vela, Dolores		Wright, Kimberly	◇
White, Jennifer	◇	Wright, Marishika	◇
Williams-Gibson, Thomas		Youngbauer, Heidi	◇

School of Nursing and Health Science

Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Abdur-Rahman, Heidi	◇	Chacon, Virginia	
Acosta, Diana	◇	Charles-Pierre, Luckia	
Afonja, Adenike	◇	Charles, Valerie	◇
Amos, Tattiana	◇	Colón, Allysondra	◇
Alexandre, Yvana	◇	Dawodu, Bilikis	◇
Anderson, Tsahai	◇	Dickson, Audra	◇
Anuforo, Chizurum		Disley-Cielen, Jacob	◇
Armand, Marie	◇	Dixon, Lisa	◇
Ayala, Hilda	◇	Dobey, Myra	◇
Biege, Sheri	◇	Dolce Francois, Newslie	◇
Boles, Sherry		Dolce Sylvestre, Paulnise	◇
Bond, Staci	◇	Dondo, Grateful	◇
Bosworth, Jessica	◇	Dorest , Erlange	◇
Broyer, Diane	◇	Elizabeth Afolabi, Funmilola	◇
Buckle, Charmaine		Erezimena Ahirhima, Emily	◇
Camara, Sulayman		Etienne, Wengline	
Campbell, Chasidy	◇	Etienne, Yvrose	◇
Carney, Tristin		Eunice Adelalu, Boluwatife	◇
		Fairfield, Monica	

Fissien, Jennifer Capreaty	◇
Ford, Rhonee	◇
Francis, Corey	◇
Gadsden, Venus	◇
Geffrard, Irene	◇
Ghimire, Prashamsa	◇
Godbold, EToya	
Goddard, Letty	◇
Hayes, Inas	◇
Hayes, Sharese	◇
Hertzog, Linda	◇
Hilaire, Elsie	◇
Houston, Latashia	◇
Howard, Meloney	◇
Howell, Tonya	◇
Hutchinson, Carolyn	◇
Izuegbu, Amarachi	◇
Jackson, Francesca	◇
Jackson, Sha	◇
Jahi, Amadi	
Jaruszewski, Julie	◇
Jules, Gina	◇
Kadel, Elina	◇
Kasimu, Rafatu	◇
Kassa, Netsanet	◇
Kilonzo-Cullen, Loise	◇

Kimani, Lilian	◇
Kuei, Andria	◇
Kyei, Smart	◇
Ladipo, Titilola	◇
Lebrun, Toyin	◇
Lee Moore, Jessie	
Lee, Jonnine	◇
Lewis, Tina	◇
Lindsay, Jessica	◇
Lucky, Denae	◇
Marquez, Evelyn	◇
Martnez Moreira, Berta	
Mcclung, Carol	◇
McGee, Sharnel	◇
Mileon, Rose	◇
Moise, Windiana	◇
Morey, Susan	◇
Mukasa, Budala	◇
Murad, Joy	
Nasir Pervaiz, Amber	◇
Ndzeni, Lizette	◇
Ngethe, Susan	◇
Ngwa, Emelda	◇
Obi, Ngozi	◇
Odaranile, Olamide	◇
Odeghe, Abosede	

Ogeto, Winnie	◇
Oghenekevwe Edomwande, Stella	◇
Okeke, Charity	◇
Onasanya, Victoria	◇
Oteng-Mensah, Louisa	◇
Pate, Nichelle	◇
Pesqueira, Monica	◇
Pitt, Zita	◇
Prisca Mbanefo, Kelechi	◇
Ramos, Jacquelyn	◇
Robinson, Karyn	◇
Robles, Luis	◇
Rodney, Stephanie	◇
Routh, Shanna	◇
Saint-Clair, Marie	◇
Sandy Agbor Bessem, Immaculate	◇
Shaneil Deneus, Rodene	
Simmons, Kortney	◇
Sithole, Memory	◇
Snay, Amanda	
Stennett-Scott, Jacqueline	◇
Taylor, Veronica	◇
Temidayo Akinjagunla, Idowa	◇
Terrones, Juana	◇
Toussaint, Fredeline	

Tracey, Angela	◇
Viard, Francesca	
Walters, Kareen	◇
Welty, Michelle	
Whaley, Braeden	
Wilfong, Debra	◇
Williams-Cross, Chazmine	
Yu, Bernadette	

Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Addiction Studies

Lagos Barker, Daphne

Master of Arts in Psychology and Addiction Studies

Adeola, Sunday	◇
Edwards, Michelle	◇
Palanci, Jennifer	

Master of Public Health

Latha Shanmugam, Sineha	◇
Willie, Kumba-Amie	◇

Master of Science in Nursing

Acevedo, Kurtis	◇
Addamo, Jennifer	◇
Adisa, Adeola	
Agbasonu, Ninian	
Ajanaku, Tinuola	◇
Akerman, Stacie	◇

Albarillo, Rocelle	◇
Amin, Bhakti Sanjaykumar	
Ambe, Reynaldo	◇
Apelo, Dennis	◇
Arthur, Stephanie	
Asenso, Audrey	◇
Baca, Tranette	◇
Bailey, Khaadean	
Baker, Desiree	◇
Balili, Angelica	
Balmonte, May	◇
Balogun, Modupeola	◇
Bobbitt, Sara	
Bolden , Adriana	
Bonawitz, Brooke	
Britto, Kellyanne	◇
Brown Jr, Cornelius	◇
Brown Sr, Ronald	◇
Budd, Keisha	◇
Cabrera, Blanca	
Cadiente, Rhodora	◇
Cayetano, Theresa	
Chika Akhilomen, Philomena	◇
Childs, Juanita	
Cole, Howard	◇
Colin, Naomie	

Colin, Nyrva	◇
Colter, Natasha	◇
Contreras, Tamara	◇
Cridland, Sarah	◇
Cunningham, Shanna	◇
Cupido, Emily	
Curry, Charlene	
Davidson, Krys	◇
Deviles, Rocel	◇
Devore, Jammie	◇
Deyo, Fauna	◇
Dizon, Breanna	
Drake, Lea	◇
Eko, Mujidat	◇
Empey, Krista	◇
Esudass, Gunapercial	◇
Eterno, Patricia	
Evaldez, Roal Jean Pamorad	◇
Eugene, Murlande	◇
Ezeji, Martha	◇
Fall Simmons, Aida	◇
Ferrante, Lisa	◇
Fiorilli, Lisa	◇
Foland, Debra	
Gammon, LaTanya	
Garrett Hayes, Ashanti	

George Alfred, Anne Dilanthi	◇
Gill, Qammar	
Gonzalez, Tiberio	◇
Gordon, Akelia	◇
Grafton, Vivian	◇
Greenfeather, Nancy	
Greenidge, Angela	
Grove, Ruby	◇
Guanga, Verlinda	◇
Guevara, Hyacinth	◇
Harris, Debbie	
Heitkamp, Jennifer	◇
Henderson, Staci	
Henry, Tamika	◇
Herold, Lea	
Higgs, Rem	◇
Hobson, Jennifer	◇
Horton, Amanda	◇
Howell, Ebony	
Hurley, Naomi	◇
Ikonne, Afua	◇
Irish, Stefanie Brianne	◇
Jacob, Simi	
Jay Zandueta, Kay	
Jenner, Lisa	◇
Johns, Michelle	◇

Joy Villanueva, Christianne	◇
Jupadim, Victoria	◇
Kallich, Sylvia	
Kaye Foreste, Anna	◇
Kelly, Christopher	◇
Khadka, Anuja	◇
Koroma, Abdulai	◇
Lam, Patrick	◇
Lat, Genevieve	◇
Lee, Tammie	
Legette, Valencia	◇
Lewis, Jama	
Lively, Megan	◇
Lo, Cheuk-Lam	◇
Loa, Alicia	
Lyons, Saprena	
Magalong, Mona Liza	◇
Manning, Torre	◇
Marrone, Rosanna	◇
Martinez, Miriam	◇
Martins , Olievia	
Matabilas, Raymart	◇
Mayo, Rhonda	◇
Mba, Cecilia	◇
McCarthy, Christine	◇
McDonald, Regina	◇

McDowall, Mechel	
McIntosh, Claire	
Mcintyre-James, Andrea	◇
McKenney, Marla	
McLaughlin, Caitlin	◇
Mehari, Elsa	◇
Mejia, Shellie	◇
Melendrez, Sylvia	◇
Mendez, Airisol	◇
Moua, Yeng	
Murangiri, Laureen	
Nazario, Sascha	◇
Ndungu, Gabriel	◇
Neves, Brandie	◇
Newman, Tessa	◇
Nicholson, Ivanlouis	◇
Nickols, Libby	◇
Nwankwo, Gloria	
Nwokeji, Chika	◇
Odofin, Joan	◇
Ojile, Ndidi	◇
Olarte, Nicefil	◇
Osunde, Oghogho Gloria	◇
Pahl, Brittany	
Pamorada Evaldez, Roal Jean	
Paro, Natalie	◇

Pascual, Christy	◇
Pickett, Jasmine	◇
Pleasant, Cherys	
Potts, Sara	◇
Prempeh, Anita	◇
Quizana, Arlene	◇
Redmon Booth, Gloria	◇
Reinhart, Amy	
Reyes Thompson, Tiffany	
Reyes, Sheena Marie	◇
Rivera, Jaelyn	◇
Robertson, Danielle	
Robledo, Jenny	◇
Rodgers, Christina	◇
Rodriguez-Tobias, Saira	◇
Ruiz, Maribeth	◇
Runnels, Lei	◇
Rushing, Elena	◇
Sanusi, Sandra	
Schmid, Stacey	◇
Schuck, Luwalhati	
Scott, Roselyn	◇
Seeton, Desiree	◇
Shrestha, Amrita	◇
Sims, Sheila	◇
Smith Kee, Andrea Marchel	

Snyder, Tamara	◇
Sparks, Lisa	
Stewart, Katelin	◇
Stewart, Sherry	◇
Suarez, Reina Regina	◇
Sutherland, Miranda	◇
Swan, Ellis	◇
Swanson, Lindsey	◇
Tajuddin, Maheen	◇
Thomas, Ligi	
Todd, La Nita	◇
Torrato Camina Jr., Neri	◇
Tyma, Marina	◇
Umoelin, Gladys	◇
Valentin, Tiara	
Vandenbusch, Ryan	◇
Vazquez, Carmen	
Vela, Clarissa	◇
Violet Chinweubankem Achor, Chioma	
Vives, Michelle	◇
Wakefield, Tiffany	◇
Walters, Douglas	◇
Weed, Maria	◇
Westbrooks, Myeshia	◇
Whyte, Tyece	
Wiglesworth, Danaee	

Willis Blair, Cloverlyn	
Wong, John	◇
Yamat, Heidi	
Yao, Yao	
Zunich, Mercedes	◇

Doctor of Nursing Practice

Akintola, Aminat	
Akudoro, Ifeanyi	
Aldrich Ocampo, Allan	◇
Aleje, Sinat	◇
Alexander-Parris, Charmaine	
Allbright, Sheryll	
Allen, Kelly	◇
Alvarado, Kisha	
Ancayan, Caezar	◇
Annor, Olivia	
Antony, Bindu	◇
Arcilla, Jelden	◇
Aslam Khan, Saima	◇
Augustine, Lisa	◇
Baker-Kloss, Lavern	
Bamidele Ayeni, Olasupo	◇
Banmbuh, Abigail	
Barnes, Geneva	◇
Beal, Cynthia	◇
Beckham, Leslie	

Bellegarde, Rolande

Benitez, Britney

Bennie, Anisa

◇

Benson, Melissa

Blair, Samantha

◇

Bonaby, Angela

◇

Bonsu, Patricia

◇

Bottex, Stacey

Brown, Yanory

Burks, Elijah

◇

Cameron, Robert

Cathey, Tamara

Chunn, Ashley

◇

Coombs, Megan

◇

Coston, Karen

◇

Danielle Washington, Nakeisha

DeLano, Nicole

◇

Delmar, Katelyn

◇

Dixon-Swinton, Lurrann

Duarte, Carmen

◇

Emmanuel, Roselande

Esteban, Marc Anthony

◇

Etude, Joseph

◇

Evans, Danita

◇

Farrell , Jennifer

◇

Felkins, Haley

◇

Fonju, Roseline

Fonju, Ruth

◇

Fowler, Ginger

◇

Gerard, Marie

◇

Gopinathan Pillai
Sukumariamamma, Rahul

◇

Gray, Sonia

◇

Griffith, Vernise

◇

Grispi, Mariah

◇

Gumbo, Mary

Hardwick, Amber

◇

Hatten, Romaine

◇

Henley, Myra

◇

Henry, Macary

Herd, Zina

◇

Hester, Amy

Houston-Armstrong, Chiquita

◇

Hudson, LaTonya

◇

Hughes, Melanie

◇

Hunter, May

◇

Hutcherson, Pamela

◇

Idim, Yemisi

◇

Igbo, Christiana

◇

Igwiloh, Chioma

◇

Iheke, Juliana

◇

Ikpeoha-Olelewe, Blessing

Iwuoha, Chinazom

◇

John, Grace	◇
Johnson, Mallory	◇
Joseph , James	◇
Joseph, Magilta	
Joseph, Miguel	◇
Joy, Subha	
Joyce, Jacqueline	
Kimori, Hottensiah	
Kirk, Demetrius	◇
Koroma, Joseph	◇
Labastida, Araceli	◇
Larae King-Thurston, Jenale	◇
Lieto, Kimberly	
Lindeman, Kristen	
Lindsey, Jana	◇
Lisa Diane Anderson, Tammy	◇
London, Dana	◇
Luisa Tan, Maria	◇
Luna, Hiromi	◇
Lynn McNamara Morse, Dana	◇
Mason, Sandra	
McCarter, Lee-Ann	
McEwan, Sophia	◇
Mckenna, Mavis	◇
Mesack, Lana	◇
Miller, Debra	◇

Morgan, David	◇
Mtimkhulu Wise, Aisha	◇
Mwesa, Moirah	◇
Nahom, Sandra	◇
Nelson, Sindhumol	◇
NFI, NYA-NYO	◇
Nnamaliri, Eriam	
Notino, Dawn	◇
Osunbor, Glory	
Paden, Sylvia	
Pajarillaga, Cristina	◇
Parrella, Tammy	◇
Patino, Melissa	◇
Quiles, Maria	◇
Ramaeker Christensen, Cindy	
Ramos, Elizabeth	◇
Rashad, Andrea	◇
Ray, Kandice	◇
Roberts-Mentor, Vilma	
Rodriguez-Wewerka, Cynthia	◇
Roe, Shekinah	
Rosine Kori Nkenlifack, Nathalie	
Ross, Michele	◇
Sanchez, Alberto	◇
Sanchez, Nancy	◇
Sasah, Kojo	◇

Schumacher, Christine	◇
Sivankutty, Sreeja	◇
Smith , Elizabeth	◇
Smith, Yolanda	◇
Socorro De Maio, Maria	◇
Soriano-Clark, Elizabeth	◇
Sowell, Quiana	◇
Spence, Michael	◇
Stephen, Anne	◇
Stockman, Rita	◇
Strong, Georgia	◇
Suurna, Lyndsay	◇
Talmore, Jennifer	
Tanjusay, Marcelo	◇
Ternemille, Richard	◇
Thomas, Cheryl	◇
Thompson, Natalie	◇
Toney, Ayanna	◇
Turner, Kimberly	
Uduba, Dominica	◇
Ugwu, Ikechukwu	◇
Umer, Jemal	◇
Varela-Manso, Melissa	◇
Ventura, Margaret	
Vergara, Jane	◇
Wambulwa, Judy	

White, Tyhesia

Williams Forde, Trish

Williams, Meshandra ◇

Williams, Vanita