



# THE GALEN TIMES

LATEST CAMPUS NEWS

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 6



*"Take pride in how far you've come. Have faith in how far you can go. But don't forget to enjoy the journey." – Michael Josephson*

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# THE GALEN TIMES

VOLUME 8, ISSUE 6

EDITION  
*June*



THE OFFICE OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

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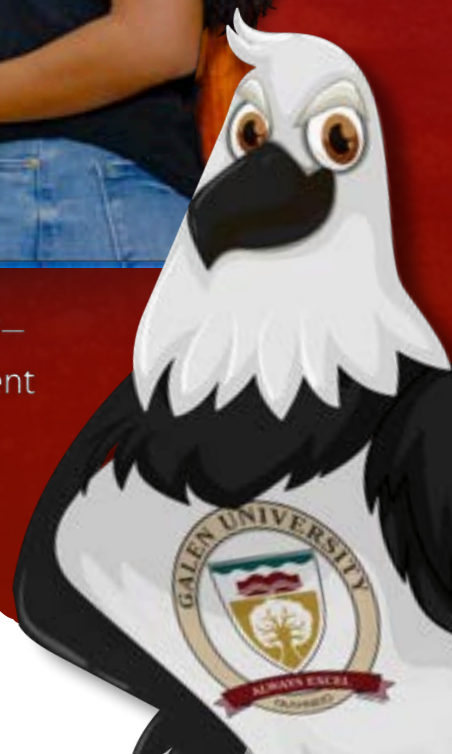


THIS MONTH'S THEME:

# A YEAR IN REVIEW



This edition of the Galen Times looks back at the academic year—from standout achievements and unforgettable events to student highlights and campus milestones. Join us as we reflect on the moments that shaped our Galen experience and celebrate the community that made it all possible.





# Welcome

Welcome to the final issue of the Academic Year!

As we close the chapter on another academic year, we pause to reflect on the journey we've shared- one filled with remarkable highs, unexpected challenges, and above all, the unshakable spirit of resilience that defines our campus community.

This special edition of our newsletter serves as a year-in-review, spotlighting the milestones we've reached, the lessons we've learned, and the strength we've shown in the face of adversity. From academic achievements and campus events to quiet moments of growth and connection, each experience has shaped us in meaningful ways.

While we acknowledge the trials that tested our patience and resolve, we also celebrate the triumphs that reignited our purpose and passion. Most importantly, we look forward with renewed hope and energy, ready to embrace all the opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for being part of this incredible journey. Here's to a future filled with promise, progress, and the continued pursuit of excellence.

— The Galen Times Team



# A SPECIAL MESSAGE

## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF STUDENT AFFAIRS

### *Ms. Sylvia Batty*

Dear Eagles,

Welcome to Volume 8, Issue 6 of the Galen Times, our final issue for the 2024–2025 academic year. What a year it's been! It's been a genuine pleasure to share your stories, celebrate your wins, and quietly cheer you on through each newsletter page. From packed event calendars to powerful student voices, every issue has showcased your Eagle Spirit and deep commitment to lifelong learning.

As we close out the Summer Semester and wrap up the year, we're taking a moment to look back at all the ways we soared. Our Eagle family has grown; not only in size, but in spirit. With more students, faculty and staff, and more heart behind every initiative, the wings of a Galen education stretch further than ever across Belize. We are Eagles. We are here. And we continue to soar.

This special edition is more than a newsletter, it's a time capsule of connection, courage, and progress. At the Office of Student Affairs (OSA), our mission remains simple and strong: to support you from orientation to graduation. Every initiative, every service, and every event we offer is grounded in that mission. Enormous thanks to Ms. Bryann Griffith, Mr. Scott Nicholas, and all the student volunteers whose steady work keeps this vision in motion. We do what we do better – because we do it together.

This academic year, we made meaningful strides to enhance your student experience. The Athlete Mentorship Program was reinstated to provide targeted support for our student-athletes, the Peer Mentor Program was restructured to better equip mentors for their roles and our club policies were refined to foster stronger, more sustainable student organizations.

We welcomed Ms. Miriam Loh to Student Academic Support Services (SASS), expanding access to academic guidance and continued to nurture wellbeing through the steady efforts of Dr. Kristcha Deguerre and sports programming under Coach Bernie Tarr.

These collective efforts reflect a deep belief: when students are seen, heard, and supported—they soar.

To our student leaders—our clubs and organizations, our Student Government Association, our peer mentors, our Eagle Merit Scholars, and our athletes—thank you for bringing life and leadership to our campus. To our faculty and staff, thank you for your continued dedication and belief in the power of student success.

To the graduating Class of 2025, congratulations! You have reached a momentous milestone. Wherever your path leads you, carry Galen's pride and purpose within you. We wish you fulfillment, purpose, and joy in the road ahead.

To all our Eagles, pause and take it in. You've made it through another academic year. Rest, recharge, and return with purpose. We're already preparing to welcome you back for a new academic year filled with opportunity and growth. Until then, stay safe, stay inspired, and always, always keep soaring.



# A CONVERSATION WITH THE PROVOST

*A Reflective Close to the Academic Year*

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*With Dr. Cynthia Eve Aird,*  
Provost, Galen University



# Conversations WITH THE PROVOST

...  
A REFLECTIVE CLOSE TO THE ACADEMIC YEAR

As the academic year comes to an end, this final edition of Conversations with the Provost offers a reflective look back on the challenges, achievements, and moments of pride that shaped the year. In a conversation with the editors of the Galen, our esteemed Provost, Dr. Cynthia Eve Aird, shared her thoughts on what made this year meaningful and what lies ahead.

One of the highlights for Dr. Aird was seeing the creativity and community spirit of students in the Education program. She recalled the impactful displays these students created in the university library for Eagle Day. She also recalls fondly the charitable outreach by our George Price Scholar, who initiated back-to-school drives and food distribution campaigns. These moments were reminders of how student-led initiatives can make a real difference in the lives of others.

She also spoke about numerous academic and extracurricular events that stood out over the year. These included the summer workshops in bioarchaeology, where our Galen Eagles and local tour guides were able to learn about Maya heritage. Other memorable moments included the entrepreneurship forum hosted by the Faculty of Business, as well as alumni mixers that created space for meaningful reflections and shared experiences.

When reflecting on the year as a whole, the Provost described it as gratifying, resilient, and inspirational. She acknowledged that working in a small university community means wearing many hats, but it also allows for deep connections and shared accomplishments across faculty, staff, and students.

Several major academic milestones brought her a deep sense of pride. Two new graduate programs were launched: the Master's in Social Work and the Master's in Educational Leadership. Both programs were designed to serve critical national needs. The Social Work program, in particular, gained regional and international recognition and is already shaping professionals who work with some of the most vulnerable populations. The Educational Leadership program was praised for its relevance and the energy shown by both instructors and students.

She also highlighted the development of the Disaster Risk Management program, supported by UNICEF and international partners. The students in this program produced research grounded in real-life events and challenges, including the impacts of recent flooding. Their work is contributing to a growing body of knowledge and offering new insights into disaster preparedness and response. Of course, the year came with its share of difficulties. Financial barriers for students, emotional and mental health struggles, and unexpected life challenges were all part of the university's reality.

***Continue reading on the next page!***



# Conversations WITH THE PROVOST

...  
A REFLECTIVE CLOSE TO THE ACADEMIC YEAR

The Provost emphasized the need to strengthen counseling services and academic support, noting that many students don't always reach out for help even when it's available. Ensuring that support systems are accessible, visible, and responsive remains a key priority.

Despite these challenges, the year also saw moments of joy and unity. Campus activities—both large and small—offered opportunities for connection and celebration. From lighthearted events to student-led cultural showcases, these experiences reaffirmed the importance of a vibrant campus community. The Provost shared how special it was to witness students and staff interacting outside of formal settings, participating in activities that built camaraderie and lightened the load.

Another source of joy was seeing alumni succeed and make a difference in their fields. From teachers returning to their communities to professionals continuing their studies abroad, these stories served as a powerful reminder of the impact Galen University continues to have beyond its walls.

As the interview drew to a close, the Provost left two final messages. To students—especially those graduating or returning in the fall—she shared an image of the eagle as a symbol of renewal, reminding them that setbacks can lead to growth and resilience. And to faculty and staff, she encouraged rest and rejuvenation over the summer break, recognizing the dedication they bring to the university each year. She cleverly echoed a familiar political slogan, affirming with optimism that 'the best is yet to come!'.

With the academic year ending and a new one on the horizon, the Provost remains optimistic. With continued collaboration and shared purpose, Galen University is well-positioned to face new challenges and embrace the opportunities ahead.



# DAYS AWAY

**GALEN UNIVERSITY GRADUATION 2025**

**Sunday, July 13, 2025 @9:00 AM | Belize City Civic Center, Belize City**

Dear Graduands,

As your graduation ceremony approaches, the Office of Student Affairs wants to congratulate you on reaching this important milestone. From orientation to graduation, it has been our pleasure to support you throughout your journey at Galen University—whether it was a short or long one. Remember, once an Eagle, always an Eagle.

We wish you the very best of luck in all your future endeavors!

**OFFICE OF  
STUDENT AFFAIRS**  
*Galen University*



# CAMPUS NEWS

*Stay updated on the biggest happenings at Galen University! This section brings you all the key moments shaping our university.*

# CAMPUS NEWS

## Digging Into the Past: Anthropology Students Lead the Way in Summer Initiatives



This summer has been a vibrant and rewarding season for students in Galen University's Anthropology Program. Under the leadership of the Dean of the Faculty of Arts, Science & Technology, Ms. Sherry Gibbs, and the guidance of Dr. John Walden students have immersed themselves in hands-on archaeological, cultural, and heritage-based activities that bring the classroom to life.

The field season kicked off with an exciting *Archaeology Field School* on June 18th, 2025, where students, alongside Dr. Walden and the Belize Valley Archaeological Reconnaissance (BVAR) project team, are excavating two residential groups in Central Farm. Baking Mound 510, believed to be a higher-status commoner household, revealed Late Classic construction phases dating back to 600–900 AD. A parallel excavation at Baking Pot Mound 515, conducted by Community Archaeology Belize, uncovered similar findings, offering students a real-world context to archaeological theory.

Taking a brief pause from field school, students joined the *Bioarchaeology Workshop* hosted on campus from June 25–27. The intensive three-day event, facilitated by experts from Idaho State University and the University of South Dakota, introduced participants to the study of ancient human remains, minus the use of actual human bones.

*Continue reading on the next page!*

## CONT – Digging Into the Past: Anthropology Students Lead the Way in Summer Initiatives

Through the use of high-quality skeletal casts, participants learned to identify bones, construct biological profiles, excavate burials, and navigate the ethical complexities surrounding human remains. Funded by the Wenner-Gren Foundation, this workshop fostered critical thinking and a deeper appreciation for Maya bioarchaeology and community-centered research.

In another unique hands-on experience, students took part in a *Traditional Stone Tool-Making Workshop* at Nabitunich on June 28. This MVAP/MVPP initiative gave aspiring tour guides and anthropology majors a chance to explore ancient technologies by crafting tools using techniques employed by their ancestors.

The team's involvement extended to cultural celebration and heritage preservation as students also held a booth at the community event, *Another Beautiful Day in San Antonio*. The event, organized by the Another Beautiful Day Committee, aims to revive and promote the Yucatec Maya language, culture, and traditions. Students engaged directly with the public, shared knowledge, and witnessed cultural continuity in action—an inspiring reminder of the relevance and impact of anthropology beyond the classroom.

We commend our Anthropology students for their dedication, curiosity, and commitment to honoring and uncovering Belize's rich cultural past. Their contributions this summer exemplify Galen's mission to lead through learning and community engagement. Kudos to each student who has dug deeper—both literally and figuratively—in pursuit of knowledge and heritage.



# DIGGING INTO THE PAST

THE GALEN  
TIMES



# WELLNESS CORNER

This month's wellness advice comes from the Galen University Counseling Office, offering helpful tips and reminders to support your mental health and overall well-being throughout the academic journey.



# GALEN UNIVERSITY COUNSELING OFFICE WELLNESS CORNER

## A Year in Review: Reflect, Replenish, and Renew

*By Dr. Kristcha DeGuerre, Ph.D., LCSW, Counseling Office, Galen University*

As the academic year comes to a finish and the Galen community prepares for a well deserved summer break, the Counseling Office invites you to pause and reflect, not just on your academic accomplishments, but on your personal journey of growth as well.

This past year has asked alot of us. Deadlines, group projects, research papers, internships, family responsibilities, and personal challenges have all touched the lives of students, faculty, and staff. And yet, here we are, on the other side of it, wiser and stronger.

### **Taking a Moment to Look Back**

Before turning your attention to summer (*and all the exciting plans we may have*), we encourage you to take a quiet moment to look back on your year.

**Ask yourself:** *What challenged you? What surprised you? In what ways did you grow?*

Too often, we move on to the next task without honoring the effort it took to get here. Often we find ourselves looking forward at the mountain we have yet to climb, before turning around and seeing the mountain we have already overcome!

Reflection is not about perfection. It is about recognizing how far you've come, how you overcame difficulty, and what you learned about yourself in the process.

This type of reflection can be grounding, especially in times of transition. It allows you to carry your hard-earned wisdom into whatever comes next with purpose, rather than habit.

### **Setting Intentions for the Year Ahead**

While it may seem early, summer is the perfect time to begin thinking about what you want for yourself in the coming academic year. Not just academically, but personally and emotionally.

Ask yourself:

- How do I want to feel next semester?
- What habits supported my mental health this year?
- What do I want to leave behind?
- What areas do I want to build or strengthen?

Setting one or two simple wellness goals, like maintaining better boundaries, self-care, reaching out when academic or emotional support is needed, organizing, or practicing consistent rest (even during the busy times of the semester!), can make a lasting difference in your overall well-being and academic success.

*Continue reading on the next page!*

# A Year in Review: Reflect, Replenish, and Renew

By Dr. Kristcha DeGuerre, Ph.D., LCSW, Counseling Office, Galen University

## Caring for Yourself During the Break

Summer is often thought of as a season of relaxation, but for many, it may be just as busy or uncertain as the school year. Whether you're working, caring for family, or just catching your breath, your mental health still matters.

### We offer a few reminders to help you stay grounded over the summer break:

- It's important to honor your need for rest. You do not have to earn rest. Make time to slow down, unplug, and simply be.
- Maintaining emotional balance can be supported by keeping structure in small ways, such as having a consistent sleep schedule, daily movement, or mindful practices.
- Reengaging with joy is key; lean into what makes you feel good, whether that's music, art, nature, laughter, or spending time with loved ones.

## To Our Upcoming Graduates

To the graduating class, *congratulations!* You've reached an important milestone, and we honor the time, sacrifice, and courage it took to get here. As you step into new roles and responsibilities, remember that your wellness is not a luxury; it is foundational.

The tools you've developed here at Galen, such as resilience, reflection, and the courage to seek support, will serve you well, no matter where your next chapter takes you.

## A Community of Care

At Galen, mental wellness is a core value; we must live it every day. This year reminded us that personal growth and academic achievement are not separate goals; they are very much connected. The more we take care of ourselves, the better we can show up in our studies, our relationships, our communities, and for ourselves.

The Counseling Office will resume services at the start of the next semester. In the meantime, prioritize what nourishes you, mentally, physically, and emotionally. Remember that you can still reach out to the Counseling Office at our WhatsApp: 501-638-0907 or email [counseling@galen.edu.bz](mailto:counseling@galen.edu.bz) during the summer break.

Thank you for allowing the Counseling Office to be a part of your journey this year. We look forward to welcoming you back in the new semester, renewed and ready to begin again.

***Until then, take care of yourselves and each other.***



# GALEN UNIVERSITY

## Eagle Highlights Year in Review



*Take a quick walk down memory lane as we highlight the most exciting and meaningful moments from this academic year! From Fall to Summer, here's a look at the top events that shaped student life at Galen University.*

# FALL SEMESTER



From August to December, take a look back at some of the most memorable moments that brought energy, excitement, and connection to the start of the academic year.

# August



Summit of the Future  
– Youth Dialogue

Galen students joined national discussions on sustainability and innovation, proudly representing the university at a high-level youth forum.



Peer Mentor  
Training

OSA welcomed 19 mentors during a dynamic training session focused on mentee support strategies and peer leadership.

# September



UN Tour  
at Galen

UN agencies visited Galen, hosting a panel and sharing global opportunities with eager, career-focused Eagles.



Welcome  
Day 2024

Students kicked off the year with celebration, inspiration, and campus connection during Galen's energetic Welcome Day event.



Service  
Day 2024

Students donated school supplies and planted seedlings at two primary schools, promoting education and environmental stewardship.

# October



Halloween  
Costume Contest

Students showed off creative costumes in a festive Halloween celebration full of laughter and campus spirit.



SGA Leadership  
Meeting

The SGA met with the Provost and Chairman to discuss student life goals and plans for the academic year.



Youth  
Forum

Eagles engaged in disaster preparedness workshops, learning strategies to build safer, more resilient communities.

# November



Launch of  
DRM

Galen and UNICEF launched a disaster risk diploma, awarding 45 public officers with scholarships for advanced training.



First Aid  
Training

Faculty and student leaders learned essential first aid skills during a hands-on emergency preparedness workshop.



Innovation  
Forum

Students presented innovative ideas and research while networking with industry leaders during Galen's first Innovation Forum.

# December



Wildlife  
Ambassador

Fifteen students were certified as Wildlife Ambassadors during a two-day training with BWRC on conservation and response.



Alumni  
Mixer

Alumni reconnected, networked, and celebrated shared memories in an evening of fun and Eagle pride.



CDM  
Conference

Galen's representatives presented at the regional Disaster Management Conference, contributing to Belize's resilience and visibility.

## Memorable Mentions



NOVEMBER

Cybersecurity  
Session



NOVEMBER

Voter Registration  
Drive



SEPTEMBER

Scholarship  
Signing Ceremony



SEPTEMBER

SGA Swearing-In  
& Flag Ceremony

# THE GALEN TIMES

# Spring Semester



**From January to April, the momentum continued with events that inspired, empowered, and brought the Galen community even closer. Let's revisit some of the standout moments that made this semester one to remember.**

# January



Spring 2025  
Orientation

New Eagles were welcomed with games, food trucks, smoothies, and mentorship—setting the stage for a successful and exciting semester ahead.



National  
Cleanup Day

Eagles joined the community to clean Central Farm and nearby roads, collecting almost 1,000 pieces of trash in a national day of action.



George  
Price Day

George Price scholar, Roslyn Reid honors his legacy by distributing free meals in Belize City, spreading kindness and service in his name.

# February



Lunar New  
Year

Students celebrated Lunar New Year with dumpling-making, a lion dance, and cultural exchange—promoting diversity, unity, and cross-cultural appreciation on campus.



Health Fair

Galen's second annual Health Fair offered free screenings, wellness booths, and resources—empowering the campus community to prioritize health and self-care.



Harpy in  
Love

Clubs hosted games, music, crafts, and treats in a festive Valentine's Fair full of joy, connection, and Eagle spirit.

# March



Honored for her service and advocacy, Dr. Harrison was recognized for empowering women and championing humanitarian values across Belize.



Tomas Serrut and Beyoncé Villafranco received Galen's highest student honor for leadership, excellence, and embodying true Eagle spirit.



Students, faculty, and guests united for a vibrant day of celebration, recognition, networking, and Eagle pride at Galen's main campus.

# April



Students explored local bird species and cleaned the campus creek, learning hands-on environmental stewardship with Belize Karst Habitat Conservation.



Students highlighted Belize's geology, emphasizing its role in agriculture, construction, disaster planning, and sustainable development for national resilience.



Galen met with the BDF and Coast Guard to explore future professional development and leadership training opportunities for military personnel.



# THE GALEN TIMES

# SUMMER

## SEMESTER



A fast-paced and focused term, the Summer Semester—spanning May and June—was filled with meaningful milestones and impactful moments. Here's a look at the highlights that made this short semester shine.

# May



## MSW Program Impact

Dr. Kristcha DeGuerre represented Galen at two major events, leading sessions on dementia care and trauma-informed research—highlighting the MSW program's impact in mental health and social advocacy.



## Military Hazard Preparedness Training

DRM students and faculty participated in week-long military hazard simulations, applying risk-based learning to real-world disaster scenarios and reinforcing Galen's role in building national resilience through education.



## From Classrooms to Careers

Interns and alumni shared their success stories, reflecting how Galen's hands-on training and academic preparation helped them transition confidently into the workforce and launch their careers.

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# ACADEMIC CORNER

*Stay informed with the latest academic insights, research highlights,  
and educational advancements at Galen University.*





# ACADEMIC CORNER

## We Soar Because We Endure

*Melanie Tillett | Student Academic Support Services*

Sometimes, in the rush to meet deadlines or prepare for the next class, we forget to pause and recognize how far we've come.

As Galen Eagles, our journeys have all looked different. Some of us arrived on campus each morning, backpacks heavy and heads full of big goals. Others logged into night classes after long days of work, making things happen from kitchen tables, backseats, or anywhere with Wi-Fi that didn't cut out mid sentence.

We've all had moments we'll never forget not just the wins, but the real ones too. Like muting our mic mid lecture only to shout, "Can someone lower that music?!" Or having a dog start barking or a vehicle honking right in the middle of a serious presentation. And of course, the all too familiar 11:58 p.m. panic, racing the clock to hit "submit" before the deadline strikes. For those on campus, maybe it was the bus not stopping, breaking down, or being so packed you hoped you didn't lose grip at the curve while holding on. Then here comes the sudden rain, reminding you once again to buy that umbrella you keep forgetting. Maybe it was standing in the lunch line forever, finally grabbing your food, only to realize you had to eat it on the way to class. If you didn't experience at least one of those, were you really even in school?

But beyond the laughs and late night chaos, something powerful was happening: growth. Through every awkward moment, tough week, and overwhelming day, we pushed forward. We learned to speak up with confidence, manage the pressure, and get back up when things didn't go as planned. We became more resilient, more focused, and more sure of what we're capable of.

This journey hasn't just been about getting good grades or earning a degree. It's been about becoming someone stronger. Whether you're about to graduate, finishing your last semester, or still somewhere in the middle know this: the effort, the late nights, the determination... it's all adding up to something greater.

You're not just making it through school, you're surviving group chats with no replies, juggling life's curveballs, and still managing to upload a paper at 11:59 p.m. like a pro. You're proving that even when things get hectic, you keep showing up with a little hustle, a lot of heart, and just enough humor to laugh through it.

Be proud of every step. Be proud of the growth. Be proud of who you're becoming.  
We're not just students.

We're Galen Eagles.

And we rise not because the path is perfect, but because the purpose is powerful.

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# STUDENT LIFE

*From exciting events to student achievements, this section highlights the vibrant life at Galen University.*





GALEN UNIVERSITY



# EAGLE *Spotlights*

*Throughout the academic year, we've celebrated the outstanding achievements, talents, and contributions of our students through our Eagle Spotlight series. In this special section, we're bringing them all together—highlighting the Eagles who soared above and beyond in academics, leadership, service, and more.*



# EAGLE SPOTLIGHTS

## *Soaring Recap*



**Elise Vernon**

**Queen, Leader, Future  
Veterinarian**

*Spotlighted in Volume 8, Issue 5  
— May Edition*

## Elise-Gayonne M. Vernon

At 23, Elise-Gayonne is a certified beekeeper, open water diver, Miss World Belize 2022 finalist, and now Chairwoman of Biscayne Village. A Veterinary Technology student at Galen, she is driven by her passion for animals, rural development, and public service. Whether she's caring for livestock, leading community initiatives, or representing Belize on the world stage, Elise-Gayonne inspires with her grace, purpose, and unwavering faith.

## Shynia Wilson

Shynia is an Environmental Science major at Galen and a rising leader in climate communication and youth engagement. From interning at Belize's National Climate Change Office to co-hosting The Weekly Download and supporting peers as a Writing Consultant, she brings passion and purpose to every role. With aspirations to teach and represent Belize at COP30, Shynia embodies leadership that bridges science, advocacy, and education.



**Shynia Wilson**

**Environmental Advocate,  
Future Educator**

*Spotlighted in Volume 8, Issue 5  
— May Edition*

# EAGLE SPOTLIGHTS

## *Soaring Recap*



**Onando St. Bernard**

**Advocate, Social  
Worker, Changemaker**

*Spotlighted in Volume 8, Issue 3 —  
March Edition*

## Onando St. Bernard

As an Advanced Standing MSW student, Onando has made a powerful impact through his work at the BDF Wellness Center and the Belize Community Counseling Center. With a deep commitment to mental health, social justice, and advocacy, he supports individuals and families with compassion and professionalism. Onando's dedication to service and systemic change makes him a standout leader in the field of social work in Belize.

## Beyonce Villafranco

Beyonce is a Criminal Justice student whose passion for trauma-informed care and disaster preparedness has led her to represent Galen and Belize at regional forums like CDM 13. As a Youth NEMO Ambassador and LIU volunteer, she empowers youth and champions mental health support for children. Through leadership, advocacy, and creativity, Beyonce is building a safer, more resilient future for vulnerable communities.



**Beyonce Villafranco**

**Criminal Justice Advocate,  
Youth Leader, Disaster  
Resilience Champion**

*Spotlighted in Volume 8, Issue 2 —  
February Edition*

# EAGLE SPOTLIGHTS

## *Soaring Recap*



**Tomas Serrut**

**Student Union President,  
Advocate, Nation Builder**

*Spotlighted in Volume 8, Issue 1 –  
January Edition*

## Tomas Serrut

As President of the National Students' Union of Belize, Tomas champions student representation and national advocacy. A proud Galen student and club leader, he works to strengthen student rights, build institutional partnerships, and inspire youth leadership. Guided by service and vision, Tomas is shaping a future where student voices lead meaningful change across Belize.

## Kerwin Palacio

Standing tall at 6'8", Kerwin is a Hospitality and Tourism major who leads Galen's basketball and volleyball teams while also competing in track and field. A national volleyball team member and semipro basketball player, his athleticism is matched by his positivity and leadership. Kerwin inspires on and off the court, reminding fellow Eagles to stay strong, stay focused, and always keep pushing forward.



**Kerwin Palacio**

**Multi-Sport Athlete, Leader,  
Eagle Spirit in Action**

*Spotlighted in Volume 7, Issue 5 –  
September Edition*



# TO OUR GRADUATING **P.E.E.R. MENTORS!**

To our incredible peer mentors graduating this year—your dedication to the program, your unwavering support for your mentees, and your commitment to the Galen community have not gone unnoticed.

We thank you for your leadership, your service, and your heart. As you soar into this next chapter, we wish you continued success, growth, and fulfillment. Once an Eagle, always an Eagle.



CLASS OF 2025

GRADUATE

*D.E.E.R. Mentor*

**IXCHEL GILHARRY**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
COMPUTER SCIENCE**

2025



CLASS OF 2025

GRADUATE

P.E.E.R. Mentor

SHANNA MARTINEZ

BACHELOR OF EDUCATION IN  
ELEMENTARY EDUCATION

25



CLASS OF 2025

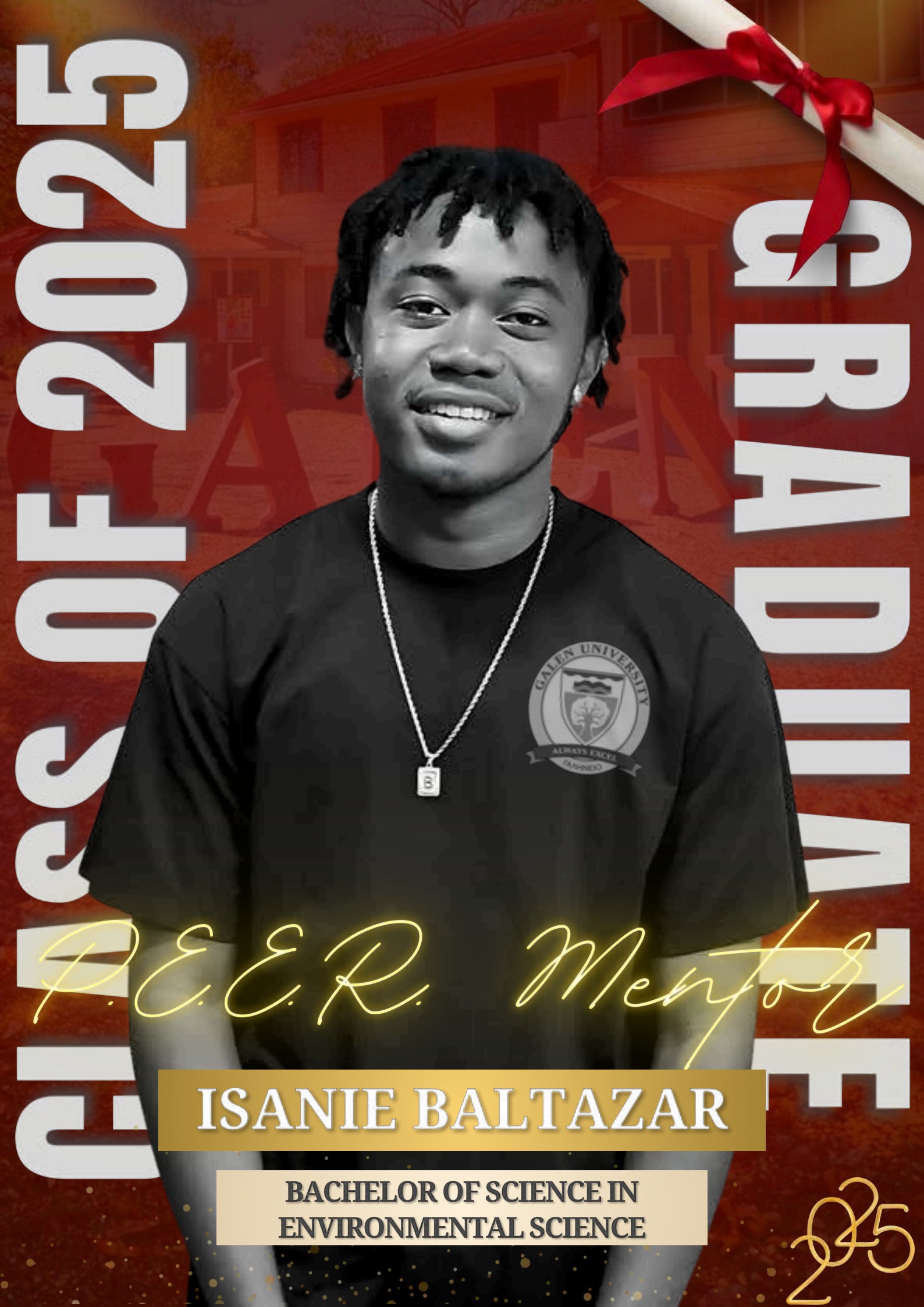
GRADUATE

*P.E.E.R. Mentor*

**KARIME ROSADO**

**BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION  
(CONC. IN MARKETING)**

2025



CLASS OF 2025

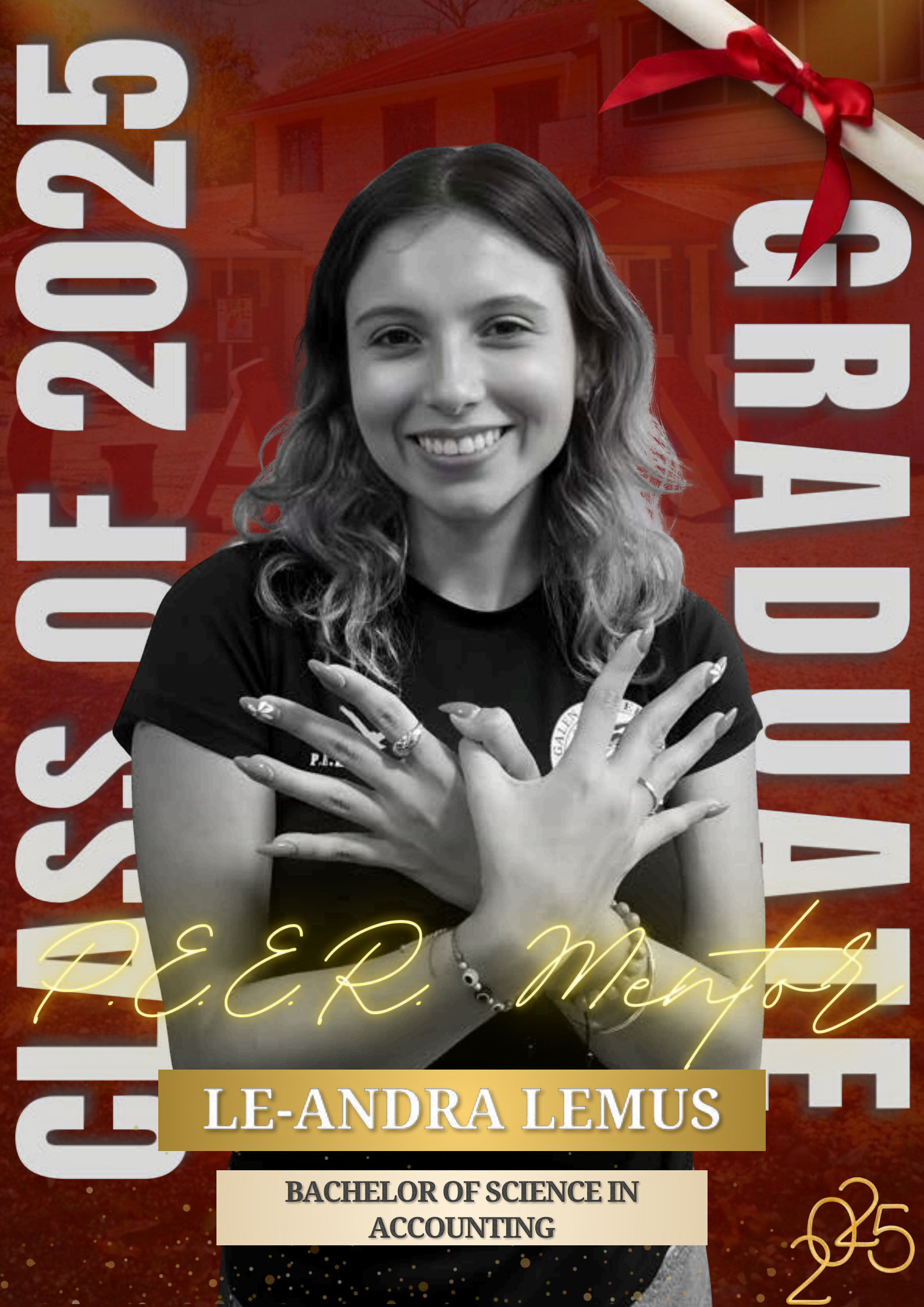
GRADUATE

*D.E.E.R. Mentol*

ISANIE BALTAZAR

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCE

25



CLASS OF 2025

GRADUATE

*PEER Mentor*

LE-ANDRA LEMUS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
ACCOUNTING

25



CLASS OF 2025

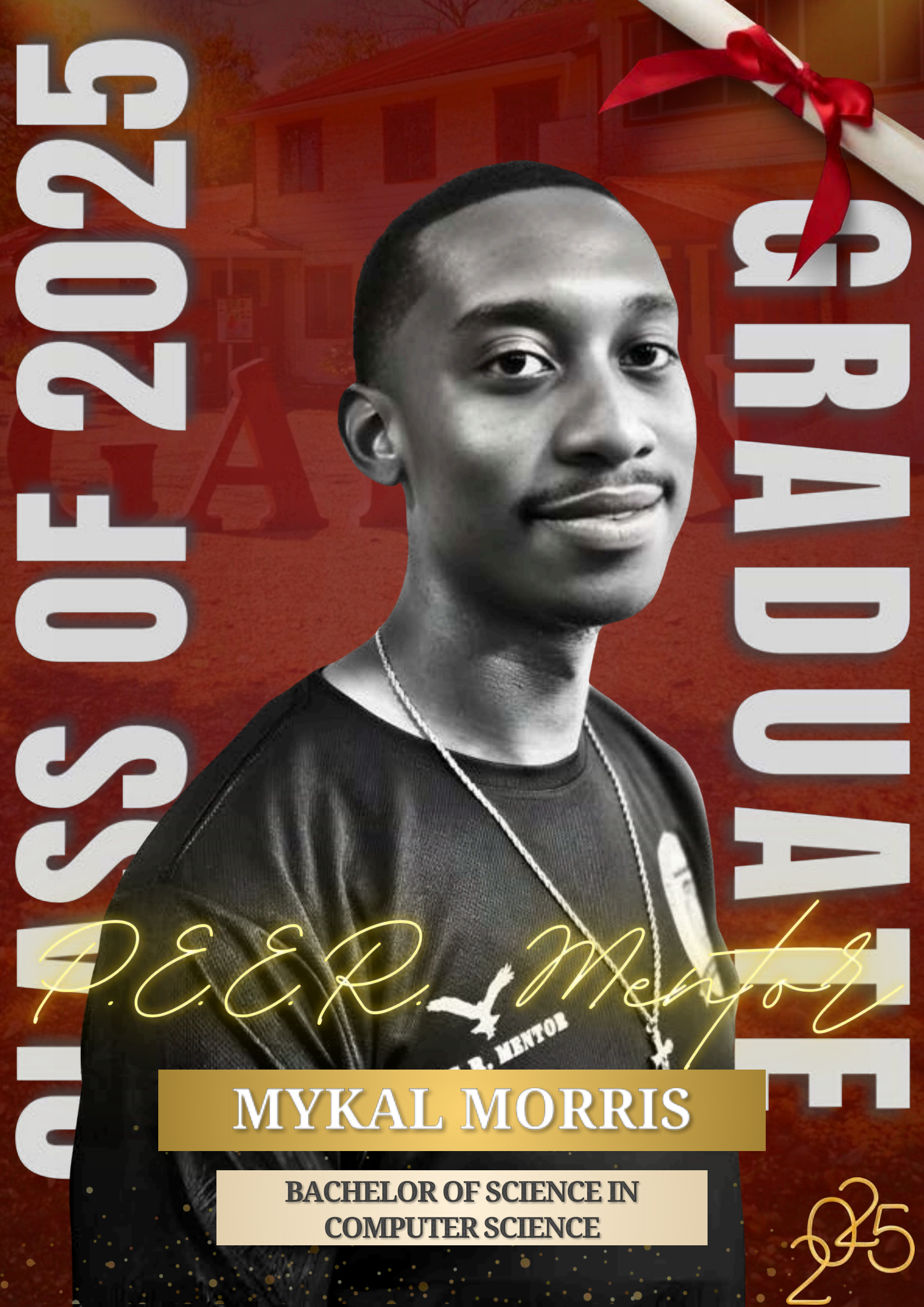
GRADUATE

*D.E.E.R. Mentos*

JINAYA URBINA

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
MARKETING

2025



CLASS OF 2025

GRADUATE

P.E.E.R. Mentor

MYKAL MORRIS

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
COMPUTER SCIENCE

2025



# 2024-2025 STUDENT GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION GRADUANDS

We proudly recognize the dedicated members of the 2024–2025 Student Government Association as they graduate from Galen University. Their leadership, service, and commitment to student life have made a lasting impact on our campus community. Congratulations and best wishes on your next chapter!



## LE-ANDRA LEMUS PRESIDENT

Le-Andra approached her role with dedication and a genuine desire to support the student body. As SGA President, she worked to foster connection and encourage student involvement. Thank you, Le-Andra, for your commitment this year!



## IXCHEL GILHARRY SECRETARY

Ixchel contributed with care and attention to detail as SGA Secretary. She supported communication and helped keep things running smoothly. Thank you, Ixchel, for your steady presence this year!



## JINAYA URBINA EVENTS COORDINATOR

Jinaya brought enthusiasm and creativity to her role as Events Coordinator. She helped create opportunities for students to come together and celebrate the Galen community. Thank you, Jinaya, for your efforts throughout the year!

# FUN CORNER



## Guess That **GALEN!**

CAN YOU SPOT THE EVENT, CLUB, OR MOMENT FROM JUST A PHOTO? LET'S SEE HOW WELL YOU KNOW YOUR CAMPUS!

Earn the highest score and  
win exclusive Eagle merch!

**PLAY NOW**



### Note!

If you're viewing the newsletter online, the game link may not work. To play, please download the newsletter to your device and open it there—then click **PLAY NOW** to start the game.

# CLUB

*The Galen Times |  
Volume 8, Issue 6*

# ACTIVITY



*Here's a look at what our  
clubs achieved this academic year—fun events,  
projects, and community connections that brought  
Eagles together.*



GALEN UNIVERSITY  
ENVIRONMENTAL CLUB



*Together for a  
Sustainable Tomorrow!*

Instagram/ Facebook  
@galenenvironmentalclub

Email  
envclub@galen.edu.bz



## WELCOME DAY 2024

The Environmental Club welcomed new Eagles, showcased their booth, and sparked interest in sustainable action through club sign-ups and engagement.

## WORLD WATER DAY

The Environmental Club joined BKHC and WaterWays to test water quality on campus, promoting clean water awareness and sustainable action.

## INTRO TO BIRDING

Galen students took their first steps into birding, learning to use eBird and Merlin to observe and support bird conservation in Belize.

## SERVICE DAY PROJECT

The Environmental Club teamed up with OSA and St. Barnabas Primary to plant seedlings and build garden beds, promoting sustainability and youth engagement in Central Farm.

# GALEN UNIVERSITY CRIMINAL JUSTICE CLUB

INSTAGRAM:

@GALEN\_CRJTCLUB



*Together, we'll create a  
brighter, more just future.*



EMAIL: CRIMINALJUSTICECLUB@GALEN.EDU.BZ



## COMMUNITY IMPACT WITH LIU

The Criminal Justice Club partnered with the Leadership Intervention Unit for a community-focused session and donation drive, supporting local families with essential supplies.

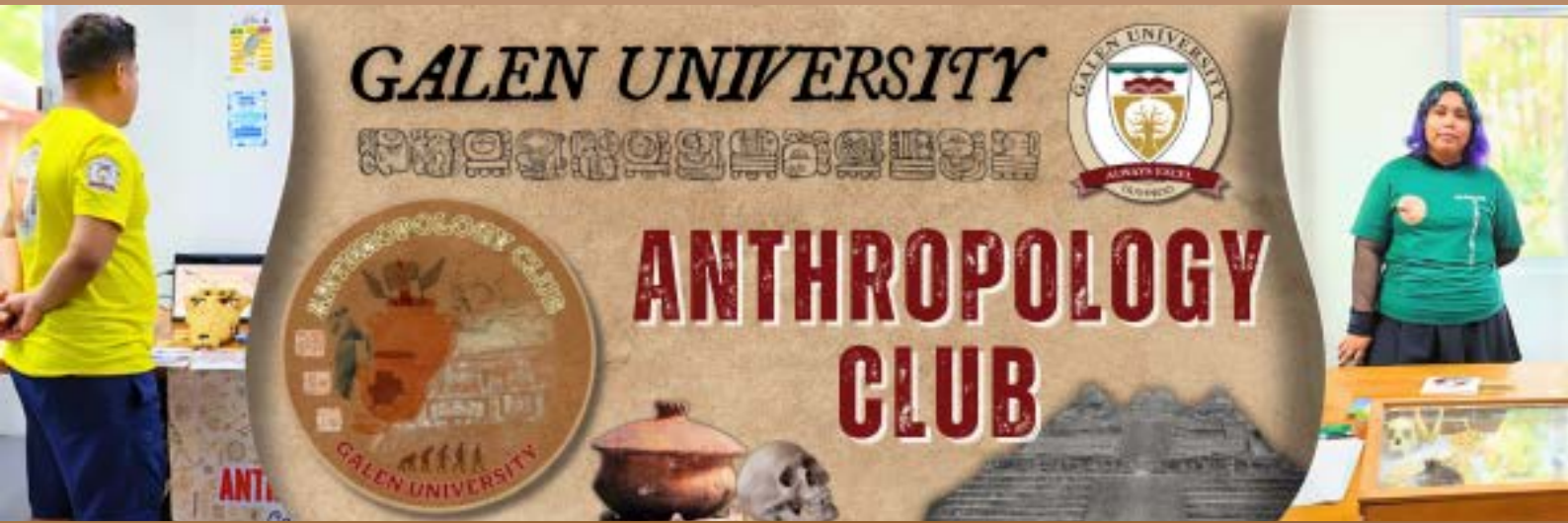
## INSIDE THE FORCE: POLICE & CANINE UNIT DEMO

The Criminal Justice Club and San Ignacio Police brought law enforcement to life with a hands-on demo on detainee procedures, police duties, and the Canine Unit's role in crime detection.



## CLUB DAY 2025

The Criminal Justice Club set up an engaging booth, interacted with new Eagles, and welcomed fresh members eager to explore the world of justice and law enforcement.



## INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' RESISTANCE DAY

An inspiring celebration of Indigenous Peoples' Resistance Day featuring heartfelt speeches, cultural pride, and a powerful anthem performance in Yucatec Mayan.



## DÍA DE LOS FINADOS

A heartfelt celebration featuring altar setup, candle-making, altar dedication, and a traditional food sale in honor of loved ones who have passed.



## MAYA DAY AT U JANAL MASEWAL

A fun and educational trip where the Anthropology Club explored Maya plant use, writing systems, and hands-on cultural activities.



# GALEN UNIVERSITY HOSPITALITY & TOURISM Club



CONTACT  
✉ [hospandtourclub@galen.edu.bz](mailto:hospandtourclub@galen.edu.bz)  
📷 [galenhospitalityandtourismclub](https://www.instagram.com/galenhospitalityandtourismclub)



## Club Day

## Welcome Day

## Destination Competition

## Stann creek trip



## Pride Month Sign-Making

To celebrate Pride, the GSA invited students to create signs and images reflecting what Pride means to them, honoring love, identity, and visibility across our Galen community.



## GSA at Welcome Day

The GSA welcomed new Eagles with fun games, meaningful conversations, and an open invitation to join a safe, inclusive, and empowering community.



## GSA Murder Mystery

A thrilling Halloween-themed afternoon where students solved a spooky whodunit in true mystery fashion—costumes, clues, and chills included!



## Paint & Sip with Pride

The GSA and SGA hosted a vibrant Paint & Sip, where students relaxed, got creative, and celebrated self-expression in a fun and inclusive space.





# GALEN UNIVERSITY'S ECONOMICS AND IR CLUB

**APPLY TODAY!**

+501 631-3393

[economicsclub@galen.edu.bz](mailto:economicsclub@galen.edu.bz)

**"EMPOWERING  
TOMORROW'S LEADERS THROUGH  
GLOBAL INSIGHTS TODAY."**

## CSME in Focus

Students engaged in a dynamic consultation with the CARICOM Secretariat, exploring regional integration and the key elements of the CARICOM Single Market and Economy.



## Blast into Belize's Past!

A fun and educational event where students explored Belize's rich history through games, trivia, a flag-drawing competition, and interactive lessons on national symbols and colonial heritage.

## Belize— CARICOM Expo Visit

The EIR CLUB attended the Belize - CARICOM Expo in honor of 51 years of CARICOM, exploring regional trade, diplomacy, and cultural collaboration.





A YEAR IN  
REVIEW



Galen Times

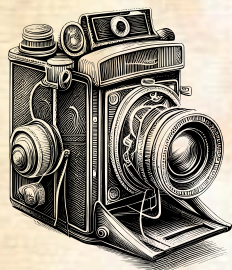


A YEAR IN  
REVIEW

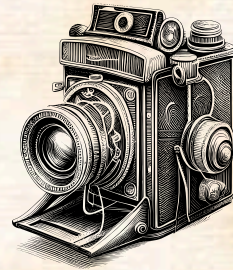
VOL. 8, IS. 6

JUNE EDITION

CAMPUS NEWSLETTER



# GALEN UNIVERSITY FILM CLUB



A CINEMATIC ENDEAVOUR AT GALEN UNIVERSITY



## EXECUTIVES

Johara Habet  
Niya Villanueva  
Kevin He  
Marlon Samora  
Zaynah Reyes  
Keylin Grijalva





## VALENTINE'S FAIR

A sweet Valentine's celebration with games, cupcakes, and snacks that brought love and fun to campus.



## EAGLE DAY

An exciting booth filled with games and activities that brought together Galen Eagles and visitors for a day of campus fun.



## WELCOME DAY

The Events Club kicked off the semester with fun games and good vibes, greeting new Eagles during Welcome Week.

# ATHLETICS



**TRACK AND  
FIELD**



**CANOEING**



**SOFTBALL**



**BASKETBALL**



**FUTSAL**



**VOLLEYBALL**

Take a look back at some of the most iconic athletic moments from this academic year—where our Eagles soared, competed with heart, and brought pride to Galen University



**ATLIB National Track & Field Competition**



**Male Basketball Regionals**



**ATLIB Basketball Nationals**



**La Ruta Maya River Challenge**



**Lady Eagles at ATLIB Basketball Nationals!**



**ATLIB Regional Softball Tournament**



**Eagle Day Athlete Recognition Ceremony**



**Eagle Day Athlete Recognition Ceremony**



**ATLIB Regional Softball  
Tournament**



**ATLIB National Track & Field  
Competition**



**Men's Futsal Champions!**



**Regional Volleyball  
Tournament**



**The Belikin La Ruta Maya River Challenge**

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# REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Stay in the loop with important updates from across campus! This section highlights key dates, deadlines, and upcoming events.*





# REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Stay in the loop with key academic dates! Be sure to take note that grade reports will be distributed on July 17th and 18th.**

## Post-Summer Semester Activities

**8 July, 2025**

**Tuesday**

*Last day for faculty to submit grades for Candidates for Graduation*

**11 July, 2025**

**Friday**

*Last day for faculty to submit grades for all other students and course reports*

**13 July, 2025**

**Sunday**

**COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES**

**14 July, 2025**

**Monday**

*Faculty Leave begins*

**17 July - 18 July, 2025**

**Thursday - Friday**

***2024-3 Summer semester Grade Reports Distributed***

**1 August, 2025**

**Friday**

*Emancipation Day  
(Public & Bank Holiday)*

**5 - 6 August, 2025**

**Tuesday - Wednesday**

*Education Internship Orientation for Fall Semester 2025-1*

# REMINDERS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Scholarships for the Eagle Athletic and Eagle Merit programs are still open! Both new and returning Eagles are encouraged to apply using the form linked here: [CLICK HERE](#)



**GALEN UNIVERSITY**

## EAGLE MERIT SCHOLARSHIP

*EMPOWERING EXCELLENCE AND SERVICE*

The Eagle Merit Scholarship is awarded to exceptional students who demonstrate academic excellence with a GPA above 3.0 and maintain it throughout their studies.

- Academic Excellence:** Must maintain a GPA above 3.0
- Financial Need:** Demonstrate a need for financial support.
- Role Model:** Be a standout role model in the community.
- Promotion of Galen:** Actively promote Galen University through social services, professional work, and good citizenship.
- Community Service:** Complete 10 hours of work per week with Galen during the 14-week semester.

**50% TUITION WAIVER**

**Apply Today! ↓**

**Don't wait! APPLY NOW BY COMPLETING THE GOOGLE FORM**

+501-824-3226  
scholarships@galenedu.bz



**GALEN UNIVERSITY**

## EAGLE ATHLETIC SCHOLARSHIP

*Empowering Student-Athletes to Achieve Excellence!*

Are you a talented athlete with a passion for sports and a commitment to academic success? The Eagle Athletic Scholarship at Galen University offers up to 75% tuition coverage for outstanding student-athletes who demonstrate exceptional ability and dedication in their sport.

**ELIGIBLE SPORTS**

- Basketball
- Canoeing
- Cycling
- Volleyball

**SCHOLARSHIP BENEFITS**

- Up to 75% tuition coverage
- Support for both academic and athletic growth
- Opportunity to represent Galen University in competitive and friendly matches

**RECIPIENT EXPECTATIONS**

- Actively train and participate as part of a Galen University team
- Demonstrate sportsmanship, commitment, and excellence
- Maintain high standards both on the field and in the classroom

**Apply now for the Eagle Athletic Scholarship!**

**APPLY NOW | BY COMPLETING THE GOOGLE FORM**

+501-824-3226  
scholarships@galenedu.bz

## MEET *Our New Staff*



**Esteban Javier**

MULTIMEDIA DEVELOPER

We're excited to welcome Esteban Javier to the Galen team! He joins the Office of Marketing and Admissions as the new Multimedia Developer. We look forward to the creativity and fresh ideas he'll bring to the role.

# STAY CONNECTED WITH GALEN!



## Galen University

- **Facebook:** [Galen University, Belize](#)
- **Instagram:** [@galen.university](#)
- **TikTok:** [@galen.university](#)
- **YouTube:** [@galenuniversitybelize](#)



## Office of Student Affairs

- **Facebook:** [Galen Student Affairs](#)
- **Instagram:** [@galenstudentaffairs](#)



## Student Government Association

- **Facebook:** [GALEN University Student Government Association](#)
- **Instagram:** [@galenuniversitysga](#)
- **TikTok:** [@eaglelife\\_galen](#)



## Environmental Club

- **Instagram:** [@galenenvironmentalclub](#)
- **Facebook:** [Galen University Environmental Club](#)

## Gender & Sexualities Alliance

- **Instagram:** [@galen\\_gsa\\_club](#)

## Anthropology Club

- **Instagram:** [@gu\\_anthropology\\_club](#)
- **Facebook:** [Galen University's Anthropology Club](#)

## Criminal Justice Club

- **Instagram:** [@galen\\_cjtcub](#)

## Economics & IR Club

- **Instagram:** [@galen\\_econ\\_ir\\_club](#)

## Galen Film Club

- **Instagram:** [@galenfilmclub](#)

## MORE WAYS TO STAY IN THE LOOP

- **Galen News WhatsApp Group:** [Join Link](#)
- **OSA Linktree:** [linktr.ee/GalenStudentAffairs](#)
- **Galen Website:** [galen.edu.bz](#)



# MONTHLY *Motivation*

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As we come to the end of another academic year at Galen University, this moment invites us to reflect not only on what we've achieved but also on how much we've grown together. Whether you're a student, faculty member, or part of our dedicated support staff, this year has asked much of you. And as Eagles do, you rose to the occasion.

Here at Galen, we believe in nurturing not just academic excellence, but the resilience, integrity, and heart that shape true leaders. This year brought challenges that tested our limits, but they also revealed our strength. From virtual lectures and early-morning commutes to tough assignments and moments of self-doubt, we persevered. And through it all, we found purpose, connection, and growth.

Growth doesn't always come with recognition. Sometimes, it looks like trying again after falling short, helping a classmate through a tough week, or staying committed when motivation runs low. These quiet victories are just as powerful as the loud ones, and they deserve to be celebrated.

So this month, we invite you to take pride in how far you've come. Whether you're preparing for graduation or gearing up for another semester, know this: you are stronger, more capable, and more prepared for the road ahead than you were when you started.

As Galen Eagles, we move forward with courage, purpose, and a shared commitment to building a better future. The journey doesn't end here—your story is still being written, and the next chapter is full of promise.

# THANK YOU FOR READING THE GALEN TIMES!

As we wrap up this edition of The Galen Times, we extend our heartfelt gratitude to all our contributors, faculty, staff and students who make our newsletter vibrant and engaging. Your stories, achievements, and insights are what make our community unique.

We hope you enjoyed reading about the exciting events, inspiring individuals, and important updates happening within our university community. Your participation and feedback are invaluable to us, and we encourage you to stay connected and keep sharing your stories.



## STAY ENGAGED AND CONTRIBUTE!



Have a story to share? Want to highlight an achievement? Interested in contributing to our next issue? Reach out to us at [osa\\_assistant@galen.edu.bz](mailto:osa_assistant@galen.edu.bz)



Enjoy writing and creating artwork? Submit your literary pieces and creative expressions [HERE](#)

## SEE YOU IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

*The Galen Times*

