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Ouachita to hold 132nd spring commencement ceremony May 11

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For immediate release **Ouachita to hold 132nd spring commencement ceremony May 11** *By Rachel Moreno* May 1, 2019 For more information, contact OBU's news bureau at <u>newsubreau@obu.edu</u> or (870) 245-5208



ARKADELPHIA, Ark. – Ouachita Baptist University will hold its 132nd spring commencement on Saturday, May 11, at 9:30 a.m. on the front lawn of the university's historic Cone-Bottoms Hall. The ceremony will honor 345 graduates earning Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Fine Arts, Bachelor of Music, Bachelor of Music Education and Associate of Arts degrees.

Dr. Ben Sells, Ouachita president, will preside over the annual commencement exercises. Dr. Jim Taylor, professor of biology, and Dr. Ray Granade, director of library services and professor of history, will serve as commencement marshals.

The ceremony will include an invocation by Senior Class President Evan Nelson, a business administration/sport management major from Little Rock, Ark. The university's vision, mission and values statement will be read by Rickey Rogers, dean of students; Rachel Roberts, director of career and calling; and Bill Elliff, member of Ouachita's Board of Trustees.

Scripture reading will be led by the top graduate from the Pruet School of Christian Studies: Danielle Osborne, a Christian studies/Christian ministries and Biblical studies major from Jonesboro, Ark.

Dr. Jeff Root, dean of the Huckabee School of Education and the School of Humanities, will introduce the graduates. Dr. Danny Hays, dean of the Pruet School of Christian Studies, will lead a responsive reading and Dr. John McCallum, chair of the Board of Trustees, will deliver the prayer of dedication.

Dr. Gary Gerber, dean of the School of Fine Arts, will lead in the singing of the alma mater and the university hymn, "See God's Light." Both selections will be accompanied by the Ouachita Wind Ensemble, which is directed by Dr. Craig Hamilton, Lena Goodwin Trimble Professor of Music and director of bands.

The commencement exercises will be livestreamed at <u>livestream.com/obu</u>. For more information about commencement, visit <u>www.obu.edu/registrar/graduation-and-commencement</u>.

Ouachita Baptist University, a leading liberal arts university, is ranked nationally among "America's Best Colleges" by *U.S. News & World Report* and *Forbes* magazines. Founded in Arkadelphia in 1886, Ouachita seeks to foster a love of God and a love of learning in a Christ-centered learning community.

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