

“We wanted to emphasize the feelings of triumph and joy more than honor or achievement.” —MARGOT SUTER ROOD '36

During this spring of 2020, much has changed—in both our lives at Bennington, and in the world beyond. However, even as we adapt this time-honored ritual to a new medium of experience, the pride and excitement the Bennington community shares with this graduating class remains as strong as ever.

The content and tenor of Bennington's graduation ceremony has remained fundamentally unchanged since the first class graduated in 1936. The nomination of candidates for degrees by the faculty and the subsequent vote to award the degrees by the trustees have become a tradition.

The planning of the first ceremony aroused great controversy. The faculty, faithful to Bennington's progressive spirit, proposed that there be no ceremony. But the students insisted that they could not be decently graduated without a formal awarding of degrees. Still, the students wanted their ceremony to signify celebration rather than competitive reward. The proceedings would be simple and brief, and there would be no special awards or singling out of students.

As we celebrate Bennington's 85th class, we continue in this spirit of community, celebrating their graduation with triumph and joy.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nicholas Stephens '77, *Chair*
Bronxville, New York

Richard Ader
New York, New York

Priscilla Alexander '58
New York, New York

Tracy Katsky Boomer '91
Woodland Hills, California

Deborah Borda '71
New York, New York

Susan Paris Borden '69
Bennington, Vermont

Suzanne Brundage '08
Brooklyn, New York

Matthew Clarke
New York, New York

Barbara Ushkow Deane '51
New York, New York

William Derrough
New York, New York

Michael Hecht
New York, New York

Nejla Katika '18
Long Island, New York

Alan Kornberg '74
New York, New York

Asad J. Malik '19
Los Angeles, California

Daniel Rowland
Lexington, Kentucky

Ellen Safir '66
Washington, D.C.

Mary Scanlan '91
Woody Creek, Colorado

Charlene Solow Schwartz '54
Newtown, Pennsylvania

Kimberly A. Scott
Tempe, Arizona

Jonathan Marc Sherman '90
New York, New York

James Simon '97
Akron, Ohio

Catharine Stimpson
New York, New York

Penelope Perkins Wilson '45
Malvern, Pennsylvania

Isabel Roche, Ex-Officio
Lenox, Massachusetts

BENNINGTON COLLEGE CLASS of 2020 EIGHTY-FIFTH COMMENCEMENT

MAY 30, 2020

Bennington, Vermont,
and around the world

I. VIRTUAL PROCESSION

“Ceremonial March” | Louis Calabro

II. REMARKS

Isabel Roche | *Interim President*

Phillip B. Williams | *Literature Faculty*

Nicholas Stephens '77 | *Chair of the Board of Trustees*

III. AWARDING OF DEGREES

IV. RECESSIONAL

“Joyful Noise” | Michael Wimberly

V. LOOKBOOK

“Dette er vi gode på” | No. 4 | performed by Tuva Elisabet Bjerkestrand Eid '20

“Ave Maria” | Igor Stravinsky | performed by Kale Esposito '20

“If Anything” | Kale Esposito '20

“Fame” | William David Giambalvo '20

“SG-Silene” | Geir Jenssen for Biosphere | arranged by Sebastian Greer '20

“The Beach is Closed” | John Kornfeld '20

“River Willow Mountain” | Elise Lunder '20

“Ils Little Bliss” | Imani Shirley-Lewis '20

“Oh July” | Nicholas Williams '20

“Eho mia Agapi” | Mikis Theodorakis | performed by Nicholas Williams '20,
Elmina David '21, Michael Barajas '21, Ben Watson '21)

MASTERS OF FINE ARTS, DANCE

Hilary Clark

Russell Lilie

MASTERS OF FINE ARTS, PUBLIC ACTION

Aaron Landsman

Caroline Woolard

BACHELOR OF ARTS

Harrison Alterman

Emma Castle

Sebastian Greer

* Hoanh An

Samrawit Dominique Cavallaro

Bennett Grossman

Jazmin Anderson

Gillian Falls Cone

Henrietta Hadley

Stanzin Angmo

Red Contarino

Deja' Nicole Haley

Luciana Arbus-Scandiffio

* Jakub Crcha

Emily Halliburton

** Timothy Michael Atkinson

Anya Demchenko

Grant Harlow

Aleyah Austin

Z. Winters Derevanik

* Austin Hartwell

Angela Ryan Baltor

Mareme Dieng

Naré Harutyunyan

Aiden Barger

Liana Dudley Holland

Paing Sett Hein

* Talia Barron

Antoine Dumas

Steven Hendricks

Natalie Bates

Keely Rose Durkin

Nick Hennessy

Mikah Baumrin-Daniels

Tuva Elisabet Bjerkestrand Eid

Melissa Hernandez

Paul Birtwistle

Joseph Elmhirst

Katie Hibner

Lucy Blue

Frances Lee Erlandson

Willem Hilliard

Vivan "The Goose" Bose-Pyne

Lili Española

Emily Lynette Hinojosa

Kazden Brackett

Tyler Joseph Esparza

Narcissa Hodžić

Alex Briseño

Kale Esposito

Angelina Hoffman

Kelsey Broadfield

Sarah Fadem

* Peter von Conta Howard

Lillie Fiona Becker Brown

Jane Feinsod

Dre James

Zachary Bull

Elizabeth Rose Fox

María Laura Joa Dominguez

Sarah Burry

Michelle Freeman

* Marc Kamil

Ekaterina Burtseva

Olivia Garrity

Ioanna Katsara

Emma Bushmann

Musa Ghaznavi

Caroline Clement Kaufman

* Maeve Bustell

William David Giambalvo

Erin Keating

Evan Grey Caldwell

Eloise Gibbin

Gwenyth Kenrich

Tyler Carrillo-Waggoner

Komal Goomany

Audrey King

Cierra Rose Cassano

Emily Gordis

Miranda Kinsley

Kaiya Page Kirk

Sonia Jane Kissin

Fiona Kobasz

* Elyse Marie Kolacy

Sabrina M. Konick

John Kornfeld

Sebastian LaMontagne

Bart Lawson

Honor Levy

* Kaiya Lewis-Marlow

Imani Lewis-Shirley

Ulysses Lin

Elsa Lindy

Nora Littell

Jenna Litton

** Casey Loehr

J. Lopez Guevara

Marta Elise Lunder

Clare Maceda

Sofia Ray Malmoli

Matthias Mann

Sona Markosyan

Sophia E. Marx

James McBride

Eve Mefferd

Max Meisler

Gala Meyer Marti

Rebecca Mitzner

Benjamin Mohammadzadeh

Shachi Mokashi

Doménica Montañó

Maria Morelos-Roths

Ally Morgan

Jenny Morgan

Ethan Muller

James Mulligan

** Henry Munson

Amrita Li Newton

Khanh Ha Nguyen

Kim Nguyen

Nguyễn Phương Linh

Kayla Nicholls

Zofia Fae Noble

* Alexandra Nordyke

Schyler Norton

* Emily Maschal O'Donnell

** Amina Odzackie

* Keiden Oz Oguri

Ivan Orozco

María José Orozco Santos

Christina Sienna Polanen

Madeline Poultridg

Arden Restrict

Ella Kerr Richardson

Thomas Peter Richardson IV

Grace Robins-Somerville

Olivia Rosenberg

Edie Salas-Miller

Iris Joy Salin

Olivia Saporito

Hrachya Sargsyan

Otto Schatz

** Eulala Grace Harden Scheel

* Martin Lewers Shaffer

Justin Shea

Holly Ray Sherrer

Zubair Ibrahim Siddiqui

** Ariana Sierzputowski

Ines Simbi

Chase Spearance

Fiona Caton Field Spiegler

Ivy Stewart

Christiane Swenson

Alexander Terjak Wall

William Terpstra

** Gil Thomas

* Wendy Ulloa

Carmela Uribe

River Valadez

* Paulina Lissette Valdivieso Reyes

Valentine Voisin

Bailey Wait

Triston Walker

James L. Walkergoutal

* Bella Yanwen Wang

Claire Webb

Lila Weiser

Marion Dowley West

Jayden White

Nicholas Williams

Willem Winter

Cy Wolfe

Rachel Yanku

Ahmad Yassir

Margaret Fortuna Yassky

Eli Zeltzer

** Linrong Zhang

* Fall 2019 Graduate

** Fall 2020 Candidate