

CHANCELLOR'S HONORS CONVOCATION

AT LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

History | Focus of the Event | Pictures | Guidelines for Selection

Application



History and Background

Colleges and universities have traditionally honored their graduates. However, not all institutions honor their top undergraduates in public ceremonies such as the Chancellor's Honors Convocation at LSU. This event is generally held on the last Friday of April. The setting for the convocation is in front of the Dodson Fountain in the Quadrangle, nestled among LSU's majestic oaks in the academic heart of the campus.

When the Chancellor's Honors Convocation first began, in the late 1980's, it was held in the Pete Maravich Assembly Center. After several years in this venue, the convocation was moved to the Quadrangle because it is in the heart of the campus and a location with greater visibility.

For the ceremony, academic deans and faculty members wear full academic regalia. The music for the processional and recessional is provided by students and faculty in the College of Music and Dramatic Arts. Large white tents frame the Dodson Fountain and offer shade from the morning sun for the honorees, the official party, family members and other guests. Each college winner is announced by their Dean and personally presented with a plaque by the Chancellor and the Provost.

After all the college winners have been honored, the Chancellor announces the finalists and the winner of the Arden O. French Leadership Award, presented annually to the top student leader who is a graduating senior. It is given in honor of the late Dean Arden O. French, who for more than 40 years served LSU as a model administrator. After a call for nominations from the academic Deans and Directors, a committee narrows the group of applicants to a pool of three to be interviewed. Selection of the winner is determined through review of the applications plus the interview.