

# IMPACT

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## Upward AND ONWARD

REGENT GRADUATION 2013



**T**he word “commencement” means “a ceremony where academic degrees are conferred,” but it also means “a beginning, or a start.” For the approximately 1,300 graduates of Regent University this May, commencement represented both the conclusion to academic study and the beginning of a new chapter.

On behalf of the class of 2013, [School of Psychology & Counseling](#) (SPC) graduate John Allen King responded to the chancellor’s charge during the graduation ceremony: “Today we leave this place to change the world. We have been prepared to expand the kingdom of God and shine our light in the dark places.”

Ready to make a positive difference in the field of law, Nathan Stech, a history major graduating from the [College of Arts & Sciences](#) (CAS) will be heading to law

school in the Midwest. “Thanks to my academic preparation at Regent, Washington University in St. Louis gave me a scholarship to cover a large part of my tuition,” he says. “My wife and I were looking to get a little closer to our families in Missouri. That and receiving the scholarship helped solidify my decision to attend there.”

Stech—one of 444 CAS graduates this year—is thankful that Regent provided the solid foundation to support his next step. “Regent professors helped discipline and train me in logic and critical reasoning so that I was able to do well on my law school entrance exams,” he says. “That led to

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the scholarship I received. Regent’s help in critical thinking was a big plus in preparing me for law school.”

Graduate Barb Bartholomew, from the [School of Education](#), echoes Stech’s appreciation for receiving excellent training. “I started at a secular university. But I wanted to have more of a Christian worldview in studying TESOL [Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages],” she shares. “Regent helped me solidify my values and how they fit my profession.”

As a student who completed most of her studies online in Ohio, Bartholomew was pleased with the communication she received from her Regent professors. “Their feedback helped me professionally, and also in integrating the spiritual into everything I studied,” she explains. “The standard of knowledge and expertise of my professors gave me tremendous insight as a teacher. Their research is up-to-date, and that gave me practical experience to apply.”

Heidi Jo Erickson graduated with a doctoral degree from SPC. “Regent’s program is very structured, so you start the first year with a strong academic foundation before you move into clinical work,” she says. “What’s great is that Regent has the Psychological Services Center on campus, so when we start our clinical work we have the faculty right there.”

SPC third-year doctoral students add in community work, giving Erickson experience helping a lower income population in Hampton, Va. “Regent offers a variety of practicum sites,” she explains.

“Now I’m working with veterans who are dealing with challenges from trauma, to financial difficulties, to marital and parenting difficulties, and every mental health diagnosis along the spectrum. My

time at Regent prepared me well for what I’m doing now.”

King, Stech, Bartholomew and Erickson represent rich and remarkable narratives among Regent’s graduates from a broad range of fields—all committed to honoring God with their work. During the Saturday ceremony, students and loved ones alike applauded and cheered as Regent President Carlos Campo announced each school’s accomplishments. “You are part of a remarkable narrative that began with ‘in the beginning, God created,’” he reminded each graduate. “Here we gather today, and out of the many, one narrative emerges in Christ Jesus.”



PICTURED TOP TO BOTTOM:  
NATHAN STECH, BARB  
BARTHOLOMEW, HEIDI JO  
ERICKSON & DANIEL CROSS

Daniel Cross, who graduated from the [School of Divinity](#) with a concentration in missions, will carry that narrative to Turkey. He is currently researching and writing with Regent Professor Mark Wilson for various projects in Biblical Asia Minor.

“Having been in both the undergraduate and graduate program at Regent, I can say this university allows you to be in a context for Christian growth,” he shares. “It also allows you to be confronted with the reality of what living in a non-Christian world is like. For someone who grew up in a Christian home, you’re not going to be able to just bury your head in the sand. You’ll be moved to thought and action.”

Like many others, Cross counts Regent’s close sense of community as a bonus to the excellent training and global Christian perspective received. “At Regent University, you will be pushed academically and challenged spiritually, so you have to be ready to learn and stretch and exercise your mind. But you’ll also be trained by professors who walk their talk and are available to walk with you too.”



# HONOR AND REMEMBER®

## AN ALUMNUS HONORS HIS FALLEN SON

On December 29, 2005, George Lutz II (Tony) was killed by a sniper's bullet while on patrol in Fallujah, Iraq. His family and friends endured the emotional agony and overwhelming loss, just like the many families who have suffered similar tragedies. But in the months that followed, his father, George '84 (Communication & the Arts), visited other families who had lost loved ones in war and began to sense that he had joined the ranks of a unique fellowship.

After their grief has transitioned to numbness and finally to acceptance, many families want to know two things regarding the loss of their loved ones: Their sacrifice was not in vain, and the nation will never forget.

"As a grieving father, I wondered if my son's death was meaningful to anyone," Lutz explains.

He searched for a way to honor the memory of his son and others who lost their lives, remembering each by name. After two years, he could not find any way, other than Memorial Day, that Americans publicly remember fallen heroes. "As Americans, we focus on the living," Lutz observes. "But the fallen and their families cannot be found."

He says that to those not experiencing loss, Memorial Day can seem like little more than an extra day off on the eve of summer. Lutz recalls a recent survey that indicated that 80 percent of Americans don't know why Memorial Day exists.

"If this is the case, then we are doing nothing to publicly acknowledge the price of freedom," he says. "If we are able to enjoy the freedoms that we have

every day, why not have some way of being appreciative of them?"

These concerns led Lutz on a quest to find a universally recognized symbol to honor the American service members who never made it home. Thus, the Honor and Remember Flag was conceived as a simple, tangible expression of appreciation.

"Too few American families have borne the burden of the wars on terror in the past decade," says Regent University Director of Military & Veterans Affairs David Boisselle. "The Honor and Remember flag proudly flies over the Regent University campus to remind us daily of the high cost of the freedom we cherish."

Today, Lutz and a nationwide team of volunteers travel the country delivering personalized Honor and Remember flags to the families of fallen soldiers. Lutz is grateful for chapters located across the United States that help affirm the cause. "The purpose of the Honor and Remember Flag is to establish a tangible national symbol of gratitude," he shares. "How do we honor these courageous individuals? We begin with a visible public reminder for all Americans, perpetually recognizing the sacrifice of our military fallen heroes and their families."

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Learn more about Honor and Remember, or become a volunteer: [honorandremember.org](http://honorandremember.org)

Watch the Honor and Remember story from CBN News: [mycbn.com/go/6362](http://mycbn.com/go/6362)

Explore the Regent University Office of Military and Veterans Affairs: [regent.edu/military](http://regent.edu/military)

# LAW & GRACE

REGENT UNIVERSITY'S ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR

"I always wanted to go to law school, but I needed to figure out how I could use it in a way that displays my faith," says Grace Pandithurai, a 2010 graduate of Regent University's School of Law. As an assistant district attorney for Wichita Falls, Texas, Pandithurai works to protect children who are victims of sexual assault. She works with her team on cases that have led to the conviction of serious sex offenders, and pursues justice and protection for the innocent victims of these crimes.

In recognition of her tireless efforts, Pandithurai was named Regent's 2013 Alumnus of the Year.

Recently chosen by the local Wichita Falls newspaper as one of the "20 Under 40" people to watch, Pandithurai explained in a news interview her commitment to the community through the story of Jesus healing the paralyzed man who was lowered through the roof.

"Instead of giving up, the stretcher-bearers clamored to the top of the structure, created an opening in the roof and lowered the paralyzed man next to Jesus," Pandithurai shared. "Just as the paralyzed man was blessed, so too were the stretcher-bearers for thinking of someone else first and acting.

"That's the kind of friend I want to be—a stretcher-bearer."

Pandithurai is able to come to the aid of children who are paralyzed with fear as victims of sexual assault. One way she helps these young people is by training a host of professionals who are often called upon to testify at trials.



AS AN ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY FOR WICHITA FALLS, TEXAS, PANDITHURAI WORKS TO PROTECT CHILDREN WHO ARE VICTIMS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT.

"Shattering the Silence" is a lecture she developed with her supervisor to help victims have a voice, beginning with people such as nurses, police officers and local agencies that help abused children.

"We can't begin healing the scars of what happened until the victims begin talking about it," Pandithurai says. "Those who are committed to helping victims are the first step in the healing process."

Just as passionate as she is about helping children, Pandithurai also serves others as a volunteer for The Salvation Army. Her commitment to the organization's mission grew out of her father's experience as a bell ringer for

The Salvation Army when he came to the United States in the 1970s. "If we give and take care of people, God will take care of our needs," Pandithurai says with a smile.

Congratulations, Grace Pandithurai, on your honor as 2013 Alumnus of the Year.

Learn about the Regent University Alumni Association at [regentalumni.org](http://regentalumni.org).



# SUMMER CAMPS

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Rising 3rd, 4th & 5th graders  
June 24-28, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

## C.S.I. (CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATOR)

Rising 5th, 6th & 7th graders  
July 15-19, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

## F.S.I. (FORENSIC SCIENTIST INVESTIGATOR)

Rising 5th, 6th & 7th graders  
August 5-9, 9 a.m. – 3 p.m.

## CHRIST AND CULTURE

Rising 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th graders  
August 12-16, 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## GOVERNMENT CAMP

Rising 9th, 10th, 11th & 12th graders  
July 15-19, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

## INTERNATIONAL YOUTH LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE

Ages 14-17  
July 8-19, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

## LEGO ELEMENTARY (EE) & JUNIOR ENGINEERING (JE)

Rising 1st-4th graders (EE)  
July 15-19, 9 a.m. – 12 p.m. (EE)

Rising 5th-9th graders (JE)  
July 15-19, 1 p.m. – 4 p.m. (JE)

## REGENT WORLD CHANGER



### Jason Upton Worship Leader and Recording Artist

Jason Upton is a singer/songwriter with the heart of a pastor—which led him to enroll in Regent’s School of Divinity. Soon he realized his aspirations of becoming a pastor didn’t match God’s plans for his life. Upton and his wife, Rachel ’00 (Divinity), set up a room in their campus apartment where people could come for prayer and worship. Through those experiences, he began writing message-oriented songs, culminating in his first live worship recording, *Key of David*, in 2000.

Since graduating in 2000, Upton has been traveling around the world, leading people into a deeper relationship with God through worship. This fall, Upton will lead worship at the annual Shofar Convergence Conference in Stellenbosch, South Africa, where Dr. Carlos Campo, Regent’s president, will be a featured speaker. “It’s my hope and prayer that we connect people with the Father so that whatever gifting they have, they can move in that,” Upton says.

Please join the Regent community in praying for Jason Upton, May’s alumni world changer.

For more information on Convergence 2013, visit [shofaronline.org/conference](http://shofaronline.org/conference).

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Limited.**

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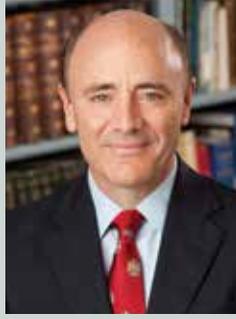
**Also Check Out  
REGENT READS**  
Ages 5-9  
Every Tuesday In July



[regent.edu/impact](http://regent.edu/impact)

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## A Message From the President



Dear Friends,

Taking the step to pursue your degree—whether associate's, bachelor's, master's or doctoral—is often a challenging decision. Although the investment is worthy, the road is sometimes long, sacrifices are made, and other plans and pursuits are put on hold. No doubt, making it

to the graduation finish line is one of life's most joyful experiences and brings a great sense of accomplishment.

This year, approximately 1,300 Regent students have crossed this threshold, marking an important and rewarding transition in their lives and careers. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to each student. Well done!

And to loved ones who served as cheerleaders, supporters and friends, thank you. Undoubtedly, many of you had seasons of "double duty" with children and chores; gave up time—and sometimes distance—so that your loved one could study intently; and perhaps, bore additional financial responsibility in this season. Again, I say well done. Your extension of love, service and encouragement for the good of your graduate is priceless.

Finally, to those who have supported Regent students through your prayers and financial gifts, I extend my heartfelt thanks as well. Your generosity helps to make the dream a reality for every graduate. God bless you.

Grace and peace,

Carlos Campo, Ph.D.  
President

**"LET'S NOT GET TIRED OF DOING WHAT IS GOOD. AT JUST THE RIGHT TIME WE WILL REAP A HARVEST OF BLESSING IF WE DON'T GIVE UP. THEREFORE, WHENEVER WE HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY, WE SHOULD DO GOOD TO EVERYONE—ESPECIALLY TO THOSE IN THE FAMILY OF FAITH."**

GALATIANS 6:9-10