

THE SKULLS OF SEVEN

Leading the convocation processional and recessional, the Skulls of Seven is the oldest honor society at Westminster College. Established in 1898, this group represents the seven virtues of tradition, history, scholarship, loyalty, citizenship, service, and honor. The six seniors and one junior oversee all ceremonial events conducted by the College. They are selected based on their proven devotion to and positive representation of Westminster. Because of the high degree of responsibility placed on this group in upholding tradition and dignity at the College, they are expected to remain in a solemn and most serious manner at all times when appearing in this role.

ALMA MATER

*On the hills of old Missouri
Tapestried in green,
Rise the walls of grey Westminster,
Hail, O Mother Queen!*

*Refrain:
Hail! Westminster Alma Mater
On thy hilltop throne!
Sons and daughters pledge devotion
Thine we are thine own.*



WESTMINSTER
COLLEGE

SMALL COLLEGE.
BIG IMPACT.™

NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION 2025



Saturday, August, 16, 2025
4:45 p.m.
Westminster College

NEW STUDENT CONVOCATION

PROCESSIONAL* Dr. David Jones
**All who are able, please stand. Marshal of the College*

COLUMNS CEREMONY Dr. David Jones
The Columns Ceremony is a revered tradition considered by many students and alumni to be one of their fondest memories of Westminster College. Students are officially welcomed to the Westminster community when they walk through the Columns on the day of the New Student Convocation Ceremony. Students do not pass through the Columns again until the day of their Commencement, then they recess through the Columns — away from Westminster and out into the world as new graduates.

RESPONSE FOR THE CLASS OF 2029 Mr. Carter Moore
Auxvasse, Missouri

Ms. Evelyn Ritter
Seneca, Missouri

INVOCATION* Rev. Jason Buckwalter, DMin
Heartland Church of the Nazarene, Fulton, Missouri

NATIONAL ANTHEM* Ms. Aiyana Hussong, '26 ΑΓΔ
Wentzville, Missouri

(Accompanied by Dr. Natasia Sexton)

WELCOME Mr. Donald P. Lofe, Jr., '79 IND
President and Chief Transformation Officer

PRESENTATION OF NEW CLASS Mr. Derek Zander
Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Services

ADDRESS TO THE CLASS OF 2029 Dr. Ingrid Ilinca
*Provost, Chief Academic Officer,
and Vice President of Academic Affairs*

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER Mr. Lofe



CONVOCATION SPEAKER Mr. Derick D. Dailey, '11 IND

CLOSING REMARKS Mr. Lofe

ALMA MATER* Ms. Mackenzie Collins, '27 IND
Lake Ozark, Missouri

Ms. Aiyana Hussong, '26 ΑΓΔ
Wentzville, Missouri

Ms. Madalynne Meyer, '27 KAΘ
Lake Ozark, Missouri

(Accompanied by Dr. Natasia Sexton)

BENEDICTION* Rev. Jason Buckwalter, DMin

RECESSIONAL* Dr. Jones

MR. DERICK D. DAILEY, '11 IND

Derick Dailey is an attorney at Crowell & Moring LLP in New York City who represents clients in matters involving state and federal investigations as well as complex commercial litigation. He also conducts sensitive internal investigations on behalf of corporations, universities, and non-profits.



Previously, Mr. Dailey served as senior counsel to the New Jersey attorney general, where he helped oversee the 7,000-person Department of Law and Public Safety. He led key policy initiatives and supervised high-profile matters involving civil rights, youth justice, voting rights, and more. Before that, he was a federal prosecutor in Delaware, where he led the Financial Litigation Unit, prosecuted white-collar crimes, and conducted civil rights investigations.

Mr. Dailey is a 2011 graduate of Westminster College, where he majored in political science and religious studies. He also holds degrees from Yale University and Fordham University School of Law. Mr. Dailey serves on the Fordham Law Alumni Association Board and Legal Services of New Jersey Board of Trustees. He is an adjunct professor of law and was named a 2024-2025 Obama Foundation USA Leader.

