

Convocation Program, 18 September 2024

Processional

Performed by the NJCU Multi-Style Strings Ensemble

Macebearer, Dr. Francis Moran

University Senate President and Professor of Political Science

Master of Ceremonies

Dr. Scott Mittman, Interim Dean of the

William J. Maxwell College of Arts and Sciences

Presiding

Mr. Andrés Acebo

Interim President

Dr. Donna Breault

Interim Provost and Senior Vice President

Provost's Welcome

Dr. Donna Breault

Student Leadership Remarks

Mr. Shahod Augustin

President, Student Government Association

Recognition of Faculty, Retirees, and In Memoriam,

Dr. Donna Breault

Conferral of Professors Emeriti

College of Arts and Sciences

Interim Associate Dean Desamparados Fabra Crespo

Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences

Dr. Robert Albrecht, Media Arts

Mr. Kenneth MacBain, Art

College of Professional Studies
Dean Marvin Walker

Dr. Barbara Blozen, Nursing

Deborah Cannon Partridge Wolfe College of Education
Interim Dean Lourdes Sutton

Recognition of the Renaming of the Children's Learning Center After Dr. Jo
Anne Juncker

Musical Selection
Performed by the NJCU Musical Theatre Ensemble

"This is Me," from The Greatest Showman,
Benj Pesek and Justin Paul

President Andrés Acebo Remarks and
Convocation Speaker Introduction

Convocation Address
Senator Angela McKnight

Alma Mater
Will Hayes '36 and Aubrey Kemper '36

Green and Gold, we honor thee,
Symbol of our aim.
Lead us onward to our goal
Ever for thy fame.
All our hearts will ever hold
Memories that are near;
And you always will remain
Our Alma Mater, dear.

Recessional

Please join us in the Gothic Lounge for the Jo Anne Juncker Children's Learning Center Ribbon-Cutting

About Senator Angela McKnight

She is a long-time friend of and tireless advocate for New Jersey City University, was the first African American Assemblywoman for New Jersey's 31st District. She served in the General Assembly from 2016-2023, including a term as Deputy Majority Leader from 2022-2023, before her election as State Senator in November, 2023.

She is a trailblazing leader representing Bayonne and Jersey City. As the founder and CEO of AngelaCARES — a Hudson County based non-profit she founded in 2011 to advocate for and provide a support system for senior citizens — she empowers seniors, caregivers, and youth in her community. A passionate advocate and mentor, Senator McKnight is a former adjunct faculty member at NJCU and instructs at the Rising Tide Capital Community Business Academy. Her dedication to service and education continues to inspire and uplift those around her.

With a background steeped in grassroots activism and a commitment to fostering inclusive policies, she embodies the spirit of progress and resilience for which the Garden State is known.

Senator McKnight's journey is a testament to the power of determination and vision. Beyond legislative politics, she has a long track record of ensuring that those in the corridors of power are accountable to those who they're serving. Senator McKnight is not just a voice for today; she is a leader for tomorrow, championing initiatives that uplift every New Jerseyan, including you.

Professor Emeritus/Emerita

In Latin, emeritus means "veteran soldier." Professor Emeritus or Professor Emerita is an honorary title conferred upon a retired New Jersey City University professor for one's longstanding commitments to the University

mission and its students, significant contributions to the University and community, and distinguished accomplishments as a teacher and scholar. Professor Emeritus/Emerita status is selected by faculty peers and administration each year.

Ceremonial Mace

The academic procession is led by the President of the University Senate who bears the University's ceremonial mace. Designed in 1987 by Herb Rosenberg, Professor of Art, the mace represents the home of learning surrounded by the human quest for discovery. In the words of the designer, the mace "is an androgynous figure stretching around an ancient pillar towards a crystal sphere of knowledge, slightly clouded with mystery and still to be discovered University magic." The mace is crowned with a cluster, symbolizing power of creative passions in the service of universal peace. The scepter symbolizes the University's urban mission: bringing people together to challenge their future."

NJCU Leadership

Andrés Acebo
Interim President

Donna Breault
Provost and Senior Vice President, Academic Affairs

Monica De Los Rios
Vice President, University Counsel

Brian Kirkpatrick
Vice President, Chief Financial Officer

Erin McCann
Vice President, Student Development and Community Engagement

Rachel Fester

Vice President, Institutional Research

Milagros Peralta
Chief of Staff

Musicians

Multi-Style string ensemble
Amanda Kaya, Violin
Jana Paredes, Violin
Sezen Ulucan, Viola
Meyling Wong, Cello
Alexander Lu, Electric Bass
Martha Mooke, Director/Viola

Musical Theatre Workshop

Paulo Acevedo
Anatalia Aponte
Glenzel Baker
Isabel Diaz
Amiah Edmondson
Ivane Estime
Isabel Galur
Rivier Garcia
October Gomes
Conner Jace-Basile
Jay Jones
Marcy Mahone
Aino Priha
Katrina Rada
Louis Ramirez
Joshua Rosenthal
Mathew Segovia
Tatyana Serrato

Rivier Garcia
Nebula Vidal
Peter Roefaro - Drums
Marc G. Dalio – Piano/Conductor

Thanks to Bernadette Schery, Geordana Vasquez, Michael Sims, Roberta Lee, Victor Delvalle, Jeffrey Dessources, Anna Carhart, Natalie Mendez, John Osborn, Paul Gargiulo, Ira Thor, Ron Hurley, Edie DelVecchio.