



# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*Dear Graduates,*

*I would like to convey my heartfelt congratulations on your graduation. Every individual's journey to this point has been vastly different, but what you have in common is that every one of you has enriched our community. I am so glad that you chose Southern for your academic pursuits and I could not be happier for all of you as you prepare for the next stage of your journey.*

*In the words of Minor Myers Jr. "Go into the world and do well. But more importantly, go into the world and do good." Your contributions to our community are immeasurable and I have all the confidence that you will continue to be positive forces in the world.*


*Congratulations on all of your achievements!*


*Best,*

**Jenna C. Retort**

*Coordinator | SAGE Center*

*Assistant Director | Student Conduct and Civic  
Responsibility*





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*Dear graduates,*


*Congratulations! I am proud of each and every one of you for all of your accomplishments throughout your academic journeys. Although we cannot have an in person ceremony as we do traditionally, I am glad we still get to celebrate all of you, because you deserve it!*


*It has been my pleasure to work with many of you throughout this past year. I am excited to hear about all of your future successes!*

*Best,*

**Marlena Oliveri**

*Graduate Intern, SAGE Center*





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*Congratulations to our graduating seniors!*

*Although this isn't the celebration you expected, you should know that your accomplishment is all the greater because of what you have achieved under the most difficult of circumstances. I'm proud of all you and wish you every success in your personal and professional lives moving forward. I thank you for bringing your talents and creativity to Southern and expanding them during your time with us. And in the months and years ahead, I encourage you to use your gifts on behalf of others, and help to build a better world, for all.*

**Joe Bertolino**

*President*





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*Happy Graduation and a huge CONGRATULATIONS to you for reaching this milestone in your life. You overcame challenges, persevered when the going got tough and completed all of the requirements for your degree. As you reflect on your time at Southern, I hope you have positive memories to last a lifetime.*


*Wherever your journey takes you, don't be a stranger! Southern is always your home.*

*Owls forever,*

**Tracy Tyree**

*Vice President for Student Affairs*





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*To all of our Lavender Graduates,*

*While we would all like to be spending this time together in celebration of the wonderful contributions that you've made to the Southern community, I'd like to send my heartfelt congratulations to each of you. It's been an honor to be part of many of your journeys and I look forward to hearing about your continuing experiences.*


*I hope you always look back to this time in your life with fondness, and know that Southern will always be a support to which you can always turn.*

*Warmly,*

**Diane S. Morgenthaler, MD**

*Director of Student Health Services*





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*Congratulations to all of our graduating seniors!*


*I regret that I am unable to see all of you at the annual Lavender graduation ceremony event but know that all of us within the Office of Residence Life are proud of your achievements and look forward to hearing about your future successes. Although you are leaving us, you are always invited to “come home” and visit us anytime.*

*We hope to see you at Homecoming!*

**Robert DeMezzo**

*Director of Residence Life*





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*Graduates I wish you the best and hope that you will always keep in mind something that I have used as a guide. As member of the LGBTQ community this quote from French author Antoine de Saint Exupéry's book The Little Prince has always led me in the right direction. "Here is my secret. It is very simple. It is only with the heart that one can see rightly; What is essential is invisible to the eye".*


*Follow your heart always and remember the only thing that will ever really change this world for the better is love.*

*Congratulations on your achievement!*

**Colleen L. Bielitz, Ph.D.**

*Associate Vice President, Strategic Initiatives and Outreach [she/her/hers]*





# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*Hello Graduates!*

*Congratulations to all on your graduation! We wish  
you the very best always!*


*Good luck to all of you!*



**Cathy, Melissa & Sabrina**  
*The VPAS Center*







# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*From one SCSU owl to another, it's with great pride that I congratulate all of you on your achievements and best wishes for your next adventure. Always remember, there's no limit to what you can do if you keep believing in yourself.*


**“Be Bold, be courageous, be your best.”**

*Best regards,*

**Dian Brown-Albert, M.S.**

*Coordinator of Multicultural Affairs*






# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*We are so proud of every single one of you. No matter what you've studied at Southern, take all of your love, compassion, and humility, and use that to better our communities. We wish you the best of luck – the southern community is always here to support you and congratulations!*

**Yarelis Canales**

Graduate Intern, New Student and Sophomore Programs



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# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*While this is certainly not the celebration you were expecting and you most definitely deserve more, please know how proud we are of you and your accomplishments.*

*Thank you for making Southern, and the world, a more beautiful place!*

**Emily Rosenthal**

*Wellness Coordinator*

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# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*Congratulations!*

*While today looks different than you expected, and different from how the SAGE Center hoped to celebrate your achievements, know that it is no less special. You have achieved what many who came before you only dreamed of; the greatness of a college education. I ask that you now inspire others to achieve their goals as you undoubtedly move on in aspiration of yours.*

*Best wishes to you in that continued pursuit.*

**Christopher Piscitelli**

*Assistant Dean of Students*





# LAVENDER GRADUATION


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*To the Class of 2020*

*Congratulations! This is such a huge accomplishment and the manner of which we need to celebrate does now change that at all. Throughout your time at Southern, you have been a leader, a friend, a role model, and a developing global citizen. I hope you can look back at your time at Southern and find ways (big or small) that our community has contributed to the person that you are today. Thank you for being part of our learning community, and don't forget you'll always be an Owl!*

**Daphney Alston**

*Assistant Director for the Office of Student  
Involvement and Leadership Development*





# LAVENDER GRADUATION

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*Dear Graduates,*

*I want to offer my sincere congratulations on this outstanding achievement! While we may be celebrating you from a distance today, your contributions to faculty, staff and students are anything but distant. They are real and current and tangible. As you prepare for the next phase of your journey, I hope you'll reflect fondly on your time at Southern, smile knowing you've done something special, and exhale with pride that you've succeeded.*

*Sincerely,*

**Sal Rizza**

*Director of New Student and Sophomore Programs*

