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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Heritage University Celebrates Graduates at Commencement

TOPPENISH – Heritage University will hold its 29th commencement exercise on Saturday, May 7 at 10:00 a.m. on the Toppenish campus. About 160 students will participate in this year's ceremony, including undergraduate and graduate students from the Toppenish campus and from regional locations across the state. Overall 258 students earned their degrees at Heritage this year.

Dr. Gloria Nemerowicz, president of Pine Manor College in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, a position she has filled since 1996. Prior to her tenure at Pine Manor, she served as the Founding Executive Director of the Women's Leadership Institute at Wells College in New York. Nemerowicz is a scholar, speaker and writer, authoring *Children's Perceptions of Gender and Work Roles* (1979) and co-authoring *Professionalism in Unpaid Work* (1989) and *Education for Leadership and Social Responsibility* (1997).

Heritage alumna Krista Goudy-Sutterlic, Bachelor of Arts in Education, class of 2004, will be honored with the Violet Lumley Rau Outstanding Alumni Award during the ceremony. This award is given annually to an alumnus who represents the values of the University in his or her life and the community. Goudy-Sutterlic is a preschool teacher in the Toppenish School District and the first classroom teacher to serve on the National Indian Education Association board of directors.

Heritage University is a non-profit, independent, regionally accredited institution of higher education offering undergraduate and graduate education across the state of Washington.

In addition to the alumni award, University officials will announce the recipients of the Board of Directors' Academic Excellence Award and the President's Council Student Award of Distinction during the ceremony.

Heritage University is located at 3240 Fort Road in Toppenish. Parking for the event is limited.

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