

MONTANA TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

COMMENCEMENT



Saturday, December 13, 2025

Montana Tech HPER | Butte, MT

PROGRAM OF COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

PLATFORM PARTY

Dr. Johnny MacLean, *Chancellor*

Dr. Tim Elgren, *Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs/Provost*

Ron Muffick, *Vice Chancellor for Administration & Finance*

Dr. Katie Hailer, *Interim Vice Chancellor for Research/Dean of the Graduate School*

Dr. Michele Hardy, *Dean of the College of Letters, Sciences & Professional Studies*

Dr. Jack Skinner, *Dean of the Lance College of Mines & Engineering*

Tammy Burke, *Dean of Highlands College*

Dr. Joe Cooper, *Vice Provost for Student Success and Dean of Students*

Leslie Dickerson, *Executive Director of Admissions & Enrollment*

Joe McClafferty, *Chief Executive Officer, Harrington Companies*

Brady Drummond, *Student Speaker*

The audience is requested to stand for the processional and remain standing for the singing of the national anthem.

"Pomp and Circumstance"

Written by Edward Elgar

The Star-Spangled Banner

Written by Francis Scott Key

Performed by Heather Lingle

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Dr. Johnny MacLean

REMARKS FROM THE MONTANA TECH STUDENT BODY

TBD

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS

Joe McClafferty

PRESENTATION AND CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Graduate School

Doctor of Philosophy

Master's Degrees and Graduate Certificates

Dr. Katie Hailer

Lance College of Mines and Engineering
Dr. Jack Skinner

College of Letters, Sciences & Professional Studies
Dr. Michele Hardy

Highlands College Certificates & Associate Degrees
Tammy Burke

The audience is requested to stand for the recessional.

"Crown Imperial: A Coronation March"
by William Walton



Once the ceremony concludes and the graduates recess,
please join us for a celebratory reception at the Student Success Center!
It's the perfect spot for families and guests to greet their graduates.

CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES FALL 2025

GRADUATE SCHOOL

Doctor of Philosophy

Doctor of Philosophy Earth Science and Engineering

Eva Andrade Barahona

Cañar, Ecuador

Celine Beaucamp Stout

Dillon, MT

Doctor of Philosophy Materials Science

Jannette Chorney

Butte, MT

Katie Schumacher

Kalispell, MT

Master's Degrees and Graduate Certificates

Master of Project Engineering & Management

Ants Hoiles

West Vancouver, Canada

Highest Honor

Master of Science Ecological Restoration

Daniel Kelly 

Anaconda, MT

Dustin Marquardt

Trout Creek, MT

Master of Science Environmental Engineering

Johannes Chandler

Absarokee, MT

Ravyn Goodwin

Butte, MT

Megan Olson

Evergreen, CO

Benjamin Schreiber

Stevensville, MT

Highest Honor

Master of Science General Engineering

Layton Bahnmitter

Big Sandy, MT

Derek Pearse

Post Falls, ID

Highest Honor

Master of Science Geological Engineering

Bryce Mayn

Corvallis, MT

Master of Science Geoscience

James Oyelayo

Butte, MT

Mikayla Taylor

Speedway, IN

Master of Science Industrial Hygiene

Ryan Ashby	Butte, MT	
Douglas Baver 	Springfield, OH	Highest Honor
Ali Bayati	Courtenay, BC, Canada	
Royce Bird	Soldotna, AK	
Amanda Bishop	West Jordan, UT	
Jason Cole	Fort Worth, TX	
Douglas Knowles	Medicine Hat, AB, Canada	
Dillon Lechlitter	Butte, MT	
Paul Martins	Winnipeg, MB, Canada	
Michael Nadolski 	Butte, MT	Highest Honor
Tyler Patterson	Saline, MI	
John Petherick	Sudbury, ON, Canada	
Denise Thienes	Long Beach, CA	
Joel Thornberg 	Corvallis, MT	
Amy Turns	Savannah, GA	
Griffen Warner	Butte, MT	

Master of Science Materials Science & Engineering

Frank Agyemang	Senfi-Bekwai, Ghana
Emily Maynard	Fairbanks, AK
Osumanu Musah Mohammed	Assin Fosu, Ghana
Zainab Nasrullah	Lahore, Pakistan

Master of Science Metallurgical & Mineral Processing Engineering

Isaac Joseph Cobbinah	Ghana
Mohammed Moro	Navrongo, Ghana
Mehran Saddat	Afghanistan

LANCE COLLEGE OF MINES & ENGINEERING

Bachelor of Science Civil Engineering

Martin Arias-Fernandez	Singleton, NSW, Australia	
Samuel Coffin	West Yellowstone, MT	
Bode Jensen	Castle Rock, CO	
Evan Johnson	Fullerton, CA	
Adam Jorgenson	Helena, MT	Honor
Dominic Maricelli	Missoula, MT	Honor
Bryce Mayn	Corvallis, MT	
Conor Morrill	Huntington Beach, CA	Highest Honor
Shan Pratt	Brighton, CO	Honor

Bachelor of Science Computer Science

Dylan McDonough	Highland Park, IL	Honor
Conor Miller	Helena, MT	
Brady Schiff	Rosamond, CA	Highest Honor
Alex Thompson	Helena, MT	Honor

Bachelor of Science Cybersecurity & Network Administration

Morgan Hendrickson	Twin Bridges, MT	Honor
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Bachelor of Science Electrical Engineering

Collin Badger	Indianapolis, IN	Highest Honor
Garrett Dostal	Billings, MT	
Jacob Graves	Kuna, ID	Honors
Benjamin Rohrscheib 	Dove Creek, CO	

Bachelor of Science Environmental Engineering

Gregory Johnson	Anaconda, MT	
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Bachelor of Science Geological Engineering

Brady Barner	Palo Cedro, CA	
Kaden Kohn	Butte, MT	Honor
Sage Nation	Big Timber, MT	Honor

Bachelor of Science Mechanical Engineering

Aziah Blotkamp	Lincoln, MT	
Elsie Brown	Thompson Falls, MT	Honor
John Cashell	Butte, MT	Honor
Justyn Forrest	Butte, MT	
Garrett Kaufman	Laveen, AZ	
Michael Keller	Albuquerque, NM	Honor
Zoe McGowan	Missoula, MT	Honor
Justin McKnight	Cody, WY	
Sydney Phillips	Helmville, MT	
Michael Renaud	Havre, MT	Honor
Emily Routen 	Absarokee, MT	Honor
Roberto Salazar-Lamas	Homedale, ID	
Angel Sanchez	Tacoma, WA	Highest Honor
Duncan Sterk	Lynden, WA	

Bachelor of Science Metallurgical & Materials Engineering

Zachary Landfair	Falcon, CO	
Spencer Toomey	Suwanee, GA	

Bachelor of Science Occupational Safety & Health

Luke Andersen	Butte, MT	Honor
Kodie Hoagland	Butte, MT	Honor
Ty Raiha	Butte, MT	

Certificate of Technical Studies, Unmanned Aerial Systems

Kaden Kohn	Butte, MT
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**COLLEGE OF LETTERS, SCIENCES,
& PROFESSIONAL STUDIES**

Bachelor of Science Biological Sciences

Aidan Anderson	Gig Harbor, WA	Honor
Abigail Malyevac	Butte, MT	
Michael Ure	Idaho Falls, ID	Highest Honor
Trey Whitlock	Butte, MT	Highest Honor

Bachelor of Applied Science Business

Remy Dussault	Hyde Park, VT	Highest Honor
Parker Johnston	Helena, MT	Honor
Thomas Walkup	Bozeman, MT	Honor

Bachelor of Science Business & Information Technology

Samuel Byrnes	Butte, MT	
Caden Cross	Bonney Lake, WA	
Brady Drummond	Belt, MT	Highest Honor
Leah Hamilton	Anaconda, MT	Honor
Michael Kalarchik	Butte, MT	Honor
Kennedy Lean	Butte, MT	
David Lowry	Helena, MT	
Seth McDaid	Townsend, MT	Honor
Jesse Mecham	Frenchtown, MT	
Trevor Neumann	Butte, MT	
Kennason Patrick	Butte, MT	
Nicholas Rogers	Great Falls, MT	
J.R. Small	Bozeman, MT	
Jace Thompson	Fort Benton, MT	
Roslyn Zentz	Eatonville, WA	Highest Honor

Bachelor of Science Data Science

Reese Lester	Billings, MT
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Bachelor of Science Exercise & Health Science

Mia Antonioli	Butte, MT	Honor
Kendyl Jarvey	Great Falls, MT	

Bachelor of Science Interdisciplinary Arts & Sciences

Brooklynn Hankwitz	Astoria, OR	Honor
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Bachelor of Science Mathematical Sciences

Cora Tollison	Three Forks, MT
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Bachelor of Science Nursing

Melissa Adams	Dillon, MT	Honor
Haley Ahlborn	Butte, MT	Honor
Sarah Amberg	Anaconda, MT	Honor
Colter Ball	Fort Benton, MT	Honor
Nicholas Beargeon	Great Falls, MT	Honor
Hayley Billson	Butte, MT	Honor
Dreonna Clark	Sheridan, MT	Honor
Gina Fox	Butte, MT	Honor
Kendra Fuller	Helena, MT	Honor
Rett Gallagher	Palmer, AK	Honor
Alyssa Gregg	Cheney, WA	Honor
Tess Hando	Roundup, MT	Honor
Chelsea Lish	Anaconda, MT	Honor
Callista Moser	Butte, MT	
Chloe Nelson	Helena, MT	Highest Honor
Dusty Smart	Lima, MT	Honor
Shelby South	Butte, MT	Honor
Peyton Terry	Medford, OR	Highest Honor
Siena Thompson	Butte, MT	Highest Honor
Jadyn Vermillion	Myrtle Creek, OR	Highest Honor
Madison Warneke	Shepherd, MT	Honor

Certificate of Completion SAP Student Recognition Award

Brady Drummond	Belt, MT
Michael Kalarchik	Butte, MT
Kennedy Lean	Butte, MT
Jesse Mecham	Frenchtown, MT
Kennason Patrick	Butte, MT
J.R. Small	Bozeman, MT
Roslyn Zentz	Eatonville, WA

HIGHLANDS COLLEGE

Associate of Applied Science Computer Networks & Cybersecurity

Gerad McGillen 

Butte, MT

Honor

Associate of Applied Science Construction Technology-Carpentry

Isaiah Allik

Charlo, MT

Joseph Fochs

Mosinee, WI

Gauge Kruzich

Ramsay, MT

Alexander Sampson

Helena, MT

Associate of Applied Science Radiologic Technology

Talise Becquart

Troy, MT

Highest Honor

Torin Cecrle

Chinook, MT

Highest Honor

Katie Christensen

Helena, MT

Highest Honor

Lindy Coonen

Helena, MT

Highest Honor

Kyrie Craven

Helena, MT

Highest Honor

Sophia DesLauriers

Belgrade, MT

Highest Honor

Kendra Duneman

Belgrade, MT

Highest Honor

Brylee French

Malta, MT

Highest Honor

Emersyn Hoover

Shelby, MT

Highest Honor

Kallie Hossack

Butte, MT

Highest Honor

Gracey Klanecky

Anaconda, MT

Highest Honor

Meghan Lee

Helena, MT

Honor

Jana Mayfield

Livingston, MT

Highest Honor

Mina Pachalova

Three Forks, MT

Highest Honor

Emily Pendergast

Florence, MT

Highest Honor

Alyssa Peterson

Anaconda, MT

Highest Honor

Kyla Reisenauer

Philipsburg, MT

Highest Honor

Isabelle Richardson

Stevensville, MT

Highest Honor

Abby Ricketts

Butte, MT

Highest Honor

Darrah Rogers

Fairfield, MT

Highest Honor

Brynna Wolfe

Whitehall, MT

Highest Honor

Associate of Science

April Gierke

Butte, MT

Olivia Heimer

Red Lodge, MT

Alexander VanArsdall

Ione, WA

Certificate of Applied Science Pre-Apprentice Line Program

Bryce Almaraz	Kalispell, MT
Samuel Baumann	Eureka, NV
Kaden Black	Helena, MT
Tucker Bornong	Harlowton, MT
Jace Brierly	Conrad, MT
Connor Brown	Osceola, WI
Johnathan Cruz-Leon	Estacada, OR
Karson Darko	Sand Coulee, MT
Tanner Davis	Bonner, MT
Daniel Dietrich	Sheridan, MT
Chance Dunkerson	Drummond, MT
Reese Earp	Corvallis, MT
Benjamin Gillespie	Belt, MT
Mark Glasco	Las Vegas, NV
Francis Gliko	Henderson, NV
Brodie Hallock	Cody, WY
Walter Hammett	Kalispell, MT
Jacob Hendrickson	Carver, MN
Bricon Herren	Ekalaka, MT
Kalled Jaha	Chinook, MT
Logan Jenne	Butte, MT
Jason Jessop	Pinesdale, MT
Mason Kerkes	Sand Coulee, MT
Amelia Kirkman	Roy, WA
Logan Knaub	Laurel, MT
Wyatt Kornick	Columbus, MT
Nolan Larson	Red Lodge, MT
Brock Laughery	Laurel, MT
Caleb McDonald	Estacada, OR
Kellum McGraw	Sioux City, IA
Aaron Mclean	Browning, MT
Matthew Monroe	Clinton, MT
Collin Nemitz	Big Timber, MT
Bronson Olson	Williston, ND
Xander Oresman	Laurel, MT
Drew Paxton	Missoula, MT
Lucas Peltzer	Issaquah, WA
Jackson Person	Kalispell, MT
Braydon Pierce	Butte, MT



COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER



Joe McClafferty '86

Chief Executive Officer, Harrington Companies

Joe McClafferty grew up with big dreams of going to college and playing basketball. As a young boy, he would sneak into the Montana Tech gym to play, chasing the spark of possibility.

That spark became a fire when he had the opportunity to play for legendary coach Kelvin Sampson. Under Sampson's leadership, McClafferty was part of three championship teams now enshrined in the Montana Tech Hall of Fame. Those years taught him not just how to win games, but how to win in life.

Following college, McClafferty spent 20 successful years in the investment industry, building strong client relationships and growing assets under management. Alongside this career, his passion for sports carried him into broadcasting, where for 15 years he delivered play-by-play and analysis—first on radio, then on television. Coaching youth was always at the center as McClafferty has volunteered coached for over 20 years.

In 2006, McClafferty returned to his alma mater as director of athletics at Montana Tech, where he brought to life his “first-choice vision”: making Digger Athletics the first choice for student-athletes, coaches, parents, fans, partners, and donors. His leadership sparked many successful initiatives, always rooted in purpose and teamwork.

McClafferty's impact grew further when he became vice chancellor of development and university relations and CEO of the Montana Tech Foundation. Over the next decade, he helped reshape the campus, spearheading fundraising and vision for projects that continue to shape the student experience today.

McClafferty recently finished his second children's book, “The Bison and Firefly,” a wonderful story of belonging, grit, and finding your purpose. The characters in the book are now the mascots Hope and Thunder at Shodair Children's Hospital.

McClafferty loves to speak to teams and leaders about culture, servant leadership, purpose and reviving the concept of team.

McClafferty's leadership journey has extended beyond investments, athletics and higher education. He has served in top executive roles in healthcare and the manufacturing/sales industry. Currently, Joe leads Harrington Companies as CEO. This Montana-based organization includes Harrington Bottling Company, Golden West Vending, and Harrington Restaurant Supplies—three businesses united by their focus on service, community, connection and fun.

McClafferty believes that all real challenges are accomplished with team. His best teammate in life is his incredible wife, Therese, together they have raised three loving, kind, and purposeful people. McClafferty is thankful for every team and teammate that he has learned from and who has helped him in his journey.

At every stage of his career, McClafferty has been guided by a simple philosophy: lead with purpose, choose positivity and gratitude, and embrace the growth mindset to always aim higher.

STUDENT SPEAKER

Brady Drummond

B.S. Business & Information Technology, Management of Information
SAP Student Recognition Award

A Montana native with a strong foundation in electrical systems, Cody Skibsted served six years in the Navy maintaining combat aircraft. Transitioning to civilian life, he worked on firefighting air tankers in Missoula before leveraging his extensive aircraft electrical expertise to pursue a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering (Spring 2025) and master's degrees in electrical engineering and project engineering and management (in progress) at Montana Tech. Outside of his academic pursuits, Cody and his wife enjoy time on the river and connecting with family and friends.



MONTANA
TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

A SPECIAL THANKS TO THE COMMENCEMENT COMMITTEE:
Alexa Buonaiuto, Amanda Badovinac, Siranda Brackett, Colleen Fink,
Shauna Goodell, Jodie Jones, Ginnie LaMere, Mark Robertson,
Heather Skocilich, Hanah Stewart, Jesse Taylor, and Laurie Vandel.