



*Universal
Academy*

*Graduation Ceremony
2026*

May 22, 2026 at 6:30 pm

Embassy Suites by Hilton
Grapevine DFW North
2401 Bass Pro Dr.
Grapevine, TX 76051

Together We Fly!



Universal Academy Mission

To create a challenging and intellectually engaging curriculum within a safe, nurturing environment by providing varied learning opportunities that focus on the development of instructional excellence, leadership, and character building in partnership with a diverse community of lifelong learners.




Universal Academy Vision

Universal Academy empowers all students to take their place in the world as knowledgeable, competent, responsible citizens. Students are articulate, creative, achieving individual academic, emotional and physical goals in a safe, equitable educational community. Students are well rounded, achieve in all subject areas, integrate technology, think independently and connect content to real life.

All district staff are student-centered, innovative, committed, enthusiastic, educational leaders. They respect student diversity, strengths, and learning challenges. They understand and implement research-based strategies. All staff have high standards for their students, colleagues and themselves.

The community is an empowered, positive, collaborative voice that supports teaching and learning and participates in educational decision making for students. The District embraces the global community and is committed to meaningful partnerships.

Universal Academy is committed to student success.



Universal Academy Creed

My creed, a student's pledge I
give, A promise from the heart.
To use my body, mind and soul,
In honor of God's art.

I'll stretch my mind, find worth
within, I'll ponder, work and seek.
I'll learn by braving every cave,
I'll find my mountain peak.

I'll teach myself to listen,
And work with others, too.
I'll share and grow in unity,
And see the best in you.

I'll practice truth and mercy,
Respect my history,
I'll value work and kindness,
Become all I can be.

I'll celebrate my difference,
For peace I'll make my stand.
I'll take the very best from life,
And give it back again

I'll laugh and play in joy, Injustice I'll defy.
I'll learn of patience when I fail,
And courage when I try.

I'll carve mistakes to shape the
whole, Discover secrets in my soul.
I'll dream of wonders one can't see,
And still grow in reality.

My hope is in my promise,
My trust is in "I CAN!"
A scholar, artist, scientist, coach,
The world is in my hand.

This is my creed, a student's pledge,
I'll cherish what life brings . . .
You see, I KNOW THAT I CAN FLY!
I have the gift of wings!

Mrs. Diane Harris

Co-Founder of Universal Academy



At Universal Academy, ALL IS WELL! I can say this with confidence because of our phenomenal staff and students. Daily, I look across this campus and feel so proud of our Universal Academy students. Their educational foundation combined with motivation and determination continues to make a major impact in their lives. I can say with pride and honor that I am especially proud of our graduates as many of them have gone on to accomplish outstanding feats. In life, we create our own experiences.

I will always remember each of you.

Mrs. Catherin Jackson

Co-Founder of Universal Academy



YOUR children are OUR future. The Universal Academy Helping Hands Program was created because I believe that it is through the hands of an educational servant, such as myself, that we mold, design, and sculpture our wonderful children into wonderful future leaders.

Mrs. Janice Blackmon

CEO/Director of Administrative Services



Universal Academy has come a long way since we opened our doors September 14, 1998. We have seen our graduates admitted to some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in this country. Many of our graduates have returned to us as teachers and now share their knowledge and skills in the same manor that their predecessors shared with them.

Universal Academy will continue to produce tomorrow's great leaders. Hats Off Class of 2026!

Dr. Dana Jobe

Superintendent

I am honored and humbled to be the Superintendent of Universal Academy. At Universal Academy, we strive to provide the highest quality education possible for ALL students. The success of our students relies on a committed partnership between parents, faculty, staff, board members, and the community. I am thrilled to be part of such an outstanding team!

Congratulations Class of 2026!



Dr. Sheraton Duffey

Irving Campus Principal



As a principal, I can truly appreciate the premise that our students have been taught to achieve and accomplish the impossible in all of their endeavors! At Universal Academy, we provide our students with every opportunity to excel as scholars, artists, leaders and stellar athletes. We are driven at Universal Academy to provide every student with world class instruction that will prepare them to impact a diverse society.
Congratulations to each of you....Eagle Champions!!

Mrs. Sandra Clark

Coppell Campus Principal

Universal Academy Graduates, congratulations on reaching an important milestone in your life! It has been a great privilege this school year to be principal of this amazing campus. Graduates, you have been fortunate to have compassionate teachers that absolutely care about each and every one of you. The impact you have had on your teachers' lives will leave lasting impressions. Whichever path you select after graduation, I am certain the opportunities and experiences Universal Academy has provided for you will serve you well as you move on to your next journeys in life.



Honored Guest Speaker

Brandy Taylor Montgomery, Ph.D., NCSP
Children's Defense Fund State Director



Dr. Brandy Taylor Montgomery is a systems level change agent who has spent her career as a School Psychologist and charter school leader helping to provide inclusive educational opportunities for children and youth who are disenfranchised by unjust policies, systems and institutions. In December 2023, she was hired as the State Director of Texas for the Children's Defense Fund, an organization working to build community so young people grow up with dignity, hope, and joy. She graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology and an Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree in School Psychology from Baylor University. As a practitioner, she realized that many local and statewide decision makers were ill-informed about the needs and assets of youth and families in public schools, as well as the communities they lived in. To be a part of the solution for advocating for policy changes in public education and mental wellness, Dr. Taylor completed doctoral studies in School Psychology with a specialization in Prevention Science at Texas A&M University. Not only did she engage in interdisciplinary studies, but she was also able to gain policy experience working with influential organizations such as Diagnostic Assessment Services, Dallas Independent School District and Children's Defense Fund, putting her educational and professional experiences to use as a founding board member and Assistant Superintendent of an inclusive public charter school, Bridgeway Preparatory Academy, in the Dallas area. Dr. Taylor Montgomery continues to serve her community as vice president of the Bridgeway school board, treasurer of The Civic League, and Southeast Region member of the National Association of School Psychologists' Professional Policy, Advocacy, and Credentialing committee.

We are honored to welcome Dr. Taylor Montgomery as our keynote speaker for the Universal Academy 2026 Graduation Ceremony.



Program

Opening Statement

Dr. Dion Hood

Processional

Universal Academy Administration, Graduates and Staff
"Pomp and Circumstance"

United States of America & Texas Pledges

Led by the 8th Grade
Jazmine K Vazquez (Salutatorian-Irving) & Rebecca Mwita (Coppell)

Song Selections

"Star Spangled Banner" UA Mighty Marching Eagles Band
"I Know That I Can Fly" UA School Song

Welcome



Led by the 8th Grade Valedictorians
Julyann Cruz Sanchez (Irving) &
Sai Vedanth Narayanan Minu (Coppell)

Song Selection

"Something Inside So Strong" UA Theme Song

Superintendent Address

Superintendent Dr. Dana Jobe





Program

Introduction of Salutatorians

Principal Dr. Sheraton Duffey

Salutatorian Addresses

Salutatorians

Ethan Ivan Salas (Irving) & Jasmin C Varghese (Coppell)

Introduction of Valedictorians

Principal Dr. Sheraton Duffey

Valedictorian Addresses

Valedictorians

Hanna Jebby (Irving) & Maryam Fatima Masood (Coppell)

Special Performance

Piano Performance by
Aiden Alexander

Introduction of Honored Guest Speaker



Principal Dr. Sheraton Duffey

Honored Guest Speaker

Director of the Children's Defense Fund-Texas
Brandy Taylor Montgomery, Ph.D., NCSP

Video Presentation

Senior Class of 2026





Program

Special Awards Presentations

CEO/Director of Administrative Services

Mrs. Janice Blackmon

Superintendent

Dr. Dana Jobe

Principals Dr. Sheraton Duffey & Mrs. Sandra Clark

Presentations of 8th Grade Diplomas & Recognitions

Superintendent Dr. Dana Jobe

Principal Mrs. Sandra Clark & Dr. Terea Jones

Presentations of Senior Diplomas & Recognitions

Superintendent Dr. Dana Jobe

Principal Dr. Sheraton Duffey & Dr. Terea Jones

Charge to the Graduates

CEO/Director of Administrative Services

Mrs. Janice Blackmon



Middle School & Secondary

Conferring of Diplomas

CEO/Director of Administrative Services

Mrs. Janice Blackmon

Recessional





Universal Academy

**SENIOR
CLASS
OF
2026
GRADUATES**

Valedictorian
Iwring Campus



HANNA JEBBY

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
44 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Valedictorian
Coppell Campus



MARYAM FATIMA MASOOD

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Salutatorian
Jewing Campus



ETHAN IVAN SALAS

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
20 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Salutatorian
Coppell Campus



JASMIN C VARGHESE

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



CHIRANJEEVI KARTHIKEYA ADDA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



EMMANUEL AGBARA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



EMMANUELLA AGBARA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



EMMANUEL AKANDE

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

3 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



AIDAN TRISTAN ALEXANDER

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



KEVIN ALEJANDRO ARELLANES

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

LEGACY STUDENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
12 HRS DUAL CREDIT



REEMA BABY

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
39 HRS DUAL CREDIT



JORDAN DAVAHN BUTLER

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



**KEVIN JONATHAN
CRUZ LOPEZ**

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT



ZAKARIA AKADIR ELMI

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY



JULISSA GONZALEZ

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT



NATALIA GOSIC

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
39 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



**KIMBERLY
HERNANDEZ ESPINOZA**

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
21 HRS DUAL CREDIT



PREMICE MBAMBI IBAMBU
DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
21 HRS DUAL CREDIT



JONATHAN JAMES

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY



HANNA JEBBY

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
44 HRS DUAL CREDIT
VALEDICTORIAN IRVING

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



ARABELLA JOINER-HUDSON



NIJEL ELAAN JONES

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
3 HRS DUAL CREDIT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY



SANSKAR KARKI

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



KAROL LOPEZ EUCEDA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



JOCELYN MARTINEZ

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT



MARYAM FATIMA MASOOD

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE
VALEDICTORIAN COPPELL



ANAHI MENDOZA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
15 HRS DUAL CREDIT



JOEL JOSEPH NAGELLA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



PREET RAMKRUSHNA PATEL

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT



LESLY PORTILLO ARANA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT



PARTHIV PRAKASH

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
58 HRS DUAL CREDIT



REYNA ELIZABETH RIVAS

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHEIVEMENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
21 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



ETHAN IVAN SALAS

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
LEGACY STUDENT

PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
BILINGUALISM/BILITERACY
20 HRS DUAL CREDIT
SALUTATORIAN IRVING



MICHELLE MARIE SAUCEDA

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT



ATIKAH SHAH

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE



PAUL DAN TAYLOR

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
20 HRS DUAL CREDIT

Senior Class Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)



ROGERS OWEN URIAS

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
18 HRS DUAL CREDIT



JASMIN C VARGHESE

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
ASSOCIATE OF SCIENCE DEGREE
SALUTATORIAN COPPELL



KAGE NOLE WILLIAMS

DISTINGUISHED LEVEL OF ACHIEVEMENT
PERFORMANCE ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:
18 HRS DUAL CREDIT



Universal Academy



**8TH
GRADE
GRADUATES**





8th Grade
Valedictorians



JULYANN CRUZ SANCHEZ
IRVING CAMPUS



SAI VEDANTH
NARAYANAN MINU
COPPELL CAMPUS

Salutatorians



JAZMINE K VAZQUEZ
IRVING CAMPUS



AIDAN M SAMUEL
LEGACY STUDENT
COPPELL CAMPUS



8th Grade Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

§ LEGACY STUDENT

€ TOP RANKING STUDENT

Abdullah, Asher §
Abreo Vivas, Samuel
Acharya, Anshu
Ahsan, Raheesh Haaziq
Albadawi, Yousuf Nader §
Alenko, Akiya Asfaw
Annam, Nikhil Sai
Arana Lomeli, Alexander §
Arellanes, Chris Ivan §
Budhathoki, Innes
Chowdhury, Tazmeen Shiraz
Clanton, Dakota Rose
Cruz, Kenny Uriel
Cruz Hernandez, Victoria §
Cruz Sanchez, Julyann €
De Leon Sanchez, Merlyn
Fatima, Furat
Florez Valadez, Victoria §
Francis, Marley Alyrie
Ghanchi, Anaum
Ghorpade, Tanvi Vikas
Granados, Stefany
Griffin, Ja'nayee D'fann

Guerrero Urias, Melany
Hanks, Devan Derae §
Hernandez Ferrera, Dayana
Hernandez, Johnny Steven §
Irfan, Ayesha
Jackson, Alfred Kwame
Joao, Josmar Miguel
Juarez, Julio Cesar
Jujuru, Asish Karthikeya
Kasim, Abduladl Oluwatoni
Khimesra, Harsh Nilesh
Kupula, Emany Manyong
Ledet, Jaylei Pearl
Lobela, Nathalia Georgette
Lopez, Diana Gabriela §
Makadi, Boliney Annette
Melendez, Nicole
Moreno Calderon, Hector
Murillo Santos, Nelsy Yoeli
Mwita, Rebecca §
Narayanan Minu, Sai €
Noble, Siddharth
Onyemordi, Amy Ifeoma §

8th Grade Graduates

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

§ LEGACY STUDENT

€ TOP RANKING STUDENT

Ortiz Brignoni, Ignacio Jose	Shah, Sumran §
Ovalle, Estrella Janeilly §	Showkey, Hayden
Paloblanco, Daniel	Siddiqui, Marusha Asfar
Paredes Martinez, Dulce	Siddiqui, Mohammed
Pena Canelas, Nahomi	Siddiqui, Musab Ali
Philip, Johann Rubin §	Soriano, Elder Alejandro
Portillo Teo, Bryam	Spall, Hashim An
Prashanth, Rishab	Srinivasan, Akshita
Pulickal Nelson, Aiden Alby	Upadyaula, Aarav
Pundla, Vishruth	Uppalapati, Narayani Narika
Ramasamy, Abhilash	Urevbu, Nathan U §
Ramos Mendoza, Juan	Vangara, Rithwik Sai
Reyes Bernal, Manuel Humberto	Vasquez, Yareli Michelle §
Reza, Oceano	Vazquez, Jazmine Karina €
Riaz, Iyaad	Vergara-Rogel, Litzy §
Rivas, Wilmer Uziel §	Wang, Qianhui
Ruiz, Giselle Aylin §	Williams, Sebastian
Samuel, Aidan Mathew § €	Yedlapalli, Vaishnav Saketh
Santamaria, Sapphire Aimar	Zelaya Cruz, Noe Jafet



Founders

Mrs. Diane Harris
Retired CEO/Superintendent

Mrs. Janice Blackmon
CEO/Director of Administrative Services

Mrs. Catherin Jackson
Director of Early Childhood Education

Board of Directors

Mrs. Janice Blackmon - President

Dr. Dana Jobe—Superintendent

Mrs. Yolanda Brown—Member, Interim Secretary

Dr. Sharon Greggs, MD—Member


Mrs. Diane Moshier-Member

Open Position

Open Position

Open Position

Open Position



Administrators

Mrs. Janice Blackmon Founder/CEO/Director of Administrative Services

Dr. Dana Jobe, Superintendent

Mrs. Andrea Butcher, CFO/Human Resources Director

Ms. Perkina Gross-Dickerson, Asst. COO/Director of Transportation

Dr. Sheraton Duffey, Principal Irving Campus

Mrs. Sandra Clark, Principal Coppell/Bartonville Campus

Mr. Roderick Peoples, Vice Principal Irving Campus

Mrs. Heather Deisher-Adams, Vice Principal Coppell/Bartonville Campus

Mr. Joseph Roman-Torress, Asst. Principal Irving Campus

District Administrators

Dr. Dion Hood, Director of Fine Arts

Ms. Claire Jones, Special Education Coordinator

Dr. Terea Jones, Math Facilitator

Ms. Linda Walker, Science Specialist

Coaches

Irving

Mr. Burl Harris

Mr. Aaron Jackson

Ms. Joanna Plummer

Mrs. Renique Ranel

Coppell

Mrs. Stacy Boliver

Mr. Larry Carter

Mrs. Pardeep Hundal

Ms. Shainaaz Merchant

SCHOOL SONG

"I Know That I Can Fly"

Music by Nelda Washington

My hope is in my promise

My trust is in I can

This is my student's creed

My pledge to be the best

I know that I can be

I know I can fly

If I reach far beyond the sky

At Universal Academy

(Repeat)

I know, I know, I know I can

I know, I know, I know I can

(Repeat)

I know that I can fly

I know, I know, I know I can

I know that I can fly

I know, I know, I know I can

I know that I can fly

I know, I know, I know I can

I know that I can fly

I know, I know, I know I can

I know that I can fly

I know, I know, I know I can

At Universal Academy

Universal Academy Irving

2616 N. Mac Arthur Blvd

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972-255-1800

Universal Academy Coppell

1001 E. Sandy Lake Rd

Coppell, TX 75019

972-393-5834

Universal Academy Bartonville

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Bartonville, TX 76226

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