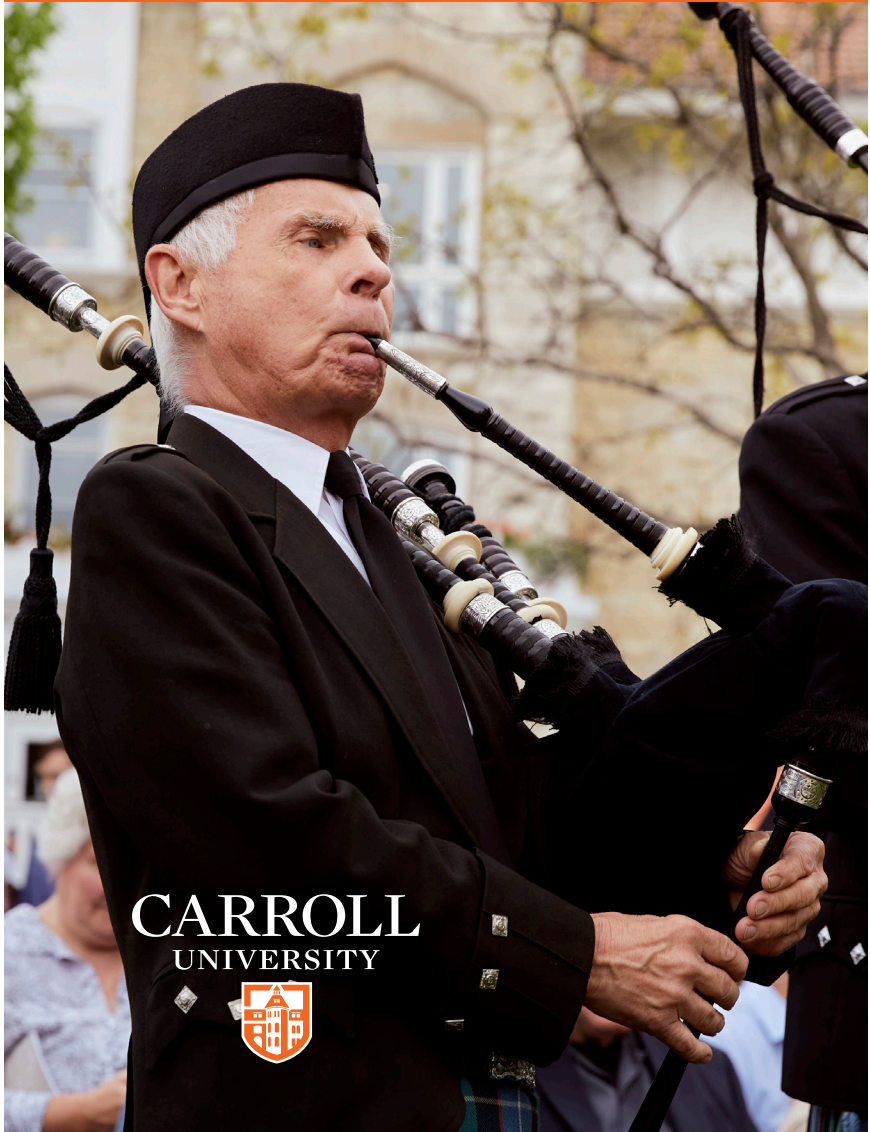


FIRST-YEAR STUDENT **CONVOCATION**

AUGUST 29, 2025 | 3 P.M.
SHATTUCK AUDITORIUM



Carroll University

Mission Statement

Carroll University provides a superior education, rooted in its Presbyterian and liberal arts heritage, and draws upon its Christian tradition to prepare all students for vocational success, lifelong learning and service in a diverse and global society.

Carroll University

ETHOS Statement

At Carroll University, we are partners in creating a community that embraces respect, integrity and stewardship. The quality of our life together is central to our mission of excellence in teaching, learning and service.

Respect

We will honor the dignity and worth of each member of our diverse community by building relationships of trust. We will be civil and kind as we engage one another in our work.

Integrity

We will offer our best selves and trust that others will do the same through honesty, fairness and strength of character.

Stewardship

We will cultivate and care for our human, natural and material resources with gratitude, responsibility and accountability.

Convocations

A convocation is an event that brings together the entire academic community to consider contemporary issues and enduring questions, to honor individual and collective achievement, and to celebrate shared vision and values. These convocations are a celebrated part of the Carroll experience, bringing all disciplines together to share a foundational experience. The purpose of First Year Student Convocation is to celebrate a new academic year and to welcome our incoming first-year and transfer students.

History of Regalia and Bagpiper

The wearing of academic regalia (robes, hoods, caps) began as universities were forming in the 12th and 13th centuries. Distinctive regalia, as seen today, became prominent in 14th century England as colleges and universities began to distinguish themselves from one another. Bachelor's and master's gowns are untrimmed while doctor's gowns are typically velvet with bands along the sleeves. The colors on the faculty gowns represent the various fields in which the degrees were earned and the institution granting the advanced degree.

Today, students are led in by a single bagpiper and welcomed into the tradition of wearing gowns. At graduation, students will be led in by a full troop of bagpipers and will wear full regalia (gown, hood/ stole, cap and tassel).

AVA Pro - Real time closed captions

Carroll University is pleased to offer accessibility services for today's ceremonies: AVA Pro. AVA Pro allows guests the ability to read real-time closed captions right on their phone in 23 different languages. Start by joining the Carroll Guest WiFi in your network settings. Then, simply click the QR code below to open our AVA Pro translation window in your web browser (no app required.) To select another language, use the drop down menu in the upper left hand corner.

AVA Pro - Subtítulos en tiempo real

Carroll University se complace en ofrecer servicios de accesibilidad para las ceremonias de hoy: AVA Pro. AVA Pro permite a los huéspedes leer subtítulos en tiempo real directamente en su teléfono en 23 idiomas diferentes. Comience uniéndose a Carroll Guest WiFi en su configuración de red. Luego, simplemente haga clic en el código QR a continuación para abrir nuestra ventana de traducción AVA Pro en su navegador web (no se requiere aplicación). Para seleccionar otro idioma, use el menú desplegable en la esquina superior izquierda.

AVA Pro - Sous-titres codés en temps réel

Carroll University est heureuse d'offrir des services d'accessibilité pour les cérémonies d'aujourd'hui : AVA Pro. AVA Pro permet aux clients de lire des sous-titres en temps réel directement sur leur téléphone dans 23 langues différentes. Commencez par rejoindre le Carroll Guest WiFi dans vos paramètres réseau. Ensuite, cliquez simplement sur le code QR ci-dessous pour ouvrir notre fenêtre de traduction AVA Pro dans votre navigateur Web (aucune application requise.) Pour sélectionner une autre langue, utilisez le menu déroulant dans le coin supérieur gauche.





Keynote Speaker

Mr. Mohammed Bey

Vice President for Campus and Community Services

Mohammed Bey joined Carroll University in 2022 and currently serves as the Vice President for Campus and Community Services and as a member of the University's Senior Leadership Team. In this role, he oversees a wide range of student-centered areas, including dining services, the Pio Shop, event services, public safety, and more, all aimed at enhancing the Carroll experience. He also plays a key role in supporting the university's mission to ensure we are prepared to serve and support an increasingly diverse student population.

With over 20 years of professional experience, Mohammed has worked in private and public universities as well as technical and community colleges. His background spans admissions, student affairs, academic affairs, human resources, and now campus operations. Before entering higher education, he began his career in the manufacturing sector.

A Chicago native, Mohammed is passionate about leadership, organizational strategy, and creating environments where students and teams can thrive. His pioneering spirit, very much in the tradition of Carroll's own Pioneers, has driven him to seek out new experiences and opportunities across local, national, and international landscapes. Through this work, he has engaged in community partnerships, professional learning, and mission-driven service.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts in Public and Professional Communications and a Master of Science in Organizational Leadership and Quality from Marian University. He began doctoral work at Vanderbilt University and plans to complete a terminal degree in leadership.

Mohammed is a proud husband and father of four. Mohammed also serves on the Board of Directors for Special Olympics Wisconsin, reflecting his commitment to inclusion and community engagement. He looks forward to helping guide and support you throughout your time at Carroll and well beyond.

Processional

Mr. Gary Bottoni, *Billy Mitchell Scottish Pipe Band Member*

Mace Bearer

Dr. Susan Lewis, *professor of biology*

Marshals

Dr. Michael Schuder, *professor of chemistry*

Dr. Amy Cropper, *professor of art*

Please be seated

Opening of Ceremony

Dr. Eli Hestermann , *provost and vice president for academic affairs*

Invocation and Land Acknowledgement

The Reverend Elizabeth McCord, *chaplain and director of spiritual life*

“All Are Welcome”.....Lyrics: Marty Haugen

*Led by Carroll Concert Choir
Directed by Dr. Jeremiah Cawley*

*Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive. Built of
hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace; here the love
of Christ shall end divisions.*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,
where all God’s children dare to seek to dream God’s reign anew. Here the
cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God’s grace; here as one we
claim the faith of Jesus.*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

*Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone to
heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God’s face; and danger.*

*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Address to Class of 2029

Dr. Cindy Gnadinger, *president*

The Carroll Student Experience

Ms. Ashley Lubkeman, '26, *student senate president*

Introduction of Mr. Mohammed Bey

Dr. Eli Hestermann

Keynote Address

Mr. Mohammed Bey, *vice president for campus and community services*

Benediction

The Rev. Elizabeth McCord

Alma Mater

"Carroll Univeristy Alma Mater"Lyrics: Henderson Smith

All who are able, please stand

Our Carroll University, our home so fair and free!

To thee our loyalty we pledge, and praises sing to thee,

Thy hallowed halls we love so well, the campus walks, the victory bell.

Our hearts and minds rejoice to be,

thy sons and daughters; Hail to thee.

Closing of Ceremony

Dr. Eli Hestermann

Recessional

Dr. Eli Hestermann

Please remain at your seats until the platform party and faculty recess

