
Commencement Programs

5-18-2024

Commencement 2024

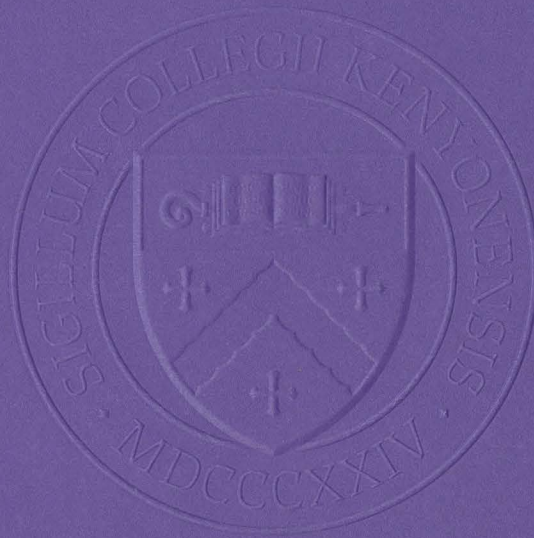
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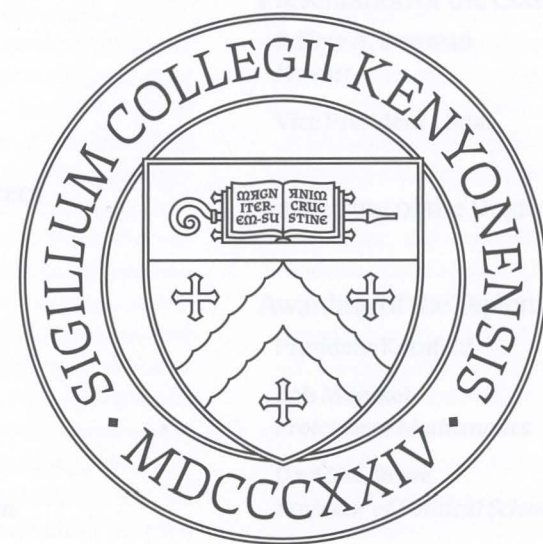
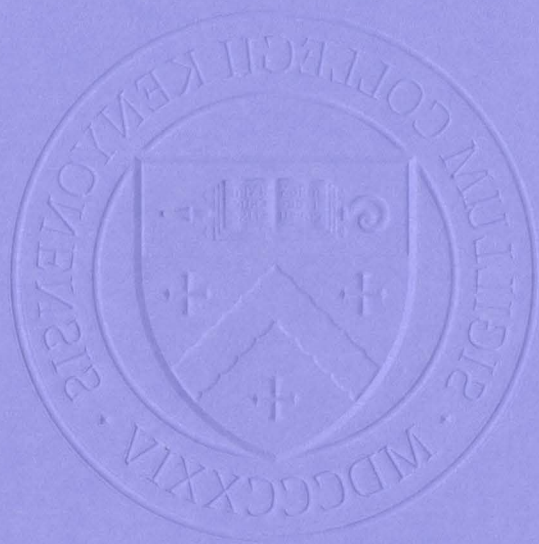
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The 196th Commencement of Kenyon College



May 18, 2024
10:30 a.m.
Samuel Mather Lawn



Free Expression

As an educational institution, Kenyon College supports the free exchange of ideas and open expression. This extends to celebratory events such as Commencement. Our graduates, along with their guests, also have the right to participate fully in this ceremony honoring their many accomplishments. Any expression that interferes with the ability to see or hear the program or participants, or to move about the event space safely, is not permitted.

Closed Captioning

Please use this QR code to access today's closed captions on your personal device.



Program

Julie C. Kornfeld, President, *presiding*
Paula C. Turner, *Faculty Marshal*

Processional*

The Scioto Brass Ensemble

Invocation*

Rev. Rachel C. Kessler
College Chaplain; Co-Director, Spiritual and Religious Life; Rector, Harcourt Parish

Welcome

Elisabetta Ghisini
Trustee, Kenyon College

Julie C. Kornfeld
President

Conferring of Honorary Degrees

Michael B. Curry
Presented by Royal W. Rhodes

Ennis B. Edmonds
Presented by Joseph A. Adler

Claudia J. Esslinger
Presented by Karen F. Snouffer

Víctor L. Rodríguez Núñez
Presented by Katherine M. Hedeem

Remarks

President Kornfeld

Introduction by Celestino J. Limas
Vice President of Student Affairs

Rachel Chen
President of the Class of 2024

Address

Bishop Michael B. Curry
Presiding Bishop and Primate of The Episcopal Church

Announcement

Members of the Class of 2024 elected to membership in Beta Chapter of Ohio of Phi Beta Kappa

Joseph M. Murphy
Director of the Center for Innovative Pedagogy

Ringin of the Chapel Bells

Presentation of the Class of 2024

Jeffrey A. Bowman
Provost

Vice President Limas

Conferring of the Degree of Bachelor of Arts

Awarding of the Diplomas of the College

President Kornfeld

Bob Milnikel
Professor of Mathematics

David M. Rowe
Professor of Political Science

Ellen K. Harbourt
Registrar

A. Chris Kennerly
Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

Closing Remarks

President Kornfeld

The Benediction*

Marc W. Bragin
College Chaplain; Co-Director, Spiritual and Religious Life; Director, Kenyon Hillel

Recessional*

The Scioto Brass Ensemble

*Audience standing, if able

Honorary Degree Recipients

Doctor of Divinity

Bishop Michael B. Curry
*Presiding Bishop and Primate of
The Episcopal Church*

Written by Royal W. Rhodes
Professor Emeritus of Religious Studies

Michael Bruce Curry, the 27th presiding bishop and primate of The Episcopal Church in the United States, and the first African American in that role, Kenyon celebrates your lifelong service and leadership in the beloved community, giving voice to the voiceless, hope to the hopeless, and comfort to the afflicted through your national ministry of preaching, teaching and inspirational writing. Descended from enslaved people taken from Africa and from hardworking sharecroppers in the South, even at a royal wedding you manifested the presence of those ancestors you felt in you, as a balm to heal the brokenhearted. Brought up inspired by the activism of your father, an Episcopal priest, and the loving wisdom of your mother and grandmother, you pursued your education at Hobart College, Yale Divinity, and Berkeley Divinity School and advanced study at other theological centers. Through your work as a board member of Episcopal Relief and Development, you have championed many causes, including the plight of immigrants, marriage equality, and social justice for the whole human family, "not merely in words and speech, but in truth and action" [1 John 3:18]. Your signature emphasis on the energy created by love lets us expand the dream of Martin Luther King Jr., to teach that love casts out fear, so that while the arc of justice is long, with your vision it bends toward love.

Doctor of Humane Letters

Ennis B. Edmonds
Donald L. Rogan Professor of Religious Studies

Written by Joseph A. Adler
*Professor Emeritus of Asian Studies and
Religious Studies*

Ennis Barrington Edmonds, when you joined the Department of Religious Studies in 2003 you added tremendously to our strengths in the sociological study of religion, the study of African American religion, and two entirely new subfields for us: Afro-Caribbean religions and popular music in the African diaspora. These last two, as might be expected, were hugely popular with students and brought a new spirit and innovative teaching techniques to our curriculum. From humble beginnings in rural Jamaica, you earned a Ph.D. in the U.S.A. and came to us with an international reputation as the expert on the Jamaican religion of Rastafari, based in part on the first of your two books from Oxford University Press, "Rastafari: From Outcasts to Culture Bearers." The whole Kenyon community has been enriched and honored by your contributions to our ever-evolving culture. Aside from your curricular and scholarly contributions, you are widely admired and appreciated for your active participation in the programs in American studies and African diaspora studies. You have devoted extra care and attention to international students and students of color, whether or not they were religious studies majors or minors, mentoring and befriending them throughout and beyond their time on this Hill. The kindness, good humor and wisdom you have brought to every conversation have truly embodied the ideal of "learning in the company of friends." As a Rasta would say, "May Jah be with you!"

Doctor of Fine Arts

Claudia J. Esslinger
Professor of Art

Written by Karen F. Snouffer
Professor Emerita of Art

Claudia Esslinger, impassioned collaborator, dedicated teacher and admired member of the community, we laud you today for the gifts you have shared for over 40 years. From your early practice of printmaking to present-day explorations in digital arts, you have addressed intense social and personal issues: immigration, environmental tragedy, injustice, joys of peace and ravages of war. During residencies in Chile, Germany, California and South Korea, you gathered powerful imagery. Ohio rivers, Reunion beaches and Roman churches have inspired installations, videos and photography. Exhibitions, festivals and performances from Alaska to Santa Fe to Dresden reveal your appetite for world exploration. Seven Ohio Arts Council Excellence Grants and numerous Kenyon and GLCA grants reinforce a profound recognition of excellence. Collaborating poets, scientists, dancers and musicians have benefitted from your imagination. Your art endeavors are like lithograph layers merging with those of brilliant teaching. From the development of our printmaking studios to designing state-of-the-art Horvitz Hall digital labs, you offered students the best. They created a visceral side of technology to make deeply human, of-the-moment artwork. They have become great artists, animators, video scenic designers and teachers. One student wrote, "Claudia's impact on the way I create, listen, see, experience and process cannot be overstated. Her mentorship has pushed decades of students and colleagues to better themselves. The ability to reframe the impossible requires ... power. It can only be truly impactful in the hands of someone with an incredible amount of love." We honor you today for all you have given to the world of art, to students, and our community.

Doctor of Humane Letters

Víctor L. Rodríguez Núñez
Professor of Spanish

Written by Katherine M. Hedeon
Professor of Spanish

Víctor Rodríguez Núñez, fearless defender of poetry, highly regarded Cuban intellectual, beloved professor of Latin American literatures and Spanish, you arrived at Kenyon already one of the most relevant poets from the Spanish-speaking world. You have contributed immensely to Kenyon's reputation as a place to write and have profoundly expanded our ideas of what poetry is and what it can do. You offered innovative, challenging courses on Latin American literature, film, poetry, and creative writing, sharing your expertise, culled from years of scholarly and journalistic work and countless friendships with some of the greatest writers of our time. You happily taught eager students the differences between *el imperfecto*, *el pretérito*, *el subjuntivo*, *el indicativo*. You welcomed some of the brightest poetry stars from around the world to Kenyon, and you took Kenyon with you beyond the Hill, to poetry readings and festivals in over 50 countries. Perhaps more than anything else, you wrote, publishing 11 books of prize-winning poetry and 100 editions of your work across the globe. What's more, in a country that often still insists on being fiercely monolingual, you showed an unwavering commitment to writing it all in Spanish, never shying away from the implications of such decisions. For me, your time at Kenyon has meant much more: it has been our life together. You have been my compass, my confidant, my most constructive critic, my greatest ally and, most of all, what you have been since the moment I met you: *mi poeta preferido*. Víctor: poet, professor, *compañero*, for all you have done to shape and to broaden our vision of poetry, we thank and honor you.

Senior Class Committee

Rachel Chen
 Meera Chadha Chambers
 Johan Fernando Contin Santana
 Carissa Chen Kieger
 Carl "Chase" Charles MacCartee IV
 Ava Celine Masuch
 Makarios Athanasios McCune
 Harshal Rukhaiyar
 Lauren Campbell Smith
 Charlotte Jane Walker

Bachelor of Arts

Emma Frances Abate
magna cum laude
*High Honors in English**

Lindsey Claire Abramson
magna cum laude
*Biology**

Mickey Adams
*Studio Art**

Lily Marie Ader
magna cum laude
*High Honors in Sociology**

Lauren Campbell Ahmad
*History**

Amanda Lynn Alfaro-Chiampou
Environmental Studies

Gracey Throckmorton Alley
magna cum laude
*Studio Art**

Mazai Namaste Almeida-Warwin
cum laude
Philosophy, Studio Art

Richard Alvarez
Film

London K. Anderson
magna cum laude
English

Natalia Arrigoni
Mathematics

Sarah Elizabeth Bahm
summa cum laude
*Highest Honors in Art History**

Zachary Lennon Baker
summa cum laude
Molecular Biology

Emily Ruth Banthin
cum laude
Biology

Lauren Taylor Barrabee
Neuroscience

Katarina Bettina Beardsley
magna cum laude
Psychology

Katherine Margaret Beck
magna cum laude
*Sociology**

Grateful Lee Beckers
magna cum laude
*High Honors in Molecular Biology**

Freya Rose Beinart
cum laude
Arabic, High Honors in
*Molecular Biology**

Oluwafolajimi Bello
French

Riley London Benninghoff
cum laude
Film

Freya Christina Robb Benson
cum laude
French, Studio Art

India Elizabeth Berry
Psychology

Jessica Hailey Besca
magna cum laude
*Psychology**

Irina Beshentseva
cum laude
Economics, Mathematics

Karina Anjali Bharatiya
English

Penelope Tye Titunik Birnbaum
cum laude
*High Honors in Political Science**

Isabella Angelina Bolton
cum laude
English

Elizabeth Hope Borghesani
magna cum laude
Drama

Rachel Rose Botkin
magna cum laude
English

Samuel John Bouchard
cum laude
Political Science, Psychology

Samuel James Bowden
summa cum laude
High Honors in English, Russian**

Kira Alanna Bowling
summa cum laude
Studio Art

Calvin John Brahm
magna cum laude
History

Jack Braun
summa cum laude
*English**

Nathaniel Braus
magna cum laude
Political Science

Dylan Jackson
magna cum laude
*English, Political Science**

Janein Allana Brookes
English

Daniel Lawrence Brooks
Chinese, Economics

Austin Brown
cum laude
English

Benjamin Foster Bruns
Political Science

Max Nicholas Bryer
Economics, Psychology

Dani Ashley Buch
magna cum laude
*Neuroscience, Studio Art**

Sydney Hannah Buchman
cum laude
Molecular Biology

Aidan William Burns
magna cum laude
Biology

Jack Harrison Caine
cum laude
Molecular Biology

Lara Caligor
cum laude
Art History, Studio Art

Senior Class Committee

Gracie Katherine Cameron
magna cum laude
English

Chevaugn Phillip Campbell
cum laude
Chemistry

Glenn Carlton Capps III
Political Science

Jaylen Gomes Cardoso
International Studies

Stephen Erickson Carr
cum laude
Economics

Olivia Carriero
magna cum laude
Political Science

Andres Castillo
magna cum laude
Film

Tara Nicole Xiayun Cerny
Biology

Samuel Wallace Chafe
cum laude
Economics, Film

Meera Chadha Chambers
magna cum laude
Molecular Biology*, Women's and
Gender Studies*

Rachel Chen
magna cum laude
Biochemistry

Oliver Henry Chetlin
summa cum laude
Italian*

Lauren Childs
Molecular Biology

Sophie Case Clipson
summa cum laude
English

Niccolo Comini
cum laude
Political Science

Julia Irene Waner Conner
summa cum laude
Highest Honors in Chinese

Johan Fernando Contin Santana
History

Claudia Nicole Cooke
cum laude
Chemistry

Nika Sofia Cooper
summa cum laude
German*, History*

Cecilia Stephanie Crawford
magna cum laude
High Honors in Political Science

Cameron David Cupar
Economics

Ty Hustvedt Cutler
*Biology**

Connor Lee Dailey
cum laude
Mathematics

Eleni Maria Dakos
Psychology

Viet Xuan Dang
cum laude
Mathematics

Cal Smith Dannenhirsch
cum laude
Anthropology

Pritish Das
magna cum laude
Philosophy

Amaya L'Tanya Davis
American Studies

Roman Davis
Physics

Cloe Mei DeCristoforo
magna cum laude
Political Science, Psychology

Phillip Zane Diamond
summa cum laude
High Honors in Mathematics*

Eva Jane Donahue
cum laude
Political Science, Spanish

Jake Donaldson-Reid
Philosophy

Lucas Aaron Dunst
summa cum laude
English, High Honors in
Philosophy*

Stefanie Georgia Durcan
cum laude
English

Sam Ehrlich
cum laude
Studio Art

Lucy Payne Eichenauer
American Studies, Spanish

Mwi Colette-Joann Epalle
*Environmental Studies**

Kathryn Claire Epperson
Biology

Kaelum Michael Eugenio
Music

Emily Pier Ewing
magna cum laude
English*

Anna Josephine Fahey
magna cum laude
Highest Honors in English*, French*

Junaid Yeasir Fahim
Economics, Mathematics

Elinor Piedad Fallon
cum laude
English, Studio Art*

M.J. Farrell
magna cum laude
Drama

Claire Fergusson
History

Joseph Cooper Ferrari
magna cum laude
Political Science

Emily G. Fisher
magna cum laude
History

Zoe Grace FitzGerald Kidwell
summa cum laude
Psychology

Bailey Alma Fitzgerald
summa cum laude
Biology

Abbey Flamm
magna cum laude
Art History

Anna Clare Fleenor
cum laude
Environmental Studies*

Casey Jeanne Cyr Flueckiger
cum laude
Anthropology, Mathematics

Elizabeth Grace Foley
magna cum laude
Psychology

Caroline Sarah Forman
Psychology

Brooke Ashlyn Fowler
magna cum laude
English, Psychology

Eli Nothenberg France
magna cum laude
History

Matthew Joseph Khalid Freeman
Environmental Studies

Madeline Jean Friday
summa cum laude
Chemistry

Dylan Fuerst
cum laude
Economics

Tucker James Fulton
summa cum laude
High Honors in Economics,
Philosophy*

Angela Marie Futch
cum laude
Anthropology

Sebastian Evan Gaeta
Political Science

Abigail Garcia
Biology

Madeleine Grace Garner
magna cum laude
Political Science

Cole Garrison
Physics

Malcolm Thomas Gaynor
summa cum laude
Mathematics*, Spanish

William Michael Gerhardinger
summa cum laude
High Honors in History*

Lauren Reese Gilbert
magna cum laude
Biology

Gemma Elizabeth Urbanski
Giller
Art History

Kate Orly Goldberg
cum laude
Drama, Psychology

Claire Olivia Goldman
magna cum laude
International Studies

Anna Grace Goldstein
English

Sydney Anne Goldstein
summa cum laude
English*

Alejandro Gonzalez
Arabic, High Honors in History

Shelby Claire Goodwin
summa cum laude
Sociology*

Sadie Wasta Gould
cum laude
Psychology*

Amelia Moya Greiner
magna cum laude
Psychology*

Abby Gray Griffith
magna cum laude
Women's and Gender Studies

Ben Gruodis-Gimbel
summa cum laude
Political Science*

Abdul Hafeez
Mathematics

Samuel Aaron Hafetz
English

Vaughn Chander Hajra
summa cum laude
Honors in Economics

Andrew Layton Hall
magna cum laude
International Studies

Isabella Ferguson Hamblett
cum laude
Drama, English

Victoria Anne Hannaford
cum laude
Economics, History

Noah Adam Hargrove
summa cum laude
Honors in Economics, Mathematics

Margaux Elise Harrington
cum laude
Political Science

James Anthony Hart
*Highest Honors in Physics**

Juliet Elizabeth Hartz
cum laude
English, Film

Nairi Theriault Harumi
English

Alison Elizabeth Hatfield
cum laude
Neuroscience

Maren Kate Helmacy
Music

Will Henshaw
Studio Art

Joseph Hindle
English, History

Eva Etoile Hitt
cum laude
Economics

Benjamin Adam Hoffer
Physics, Political Science

Sarah Elizabeth Hoffman
cum laude
Chemistry

Samuel Henry Holleran
magna cum laude
History

Osric Thurston Holt
Mathematics, Physics

Yana Honcharuk
summa cum laude
Neuroscience*

Thomas Kedzie Horan
Economics

Jessica May Horwitch
magna cum laude
Highest Honors in English*

Elizabeth Grace Houser
magna cum laude
Physics

Phoebe Rose Houser
summa cum laude
English*

Atli Hrafnkelsson
cum laude
International Studies

James Walter Hurley
Political Science

Liam Kristof Hurteau
English

Frances Brinton Hyde
magna cum laude
Art History*, Economics

Olivia Tommi Hynes
summa cum laude
Highest Honors in Arabic, English

Thomas John Iannuzzi
Political Science

Katarina Ilic
Economics, International Studies

Eva Concetta Illuzzi
magna cum laude
Molecular Biology*

Annabel Cecelia Ives
cum laude
Environmental Studies

Marco Jacimovic
summa cum laude
Political Science*

Emily Boldin Jetton
English

Alexander James Johnson
English

Austin Zachary Johnson
magna cum laude
Economics, History*

Isaac Johnson
cum laude
Molecular Biology

Amanda Marie Moore Johnstone
Art History, Studio Art

Carly Jessica Kahan
cum laude
Psychology

Hannah Laurie Kaiser
International Studies, Spanish

Valerie CarolAnn Kakos
magna cum laude
High Honors in Japanese/Asian
and Middle East Joint Major

Jack Timon Kaple
cum laude
English

Ezra Karmanos
cum laude
English

Lorien Marie Kauffman
magna cum laude
English, Spanish*

Isabel Keener
magna cum laude
English*

Caroline Joyce Keir
magna cum laude
English

Edward Otto Keller
magna cum laude
English

Raya Kenney
cum laude
Art History

Leah Nicole Kessler
magna cum laude
Spanish

Asmod Khakurel
magna cum laude
Economics, Mathematics

Carissa Chen Kieger
magna cum laude
Film*

Jiwon Lauren Kim
magna cum laude
Studio Art

Luke Kim
summa cum laude
Mathematics, Sociology*

Cole Bennett Bray Kirol
Psychology

Sophia Elizabeth Knaysi
summa cum laude
Neuroscience

Kenya Kobayashi
cum laude
Political Science

Yurii Kosian
Anthropology

Henry Chanu Kotkin
cum laude
Chemistry*, Economics

Daniel Richard Kowalczyk
magna cum laude
Economics*, Political Science

Phineas James Kraebber
cum laude
French*, International Studies

Zane James Krampert
Film

Ian Scott Krein
cum laude
Sociology

Isabela Krslovic
History, Spanish

Marko Krtinic
Molecular Biology, Neuroscience

Madeline Jane Kwasnick
summa cum laude
International Studies,
Highest Honors in Spanish

Kyumin Kyung
magna cum laude
History/Asian and Middle East
Joint Major

Peter Bernardi Landis
Environmental Studies

Sara Nicole Landon
summa cum laude
Classics*

Camryn Jane Langley
cum laude
Economics

Benjamin Bromley Lantz
Women's and Gender Studies

Claire E. Lanzendorf
summa cum laude
Classics*, Psychology

Esme Laster
Political Science

Christopher Jun-Hui Lee
Economics, Mathematics

Noah John Lee
cum laude
English, Japanese

Samantha Elizabeth Lee
cum laude
Neuroscience

Katherine Elizabeth Lengel
Economics, Mathematics

Zella Ayelet Lezak
cum laude
Film, History

David Joshua Lifson
Classics, Economics

Lila Evans Lofving
magna cum laude
Chemistry*

Emi Hyu-Yin Loucks
magna cum laude
Biology

Lillian Anzhelika Lucas
cum laude
Economics

Carl "Chase" Charles
MacCartee IV
Political Science

Malcolm Adam MacDonell
Environmental Studies

Catherine Madden
Art History

Ilan Bardack Magnani
cum laude
Arabic

Gideon Francois Malherbe
Philosophy

Benjamin Davis Manning
summa cum laude
Chemistry*

Joseph Martens
Political Science

Mirjavohir Marvarov
Biology

Ava Celine Mascuch
cum laude
English

Sydney Elizabeth McCallie
magna cum laude
Biology*, Studio Art

Jackson Robert McClellan
summa cum laude
Chemistry

Ethan Vance McCullough
magna cum laude
Anthropology

Makarios Athanasios McCune
magna cum laude
Molecular Biology

Jonah Meisels
magna cum laude
Anthropology

Adam Schillig Mendes
Political Science

Catalina Aurora Mendivil
summa cum laude
History

Keegan Joseph Masato Minahan
Political Science

Evelyn Elizabeth Miner
cum laude
English*

Alexis Parker Mladineo
summa cum laude
Classics, Drama

Safia Vani Mohan
cum laude
Biochemistry

Virginia Ruth Morgan
magna cum laude
English, Music

Omar Jaroslav Morosse
magna cum laude
High Honors in Biology

Wyatt Kiah Murphy
magna cum laude
Drama

Elizabeth Anne Musolino
cum laude
Anthropology

Viv Muzilla
summa cum laude
Philosophy*

Francis McEnroe Nardiello Smith
cum laude
Economics

Benjamin Dey Nash
cum laude
Neuroscience

Elizabeth Navratil
magna cum laude
Biology, Environmental Studies*

Lindsey Kieran Neff
summa cum laude
Art History*, History

Grace Christina Neuger
magna cum laude
Molecular Biology*, Spanish

Jackson Newell
cum laude
Molecular Biology

William Dwight Newhart
Classics

Caleb Jared Newman
Political Science, Sociology

Maxwell John Nonnenmacher
Anthropology, Political Science

Jill Katz Noorily
summa cum laude
Synoptic

Jackson Paul Oberhauser
Studio Art

Theodore Day Oliver
cum laude
Economics

Casey Lynne O'Neill
International Studies, Spanish

Margaret Longworth Orr
summa cum laude
American Studies, Spanish**

Riley Thorin Orth
magna cum laude
Neuroscience

Victoria Serena Miwa Osborne
magna cum laude
*Biochemistry**

Ryan Lee Oscherwitz
magna cum laude
Mathematics

Hannah Cristine Paprotna
cum laude
*English, Italian**

Frederick Pardue
Environmental Studies

Sylas Colton Parker
magna cum laude
Psychology

Ethan Nicholas Parks
magna cum laude
French

Smrami H. Patel
summa cum laude
*Neuroscience, Sociology**

Maxwell Liam Payne
*English, Women's and
Gender Studies*

Charlotte Rebecca Peng
summa cum laude
Environmental Studies, Film

Justin Gilbert Perdomo
Biochemistry

Tiana Vy Pham
magna cum laude
*Psychology**

Reanna Leanne Phillips
Sociology

Grace Neumann Potter
magna cum laude
Molecular Biology

Matthew Jacob Prusan
Economics, Mathematics

Megan Louise Quinn
magna cum laude
Neuroscience

Gabriela Sara Rachman
summa cum laude
Psychology

Diego Andres Ramirez
Mathematics

Yadhira Denisse Ramirez
Sociology, Spanish

Faiz Rasool
Mathematics

Olivia Grace Rataeyk
magna cum laude
Art History, High Honors in
Biology*

Lauryn Knight Rauschenberger
American Studies

Jonathan Edward Rayden
*Art History, Economics**

Tuyen Marie Reed
magna cum laude
Psychology

Winston Chadwick Reid
History

Jack Andrew Reisler
Economics

Rebecca Eve Renner
magna cum laude
*Highest Honors in English**

Maxwell James Reynolds
magna cum laude
English

Sadie Elizabeth Richards
magna cum laude
Environmental Studies

James Andrew Robinson
summa cum laude
Economics

Emily Catherine Rogers
magna cum laude
Biology

Ruby Tanner Rosenfeld
summa cum laude
English, Women's and
Gender Studies*

Liam Daniel Rosengren
Economics, Mathematics

Courtney Madeline Kit-Yee Ross
summa cum laude
*Molecular Biology**

Harshal Rukhaiyar
Economics

Madeline Ann Russell
magna cum laude
Economics, Political Science

Nathan Louis Saindon
Chemistry

Zelda Callahan Saltzman
cum laude
History

Anna Christine Sanders
Economics

Laurel Louise Sanders
cum laude
Anthropology

Bryn Isabella Savidge
summa cum laude
Environmental Studies

Louis Sandford Schirmer
magna cum laude
*English, French**

Caroline Elizabeth Schmale
summa cum laude
English

Sophia Jacqueline Schmitz
cum laude
Physics

Alard Schroeder
Mathematics

Theodore Runyan Schwamm
summa cum laude
*Music**

Maya Grace Schwingel
summa cum laude
*Anthropology, Biology**

Lucy Davis Scott
magna cum laude
Psychology, Women's and
Gender Studies**

Lucy Gray Shamel
summa cum laude
*High Honors in Physics**

Zichang Shan
*History/Asian and Middle East
Joint Major*

Soren Molnar Shapiro
cum laude
History

Colin Shin
cum laude
Biochemistry

Rory Ethan Shoemaker
Film

James Joseph Sikora
Political Science

Ella Claire Simpson
summa cum laude
*English, Women's and
Gender Studies*

Ethan Phillip Smith
History

Lauren Campbell Smith
cum laude
Psychology

Molly Olivia Smith
magna cum laude
*Economics, Mathematics**

Pennington Wilder Smith
*Studio Art**

Mia Virginia Snow
magna cum laude
English, French

Alexandra Lee Sokolik
magna cum laude
*Film**

Cathy Song
summa cum laude
*Music**

Hemmi Song
summa cum laude
*Biology**

Arthur James Sprainer
magna cum laude
French

Andrew K. Stolarski
cum laude
History

Emily Samara Stone
magna cum laude
*Psychology**

Nathan Stuart
cum laude
Chemistry

Cole Mahler Sussman
cum laude
*Political Science**

Jada Qiu Liang Swearingen
cum laude
Biology

Jack Winston Teitelbaum
*Drama**

Lauren Teresi
summa cum laude
Highest Honors in Art History,
Spanish**

Anthony Joseph Testa
cum laude
Mathematics

Sydney Allison Thaler
summa cum laude
History

Garrett Paul Thesing
summa cum laude
*Molecular Biology**

Maxwell Allen Thesing
Economics

Henry Gladwell Thomas
Drama, Environmental Studies

Jacqueline Theresa Thompson
cum laude
Psychology

Samuel Edmund Thompson
*Psychology**

Isaac Jennings Tjandra
cum laude
*Highest Honors in Physics**

Tali Matraesa Tufeld
magna cum laude
Anthropology

Devon Turner
summa cum laude
English, Film

Jonathan David Luong Turner
Studio Art

Maya Ayers Vaccaro
magna cum laude
High Honors in Molecular Biology

Andrew James Valentino
cum laude
Psychology

Liam Stewart Vallianos-Healy
International Studies

Sam Van Holde-Mood
Mathematics

Michael Duncan Van Keuren
*Physics**

Mia Theresa VanWie
Political Science

Viva Ann Vasquez
Anthropology

Emilia Miles Victoria
Psychology

Maya Elizabeth Virdell
magna cum laude
Honors in Art History

Jonathan Alexander Voves
Russian

Olivia Vreeland
magna cum laude
English

Thea Grace Vrentas
cum laude
Art History, English

Ashita Sanjay Wagh
magna cum laude
Political Science, Spanish*

Catherine Helen Walker
magna cum laude
Psychology

Charlotte Jane Walker
English

Shaunna Amani Walsh
English

Alexander Wang
Mathematics

Griffin Kenneth Ward
cum laude
Political Science

Casey Michael Watkins
magna cum laude
Economics, Mathematics

Ocean Wei
magna cum laude
*Anthropology, Highest Honors in English**

Caroline Lee Weihe
Psychology

Ian Weihe
Economics

Zoe Weiner
magna cum laude
*French**

Daniel Avery Weiss
magna cum laude
Anthropology

Jack Henry Wessels
cum laude
Economics, Environmental Studies*

Katherine Elizabeth Whipple
summa cum laude
Arabic/Asian and Middle East
Joint Major

Sydney Lynn Whitworth
cum laude
English, Psychology

Olivia Victoria Wieland
English

Abigail June Wilson
summa cum laude
English, Honors in Japanese

Collin Robert Witt
magna cum laude
Philosophy, Political Science

Taylor McKenzie Womack
magna cum laude
Highest Honors in English,*
Mathematics

Andrew Jeffrey Woollard
Philosophy

Laura Jane Woomer
magna cum laude
History

Chengyue Wu
Mathematics

Caleigh Elizabeth Wukitch
cum laude
Neuroscience

Jackson Thomas Yelland
*Economics, Spanish**

Emily Yourman
summa cum laude
Highest Honors in English,*
Spanish

Lingyi Yu
cum laude
Economics, Psychology

Christopher James Zaiser
magna cum laude
International Studies, Spanish

Abigail Crocker Zavadil
Neuroscience

Israel Zavaleta Cepeda
German, Psychology

Braden Yeshe Zeman
summa cum laude
Mathematics

Qingyue Zhang
Psychology

Graduation Honors

Collegiate and Departmental Honors

The degree with collegiate honors is achieved by attaining a cumulative grade-point average within the following ranges:

- 3.50-3.69, cum laude
- 3.70-3.89, magna cum laude
- 3.90 and above, summa cum laude

Students showing exceptional scholarship may be accepted by their major department to read for the degree with departmental honors. The three major classes of departmental honors, based on work in the major, are Honors, High Honors, and Highest Honors, as determined jointly by an outside examiner and the members of the student's department.

Senior Exercise

A Senior Exercise must be satisfactorily completed by each graduating senior. While each department determines the nature of its exercise, the purpose, in general, is to promote coherence of the student's major program. Each department reports a grade of Pass, or Pass with Distinction, for this exercise. An asterisk (*) denotes that the student passed the exercise with distinction.

Phi Beta Kappa, Beta Chapter of Ohio

Phi Beta Kappa, the oldest Greek-letter fraternity in the country, was founded in 1776. The Kenyon chapter was organized in 1858 as an honorary society dedicated to the recognition of scholarly achievement. It is the fourteenth in age of 293 chapters. Elections to membership are made from the best scholars in the junior and senior classes who have shown achievement through grades and an intellectual disposition.

Notes

A student completing a double major has met all the requirements for the major in two departments and passed a Senior Exercise in each. A synoptic major, individually designed by students to meet their special interests, includes work in two or more departments and requires satisfactory completion of one Senior Exercise. An asterisk (*) denotes that the student passed the exercise with distinction.

Honor Societies

Alpha Iota Sigma

(Interdisciplinary Studies)

Junaid Yeasir Fahim
Carissa Chen Kieger
Maxwell John Nonnenmacher
Jill Katz Noorily
Tiana Vy Pham
James Andrew Robinson
Hemmi Song
Devon Scott Turner

Alpha Kappa Delta

(Sociology)

Lily Marie Ader
Katherine Margaret Beck
Shelby Claire Goodwin
Luke Kim
Smrami H. Patel

Eta Sigma Phi

(Classical Studies)

Sara Nicole Landon
Claire Elizabeth Lanzendorf
Alexis Parker Mladineo

Phi Beta Kappa,

Beta Chapter of Ohio

(Liberal Arts and Sciences)

Sarah Elizabeth Bahm
Samuel James Bowden
Jack Braun
Oliver Henry Chetlin
Sophie Case Clipson
Julia Irene Waner Conner
Nika Sofia Cooper
Phillip Zane Diamond
Lucas Aaron Dunst
Zoey Grace FitzGerald Kidwell
Tucker James Fulton
Malcolm Thomas Gaynor
William Michael Gerhardinger
Sydney Anne Goldstein
Ben Gruodis-Gimbel
Vaughn Chander Hajra
Noah Adam Hargrove
Marco Jacimovic
Madeline Jane Kwasnick
Sara Nicole Landon
Benjamin Davis Manning
Jackson Robert McClellan
Lindsey Kieran Neff

Margaret Longworth Orr
Smrami H Patel
Ruby Tanner Rosenfeld
Courtney Madeline Kit-Yee Ross
Theodore Runyan Schwamm
Maya Grace Schwingel
Lucy Gray Shamel
Ella Claire Simpson
Hemmi Song

Lauren Teresi

Sydney Allison Thaler
Garrett Paul Thesing
Katherine Elizabeth Whipple
Emily Yourman
Braden Yeshe Zeman

Pi Mu Epsilon

(Mathematics)

Natalia Arrigoni
Phillip Zane Diamond
Junaid Yeasir Fahim
Casey Jeanne Cyr Flueckiger
Madeline Jean Friday
Malcolm Thomas Gaynor
Abdul Hafeez
Noah Adam Hargrove
Eva Etoile Hitt
Asmod Khakurel
Katherine Elizabeth Lengel
Jackson Robert McClellan
Ryan Lee Oscherwitz
Matthew Jacob Prusan
Faiz Rasool
Liam Daniel Rosengren
Theodore Runyan Schwamm
Molly Olivia Smith
Zhiyu (Cathy) Song
Isaac Jennings Tjandra
Casey Michael Watkins
Taylor McKenzie Womack
Braden Yeshe Zeman

Pi Sigma Alpha

(Political Science)

Penelope Titunik Birnbaum
Dylan Jackson
Benjamin Foster Bruns
Niccolo Comini
Cecilia Stephanie Crawford
Cloe Mei DeCristoforo
Joseph Cooper Ferrari

Madeline Grace Garner
Benjamin Curran Gruodis-
Gimbel
Benjamin Adam Hoffer
Marco Jacimovic
Daniel Richard Kowalczyk
Madeline Ann Russell
Ashita Sanjay Wagh

Psi Chi

(Psychology)

Katarina Bettina Beardsley
Jessica Hailey Besca
Zoey Grace FitzGerald Kidwell
Elizabeth Grace Foley
Yana Honcharuk
Claire Elizabeth Lanzendorf
Sylas Colton Parker
Tiana Vy Pham
Gabriela Sara Rachman
Tuyen Marie Reed
Lucy Davis Scott
Catherine Helen Walker
Yu Lingyi

Sigma Pi Sigma

(Physics)

Lucy Gray Shamel

Sigma Xi

(Scientific Research)

Lindsey Claire Abramson
Zachary Lennon Baker
Freya Rose Beinart
Jessica Hailey Besca
Irina Beshentseva
Sydney Hannah Buchman
Chevaugn Phillip Campbell
Tara Nicole Xiayun Cerny
Phillip Zane Diamond
Casey Jeanne Cyr Flueckiger
Abigail Garcia
Malcolm Thomas Gaynor
Vaughn Chander Hajra
Isaac Johnson
Henry Chanu Kotkin
Makarios Athanasios McCune
Elizabeth Ann Navratil
Grace Christina Neuger
Jackson Staudt Newell
Smrami H. Patel

Gabriela Sara Rachman
Courtney Madeline Kit-Yee Ross
Lucy Gray Shamel
Hemmi Song
Zhiyu (Cathy) Song
Garrett Paul Thesing
Isaac Jennings Tjandra

Theta Alpha Kappa

(Religious Studies)

Carly Jessica Kahan
Daniel Richard Kowalczyk
Harshal Rukhauyar

Kenyon Educational Enrichment Program Graduates

Richard Anthony Alvarez
Zachary Lennon Baker
Grateful Lee Beckers
Freya Rose Beinart
Janein Allana Brooks
Andres Castillo
Johan F Contin Santana
Amaya L'Tanya Davis
Phillip Zane Diamond

Kaelum Michael Eugenio
Bailey Alma Fitzgerald
Angela Marie Futch
Abigail Garcia
Carissa Chen Kieger
Wyatt Kiah Murphy
Ethan Nicholas Parks
Reanna Leanne Phillips
Diego Andres Ramirez

Yadhira Denisse Ramirez
Colin Shin
Lauren Campbell Smith
Isaac Jennings Tjandra
Maya Ellizabeth Virdell
Shaunna Amani Walsh
Casey Michael Watkins
Abigail Crocker Zavadil

Honors Day Convocation 2024 College Prizes

The Chalmers Library
Research Award

Zelda Callahan Saltzman

The George Gund Award

Joseph Cooper Ferrari for
“Reciprocity, Not Resistance:
A Plea to Save American
Democracy”

The George B. Ogden Award

Delaney Mars, Class of 2026, for
“In Search of the Irish Family
Banshee, Her Cry Echoing Across
Generations”

The Academy of American
Poetry Prize

Marilyn Gates, Class of 2026,
for “World”

The Muriel C Bradbrook Prize

Benjamin Michael Leonberger,
Class of 2026, for “The Dinner
Party”

Fulbright Fellowships

Julia Irene Waner Conner, *Taiwan*
Claire Elizabeth Haynes, Class of 2023, *Taiwan*
Madeline Jane Kwasnick, *Columbia*
Ashita Sanjay Wagh, *Mexico*

Niccolo Comini, *Spain (alternate)*

The Propper Prize for Poetry

Ocean Teu, Class of 2027, for
“i’ve never understood slasher
movies”

Nicole Wang, Class of 2026, for
“Ghost Town”

The John Crowe Ransom
Poetry Prize

Stephanie Chang, Class of 2025,
for “The Sea Goddess, Mazu, Falls
in Love”

The Barbara H. Reitsma Award
of the Math and Science
Skills Center

Phillip Zane Diamond

The Ashford Memorial Award
for Excellence in Dramatics

Diya Chabria, Class of 2025

The Diamond-Storing
Memorial Prize

Penelope Titunik Birnbaum

Cecelia Stephanie Crawford

The James E. Michael Prize in
Playwriting

Elizabeth Hope Borghesani,
for “Gutpunch”

The Paul Newman-Joanne
Woodward Award for Best
Performance

Elizabeth Hope Borghesani, for
the role of “Jenny” in *Assistance*

Jack Winston Teitelbaum for the
role of “Jeff” in *Lobby Hero*

The Dance Prize

Zoe Weiner

The Martin Luther King Jr.
Humanitarian Award

Yadhira Denisse Ramirez

The Doris B. Crozier Award

Marissa Sun, Class of 2025

Hannah Sussman, Class of 2025

The E. Malcolm Anderson Cup

Chevaugn Phillip Campbell

A History of Kenyon Commencements

Kenyon’s founder, Bishop Philander Chase, conducted the first Commencement exercises of the College on September 9, 1829, in a large, bare, basement room in the just-completed center section of Old Kenyon, the first permanent building. There were six graduates: G. Dennison, J.B. Chase, A. Blake, S. Chase, P.C. Freeman, and B.B. Sayre.

As soon as Rosse Chapel (later known as Rosse Hall) was completed (about 1840), the ceremonies were moved there; Rosse was the location for all graduation exercises for more than a century. It was in Rosse Chapel on August 3, 1842, that the class valedictorian, Rutherford B. Hayes, a future president of the United States, delivered a Commencement address entitled “College Life.”

Until the 1890s, it was customary for each graduating senior to deliver an oration, sometimes in English but often in Latin, Greek, or Hebrew. Since the number of graduates fluctuated from four in 1879 to eighteen in more prosperous years, the programs could sometimes be completed in an afternoon but often took all day, with an hour-and-a-half break for lunch. By 1894, activities connected with Commencement had assumed such large proportions that events started on Sunday and culminated with the graduation exercises on Thursday.

During World War II, the civilian enrollment at Kenyon shrank to about forty students, but President Gordon Keith Chalmers was determined that every Kenyon graduate should still have his moment of glory. So, in December 1943, formal Commencement ceremonies, with the faculty in full academic regalia, were held for two graduates.

The tremendous influx of students coming to Kenyon after World War II under the provisions of the G.I. Bill made graduating classes so large that Rosse Hall could no longer accommodate Commencement audiences. The first outdoor

ceremony was held in 1950, on the lawn between two of the College’s oldest academic buildings, Ascension Hall and Samuel Mather Science Hall. The rain site, at first Wertheimer Fieldhouse, became the Ernst Center in 1982. The fieldhouse was demolished in 2003 to make way for the Lowry Center (known as the Kenyon Athletic Center when it opened); the Ernst Center was razed in 2009. Since 2006, the Lowry Center has normally served as the rain site.

Every seventeen years, the move outdoors results in exposure to countless millions of uninvited and unwanted visitors — the cicadas that appear on Gambier Hill in late May and early June. The 1965 Commencement was especially plagued by the harmless insects, which dropped from the trees and piled up in great heaps around the tree trunks. The cicadas returned in 1999, but the onslaught, with its eerie shrilling, didn’t peak until after Commencement. They were back in 2016, in large numbers, but their impact on the indoor event was minimal.

The College’s tradition of an annual Commencement ceremony was disrupted in 2020, when the COVID-19 pandemic forced an early end to in-person instruction at Kenyon. The ceremony returned for the Class of 2021, in modified form, outdoors on McBride Field. In 2022, Kenyon hosted two Commencement ceremonies on successive days — one, on Saturday, for the graduating class, and the second, on Sunday, for the Class of 2020.

Kenyon adheres to its classical tradition of conducting the formal part of the Commencement exercises in Latin and printing diplomas in Latin. But it no longer translates the names of the graduates; up until the late 1960s, William became Guliemus and Thomas was transcribed as Thomam.

Thomas B. Greenslade ’31 H’76 (1910 – 90)
College Archivist (1967 – 90)

Updated by Thomas P. Stamp ’73 H’22
College Historian and Keeper of Kenyoniana, Retired (2008 – 22)

Academic Costume and Procession

Academic gowns represent a tradition handed down from the universities of the Middle Ages. These institutions were founded by the Church; the students, being clerics, were obliged to wear the prescribed gowns at all times. Round caps later became square mortarboards. The hood, originally a cowl attached to the gown, seems to have had three uses: it could be slipped over the head for warmth, worn as a shoulder cape, or, when hanging from the shoulder, used as a bag in which alms could be collected. It is believed that when large wigs were worn the cape part of the hood was cut open in front and a narrow neckband inserted. The entire garment, cape and hood proper, was allowed to fall back, producing approximately the effect we see today.

In America, the hood is the most outstanding feature. Much of the American academic costume is derived from regalia worn at British universities. The usual color for academic gowns in the United States is black. The bachelor's gown is worn closed, while the master's and doctor's may be worn open or closed. The shape of the sleeve is the distinguishing mark of the gowns: bachelor, long pointed sleeve; master, oblong, square cut in back with an arc cut away in front; doctor, bell shaped.

Caps are black, as are the tassels for the bachelor of arts (B.A. or A.B.), bachelor of science (B.S. or Sc.B.), and bachelor of engineering (B.E.) degrees. Tassels for the doctor of philosophy (Ph.D.) degree are gold, while those for other graduate

and professional degrees may be of the color corresponding to the trimming on the hoods. Special caps — befeater caps — are worn at Kenyon by the trustees. This type of cap is also used by some European universities.

Many European universities have distinctive caps and gowns that are different from those commonly used in this country. Some of the gowns are of bright colors, some are embellished with fur. A few of these may be noted in the academic procession today.

The shape and size of the hood marks the college degree of the wearer. The hoods are lined with the color of the institution from which wearers received their degrees. The trimming of the collar of the hood is the color that designates the degree: liberal arts, white; fine arts and architecture, brown; science, golden yellow; music, pink; divinity, scarlet; law, purple; engineering, orange; philosophy, blue; medicine, green; public health, salmon; forestry, russet; nursing, apricot. With more than fifteen hundred colleges and universities in the United States, various arrangements of the primary colors are used.

Honorary-degree hoods are distinguished as follows: master of arts (M.A.), white; doctor of humane letters (L.H.D.) and doctor of letters (Litt.D.), white; doctor of science (Sc.D.), golden yellow; doctor of divinity (D.D.), scarlet; doctor of laws (LL.D.), purple; doctor of fine arts (D.F.A.), brown.