



SIXTY YEARS

THE COLLEGE OF THE FLORIDA KEYS

71st Commencement Ceremony
Fall Class of 2025

Friday, December 12, 2025

CFK Board of Trustees

Kevin Madok, Chair

Sheldon Suga, Vice-Chair

Daniel Leben

Mike Puto

Alexandria Suarez

Richard Weinstein

A Message from the CFK President

Dear Class of 2025,

The College of the Florida Keys celebrates its 60th anniversary as you graduate. Just as Monroe Junior College opened doors of opportunity to the residents of the Keys in 1965, when you stepped onto our campus or arrived at one of our centers you changed the world. As the College has evolved and grown over six decades, you too have been transformed into ambassadors for a more sustainable and brighter future. Congratulations and a heartfelt thank you for choosing CFK to be a part of your life's journey.

As you accept your diploma, consider the many sacrifices that you made to enjoy this moment. Show your appreciation for the loved ones, the community members, the mentors, and the College employees who helped you along this route. Your challenges are unique. They have tested your perseverance, grit, and dedication. Yet, you finished what you started. You have dared to dream and to make your dream a reality.

For 60 years, this College has built bridges and created pathways for students like you. Today, you join generations of CFK graduates including several from 1967, like William Pearson or Bill Wickers Jr., who have strengthened our community and contributed to the Florida Keys and beyond. As we continue to sail toward new horizons, please carry forward the legacy of those who came before you and embrace the promise of all that lies ahead.

Congratulations, best of luck, and don't forget your alma mater.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Guevera', with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Jonathan Guevera, Ed.D.
President & CEO
The College of the Florida Keys



Commencement Exercises

CFK President Dr. Jonathan Gueverra, Presiding

As a courtesy to those around you, please silence all electronic devices and phones during the ceremony. Please remain in your seats and refrain from moving to take photos during the ceremony. CFK will make all photos of graduates available at no charge via cfk.edu.

PROCESSIONAL

“High Hopes”

Written by Jake Sinclair and Jonas Jeberg

Performed by Panic! at the Disco

OPENING REMARKS

Dr. Monekka Munroe

CFK Vice President of Academic Affairs

PRESENTATION OF THE COLORS

Navy Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps, Key West High School

NATIONAL ANTHEM

Jenny Mae Murphy

Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management

Associate in Arts

WELCOME

Dr. Jonathan Gueverra

CFK President

Kevin Madok

CFK Board of Trustees Chair

STUDENT ADDRESS

Meghan Victoria Reigadas

Associate in Science, Criminal Justice Technology

ALUMNI HONORARY DEGREES

William Pearson
Associate in Arts, 1967
Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management
William Wickers Jr.
Associate in Arts, 1967
Bachelor of Science, Marine Resource Management

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

William Pearson
CFK Alumnus, 1967

STUDENT RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Lana Gaspari
CFK Vice President of Advancement

CHARGE TO THE GRADUATES

Dr. Jonathan Gueverra
CFK President

PRESENTATION OF THE FALL CLASS OF 2025

Dr. Monekka Munroe
CFK Vice President of Academic Affairs

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES AND DIPLOMA PRESENTATION

Dr. Jonathan Gueverra
CFK President
Kevin Madok
CFK Board of Trustees Chair

NURSE PINNING AND OATH

Michelle Fortney
CFK Nurse Administrator

PINNING OF ALUMNI

Dr. Lana Gaspari
CFK Vice President of Advancement

RECESSIONAL

“Happy” Composed and performed by Pharrell Williams

Student Speaker

Meghan Victoria Reigadas

Class of 2025

Associate in Science, Criminal Justice Technology

Born and raised in Miami, Meghan Victoria Reigadas is a resilient and dedicated student and loving mother to Mackenzie (6) and Wyatt (5 months). Her Catholic faith and close relationships with her grandparents and aunt have provided valuable cornerstones in her life.

Meghan is graduating with an Associate in Science in Criminal Justice Technology. Her commitment to academic excellence earned her an invitation to join Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society in her second semester and recognition on the Dean's List in Fall 2024. She served as a Student Ambassador at the Upper Keys Center and she was selected to share her student experience at a recent meeting of the CFK Board of Trustees.

Meghan is an advocate for individuals with disabilities and veterans, and she volunteers for the Center for Independent Living in the Florida Keys. She also participates on her homeowners' association events committee.

After graduation, Meghan plans to seek employment related to criminal justice, take time to focus on her family, and continue her education at Florida International University, pursuing a bachelor's degree in criminal justice with a minor in psychology.

Keynote Speaker

William Pearson

Entrepreneur, Alumnus, Class of 1967

William “Bill” Pearson was born and raised in Key West, Florida. He graduated from Key West High School in 1965 and immediately enrolled at Monroe Junior College—now known as The College of the Florida Keys. After earning his associate degree in 1967, Bill continued his education at the University of Florida, where he received a Bachelor of Arts in Social Sciences with a minor in Psychology in 1970.

Bill began his professional journey as a teacher in Key West, working in local elementary and middle schools. He later returned to the University of Florida to pursue a master’s degree in education. While in graduate school, he took a position at the newly opened Red Lobster in Gainesville, where he completed an intensive 16-week management program that launched his career in restaurant management.

In 1975, Bill returned to Key West to care for his parents and soon turned to entrepreneurship. In 1979, he founded his first business specializing in Spanish shipwreck coins and distinctive jewelry, serving a distinguished clientele from the worlds of entertainment, sports, and government. After selling the company in 1993, Bill moved to Lake Helen, where he launched Castle Treasures. By 1996, he had established a thriving online business and later founded Atocha.com. Over the course of 46 years, he has become one of the largest individual sellers of coins from the Atocha, having owned and sold more than 30,000 pieces.

During his time at Monroe Junior College, Bill was elected the school’s first unofficial student body president and played a key role in forming its inaugural student government association—it remains active to this day. As a true Key West native, Bill grew up among writers and artists, and he reflects with gratitude on a life rich with remarkable people, experiences, and opportunities.

The Academic Processional

The academic processional officially preludes the Commencement ceremonies on college and university campuses and is one of the oldest and most colorful customs.

The traditions surrounding academic ceremonies, such as Commencement, are rooted in the customs of the Middle Ages when universities were first formed. Gowns and mortar boards, or caps, were a common form of dress during that era. Today, graduates wear colorful academic apparel, signifying their alma maters and highest degrees received.

ACADEMIC REGALIA

Graduation gowns of associates, bachelors, and masters are usually without trimmings of any sort, whereas those of doctors are faced down the front with velvet and adorned with three velvet bars on the sleeves. College president gowns have four velvet bars.

Attached to a button atop the **mortarboard** is a **tassel**, worn on the right side until degrees are conferred.

The **hood** is a triangular fold of cloth worn over the back of the gown. The colors of the face denote the wearer's degree and the colors of the lining are those of the college or university that granted the degree. The length of the hood is correspondingly longer with each higher degree.

The **colors** of the wide velvet borders extending down the front of the doctoral gown, the velvet bars on the sleeves and the borders of most hoods, represent the scholarly field of the wearer:

Blue Violet Architecture

Light Blue Education

Crimson Communication

Apricot Nursing

White Arts, Letters and Humanities

Orange Engineering

Purple Law

Dark Blue Philosophy

Drab Business

Brown Fine Arts

Lemon Library

Gold Science

PRESIDENTIAL REGALIA

The **Presidential Medallion** and **Chains of Office** comprise the large metal necklace worn by a college's president as part of official ceremonial regalia. Both are ancient symbols of authority and important expressions that honor the history and traditions of higher education.

CEREMONIAL ACADEMIC MACE

The **Ceremonial Academic Mace** is an institutional symbol of strength and authority. CFK's official mace was created in 2022 by a committee comprised of employees in collaboration with artists from the College and the community. Carefully crafted to reflect CFK's unique values and personality, the design represents a legacy of academic excellence, student achievement, and commitment to the Keys community.

The CFK Mace combines art media, consisting of pewter, wood, and glass. The Mace's shaft is embellished with palm trees. The fronds are carved into Cuban Mahogany and the trunk is made from a Sapodilla tree that once grew on the Key West Campus. Pewter coins depicting the College's seal and colorful tassels representing each academic and career training program encircle the mace. Above the coins is a pewter Tuga, the College's mascot and symbol of strength and perseverance. The top is adorned with an orange and blue blown glass sphere inspired by the sun and ocean of the Florida Keys.

The College recognizes and thanks the artists who brought the mace to life: metal artist Reen Stanhouse, wood artists Stephen Hatchett (mace) and Lieutenant David Black (stand), and blown glass artist Wes Hunting.

NURSING CANDLE

The illumination of candles by graduate nurses represents the flame used by Florence Nightingale, the founder of modern nursing, to shed light on the poor conditions of wounded soldiers during the Crimean War. The reading of the Florence Nightingale Oath dedicates graduate nurses to the highest standards and responsibilities of the profession of nursing.

Bachelor's Degree Graduates

Adinay Adelfa Chevez *

Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Associate in Science, Nursing

Eric Cuneo †

Bachelor of Science, Marine Resource Management

Associate in Science, Marine Environmental Technology

Associate in Applied Science, Diving Business and Technology

Certificate, Fundamentals of Professional Diving

Certificate, Professional Research Diving

Matthew Glenwood Hardison *

Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management

Associate in Arts

Certificate, Business Specialist

Ronan Thomas Hiner †

Bachelor of Science, Marine Resource Management

Christopher John LaCosse

Bachelor of Science, Nursing

Associate in Science, Nursing

Ellen Praul Mcdill

Bachelor of Science, Marine Resource Management

Associate in Science, Marine Environmental Technology

Douglas Andrew Mientkiewicz

Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management

DEAN'S LIST †

PRESIDENT'S LIST *

Jenny Mae Murphy*

Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management
Associate in Arts

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society
Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society
Student Government Association

Edward Manuel Perez Jr.*

Bachelor of Applied Science, Supervision and Management
Associate in Arts

Associate in Science, Emergency Medical Services
Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician
Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society

Associate Degree & Certificate Graduates

Briana Marie Alvarez

Associate in Science, Nursing

Isabella Mia Angel

Associate in Arts

Emma Sophia Arevalo

Associate in Science, Nursing
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Samantha Becerra

Associate in Arts

Jarod Allen Bowling

Associate in Arts

DEAN'S LIST †
PRESIDENT'S LIST *

Madeline E. Buckles *

Associate in Arts

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Tempestt Emia Burgohy

Associate in Science, Nursing

Alessa Calderon

Associate in Science, Nursing

Austin James Casanova

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Yael Marquiz Charles

Associate in Arts

Jahnyla S. Cooper

Associate in Science, Nursing

Susan A. Doherty

Associate in Science, Hospitality and Ecotourism Management

Giovanna Paola Fasanelli *

*Associate in Applied Science, Marine Engineering, Management, and Seamanship
Certificate, Marine Technology*

Daisy Julisa Fernandez-Virgen

Associate in Arts

Zandre Faith Font †

Associate in Arts

DEAN'S LIST †

PRESIDENT'S LIST *

Bill Gene Forbis IV

Associate in Applied Science, Marine Engineering, Management, and Seamanship

Andrea Rachel Gaitan

Associate in Science, Nursing

Associate in Arts

Geeks and Gamers Club

Alexia Marie Gandarilla

Associate in Science, Business Administration

Logan Geddes

Certificate, Business Operations

Certificate of Completion, Project ACCESS

Ingrid Gutierrez

Associate in Science, Nursing

Robert J. Harrington

Associate in Science, Nursing

Stephen Hornish

Certificate, Professional Research Diving

Lynnzie Breanne Hunter

Associate in Arts

Tatiana Jaramillo

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Thanicha Labath

Associate in Science, Nursing

DEAN'S LIST †

PRESIDENT'S LIST *

Amy Labeet
Certificate, Culinary Arts

Ivan Lopez
Associate in Science, Nursing

Jakenia Louis
Associate in Arts

Leandro Macias Montes de Oca
Associate in Science, Nursing

Caitlin Elizabeth McTavish
Associate in Science, Nursing
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Christine Elizabeth Montagne
Associate in Arts
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Anthony Shane Morris
Associate in Arts

Matthew Ray Moscoso
Associate in Science, Nursing

Yvenson Noel
Associate in Arts

Jonathan Oge
Associate in Arts

Sebastián Andres Ortega

Associate in Applied Science, Marine Engineering, Management, and Seamanship

Angelica Maria Ortiz

Associate in Science, Nursing

Lesley Pazo

*Certificate, Business Specialist
Certificate, Guest Services Specialist*

Caitlin Austin Petrinec

Associate in Science, Nursing

Kaleb Christopher Powell

Associate in Arts

Meghan Victoria Reigadas

*Associate in Science, Criminal Justice Technology
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society*

MaeCee Orak Rengiil

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Amanda K. Riveron

*Associate in Science, Business Administration
Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society*

Laurajude Johnna Robins

Associate in Arts

Christiana Marie Rodriguez

Associate in Science, Nursing

Christian Patrick Roscoe †

Associate in Arts

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Mia Isabella Ruiz

Associate in Science, Emergency Medical Technician

Nathan James Rybicki †

Associate in Science, Marine Environmental Technology

Associate in Applied Science, Diving Business and Technology

Certificate, Fundamentals of Professional Diving

Outcasts for Christ

Scuba Club

Caitlin Nicole Sabines

Associate in Science, Nursing

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Savanna Elea Sheppard

Associate in Arts

Narcisse Marie Stroppa Soderberg *

Associate in Arts

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Vaidehiben M. Soni

Associate in Arts

Associate in Science, Nursing

Certificate, Nursing Assistant

DEAN'S LIST †

PRESIDENT'S LIST *

Tyler J. Sylvester

Associate in Science, Nursing

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

Gabriela Telles-Grandados

Associate in Science, Nursing

Tony Ellis Thiele

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Valerie Marie Thomas

Associate in Science, Nursing

Miranda Jai Tomblin

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Wyatt Henry Tucker

Applied Technical Diploma, Emergency Medical Technician

Andrew John Vassil

Associate in Arts

Associate in Science, Engineering Technology - Renewable Energy Technician

Courtney Jade Woods

Associate in Science, Marine Environmental Technology

CFK Student Clubs

Bridge Club unites students to learn, play, and share the fun of playing bridge.

CFK Aquaculture Society works to further national aquaculture societies' outreach, providing benefits, activities, and news to students at CFK. This club provides professional networking opportunities and hands-on laboratory mentorship for students to learn about and master technician level skills in marine and freshwater aquaculture.

Crochet Club provides a welcoming environment for students to gather, learn, and engage in crochet activities. The club seeks to promote creativity, offer a space for relaxation, and foster community through the shared love of crochet. Members are encouraged to develop their skills, share knowledge, and participate in community crochet projects.

Gardening Club is a community of students who come together to explore the joys of gardening and the benefits of green spaces. Our mission is to promote sustainability, mindfulness, and hands-on learning through regular gardening activities and events.

Gay Straight Alliance Club is a student club creating a safe, welcoming school environment for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. It provides a supportive community for LGBTQ+ students, those questioning, allies, and advocates.

Geeks and Gamers Club Serves as a place for technologically driven students to discuss topics related to gaming, film and TV, as well as partake in book reviews, board games and competitions.

Mud Pi Club Is a student-based, extracurricular organization dedicated to advancing ceramic arts at CFK, and surrounding communities. The purpose of the club is to expand the awareness of the ceramic arts and to support personal growth through self-expression in clay.

Outcasts for Christ strives to restore prudence, morality, fortitude and temperance on campus and in the community.

Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society recognizes academic achievement of college students and provides opportunities for them to grow as scholars and leaders. Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society is open to students who have completed at least 12 credits of coursework and have a GPA of 3.25 or higher.

Production Design Club provides students with opportunities to bring their creativity to life through film and media. The club offers hands-on experiences with short films and video projects.

Scuba Club seeks to unite CFK students through passion for the underwater world and to build connections within the environment. The club educates and builds awareness of the importance of these ecosystems through scuba diving events, community service, outreach efforts, and other fun activities.

Sigma Beta Delta Honor Society is an honor society that recognizes and encourages scholarship and achievement among students in business programs, promoting professional growth and a life of honorable service.

CFK Student Clubs

Special Olympics Club promotes inclusion, support individuals with intellectual disabilities, and foster volunteerism through participation in community events. The club aims to raise awareness and provide opportunities for all students to engage in inclusive activities together.

Spirit Club promotes school spirit and pride through CFK's mascot, Shel the Tuga, and to support the swim teams. The club's mission is to boost school spirit, energize campus life, and create a fun, inclusive atmosphere where students can celebrate what it means to be a part of the Tuga community. Whether it's cheering from the pool deck, leading chants, or organizing spirited events, the club works to make our Tuga a powerful symbol of pride, positivity, and connection throughout the College.

Student Government Association is the official representative organization that serves as the liaison between the student body and the administration. The SGA is responsible for advocating for student interests, providing a platform for students to voice their concerns, and allocating funding for student activities and initiatives.

Student Nurses Association is a local chapter of the National Student Nurses Association. The mission of the CFK chapter is to support health and wellness through education, advocacy, and community activities.

Swim Teams are comprised of men and women athletes. They compete in regular season against other Florida colleges and colleges from around the country in national meets. CFK is a member of NJCAA, which allows the College's athletes to participate in a variety of activities that promote personal growth, effective teamwork, and academic excellence.

Veterans Club is a local chapter of the Student Veterans of America and is dedicated to helping fellow veterans in the transition from military to college life.



Share your graduation experience

#CollegeFLKeys #CFKAlum

