Congratulations to our graduates!

We'd like to wish you happy holidays! This December, we're proud to showcase the distinguished graduates of the December 2014 graduating class:

Linda Marie Nellis, BSM ’14
Dean’s Medal of Excellence

Linda Marie Nellis studied Business Management with an emphasis in Information Science at the San Jose campus. She told us, “This is a community of people who refuse to see you fail,” Nellis said. “If you don’t understand the material, just reach out to your professors and classmates. Everyone wants to see you succeed. Don’t give up.”

Yi Dong, MSFA ’14
Dean’s Medal of Excellence

Yi Dong, originally from Northwestern China, moved to the United States to attend the University of San Francisco to pursue a Master of Science in Finance Analysis. Dong studied Sociology at Jiangnan University in China, but soon realized his true passion rested in another field.
Dharam Khalsa, BSBA ’14
Dean’s Medal of Excellence and A.A. Berti Award

Dharam Singh Khalsa majored in Entrepreneurship. He has always possessed a certain eagerness to turn an idea into a program that makes a positive impact on others. “The creativity, that rush of adrenaline and the chance to work on innovative projects, even late at night, really pushed me to study Entrepreneurship,” Khalsa said. “I want to make an impact.”

Amanda Bush, BSBA ’14
Dean’s Service Award

Amanda Carole Bush is from Elk Grove, California, and the first person in her family to graduate from college. She majored in Hospitality Management and completed a minor in History. During her years at USF, she worked extensively with the Club Managers Association of America (CMAA). Amanda believes USF’s students to be among the most qualified and professional job candidates in the hospitality industry and she is dedicated to showing this to the community.

Brian Scott Guidry, BSM ’14
Dean’s Service Award

Brian Scott Guidry majored in Public and Nonprofit Administration and is the recipient of the Dean’s Service Award. “I try to give back as much as I can,” Brian said. “I don’t think I’ve given back all I can yet, but I know that this is my one shot to get things going.” Brian was nominated for the Service Award by other students. “That really means a lot,” he said. “It’s validation that the things I’ve done to try to help our cohort and the school have made an impression.”
Valedictorian

Lyudmyla “Luda” Berdnyk is the class valedictorian. Luda and her parents moved to the U.S. from Ukraine when she was five years old, and she credits her parents with giving her a solid foundation. “My parents are both very hard workers,” she said. “They instilled their work ethic and values in me, and have been of great support to me my whole life.”

Barbara A. Smith, BSM ’14
Commencement Speaker

Barbara was selected as the commencement speaker at the December 2014 graduation ceremony. “I think they chose my commencement speech because the selection committee could tell that I sincerely loved my experience at USF,” Barbara said.