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## COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES

Guadalupe and Lilia Martinez Fine Arts Center  
Friday, August 8

**LC** **LAREDO COLLEGE**  
EST. 1947

# LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Today, we celebrate a significant milestone in your journey, one that is marked by perseverance, dedication and an unwavering commitment to excellence. As proud Palomino graduates, and with power and purpose, you move forward to make a difference in the world outside our institution.

Whether you are joining the workforce or planning to continue your studies and pursue another degree or certification, today is a day to remember how far you have come in your journey.

Those among you today have demonstrated remarkable resilience and strength. You have all faced struggles throughout your lives, and this achievement is something that can never be taken away from you. Education is your superpower, and I know you will use it to bring forth the best in one another.

As we make our way to success, we reflect on what Laredo College has represented for each of you. Many of you are the first in your families to attend Laredo College, while others continue a proud legacy of education and achievement. Regardless of your path, you have all contributed to the rich fabric of our community.

Every instructor you met here and learned from, every friendship or bond you created with fellow students and every lesson you learned in class, is something that you can cherish and remember.

May this moment be a testament to the quiet yet powerful strength that we all carry with us every day. For many of you, this milestone demonstrates your resolve to achieve things you never imagined possible and your resilience to power through the many challenges you have faced in life.

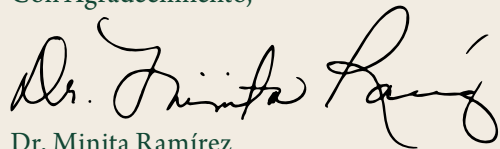
Our Palomino family has seen your growth and accomplishments firsthand, and we are all incredibly proud of each and every one of you. Your hard work and determination have not only shaped your future but will also be a guiding light for current and future students to follow.

Remember, this is just the beginning. The knowledge and skills you have gained here at Laredo College will serve as the foundation for your future. Continue to lead with purpose, give back to your communities and strive to build a stronger future for all.

Congratulations, Palomino graduates! I wish you all the best as you embark on this new chapter of your lives.

Laredo College will always be home to you. As proud Palomino graduates and brand new alumni, I know that you will represent us well in everything you do.

Con Agradecimiento,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dr. Minita Ramirez", written in a cursive style.

Dr. Minita Ramírez

# 2025 Commencement Program

Ceremony I • BASORGL | AA | AS • Friday, August 8, 2025 • 9 a.m.

Mistress of Ceremonies . . . . . **Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Invocation . . . . . **Student Government Association President**

Presentation of Colors . . . . . **Laredo College Police Department**  
Under the direction of Chief Jose Hernandez

National Anthem . . . . . **Dr. Joseph Crabtree**  
Professor of Music/Voice

Introductions . . . . . **Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President

Student Respondent . . . . . **Michelle Marie Winterroth**  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership

Presentation and Conferring of Candidates for  
Bachelor of Applied Science in Organizational Leadership (BASORGL)  
Associate of Arts (AA), Associate of Science (AS) . . . . . **Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

**Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President

Roll Call of Graduates . . . . . **College Deans**

Concluding Remarks . . . . . **Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President  
  
**Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

# 2025 Candidates for Summer Graduation • Ceremony I

## **BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP**

Aguilar, Ruby  
Arispe, Priscilla Marie  
Carranza, Eduardo Giovanni  
Chavez, Stephanie  
De La Torre, Victoria Shanntel  
Esparza, Jennifer J.  
Estrada, Leticia Guadalupe  
Garcia, Fidencio  
Gonzalez, Jennifer Lee  
Gonzalez, John  
Hernandez, Genesis  
Izaguirre, Brianna Nicole  
Jimenez, Maria Elena  
Lara, Jose A.  
Luna, Leonardo  
Molina, Berenice Hyacintha  
Montemayor, Jessica  
Nava Cortez, Daniela  
Orellana, Dariana  
Orozco, Cynthia Selene  
Rocha, Jessica  
Vasquez, Jeanette  
Viera, Fabiola  
Winterroth, Michelle Marie  
Wright, Britney

## **ASSOCIATE OF ARTS**

Alcaraz, Luis Eduardo  
Andrade, Ricardo  
Arce, Eli  
Ayala, Melanie Skye  
Benavides, Marcos Federico  
Bocanegra, Rayanne Nicole  
Bonilla Castro, Yohana  
Briseno, Ana Laura  
Cardenas, Carolina Jazmine  
Castaneda, Alejandro  
Castro, Gustavo Sebastian  
Castro, Karen Lee  
Castro, Moraima Lizette  
Chapa, Sabrina Marie  
Coss, Gabriela Analaday  
Davila, Vanessa Julie  
Del Cid, Carlos Jesus  
Espinoza, Elvira  
Esquivel, Edith, Berenice  
Estrada, Leticia, Guadalupe  
Flores, Alexsandra  
Flores, Andrea  
Flores, Isabella Adriana  
Flores, Julissa  
Flores, Lizbeth  
Flores, Nohely Esmeralda  
Fuentes, Adrian E.  
Galindo, Joseph Sebastian  
Garcia, Andrea Denise  
Garcia, Darcy,  
Garcia, Krysta Renee  
Garcia, Mia Gabrielle  
Garcia, Talyssa Maria  
Garcia Pliego, Jorge Agustin  
Garza, Clarissa Renee

Garza, David  
Gomez, Nadia Olivia  
Gonzalez Delgadillo, Manuel  
Hernandez, Valeria  
Hinojosa, Janel Macy  
Hinojosa, Jocelyn Kristelle  
Ibarra, Ashley R.  
Lagunes Hernandez, Luis Francisco  
Mattar, Paola Isabel  
Medina, Cindrely Yanel  
Melo, Yaretzy Lizette  
Moreno, Jacqueline  
Negrete, Anabella  
Padilla, Luis Angel  
Parra, Javier  
Pelayo, Melanie Giselle  
Pena, Natalie Nicole  
Perez, Anais Christina  
Perez, Marco Giani  
Ramirez, Daniella Naheli  
Rico, Hector Hugo  
Rios, Natalie Annette  
Rivera, Ashley Idaly  
Rivera, Karla Michelle  
Rocha, Jasmine Michelle  
Rocha, Najabi Airam  
Rodriguez, Ismael Alfonso  
Rodriguez, Karla Michelle  
Saldivar, Samantha  
Sanchez, Yadhira Lizbeth  
Silva, Rebecca Maria  
Soto, Robert Andrew  
Trevino, Sally  
Valdez, Osvaldo  
Varela, Isaac  
Vargas, Ricardo Alfonso  
Vazquez Guerrero, Cecilia Gabriela  
Walker, Brandon Allen  
Walls, Melanie Rebekah

## **ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE**

Alarcon, Adriana  
Alcaraz, Luigina  
Almanza, Maximiliano  
Alvarado, Alexandra Alicia  
Banda, Irma  
Benavides, Milka Veronica  
Bonilla-Castro, Yohatan  
Bueno, Sandra Emily  
Camacho, Lindsey Jade  
Campos, Gabriel Horeb  
Cano Hilario, Melissa  
Cantu, Ximena, Giselle  
Carmona, Tania  
Castaneda, Mia  
Castillo, Mathew  
Cavazos, Addison  
Cazares, Elizabeth  
Cazares, Janet  
Cepeda, Alejandro  
Chapa, Briana Itzehl  
Coronado, Pedro  
Covarrubias, Alejandra Del Carmen  
Damian, Miguel Angel

De Hoyos Jr, Victor Hugo  
De La Ola, Yessenia Desire  
De Leon, Abigail Anaide  
De Luna, Aylin Nicole  
Delapass, Morgan Elise  
Diaz, Juan Leonardo  
Diaz, Merari Estefania  
Dominguez, Brenda  
Donovan, Lauren Danielle  
Doria, Alfredo  
Duarte, Eduardo Caleb  
Duran, Alejandro  
Escamilla, Mario Alberto  
Esparza, Athziry  
Espinosa, Jesus Orlando  
Espinoza, Aleyda Maria  
Flores, Fermin  
Flores, Frankie  
Frade, Katty Espinosa  
Fraire, Jackie Alexandra  
Francisco, Estefany  
Galindo, Jennifer  
Gallegos, Ainesey Guadalupe  
Garcia, Abigail  
Garcia, Aldo  
Garcia, Carlos Edmundo  
Garcia, Elizabeth Denise  
Garcia, Gerardo  
Garcia, Jeannette  
Garcia, Miguel Angel  
Garcia, Rudy Ignacio  
Garcia, Sandra L.  
Garcia, Vanessa  
Garza, Claudia Amelia  
Garza, Delina Raquel  
Garza, Harriett A.  
Garza, Jared Marcelo  
Garza, Mauricio  
Gaytan, Alma Leonora  
Gaytan, Rolando  
Gomez, Alfonso  
Gomez, Chelsie  
Gomez, Edward  
Gomez-Lafaire, Pamela  
Gonzalez, Alberto  
Gonzalez, Andrea Alexandra  
Gonzalez, Carlos Antonio  
Gonzalez, Evie Ariana  
Gonzalez, Gerardo Adrian  
Gonzalez, Kyra Anali  
Gonzalez, Miia Roberta  
Gonzalez, Sophia Lucille  
Gonzalez, Vianey  
Guajardo, Kayra Giselle  
Gudino, Melissa Yasireth  
Guerra, Giancarlo  
Guevara, Jannely Naivi  
Hernandez, Aaron Cristian  
Hernandez, Brandon  
Hernandez, Ricardo  
Herrera, Paulina  
Huerta, Anna Maria  
Ibarra, Alyssa  
Jaimes, Zacarias

Jimenez, Darian Valeria  
Juarez, Eduardo  
Juarez, Melanie Yvette  
Leal, Luz Abel  
Leal, Orlando Israel  
Lope, Juan Antonio  
Lopez, Claudia Belen  
Lozano, Ociel Bradley  
Lujan, Marco Alejandro  
Luna, Aimee Arianna  
Luna, Hector  
Madrigal, Juan Martin  
Madrigal, Milton  
Magallanes, Mariano  
Mangino, Victoria Alexus  
Marchan, David Antonio  
Martinez, Chrisette  
Martinez, Giselle Marie  
Martinez, Jeanelle Jazlyn  
Martinez, Karyme Andrea  
Martinez, Kimberly Yazbeth  
Martinez, Matthew Gael  
Martinez, Victoria Ann  
Martinez Ayala, Brandon Omar  
Martinez Gonzalez, Daniela  
Medina, Katya Isabella  
Mendietta, Elisabet C.  
Mendiola, Jose Luis  
Mendiola, Joseph Anthony  
Moncada, Alexiz  
Montes, Alexia  
Mora, Arizbeth  
Morales, Juancarlos  
Nieto, Carolina Isabella  
Nuno, Melody Marie  
Obregon, Armando  
Pineda, Ariana  
Plasencia, Mandy  
Pliego, Andrew Robert  
Prado, Paula Yesennia  
Quevedo, Gregorio R.  
Ramirez, Alexis Ariana  
Ramirez, Anthony Ray  
Ramirez, Christopher  
Ramos, Roberto  
Rangel, Chantal Idalis  
Recio, Leslie Rubi  
Rivera, Javier  
Rodriguez, Anselmo  
Rodriguez, Cindy Ximena  
Rodriguez, Clarissa  
Rodriguez, Claudia  
Rodriguez, Karina Isabella  
Rodriguez, Melissa  
Rodriguez, Mia Fernanda  
Rodriguez, Nancy Stephany  
Rodriguez, Salvador  
Roldan, Ulises  
Ruiz, Hector  
Saenz, Amy Jacqueline  
Salazar, Carina Yvonne  
Salazar, Daniela  
Salinas, Frank E.  
Salinas, Kylie Isabel  
Sandoval, Sofia Carolina  
Savage, Jimmy

Sendejo, Nataly  
Serna, Cristian Adrian  
Solis, Cesar Antonio  
Soto, Ayleen Denise  
Spring, Victoria Renee  
Tello, Dora Alicia  
Tijerina, Faith Lauren  
To, James Brandon  
Torres, Krizma Alexandra  
Torres, Priscilla Isabel  
Tovar, Lariza Nailea  
Valadez, Maria del Rosario  
Valdivia, Cassandra Ayleen  
Vazquez, Alejandra  
Velasco, Jose Antonio  
Venegas, Roberto  
Villanueva, Andria Gabriela  
Villarreal, Kassandra Marie  
Walker, Melany Marie  
Walls, Meghan Elizabeth  
Zamarripa, April Lee

# 2025 Commencement Program

Ceremony II • BSN | AAS | CERT • Friday, August 8, 2025 • 1 p.m.

Mistress of Ceremonies . . . . . **Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

Invocation . . . . . **Student Government Association President**

Presentation of Colors . . . . . **Laredo College Police Department**  
Under the direction of Chief Jose Hernandez

National Anthem . . . . . **Dr. Joseph Crabtree**  
Professor of Music/Voice

Introductions . . . . . **Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President

Student Respondent . . . . . **Alexis Flores**  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing

Presentation and Conferring of Candidates for  
Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN), Associate of Applied Science (AAS)  
and Certificates (CERT) . . . . . **Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs  
  
**Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President

Roll Call of Graduates . . . . . **College Deans**

Concluding Remarks . . . . . **Dr. Minita Ramírez**  
Laredo College President  
  
**Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina**  
Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs

# 2025 Candidates for Summer Graduation • Ceremony II

## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

Aguilera, Edwin Alejandro  
Arrambide, Kaylah Vianney  
Buentello, Alejandra  
Camarena, Rodrigo  
Castillo, Eva Marie  
Cazares, Stephanie I.  
Cuellar, Daniel Ismael  
De Leon, Ricardo Xavier  
Flores, Alexis Nichole  
Garcia Guajardo, Stephanie  
Garza, Evangelina Nicole  
Guajardo, Claudia Samantha  
Martinez, Heron Alejandro  
Mendoza, Mayra Alejandra  
Orozco, Julie Nadyelli  
Ramirez, Jessica M.  
Recio, Jose Emiliano  
Rivera, Samantha Nicole  
Rodriguez, Jackelyn  
Rodriguez, Phillip  
Salinas, Elizabeth  
Torres, Julie  
Torres, Natalia Aliah  
Vidaurre, Mariela Alicia  
Villarreal, Barbara Eloisa

## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

Alba, Monica Rocio  
Arispe, Liliana Isabel  
Cabrera, Sabrina  
Campos, Gabriel Horeb  
Castanos, Jose Roberto  
Contreras, Natlee Anahi  
Cortez, Frida  
Escobar, Joel Anthony  
Fernandez, Rogelio  
Garcia, Stephanie Nicole  
Gonzalez, Alexa  
Gonzalez, Andrew David  
Gonzalez, Francisco Carlos  
Grimaldo, Santos  
Guerra, Alexa Isabel  
Guerrero, Lorena Noemi  
Gutierrez, Alexis Lynett  
Infante, Pedro Agustin  
Llanos, Javier A.  
Lope, Juan Antonio  
Martinez, Marilissa  
Ochoa, Daisy  
Quintanilla, Emily Josette  
Rodriguez, Leonardo  
Rodriguez, Marie Astrid  
Rodriguez, Miguel Aaron  
Saldana, Priscilla Marie  
Sustaita, Venustiano  
Taylor, Steven  
Tristan, Vanessa  
Villalobos, Liliana  
Zeschitz Garrison, Raul Omar

## CERTIFICATES

Aguirre, Javier Luis  
Alcaraz, Kenia Abigail  
Almeida, Eduardo A.  
Alvarado, Sonia Renee  
Angeles, Sarai  
Aparicio, Gemma Giselle  
Arambula, Mathew  
Aranda, Eloisa Esther  
Arciga, Bryan Armando  
Armendarez, Brittany  
Avila, Xitlaly Monserrat  
Barberena, Mariafernanda  
Barrera, Omar David  
Benavides, Daniel  
Benavides, Sylvia Berenice  
Benitez, Christopher  
Berlanga, Yenesi  
Bernardini, Andrew Lee  
Botello, Lexaira Liseth  
Briones, Adan Andres  
Cabrera, Sabrina  
Calderon, Miguel Angel  
Calderon Rosas, Diego  
Carreon, Jose Manuel  
Castanos, Jose Roberto  
Cervantes, Jennifer  
Cervantes, Jose Eduardo  
Chavez, Bridget  
Chavez, Carlos Vidal  
Chavez, Eric  
Cisneros, David  
Contreras, Natlee Anahi  
Cortez, Bryan  
Cruz, Christian Alejandro  
Cruz, Edward  
De La O, Rodrigo Noe  
De La Rosa, Jesus Abraham  
De la Rosa, Jose Antonio  
De Leon, Eliu  
De Leon, Oscar Patricio  
Diaz, Alexandra Janay  
Diaz, Paulina Montserrat  
Duron, Juan Angel  
Faz, Cesar  
Fipps, Jake  
Flores, Stacy Edyt  
Franco, Gemahr Paul Dumlao  
Galvan, Andres  
Gaona, Vianca Alejandra  
Garcia, Alejandra Valeria  
Garcia, Antonio  
Garcia, Bryanna  
Garcia, Jesus, Angel  
Garcia, Larissa  
Garcia, Marco Antonio  
Garcia, Roberto Gael  
Garcia, Stephanie Nicole  
Garcia, Victoria  
Garza, Mia Danielle  
Garza, Michael Gant  
Garza Buentello, Angel  
Gavilanes, Ashly  
Gomez, Mario Arturo

Gonzalez, Anahi Jaylin  
Gonzalez, Arely Giselle  
Gonzalez, Enrique  
Gonzalez, Francisco Carlos  
Gonzalez, Kaydie Yzabel  
Gonzalez Salas, Armando  
Granger, Luis Alberto  
Guerra, Alexa Isabel  
Guerra, Carina Marie  
Guerrero, America Natalie  
Guerrero, Gabriela  
Gutierrez, Alexis Lynett  
Gutierrez, Rolando  
Hernandez, Jesus Alberto  
Hernandez, Jose Francisco  
Hernandez, Karla Melissa  
Hernandez, Rebecca  
Hernandez Madrigal, Arturo Gael  
Hinojosa, Aaron Vidal  
Hinojosa, Ilse Paulina  
Ibarra, Ana Karen  
Ibarra, Anna G.  
Jacaman, Kimberly Kassandra  
Jaramillo, Magdalena  
Jimenez, Hilary  
Leyva, Itzel I.  
Lopez, Anakaren  
Lozano, Alejandro  
Lugo, Norma Irene  
Luna, Carlos Rafael  
Maldonado, Kassandra  
Marroquin, Jesus Antonio  
Martinez, Bryan Alexis  
Martinez, Charly Steve  
Martinez, David  
Martinez, Homero  
Mascorro, Leonard  
Mata, Ricardo Gael  
Medeles, Natalie Irene  
Medellin, Carlos Alberto  
Mendez-Velazquez Bryan  
Montemayor, Jessica  
Morales, Frida Monserrat  
Morales, Leonardo  
Moreno, Krystal Nicole  
Neri, Ruben Brandon  
Nino, Erik  
Olvera, Amir Khalid  
Palacios, Brianna Lee  
Palma, Jesus  
Pena, Abraham  
Perez, Brayan Alexis  
Perez, Juan Jose  
Plata, Jazmin  
Portillo Hernandez, Karla Selene  
Pulido, Naeomi Sarid  
Quintanilla, Emily Josette  
Ramirez, Diego Alejandro  
Ramirez, Jose Antonio  
Ramirez, Juan Angel  
Ramirez, Sofia Daniella  
Ramos, Josue  
Ramos, Senaytha  
Rios, Enrique

Rivera, Nitza Yizette  
Robles, Daniel  
Rodriguez, Aaron  
Rodriguez, Claudia  
Rodriguez, Jayleen  
Rodriguez, Leonardo  
Rodriguez, Lesly Monik  
Rodriguez, Marie Astrid  
Rodriguez, Michelle  
Rodriguez, Miguel Aaron  
Rodriguez, Rochelle  
Rodriguez, Xavier  
Rodriguez Moreno, Jerry  
Rojas, Tomas  
Rojo Hinojosa, Lizbeth  
Roman, Maria Cleotilde  
Romero, Guadalupe  
Romero, Ryan Christian  
Ruiz, Madison  
Saavedra, Justin Ryan  
Saldana, Priscilla Marie  
Salinas, Jesse Ivan  
Salinas, Martin Alejandro  
Sanchez, Andres Giancarlo  
Sanchez, Juan Carlos  
Sanchez, Osmar  
Sanchez, Yasmin Lizette  
Sanchez Jr, Jesus  
Sarreon, Pedro  
Segueda, Yessenia  
Sepulveda, Gerardo  
Soto, Hector  
Soto, Sammy  
Suarez, Aaron  
Suarez, Alexsandro  
Sustaita, Venustiano  
Taylor, Steven  
Terrazas, Miguel A.  
Tijerina, Mayra A.  
Torres, Amalia Teresa  
Turrubiartes, Pamela Argelia  
Urbina, Ulises  
Uresti, Ariana  
Uvalle, Sandra  
Valadez, Abril  
Valadez, Karla Valeria  
Valenzuela, Roy Blu  
Valle, Maria Elena  
Vasquez, Caleb T.  
Vega, Jose  
Velasquez, Angel Gael  
Veliz, Kimberly  
Villanueva, Jose Javier  
Zendejas, Diana Alejandra  
Zeschitz Garrison, Raul Omar

# District Board of Trustees

- Mr. Esteban Rangel . . . . . President
- Ms. Ernestina “Tita” C. Vela . . . . . Vice President
- Ms. Jackie Leven-Ramos . . . . . Secretary
- Ms. Cindy Liendo . . . . . Parliamentarian
- Ms. Erica Benavides Garcia . . . . . Trustee
- Mr. Mercurio Martinez . . . . . Trustee
- Ms. Adriana Alexander . . . . . Trustee
- Ms. Lizzy Newsome . . . . . Trustee
- Ms. Karina “Kari” Elizondo . . . . . Trustee

# Administrative Officers

- Dr. Minita Ramírez . . . . . President
- Dr. Marisela Rodriguez Tijerina . . . . . Provost/Vice President of Academic Affairs
- Mr. Cesar Vela . . . . . Vice President of Finance and Administration
- Dr. David Arreazola . . . . . Vice President of Compliance and Risk Management/  
Interim Vice President of Student Success and Enrollment
- Dr. Diana Ortiz . . . . . Vice President of Institutional Advancement
- Dr. Heriberto Hernandez . . . . . Associate Provost/Strategic and Collaborative Partnerships
- Ms. Veronica Cardenas . . . . . Executive Director of Human Resources

# The Academic Regalia

The procession, which begins most commencement ceremonies, is a colorful and symbolic event steeped in history and tradition. Dating from Medieval times, the procession sets the mood for this solemn yet joyous celebration of student accomplishment.

The procession consists of administration, faculty and the candidates for degrees. Candidates are dressed in caps and gowns of similar design. Academic regalia dates from the Middle Ages when a warm gown and hood were useful for scholars and clerics in damp and unheated buildings. Until the Civil War, students in most American universities wore caps and gowns daily. These varied in design until they were standardized by the American Intercollegiate Commission in 1894 when it was decided that all robes would be black. Now many institutions of higher education design their own distinctive academic garb.

Standard academic regalia for faculty includes colorful hoods and gowns, which signify both the degree they hold and the institution conferring it. The more advanced the degree, the more elaborate the gown. The color of the facing on the hood indicates the discipline of the degree earned.

## AMONG THESE ARE:

White - arts and letters, including journalism  
Green - medicine  
Dark blue - philosophy  
Yellow - science  
Brown - architecture and fine arts

Pink - music  
Orange - engineering  
Light brown - business  
Lemon yellow - library service  
Citron yellow - social work

Honors achieved by Laredo College students are acknowledged with the following additions to the academic regalia.

## Ceremonial Distinctions

### ACADEMIC HONORS:

- Summa Cum Laude – two white cords
- Magna Cum Laude – two gold cords
- Cum Laude – one gold cord
- Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society – gold stole with the PTK letters on it and/or blue and gold honor cords
- LC Honors Program – gold stole and medal

**U.S. VETERANS:** Red, white and blue cords, attached together, to honor students who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

**BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP:** Peacock Blue colored stole.

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING:** Apricot color stole and medal.

**STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION MEDALLION:** Awarded to officers and senators.

**VOLUNTEER SERVICE:** Silver cord awarded to students who have given at least 45 hours of community service.

**DUAL ENROLLMENT:** High school students who have completed a program of study at Laredo College are proudly wearing their respective high school commencement regalia.

### THE MACE

The use of a mace during college graduation ceremonies combines symbolic communication with the principle of vested authority at the most traditional and sacred of academic celebrations. The Laredo College ceremonial mace is made of pine and symbolizes the history and traditions that have been established by the college. The mace adds meaning and dignity to the commencement ritual. It reminds both participants and spectators that education is one of the most cherished attributes of a free and democratic society.

# The Degree and Certificate Banners



## BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

The colors for the banner are apricot and white. The color white signifies purity, innocence, cleanliness, honesty and faith. These are qualities of the devoted and caring patient-centered nurse. Because apricot is a type of orange, the color meaning equates to themes of passion, energy, cheerfulness, fire and heat. The banner also has two symbols, which include the caduceus and the lamp. The caduceus, or staff with the snake, has long been a symbol of medicine and the medical profession. It originates from the story of

Asclepius, who was revered by the ancient Greeks as a god of healing and whose cult involved the use of snakes. The oil lamp is one of the widely known symbols viewed in the medical field. Florence Nightingale, known as "The Lady with the Lamp" and founder of the modern nursing practice, is credited for creating the oil lamp symbol. Florence often cared for the sick and injured during the night, carrying a light so she could make her way through the darkness. Her dedication paved the way for future practitioners. She served in the Crimean War in 1853. Often used in pinning ceremonies for new nurses, the lamp represents nurses' dedication and selfless work. The lamp also means compassion, reliability, goodwill and everything significant to the nursing practice. Many nurses hold a lamp during the pinning ceremony to symbolize these meanings while reciting the Nurses Pledge. The pledge is meant to uphold the profession and maintain confidentiality.



## ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE

The colors for the banner are purple, gold, white, and black. These colors represent achievement, success and individualism; prominent features found in tomorrow's leaders. Purple signifies the place science has in academia and together with gold they symbolize high rank of accomplishment in the student's quest for knowledge in its pure form. White and black signify the promise of new beginnings and determination and exactitude in seeking knowledge through an integration of education and research. The symbols found on the banner include an ink horn which

represents an educated person who strives to learn and practice his/her academic discoveries. The lion represents the inner strength and valor needed to attain knowledge with ferocious determination, and the flames represent a student's enthusiasm for learning.



## ASSOCIATE OF APPLIED SCIENCE

The colors for the banner are red, black, and white. These colors represent the student's unyielding willingness to lead a life of service. Red represents kindness and strength. Black represents wisdom, which applies to the knowledge gained by students to remain steadfast and practice their skill(s) with good judgment. White represents sincerity and the holistic approach to learning and applying knowledge ethically and humanely. The banner also has three symbols, which include hands, a dove with an olive branch, and

four elm leaves. Hands represent faith, sincerity and justice; qualities that we place in others to help heal, create and/or solve. The dove with the olive branch is a universal sign of good things to come, a positive influence that reinforces skill and perpetual goodwill once students complete their educational endeavors. The elm leaves signify the dignity, poise and pride students maintain in challenging times as they serve their community with pride. The rays of the sun represent an enlightened mind, which transcends into personal and academic possibilities for the student.



## BACHELOR OF APPLIED SCIENCE IN ORGANIZATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The colors for the banner are green, gold, white and peacock blue. Green and gold represent the Laredo College tradition of academic excellence and innovation. Peacock blue represents leadership; it also represents compassion and calm in the face of adversity. White represents peace, as students will become leaders who are catalysts for peace throughout the world. The banner is also adorned with two symbols: the chess knight and lamp. The knight,

like leaders, is unique. It moves in ways that other chess pieces cannot, which makes it valuable and important. Likewise, leaders work strategically to create change, lead teams and make decisions that help drive their organizations forward. The second symbol on the medallion is the Laredo College Lamp of Learning. The lamp represents scholastic achievement, and the flame brings light into the darkness of ignorance.



## ASSOCIATE OF ARTS

The colors for the banner are green, gold, and white. These colors represent a well-balanced, academically entitled nature. Green represents hope, joy and loyalty; a commodity vested in the eagerness of youthful minds working toward a future in the academic arena. Gold represents comprehension and the power of knowledge that sustains an elevated mind. White represents peace and sincerity which serves as a seal of completion and/or continuation to pure knowledge. The banner also has three symbols which include a lamp that enlightens the darkness and clarifies the

path ahead, an open book which represents the manifestation of knowledge that is learned and applied as a student progresses through his/her academic journey, and a castle which the student strives to build on a strong foundation that will provide comfort and safety for those they love.



## CERTIFICATE

The colors for the banner are blue, gold and white. These colors represent the regal qualities of a leader. Blue represents the truth and loyalty; the foundation of a great mind. Gold represents the potential each student possesses to elevate his/her mind and develop their generous nature to learn and lead knowingly and attentively. White is the color that represents peace and sincerity. Each student strives to fulfill an educational goal that will transition into the workforce and give them the peace of mind of knowing they have the skills needed to be successful in their

field of work. The banner also has three symbols, a ladder, a scroll and a pitcher. The ladder symbolizes a student's tenacity to continue moving forward until a goal is accomplished. The scroll symbolizes the scholarly achievement a student has undertaken and successfully completed in his/her academic journey, and the pitcher symbolizes the student's willingness to lead by serving as a vessel for others.

# ALMA MATER

The student of today is being challenged, as never before, to bring intelligent leadership and skilled workmanship to a world in great need of economic and social stability.

We of Laredo College accept that challenge with willingness and enthusiasm, and will strive to make our curriculum a stepping stone to professional fields and a workshop for good citizenship.

We are young — our “growing pains” have been many. However, step by step, we have moved forward with confidence and wisdom in our achievements.

Let us continue to proceed with courage, to meet the problems of tomorrow.

