

# Commencement



Luther College, Center For Faith & Life, Decorah

### Northeast Iowa Community College Commencement

May 9, 2024 • 7 pm Luther College, Center For Faith & Life, Decorah

**Processional\*** 

Advancement of Colors*	American Legion Members
National Anthem*	Heartland Barbershop & Gospel Singers
Welcome	
Introductions	Amy Gaffney, Ed.D. Vice President for Student Services, Northeast Iowa Community College
Commencement Address	
Student Remarks	Dairy Science Technology and Animal Science '24
Presentation of Class	
Conferring of Degrees and Diplomas	David Dahms Acting President, Northeast Iowa Community College
Musical Selection	Heartland Barbershop & Gospel Singers

**Recessional\*** 

\*Audience Please Stand.

Guests should remain seated after the ceremony until all students have exited.

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### **Commencement Speakers**



**Dennis Ford** Vice President and General Manager, Norplex-Micarta

Dennis Ford has more than 40 years of international business experience and decades of leadership in the advanced manufacturing sector. A native of Tipton, Iowa, Dennis currently leads Norplex-Micarta in Postville. The plastic fabrication company develops, designs and manufactures thermoset composite materials for structural and mechanical applications in many industries.

He devotes his leadership talents and insights to local organizations in the community. He is currently active as a board member of Industrial Dielectric Holdings, The La Crosse Family YMCA and the Upper Midwest YMCA Alliance. He and his wife, Lauri, are active members of the Great River United Way, Iowa State Alumni Association, Iowa 4H Foundation, Habitat for Humanity of Greater La Crosse and the Boys and Girls Clubs of La Crosse.

Norplex-Micarta also supports Postville Emergency Services, the Postville Day Care, Iowa Private College Foundation, NICC Foundation, the Northeast Iowa Food Pantry and STEM initiatives for local high schools.



**Peyton Luehmann** Dairy Science Technology and Animal Science '24

Peyton is eager to return to the family farm in Lewiston, Minn., to apply his knowledge after graduation. He is deeply invested in a lifelong commitment to the agricultural field. He plans to assume management of his family's 300-cow dairy herd to expand the herd and increase the health and well-being of the livestock.

As a student, Peyton served as a member of the National Professional Agricultural Student Organization (PAS), where he competed as a team member at state and national PAS competitions. He participated in Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society for two years on campus and served as chapter president this year.

This spring, Peyton was named to the USA TODAY's All-USA Academic Team, one of only 20 students recognized nationally. The All-USA program is widely recognized as the most prestigious academic honor for students attending associate degree-granting institutions. He was also named a 2024 New Century Workforce Pathway Scholar for his academic accomplishments, leadership and service.

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Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Lindsey Achterberg	Beef Science Technology	AAS	Van Dyne, Wis.
Bryce W. Adams	John Deere TECH	AAS	West Union
Roxanne Allenbach*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Colfax, Wash.
Michael J.G. Allison	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Waukon
Daryon K. Allwood	Associate of Arts	AA	Maynard
Kimberly Andera	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Calmar
Brody Anfinson	Agriculture Business Dairy Science Technology	AAS AAS	Decorah
Laura M. Angulo	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Conner David Ariss	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Dubuque
Jenna K. Banse	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Eitzen, Minn.
Kassidy L. Bantz	Associate of Arts	AA	Westgate
Isaiah Barness*∎	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Calmar
April Bauer	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Caledonia, Minn.
David L. Bauer*	Accounting Specialist	AAS	Charles City
Tiffany Baumler	Associate of Arts	AA	West Union
Rose Mary Benda	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Timothy J. Benson	John Deere TECH	AAS	Montour
Cody D. Bigler	John Deere TECH	AAS	Decorah
Gabrielle Bishop•	History	AA	Cresco
April Marie Blong	Health Information Technology	AAS	Decorah
Erin Bonert	Agriculture Business	AAS	Petersburg
Jenna Bos*	Animal Science	Certificate	Maurice
Ava G. Bossom	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Abigail K. Breece*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Alvada, Ohio

Graduation Honors, cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher prior to commencement
Member of Phi Theta Kappa National Honor Society

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Dennis M. Brodbeck	Sports Administration	Certificate	Calmar
Joshua Buerkley	Agriculture Business	AAS	Coon Rapids, Minn.
Nicholas Buffington	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	West Union
Melissa A. Bulman*	Accounting Specialist Finance	AAS AAS	Waukon
Devin Burlage	Agriculture Business	AAS	Dyersville
Cael Burrow	Computer Science and Security	AAS	West Union
Erin C. Busta*	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lawler
Natalie Byrnes	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Emmy Carlson	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Hokah, Minn.
Emily Ann Carolan*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Decorah
Addison P. Chapman*•	Associate of Science	AS	Hawkeye
Katelyn Jane Christensen*	Business Administration	AAS	Decorah
Nicholas Christensen	John Deere TECH	AAS	Algona
Samuel D. Clausen*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Ankeny
Zackary J. Clemen	John Deere TECH	AAS	Holy Cross
Jayden Clinton	Early Childhood Education	Certificate	Randalia
Allison Colsch	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	New Albin
Jada Rose Connell	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Decorah
Tobias Conway	Business Administration	AAS	Calmar
Kayanne C. Cooper	Animal Science	Certificate	Decorah
Gabriela Cortes	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Postville
Azlynn M. Cota	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Jackson Coudo	Agriculture Business - Precision Agriculture	Certificate	Cresco
Brooke Courtney	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Ridgeway
Abigail K. Cummer*	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Elkader
Claire Cummings	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Clermont

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Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Ashlee Davidson	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Waterloo
Lydia I. Debes	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Waukon
Ella Mae Dehli	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Waukon
Allison K. Denner	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	New Hampton
Alyssa Derks*•	Agriculture Business Agriculture Business - Agriculture Finance	AAS Certificate	Cadott, Wis.
Shelby Rose Dieball*	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Green Isle, Minn.
Reese G. Diersen*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Caledonia, Minn.
Alaina Marie Dirksen	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Elgin
Emeliya Dose	Dairy Science Technology Finance	AAS AAS	Plainview, Minn.
April Doty*•	Health Information Technology	AAS	Oelwein
Jenna Dotzler*	Agriculture Business Agronomy and Crop Science	AAS AAS	Ridgeway
Carter William Drees	Associate of Arts	AA	Cresco
Brennan Kiel Duffy*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Sumner
Keona Marie Eberling	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Postville
Brock A. Eglseder	Commercial-Residential Electrician	Diploma	Garnavillo
Presleigh Eich*•	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Fort Atkinson
Addyson Einwalter	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Fort Atkinson
Kira M. Ellingson*•	Associate of Arts	AA	Ossian
Hailey A. Elsbernd*	Associate of Arts Exercise Science and Kinesiology	AA AA	Fort Atkinson
Tineah L. Erickson	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Luana
Nathan J. Faga*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Story City

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Brandy Feickert	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Elkader
Kaylee Ferfecki	Agriculture Business - Agriculture Finance Dairy Science Technology	Certificate AAS	Cecil, Wis.
Alexander Fickbohm*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Perry
Jenna Fish	Health Information Technology	AAS	Postville
Mitchell Fletcher	John Deere TECH	AAS	Muscatine
Kacey Foltz	Criminal Justice	AA	Cresco
Connor Frana	Agriculture Business	AAS	Calmar
Halle Froelich	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Waverly
Josefka Gansen	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Elma
Parker Gerke*	Commercial-Residential Electrician	Diploma	La Crosse, Wis.
Evan Gile	Sports Administration	Certificate	La Crescent, Minn.
Sierra Dawn Gilson	Early Childhood Education	Certificate	Elgin
Megan M. Glenna	Agriculture Business	AAS	Milltown, Wis.
Nathan Gorden	John Deere TECH	AAS	Dow City
Raynee A. Gottbreht*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Rolette, N.D.
Ethan Govern*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Cresco
Dennis Green	John Deere TECH	AAS	Postville
Dakota Greenwood	Agriculture Business	AAS	Cisne, III.
Zachary I. Gronwoldt	Computer Science and Security	AAS	Riceville
Gage Gruenberg	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lawler
Brody Hackman*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Fort Atkinson
Josie Claire Hageman	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Decorah
Kenna R. Hageman*	Carpentry	Diploma	Festina
Cloee Hammel	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Carrie L. Hanson	Business Administration	AAS	New Hampton

Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Emma J. R. Heins	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Postville
Mario Hernandez	Automotive Technology	AAS	Ossian
Carter S. Hicks*	Associate of Arts	AA	Mabel, Minn.
Braden Hindt	John Deere TECH	AAS	Sheldon
Cole Hinsverk*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Wahpeton, N.D.
Andrea K. Hinzman	Animal Science Agriculture Business Beef Science Technology	Certificate AAS AAS	Spring Valley, Minn.
Parker A. Hobbs	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Fountain, Minn.
Oliver Hoeltzle*	Carpentry	Diploma	Canton, Minn.
Alianna Holliday	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Oelwein
Kourtney Holthaus	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Postville
Chelsey Holtz*	Business Administration	AAS	Decorah
Caitlin Horner	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	New Hampton
Cloey J. Horns*	Associate of Arts	AA	Decorah
Amber J. Howard	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Cresco
Bailey C. Hughes*	Associate of Arts	AA	Decorah
Chloe S. Hughes	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Postville
Clair Jecklin	Agriculture Business	AAS	Durango
Joshua D. Jensen	Computer Science and Security	AAS	Cresco
Kaija Davin Jewett	Business Administration	AAS	Rapid City, S.D.
Cannon A. Joerger	Carpentry	Diploma	Readlyn
Cameron H. Johnson*	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Landon Johnson*	Automotive Technology	AAS	Waukon
Kimberly R. Jordan*	Animal Science	Certificate	Alta Vista

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Micah Kayhart*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Loyal, Wis.
William Kayser Kemp*	Automotive Technology	AAS	Tripoli
Carl L. Kennicker	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Holy Cross
Gracianna Alise Kennicker	Associate of Arts	AA	Elkader
Annika Hazel Kent-Thomas*	Associate of Arts	AA	Fayette
Erin Key	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Decorah
Kerry Ann King*	Health Information Technology	AAS	Fredericksburg
Will Kirschbaum	Beef Science Technology	AAS	Lancaster, Wis.
Thomas O. Knepper*	Associate of Arts	AA	Cascade
Dalton Koob	John Deere TECH	AAS	Jesup
Eric Kragness*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Chippewa Falls, Wis.
Amber Kraus*	Administrative Office Associate	Diploma	Arlington
Brandon R. Kregel	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Postville
Marcus Kriener*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Fort Atkinson
Alexis Krogmann*	Agriculture Business Animal Science	AAS Certificate	Dundee
Kassandra Kruse	Early Childhood Education	Certificate	Protivin
Emma M. Kulper*	Agriculture Business Agriculture Business - Agriculture Finance Animal Science	AAS Certificate Certificate	Guttenberg
Madilyn D. Kurth	Associate of Arts	AA	Waterville
Hannah Lage	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Postville
Megan M. Lampe	Associate of Arts	AA	Westgate
Monica Marie Landsgard	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Saint Olaf
Hannah M. Lane	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Elma
Bern Larsen	Associate of General Studies	AGS	Waucoma
Hayden M. Lawstuen*	Commercial-Residential Electrician	Diploma	Lanesboro, Minn.
Jilliann R. Leliefeld	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Guttenberg

Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Brady E. Lensing*	Carpentry	Diploma	Calmar
Jaxon Lenth	Automotive Technology	AAS	Luana
Jacob J. Leuchtenmacher*	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Elgin
Ben Lueck*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Dyersville
Peyton James Luehmann*•	Animal Science Dairy Science Technology	Certificate AAS	Lewiston, Minn.
Linnie Magnuson	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	West Union
Elliot J. Maire	Associate of Arts	AA	Cedar Rapids
Olivia A. Maklenburg	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Lawler
Savannah Malli	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Elgin
Sean Malone	Automotive Technology	AAS	Decorah
Sabrina Kae Manning	Animal Science Dairy Science Technology	Certificate AAS	Waukon
Kayla D. Marker*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Ansonia, Ohio
Olivia F. Marti*	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Ella Martin	Animal Science	Certificate	Johnston
Kaydence D. Martin*	Associate of Arts	AA	Fayette
Hanna Gladys Marting	Associate of Arts	AA	Jesup
Will Marx*	Business Administration	AAS	Decorah
Danielle Marie Mashek•	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lawler
Carrie McCartney-Vincent*	Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	Diploma Certificate	Mount Pleasant
Kameleya McCary=	Accounting Clerk	Diploma	Chicago, III.
Angela McConnell	Business Administration	Certificate	Decorah
Madeline Mellick	Agriculture Business Beef Science Technology	AAS AAS	Waukon

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Madalyn Menuey	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Sumner
Emma L. Middendorf*	Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician	AAS	Canton, Minn.
Paige Elizabeth Mihm	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lansing
Taylor Miles	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Elgin
Nessa L. Milton	Associate of Arts	AA	Chicago, III.
Sydney Mae Moser*	Associate of Science	AS	Monona
Cally Mueller-	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Alpha
John "Cleve" Newton III	Agriculture Business	AAS	Millen, Ga.
Kalea Jaide Oftedahl	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Decorah
Kory Oltrogge	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	West Union
Sadie Omar*	Associate of Arts	AA	Ridgeway
Jade Otto*	Associate of Arts	AA	West Union
Carly Palmer	Associate of Arts	AA	Harpers Ferry
Abby Marie Panoch*	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Ridgeway
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Jenna Lee Pecinovsky	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Cresco
Jenna Lee Pecinovsky Reed Peter*	Practical Nursing John Deere TECH	Diploma AAS	Cresco Brillion, Wis.
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Reed Peter*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Brillion, Wis.
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*•	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician	AAS Diploma	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn.
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula* <b>-</b> Emma Jean Pitz	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk	AAS Diploma Diploma	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula* <b>-</b> Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif.
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*• Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski Samantha Christene Reilly	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business Associate of Arts	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS AA	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif. Cedar Rapids
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*• Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski Samantha Christene Reilly Cagney Jo Reimer*	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business Associate of Arts Associate Degree Nursing Production and Companion Animal	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS AA AAS	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif. Cedar Rapids Garnavillo
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*• Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski Samantha Christene Reilly Cagney Jo Reimer* Jenny Reuling*	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business Associate of Arts Associate Degree Nursing Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician Early Childhood	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS AA AAS AAS Diploma	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif. Cedar Rapids Garnavillo Clarksville
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*• Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski Samantha Christene Reilly Cagney Jo Reimer* Jenny Reuling* Cassandra Rich	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business Associate of Arts Associate Degree Nursing Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician Early Childhood Early Childhood Education	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS AA AAS AAS Diploma Certificate	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif. Cedar Rapids Garnavillo Clarksville Sumner
Reed Peter* Connor J. Pikula*• Emma Jean Pitz Adam Prybylinski Samantha Christene Reilly Cagney Jo Reimer* Jenny Reuling* Cassandra Rich Jacob R. Ridnour	John Deere TECH Commercial-Residential Electrician Accounting Clerk Agriculture Business Associate of Arts Associate Degree Nursing Production and Companion Animal Veterinary Technician Early Childhood Early Childhood Education Associate of Science	AAS Diploma Diploma AAS AA AAS Diploma Certificate AS	Brillion, Wis. Wykoff, Minn. Fredericksburg Paso Robles, Calif. Cedar Rapids Garnavillo Clarksville Sumner Grimes

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Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Emma S. Roe	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Jackson S. Rollins*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Decorah
Matthew M. Ronan*	Elementary Education	AA	Dorchester
Jasmine Marie Carley Rossi	Elementary Education	AA	Earlville
Kayla Megan Rowan	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Lansing
Jenna Sadler	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Ossian
Noah Sbiral*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Calmar
Olivia Schaffer	Animal Science	Certificate	West Liberty
Lucas T. Scheidel	Computer Science and Security	AAS	Lawler
Marissa Schlake	Health Information Technology	AAS	Waukon
Rolin William Schmitt	Associate of Arts	AA	Jackson Junction
Evan M. Schroeder*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Caledonia, Minn.
Mathew Niel Schuler	Criminal Justice	AA	Oelwein
Faith E. Schulte	Agriculture Business	AAS	Waukon
Kayden Schulte	Practical Nursing	Diploma	LeRoy, Minn.
Rebecca Schumann*	Dairy Science Technology	AAS	Garber
Dale Jaymes Francis Schwamman	Automotive Technology	AAS	Fort Atkinson
Wrigley E. Shanks	John Deere TECH	AAS	Humeston
Amanda Nadine Sim	Agriculture Business	AAS	Winston Salem, N.C.
Brianna Sim	Health Information Technology	AAS	Fort Atkinson
Kayla M. Slabaugh	Accounting Clerk	Diploma	Cresco
Mia Smedsrud	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Decorah
Ruger Travis Smith	John Deere TECH	AAS	Donnellson
Austin Snell*	Beef Science Technology	AAS	Decorah

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Jaden Lynn Snyder	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Waucoma
Michael Isaac Sorenson*	Carpentry	Diploma	Oelwein
Rylan James Sorenson	Associate of Arts	AA	Cresco
Lexi Rose Spooner*	Agriculture Business - Agriculture Finance	Certificate	Grinnell
Brayden Staner	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Peosta
Brooke Stanley	Associate of Science	AS	New Albin
Jessica Lynn Stecklein	Animal Science	Certificate	Cascade
Alexa Steger*	Agriculture Business	AAS	Colesburg
Breckan Stewart*	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Emily Stone	Animal Science	Certificate	New Albin
Elizabeth Anne Streif*	Associate of Arts	AA	Maynard
Maxwell Swartz*	Data Analytics	Certificate	Waukon
Ezra Sweeney*	Associate of Arts	AA	Waukon
Monica Juliann Tappe	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Decorah
Kristy Tarwater	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Decorah
Noah T. Thompson*	John Deere TECH	AAS	Winterset
Carlee Thorstenson	Accounting Clerk	Diploma	Waukon
Ashley Timm	Accounting Specialist	AAS	Calmar
Wyatt S. Timp	Automotive Technology	AAS	Dyersville
Sawyer Tindle	John Deere TECH	AAS	Montezuma
Madison K. Torson*	Associate of Arts	AA	Lansing
Wendy K. Torson*	Health Information Technology	AAS	Waukon
Cheyanne E. Troendle*•	Animal Science Dairy Science Technology	Certificate AAS	Waterville
Jamicah Troendle	Health Information Technology	AAS	Waukon
Riley E. Troendle	Associate of Arts	AA	Lansing
Rebecca Tryon	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Westgate
Luke Tuecke*	Associate of Science	AS	Garnavillo

Graduate	Program of Study	Award	Hometown
Katelyn Mary Elizabeth Tyler	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	West Union
Matthew Uthoff*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Decorah
William Van Hove	John Deere TECH	AAS	Ackley
Tysen H. Vick*	Commercial-Residential Electrician	Diploma	Caledonia, Minn.
Corrina Jane Voigt	Associate of Science	AS	Decorah
Isaiah Wagner	John Deere TECH	AAS	Clermont
Allison Walch	Business Administration	AAS	Elkader
Jaylyn Rose Walleser*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Lansing
Thomas Warren	John Deere TECH	AAS	Spring Valley, Minn.
Nolan Watson=	Agronomy and Crop Science	AAS	New Hampton
Ryan Wedo	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Elgin
Samantha Wedo	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Little Falls, Wis.
Skye M. Welch*	Commercial-Residential Electrician Industrial Electrician	Diploma AAS	Caledonia, Minn.
Olivia P. White*•	Associate of Arts	AA	Volga
Kristen Marie Willenborg	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Garber
Caitlyn Williams*	Agriculture Business Animal Science	AAS Certificate	Iowa City
Kelsie Lee Wilson	Associate of Arts	AA	Mineral Point, Wis.
Alaina Wunnecka	Dairy Science Technology	AAS	Caledonia, Minn.
Lilyana Yosten*•	Criminal Justice	AA	Norfolk
Katina S. Zachary*	Practical Nursing	Diploma	Cresco
Cassidy M. Zawislak*	Business Administration Business Administration	AAS Certificate	Lanesboro, Minn.
Hayley Jo Zeien	Associate Degree Nursing	AAS	Elgin
Brian Ziegler*	Commercial-Residential Electrician	Diploma	Genoa, Wis.
Janessa Zweibahmer	Business Administration	AAS	Calmar

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### **Awards Conferred**

#### Associate of Arts (AA)

This degree is issued to a person who completes a course of study designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to a four-year institution. The degree permits completion of the equivalent of the first two years of a baccalaureate degree in numerous institutions.

#### **Associate of Science (AS)**

This degree is issued to a person who completes a course of study designed to prepare the graduate for transfer to a four-year institution for the purpose of earning a baccalaureate degree.

#### **Associate of General Studies (AGS)**

This degree is issued to a person who completes an individualized course of study primarily designed for acquisition of a broad educational background rather that the pursuit of a specific emphasis in an associate's degree or professional/technical program.

#### **Associate of Applied Science (AAS)**

This degree is issued to a person who graduates from a two-year technology program which consists of high-quality technical courses supplemented by a transferable core of general studies.

#### Diploma

A diploma is issued to a person who graduates from a vocational curriculum of at least nine months but less than two years in length, and it specifies the type of curriculum completed.

#### Certificate

A certificate is issued to a person who completes training in a specific occupational field. Certificate sequences are designed to enhance occupational competencies, employment marketability, specialized knowledge and skills.

### **Commencement History and Tradition**

The commencement ceremony is one of the most formal ceremonies in an academic institution, involving traditions that have their roots in medieval secular and religious institutions. It is also a time to celebrate the accomplishments and academic successes of our degree candidates. The caps, gowns and hoods worn at college and university functions date back to the Middle Ages. Monks and students of that time wore them to keep warm in the damp, drafty halls of learning. From these practical origins they have developed into the acceptable ceremonial attire, which symbolizes scholarly achievement.

#### Gowns

Gowns for associate's and bachelor's degrees are black with unadorned pointed sleeves. The master's degree gown is also black with an oblong sleeve, square-cut at the rear with an arc cut-away at the front. Doctoral gowns have bell-shaped sleeves that are allowed three bars of velvet, while a five-inch velvet trim of the appropriate color adorns the front. The word "regalia" means decorations or insignia indicative of an office; in academia, the more color, ropes, sashes or velvet on the gowns, the higher the academic degree.

#### Hoods

The hood gives color and meaning to the academic attire. Its silk lining bears the color of the institution conferring the degree. The hood is bordered with velvet of a prescribed width and color to indicate the field of learning to which the degree pertains. The velvet edging of two, three or five inches designate the bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree respectively. Hood lengths also vary from three-feet (bachelor's), three and a half feet (master's) and four feet (doctoral). The longer the hood, the higher the degree.

#### Caps

Mortarboards or caps are usually square with a tassel attached to the middle point of the top of the cap. Tassels may be black, colored to indicate the discipline in which the degree was earned, or gold in the case of the doctoral cap or tam. At commencement, graduates wear the tassel on the right side, moving it to the left when their degree is conferred. Faculty and staff participating in the ceremony wear the tassel to the left throughout the proceedings.

#### Cords

Students who qualify for an honors distinction are to be highly commended for their academic achievements. They are recognized in the commencement program and by the gold cords or sashes they wear over their gowns. Graduating veterans and military members are recognized for their distinguished service with a red, white and blue regalia cord. The cord colors replicate those of our nation's flag to denote the valor, excellence and sacrifice these individuals have exemplified in their service to the United States Armed Forces. Graduating TRIO Student Support Services participants are recognized by wearing a red, black and white cord.

# **Military Challenge Coins**

Veterans and active duty students graduating from Northeast Iowa Community College are awarded a commemorative Challenge Coin. Challenge Coins are pocket-sized medallions rooted in military tradition. Commanders use these types of coins to honor service members for their hard work, dedication and achievement. The College is proud to present a Challenge Coin to graduates in the military to acknowledge their service and commitment to our country.

### **Northeast Iowa Community College History**

In July of 1966, the State Board of Education approved the formation of the Area One Vocational-Technical School with Calmar as its administrative headquarters. The district approved included public school districts in Allamakee, Chickasaw, Clayton, Fayette, Howard and Winneshiek counties, as well as sections of Bremer, Buchanan and Mitchell counties.

On September 5, 1967, Area One Vocational-Technical School had 170 students enrolled in 12 programs. The school also broke ground on construction of college facilities on the 210-acre Calmar campus, which now includes Darwin L. Schrage Administration, Max Clark Hall, Wilder Business Center, Industrial Technologies Building, Student Center, Agricultural Technologies Building, Beef Education Facility, Child Development Center and Iowa's Dairy Center, a dairy education center and applied research laboratory built in 2000.

The merged Area One Vocational-Technical School was enlarged in 1970 to include the public school districts in Dubuque and Delaware counties and sections of Jones and Jackson counties. In 1971, the school began offering career education programs in Dubuque at several locations throughout the city, including the Roshek building.

In April 1979, Area One Vocational-Technical School changed its name to Northeast Iowa Technical Institute. This same year, the Peosta campus was established. The Peosta campus currently includes the main building, the Gas Utilities and Construction building, a Child Development Center, the National Education Center for Agricultural Safety and the Industrial Technologies Building, which opened in August 2010.

In 1988, formal approval of community college status for Northeast Iowa Technical Institute was granted by the State Board of Education to develop curricula and programs that would lead to awarding Associate of Arts, Associate of Science and Associate of Applied Science degrees. The school's name was changed to Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC).

NICC has since expanded to include service locations in Cresco, Dubuque, New Hampton, Manchester, Oelwein and Waukon. The purpose of these locations is to bring education and training to students in their communities and to serve as a catalyst for economic development. In 2008, the Town Clock Business Center in Dubuque was expanded to include a one-stop center with Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and East Central Intergovernmental Association (ECIA).

In December 2007, taxpayers passed, by supermajority, a \$35 million renovation and construction bond levy for the College. The funds supported construction and renovation of the industrial technologies buildings on each campus, the Student Center on the Calmar campus, renovations to the health and science labs and a new library on the Peosta campus, the Darwin L. Schrage Administration Building in Calmar, and the Wilder Business Center, which opened in January 2013.

In fall 2011, the Aspen Institute Community College Excellence Program named NICC to the top ten of community colleges in the nation for the College's successful graduate outcomes, academic excellence and community impact.

Northeast Iowa Community College district voters approved a continuation of a \$39 million bond levy in September 2018. The funding supported renovations to the Peosta campus Main Building and Max Clark Hall on the Calmar campus and updates to educational programming and services, infrastructure, security and technology.

On July 1, 2022, Dr. Herbert Riedel began his tenure as the new president of Northeast Iowa Community College. Under Dr. Riedel's leadership, the College continued its mission to provide in-demand education and training focused on improving lives, driving business success and advancing community vitality.

On Oct. 16, 2023, Northeast Iowa Community College named current Vice President for Finance and Administration, David Dahms, as the College's acting President.

# **Northeast Iowa Community College**

### **Mission Statement**

Northeast Iowa Community College provides in-demand education and training focused on improving lives, driving business success and advancing community vitality.

### **Vision Statement**

Northeast Iowa Community College will be the premier source for in-demand education, workforce training and partnerships, through innovative thinking and talent development.

Service:	We listen, identify, and respond to the needs and expectations of our internal and external communities.
Respect:	We show consideration for one another and encourage diverse perspectives to build trust, cooperation, and accountability.
Stewardship:	We use our resources in a responsible, impactful, and sustainable manner.
Innovation:	We foster the development and advancement of ideas through individual and team creativity.
Integrity:	We are ethically accountable to ourselves and others.
Resiliency:	We learn from our experiences, refocus, and seize the opportunity to improve and persist.

### **Board of Trustees**

Jim Anderson, Chair • Decorah Kathy Gunderson, Vice Chair • Postville Thom Chesney • Dubuque John Finley • Elkader Wendy Knight • Dubuque Gary McAndrew • Peosta Sue Runyon • Fayette Dean Sherman • Manchester Daniel White • Dubuque

# Thank you!

The success of Northeast Iowa Community College students and graduates depends on the support of many individuals, donors, community organizations and business and industry partners throughout the year. By creating scholarships for students, providing input on academic programs as advisors, donating equipment to the College for training purposes and enhancing our students' learning experiences, community members make a difference in our graduates' future careers. Northeast Iowa Community College also expresses its gratitude to the families of students for providing the critical support they need while earning their college degrees and diplomas.