

THE INAUGURATION OF  
**STEVEN J. BRIDGES '89 M'95**  
FIFTH PRESIDENT

THURSDAY,  
OCTOBER 16, 2025



BUILT ON  
PURPOSE

**LIBERTY ARENA**  
HOME OF THE SCREAMING EAGLES



# THE INAUGURATION OF STEVEN J. BRIDGES '89 M'95

FIFTH PRESIDENT

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 16, 2025

10:30 A.M.

LIBERTY ARENA, HOME OF THE SCREAMING EAGLES

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

EVANSVILLE, INDIANA



*The cover design is inspired by the University Mace.*

*The ceremonial mace is an important symbol of academic pageantry and is carried by the grand marshal, who leads the procession to formally begin the ceremony. USI's Mace features an open orb. The orb's free-flowing design symbolizes interrelationships among all academic disciplines.*

## PRESIDENT'S BIOGRAPHY

Steven J. Bridges became the fifth President of the University of Southern Indiana on April 2, 2025, following an interim appointment that began July 20, 2024. A two-time graduate of USI, Bridges is the first alumnus to serve as President of the institution.

Bridges earned a bachelor's degree in accounting in 1989 and a master's degree in business administration in 1995, both from USI. His longstanding commitment to the University began the same year he earned his undergraduate degree, when he joined USI as a Staff Accountant. Over the next 35 years, he held increasingly senior leadership roles, including Controller, Business Office Director and Vice President for Finance and Administration (VPFA)—a role he held from 2015 until his appointment as President.

As VPFA, Bridges served as USI's chief business and fiscal officer, overseeing the financial operations of the institution, including Budgeting, Accounting, Procurement, Human Resources, Information Technology, Facility Operations and Planning, Public Safety and more. He led initiatives related to debt and investment management, student loan accounting, food services, auxiliary operations and the completion of University financial statements.

Among his major accomplishments are the completion of the largest single bond issuance in USI history and an auxiliary system bond issuance that briefly held the lowest rate in the history of Indiana higher education. During the COVID-19 pandemic, his financial leadership ensured that USI avoided layoffs or terminations, an uncommon feat in the higher education sector at that time.

In earlier leadership roles, Bridges led the campus-wide implementation of the Banner administrative system, delivering the complex project on schedule and within budget. He chaired numerous internal committees focused on institutional effectiveness and long-term financial planning.

Beyond his service to USI, Bridges is active in community and regional organizations. A longtime supporter of Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana, he has served as Treasurer, Finance/Audit Committee Chair and on the Long-Range Property Plan Committee. He also holds leadership and board roles with WNIN, Evansville Regional Economic Partnership, Holy Name Church Finance Committee, Ohio Valley Conference Board of Presidents and Indiana Chamber of Commerce. He serves as Chair of the Audit Committee for the Central Association of College and University Business Officers.

Bridges' professional legacy is one of integrity, strategic leadership and dedication to the mission of public higher education. As both an alumnus and long-serving administrator, he brings a deep understanding of the University's values and its impact on the region and beyond.

Bridges resides in Henderson, Kentucky, with his wife, Rosemary. The Bridges plan to move into the University Home once renovations are complete. They are the proud parents of three adult children and have five grandchildren.



STEVEN J. BRIDGES '89 M'95  
FIFTH PRESIDENT  
UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA  
2025



# UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA

The University was established on September 15, 1965, in the old Centennial School Building, offering classes to 412 students. In 1967, Southern Indiana Higher Education, Inc. raised nearly \$1 million to acquire the land where the campus now sits. The University moved to its present site four miles west of the city limits of Evansville in September 1969. The University graduated its first class of baccalaureate degree students in 1971.

From its initial stages of planning in the early 1960s, community leaders have supported the University by providing a solid base for its present success and future growth. The University has continued to uphold its mission under the strong leadership of its first four presidents, David L. Rice, H. Ray Hoops, Linda L. M. Bennett, Ronald S. Rochon, and now, President Steven J. Bridges.

The University of Southern Indiana (USI) enrolls nearly 9,400 dual credit, undergraduate and graduate students in more than 130 areas of study. A public higher education institution located on a beautiful 1,400-acre campus, USI offers programs through the Romain College of Business, College of Liberal Arts, Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions, Pott College of Science, Engineering, and Education and the School of Graduate Studies.

The Kinney College of Nursing and Health Professions also offers classes at the Stone Family Center for Health Sciences in downtown Evansville. The University offers study-abroad opportunities in many countries and is host to international students from around the globe. Over the past 60 years, the University has invested over \$500 million in new facilities.

USI is a two-time Carnegie Foundation Community Engaged University and offers programs and services to more than 15,000 participants annually through Outreach and Engagement. Programs and services include the Center for Applied Research, College Achievement Program, Historic New Harmony, Historic Southern Indiana, New Harmony Gallery of Contemporary Art, Corporate Partnerships and Customized Training, Lifelong Learning Noncredit Programs, ROTC, Office of Charter Schools, Safety Training, Service Learning, Southern Indiana Japanese School and the Veteran, Military and Family Resource Center.

A competitive member of NCAA Division I and the Ohio Valley Conference, USI offers 19 varsity intercollegiate men's and women's sports.

Under the leadership of President Bridges, the University continues a tradition of affordable excellence through innovation and engagement and positions itself as a top choice for high-caliber college students across the state, nationally and internationally.

The University's vision states: *USI will be a recognized leader in higher education boldly shaping the future and transforming the lives of our students through exceptional learning and intentional innovation.*

USI is engaged in its 2021–26 strategic plan, Accelerating Impact, which includes four overarching goals: improve student success, foster impactful engagement, elevate

visibility and reputation and strengthen financial viability. These four goals, along with the core values of integrity, exceptional education, welcoming environment for all, and external engagement, are a roadmap for the University's future.

Today, more than 55,000 alumni have been awarded diplomas from the University of Southern Indiana. USI graduates are renowned surgeons, bank executives, artists, leaders in K-12 education, accounting executives, lawyers, nurses, hospital administrators, college professors, elected officials, just to name a few, and through the knowledge gained from here—USI, their alma mater—they ignite transformation in their communities.

## ACADEMIC REGALIA

The academic garb dates from medieval days when university students wore woolen and fur garments for warmth in damp and drafty buildings. Most of those studying were clerics in holy orders; they wore a cloak to which was attached a hood that could be pulled up to cover their tonsured heads.

Simplified today, the garb serves to remind us that its wearer is a member of an ancient and venerable profession; it also indicates, by its color and design, the wearer's degree and the institution by which the degree was conferred.

In the United States, black has been the traditional color for academic gowns, but some institutions authorize holders of their doctorates to wear colors of the institution. The bachelor's gown is distinguished by its long, open sleeves; the master's by its closed, slitted sleeves; the doctoral by its full sleeves trimmed with bands of velvet, which may be black or a color denoting the field in which the degree was taken.

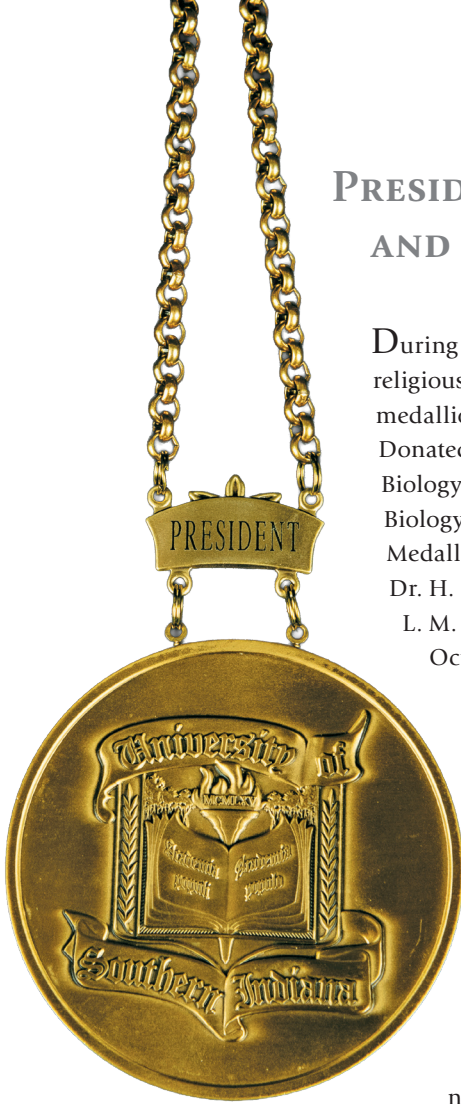
The mortarboard cap, proper for all degrees, is black. Tassels, usually black, are worn over the left front quarter of the cap. Holders of the doctorate may wear tassels of gold thread.

Academic hoods vary in length according to the degree attained and are lined with the colors of the institution by which the degree was granted. Hooding signifies the induction of the graduate into the fellowship of the academy, a welcoming gesture by those who represent the high standards of scholarship and creative achievement.

Doctoral and master's degree candidates receive hoods distinctive to their degrees. The honorary doctoral hoods of the University of Southern Indiana are black, lined with blue satin with red satin chevrons. They are edged with white velvet. Retired members of the University faculty can be recognized in today's ceremony by the red, white and blue cords.



## PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION AND UNIVERSITY SEAL



During the Middle Ages, medallions signified membership in religious orders and guilds. Today, colleges and universities strike medallions to commemorate important events and achievements. Donated by the late Dr. Melvin Denner, Professor Emeritus of Biology, and Anne Denner, former Instructor in Nutrition and Biology, and their family, the University's first Presidential Medallion was used in the March 17, 1995, inauguration of Dr. H. Ray Hoops, the University's second President. Dr. Linda L. M. Bennett also wore this medallion for her inauguration on October 15, 2009. The Presidential Medallion signifies the authority vested in the President. The medallion's obverse carries, at its center, a three-inch reproduction of the University Seal and, surrounding the seal, a half-inch rim. On the reverse appear the names and dates of appointment for the University's presidents. The President wears this medallion for all formal academic ceremonies.

For Dr. Ronald S. Rochon's inauguration on April 5, 2019, a new medallion was struck with an updated seal, and a new chain was fabricated. In addition to the names of USI's past presidents on the reverse side of the medallion, the new chain was commissioned bearing their names on four separate plates. The medallion and chain were underwritten by a generous gift from University Trustee and alumnus, Ronald D. Romain '73 and alumna Connie Dartt Romain '74. This same medallion and chain was reworked to include a plate inscribed with "President" on the chain and a fifth name added to the reverse side for the inauguration on October 16, 2025, of the University's fifth President, Steven J. Bridges.

The University Seal, originally designed by Nussmeier Engraving Company, Evansville, and updated in 2018, bears the University's colors—blue, red and white—with gray. The Seal of the University was designed to signify the importance of higher education in defending citizens against ignorance. Between the two banners displaying the University's name appears an open book, illuminated by the torch of knowledge. Trees on either side of the flame suggest not only the University's pastoral southern Indiana setting, but also life, growth and continuity. The open book emphasizes the importance of teaching and learning; *academia populi* and *academia populo* indicate the University of Southern Indiana is a scholarly academy founded and supported where education by the people and education for the people flourishes. Finally, the laurel branches to the right and left of the book represent victory: the light of learning overcoming the darkness of ignorance.

## UNIVERSITY MACE

In the Middle Ages, bodyguards of French and English monarchs carried ceremonial maces. Later, the mace became an important symbol of office in civil processions and academic pageantry. At the University of Southern Indiana, the grand marshal, a distinguished member of the faculty, carries the mace.

A replica of Richard Owen's walking cane serves as the staff for the University mace. A respected geologist and Professor of Natural Science at Indiana University, Owen was the first President of Purdue University. He was a son of Robert Owen, the Welsh industrialist who established New Harmony, Indiana, as a center for education and enlightened social reform in the early 1800s. The 32-inch-tall wooden cane was presented to Richard Owen in 1874; and through the generosity of his descendant, the late Kenneth Dale Owen, that cane, lent to USI, served as the grand marshal's staff in all Commencement exercises from 1985 to 1995.

Designed and fabricated by Nicholas Logsdon of Indianapolis, the gold-plated mace bears at the top, above the cane's golden head, an open orb with a replica of the University seal. The orb's free-flowing design symbolizes interrelationships among all academic disciplines. Immediately below the cane's orb, three two-inch golden rings bear the names and appointment dates of the University presidents. The names of Kenneth Dale Owen, Jane Blaffer Owen and James A. Sanders, donors of the mace, appear on a finial near the bottom of the cane replica.

Designed and created by alumnus Kenny Fisher '77, the replica of the cane and its base are made of walnut from the Owen mansion built in New Harmony during the 1830s.



## GONFALONS

Ceremonial flags called gonfalons originated in the Middle Ages for civil and military processions, often appearing beneath the steel head of a knight's lance. In Italy, gonfalons designated individual Italian republics; the chief magistrate or other high official served as gonfalonier carrying the banner.

At the University of Southern Indiana, gonfalons represent each major academic unit. First used in 2005 and presented to the University as a gift from the Campus Store, new gonfalons were fabricated for the 2019 inauguration of Dr. Ronald S. Rochon.



# PROCESSION

GRAND MARSHAL

COLOR GUARD

GONFALONIERS

OFFICIAL DELEGATES FROM COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

USI FACULTY EMERITI

USI FACULTY

## MEMBERS OF THE PLATFORM PARTY

DR. SHELLY B. BLUNT	GRAND MARSHAL; PROVOST; PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY
DR. MICHAEL D. DIXON	DEAN OF THE SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES; PROFESSOR OF HISTORY
DR. TERESA A. BEAM	DEAN OF THE POTT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND EDUCATION; PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY
DR. DEL D. DOUGHTY	DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS; PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH
DR. JULIE L. MCCULLOUGH	DEAN OF THE KINNEY COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF NUTRITION
DR. SUDESH N. MUJUMDAR	DEAN OF THE ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS; PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS
ABBY E. YATES	CHAIR, STAFF COUNCIL; NEW STUDENT ONBOARDING ASSOCIATE
DR. T. KYLE R. MARA	CHAIR, FACULTY SENATE; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGY
JENNY L. GARRISON	CHAIR, ADMINISTRATIVE SENATE; DIRECTOR OF CENTER FOR CAMPUS LIFE
JEFFREY M. SICKMAN '94 M'00	VICE PRESIDENT FOR FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
JON MARK HALL	VICE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTOR OF ATHLETICS

DR. ABEER A. MUSTAFA	VICE PRESIDENT FOR STUDENT AFFAIRS
ANDREA R. GENTRY '05	VICE PRESIDENT FOR DEVELOPMENT; PRESIDENT, USI FOUNDATION
JEAN M. BLANTON '01	CHAIR, USI FOUNDATION BOARD
RILEIGH M. LEAR '13	PRESIDENT, USI ALUMNI COUNCIL
MICHAEL J. SOLLIDAY '27	TRUSTEE
DR. GLEN J. KISSEL	TRUSTEE; ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF ENGINEERING
CHRISTINE H. KECK	TRUSTEE
JEFFREY L. KNIGHT	TRUSTEE
RONALD D. ROMAIN '73	TRUSTEE
MARILYN S. SCHMIDT	FRIEND/FORMER USI EMPLOYEE
STEPHANIE F. TERRY	MAYOR, CITY OF EVANSVILLE
KINDRA L. STRUPP M'22	VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION
C. WAYNE KINNEY '77	TRUSTEE
JOHN M. DUNN	TRUSTEE
DR. H. RAY HOOPS	PRESIDENT EMERITUS; PROFESSOR EMERITUS OF BUSINESS AND EDUCATION
DR. LINDA L. M. BENNETT	PRESIDENT EMERITA; PROFESSOR EMERITA OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
DR. RONALD S. ROCHON	FORMER PRESIDENT
CHRISTINA M. RYAN	CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES
CORY D. AND EMILY A. BRIDGES ELLA, HAYDEN, JACK AND MAGNOLIA	SON, DAUGHTER-IN-LAW AND GRANDCHILDREN
EMMA K. BRIDGES '14	DAUGHTER
ABIGAIL J. '17 AND JACOB T. POLIVICK ROSELYNN	DAUGHTER, SON-IN-LAW AND GRANDDAUGHTER
ROSEMARY O. BRIDGES	FIRST LADY
STEVEN J. BRIDGES '89 M'95	PRESIDENT

# INAUGURATION CEREMONY

<b>PRELUDE:</b>	EVANSVILLE BRASS QUINTET
<b>PROCESSIONAL:</b>	<b>DIE BANKELSANGERLIEDER</b> BY DANIEL SPEER <b>FANFARE FOR THE COMMON MAN</b> BY AARON COPLAND EVANSVILLE BRASS QUINTET
<b>OPENING REMARKS:</b>	DR. SHELLY B. BLUNT GRAND MARSHAL
<b>WELCOME:</b>	KINDRA L. STRUPP M'22 VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION
<b>POSTING OF THE COLORS:</b>	CADETS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS
<b>NATIONAL ANTHEM:</b>	<b>STAR-SPANGLED BANNER</b>  UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR
<b>MEMORIES:</b>	CORY D. BRIDGES SON OF PRESIDENT AND MRS. BRIDGES
<b>CHORAL MUSIC:</b>	<b>SONGS OF THE TRI-STATE MEDLEY</b> BY DANIEL R. CRAIG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC AND THOMAS W. L. DRURY, ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR IN MUSIC  <b>ON THE BANKS OF THE WABASH, FAR AWAY</b> BY PAUL DRESSER <b>MY OLD KENTUCKY HOME</b> BY STEPHEN FOSTER <b>ILLINOIS</b> BY CHARLES H. CHAMBERLAIN  UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR
<b>SALUTATIONS:</b>	MIKE BRAUN, GOVERNOR, STATE OF INDIANA  STEPHANIE F. TERRY, MAYOR, CITY OF EVANSVILLE  JENNY L. GARRISON, CHAIR, ADMINISTRATIVE SENATE  ABBY E. YATES, CHAIR, STAFF COUNCIL  DR. T. KYLE R. MARA, CHAIR, FACULTY SENATE

# INAUGURATION CEREMONY

RILEIGH M. LEAR '13, PRESIDENT, USI ALUMNI COUNCIL

JEAN M. BLANTON '01, CHAIR, USI FOUNDATION BOARD

**CHORAL MUSIC:**

**LEAD ME, LORD** BY JOHN D. BECKER

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR

EVANSVILLE VANDERBURGH SCHOOL CORPORATION HONORS CHOIR

EVANSVILLE PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

**REMARKS:**

MARILYN S. SCHMIDT

FRIEND AND FORMER USI EMPLOYEE

**INVESTITURE:**

CHRISTINA M. RYAN, CHAIR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES

ASSISTED BY:

PRESIDENT EMERITUS, DR. H. RAY HOOPS

PRESIDENT EMERITA, DR. LINDA L. M. BENNETT

FORMER PRESIDENT, DR. RONALD S. ROCHON

## THE INVESTITURE CONSISTS OF

OFFICIAL RECOGNITION AND CHARGE

PRESENTATION OF UNIVERSITY MACE

PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENTIAL MEDALLION

OFFICIAL PRESENTATION AS PRESIDENT

**INAUGURAL ADDRESS:** STEVEN J. BRIDGES '89, M'95, PRESIDENT

**CHORAL RESPONSE:**

**A MILLION DREAMS FROM THE GREATEST SHOWMAN**

BY BENJ PASEK AND JUSTIN PAUL

UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR

EVANSVILLE VANDERBURGH SCHOOL CORPORATION HONORS CHOIR

EVANSVILLE PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

# INAUGURATION CEREMONY

<b>USI ALMA MATER:</b>	<b>CONSTANT, FAITHFUL AND TRUE</b> ORIGINAL MUSIC BY DANIEL R. CRAIG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC LYRICS BY DAVID G. O'NEIL, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH  UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR
<b>CLOSING REMARKS:</b>	KINDRA L. STRUPP M'22 VICE PRESIDENT FOR MARKETING AND COMMUNICATION
<b>RETRIEVAL OF THE COLORS:</b>	CADETS OF THE UNIVERSITY'S RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS
<b>RECESSIONAL:</b>	<b>PRAISE THE LORD WITH DRUMS AND CYMBALS</b> BY SIGFRID KARG-ELERT  EVANSVILLE BRASS QUINTET

*A luncheon reception will be held in the adjacent Screaming Eagles Complex immediately following the ceremony. The luncheon is made possible through the strong partnership and support of Sodexo.*





# TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSITY

CHRISTINA M. RYAN  
CHAIR, NEWBURGH

JOHN M. DUNN  
FIRST VICE CHAIR, EVANSVILLE

C. WAYNE KINNEY '77  
SECOND VICE CHAIR, EVANSVILLE

JEFFREY L. KNIGHT  
SECRETARY, EVANSVILLE

CHRISTINE H. KECK  
EVANSVILLE

DR. GLEN J. KISSEL  
EVANSVILLE

RONALD D. ROMAIN '73  
EVANSVILLE

MICHAEL J. SOLLIDAY '27  
SWITZ CITY

# PAST PRESIDENTS OF THE UNIVERSITY

DR. DAVID L. RICE    1967-1994

DR. H. RAY HOOPS    1994-2009

DR. LINDA L. M. BENNETT    2009-2018

DR. RONALD S. ROCHON    2018-2024

## COLOR GUARD

### CADETS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA'S RESERVE OFFICERS TRAINING CORP

CDT SANTANA R. DOZAL '28  
CDT LYNDSEY M. FULLER '26  
CDT JOSIAH S. HOLLIS '25  
CDT MICHAEL J. NATOLI '26  
CDT DYLAN J. NORMAN '27  
CDT THOMAS R. SMITH '25  
CDT NOAH A. WOODS '27

## GONFALONIERS

DR. TERESA A. BEAM - POTT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE, ENGINEERING, AND EDUCATION  
DR. MICHAEL D. DIXON - SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES  
DR. DEL D. DOUGHTY - COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS  
DR. JULIE L. MCCULLOUGH - KINNEY COLLEGE OF NURSING AND HEALTH PROFESSIONS  
DR. SUDESH N. MUJUMDAR - ROMAIN COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

## MARSHALS

MARA D. ANSBRO '13  
SANDY K. FRANK '90 M'96  
ANGEL D. NELSON '05 M'18  
MELISSA A. MILLER '13 M'18  
TIFFANY L. PORTER M'25  
KIMBERLY M. RUFFIN  
TEGAN E. RUHL '24  
TRACY A. SINN '92 M'10  
SAMANTHA J. SHOULTZ  
EMILY S. WININGER

## DELEGATES FROM COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES

1780

TRANSYLVANIA UNIVERSITY  
CHRISTOPHER C. WISCHER  
ALUMNUS

1854

UNIVERSITY OF EVANSVILLE  
CHRISTOPHER M. PIETRUSZKIEWICZ  
PRESIDENT

1798

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE  
J. KEITH CARTWRIGHT  
ALUMNUS

1856

NEWBERRY COLLEGE  
TRACY POWERS  
DIRECTOR OF CAREER AND PROFESSIONAL  
DEVELOPMENT

1801

VINCENNES UNIVERSITY  
TONY HAHN  
VICE PRESIDENT OF GOVERNMENT RELATIONS

1861

VASSAR COLLEGE  
NEAL A. FRANKLIN  
ALUMNA

1809

MIAMI UNIVERSITY  
RICHARD P. RECHTER II  
ALUMNUS; FOUNDATION BOARD MEMBER

1865

INDIANA STATE UNIVERSITY  
DR. MIKE GODARD  
PRESIDENT

1820

INDIANA UNIVERSITY  
KEN IWAMA  
VICE PRESIDENT FOR REGIONAL CAMPUSES AND  
ONLINE EDUCATION

1874

ROSE-HULMAN INSTITUTE  
OF TECHNOLOGY  
ROBERT A. COONS  
PRESIDENT

1832

WABASH COLLEGE  
JOHN C. SCHROEDER  
ALUMNUS

1885

OAKLAND CITY UNIVERSITY  
DR. RON D. DEMPSEY  
PRESIDENT

1837

DEPAUW UNIVERSITY  
SUSAN VAUGHN  
ALUMNA

1909

UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-LA CROSSE  
DR. JAMES M. BEEBY  
PRESIDENT

1853

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY  
DAVID C. WOLL JR.  
ALUMNUS

1963

IVY TECH COMMUNITY COLLEGE-EVANSVILLE  
M. DANIELA VIDAL  
CHANCELLOR

## INAUGURATION PLANNING COMMITTEE

KINDRA L. STRUPP M'22, CHAIR

CAREY L. BEURY '93

ROSEMARY O. BRIDGES

MEGAN L. DOYLE '09 M'20

ANDREA R. GENTRY '05

STEPHANIE L. HAWES '07

DONNA M. KOEWLER

NITA R. MUSICH '10

AMY E. UBELHOR

PENNY J. WHITE

## THE EVANSVILLE BRASS QUINTET

ARTHUR R. ADYE JR., FRENCH HORN

GREG A. DOWNES, BASS TROMBONE

K. KIM FILLINGIM, TROMBONE

DR. DAVID B. SMITH, TRUMPET

DR. TIMOTHY J. ZIFER, TRUMPET

The *Evansville Brass Quintet* was formed in 1986. Its members include some of Evansville's most active brass players and music educators. The players bring with them vast musical backgrounds and experience. The repertoire is broad and varied and the members demonstrate great versatility, having performed in numerous settings. The Evansville Brass Quintet has played for numerous USI Commencement ceremonies and for the Inauguration ceremonies for President Hoops, President Bennett, President Rochon and President Bridges.

# THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN INDIANA CHAMBER CHOIR

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF DANIEL R. CRAIG, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF MUSIC  
ACCOMPANIST THOMAS W. L. DRURY, ADVANCED INSTRUCTOR IN MUSIC

JULIA E. BEADLE '29	ALEX M. MUNDY '27
MICHAELLA N. BEAN '29	AMIRAH E. NORMAN '29
GABE A. BIGGE '29	BAILEY M. ORANGE '29
XAVIER M. BIGGE '27	NOAH S. PATTERSON '29
MAKAYLA J. BROWN '28	AUTUMN L. REED '27
THERESA L. CORDOVA '27	TIMOTHY R. ROSIGNOL '25
ABBIGAIL D. FERGUSON '29	HANNAH J. SEIFERT '28
AUBREY J. GEEVE '29	BELLA V. SITLER '29
JUDAH W. HENSON '7	BRYANNA R. ST. MYERS '26
GRACE A. HOLMES '27	MORGAN L. STAUTER '27
ALICE K. HOYT '29	LILAH D. STRAUSER '29
BRANDON JUAREZ FERNANDEZ '27	TANVI P. TORGAL '29
KELSEY M. JUSTICE '29	HALLIE J. VEACH '29
ROGER G. KEENE '29	MIA J. WAGNER '29
JOBA MALACHI '29	DEZARAE L. WASHINGTON '29
CECILIA A. MATHERLY '28	ELI J. WETZEL '29
COLIN R. MCGOWAN '29	RICO A. WRIGHT '28
KATELYN L. MILLS '29	

The *University of Southern Indiana Chamber Choir*, under the direction of Daniel R. Craig, is dedicated to performing distinguished works from the choral repertoire. In May 2025, the Chamber Choir completed its tenth concert tour to Ireland, with performances at Christ Church Cathedral in Dublin and other historic venues along the west coast. Looking ahead, the ensemble will present its fourth concert at New York City's prestigious Carnegie Hall in May 2026.



# EVANSVILLE VANDERBURGH SCHOOL CORPORATION HONORS CHOIR

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANDREA DRURY, FINE ARTS SPECIALIST,  
VOCAL AND GENERAL MUSIC AND THEATRE

CLAY BASS

OLIVIA BAUMEYER

DHARBI BYRNE-BODART

VALERIE BLACKFORD

ADDISON HAPE

MADELYN HARGROVE

EMILIA HUGHES

EM JOST

ELIJAH LAWRENCE

CORNELIUS McDONALD

JORDAN MITCHELL

ROSENDO SCHWARTZ

JANIYAH SUMBRY

DRAYTON VALLEE

IVY WAUTELET

MARKEL WILLIAMS

The Evansville Vanderburgh School Corporation (EVSC) Honors Choir is a select ensemble of talented student vocalists from across the district. For the Inauguration, the ensemble is represented by students from Benjamin Bosse High School, Central High School, Francis Joseph Reitz High School, William Henry Harrison High School and North High School. Together, these singers reflect the strength and excellence of EVSC's choral tradition while representing their individual schools on this special occasion.

# EVANSVILLE PHILHARMONIC CHOIR

UNDER THE DIRECTION OF ANDREA DRURY, CHORUS MASTER

GRACE BAKER	DIANA KULENKAMP
CHELSEA BARRUS	MARILYN LANKFORD
PATTY BEAGLE	KIM MOORS
MELISSA BETHEL	HERB NOMURA
PATRICIA COLBERT	CRUZ QUIROZ
JOSH COOK	STEPHEN BEST
GRANT DiDOMIZIO	CHRISTIE REAGAN
GABBY EMBERTON	ARB RUPERT
MARY FORBES	JULIANA SAMPAIO
CHRISTINA HAMBY	JONDI SOPER
MADISON HARRIS	DON SUMMERS
LISA HATT	JUSTIN TUCKER
KATIE HERRENBRUCK	SALLY VOGL-BAUER
DONNA JEFFERS	PAT WELBORN
SCOTT KEMPIN	

The *Evansville Philharmonic Chorus*, under the direction of Andrea Drury, is a distinguished ensemble of community singers who regularly perform major choral works with the Evansville Philharmonic Orchestra and at special events throughout the region. For the Inauguration, members of the Chorus have volunteered their time and talent to join in this celebration, continuing a legacy of musical excellence and service to the greater Evansville community.

## INAUGURATION UNDERWRITER

THE INAUGURATION IS GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY  
THE JAMES A. SANDERS TRUST.

## SPECIAL THANKS

*We are truly grateful to all employees, students and volunteers  
from across the University who gave their time and talent to the planning  
and execution of the 2025 Inauguration events.*

*Your commitment and teamwork made President Bridges' Inauguration  
a meaningful and memorable occasion. Please know  
how much your efforts are appreciated.*

